

**Title:**

"Uniting for Change: Addressing the Grand Challenges for Social Work in the 21st Century"

Date: 22 March 2024

**Venue:** Virtual

**Time:** 9.00 am – 11.00 am (CT)

**Background:**

In an era marked by unprecedented social, economic, and environmental challenges, the field of social work is at a critical juncture. The International Social Work Students Conference organized by Students for Global Change aims to galvanize the next generation of social work professionals to address the Grand Challenges initiated by the American Academy of Social Work. It is an initiative to champion social progress and tackle our global toughest social problems. The conference is an opportunity for social work students to collaborate, think bigger, and do more to solve society's greatest challenges through ideas, research, and advocacy.

**Objectives:**

To foster global dialogue by creating a platform for sharing diverse perspectives and experiences to address grand challenges and facilitate cross-cultural and interdisciplinary learning.

To Promote innovation in social work education and practice by encouraging the development and dissemination of innovative strategies, tools, and practices.

To enhance social work students' skills and Knowledge to meet contemporary social challenges.

To build networks among social work students and professionals to foster future collaboration.

To empower participants to advocate for social justice, equity, and sustainable change in communities and beyond.

**Themes and Tracks:**

Ending Homelessness

Advancing Health Equity

Ensuring the Welfare of Children

Promoting Financial Capability and Equity

Reducing Extreme Economic Inequality

Building Healthy Relationships to End Violence

Creating Social Responses to a Changing Environment

Harnessing Technology for Social Good

Promoting Smart Decarcerating

Improving the Social Response to Mental Health

Achieving Equal Opportunity and Justice

Strengthening the Social Response to Migration and Displacement

**Call for abstracts:**

We invite submissions from social work students across the globe on any of the conference themes. Submissions can be fieldwork projects, case studies, innovative practice models, and research papers. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words and indicate the objective, methodology, findings, and implications for social work.

**Key Dates:**

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** 10 March 2024

**Notification of Acceptance:** 15 March 2024

**Duration of presentation:** 15 minutes

**Registration:** <https://utaedu.questionpro.com/t/AXuifZ1eTB>

Organizing Committee:

The conference is organized by Students for Global Change, a student organization at the School of Social Work, University of Texas Arlington. The committee comprises distinguished faculty and students dedicated to making this event a catalyst for meaningful change in social work.

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This conference represents a unique opportunity for social work students and the broader community to come together, share knowledge, and commit to actions that address the most pressing issues of our time. We look forward to your participation in making this event a success.