POSITION DESCRIPTION

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Portland State University

Assistant Professor of Social Work – Tenure Track
(Two faculty positions effective 9/16/2013)

Changing Lives, Changing Communities

Position Summary
The School of Social Work at Portland State University invites applications for two positions at the rank of Assistant Professor in support of the B.A.S.W. degree, Child and Family Studies degree, M.S.W. degree and the Ph.D. degree in Social Work and Social Research. Responsibilities involve teaching, research and scholarly activities, liaison with field agencies, school, university and community service, committee work, and undergraduate, graduate and doctoral student advising. Faculty will have opportunities to teach both on the main campus and at our distant sites. We seek candidates whose research, teaching and or service has prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and inclusion in higher education.

These positions are nine-month, full-time, 1.00 FTE, tenure-track, academic appointments. They are scheduled to begin September, 16, 2013.

Required Qualifications
Applicants must have a MSW and a Doctorate in Social Work or related discipline (e.g., education, human development/family studies, or public health), teaching experience and two years post MSW practice experience. However, ABD’s will be considered who meet the position qualifications and include in their application materials a letter from their chair with a scheduled date of defense. All employees must demonstrate the following key competencies: Creates an environment that acknowledges, encourages and celebrates differences; Functions and communicates effectively and respectfully within the context of varying beliefs, behaviors, orientations, identities and cultural backgrounds; Seeks opportunities to gain experience working and collaborating in diverse, multicultural, and inclusive setting with a willingness to change for continual improvement; Adheres to all PSU’s policies, including the policies on Prohibited Discrimination & Harassment and the Professional Standards of Conduct. Ability to successfully complete a background check. Must possess a valid driver’s license.

Preferred Qualifications
Although all substantive areas are open, we primarily seek applicants who have expertise in one or more of the following core curriculum areas: advanced practice (e.g., direct human services, management and or community-based), generalist practice and social justice. We are especially interested in applicants who have a record of research and scholarship of interdisciplinary collaboration and have an interest in teaching in our undergraduate programs (e.g., BSW and Child and Family Studies).

Compensation
Compensation dependent upon qualifications and experience, with an excellent benefits package including 95% premium paid healthcare; a generous retirement and vacation package; and reduced tuition rates.
Applications and Nominations
We invite applications from and nominations of well-qualified individuals. Applicants are requested to provide TWO hard copies of the following documents:

- cover letter (please address interdisciplinary experience, commitment to social justice and equity, experience and interest in undergraduate and graduate education)
- curriculum vitae
- names and contact information for three references

Applications should be received by October 1, 2012. The review of applications will begin immediately. Please send materials to:

Vikki L. Vandiver, Dr.PH, MSW
Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
Chair, Faculty Search Committee
Portland State University - School of Social Work
P.O. Box 751
Street Address: 1800 SW 6th Ave., ASRC Building, 6th Floor Mail Code: SSW
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751
503-725-5007
vandiverv@pdx.edu or vandivv@pdx.edu
www.pdx.edu/ssw

cc: Faculty Search Committee members: Dr. Ben Anderson-Nathe, Dr. Victoria Cotrell, Dr. Charlotte Goodluck, Dr. Keva Miller and John Barnett, Search Coordinator (jgb@pdx.edu)

Portland State University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Institution that welcomes applications from diverse candidates and candidates who support diversity. Our university community values campus diversity and we encourage members of historically under-represented groups to apply.

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Overview of School and University

School of Social Work

Mission
The School of Social Work is committed to the enhancement of the individual and society. We are dedicated to social change and to the attainment of social justice for all people, the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of those who are oppressed, the rights of all individuals and groups to determine their destiny, and the opportunity to live in cooperation.

Programs
The School of Social Work has a number of programs including:

- The Ph.D. in Social Work and Social Research which provides advanced education to prepare professionals for teaching, research, and leadership roles in the human and social services.
- The Masters of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree -- the only such accredited program in Oregon -- has both a Portland campus option and a distance option (e.g., sites include Ashland, Bend, Eugene, and Salem), and an Advanced Standing Option Program.
- The Child and Family Studies (CFS) program offers students an option for pursuing specialized studies at the bachelor's level. CFS admits 90 students each year and each student is required to complete 10 credits (300 clock hours) of practicum as part of their program. In addition, several other classes integrate community-based learning.
The Bachelors in Social Work, which the school began offering in the fall of 2008, admits 60 students each year to an upper-division program that includes 500 hours of practicum experience. The BSW Program attracts many diverse students from community colleges in the area.

The School’s field education component involves hundreds of skilled and talented professionals who work in a wide array of agencies, programs and tribal communities throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The School’s nationally renowned research arm – the Regional Research Institute for Human Services and the Center for Improvement of Child and Family Services, provide exciting opportunities for faculty and students to engage in research and training activities.

Description of Academic Programs

Ph.D. Program
The Ph.D. program in social work and social research prepares students to understand critical social welfare problems, to conduct research and policy analysis related to the solution of these problems, to teach in accredited schools of social work, to take responsibility for program development and administration in the human services, and to assume leadership positions in the social welfare community. Students in the Ph.D. program develop: knowledge and skills in applied research, using a wide range of methods; capacity to analyze, design, and evaluate social policies and programs; a balanced focus on policy and practice in organizational settings; the ability to analyze and apply theories of human behavior to important social contexts, such as family, work, and community.

