

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK NEWS

Spring/Summer 2013



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Gary R. Anderson

We accomplished much together

It is with great gratitude that I write my final director's column. This upcoming transition from School director to becoming a faculty member has some of the elements of grieving—I will be losing a title and a role that have been a wonderful honor and opportunity for 15 years. This change certainly has the features associated with termination: evaluation, reflection, and review. This transition includes a celebration of the past, the affirmation of our present strengths as a school community, and an assurance with regard to the future. I am grateful that I can step away from this role voluntarily, without ambivalence, and with a deep sense of appreciation for our students, faculty, staff, field instructors, continuing education presenters, alumni, friends, MSU administrators, colleagues, and multiple stakeholders and considerable satisfaction with what we have accomplished together.

This newsletter will recount some of the programs, innovations, and developments in the School over the past 15 years. It will identify some of the projects in which I have had a leadership role during this period of time, but it will also demonstrate that our accomplishments are a result of multiple partnerships, teamwork, and the creativity, energy, knowledge, skill, and values of so many members of our community. Faithfully, over the years, together we have advanced a school with a positive impact at MSU, in the state of Michigan, and beyond.

We have encouraged innovation and then learned from our experiences and aimed for continual improvement. We have changed in response to environmental needs and opportunities and even changed when things were working adequately in order to make them even better. We have built a diverse and large organization while affirming the contributions and value of each member of our school community. We have been engaged in the community and promoted mutual learning and respect. Our research has a purpose. Our commitment to

excellent teaching has deepened and grown. Our community programs have redefined the role of an academic unit and translated our research into action. We have actively sought partners, been willing to share, and valued relationships. We have expanded access while advancing a high quality educational experience. We have increased our resources, been good stewards of these resources, and worked to be generous and supportive. Students matter. Attentive and high quality field education and our connections to the professional community through placements and continuing education reflect our appreciation and engagement with the profession. Sometimes we have fallen short of our high ideals and values; a sense of humor and a spirit of mercy are valued. We are still evolving. Some things are works in progress. There is much more to do as we continue to build on the solid foundation we were given by those before us. We look forward to a new director but know that our strengths now and in the future, as in the past, transcend a director.

In closing, I want to express my special thanks to my wife, Valerie, and daughters, Lauren and Elizabeth, the School's associate directors and administrative team, the faculty who have served on the Faculty Advisory Committee and led our curriculum sequence committees and programs, the students who have served on the Director's Advisory Committee, Dean Marietta Baba and my colleagues in the College of Social Science, many MSU administrators who make MSU such a special institution, and all of you who have given so much to the School and to me these past 15 years. Special thanks are also due to Rose Homa and Toby Salzman for their work on these newsletters and so many other School projects. Thank you.

—Gary R. Anderson, PhD, LMSW
Director, School of Social Work



School is awarded the 2013 Teal Ribbon Award

The MSU Counseling Center's Sexual Assault Program has honored the School of Social Work as the recipient of its *2013 Teal Ribbon Award*, an award presented annually to recognize and honor exceptional efforts to promote awareness, education, and prevention of sexual violence on the MSU campus. Sexual assault awareness is internationally recognized with the symbol of a teal ribbon.



In their words, "The MSU School of Social Work serves as a catalyst for promoting awareness and education relevant to the impact of sexual assault in our campus community and throughout the State of Michigan. The commitment to empowerment and education is critical for the well-being of our campus community and is particularly important for survivors of sexual violence.... Our School of Social Work at MSU creates leaders who embody the importance of collaboration and have the skill set to organize community key stakeholders to effectively address social injustice, oppression, and community health concerns. It is a pleasure to recognize the School of Social Work and the outstanding accomplishments that promote advanced educational opportunities, victim/survivor empowerment and safety, and a more responsive campus and community." **S**

The School was recognized in part for:

- ▲ Continuing education and professional development offerings;
- ▲ Candlelight vigil for the survivors/victims of Penn State sexual abuse;
- ▲ Help securing the FACES grant, a federal grant to promote suicide education;
- ▲ Overall commitment to empowering survivors of abuse in the face of new university protocols related to the Department of Education Title IX laws; and
- ▲ Collaboration for field placements in the Sexual Assault Program.



Pictured left to right: Cheryl Williams-Hecksel, Leisa Fuller, Aubree Rogers, Gary Anderson, Julie Navarre, Erin Kennedy, and Janice Collins-Eaglin, MSU Counseling Center director

Governor appoints Director Gary Anderson to new Task Force on Child Abuse & Neglect

School Director **Gary Anderson** has been appointed to Governor Rick Snyder's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect, which is established within the Department of Human Services and comprises a multidisciplinary group of professionals with knowledge and experience relating to the criminal justice system and issues of child physical abuse, child neglect, child

sexual abuse and exploitation, and child maltreatment-related fatalities.

The task force's charge is to comprehensively review and evaluate state investigative and administrative handling, civil judicial handling, and criminal judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse, and cases in which children

are suspected to have died as a result of being mistreated. It also is charged with reviewing handling of cases with a combination of jurisdictions, such as interstate, federal and state, and state and tribal.

Dr. Anderson will represent health and mental health professionals for a three-year term and is the only representative of higher education on the task force. **S**

A record of accomplishments and innovation

It is encouraging for our faculty and staff, students and alumni, friends, and stakeholders to review a number of exciting changes at MSU that have helped distinguish the School and gain recognition for our academic and community programs. This sampling reflects the great efforts and leadership of many people in the School and supportive of the School.

