



Faculty of Social Science, Arts and Humanities

Co-sponsored by



Capacity Building Workshop on School Social Work

16th January 2020

School Social Worker (SSW)

School Social Worker (SSW) is a trained liaison professional who connects every individual in a classroom, school, districts, family and community. The focus is to improve students' emotional, behavioural and social skills in short 'The Life Skills' from their nascent school years. SSW are full time 'in action and ready' experts walking hand-in-hand with students leaving no one isolate. One of their main goal is assessing students' capabilities to handle issues arising from society, home and school and make them ready for the future. The approach is rigorous, inclusive and systematic that does not wait to nip the perilous psycho-emotional disturbances in their budding life of student hood. The school benefits from their coordination of community services they bring into students and modify harmful traditional institutional practices that may not be relevant for millennial students.

Why School Social Workers for Malaysia?

Malaysia wants balance between growth and people's needs. Need of the millennial

students have changed and teaching millennials are not easy. Traditional teaching methods are becoming outdated in today's schools, partly because teachers are not able to tackle students' personal and social problems. School-community-pupil relations educational model is the buzz word today that caters to more student centered teaching approaches that includes learning with the changing demands of the society. The role of school social work is oft cited in many progressive nations for sustainable developments and that starts from the primary levels, the school and education system.

Many industrialized and developed countries have introduced school social work. Teachers are burdened with teaching tasks and are not trained to handle social problems. The introduction of school social work in these developed countries was an admission that there was only so much teachers could do in addressing the problems of school children. Even with school counsellors, the problems have not decreased.

Malaysia has approximately 7,776 primary schools and 2,426 secondary schools. Based on seven universities graduating an average of 350 social work students per year, and assuming that all are employed as school social workers, the country will still be short of providing enough social workers. It took Hong Kong close to 30 years before it embarked on the one social worker to each secondary school policy. Although Malaysia is not ready for one social worker for each school, it can start by assigning several school social workers to school districts. Through this approach, social workers will be able to service several schools until each school in Malaysia is able to employ its own social worker.

Objectives

This workshop will provide Malaysia's stakeholders significant insights from international social work educators/researchers who stand at the forefront of international social work education.

- Sharing experiences of obstacles and challenges faced
- The process of achieving the establishment of school social work
- Address how does social work educators and practitioners cope with current needs
- Define the role of SSWs to engage families and communities with schools.
- Design guidelines to build school capacity to use SSW to create safe and supportive school environment

International Panelists

1. Prof. Tan Ngoh Tiong, Representing Asia
2. Prof. Ute Straub, Representing Europe
3. Dr. Annaline Keet, Representing Africa
4. Dr. Rita Meono Molina, Representing Latin America – Costa Rica
5. Dr. Kathy Hogarth, Representing Caribbean Islands/North America
6. Ms. Melissa Ngiam, Representing Malaysia.

Agenda

9.00 a.m. to 9.20 a.m. – Registration & Breakfast

9.20 a.m. to 9.25 a.m. – Invocation and Welcome Speech – Prof. Dr. Zulkarnain Hatta

9.25 a.m. 9.30 a.m. – Opening Remarks –

Dr. Annamaria Campini, President of IASSW
Dr. Amiya Bhaumik, Director-Research and Publications, Lincoln University College, Malaysia.

Panel Discussions

Moderator: Prof. Dr. In Young Han

9.40 am to 10.00 am – Talk by Prof. Tan Ngoh Tiong

10.00 a.m. to 10.20 a.m. - Talk by Prof. Ute Straub

10.20 a.m. to 10.40 a.m. - Talk by Dr. Annaline Keet

10.40 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. - Talk by Dr. Rita Meono Molina

11.00 a.m. to 11.20 a.m. - Talk by Dr. Kathy Hogarth

11:20 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. – Talk by Ms. Melissa Ngiam,

11:40 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Open dialogue with Participants/Panel discussions

12.00 p.m. to 12:20 p.m. - Concluding Remarks President MASW Dr. Mohd. Suhaimi Mohammed

12:25 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Lunch

Focus Group Discussion

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. – Focus Group Discussion (MASW, NAJCCSWE, IASSW and selects)

Patron

Datuk. Dr. Abdul Ghani
CEO
Lincoln University College, Malaysia

Convenor

Prof. Dr. Zulkarnain Ahmad Hatta
DEAN, Faculty of Social Science, Arts and Humanities, Lincoln University College, Malaysia

Advisory Board

Mrs. Amybala, MASW
Mr. Teoh Ai Huat, UUM
Dr. Mohd Haizzan, USM

Members

Dr. M.S. Bexci, LUC
Dr. Harikrishnan Andi, LUC
Dr. Yousef Mostafalou, LUC