

SEMINARS & ANNOUNCEMENTS DECEMBER 2014

To participate by conference call in WISR seminars and events, contact mail@wisr.edu or call 510/655-2830 in advance for the dial in number and access code.* **Look for this flyer online: <http://www.wisr.edu/hot-news/> and find us on Facebook.**



INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINAR(S) are a way for WISR students to learn about core subjects of social change, writing, multiculturalism, adult/higher education, community leadership and social action-research. Community members are welcome to participate as well.

STUDENT REFLECTION AND DIALOGUE SEMINAR

*****Students are strongly requested to participate in this seminar unless they have an unavoidable conflict.**

December 8, 6-8pm

John Bilorusky, Ph.D., Faculty

In order to improve student dialogue and collaboration with one another and with faculty and to support of each student's studies and projects, **WISR is instituting regular twice per month seminars.** These seminars will be accessible on site at WISR and by telephone conference call--conducted by one or two WISR faculty members. **Each seminar will be two hours long, and will provide each participating student an opportunity to present about some of the things they are studying, or planning to study, in order to get feedback--**be it about readings, ideas they are developing, questions about learning strategies (e.g., setting aside enough time to write), action projects in which they are engaged, or anything

else that will be helpful. This will provide students with an opportunity to learn from one another and to be part of an active, multicultural learning community, including identifying fellow students with whom they can collaborate.

WISR faculty are soliciting suggestions from students about the best days and times to hold these sessions, and we will soon try to schedule these seminars two months in advance. Beginning in 2015, we will hold two to three such seminars each month, with the expectation that all students participate in two of the seminars. In the future, those students enrolling at WISR will be required to participate in two sessions per month. Current students are strongly urged and earnestly requested to participate in two per month.



A high level of student participation in complying with this request will be an important factor in whether or not WISR can become accredited. **ACICS--the agency from which we are seeking accreditation--requires strong seminar participation from all students in any of the programs they accredit.** Since WISR does not require extensive student participation in traditional classes several times per week, this more modest requirement is essential to our success in eventually obtaining accreditation, AND it will improve student learning and strengthen our learning community. Feedback and questions are enthusiastically solicited--contact John Bilorusky (johnb@wisr.edu) or any other member of the WISR faculty.

The next student reflection and dialogue seminar will again be on the second Monday of the month--January 12th.



"Multicultural is WISER"

Western Institute for Social Research 2930 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 300, Berkeley, CA 94705 (510) 655-2830 www.wisr.edu

A second such seminar will be held in January and subsequent months. Students will also have the option of creating seminars on topics of interest, of forming their own peer discussion groups, and developing regular collaborations with other WISR students. WISR faculty are available to support the creation and implementation of these student-initiated options.

BECOME AN INSPIRED AND PRODUCTIVE WRITER: A MONTHLY LEARNING WORKSHOP FOR WISR STUDENTS

Saturday, January 10, 10am-12pm
Elaine Beale, MFA, WISR Faculty:
Coaching, Support and Discussion.

Are you having trouble sitting down and writing? Do you feel stuck or uninspired? Do you find yourself avoiding the blank page? Or when you write does a vicious inner critic constantly get in your way?

This workshop, which will be offered as a monthly learning session at WISR, is designed to help you overcome whatever blocks or difficulties interfere with your writing. It will include discussion of the obstacles to writing you're experiencing, engage participants in exercises designed to inspire creativity and productivity, and help deepen your understanding of what's getting in your way. It will also provide practical tools and strategies to get the writing to flow.



ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY RUSSO

Elaine Beale is an award-winning writer who has more than 15 years of experience teaching writing. She has an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia, has published two novels and numerous nonfiction articles and stories.

LEARNING FOR A CHANGE THINK TANK

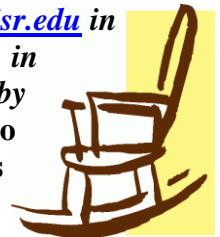
January 30, 5:30 to 7:00pm

Marilyn Jackson, PhD, WISR Faculty, Facilitator.

We will either interview an educator or discuss multiculturalism and unlearning racism inspired by the presentation by WISR Student Richard Horrell-Schmitz at the recent conference. *WISR Students are invited to attend to talk about their current work and studies.* See our Educating for a Change blog: <http://education.wisrville.org/>

This think tank welcomes new members from WISR and the wider community to discuss educational practices that promote beneficial social change such as the Highlander Center, Quaker schools and Paulo Freire.

RSVP to marilyn@wisr.edu in advance if you are interested in joining or if you want to call in by conference phone. Feel free to bring potluck food and snacks to share. If you plan to call in and can't connect, call WISR at 510-655-2830.



