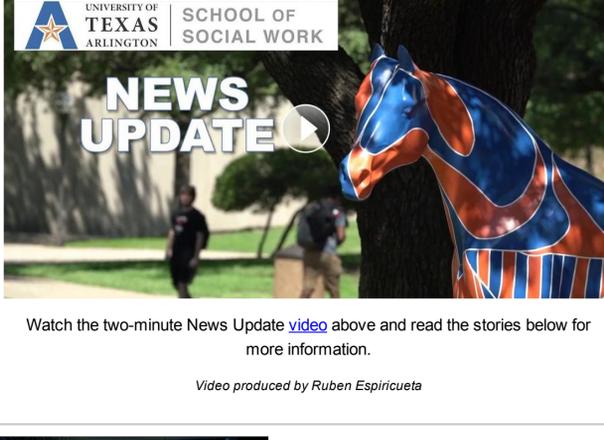


March - May 2019 News Update



Watch the two-minute News Update [video](#) above and read the stories below for more information.

Video produced by Ruben Espiricueta



SSW graduates 308 students at spring commencement

Story by Valerie Hill

More than 300 students earned social work degrees during spring commencement ceremonies held May 10 at College Park Center.

Graduates stand at Spring 2019 Commencement May 10.

Photo by Ruben Espiricueta

The School of Social Work conferred 97 bachelor degrees, 208 Master's and three doctoral degrees, School officials reported. The Social Work degrees were conferred together with the College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs and the Division of Student Success graduates.

The Social Work doctoral candidates who were hooded during the commencement ceremonies were Dante Denard Bryant, Vivian Jean Miller and Bernadette Ombayo.

Read the full story [here](#). Click [here](#) for SSW photos taken at commencement and click [here](#) for official University photos and videos.

Graduating veterans honored at luncheon

Story by Valerie Hill

Four School of Social Work students were honored last month during the 2nd Annual Graduating Student Veteran Recognition Luncheon.

The four are among 42 military veterans who graduated this month or will graduate in summer or fall.

An SSW professor, Pamela Fox, and one of the School's undergraduate program advisors, Arrione Clarke, also were honored during the Veteran Recognition Luncheon. Clark and Dr. Fox were recognized for positively impacting the lives of the veterans.

Read the full story [here](#).



From left, BSW Student Prinston Hill, UTA President Dr. Vistasp Karbhari, and BSW Academic Advisor Arrione Clarke at the 2nd Annual UTA Graduating Student Veteran Recognition Luncheon April 17.

Photo courtesy of Prinston Hill

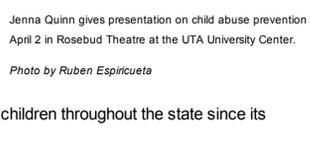
Jenna's Law namesake speaks to Social Workers, UTA students

Story by Valerie Hill

One of Texas' most public child sexual abuse survivors spoke to dozens of social workers April 2 as part of National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

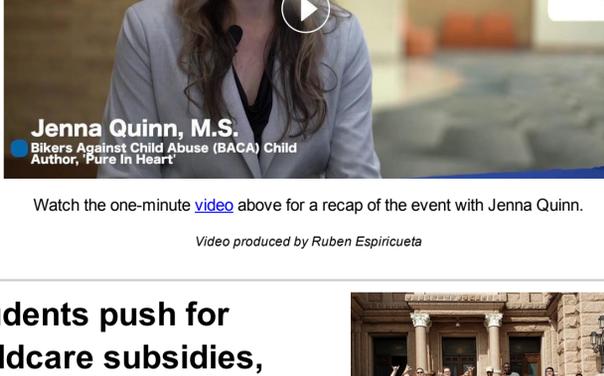
Jenna Quinn, whom Jenna's Law is named, said the impact of the Texas law has helped hundreds of school children throughout the state since its passage.

Read the full story [here](#) or watch the highlight [video](#) below.



Jenna Quinn gives presentation on child abuse prevention April 2 in Rosebud Theatre at the UTA University Center.

Photo by Ruben Espiricueta



Watch the one-minute [video](#) above for a recap of the event with Jenna Quinn.

Video produced by Ruben Espiricueta

Students push for childcare subsidies, more Social Workers in schools

Story by Valerie Hill

About 70 UTA School of Social Work students traveled to the state Capitol in March to attend the annual Social Work Advocacy Day.

Advocacy Day at the Capitol is hosted each year in Austin by the Texas chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. This year's event was held March 7.

The group's goal is to highlight the social work profession and its work to improve, among other areas, the lives of children and families, those recovering from substance abuse and the effects of various traumas and the needs of veterans and school children.

Read the full story [here](#).



UTA School of Social Work students gather at the Texas state capitol for Social Work Advocacy Day March 7.

Photo by Maresia Davis



UTA School of Social Work students meet with Texas Rep. John Bucy III (center) to talk about Medicaid and how Social Workers can help advocate for expansion March 7.