1998

Chance at Childhood program announced by Governor John Engler, MSU President Peter McPherson, and Lt. Governor Connie Binsfeld. This innovative partnership between the School and the College of Law was celebrated at the Lt. Governor's retirement dinner, and the Chance at Childhood Endowment is established.

1999

BASW program adopts signature theme of Diversity, with special emphasis on social justice.

Kinship Care Resource Center launched at MSU School of Social Work with support from the Michigan Legislature.

Diversity Task Force becomes Diversity Committee and continues to sponsor annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrations.



2000

Hartford Foundation supports development of aging content for the BASW curriculum.

2001

MSU MSW program in Flint inaugurated at the Flint MSU Extension Center Fall 2001. The first class graduates in spring 2004. It later moves to the Mott Community College campus.

Field liaison model introduced creating a cadre of MSW-licensed liaisons to work with students and agencies.

Professional advisors introduced for the MSW program.

Child Welfare Learning Collaborative started with St. Vincent Catholic Charities to provide multiple field placements, in-agency "grand rounds," and special conferences.



2002

First University-based celebration of Michigan Indian Day inaugurated at the School, in recognition of a resolution passed by the Michigan Legislature recognizing the contributions



of Michigan Indian tribes. This becomes an annual celebration and continuing education event.

School receives first of three multi-year grants from the Hartford Foundation to advance social work education on working with older adults.

School's PhD program transforms from an Interdisciplinary PhD program with a Concentration in Social Work to a PhD in Social Work, maintaining a strong commitment to interdisciplinary study.

2003

School successfully re-accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, with no reservations.

US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families awards School a five-year grant to develop training curriculum to help child welfare agencies improve staff retention and outcomes. Workbooks were developed which are available to anyone free of charge.

Dorothy Harper Jones Lectureship in Family Therapy inaugurated.



Clinic program started for joint field placements for social work and law students.

MSW program offered in Gaylord through distance education.

Graduate specialization in Clinical Work with Families offered.



2004

MSU School of Social Work alumna US Senator Debbie Stabenow awarded honorary doctorate degree from MSU.

MSU School of Social Work alumna Marcie Schalon awarded *University Alumni Award* for her philanthropy.

School's Continuing Education program created. It becomes a nationally accredited ACE provider in 2006. The first Licensing Exam Test Preparation class in Michigan is offered, educating over 1,000 Michigan social workers, receiving 100% participant positive recommendations. Fully online continuing education courses on a range of subjects offered beginning in 2011.

School's BASW program more than doubles in size; number of sections triple to include an evening option.



Graduate specialization in Social Work with Older Adults founded. It becomes the Levande Program for Social Work with Older Adults, including stipends for students, rotation field placement, and community advisory group in 2009.

Off-campus MSW program offered in Saginaw (advanced standing).

The Hartford Foundation supports continuing education on working with older adults.

Students found and annually offer Homies Giving meal—serving a Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day to students who cannot leave campus over the holiday.





2005

MSU Veterinary Social Work Services introduced in partnership with MSU Veterinary Hospitals. It expands to student field placements and conducting a weekly Pet Loss Support Group. Later, two endowments are established to support this program.

Off-campus MSW program offered in Marquette.

2006

MSU Statewide Blended MSW program created and implemented.



At a formal ceremony, partnership between MSU School of Social Work and Oakland University to establish MSU

Advanced Standing MSW at Oakland University announced by MSU President Lou Anna Simon.

MSU School of Social Work alumna Barbara Coulter awarded the *University Alumni of the Year Service Award*.

Summer Study Abroad program to Ghana begun.



2007

School develops Post-Adoption Support Services with five-year federal grant and additional support from Michigan Department of Human Services and other partners.

School leads initiative to recruit and support deaf/hard-of-hearing students, gains approval for sign language courses to meet a student's language requirement, and supports a dedicated dorm floor for deaf students at MSU.

First annual Career Development Day introduced in the spring.

MSU School of Social Work alumna Kate Pew Wolters awarded honorary doctorate degree from MSU.

2008

Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Community Mental Health Authority awards the School a *Distinguished Service Award*.

MSU School of Social Work a founding partner in the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute—the largest single grant given by the federal Children's Bureau to schools of social work.



School launches first joint degree program: MSW-JD. Later, School adds dual degree: MSW-MPH.

Ruth Koehler Endowed Clinical Professorship established.

School coordinates statewide effort, in collaboration with all graduate schools of social work in the state, to provide training at no cost to DHS child welfare employees and at reduced cost to child welfare private agency employees to help the Michigan Department of Human Services meet their child welfare system training mandate.

Foster Care Youth Alumni Services program—now called Fostering Achievement, Mentoring Excellence—begun at the School of Social Work, inspired by MSU staff members who were foster care system alumni. Mentors, coaching, and care packages are added and the project is adopted by the College of Social Science Alumni Board. First university-based summer camp for high school students in foster care inaugurated at MSU.

2009

MSU Advanced Standing MSW program begins on the Oakland University campus.

BASW program implements Undergraduate Research Initiative, its second signature theme, providing every incoming student with the opportunity to participate with faculty in an authentic "real world" research experience.

School's BASW program ranks 1st in College of Social Science for years to graduation and positive outcomes after graduation (and again for 2010).

Great Lakes Summer Institute started: concentrated training and family experience with over 15 continuing education workshops in July in beautiful Traverse City.



