Social Work Students,

As you begin the spring term, we wish you all the best in furthering your social work education. Please stay safe and healthy. Due to the pandemic, the VanKirk Career Center will remain closed for in person meetings, but the center will continue to provide career services virtually. Individual career consultations and the opportunity to take licensing practice exams online are available. To schedule an appointment, please email Bobby Simmons, LSW at bobby@pitt.edu.

Each term, we facilitate a series of career development workshops. Please see the full schedule of workshops available this term on page 2 of the newsletter. If you are unable to attend a live virtual workshop, the new VanKirk Career Center Canvas Site has you covered. You will find an array of social work-related career development information to view and download. The following modules are available to you on the VanKirk Career Center Canvas Site: Resumes & Cover Letters, Effective Interviewing (In-person & Virtual), Salary Negotiations, Licensure Preparations, and Networking. We will regularly update the VanKirk Career Center Canvas page, so visit often. If there is a topic you would like for us to include, please let us know.

The VanKirk Career Center Newsletter will be published monthly and saved on the VanKirk Career Center Canvas Site.
Career Development Workshops – Spring 2021 Schedule

A Licensure Overview: What you need to know
Professional licensure is critical to career advancement in social work. Participants will be introduced to social work licensure including the LBSW, LSW and LCSW. This session will focus primarily on licensure in Pennsylvania, although sources of information for other states will be presented.

When: Jan 20, 2021 05:00 PM Eastern Time
Register in advance for this meeting: https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvc-qurD0tE9AZLLTicJQk_gFAIaq7FoBVl
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

When: Jan 23, 2021 01:00 PM Eastern Time
Register in advance for this meeting: https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtcOytrj8uGdBGx-2V-EtvT47SbxbmQ5Xk
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Resumes & Cover Letters
This session will provide participants information, tips, and tricks on effectively creating and customizing action and result-oriented resumes and engaging cover letters.

When: Time: Feb 24, 2021 05:00 PM Eastern Time
https://pitt.zoom.us/j/93873221139

Nailing the In-Person & Virtual Interview
During this pandemic, many employers are conducting virtual interviews to continue their hiring process. In this workshop, we will review the best ways to be successful during your next virtual or in-person interview.

When: Mar 13, 2021 01:00 PM Eastern Time
Register in advance for this meeting: https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcuduiqpz4tH9EL-DDFjiq3MXAMOKsAMMoVt
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Salary Negotiations
Participants will receive information on the various components of compensation (salary, benefits, retirement, etc.) and strategies on how to negotiate the strongest deal possible.

When: Mar 13, 2021 02:30 PM Eastern Time
Register in advance for this meeting: https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tUYtcuvqvkgsE9QWFFirjAFJHSw29QD_vcBn
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

PA Licensure Exams - LBSW - LSW
Are you graduating this spring and planning to take the Pennsylvania state LSW or LBSW licensure exam? If so, start the application process now. The state of Pennsylvania permits social work students to take the exam in the last term of their social work education.

- Click here to visit the PA licensure website
- You will need to open an account and complete all of the requirements before you can schedule the exam.
- The cost of the application is $75.00.
- You must download the education verification form and submit it to the school registrar’s office if you plan to take the exam in your last term - prior to graduating.
- The PA state approval process can take up to 5-6 weeks - you will receive a letter once your application is approved.
- Contact the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) - Here is a link to ASWB’s website - The cost of the exam is $230.
- Schedule to take your exam at a Pearson Testing Center - Click this link for Pearson Testing Center - Pittsburgh
- After you passed the exam and submit an official transcript conferring your social work degree, you will receive your license from the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors.

Bobby Simmons, LSW
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VanKirk Career Center
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