



School Social Work Association of America



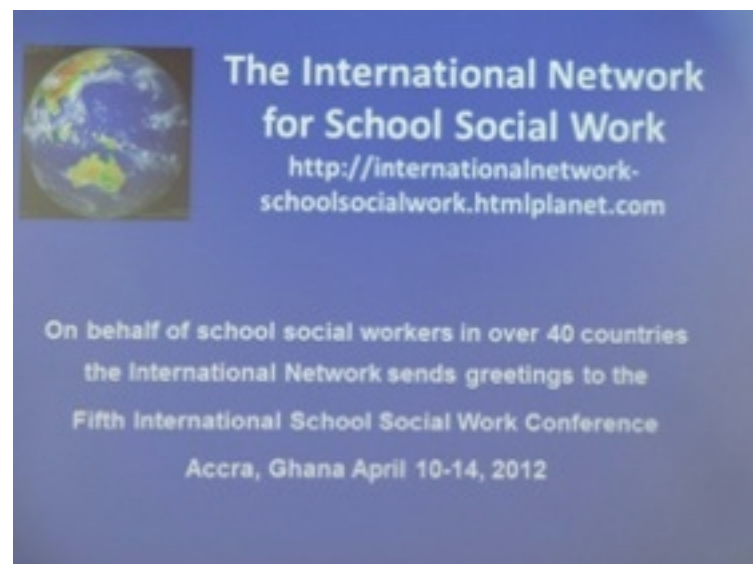
International School Social Work Conference Newsletter

May 2013

The 5th International School Social Work Conference

The International Network for School Social Work and the School Social Work Association of Ghana, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Ghana, the Department of Social Work, University of Ghana, Legon and the Department of Special Education, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana recently sponsored the 5th International School Social Work Conference at the Mensvic Hotel in Accra, Ghana from April 10-14, 2012. The theme was “*Ensuring Quality Education for all the World’s Children.*”

The Conference was attended by over 260 school social workers and colleagues from 10 foreign countries, including Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe, India, Singapore, Mongolia, Japan, Finland, Canada and the United States. Over 60 workshops were presented as well as 6 keynote speakers from the University, Education and Government Departments of Ghana. The next International School Social Work Conference will be hosted by the Mongolian School Social Work Association in 2015.



Conference Keynote Speakers

The Opening Plenary Session Keynote speech was by Dr. Rhonda Wells-Wilborn, Chair of the Social Work Department, Morgan State University entitled “Respecting the Unique Values and Qualities of Every Child: The Bedrock of Quality Education.” The Luncheon Session Keynote was by Professor Mawutor Avoke, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Education, Winneba titled “Managing Student’s Behavior Change in Pre-Tertiary Educational Settings: The Role of the SSW.” The Second Plenary Session keynote was delivered by Dr. Donald Fuchs, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada “Social Work and Social Work Education: A Vital Resource for Ensuring Quality Education for All the World’s Children.” The Luncheon keynote was given by Professor Nan Araba Apt, Ashesi University, Accra, Ghana “Issues in Social Service Delivery in Ghana.” The Third Plenary Session keynote was delivered by Dr. Theophilus Tefe, Institute of Continuing and Distance Education, University of Ghana, Legon titled “Reforming Education for the Benefit of Every Child: Challenges and Opportunities in Ghana’s Current Educational System.” The Luncheon keynote was by Mr. Stephen Adu, Deputy Director General, Ghana Education Service on “Ensuring Quality Basic Education in the 21st Century: Ghana’s Perspective.”



SSWAA Executive Director/Board Member and Conference participants

The Ghana Conference Committees



Dr. Michael Baffoe and Dr. Donald Fuchs from the University of Manitoba and the conference planning committee

The 5th International School Social Work Conference was hosted by the School Social Work Association of Ghana “ which is a national membership organization that connects, informs and mobilizes professional social workers practicing in the educational systems of Ghana. The decision to form the association came as a result of the need to bring together professional social workers practicing in various social work positions within the Ghana Educational Service (i.e., Welfare, Special Education, Guidance and Counseling and School Health Education). The purpose is to network and exchange ideas and information about best practices in the field. The Association has gone through a process of development since 30th March 2001, when the first meeting was organized with only 10 members. Currently, SSWAG works with more than 200 members, many of them providing services to basic and high school students, families, teachers, and educational administrators. School social work is a strong and growing field in many districts.”