2010

Alternative Spring Break experience for students in Mexico offered, later to become a Study Abroad program.

2011

School successfully re-accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, with no reservations.

MSU Advanced Standing MSW program at Saginaw Valley State University launched.

School begins Evidence-Based Trauma specialization through partnership with the National Social Work Trauma Network.

Study Abroad program to Finland launched.



Social Work senior Melissa Crosby elected to Homecoming Court; uses her position to publicize our program and the good work social workers do.

2012

MSU Weekend MSW program begins at MSU Henry Center.

Summer Internet-based courses are developed and successfully offered. Course on "Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse: Catastrophes and Human Behavior" gains international attention and wins the MSU AT&T award for a fully online course.

School's ranking in *US News and World Report* moves from 33rd to 26th. School ranked #10 nationally by social work students.

2013

MSU Statewide Blended MSW Advanced Standing program introduced.

School receives *Teal Ribbon Award* for promoting well-being of women and addressing sexual assault and safety of women. **S**





Featured guest speaker Adrienne Shadd



Petra Waters, Undergraduate Advisory Committee member, posed questions and moderated the panel discussion of Dr. King's Letter from Birmingham Jail.



The panel discussing Dr. King's Letter from Birmingham Jail: (from left) Sinka Singh, Canadian Studies; Sophia Estrada, OLASW; Jennifer Owenu, SMCA; Patricia Jackson, Black Student Association



George Davis, Lansing Association of Black Social Workers

Nearly 100 attend 2013 MLK celebration

The School's Students for Multi-Ethnic Community Action (SMCA) and Diversity Committee organized and hosted *Injustice Anywhere Is a Threat to Justice Everywhere*, the 2013 commemoration and celebration to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Canadian historian and author Adrienne Shadd, whose family members were abolitionists involved with the Underground Railroad, was the day's featured speaker; she spoke linking her research on the Underground Railroad in Canada to Dr. King's work. Other events of the day were a book signing by Shadd, a panel

discussion on Dr. King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail, and the announcement of the BASW Diversity Project winners (see page 24).

Thanks go to SMCA (senior **Kassandra Freeman**, president; **Rita Walters**, faculty advisor) and the School's Diversity Committee (**Susan Bowden**, chair) for planning and running this event. Thanks also go to the Lansing Area Black Social Workers, the College of Social Science, the Department of Canadian Studies, and the School of Social Work for contributing funds to support this event. **S**



Kassandra Freeman (left), SMCA president; Sophia Estrada announcing door prize winners

Marvin Cato, Lansing Association of Black Social Workers



Rita Walters, SMCA faculty advisor



Later that day, the School joins the University's Commemorative March from the Union Building to Beaumont Tower.

A legacy of funded projects: The value of collaboration and teamwork

In the 15 years Dr. Gary Anderson has served as the School's director, he has also been active in developing and designing research and training projects to advance knowledge, particularly in the field of child welfare. He has served as principal investigator or co-principal investigator in over 110 grant submissions. More than 75 of these projects have been funded, the result of strong faculty leadership, community collaborations and partnerships.

A sample of projects in which Dr. Anderson has been a principal investigator or co-principal investigator is noted here. In almost every project, there were student assistants and employees who made invaluable contributions to the success of these projects. In most cases, faculty members who had key coordination and leadership roles in these projects are also noted.

Preparing Students for Leadership in Child Welfare. Kellogg Foundation (2000–01). This tribute to Robert Little provides scholarships for students committed to kinship care.

Post Adoption Services Program Study. Michigan FIA (2000–01). With Peg Whalen; project evaluated Michigan agencies providing post-adoption services. Programs grew out of a research project by School and Michigan Federation for Children and Families to assess adoptive families' needs.

Michigan Family Kinship Project: Innovations to Increase Permanency Options for Children in Kinship Care. Spaulding for Children/US DHHS (2000–01; 2001–02). With Teresa Jones and DeBrenna Agbényiga; study looked at characteristics of kinship care families and challenges faced caring for their grandchildren.

Kinship Care Resource Center. State of Michigan (2000–01). With Teresa Jones, DeBrenna Agbényiga, and Nannette Bowler; community program developed in response to School research identifying family needs and child welfare training challenges.

Foster Parent Handbook. Michigan FIA (2001). With Kimberly Steed and Nannette Bowler; project grew out of School research highlighting need to orient foster parents to the child welfare system; part of an initiative to increase recruitment and retention of foster parents in Michigan.

Kinship Care Resource Center. State of Michigan (2001–03). With Teresa Jones, Kimberly Clementz, Nancy Nystrom, Nannette Bowler, Carol Siemon, and DeBrenna Agbényiga; continued a series of contracts to operate a Kinship Care Resource Center at MSU, continued in 2006–07 and 2008–09 with Ama Agyemang, supported by Michigan DHS. Kinship Care Resource Center funded again in 2010 by DHS; with Michele Brock and Joe Kozakiewicz; in 2011 by DHS, with Lynn Nee; and in 2012–13 by DHS, with Lynn Nee and Rena Harold.

Post Adoption Support Services Website and Resource Center. Michigan FIA (2001–02). With Joan Ilardo

Deller and Tim Stocks; project grew out of School research identifying need for resources for adoptive parents.

MSW Child Welfare Specialty Field Supervision. Michigan FIA (2001–02; 2002–03; 2003–04; 2004–05; 2005–06). With JoAnn McFall; projects supported public child welfare workers gaining an MSW with a child welfare focus.

