

## Researching Graduate Schools:

### Where Do I Go From Here?



If you're a first year student you might not think it is very applicable yet, but life at Messiah will probably go faster than you think. If you're a senior you might be anticipating an acceptance letter from a grad school. While you do not have to get a Master's to be employed, it's a smart thing to do since you ordinarily can receive the degree in year if studying full-time, an advantage of having a BSW degree. Starting the selection process for grad schools early is a smart idea as researching graduate schools can be a daunting task as there are many programs from which to choose.

Things to consider when looking at grad schools:

#### -In state or out of state

Most likely in state will cost less, as with undergrad. To check out what accredited programs are

available in different states check out <http://portal.cswe.org/MemberShip/MemberDirectory-Search.aspx>, the website for the Council on Social Work Education.

**-Cost** Sometimes employers will help pay for graduate school if you are working towards earning your degree. However, this is not usually the norm. Pay special attention to the cost per credit hour at the school.

#### -Track, concentration, and dual degree

-Schools offer different **tracks**, such as clinical or macro practice or direct and indirect practice (individuals, families, and groups vs. community development and administration).

-Schools usually offer several **concentrations** or specializations to choose from, such as

Children, Youth, & Families, Global Practice, Older Adults & Families, & Health/Mental Health.

-Many programs offer **dual degree programs**, such as a Master of Divinity or Masters in Public Health.

Look for **expertise** in an area you want to specialize in. For example, students

who are particularly interested in **International Social Work** might want to check out Boston College or Dominican University. Students interested in working in rural areas might want to consider California University of Pennsylvania.

#### -Admissions:

-Some schools require the **GRE** and some do not. So don't worry about the exams unnecessarily.

## Campus Events: Ways to get Involved at Messiah

International Justice Meeting  
Every Sunday @ 8:00pm-9:00pm  
Frey 150  
Contact: Nadia Schafer  
(717) 766 2511 ext:4092

Disability Service Thinking: Autism  
April 5 @ 5:00pm in Boyer 131  
Contact: Carol Wickey  
(717) 766 2511 ext:5382

History Department: American Democracy Lecture  
April 25 @ 7:00pm-9:30pm  
Hostetter Chapel  
Contact: Gina Hale  
(717)766 2511 ext 2025