Dr. Cynthia Scottie and Dr. Mavis Dako-Gyeke



The Conference Brochure

The University of Ghana School of Social Work Graduate Students and Faculty were a great help!

Conference Workshops

Many interesting and topical workshops were delivered by presenters from Ghana and the other countries in attendance. Of interest to many school social workers were: "Building A School to Community Bridge: A Mentoring Model for Basic Schools in Ghana," "Community Organizing in Low-Income Educational Settings: A Collaborative Approach", Teachers coping strategies in the face of print curriculum material shortages in primary schools on newly resettled farms in Zimbabwe," "Street Hawking in Accra: Survival or Problem to Society and Urban Space," "Development of a Job Description of a School Social Worker in Mongolia", "Ghana Schools and HIV/AIDS Education: The Role of the School Social Worker", "The Ube Act and Special Education Provisions in Nigeria: Implications for Including education" and "But How Can I Achieve my Dream in this Village?: Bleak Educational Hopes and Aspirations of Children in Rural Communities in Ghana."

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE: BLESSING OR CURSE FOR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES IN CANADA?

By: Dr. Michael Baffoe
University of Manitoba

School Social Work Practice in the United States

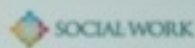
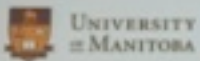
April 10, 2012
International School Social Work Conference
Accra, Ghana

Frederick Streeck
Daniel McCarthy

PRESENTER



ANASTASIA KPEI NINSAU
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON
aninsau@yahoo.com



Social Work and Social Work Education: A Vital Resource for Quality Education for the World's Children

Paper By
Don Fuchs, PhD
Professor, Faculty of Social Work
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg Manitoba, Canada

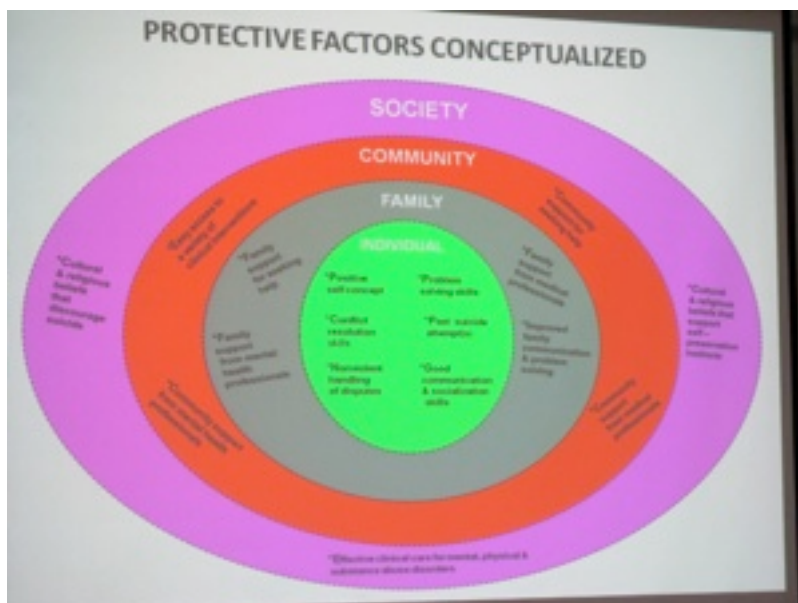
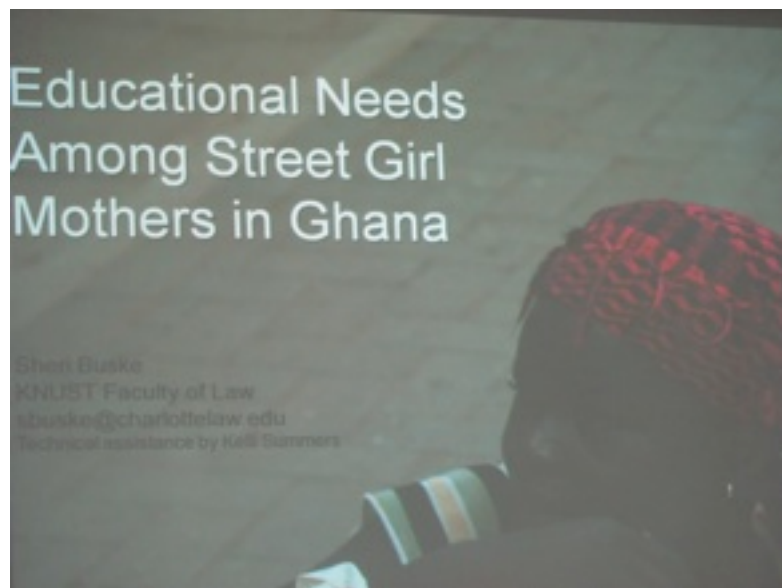
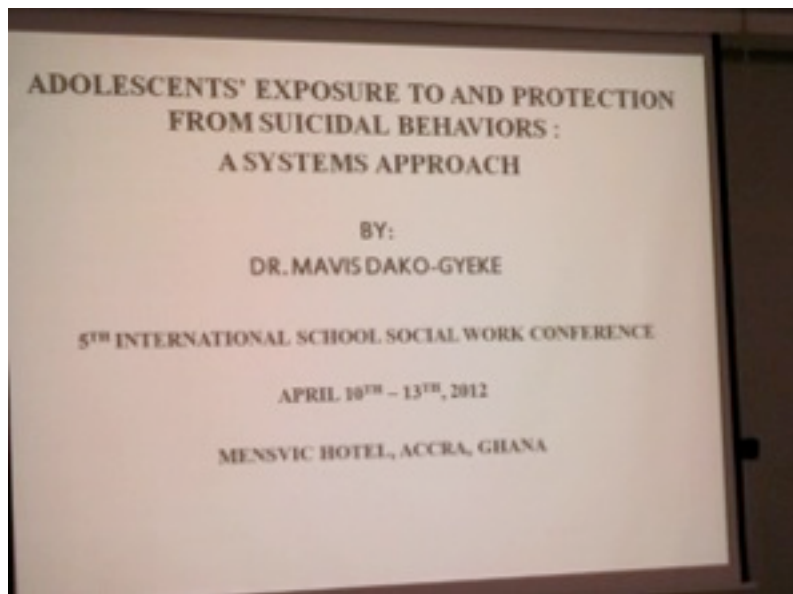
slided for Presentation at the International School Social work Conference, Accra, Ghana, April 10th - Apr
2012