Impact Evaluation of Michigan's Pilot Permanency Planning Mediation Program. State Court Administrative Office, Michigan Supreme Court (2001–02). With Peg Whalen, Carol Siemon, and Kimberly Steed; project looked at process and outcomes associated with Michigan's mediation program aimed at child abuse and neglect cases.

Kinship Caregivers Handbook. Michigan FIA (2002). With Teresa Jones; first of a number of grants to develop resource materials for kinship care families as Michigan increasingly supported children remaining within their extended families.

Geriatric Enrichment in Social Work Education. Hartford Foundation (2002). With Diane Levande, Suzanne Cross, and JoAnn McFall; first of a number of Hartford grants to increase gerontology content in School's curriculum and overall program.

Preparing BSW Students for Effective Practice in Child Welfare. US DHHS/ACYF (2000–01; 2001–02; 2002–03). With Sue Bowden and JoAnn McFall; federal grant provided stipends and special support for BSW students to enter child welfare.

Social Work with Older Adults Seminar Series. Geriatric Social Work Initiative (2004). With Michele Brock; gerontological workshops added to continuing education, now a regular feature each semester.

Child Maltreatment: An Investigation of Foster Care Placement Patterns in Ingham County. MSU FACT (2002–03). With Tom Kissling; studies examined why child abuse and neglect placement rates were disproportionately higher.

Preparing MSW Students to Effectively Enter the Field of Child Welfare. US DHHS/ACF (2003–04; 2004–05; 2005–06; 2006–07). With JoAnn McFall;

federally funded traineeships provided scholarships for MSW students to receive specialized child welfare training.

Developing Models of Effective Child Welfare Staff Recruitment and Retention. US DHHS/ACF (2003–04; 2004–05; 2005–06; 2006–07; 2007–08). With John Mooradian, Peg Whalen, DeBrenna Agbényiga, Monaca Eaton, Rosemary Jackson, and John and Judy McKenzie; federal project engaged School with Michigan Federation for Children and Families and Michigan DHS in a number of research, curriculum development, and training projects.

Maple Hill Kinship Support Group Program. Ronald McDonald House Charities (2008). With Ama Agyemang; example of projects associated with kinship care assisting families in specific Michigan communities.

Hartford Foundation Practicum Partnership Program. Hartford Foundation (2006–07; 2007–08; 2008–09). With JoAnn McFall; redesigned field education in gerontology to implement a rotation model for students; became core of the School's Levande Program for Older Adults.

In-Service Education for Positive Child Welfare Outcomes. Michigan DHS (2009). With Michele Brock and Kadi Prout; pilot program of workshops for child welfare workers built on a project funded by Casey Family Programs. In 2011–12, expanded to 3-year project, with 50 workshops annually, in partnership with Michigan's graduate schools of social work and with Michele Brock, Sacha Klein, Gretchen Archer, and Kadi Prout.

Exploration of an Adoption Certificate Curriculum; subcontract from Spaulding for Children federal grant. (2009–10). With Michele Brock, Monaca Eaton, and Delanie Pope; began a series of grants to strengthen post-graduate training in adoption for professionals. **Development of Adoption Certificate Curriculum** (2011–12). With Monaca Eaton, Victoria Fitton, Michele Brock, and Rosemary Jackson. Also: **Piloting an Adoption Certificate Program.** (2012). With Monaca Eaton and Victoria Fitton.

Continued on page 8

Funded projects

— Continued from page 7

Strengthening Marriages and the Well-Being of Children: Post Adoption and Marriage Education. US DHHS/ACF (2006–07; 2007–08; 2008–09; 2009–10; 2010–11). With John Mooradian, Tina Timm, Rosemary Jackson, and Gretchen Archer; federal grant resulted in research on adoptive couples with special needs children, curriculum development, and innovative training models for couples.

Geriatric Education Center. US Public Health Service-HRSA (2007–08; 2008–09; 2009–10; 2010–14). With Jeffrey Dwyer, Jan Yonker, Kevin Foley, Joan Ilardo, Linda Keilman, Frank Komara, Janet Lillie, and Teresa Wehrwein; this statewide training is a partnership between MSU Human and Osteopathic Medicine, Nursing, and Social Work.

Child Welfare Training: National Child Welfare Workforce Institute Traineeship Program. University of Albany/US DHHS Children's Bureau (2008–09; 2009–10; 2010–11; 2011–12; 2012–13). With Joanne Riebschleger, Gretchen Archer, Suzanne Cross, and Cheryl Williams-Hecksel; designated MSU as coordinator of a traineeship program designed to promote child welfare education in social work and build the child welfare workforce.

Statewide Adoption Training. Michigan DHS (2010–12). With Michele Brock and Rosemary Jackson; project offered workshops and resources for adoptive families in Michigan to promote and support adoption of children.

Building Political Will for Better Outcomes for Children and Families: New Legislator's Orientation. Casey Family Programs (2011). With Sacha Klein and Jim Hennessey; School designed and presented program for new Michigan legislators on the child welfare system.

Child Welfare Training: Working with Tribal Child Welfare Programs and Students. University of Albany/USDHHS Children's Bureau (2011). With Suzanne Cross; supplement to National Child Welfare Workforce project; allowed special attention to workforce development of tribal students, under Dr. Cross's leadership.

Independent Living Skills Coach Program. Michigan DHS (2012–13). With John Seitza; grant expanded coaching and mentoring capacities of School's programs serving former foster care youth at MSU.

