## Graduate Certificate in School Social Work 2007 Review

## 1 Introduction

The Graduate Certificate in School Social Work prepares students in the MSW program for professional careers in school settings. They learn specialized knowledge and skills needed to address the social, emotional and familial barriers to student achievement and school adjustment.

2 Faculty affiliated with the certificate curriculum include: \*Dr. Julie Cerel, \*Dr. John Shuster, Ms. Janet Doss, \*Dr. Gretchen Ely, \*Ms. Lori Lazzari, Ms. Michelle Boutwell, Dr. Calderhead, Dr. Donald Stenhoff, Ms. \*Flo Lankster (school social work graduate certificate coordinator) and \*Dr. Richard Sutphen (school social work graduate certificate director.

\*members of school social work certificate committee

- 3 Current admissions requirements/procedures are as follows: Student must be enrolled in the MSW graduate program with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or hold the MSW with a minimum GPA of 3.0. She/he must submit an application with a 200-300 hundred word statement of interest in school social work.
- 4 Current requirements for the completion of the graduate certificate in school social work include the following courses.
  - Eight credit hours of field education (practicum) SW740 or 741 in an approved school setting
  - Three credit hour course: Social Work Practice in Schools (SW616)
  - Three credit hour course: Principles of Behavior Management and Instruction (EDS516)
  - Three credit hour course: Child and Adolescent Assessment and Treatment (SW704)
- To date thirty-four students have been awarded the Graduate Certificate in School Social Work and fifteen are currently enrolled. School districts are hiring school social workers in increased numbers. In the past two years three Central Kentucky districts (Harrison, Lincoln and Madison Counties) hired professional school social workers in positions other than Family Resource Center Coordinator for the first time. As pressure on schools for students to achieve higher test scores continues the need to address the social, emotional and familial needs of students has prompted school administrators to turn to social work professionals for solutions.

Report submitted by Flo Lankster School Social Work Graduate Certificate Coordinator

