



GROUP NEWS - FEBRUARY 2015

XXXV Symposium in North Carolina, USA

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CSWE Conference

- [Call for Presentations](#)

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Greetings!

Important messages and reminders:

1) Please submit an abstract by February 15 to present a paper or workshop at our 2015 IASWG North Carolina Symposium. The most exciting part of our IASWG symposia over the years has been the sharing of group work knowledge and experiences by group work practitioners, students, and academics. The event in North Carolina will take place on the historic and beautiful North Carolina - Chapel Hill campus, and the IASWG Symposium Planning Committee (Dana Leeman, Chair) and the North Carolina Symposium Planning Committee members (Willa Casstevens, Marilyn Ghezzi, and Anne Jones) are creating a symposium experience that will include: staying in a lovely and affordable hotel; delicious meals at various campus and local Chapel Hill venues; stimulating Plenary, Invitational, and paper/workshop/poster presentations; and a variety of other lovely social and educational experiences.

2) Alex Gitterman and Carol Cohen encourage all IASWG/CSWE members to consider submitting within the next few days a group work abstract to the upcoming CSWE conference. It is important that group work content is presented to the many social work educators attending the CSWE event each year. Please see additional information below.

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3) Our 2015 IASWG Group Work Camp at Lake Geneva is on the horizon. The Planning Committee (Jen Clements, John Genke, and Ann Bergart) are already planning a wonderful group work camp experience, and more information about the event will be coming soon. The Lithuania Chapter (Jorune Vysniauskyte-Rimkiene, Chapter Chair) is hosting an IASWG Group Work Camp in Lithuania modeled on the Lake Geneva Camp experience Ann Bergart created for us years ago; many IASWG members from the European and German Chapters are assisting Jorune in readying the event for this October.

4) Our IASWG Membership Committee (Joyce Webster, Chair) is working hard to secure many 2015 membership renewals. Please renew your 2015 IASWG membership online at our IASWG website.

5) The Board meeting in NYC two months ago was very productive. Board members from across the globe (many representing our 16 IASWG Chapters) attended. Jen Clements (IASWG Vice President) helped me to organize and facilitate the session; Dominique Steinberg provided a thoughtful and comprehensive Treasurer report outlining our current fiscal stability, and Michael Wagner recorded the meeting minutes for the two-day session. Progress on a variety of IASWG issues was made by all IASWG Committees: Membership (Joyce Webster, Chair); Chapter Development (Patty Underwood, Chair); International Issues (Mark Doel, Chair); Nominations and Elections (Kyle McGee, Chair); Membership Retention and Renewal (Ann Bergart, Chair); Commission (Mark Macgowan and Carol Cohen, Chairs); Economic Development Committee (Steve Kraft, Dominique Steinberg); Marketing (Brian Kelly and Susan Ciardiello, Chairs); Practice (Charles Garvin and Barb Muskat, Chairs); and Symposium Committee (Dana Leeman, Chair). A highlight of the weekend was a diversity session led by Kyle McGee (with the support of Olga Molina, Edna Comer, Maria Gurrola, and Steve Kraft) to identify strategies for increasing diversity on the IASWG Board

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Recent Chapter Events](#)

and throughout the membership of IASWG. Sam Benbow (Pennsylvania Chapter Chair) and Kyle will continue to carry out diversity discussions with IASWG members at their Institute session taking place at the North Carolina Symposium.

6) Many IASWG Chapter events have been held or planned in recent months. IASWG chapter folks have been sending information/photos to Emily Wilk (our IASWG Operations Administrator and Website Manager) for posting on our IASWG website, so search the IASWG website to read about and view photos of these exciting chapter activities. Much appreciation to all the Chapter Chairs and Chapter Representatives for organizing exciting educational and social chapter activities and for managing chapter affairs: Pennsylvania (Sam Benbow); Germany (Klaus-Martin Ellerbrock, Hilde Mueller); Illinois (Joyce Webster); NYC (John Genke, Martie Finkelstein); Long Island (Sari Skolnick); South Africa (Reineth Prinsloo); Lithuania (Jorune Vysniauskyte-Rimkiene); Massachusetts (Sera Godfrey Grantz, Adam Glick); Minnesota (Amirthini Ambrose); Ohio (Mamadou Seck); Toronto (Anna Nosko); Central Florida (Olga Molina); Florida (Laura Farley, Mark Smith); European (Tanja Schmitz-Remberg); California (Vanessa Treadway); North Carolina (Willa Casstevens, Anne Jones); A special event hosted recently by Ginette Berteau and several Montreal IASWG members was attended by over 100 Montreal group workers; a Montreal Chapter should be officially starting soon!

All the best,

Greg Tully
IASWG President

LAST CALL FOR SYMPOSIUM PROPOSALS

Thank you to everyone working on a proposal submission for

the 2015 International Symposium in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA.

If you have not submitted your proposal for a paper or workshop presentation yet, please do so by February 15th using our [online application](#).

[Download the Call for Proposals](#)

CSWE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Once you have submitted your proposal, Please consider submitting a proposal by for the US Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, taking place October 15-18 in Denver, Colorado! For information check out the CSWE Group Work Track [here](#) for submission details and information about Group Work Track in previous conferences.

We encourage you to consider submitting a proposal by February 16th for a presentation in the Group Work Track at the US Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, taking place October 15-18, 2015 in Denver Colorado. As you know, presentations of workshops and papers at important conferences are a critical part of the process to insure that Social Work with Groups has an essential and prominent place in Social Work Education and Practice. You can check out the full conference details and for the pen call, click [here](#). Please circulate this information through your networks. We are happy to assist in this effort - please email us any questions or thoughts.

Thanks,

[Alex Gitterman](#) & [Carol S. Cohen](#)

CSWE Group Work Track Co-Chairs

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

By renewing today you help us to save the time and cost of further outreach emails, letters, and phone calls to you during 2015. Please continue your participation in our IASWG mission by renewing your membership today!

You can renew online at www.iaswg.org or by clicking [here](#).

It is through our IASWG memberships that together we celebrate and strengthen group work practice and education throughout the world!