Curriculum Development for Child Welfare Training. Michigan DHS (2013). With Rosemary Jackson; new project developing curriculum for training new child welfare workers in Michigan.

Key:

DHS=Department of Human Services
 FIA=Family Independence Agency
 DHHS=Department of Health and Human Services
 ACF=Administration for Children and Families
 ACYF=Administration on Children, Youth, and Families
 FACT=Families and Communities Together
 HRSA=Health Resources and Services Administration

Undergrads are teamed with faculty for research

The BASW program at MSU offers all students admitted to the program the opportunity to be assigned to faculty members to gain up to two years of experience working with faculty on their research. There are several sources of funding available to support our undergraduate researchers:

- ▲ Provost's Undergraduate Research Initiative (PURI)
- ▲ Dean's Assistantship
- ▲ School of Social Work
- ▲ Researcher grant funding

These undergraduate researchers took part in the School's own 4th Annual BASW Research Festival, held March 21 in Baker Hall. Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies **Douglas Estry** addressed students and faculty, calling the students' work excellent.

All students who participated in research this year were able to receive funding to support their work; thanks go to College of Social Science Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs **Thomas Summerhill** and to **Arnie Greenfield** and **Monaca Eaton** for their support and help with this event. **Monaca Eaton**, BASW advisor, is developing a one-credit seminar covering basic research skills to be offered each semester for our undergraduate researchers.

Many of these students also participated in the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (see story on page 26).

Juniors

Taylor Birman Faculty: Kyunghye Lee
Jennifer Campbell Faculty: Marya Sosulski
Arianna Guardiola Faculty: Suzanne Cross
Jessica Kaczmarczyk Faculty: Rita Walters
Michelle Kaiser Faculty: Hyunkag Cho
Aubree Kugler Faculty: Joanne Riebschleger
Katherine Logan Faculty: La Vendee Fulton
Brittany Massa Faculty: Jennifer Farley
Samantha Morgan Faculty: Marya Sosulski
Megan Raubolt Faculty: Lynn Nee
Abbi Reynolds Faculty: Anne Hughes
Katherine Stuehrk Faculty: Ron Hall
Kennett Thaden Faculty: Sheryl Kubiak & Gina Fedock

Seniors

Angela Bedz Faculty: Anne Hughes
Alexandra Casemore Faculty: Kyunghye Lee
Heather Foster Faculty: Marya Sosulski
Amanda Freis Faculty: Sheryl Kubiak & Gina Fedock
Megan Fritsch Faculty: Amanda Woodward
James Geisen Faculty: Terry Keller
Ashley Gonsler Faculty: Suzanne Cross
Alisson Jahr Faculty: Julie Navarre
Megan Kelly Faculty: Hyunkag Cho
Rachel Klisman Faculty: Kyunghye Lee
Hillary Russell Faculty: Ellen Whipple
Kristen Steiner Faculty: Ellen Whipple
Alison Thierbach Faculty: Marya Sosulski
Alexa Thompson Faculty: Paul Freddolino
Isabel Zepeda Faculty: Daniel Vélez Ortiz



Statewide Blended Clinical MSW program offers new Advanced Standing option

The School of Social Work is proud to announce that its Advanced Standing Clinical MSW program is now available through the Statewide Blended format! In keeping with MSU's statewide land grant mission and building on the tradition of our regular Statewide Blended program, this fully accredited two-year part-time program uses a combination of face-to-face instruction, interactive video (ITV or videoconferencing), and online learning for students around the state.

Twenty-two students were admitted to the first Advanced Standing Blended cohort; they are clustered around Marquette, Gaylord, Grand Rapids, and Oakland. Classes for them will begin May 2013, and they will graduate May 2015.

All courses required to complete the Statewide Blended Advanced Standing Clinical MSW program are offered through the MSU East Lansing faculty. During the second year, each geographic cohort will work with a faculty mentor, generally a local social work educator or practitioner, to pursue the objectives of each course. **S**



Flint MSW program announces Barron Scholarship recipients



Mary Barron

The *Mary Barron Scholarship*, in honor of Dr. Mary Barron, who was instrumental in establishing the MSU MSW program in Flint, looks to recognize students who display academic excellence and leadership. The three students chosen for 2012–2013 are **Kelly Millar**, **Amanda Henderson**, and **George “Toby” Wessell**.

Kelly Millar (third year) is employed with the Department of Human Services and has held positions as a Children's Protective Services investigator, child welfare funding specialist, and currently as a Children's Protective Services program manager. She would like to work advocating for children and families and also focus on medical and mental health.

Amanda Henderson (second year) has a field placement at Michigan Community Services, Inc., providing services to developmentally disabled adults. Amanda's lifelong professional goals include overseeing a nonprofit organization that addresses education disparities in larger urban areas. She also has aspirations to provide her knowledge and skills to younger generations of future social workers by teaching at the university level.

George “Toby” Wessell (second year) was first introduced to the field of social work more than 40 years ago while working with children in a residential setting in Detroit. Toby sees his community as having many fine social workers who are working in under-funded or under-resourced settings and, like them, he wants to connect with his community to make a difference.

Community Programs expand School's reach

The MSU School of Social Work consists of our academic programs (BASW, MSW, and PhD degree programs), Field Education, Continuing Education, Community Programs, and a range of initiatives supported by the research, teaching, and outreach of our faculty members.

