

International Conversation Series
on Social Work



Addictions and Drug Use

Fall Semester 2025

From Global to Local: The International Conversation Series on Social Work

In this online series we bring together Social Work classes from different countries around the world and encourage them as scholars and students to engage in an online discussion about current topics of global interest framed within the main theme, "From global to local--international conversations on social work."

The goal is to create an ongoing platform for international exchange and to reflect on issues which are relevant to social work practitioners and scholars in different geographical contexts and sociopolitical backgrounds. In doing so, we hope to gain knowledge about social work from a global perspective and to create a dynamic and stimulating international network as well as a collaborative platform for further projects.



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**OCTOBER 22 – CANADIAN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, SUBSTANCE USE,
AND TRAUMA-INFORMED ALLYSHIP**

DR. TIMOTHY DUECK
University of the Fraser Valley, Canada

NOVEMBER 12 – SOCIAL WORK AND HARM REDUCTION IN GERMANY

DANIEL DEIMEL
Technische Hochschule Nürnberg Georg Simon Ohm, Germany

**NOVEMBER 19 – HARM REDUCTION WORK: WHERE ARE WE NOW
& WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IN FINNISH POINT OF VIEW**

JOHANNA HUHTALA
Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Finland

NOVEMBER 26 – SOCIAL WORK WITH PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS IN CHINA

DR. JIANG DU
SOLID, Shanghai Mental Health Center, China

**DECEMBER 3 – OLDER ADULTS AND SUBSTANCE USE:
CONSIDERATIONS FOR SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE**

PAUL SACCO, PHD MSW
University of Maryland, US

**DECEMBER 10 – MEDICAL & SOCIAL ASPECTS OF USING NEW
PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AMONG YOUTH IN UZBEKISTAN**

GUZALKHON ZAKHIDOVA
SOLID, Uzbekistan

**DECEMBER 17 – FROM PRISON TO COMMUNITY:
THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK & PROBATION IN
SUPPORTING VULNERABLE GROUPS
IN KAZAKHSTAN**

DALIDA MUKASHEVA
SOLID, Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan

**JANUARY 7 – SOCIAL WORK WITH PSYCHOACTIVE
SUBSTANCE DEPENDANCY IN KYRGYZSTAN:
APPROACHES & METHODS**

MUSAEVA NURGUL
SOLID, Kyrgyz State University, Kyrgyzstan

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CONTRIBUTORS:

DR. TIMOTHY DUECK
University of the Fraser Valley, Canada

Dr. Tim Dueck (he/him) is an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work & Human Services at University of the Fraser Valley. He is of mixed European and Inuit (Canadian Indigenous) ancestry. Tim teaches graduate and undergraduate social work courses with a focus on Indigenous social work pedagogies and practices. His pedagogy includes the framework of Inuit Qaujimanituqangit, a comprehensive paradigm that includes both traditional knowledge and ways of knowing. His research and publication interests include strategies to decolonize and Indigenize social work educational experiences with an emphasis on relationality and how this applies to international social work engagement. His work has been published in Social Work Education and Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions.

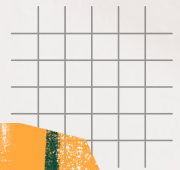
DR. DANIEL DEIMEL
Technische Hochschule Nürnberg
Georg Simon Ohm, Germany

Prof. Dr. Daniel Deimel is Professor of Health Promotion and Prevention at the Technische Hochschule Nürnberg Georg Simon Ohm. He is also a visiting scholar at the Clinic for Psychiatry and Psychotherapy at the Medical Faculty of the University of Duisburg-Essen. Daniel is a certified social worker, holds a master's degree in addiction prevention and addiction therapy (M.Sc.) and has a doctorate in rehabilitation sciences (Dr. phil). He is a trained supervisor and coach for the German Association for Supervision and Coaching (DGSv). His work focuses on social science research into HIV and addiction, project development and evaluation, particularly in the field of health promotion for vulnerable and marginalized groups, drug and HIV/Aids services, and evidence-based social work.

