Greetings, and congratulations on your admission to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work. We are pleased that you have chosen to enter our 20-month, Distance Education Advanced Standing MSW program in Winston-Salem, and are looking forward to working with you as you continue to pursue your professional social work education.

**Orientations**
There will be two mandatory orientations. The first is scheduled for April 30, 2010, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Forsyth County Department of Social Services, 741 North Highland Ave., Winston-Salem NC. On this day, you will meet your director and others in your cohort, review the Distance Education Advanced Standing curriculum and field education requirements, obtain your DSS name badges and meet current students in the program. Please review the tentative agenda for the April 30th orientation.

The second half of your orientation is scheduled for Friday, May 7, 2010 beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 300 at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work (Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building, CB 3550, 325 Pittsboro St., Chapel Hill, NC). At this event, we will take photos of the group and of each student. You may wish to review the tentative agenda for the May 7th orientation session in Chapel Hill. Also, the School of Social Work will be hosting the annual Students Achieving Graduate Education (S.A.G.E.) Pre-orientation Program for entering students of color and international students on Saturday, August 14, 2010. All incoming students are welcome to attend.

**Writing Assessment**
The ability to communicate clearly through writing is an important professional skill. Once you obtain your ONYEN (see "Computer Tips"), notify Linda Wilson at LWilson@unc.edu and she will make sure you’re registered for Sakai so you may take the required writing assessment (see “Writing Assessment Instructions”) . The article must be read and the writing assessment taken by May 7, 2010.

**First Day of Class**
Classes begin at Forsyth County Department of Social Services on Friday, May 14, 2010. The last day of class for the summer is July 23, 2010. Classes begin at 8:30am and conclude by 5pm each Friday.

**Advising**
Your program director, Tina Souders, will serve as your faculty advisor. Her role is to guide your professional development and help you to identify appropriate field education opportunities. Tina’s office is at Forsyth County DSS and her contact information is as follows:

Tina Souders, MSW, JD  
Director of Winston-Salem Distance Education Advanced Standing Program  
Phone: 336-703-3398  
Email: tsouders@email.unc.edu

Sarah Naylor, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, will oversee your plan of study and ensure that you meet all the requirements for the degree. Dr. Naylor is located in the Student Services Suite on the third floor of the School of Social Work in Chapel Hill. You can reach her at 919-962-6444 or smnaylor@email.unc.edu.

**Registration**
Courses are offered according to a set schedule; a sample course sequence is available online. This ensures that each student will complete the required curriculum. The School of Social Work Registrar, Beth Sauer (962-6443,
bhsauer@email.unc.edu) will register you for the summer bridge course SoWo 715 which is six credit hours. During
the summer, class will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. In the fall semester,
you will register for SoWo 874, Administration and Management: Theory and Practice (3 credit hours) and SoWo
842, Families: Theory and Practice (3 credit hours) and SoWo 720 Individualized Field Practicum (4 or 6 credit
hours). Class will meet from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. until 4 p.m. during the fall semester.

Field Placement
You should plan on your field placement beginning during the week of August 23, 2010. Over the summer, the
Director of the Distance Education MSW program, Tina Souders, will work with you to develop your individualized
field placement plan. Should you have questions about this process, please contact Tina Souders.

Tuition and Fees
For the Summer 2010, we estimate that tuition and fees for in-state, distance education students will be $1,812 for
six credit hours. For out-of-state distance education students, we estimate the rate to be $3,492. The exact cost for
fall will remain uncertain until the final state budget is approved by the North Carolina state legislature and signed
by the Governor. Once tuition and fees are determined, you will receive an invoice from the University Cashier. For
additional information and the most current tuition rates, visit the Cashier’s website at

Residency
The Graduate School handles residency concerns. If you have a question about residency, please contact Residency
Coordinator Sylvia Roberson at sbr@email.unc.edu. **Please note that even though you may have lived in North
Carolina all of your life, you still will need to complete an online residency form if you are claiming North
Carolina residency for tuition purposes.** The form should be completed after March 15 and is on the Graduate
School’s website at: http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/residency/.