The role of the social worker in managing challenging behaviour of students at the pre- tertiary Education level

At the 5th International School Social work
Conference, 10th -13th April, MENSVIC

HOTEL Accra

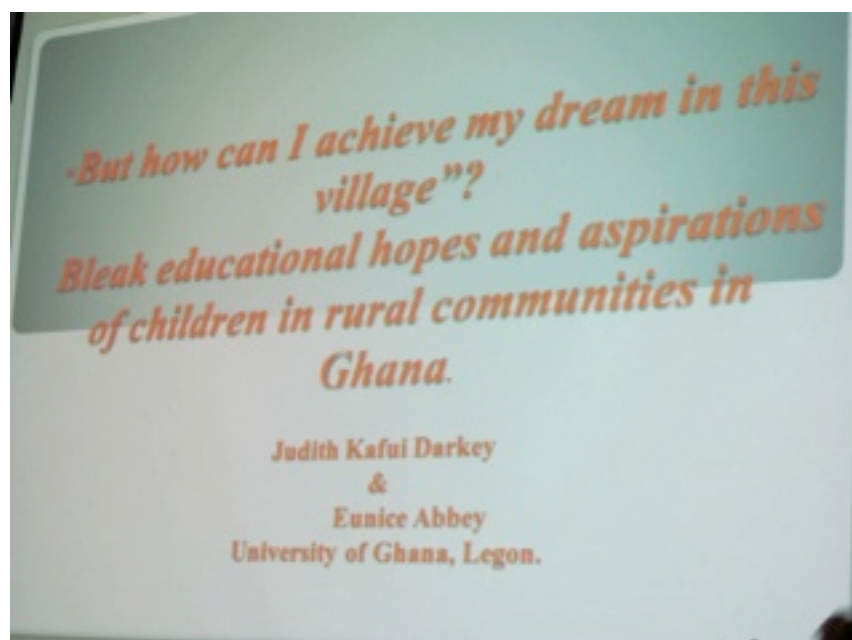
By
Mawutor Avoke Ph.D
Professor of Special Education
University of Education, Winneba, Ghana



- **ENSURING QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL THE WORLD'S CHILDREN**
- *Reforming Education for the benefit of every child: Challenges and Opportunities in Ghana's Current Education System*