JOHANNA HUHTALA
Satakunta University of Applied Sciences,
Finland

Johanna Huhtala is at the beginning of her university career, starting at Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Wellbeing and Fine Arts 3.5 years ago as Senior Lecturer in Social Services. Before that, she worked for 20 years in various social work positions. Most recently, she was a director in an organization that strongly developed harm reduction work locally.

Johanna has her Master of Social Services and Master of Social Science. In addition to teaching, she works in various research and development projects related to substance abuse and addiction work. Currently she is a Project Manager in two ongoing projects: Growing substance- and gambling free in Satakunta -subproject and JUHO – flexible reforms and well-being through inclusion.



DR. JIANG DU
SOLID, Shanghai Mental Health Center, China

Dr. Jiang Du is the Director of the Addiction Treatment Department at Shanghai Mental Health Center, working in the field of addiction treatment and prevention for over 20 years, providing medication and psychotherapy for patients with substance and behavioral addictions. Additionally, she collaborates with social workers to conduct community-based relapse prevention programs.

PAUL SACCO, PHD MSW
University of Maryland, US

Paul Sacco received his MSW from Arizona State University in 1995 and practiced for 10 years as a psychiatric social worker. In 2005, he returned to complete his PhD in Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis and joined the faculty of the School of Social Work in 2009.

His research focuses primarily on behavioral health and addictions with a focus on life course development, alcohol use disorders, problem gambling, tobacco use, and behavioral health integration.

Sacco combines his behavioral health research with an interest in the training of social work students in evidence-supported behavioral health interventions. He served as the Project Director of a SAMHSA-funded Screening and Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment (SBIRT) Training program (2014-2017) and continues to provide training in this public health approach. He also directed the BHWISE-Lifespan Fellows Program (2014-2025), a HRSA-funded workforce development project focused on integrated behavioral health training.

Sacco teaches in the foundation and clinical practice areas. He also teaches structural equation modeling in the PhD program. As an educator, he endeavors to support students in learning the latest from research while helping them to recognize the core elements of effective social work practice.

GUZALKHON ZAKHIDOVA
SOLID, Uzbekistan

Guzalkhon Zakhidova is an international researcher studying the use of new psychoactive substances among young people in Uzbekistan and an author of articles on NPS using, HIV issues, and NGO work in Uzbekistan. She is a psychotherapist who actively works with vulnerable populations (those living with HIV and those with mental health issues) and provides psychological rehabilitation. She has been a participant in the SOLID project since 2019 and has participated in conferences in Munich, Berlin, Helsinki, and elsewhere.

DALIDA MUKASHEVA
SOLID, Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan

Dalida Mukasheva is a PhD in Sociology from LN. Gumilyov Eurasian National University in Astana, Kazakhstan. Her research focuses on social work in the penitentiary system, particularly the well-being of prisoners living with HIV and the role of social work in resocialization.

MUSAEVA NURGUL
SOLID, Kyrgyz State University, Kyrgyzstan

Candidate of Philosophical Sciences and Associate Professor at the Kyrgyz State University named after K. Karasaev. She graduated in Social Work (2002) and defended her dissertation "Social Work as an Object of Philosophical Analysis" in 2012. From 2012 to 2022, she headed the Department of Social Work and Practical Psychology and coordinated the international project SOLID (2020-2024). Author of over 40 publications, she also develops educational standards, serves as an accreditation expert, and supervises PhD and postgraduate research. Her achievements were recognized with the Excellence in Social Protection award (2019) and the Jubilee Medal 20 Years of the Penal System (2024).

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ALL WORKSHOPS HELD ARE VIA ZOOM:

<http://bit.ly/3IBFPrF>

8:45am CST / 3:45pm CET (German time)



Participation is free and open to anybody! Feel free to share this program!

For further information, please contact one of the organizers listed:

Prof Dr. Johannes Kloha, TH Nürnberg, Germany – johannes.kloha@th-nuernberg.de

Prof. Dr. Cosimo Mangione, TH Nürnberg, Germany – cosimo.mangione@th-nuernberg.de

IMPORTANT: We plan to use the International Conversation Series sessions to produce a set of learning packages, including instructional videos. Therefore, we are recording the sessions. However, we will only use the parts where the contributor is visible. No data from participants will be used. By participating in the session you are expressing your agreement to participate in this recording.

