



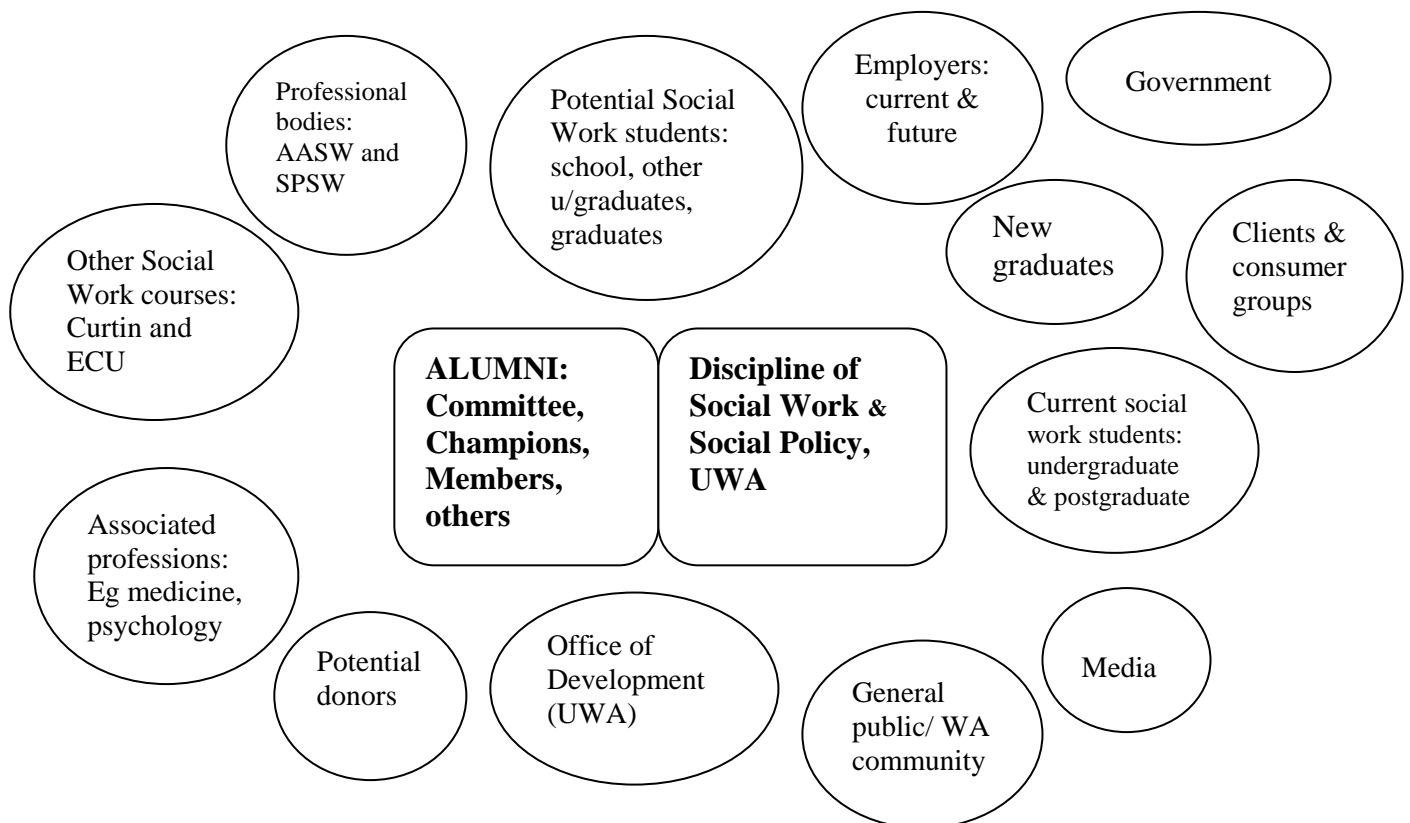
**UWA SOCIAL WORK ALUMNI
STRATEGIC PLAN 2008-2013**

OBJECTIVES

Help the University of Western Australia enhance the education & research capacities of professional Social Workers, by:

1. Increasing the number of high quality students entering & completing Social Work degrees.
2. Increasing the ongoing development of high quality graduates & postgraduates.
3. Strengthening research & post-graduate opportunities.
4. Establishing collaboration between the Discipline of Social Work and Social Policy & employers.

