

## Adjunct Faculty Spotlight -> -> -> Steve Berman

Lewis and Clark's Counseling Psychology department is fortunate to have Steve Berman, LCSW, on the adjunct faculty team as he is a favorite amongst students, a staple in the department and a wonderful educator and colleague. Originally asked to teach just one course, L&C couldn't let him get away and twelve years later, we are thrilled to continue our relationship with him.



Upon being asked why he enjoys teaching, Berman said, "It is a different kind of interaction. You can be more of who you are, be looser, funnier, you can make jokes." It *must* be the jokes that keep filling up his classes as students are constantly vying to get seats before they are filled.

In addition to his work at L&C, Berman has a private practice in NE Portland where he works with couples, families, and individuals. He also currently supervises 25 people en route to licensure. How does he do it all? He stays inspired by his passion. "Social justice motivation made me want to go to school for social work. I kept getting deeper and it became the passion; promoting social justice one family at a time."

With 41 years in the field, Berman plans to use his teaching opportunity to share his experiences. "It feels good to have an influence on the next generation of counselors."

And he certainly has. Thanks, Professor Berman, for your incredible impact on the CPSY department and Lewis and Clark community!

### **The Liberation Based Healing Conference Goes International!!!**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Liberation Based Healing conference was held at the University of Calgary, Canada September 22- 24, 2011. This three-day conference included a series of presenters/speakers as well as panel discussions, skill building and interactive workshops. Rhea Almeida, Andraé L. Brown, Lisa Dressner, Pilar Hernández-Wolfe, Teresa McDowell, Carolyn Tubbs and Nocona Pewewardy made up the team of therapists, community workers, activists, scholars, and educators who have worked collaboratively on bridging clinical and community work – creating just therapy for a just society.

The conference, which had over 100 participants, was organized by the Citizens for Social Justice (CFSJ), a student based group from the University of Calgary. The aim of CFSJ is to empower community members to make positive changes within our community. CFSJ does this through providing workshops, training, and awareness gatherings in order for community members to have the skills needed to tactfully and efficiently combat social injustice. This is an excellent example of what a team of empowered students can do to help promote social justice through innovation and collaboration.

The next conference will be held in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, October 21 & 22, 2011 and then will return to Portland in 2012.

**October PDX Events!**

**Fright Town-Memorial Coliseum**  
All month

**The Maize**  
Sauvie Island  
All month

**Artcrank!**  
403 SW 10<sup>th</sup>  
Ave. October 6<sup>th</sup>

**Portland Marathon**  
SW 4<sup>th</sup> and Taylor  
October 7<sup>th</sup>

**The Wedge Cheese Fest**  
928 SE 9<sup>th</sup>  
Ave. October 8<sup>th</sup>

**Lesbian and Gay Film Fest**  
Cinema 21

616 NW 21<sup>st</sup>  
through  
October 8<sup>th</sup>

**Latin American Film Fest**  
Hollywood Theater  
4122 NE Sandy  
Oct 20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>

*A word from your program director...*

Dr. McDowell and I finished a research project on Family Therapy educators' journeys toward awareness, and compassionate action in relation to privilege. We interviewed family therapy educators from various mental health professions who had been engaged in addressing issues of marginalization and privilege in clinical practice, research and education for a long time. Although this was a purposive sample, we were gladly surprised at the depth of their life journeys and the commitment that they developed over time. We found that these educators developed awareness about issues of privilege and oppression, and that they adopted a stance of action and accountability for equity. After immersing ourselves in the data over and over again, we hypothesized that the process leading to owning one's privilege involves the ability to be compassionate for others' suffering and one's limitations. As the subfield of multicultural family therapy finds alternatives to the multicultural psychology movement to address issues of social justice, it is important to expand our horizons to include the ways in which social justice approaches and interventions include compassion and compassionate action. The Stanford Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education has up-to-date information and cutting-edge research in this area. Some studies bring us hope (e.g. brain mechanisms underlying emotion including compassion and empathy) and some help us reinvigorate our commitment to be activists and to connect the social and political with interpersonal issues (e.g. the class divide, poorer people are better at reading other's emotions and, class and emotions). -Pilar Hernández-Wolfe, Ph.D.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**  
**MCFT grads Emily Schwartz-Dale, Josh Aldridge, Heather Bennett, Jeffrey Post-Holmberg and Lara Pevzner for your amazing work** in the Family Intensive Support Services (FISS) program at Morrison Child and Family based services for youth between the ages of 6-17 and their families. FISS provides multiple services throughout the week to help families in crisis stabilize and prevent an out of home placement.