Graduate student presenters, School of Social Work
University of Ghana, Legon





Conference participants on Bus



Sou Children's Home, Accra Ghana



SSW'S From the United States



Community Vocational Training Program



Child Labor Issues

BUILDING A SCHOOL TO COMMUNITY BRIDGE: A MENTORING MODEL FOR PUBLIC BASIC SCHOOLS IN GHANA

Cynthia A. Sottie, MSW, PhD, University of Ghana
Nicole Dubus, PhD, Wheelock College, USA
Marie-Antoinette Sossou, MSW, PhD, University of Kentucky, USA
5th International School Social Work Conference, Mensvic Hotel, Accra, Ghana



Dr. Cynthia Sottie, University of Ghana



The Closing Ceremony and Dinner on Friday evening



Conference Attendees from South Africa and Zimbabwe



University of Texas Social Work Graduate Students who were enrolled in a field work experience in Accra, Ghana



Special Certificate of Appreciation was Awarded to Marion Huxtable who publishes the *Newsletter* of the International Network for School Social Work. Marion and the Electronic Newsletter (INSSW) can be reached at mhuxtable@olympus.net and on the SSWAA website:

<http://sswaa.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=412>



At the conference there was time for School Social Worker's from the US and Africa to share their professional experiences



A very special conference bag as each bag had unique stitching

Participants from Mongolia, Korea, Nigeria, India and the United States



School Social Workers from Finland



Social Workers and Educators from Ghana and Nigeria



Vocational Training Program for Girls sponsored by AGREDS



Public Advertisement in Accra, Ghana



Conference participants were able to attend the premier showing of the film: “Somewhere in Africa” an award winning film produced in Ghana.



The Mensvic Hotel and Conference Venue





Ghana Pottery



Cape Coast of Ghana



SSWAA members and our hosts on a visit to the countryside

Kakum National Park Cape Coast, Ghana



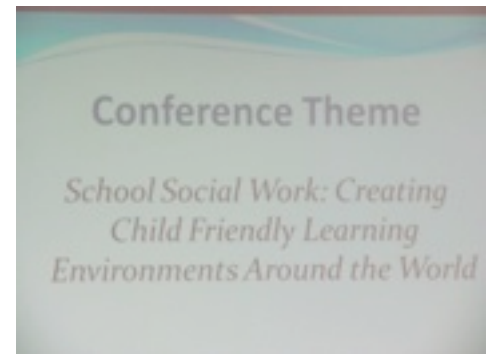
Local students on field trip to forest

Kakum National Park offered the opportunity to visit a tropical forest from the treetop level.

6th International School Social Work Conference 2015 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



The next International Network for School Social Work Conference will be hosted by the Mongolian Association of School Social Workers in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in 2015.



The Planning for the next International Conference was assisted by the Ghanian Association of School Social Workers



Mongolian Association of School Social Workers
National Authority for Children, 3rd Floor, Room 304
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia 15160

The Delegation from the Mongolian Association of School Social Workers

SSWAA MEMBER BENEFITS



SSWAA offers a variety of pamphlets, books and CEU opportunities. Please review some of the products for sale on our website, especially the school social work documentary DVD: **"A Day in the Life of a School Social Worker"** which depicts two Los Angeles Unified School District school social workers in their daily routines and responsibilities at an LAUSD elementary and high school campus. We also offer pamphlets, books and CEU opportunities both as Workshops and Webinars.

SSWAA MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- ✓Professional Liability Insurance included as part of your membership
- ✓Publication Discounts: 20% Oxford Press/Lyceum Press, 33% School Social Work Journal
- ✓Reduced Rates-National Conference and Legislative/Leadership Institute (Washington, DC)
- ✓Bi-Weekly Electronic Newsletters and Reports: E-Bell (Monday) and E-Blast
- ✓National Lobbyist in Washington, DC advocating for School Social Work
- ✓School Social Work Pamphlets and DVD
- ✓School Social Work Website: www.sswaa.org which also includes resources for members only
- ✓On-Line Workshop Series, Webinars and CEU's

Membership Information

SSWAA IS YOUR NATIONAL ADVOCATE FOR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK ASSOCIATIONS

Membership applications and information can be found on our Website: www.sswaa.org

and

for more information on International School Social Work, please refer to the *International Network for School Social Work*

Website: <http://internationalnetwork-schoolsocialwork.htmlplanet.com/>



This newsletter is published by the School Social Work Association of America: The editor is Daniel McCarthy LCSW (mccarthynm@comcast.net) who is the Western States Representative on the SSWAA Board of Directors. All comments and suggestions are welcomed.