Newly organized under the leadership of **JoAnn McFall**, the School's Community Programs provide service and outreach, research, and teaching through field education placements and can

serve as sites to develop best practices. Along with our academic programs, the Community Programs are vital to our functioning and are sustainable programs to which we are committed as a School. Each one is supported to some extent by an endowment, grants, and/or University funds, and all are valued linkages to the community.

These Community Programs—unique features for a School of Social Work—provide wonderful avenues to support the mission of the School.

► **Chance at Childhood**

—An initiative between the MSU School of Social Work and MSU College of Law to promote and protect the well-being of children and families through integrated social work and law education and advocacy.

The **Chance at Childhood (CAC)** program has opened the Oasis Family Center. CAC Coordinator **Kimberly Steed-Page** has worked with the Ingham County Family Court to administer a federal Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Exchange Program grant to design and implement a safe visitation center for children in the tri-county area. That center is now open, managed by School of Social Work and CAC graduate **Melanie Foley**.

For the first time, CAC has welcomed a number of law students to a second semester in the clinic, based on their outstanding experience in the fall and their desire to gain more experience in lawyering skills. Students have helped a victim of domestic violence maintain custody of her child, assisted an undocumented refugee with a family court matter so that he can continue his request for legal immigrant status, and worked with a client who was charged child support for over a decade for two children that were actually in his sole care following abandonment by their mother.

► **Kinship Care Resource Center**—*A program to support Michigan's kinship families by utilizing research to provide education and outreach to communities and agencies supporting kinship families and offer information and referral and case management services to relatives raising relative children.*

The **Kinship Care Resource Center's (KCRC)** new website is now live: www.kinship.msu.edu. It includes useful information, including an online calendar that provides dates and locations for kinship care support groups around Michigan. In addition, viewers can check out current newsletters, sign up to join the mailing list, and connect via Facebook and LinkedIn.

KCRC has also initiated a statewide coalition of more than 15 agencies and support groups to work on developing educational tools, increasing public awareness and understanding, and identifying needed resources to help families be more successful in raising the relative children in their care.

► **Veterinary Social Work Services**—*A collaboration between the School of Social Work and the College of Veterinary Medicine to provide emotional support, education, and referral services for the clients, veterinarians, medical staff, and support staff of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital as well as the community at large.*

Kelly O'Brien and **Windi Sterling**, currently MSW students and interns at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, accompanied **Linda Lawrence**, Veterinary Social Work Services coordinator, to Knoxville, TN, where they had been invited to present at the International Veterinary Social Work Summit in April.

► **FAME—Fostering Academics, Mentoring Excellence**—*Formerly called Foster Youth Alumni Services, FAME aims to advance knowledge about the foster care experience before college, during a higher education experience, and after college.*

The **FAME** program sponsored a book drive for teens in foster care in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that ran from mid-January until mid-February. The new and gently used books appropriate for ages 13–18 were given to teens in the Lansing area in foster care or kinship care. Donation bins were placed in various campus locations.

The FAME program is also proud to announce that the Capital Area Mentoring Partnership has recognized **Vicki Essenmacher** as an *Outstanding Adult Mentor* and **Jennifer Onwenu** as an *Outstanding Rising Mentee*. Both Vicki and Jennifer have been wonderful supporters of the FAME program and advocates for students who have been in foster care.



SUMMER 2013 ONLINE COURSES

SW200

Introduction to Social Work

Lynn Nee, LMSW

SW290

Poverty & the American Family: A Multimedia Exploration

Natalie Kasiborski, LMSW

SW471

Child Welfare

Leisa Fuller, LMSW

SW474

Substance Abuse & the Human Services

*Al Platt, JD, LMSW, CAADC, and
Karen Newman, LMSW, CAAC*

SW475

School Violence: Causes & Interventions

Glenn Stutzky, LMSW

SW290 & SW491

Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse: Disasters, Catastrophes & Human Behavior

Glenn Stutzky, LMSW

SW491

i-Parenting

Nola Carew, LMSW

SW491

Families & Stress

Tina Timm, PhD

SW491

Trauma across the Lifespan

Nola Carew, LMSW

SW491

Food & Culture: Understanding Culture, Society & Self through Food

Kim Steed-Page, LMSW

SW491

Fairy Tales, Fables & Fantasy: Clues to a Child's Psyche

Victoria Fitton, PhD

Summer 2013 online courses draw attention

In our second summer of fully online electives for students at MSU and beyond, the School has increased its offerings from nine to eleven courses, including an expanded version of our award-winning and internationally-recognized course, **Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse: Disasters, Catastrophes, and Human Behavior** (see below).

The School has long been recognized as an innovator in the use of technology at MSU, from piloting online course evaluations to developing our Statewide Blended MSW program. The fully online electives offered this summer by School of Social Work faculty provide the opportunity for students to expand their horizons, cover new territory, and have some fun while completing their electives. **S**

Zombie Apocalypse course receives 1st place honors

Responding to the growing use of online technologies for instruction at Michigan State University, Libraries, Computing and Technology holds an annual awards program, generously funded by AT&T, to both recognize and encourage best practices in the use of technology to enhance teaching and learning.

Summer 2012's SW 290: **Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse**, developed and taught by **Glenn Stutzky**, has been selected as the first place fully online course winner in the **2013 MSU-AT&T Instructional Technology Awards Competition**.

This course received national and international attention, and Stutzky received emails from scientists and other educators from around the country. It was enrolled to capacity at 300 students.

