

**2015 EDITION: News from the Group Work Track at the
US Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting (CSWE-APM)**

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US CSWE ANNUAL PROGRAM MEETING IN DENVER, COLORADO, OCTOBER 15-18, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

The CSWE Conference in Denver, Colorado, US, provided an exciting and productive experience for sharing group work research, practice and educational strategies.


The 2015 Conference included Papers, Posters, Workshops and Discussions in the CSWE Group Work Track (Friday-Sunday), the annual IASWG Partnership Presentation (Friday, 1:45 pm-2:45 pm) and the CSWE Group Work Track Meeting (Friday, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm).

The IASWG Exhibit Booth (#518) opened Thursday evening for the Exhibition Hall Reception, and was open through the conference). *It was is great to have IASWG members drop by the table.*

The final section of this schedule includes a list of presentations by IASWG members and supporters that are in other CSWE Conference tracks or sessions.

LISTING OF GROUP WORK TRACK, IASWG, AND GROUP WORK-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Schedule	OPENING EXHIBIT HALL RECEPTION: Thursday, October 15, 2015
Thursday 08:00- 10:00 PM	<p>CSWE Opening Night Reception and Exhibit Hall Opens <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Plaza Ballroom, Plaza Building</i></p> <p>Highlight: IASWG EXHIBIT BOOTH OPENS (BOOTH 518) Networking and IASWG Materials</p>
	IASWG PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATION: Friday, October 16, 2015
Friday 1:45- 2:45PM # 197	<p>IASWG: Strategies for Integrating Group Work Content in Social Work Education <u>Group Session:</u> International Association for Social Work with Groups <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Director's Row E, Plaza Building</i></p> <p>International Association for Social Work With Groups is the international organization of group work educators, practitioners and scholars, dedicated to advocacy for professional group work practice and education. This session will focus on strategies and challenges to further expand group work in the social work curriculum.</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> Greg Tully, West Chester University, Jennifer Clements, Shippensburg University, Brian Kelly, Loyola University Chicago, Olga Molina, University of Central Florida, Carol S. Cohen, Adelphi University and Mark Smith, Barry University</p>
	GROUP WORK TRACK MEETING: Friday, October 16, 2015
Friday 6:00- 7:30PM	<p>Group Work Track Meeting: Insuring Group Work Across the Social Work Curriculum <u>Track Discussion:</u> <i>Crowne Plaza Denver, Library</i></p> <p>How can we address gaps and expand social group work education, practice and scholarship? How might the CSWE Group Work Track support this process?</p>

	GROUP WORK TRACK SESSIONS: Friday, October 16 – Sunday, October 18, 2015
Friday 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM # 99	<p>A Hip-Hop Psychotherapy Group as an Intervention for Cognitive Restructuring <u>Interactive Poster:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Plaza Ballroom, Plaza Building</i></p> <p>This presentation will describe the development of a hip-hop psychotherapy group for adolescent males using familiar hip-hop music, themes, and values to teach participants how their thinking influences their behavior, to facilitate cognitive restructuring around individual community perceptions, and to increase participants' tendencies to engage in empowering behaviors. <u>Presenters:</u> Paul Archibald, Morgan State University, Anthony Estreet, Morgan State University</p>
Friday 1:45- 2:45PM # 171 A&B	<p>Group Work Models for Enhancing Competency in Social Work <u>Two Oral Presentations:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Plaza Court 7, Plaza Building</i></p> <p>171A (1:45): Developing Professionalism and Interpersonal Skills Within Group-Practice Classes This presentation will offer a new teaching approach for social work group-practice classes, placing emphasis on the parallels between interpersonal skill development in the classroom and interpersonal relationships in professional settings. It also will share three strategies that instructors can implement: experiential group opportunities, journal writing, and weekly evaluative surveys. <u>Presenters:</u> Tee R. Tyler, University of Texas at Austin, Lori Holleran – Steiker, University of Texas at Austin</p> <p>171B (2:15) Community of Inquiry in Online Education: Isn't This Just Good Group Work? A required orientation and residency program for online education is grounded in principles of mutual aid. Attention to these principles sets the stage for engaging cohort members in a community of learners that is congruent with best practices in online education: social, cognitive, and teaching presence in the community-of-inquiry framework. <u>Presenter:</u> Carol F. Kuechler, St. Catherine University and University of Saint Thomas Collaborative</p>
Saturday 7:30- 8:30PM #314	<p>The Use of Adventure-Based Group-Work Techniques in Group Formation</p> <p><u>Interactive Workshop:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Beverly, Tower Building</i>  Accepted Adventure activities can act as a catalyst to group formation and group development. This experiential workshop will allow practitioners and educators to actively explore the use of adventure activities in their practice and classroom. Participants will learn about several activities that can be used in any context. <u>Presenter:</u> Christian Itin, Metropolitan State University of Denver</p>
Saturday 12:45- 1:45PM #455 A&B	<p>Building Group Work Competency through Groups in the Classroom <u>Two Oral Presentations:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Beverly, Tower Building</i></p> <p>455B (12:45) Using Student Mutual-Aid Groups to Teach Group Work Skills This presentation will describe a study ($n=192$) of social work graduate students who participated in mutual-aid groups in the classroom to learn group-work skills. The findings demonstrate that the majority of the students (90%) rated the mutual-aid groups as "excellent to a good" method of teaching group-work skills. <u>Presenter:</u> Olga Molina, University of Central Florida</p> <p>455B (1:15) The Experience: A Qualitative Study of an Experiential Group Course Experiential groups have the capacity to inform social work students' practice more powerfully and durably than strictly didactic methods. This presentation will describe the findings of a qualitative study of one such group. The researcher and instructor, both members of the group, will present and discuss their findings. <u>Presenters:</u> Kathy A. Pjura, Southern Connecticut State University, Mark Cameron, Southern Connecticut State University</p>