Photo by Leslie Reyna

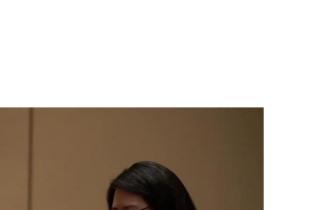
SSW hosts annual Field and Career Day, student research displays

Story by Valerie Hill

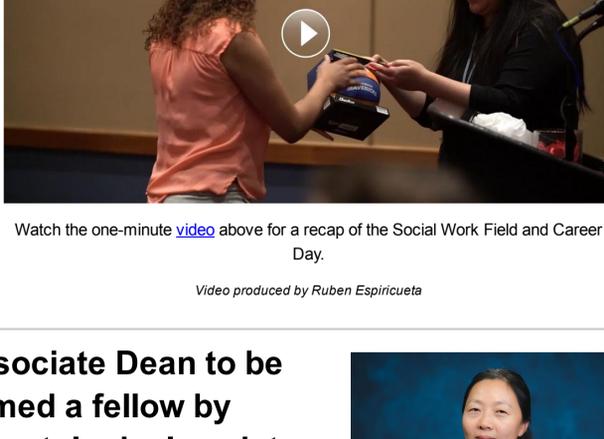
Dozens of students spoke with hospitals, child welfare agencies and other employers during the School of Social Work's Field and Career Day held March 27 at UTA's University Center.

The event drew social work students who, among other things, were searching for internships, summer jobs, permanent placements and research opportunities at agencies across North Texas.

Read the full story [here](#).



Graphic by Joanna Yang



Watch the one-minute [video](#) above for a recap of the Social Work Field and Career Day.

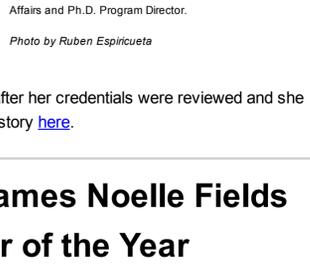
Video produced by Ruben Espiricueta

Associate Dean to be named a fellow by gerontological society

Story by Valerie Hill

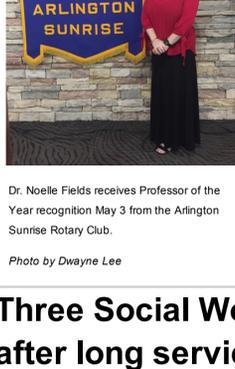
Zhen Cong, associate dean for research and faculty affairs in the School of Social Work, has been named a fellow of an international society of scholars who research aging issues.

The Gerontological Society of America's governing council approved Dr. Cong as a 2019 fellow on May 8 after her credentials were reviewed and she was recommended by a peer committee. Read the full story [here](#).



Dr. Zhen Cong, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs and Ph.D. Program Director.

Photo by Ruben Espiricueta



Dr. Noelle Fields receives Professor of the Year recognition May 3 from the Arlington Sunrise Rotary Club.

Photo by Dwayne Lee

Rotary names Noelle Fields Professor of the Year

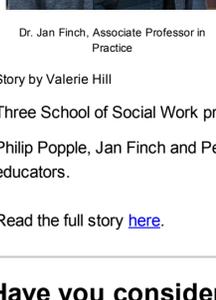
Story by Valerie Hill

A local Rotary club has named a Social Work professor as one of its top civic honorees.

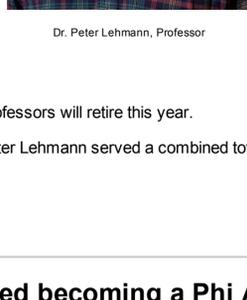
The Arlington Sunrise Rotary named Noelle Fields, an assistant professor, as one of its 2019 Professors of the Year. The club also recognized seven other professors from various UTA colleges and schools with the same honor.

Scott Ryan, dean of the School of Social Work, presented Dr. Fields with the award during a morning breakfast at an Arlington country club. Read the full story [here](#).

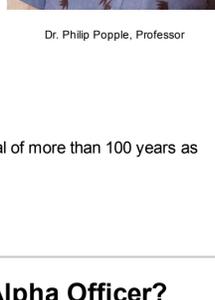
Three Social Work professors retiring after long service to community, UTA



Dr. Jan Finch, Associate Professor in Practice



Dr. Peter Lehmann, Professor



Dr. Philip Popple, Professor

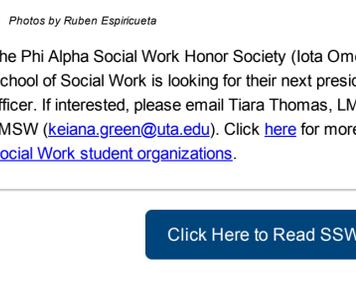
Story by Valerie Hill

Three School of Social Work professors will retire this year.

Philip Popple, Jan Finch and Peter Lehmann served a combined total of more than 100 years as educators.

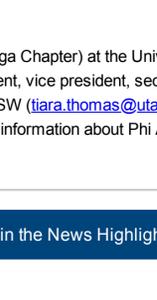
Read the full story [here](#).

Have you considered becoming a Phi Alpha Officer?

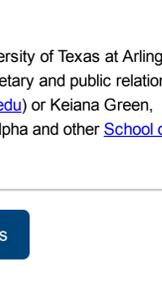


From left, Keiana Green, Undergraduate Academic Advisor; Lauren Ogundele, secretary; Erica Castillo, president; Emmanuela Umunnakwe, vice president; and Tiara Thomas, MSW Academic Advisor.

Photos by Ruben Espiricueta



Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society Banner



Students gathered at the Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society Induction Ceremony.

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