MARRIAGE FAMILY THERAPY (MFT) SEMINARS are for students pursuing an MFT license. Other interested persons are welcome but you are requested to RSVP the faculty member (see email contact info below) in advance. They are held at WISR from 10am to 2pm with a short break so **bring a lunch.** (These required seminars for our MA program that leads to the State of California's MFT and LPCC licenses and are now available by telephone conference call). If you plan to call in,

A Premier Academic Institute for Social Change Since 1975

Prospective students and Community Learners are invited to attend these seminars. Contact WISR if you need a ride from the BART or want to carpool. Please avoid wearing perfume or cologne to WISR gatherings as requested by those with asthma & allergies.

email the faculty the week before to get the conference call log in and password.

CONCEPTUALIZING CLINICAL PRACTICE FOR PRIVATE PRACTICE MARKETING, Part II of II

**Saturday, December 6, 2014 10am-2pm
Ronald Mah, MA, LMFT, PhD, WISR Faculty.**

This workshop will work interactively with therapists to begin conceptualization of their own clinical practices for articulation in their subsequent marketing processes. Writing articles, getting published, networking, presenting workshops, and getting onto managed-care provider panels (Note that many clinicians find managed-care limitations very frustrating and prefer to avoid such relationships) make up the second step of a four-step process to develop a successful private practice.

These four approaches are separate from traditional advertising, including advertising in its latest form of the website. Only if you're able to clearly conceptualize your clinical practices would you be able articulate what those practices are (this is your product). And, then you can be not only a good therapist but also, a successful financially viable private practice business without a need to cater to managed-care companies.

Licensed therapists are invited to attend to gain information and offer their experiences in marketing to students.

If you plan to participate by phone conference, please email Ronald@RonaldMah.com the week before the seminar for the conference call number and login and to notify him to set up the conference phone technology. *Upcoming seminar(s) led by Ronald Mah will be January 17.*

CONTEMPORARY FAMILY DYNAMICS AND ISSUES: CHILD ABUSE ASSESSMENT, TREATMENT AND REPORTING Part II of II
Saturday, December 13, 10am-2pm
Shawna Sodersten, JD, MA, LMFT, WISR Faculty.

This seminar will provide an overview of clinical skills developed by practitioners who have treated abused children, offenders, and adult survivors who were abused as children; relevant statutes, issues for professionals, resources/agencies, prevention, statistics on incidence of abuse, developmental theories and issues, relevant cultural factors, and self-help efforts by adult survivors. Spousal or partner abuse assessment, intervention strategies, and same-gender abuse dynamics.

If you plan to participate by phone, please email Shawna at shawnasodersten@gmail.com, so she can email you handouts that will be referenced during the seminar and set up the conference call technology.

Upcoming seminar by Shawna Sodersten: January 24: Psychopathology: Depressive Disorders and February 7: Psychopathology: Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders.



MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY SYMPOSIUM ZERO ENERGY BUILDING — ELIMINATING FOSSIL FUEL CARBON EMISSIONS FROM BUILDINGS

Thursday, January 29, 2015 6:30 – 8:30 pm

The CEC1 recommended that by 2020 all new residential buildings, and by 2030 all new buildings, meet a zero net energy building standard. Zero net energy can be understood to mean that all new buildings, averaged over a year, take no more energy from the power grid than they put back onto the power grid from on-site power sources, such as solar and wind.

Since the CEC's recommendation, California has been slowly building toward the new standard. The key to achieving this standard is to build highly energy-efficient buildings.

We have the technology to build ZE residences NOW. Less than 100 have been built in California, but of different types and sizes. So it has been done.

The challenge: educate and transform popular culture and the building industry by 2020. At the Symposium, we will examine through participant presentations, formal and informal discussion how to accelerate developments and create strategies to move more quickly and effectively to eliminate carbon emissions from building operations.

Be prepared to present and discuss your creative ideas. Please contact us to reserve a 5 minute presentation slot. We will be collecting all the Symposium ideas to generate committed action plans. We will have fun.

40% of the energy used in the United States, with its concomitant carbon cost, is a result of building operations.

We can dramatically reduce this ecological burden.

- No charge for attendance, please RSVP
- Free food and beverages, networking
- Presentations by ZNEWG members and others
- Presentations by participants -- please contact
- Generate committed action plans
- ZEB "crowdsourcing" initiative kick-off?
- Free gift (while supplies last)
- Organization/volunteer opportunities
- Contributions of time and money welcome

Zero Net Energy Working Group



Your opportunity to make a difference

email: letmehelp@znewg.org

call: 510-532-5556

text: 415-596-6755

www.znewg.org (under construction)