**MCFT SOCIAL**  
**GAME NIGHT!!!**  
 Right here on campus!  
 Look for weekly email reminders and sign up in your classes!  
**OCTOBER 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
 8:00 p.m.



**SHOUTOUT!!!!!!** L&C Graduate campus hosted the American Psychological Association Minority Fellowship Program meetings which included a brief on Graduate School initiatives including the Early Education Career Advocacy program and Addictions program. Program Director Andrew Austin-Daly conducted a mentoring workshop: "Money and Mentoring, Essentials for your Career". Sixteen students attended. Contact Dr. Brown for more details.

## AAMFT National Conference Update

This year's AAMFT national conference held in Fort Worth, Texas provided me with another great opportunity to be exposed to the latest trends in the field of MFT, and a reminder of the great responsibility we all have as MFTs in our ever changing, challenging and exciting world. The plenary sessions, workshops, seminars and research presentations based on the conference theme ("The Science of Relationships") gave me the sense that the field of MFT is striving towards becoming more and more evidence-based, theory-driven, research-focused, and advocating for adopting a scientist-practitioner-philosophical model in our increasingly science and technology-driven world. Though all these are great signs of growth for the field of MFT, it also raised some serious concerns. I will discuss that another time.

During the conference days, it was refreshing and reinvigorating to see fellow-MFTs from all walks of life, and pretty much from every continent in the globe. The most exciting and refreshing sight was the signs that the field of MFT is getting more and more diversified every year with representations from all ethnic groups and nationalities. I met students and professionals from various parts of the continental Americas, China, Egypt, India, Israel, Malaysia, South Africa and Turkey. It was so exciting to learn that the field of MFT is consistently expanding and becoming much more international and inclusive. Besides the intellectually stimulating presentations and workshops, the conference also provided many delightful opportunities to make new friends, and to reconnect with old friends. All in all, the Fort Worth conference was a very reinvigorating experience for me! (Secret message: if you are reading this, call Dolly at 503-768-6063. First caller gets a prize!)

Sebastian Perumbilly, Ph.D.

I attended the AAMFT Annual Conference this past September with the intention of making connections with family therapists who guide their work through an affirmative and social activist lens. I not only succeeded in this endeavor, I was also pleasantly surprised at the number of students, faculty, and practitioners who were impressed when I told them I was from Lewis & Clark. Given that Lewis & Clark was really the only graduate program I applied to last fall, I was unaware of the reputation we carry with us!

The workshops I attended were specifically directed at creating inclusive space, creating affirmative academic programs, and how the field of family research needs to change from being unidirectional to addressing social location and historical context. Although these workshops were quite inspiring, I was disappointed with the overall lack of attention the conference gave to the diverse meanings of the concept of "relationships" and how we could expand our knowledge base by looking outside of the box of the traditional notions of "family" and "relationship".



Lastly, I greatly enjoyed volunteering as a student and the cost of the trip (airfare, food, and lodging) was well worth the experience and the valuable connections I made. I am now corresponding with faculty from North Dakota State University, Ohio State University, Capella University, Texas Woman's University, the University of Nevada, and staff from AAMFT. This network of friends, colleagues, and practitioners is priceless. Not to mention the AWESOME cowboy boots I bought!

Paula Emerick

### Upcoming Events

<p><b>An Event for Men and Boys who attended "A Call to Men Institute"</b></p> <p>October 13, 2011 Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR</p> <p>For more information, contact Gabby Santos gabby@ocadsv.org</p>	<p><b>Oregon Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Northwest Regional Conference</b></p> <p>October 21-22, 2011 Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, WA</p> <p>For more information, visit <a href="http://www.oamft.org">www.oamft.org</a></p>	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Annual Liberation-Based Healing Conference</b></p> <p>October 21-22, 2011 Raritan Bay Area YMCA in Perth Amboy, New Jersey</p> <p>For more information, contact the Center for Community Engagement at (503) 768-6040</p>	<p><b>Oregon Counseling Association Annual Fall Conference: "How We Serve"</b></p> <p>November 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 The Riverhouse, Bend, OR</p> <p>For more information, visit <a href="http://www.or-counseling.org">www.or-counseling.org</a></p>
---	---	--	--