CONTEXT



Other contextual factors:

- UWA Social Work undergraduate applications reflect national trends – seriously decreasing.
- Post graduates at UWA Social Work are increasing, currently ~100 (vs 9 +24 undergraduates!)
- Employers: vacancies hard to fill; some employ non-Social Workers – impact on service.
- Probable soon: qualifying Social Work degree UWA 2 year Masters (post any degree)

- Possible restructure within UWA so that Social Work could shift to Medicine/Dentistry.
- Office of Development potentially has expanded role to support Alumni.
- AASW (WA) probably integrating with SPSW; national AASW strengthening.
- Resources of Alumni are primarily human; some project grants obtained.
- Potentially 1200 alumni; 700 on current database; challenge to maintain data.
- Students commonly face financial pressures while juggling study, jobs, family.

SOCIAL WORK ALUMNI UWA

PLAN 2008-2013

WHAT	WHY	HOW	WHO	WHEN
Build Alumni numbers & profile	Objectives 1,2,3,4 Crucial basis for Alumni work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate & update database • Liaise with Office of Development eg “lost alumni” by linking data bases, funds & marketing strategies. • Consider project officer • Document role & inform/use Champions more; ?41 of them. • Circulate Champions list • Circulate meeting minutes to Champions • Use events & newsletters, eg regularly up-date/call for alumni in “The UWA Social Worker” & professional development events. • Continue Welcome to New Grads event after the annual Grace Vaughan lecture • Link to UWA Centenary project 	Louise Durack Daphne Cuthbertson Champions Office of Development	mid 2008 & ongoing
Establish WA Social Worker of the Year Award	Objectives 4, 2,1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the AASW(WA) award working party & publicity & process • Project officer being appointed (grant received from national AASW for WA pilot) • Opportunity to market Social Work to potential students, employees, UWA & general public. • Use opportunity to strengthen links AASW & Alumni & profession 	Fran Crawford Libby Lloyd Katrina Stratton	2008/9 Awarded May 09
Increase Student Scholarships	Objectives 1, 3,4,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasingly important in getting and keeping students, undergraduate & postgraduate. • Goal is annual intake of 20 students in new Masters. • Create working party • Sponsorship of rural/remote placements vital; liaise with HDWA Allied Health initiatives. 	Discipline Alumni from target employers.	2008/9 & ongoing

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby for MSW & postgraduate students using precedent of DCP(20) & HDWA (10) scholarships in Graduate Certificates • Involve AASW 		
Establish Mentoring program for new grads & others	Objective 2,4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish working party to define and establish • Consider current UWA model • Encourage formal & informal models with students & new graduates & lone workers. • Consider options to market & involve by linking to PD Program • Consider how to use Alumni in presentations targeting potential students at schools, Unis & in media; liaise with AASW, use national/USA DVD's, websites. • Expand links AASW & students 	Diane Smith Richard Majda Kaye Shipley Shirley Witko Daphne Cuthbertson Office of Development +	2008 & ongoing
Establish the Laki Jayasuriya Scholarship for student research	Objective 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise funds; liaise with Office of Development about donors. • Organise working party • Publicly announced 2006 as annual award to honours or grad research student whose proposal addresses ~multicultural or indigenous issues. • Important for credibility of Alumni to finalise this. 	Nancy Paterson Office of Development Discipline of Social Work and Social Policy	2011
Provide an Annual PD program	Objective 2,3,4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue organising around 3 professional development events each year. • Liaise with AASW & employers in designing program & timing and publicising PD events. 	Alumni Committee	ongoing
Assist in funding Director, Centre for Vulnerable Children & Families	Objective 4,3,2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding is vital since there is currently no Director (after the initial 2 years) and plenty of funded work being offered. • Alumni can consult, lobby and fundraise about this in liaison with Head of Discipline. 	Discipline of Social Work and Social Policy	2009
Consultation & general support	Objective 1,2,3,4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alumni members, often via the Champions, to be available for consultation & support of the Discipline of Social Work and Social Policy. • Need marketing strategies for attracting enrolments & raising profile of Social Work at UWA & in community. Use national AASW. 	All Alumni	ongoing