



## International Network for School Social Work

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

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The school Social Work Association of Ghana, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, The Department of Ghana, Legon, and the Education at the University of the theme **ENSURING FOR ALL THE WORLD'S International School Social** April 10-13 in Accra, Ghana. Zimbabwe, South Africa, Malaysia and South Korea



Social Work at the University of Department of Special Education, Winneba, presented **QUALITY EDUCATION CHILDREN at the 5<sup>th</sup> Work Conference** that was held Speakers from Ghana, Nigeria, Canada, US, Mongolia, India, shared their commitment to the goal of **quality education for all children** shared by school social workers around the world.

### Government urged to attach social workers to schools

<http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/regional/artikel.php?ID=235510&comment=7754878#com>

Government has been called upon to make social work an integral part of the education system in an effort to improve upon students' academic performances. This is because, the social worker has been trained to help identify students or people with psycho-social issues, such as learning disabilities, poor performances, absenteeism, bullying and others.

Speaking at the opening of the fifth International School Social Work conference held in Accra on Tuesday, Mrs. Esther Mahama, President, School Social Work Association of Ghana, urged government to endeavour to consult social workers in the drawing of curriculum in the schools for their inputs. "Social workers are supposed to be staff of our schools so that, as the teacher teaches, the social worker would handle other psycho-social issues faced by the students", she added. She expressed concern about the unavailability of jobs for students of social work, which caused them to seek job opportunities in other sectors.

Nowadays due to limited social work institutions, trained social workers are compelled to seek job opportunities from organizations such as the banks and telecommunication companies.

The three day conference, which was on the theme "Ensuring Quality Education for All the World's Children," was attended by over 170 social workers from countries such as India, South Korea, United Kingdom and Nigeria.

Dr. Kofi Ohene Konadu, Lecturer, Faculty of Social Work, University of Ghana, appealed to government to extend the needed assistance to the profession for the country to derive the maximum benefits. “We do not see the works of social workers because we do not have social institutions in the country for our graduates”.



### **International Delegates Business Meeting**

During the International Conference participants from Mongolia, United States, Ghana, Finland, Nigeria, Canada, & South Africa met to discuss options for future international conferences and how to strengthen international communication between school social workers and their national associations.

The Mongolian delegation presented a case for holding the 6<sup>th</sup> international conference in Mongolia and the group approved the proposal unanimously. This will be held in 2015 and the theme will be **CREATING CHILD FRIENDLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS AROUND THE WORLD.**



Esther, Frederick & Mongolian delegates

Munkhjargal Bujgar, MSW, President of the

Frederick Streeck of SSWAA & Mongolian delegates

Mongolian Association of School Social Workers, shared the association’s plans to make this conference a benefit especially for surrounding countries, as well as for the whole international community of school social workers. They will work closely with the University, the Government and with Asian countries where they already have good connections to make this a success.

Possibilities for developing stronger international connections between school social workers were next discussed including the possibility of a stronger connection with the International Federation of Social Workers and expanding awareness of school social work.



You can see more photos of the conference on the School Social Work Association of Ghana web site at <http://www.sswaghana.org/>

If you would like the archive of the International Network’s newsletters from 2006 through 2012, send me an email at [mhuxtable@olympus.net](mailto:mhuxtable@olympus.net). The file is 9.2 MB.