<p>Saturday 3:15-4:15PM #588</p>	<p>Enhancing Relationships Forums: People & Law Enforcement Agencies Moving Change Forward <u>Discussion Group:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building</i></p> <p>Enhancing Relationships Forums: Moving Change Forward provide social work educators, social workers, social work students, law enforcement agencies, pastors, and members of the African American community with the necessary tools to lead/facilitate multigenerational forums focused on building relationships between people and police. <u>Presenters:</u> Sandra L. McGee, School of Social Work, Sandra Breault, Omaha FBI</p>
<p>Sunday 9:00-10:00AM #694</p>	<p>Teaching Clinical Group-Work Skills Online: Sharing Strategies <u>Discussion Group:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building</i></p> <p>This discussion group will focus on analyzing and applying strategies for teaching group-work skills online. Information from the literature and participants' experiences will guide a discussion in course design, online tools, preparation of students for online learning, facilitation of online group experiences, and community building. <u>Presenter:</u> Joan Pittman, University of Maryland, Baltimore</p>
<p>OTHER PRESENTATIONS BY IASWG MEMBERS & SUPPORTERS BY DAY</p>	
<p>Friday 1:45-2:45PM #143</p>	<p>#Blacklivesmatter: Exploring Transformative Organizing, Historical Trauma and Mental Health Among Black Youth <u>Discussion Group:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Majestic Ballroom, Tower Building</i></p> <p>Situated in the context of the #BlackLivesMatter movement, this discussion will explore the possibilities for social work at the intersections of transformative organizing and historical trauma, as related to the mental health and well-being of Black youth. The goal is to expand the conceptualization of recovery through embodying social justice. <u>Presenters:</u> Anna Ortega-Williams, Fordham University, Laura Wernick, Fordham University</p>
<p>Friday 3:15-4:15PM #235</p>	<p>International Partnerships: Crossing Distances and Disciplines <u>Commission on Global Social Work Education Session:</u> <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Director's Row J, Plaza Building</i></p> <p>This session will explore the diversity of international collaborations, focusing on both traditional and nontraditional conceptualizations of interdisciplinary practice. Four examples will illustrate the breadth and contribution of partnerships across locations and fields, generating discussion and suggesting useful ways to consider such work at home institutions. <u>Presenters:</u> Carol S. Cohen, Adelphi University, Shirley Gatenio-Gabel, Fordham University, Caleb Kim, Loyola University Chicago and Martha Bragin, Silberman School of Social Work</p>
<p>Saturday 8:00-8:45AM</p>	<p>Social Work Students' Confidence Facilitating Groups With High-Quality Ethics and Standards <u>Oral Paper Session:</u> <i>Park, Crowne Plaza Denver</i></p> <p>Social work students ($N=280$) demonstrated more perceived competence from pretest to posttest on the Inventory of Foundation Competencies in Social Work With Groups (IC-SWG). Students also believed they were more competent regarding the NASW Code of Ethics. Assessment yielded strengths and difficulties that have implications for teaching. <u>Presenters:</u> Cheryl D. Lee, California State University, Long Beach, CA, Samantha Swift, California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA</p>

<p>Saturday 3:15-4:15 PM</p>	<p>A Day in the Life of Hospital Social Workers <u>Interactive Poster</u>, <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Plaza Ballroom-Plaza Building</i></p> <p>This study explored a day in the life of a hospital social worker (HSW), the types and length of social work interventions used by HSW, and the frequency of complex social situations presented in an urban pediatric hospital. Presenters: Biju John Mathai, Queensway Carleton Hospital, Shelley Craig, University of Toronto and Barbara Muskat, The Hospital for Sick Children</p>
<p>Saturday 3:15-4:15 PM</p>	<p>Immersion Study Abroad for Teaching Social Work: An Educational Frontier <u>Discussion Group</u>, <i>Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Majestic Ballroom-Tower Building</i></p> <p>This discussion group will offer participants an opportunity to learn and exchange ideas and experiences about pedagogical advantages, logistic aspects, challenges, and strategies related to the process and procedures involved in planning, implementing, and evaluating study abroad programs in social work education. Presenters: Roni Berger, Adelphi University & Presenter: Marilyn S. Paul, Adelphi University</p>

PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S US CSWE APM November 3 – November 6, 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia

Please feel free to circulate this information through your networks, and to contact:
Alex Gitterman (alex.gitterman@uconn.edu) & Carol S. Cohen (cohen5@adelphi.edu),
CSWE Group Work Track Co-Chairs, with any questions about submitting abstracts
for the 2015 US CSWE Annual Program Meeting.