Financial Aid
Distance education students are eligible for some types of university and school-based financial aid. If you wish to
be considered for School of Social Work scholarships for the fall and spring semesters, don’t forget to complete the
Scholarship Application Form on our website by the April 30 deadline.

For Summer School loans you will need to complete the 2009-2010 FAFSA online at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov. For
fall and spring loans, please complete the 2010-2011 FAFSA online. When completing the FAFSA online remember
to indicate that you’re registered for six credit hours in the summer. Student Services Manager Linda Wilson has
informed the UNC Office of Scholarships and Student Aid that you will need financial aid extended through the
second summer session.

For information about eligibility for loans contact the UNC-CH Office of Scholarships and Student Aid at
919-962-8396 or visit their website at http://studentaid.unc.edu/. School of Social Work awards are available for the
final academic year. In March, 2011 students will be notified when the application process begins. More
information about the School of Social Work financial aid can be found at

Distance Education Format
Students in the Winston-Salem Distance Education Advanced Standing MSW Program are enrolled in a distance
education program. Courses in this program enhance regular classroom instruction with web-based instructional
components, video-conferencing, and other technologies. The UNC-Chapel Hill Library offers specialized services
for all distance education students. If you do not have a computer or access to the internet, I strongly recommend
that you visit the Carolina Computing Initiative website, http://www.unc.edu/cci for information about purchasing a
computer. Students report that their computer and internet access are essential tools for success in the program.

Insurance
As a student in a distance education program, you are not eligible for student health insurance or access to
recreational facilities on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

Purchasing Books
Textbooks can be purchased by logging into the Course Materials portal, http://my.unc.edu at UNC Student Stores.
Another option is to get the title of the textbooks from the course syllabus and place an order online or at a local
bookstore.
Parking
For orientation on April 30th in Winston-Salem, you will need to park in the Carl Russell parking lot near the Forsyth County Department of Social Services. When you arrive in Chapel Hill for orientation on May 7, please park in the Rams Head parking deck on Ridge Road and take the free RU bus to the School of Social Work.

Special Needs
It is helpful for us to know if you have needs that require special accommodations to attend classes and field practice. Not all UNC-Chapel Hill classrooms are handicapped accessible, and some field sites may not provide accessibility. For classroom needs, please inform us in a return letter. The Field Planning Guide will have a place for you to note special field-learning needs. Also, if you need to obtain accommodations for your classroom instruction you must speak with the Office of Disability Services first. Their website is at http://disabilityservices.unc.edu/.

We are looking forward to spending the next 20 months with you as you continue to prepare for professional practice. The faculty and staff are involved in a variety of research, program planning, evaluation, and training projects on local, state, national, and international levels. We are working to bring you the best opportunities to expand your knowledge and develop your skills.

Welcome to our learning community. Expect to work hard, question assumptions and meet some life-long friends. Feel free to contact me if you have questions. We are pleased you have selected our program for your MSW education and look forward to working with you.

c: Jack Richman, Ph.D., Dean and Professor
   Sharon H. Thomas, MSW, Director of Recruitment, Admissions & Financial Aid
   Linda T. Wilson, Student Services Manager
   Tina Souders, MSW, Director, Distance Education Advanced Standing MSW Program in Winston-Salem
   Rebecca Brigham, MSW, Field Education Director

Available on the School of Social Work and UNC websites:

Tentative Orientation Schedule for April 30
Tentative Orientation Schedule for May 7
Checklist for Distance Education Advanced Standing Students
Advising and Registration Information
Computer Literacy Information
Student Organization (SoWoSO) greetings
Disability Services Information
Parking Directions to Ramshead Parking Deck and Map
“Encyclopedia of Social Work” information
Nearby Places to Eat