In March of this year, *TheFiscalTimes.com* recognized **Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse: Disasters, Catastrophes & Human Behavior** as one of their **10 top high-tech college classes**. **S**

Best Fully Online Course
Award of Excellence



Spring 2013 special School-sponsored CE programs

Thanks to generous donors, the School has established several endowments to support practice-focused education and training. In addition, our Alumni Association has been active in providing a series of breakfast programs each year, and we have a variety of strong partnerships that help us expand our offerings to broader audiences.

Endowment-supported programs	
 <p>Ruth T. Koehler Endowed Lecture</p>	<p>Ruth T. Koehler Endowed Lecture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emerging and Evidence-Based Practice in Early Childhood Mental Health – Erika London Bocknek, PhD, LMFT Play Therapy, Techniques & Application – Teri Krull, LCSW, LLC, BCD Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy – Kristine Buffington, LISW-S (co-sponsored by Western Michigan University School of Social Work)
 <p>MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK MRUK MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP ON SCHIZOPHRENIA</p>	<p>Mruk Memorial Lectureship on Schizophrenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working toward Recovery for People with Schizophrenia: The Role of Positive Psychology – Piper Meyer, PhD
 <p>MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK THE FUND FOR ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL JUSTICE <i>Empowering, Inspiring & Advancing</i></p>	<p>Fund for Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating Synergy and Strategy in the Workplace – Robert Sheehan, LMSW Culturally Competent Leadership – Sean de Four, LMSW Dance of Partnership: Why Do My Feet Hurt? Strengthening the Partnership between Professionals and Parents Who Have Children with Disabilities – Janice Fialka, LMSW, ACSW Resiliency & Leadership: Directing a State's Child Welfare System in a Time of Crisis – Lori Woodruff, LMSW The Sweetspot of Collaboration – Lance Satterthwaite, LMSW
 <p>MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK LEVANDE PROGRAM IN GERONTOLOGY</p>	<p>Levande Program in Gerontology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aging & Addition – Debra Jay Healthcare Reform: Impact on Older Adults – Jennifer Edsall, LMSW Optimal Aging: A Strength-Based Approach to Understanding & Working with Older Adults – Linda Keilman, DNP, GNP-BC
School-supported programs	
 <p>S SOCIAL WORK ALUMNI BOARD SPONSORED BREAKFAST</p>	<p>MSU Social Work Alumni Board Breakfasts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pain Assessment – Yvette Colón, PhD, ACSW, LMSW Parent-Child Interaction Therapy: Evidence-Based Treatment for Young Children with Conduct Problems – Larissa Niec, PhD
Programs co-sponsored by the School	
	<p>Child Welfare In-Service Training programs</p>
	<p>Capital Area Health Alliance Mental Health Partnership Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Compass: Navigating through the Mental Health System We Are Learning: Child Trauma
	<p>Supervision in Child and Family Services Certificate courses</p>
	<p>25th Annual MSU Geriatric Symposium</p>
	<p>20th Annual Día de la Mujer (Day of the Woman) Conference</p>
Michigan Bullying Prevention Summit	

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Summer 2013

Register early and save money! You may register by fax, online, or by mail. Visit www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu.

Adoption Certificate	
May 9	Understanding the Needs of Adopted Children & Families
June 7	Change the Lens, Change the Life: Treating & Supporting Adoptive Families
June 28	Common Diagnoses for Children Adopted from the Child Welfare System
June 28	Working with Children Who Have Attachment Issues
Children, Youth & Family Practice	
June 6-7	Creating a Playroom: Play Therapy Assessment & Intervention for Traumatized Children
August 8-9	Social Work & the Human-Animal Bond
Clinical Practice	
May 31-June 1	An Introduction to Dialectical Behavioral Therapy
June 20-21	Creative Interventions with Older Adults
June 21-22	Grief & Loss across the Life Span
July 19-20	Health Centered Social Work Practice: Serving Clients More Effectively with Less Stress
Substance Abuse Certificate	
July 26-27	Substance Abuse Assessment & Intervention 101
Leadership & Advocacy	
May 16-17	Social Work Practice in the Legal Arena
June 7	Transformative Leadership: Creating & Managing Change in an Organization, in a Community, across a Society
Supervision in Child & Family Services Certificate	
August 15	Supervision Certificate #3: The First Six Months
Master's Level Social Work Licensure Exam Preparation Course	
May 10-11 in Grand Rapids • May 31-June 1 in Livonia June 7-8 in East Lansing	
One-Hour Online Clinical & Macro Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Adolescent Self Harm & Suicide Ideation ▶ Grief & Loss ▶ Reflective Supervision ▶ Sex Therapy 101 ▶ Substance Abuse: Motivational Strategies & the Stages of Change ▶ Supporting People Affected by Pain through Pain Management Advocacy ▶ Understanding the Psychopharmacology of ADHD for Mental Health Professionals 	
School Social Work Competency Series	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Social Work in Educational Settings ▶ School Social Work Assessment: Integrating Psychological & Educational Testing ▶ School Social Work Intervention: Children with Special Needs ▶ School Social Work Continuing Professional Development Seminar (Refresher Course) 	

**5TH ANNUAL
GREAT LAKES SUMMER INSTITUTE**
in scenic Traverse City, MI

*Build competencies to support adoptive families
Creatively engage and intervene with older adults
Explore ethical dilemmas related to boundaries and dual relationships
Learn how to use Emotional Intelligence (E.I.) in the therapeutic setting
Transform your leadership skills
Enhance your interdisciplinary practice skills in the legal arena
Relax, learn in Traverse City*

