

To: Wynne S. Korr, Dean and Professor  
From: Min Zhan, Chair, Ph.D. Committee  
Re: End of the Year Report (2013-2014)  
Date: April 18, 2014

The Ph.D. Committee for the 2013-2014 academic year consisted of Chris Larrison, Emily Lux (student representative), Min Park (Fall), Lissette Piedra, Cheryl Street, Karen Tabb, Chi-Fang Wu (Fall), and Min Zhan. Highlights of Ph.D. Committee activities are listed below.

**Recruitment and Admissions:** Working closely with the faculty, the Committee serves as the primary recruitment and screening vehicle for the Ph.D. Program. A total of 28 Ph.D. applications were received, and 4 students were offered admission into the program starting Fall 2014, and 3 students accepted the offer (one will be in MSW/PhD joint program). Another student was admitted last year and is expected to join us this coming Fall. The committee is still working on the admission of the 5<sup>th</sup> incoming student.

**Informational Meeting for Potential PhD Applicants.** As part of the recruitment strategy, an informational luncheon on the PhD programs and study was held in Fall 2013. MSW students whom our faculty identified as potential PhD applicants were invited to the luncheon. We will continue asking the faculty to identify potential candidates for the PhD program on a regular basis.

**Research Qualifying Examination:** Three students took the take-home research qualifying exams in Fall 2013. Venera Bektishi, Chris Larrison, Judy Havlicek, and Min Zhan served as graders on the qualifying exam committee.

**Qualifying Paper.** The PhD committee suggested a minor revision regarding the role of academic advisor in the working process of qualifying paper. The committee suggested that the student academic advisor could engage with the student to the extent that she/he sees fit during the working process of the qualifying paper.

**School Awards:** The Committee reviewed applications for four School of Social Work awards made to Ph.D. students through donors. These awards and the selected recipients for 2013-2014 were: Cynthia J. Bell Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship Fund (Pamela Pei-Ling Chiang); Daniel S. Sanders Fellowship (Shinwoo Choi), the Ernie Gullerud Award (Yu-Ling Chiu), and the International Dissertation Award (Ming Sheng Wang).

**Continuous Enrollment:** The PhD committee recommended “continuous enrollment” for doctoral students, i.e., doctoral students need to be continuously enrolled (except for up to 2 semester approved leave of absence due to either academic or personal reasons). This recommendation was supported from the faculty.