The course of study is organized around a social problem selected by the student. Throughout the program, the student analyzes the problem on multiple levels, designs an intervention to address the problem, and proposes a plan to evaluate the intervention. Core courses build skills in analyzing problems, designing and evaluating interventions, conducting applied research, and performing data analysis. Both quantitative and qualitative research methods are taught. The PhD program integrates practice, policy and research by encouraging students to collaborate with investigators in the research centers and programs of the school.

MSW Program
The Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree program is designed to prepare graduates for entry into advanced professional practice in social work. With over 400 students, this program is the only graduate-level social work program in Oregon accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

There are two major options – the "MSW Program Portland Campus Option" and the "MSW Program Distance Option." In the Portland Option, classes are provided on the PSU campus and students have the opportunity to pursue an advanced practice concentration in direct human services, community-based practice, or social service administration and leadership. In the Distance Option, classes are provided to students at four different sites across the state (Ashland, Bend, Eugene and Salem).

Additionally, we have a MSW Program Advanced Standing Option. This program is for students who have completed a BSW degree from a CSWE accredited program in the past five years. This course of study includes 46 credits of instruction and includes a summer course of field instruction and research. This 12 month curriculum prepares students for advanced professional practice and students graduate with a MSW.

Child and Family Studies Program
Bachelor of Arts in Child and Family Studies
Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Studies

The Child and Family Studies (CFS) major is a professional preparation program which prepares students for a broad range of educational or social services careers working with children, youth, and families. The coursework includes a solid foundation of liberal arts classes as well as professional preparation for working with children, youth, and families. Integrated into the program is an opportunity for students to specialize in one or more of eleven different specializations. The specializations include: 1) elementary education, 2) early childhood education, 3) early intervention/early childhood special education, 4) special education with School Age, 5) child welfare/human services, 6) family life educator, 7) international worker, 8) youth worker, 9) program administrator, 10) families in society, and 11) human development. The CFS program emphasizes integrating theory, research, and practice as well as a social justice perspective. Students
complete two practicum as well as a rigorous professional portfolio that documents their achievement of the CFS Program Learning Outcomes.

**BSW Program**
The bachelor of arts degree with a major in social work program began in the Fall 2008 with a cohort of 40 students in the first class. The BSW Program has 124 students currently. The BSW Program was granted “candidacy status” by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) on October 12, 2008. The BSW Program was accredited by the CSWE on June 11, 2011 and is current until 2015. The School is the only public institution of higher education in Oregon with this degree. The BSW Program prepares graduates to become professional entry-level generalist social workers to work in a wide variety of community based, family-centered human services organizations in both the public and private sectors. Graduates are able to work in a variety of settings and areas including but not limited to the following: mental health, homeless shelters, child welfare, health care, schools, substance abuse and abuse, corrections, juvenile justice, aging, immigration, and family violence.

**Research and Scholarship**
Faculty, students, and researchers in the School of Social Work conduct $12 million annually of applied social science research and training, representing over 20 percent of PSU’s externally funded research. The School of Social Work hosts a broad range of research activities, from large-scale grant-supported projects to smaller faculty-directed and student-directed studies. The faculty’s research initiatives have attracted support from some of the nation’s most respected funders, including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the W. T. Grant Foundation, and the Ford Foundation. Most (but not all) grant-supported projects are managed within one of the affiliated research units:
- Regional Research Institute for Human Services
- Center for Improvement of Child and Family Services
- Research & Training Center on Pathways to Positive Futures
- Reclaiming Futures
- Institute on Youth Mentoring
- The Center for Interdisciplinary Mentoring Research

In addition, faculty and students conduct their own studies or collaborate with other professionals and organizations within and beyond Portland State University. The university and the school share a goal to raise the research profile of the faculty, continuing to contribute basic and applied research for understanding issues in the city, state, region and nationally.

The School is also home to two peer-reviewed journal publications: *Best Practices in Mental Health* (Lyceum Books, Inc.) and *Child & Youth Services* (Taylor & Francis).

**Faculty**
There are 25 tenured and tenure-track faculty, 14 fixed-term faculty and 42 adjunct faculty. In the last five years, new hiring has markedly increased the diversity of the faculty. Continuing that process remains a school priority.

**Portland State University**
Nationally recognized as a leader in community engagement, Portland State University is a center of opportunity for over 29,000 undergraduate and graduate students and offers over 120 degree-granting programs. The university has the largest and most diverse enrollment of any university in the state. Located in Portland, Oregon, one of the nation’s most livable cities, the University’s innovative approach to education combines academic rigor in the classroom with field-based experiences through internships and classroom projects with community partners. The University’s 49-acre downtown campus exhibits Portland State’s commitment to sustainability with green buildings, while many of the more than 200 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees, including social work, incorporate sustainability into the curriculum. PSU’s motto, “Let Knowledge Serve the City,” inspires the teaching and research of an accomplished faculty whose work and students span the globe. Five themes guide PSU’s work: provide civic leadership through
partnerships, improve student success, achieve global excellence, enhance educational opportunity and expand resources and improve effectiveness.

As a component of the Diversity Action Plan and the President’s Strategic Mission of achieving global excellence, Portland State University (PSU) strives to become an institution that is recognized nationally and internationally for the accomplishments of its faculty, the reputation of its programs, and the preparation of its students as world citizens.

We hope you will consider joining us.