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For Immediate Release

Social work School Intensifies

Continuing Education Program

More one-day and other short-term workshop sessions will be conducted by the Graduate School of Social Work of Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo. The school is intensifying its continuing education program to personnel in the social welfare field.

Given special responsibility for the seminars is a new faculty member, Dr. Donald Dodsworth. He is a social worker who received a doctorate in adult education from Ohio State University.

His first seminar, conducted Friday, brought together 15 persons for a workshop directed primarily for those responsible for internal staff development.

On Oct. 24, Dr. Dodsworth and a second faculty member, James Dickinson, will conduct a seminar for intake personnel of social agencies. Its title: How does it feel to ask for help from a bureaucracy?

Other seminars are planned for the fall and winter. They will be conducted by a variety of faculty members and will offer a diversified field of topics.

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Dr. John Melichercik, acting dean of the Graduate School of Social Work, said the seminars should prove useful to staff members of the various social welfare agencies in the area who want to increase or update their skills.

"In social work, like other fields, many new developments are taking place," said the dean. "We want to share our insights with people in the field and we want to learn from them as well."

He added that some of the seminars will be directed to the professional social worker wanting to keep abreast of new developments. Others will be aimed at agency personnel without previous formal social work education who want to expand their knowledge and competence.

The co-ordinator of the continuing education program, Dr. Dodsworth, has served previously as director of the Human Services Center in North Dakota and director of special services for the Franklin County Children's Services in Columbus, Ohio. He is the author of several works on continuing education in social welfare.