Thirteen seniors, graduating May 19, become Briar Cliff University’s newest social work alumni.

**Katie Boeckholt**
plans to get a job working with older adults. She will take the social work licensing examination in Iowa.

**Maddie Borer**
plans to move home to Atkinson, NE for the summer. She is moving to Lincoln, NE in August where she plans to search for a job working with children and families. Maddie enjoys doing macro work and is planning on some community organizational work over summer in her home town.

**Morgan Davis**
is applying for jobs in the Sioux City area and is also considering returning to her home state of Washington.

**Jenny Henscheid**
will attend the University of Nebraska – Omaha in the fall, beginning work on her MSW degree.

**Charlee Jorgenson**
will remain in Sioux City after graduation, looking for a job.

**Lizzie Krog**
plans to move to Austin, Texas, where she will apply for graduate school in the fall.

**Kashe Manley**
plans to start her new job as a transition specialist with special needs high school students in northwest Iowa.

**Amber Martin**
plans to get a job in the Sioux City area and will begin work on her MSW degree in the fall through Boston University’s online program.

**Juana Medina Navarro**
will attend the University of Nebraska – Omaha in the MSW program.

Seated, from left: Charlotte Schumacher, Juana Medina Navarro, Charlee Jorgenson, and Kindra Sanchez
Standing, from left: Elizabeth Krog, Kashe Manley, Morgan Davis, Katie Boeckholt, Amber Martin, Chantelle Worcester, Jenny Henscheid, Maddie Borer, Benn Peterson

**Benn Peterson**
will finish his May term and summer courses at Briar Cliff this summer and apply for jobs throughout the summer. Benn plans to eventually begin the MSW program.

**Kindra Sanchez**
plans on moving home to Colorado and working for a year, before beginning work on her masters of social work.

**Charlotte Schumacher**
reports that after spending the summer babysitting in Sioux City, she will be going to Ann Arbor in the fall to pursue her MSW at the University of Michigan. Her concentration will be Children and Youth in Family and Society.

**Chantelle Worcester**
will be staying in Sioux City and will search for a social work job in the Siouxland area.
Briar Cliff University Says Good Bye to Great Supporters of Social Work Education

Briar Cliff says good bye this year to Sister Grace Ann Witte who is retiring from teaching and will work full time at the Clare House in Sioux City.

Sister Grace Ann wrote Briar Cliff’s very first self-study for the Council for Social Work Education, and in that role she was the visionary spark that created decades of excellent social work education in Siouxland.

Sylvia Kuennen has quietly transitioned from her critically important role as director of the social work program to adjunct professor and this year to professor emerita. Sylvia will continue to serve as a valued advisor to the program.

Recognized as Iowa’s Social Worker of the Year in 2008, Sylvia spent more than four decades in service to social work education and practice.

Sylvia and her husband, John Cordoue, will continue to travel, volunteer, and keep Sioux City as their home base.

Sister Grace Ann Mentors Junior Social Work Major, Corey Schink

With the help of Sister Grace Anne Witte, Corey Schink, a Junior Social Work Major, sorted Middle Eastern countries into revolutionary and non-revolutionary groups. After separating them Corey looked at 5 main areas of interest: Communications Technologies, Economics, Tension, Freedom, and Education levels. Using numbers supplied from various Non-Governmental Organizations, encyclopedias, and intelligence services, a picture developed which revealed a tremendous difference between the two groups of nations, and Corey traveled to Mount Marty to share his findings along with Sister Grace Anne Witte. His research title was, *Arab Spring: An Exploration in Grounded Theory*.

Sylvia Kuennen Teaches Final Corrections Class

Above: Sylvia Kuennen with some of the junior social work majors, part of her "last" class at BCU, SWRK 350 Corrections. Pictured from left are Sara Gualazzi, Alejandra Olais, Sylvia, Minerva Valenzuela, and Jan Britton.

Phil Hey Retires

Phil Hey also retires this year from teaching for the English Department at Briar Cliff. Phil has been a consultant to the social work grant writing students for several years. The students will miss Phil’s generous review and feedback on their grant proposals.

We overlooked an important MSW graduation from the University of Iowa last May, 2011. Leslie McDonald (’01) joined three other BCU alumna in earning her MSW. Congratulations, Leslie!
This year’s internship supervisors include five alums: Kari Hildring ’04, Goodwill Industries; LeAnn Fleming ’04, Sunrise Retirement Community; Terri Sturges ’05, CSADV; Heather Nissen ’97, Talent Search; and Sheila Martin ’01, Siouxland Community Health Center.

Social Work Scholarships Announced

This year social work majors were encouraged to apply for the four scholarships awarded by the Social Work Department for the 2011-2012 academic year. This year’s recipients are all active and engaged students.

Senior Jan Britton, a resident of Sioux City, received the United Airlines Scholarship, designated for a person from this community studying to become a social worker. Jan is committed to serving Siouxland and is especially interested in preventing bullying.

The Waitt Family Social Work Scholarship was awarded to Cecilia Woods. Cecilia transferred to Briar Cliff University when she moved to Sioux City with her husband and children from Louisiana. Cecilia will be a senior and has a passion for social justice for families, as demonstrated in her policy analysis projects her junior year.

The Sylvia Kuennen scholarship, which goes to a student with an interest in social services and policy development that promote social work goals, will go to Abigail Buckhouse. Abby will be a sophomore in the fall and will continue to serve as the department’s student assistant.

Senior Monica Mondragon will receive the Sister Sharon Sullivan Scholarship. This scholarship emphasizes peace, social justice, community or union organization. Monica has demonstrated her focus on peace and social justice through her junior policy projects and her volunteer work with the Mary Treglia Community Center.

National Indian Child Welfare

Heather Craig-Oldsen, Sister Shirley Fineran, Jade Meier, and Nitausha Williams attended the NICWA Conference in Arizona. Jade and Nitausha presented their observations about the conference to the program’s advisors in May.
Social Worker Majors Recognized

The 2012 Honors Convocation was again a big day for the social work department. Three of the departmental and university awards were presented to social work majors.

A total of fourteen social work majors were recognized on the Dean’s List.

Charlotte Schumacher received the Student Heart of the University Award, given to the student who displays a great deal of spirit towards the campus community and who works to make the campus a better place. Charlotte is also the recipient of this year’s Sister Muriel Ford Award. This award honors a student with a passion for social justice.

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Krog received the distinguished student award for political science.

The Dean’s List honorees from the social work program included Katie Boeckholt, Madison (Maddie) Borer, Abigail (Abby) Buckhouse, Maria Cancino, Jenny Henscheid, Jennifer Hofer, Lizzie Krog, Amber Martin, Juana Medina-Navarro, Monica Mondragon, Kindra Sanchez, Corey Schink, Charlotte Schumacher, and Chantelle Worcester.

Going Green! In an effort to care for creation, future alumni newsletters will be delivered by email. Please give us your email address. Leave message at 712 279-5489 or email heather.craig-olds@briarcliff.edu.