

**2014 CSWE APM Post-Field Summit Dialogue hosted by
The North American Network of Field Educators and Directors (NANFED)**

Report of the NANFED Board of Directors:

Lisa Richardson, President and Treasurer; Bill Fisher, Vice President; Rebecca Brigham, Secretary; Patti Aldredge, Member at Large;
Beth Halaas, Member at Large; and Ronnie Glassman, Founding Member and Member at Large

NANFED has been, and will continue to be, an active contributor to the collegial process of considering and responding to current and emerging issues in field education among social work educators. Look for opportunities from NANFED for continuing dialogue, sharing views, and making recommendations.

At the 2014 Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in Tampa, FL, in response to CSWE's 2014 Field Summit and requests from NANFED's membership, NANFED hosted an open Post-Field Summit Dialogue on the Field Summit and on current issues in field education in general. The following summary represents the outcomes of this Dialogue, which took place among over 140 social work educators in facilitated discussion. The themes found below are the salient and pressing issues that those in attendance brought to NANFED's open Dialogue for NANFED, CSWE, and their fellow social work educators to consider. This feedback has been shared with the leadership of CSWE's Council on Field Education (COFE), as well as the leadership of CSWE.

General Comments:

- It was valuable to have a forum that highlighted the needs and interests of field education.
- Asking deans/directors to participate collaboratively with field educators was beneficial.
- Many ideas were generated and prioritized, which will be distributed widely by CSWE.
- It was appreciated that CSWE intends to use these ideas to develop a multi-step strategy to address the needs of field education.
- The Field Director Development Institutes (FDDI) are an important opportunity for field directors to share with and educate each other (FDDIs were not held in 2014 due to the Field Summit).
- Marion Bogo, the keynote speaker, raised important and critical field education issues.
- Marion Bogo, along with general discussion during the event, focused on the importance of sufficient resources for effective field education programs.

General Questions Regarding Participation in the Field Summit:

- Could registration limits have been made clearer and publicized earlier?
- Was registering along with administrative leadership at one's institution necessary? Could registration have been two field educators, for example? Or one?
- For those interested in the content of the Field Summit, but who did not register early enough to be included, could there have been other events related to the Field Summit offered?
- How will more voices be heard? Were only well-resourced schools part of the Field Summit, for example? Will the voices of smaller schools that can send only one person to CSWE's APM be included in results or actions? Or schools that cannot send any individual to CSWE's APM?

General Questions Regarding the Field Summit (from those who attended):

- Some groups experienced processes in the discussions that seemed to move far from the original topic. How was the question that the group brainstormed drawn from the topic assigned to the group?
- In some groups, the logical links among topic, question explored, brainstorming results, and eventual determination of "drivers" seemed to be tenuous. How might the results gathered reflect this?
- One goal of the Field Summit was to allow dialogue between deans/directors and field directors. Did parts of the afternoon sessions encourage more compartmentalization and less dialogue between these groups? Is it true that having deans/directors be part of the conversation helped to expand understanding? How will we know if this occurred?

General Questions Regarding Field Education:

- What does “signature pedagogy” truly mean for social work education? How will it translate into results that develop better educational processes, including in field education, as well as practitioners?
- How is healthcare reform changing the social work environment and what are the implications for social work education and field education?
- How can collaboration, on many levels, be encouraged?
- What will CSWE’s role be in helping to encourage creativity in, and resource-expansion for, field education?
- How can CSWE, in light of “signature pedagogy” and its responsibility to support field education (as well as social work education in general) help to address the pressing issues of field education, especially the need for resources?
- How will this beginning be continued and sustained?

For more information on the North American Network of Field Educators and Directors (NANFED) go to:
<http://nanfed.com>