July 10	Ethical Decision Making & SW Practice Related to Conflict of Interests: Dual Relationships/Boundary Violations		
July 10	Functional Assessment of the Older Adult: A Common Language		
July 10	Mental Health Services & Older Adult Latino Populations		
July 10-11	Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy		
July 10-11	Social Work Practice in Rural Areas		
July 11-12	Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills Building		
July 11-12	An Introduction to Internal Family Systems		
July 12	Understanding the Impact of Complex Trauma through Screening & Assessment		
July 12	Hoarding Disorder: Treatment across the Lifespan		
July 12	Emotional Intelligence: Understanding & Using E.I. in Clinical Practice		
July 12	Cultivating Resiliency: Anxiety & Stress Management with Connections to Compassion Fatigue		
July 12	Pain Assessment		



Michigan Indian Day:
September 27

Older Adult Series:
September 28, October 26, and November 23

Leadership Series:
September 28, October 26, December 7

FIND DETAILS AND REGISTER AT WWW.SOCIALWORK.MSU.EDU/CEU ♦ PH. (517) 353-3060



Scenes from a street market in Mexico City



Some of the students are pictured on their way to visit the old basilica of the Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, a national shrine dating from 1536. Their hotel was on the opposite side of this main square on the outskirts of Mexico City.

Spring break

Nineteen MSW students traveled to Mexico during spring break as part of International Social Policy & Social Service Delivery in Mexico, a collaborative project of the School and Migrant Student Services, with support from Desarrollo Integral de la Familia (DIF) of Mexico, the primary public assistance agency for Mexican families. DIF functions include policy development, program development and evaluation, social service financial system management and funding allocations, community needs assessment, and direct services provision.

The students take SW822 (Topics in Policy Practice & Advocacy) and SW891 (Special Topics in Graduate Social Work) and enrich their coursework with a nine-day study abroad experience in Mexico City and Puebla, Mexico. Projects focus on comparative and applied social policy, practice, and international social work in the context of Mexican

The Mexican culture is warm, welcoming, historic, beautiful, and delicious! It was inspiring to meet individuals and agencies that had passion to change communities.

I will certainly take this wonderful experience with me as I continue in my personal and professional life.

—Sarah Shortt Williams



The students visited Xacxamayo, an indigenous village in the state of Puebla, to meet with residents and learn about recent development projects being done by DIF.

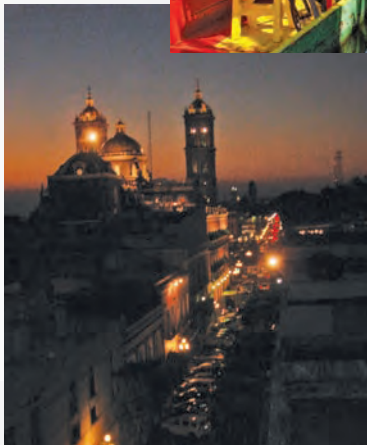
in Mexico

social services provision. Collaboration with DIF provides uniquely rich opportunities for both student and faculty to learn about Mexican social policy processes and practice applications at federal, state, and municipal levels.

Students combined agency visits and cultural activities first in Mexico City and then in the state of Puebla. They also visited the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), established more than 100 years ago, where they met with Dr. Rosa Aurora Espinosa, director of the Institute for Social Research, and other faculty, practitioners, and students. Program organizers **Marcia Lampen**, **Karen Newman**, and **José Daniel Garcia** from the School and **Luis Alonzo Garcia**, director of Migrant Student Services, accompanied the students to Mexico. **S**



Small non-motorized boats and barges called trajineras travel around the 110-mile system of waterways at Xochimilco, a World Heritage Site centered on a pre-Hispanic independent settlement city outside of Mexico City. This system of lakes and canals was the main transportation venue from the pre-Hispanic period and is popular not only with tourists coming to Mexico City, but with locals as well.



View of one of the biggest churches in the city of Puebla at night, taken from the students' hotel.

Sabías Qué is a non-profit providing educational services to the rural town of Xacxamayo, which is in the hills surrounding the busy city of Puebla. Had I not gone on the study abroad I would not have experienced the children laughing uncomfortably at us as we observed their classroom lesson. Nor would I have felt the pride of the women who were weaving baskets to provide for their families, who up until recently did not have the confidence to be entrepreneurs. —Emily Kelly



At the Pyramids of Teotihuacán just north of Mexico City, students explored the Pyramid of the Moon, the Pyramid of the Sun (pictured left), the Avenue of the Dead, and other structures. These pre-Columbian Mesoamerican ceremonial structures were abandoned centuries before being discovered by the Aztecs. Center: The students' guide demonstrates how coloring

All photos were taken by MSW student Miguel Torres, who also works with Migrant Student Services at MSU.



agents were originally made for the vibrant murals that have been preserved. Right: MSW students climb the Pyramid of the Sun in this World Heritage Site.





Information Technology and the Net Generation: The Impact of Technology on Adolescent Communication and Interaction

By Erica D. Shifflet (PhD 2013)

Today's adolescent has been born into a world filled with technology. Adolescents are the most frequent users of technology and use technology in more ways than their adult counterparts. To this point, the literature on adolescent technology use has primarily focused on dangers and risk to adolescents, including physical, emotional, and developmental.

The purpose of this dissertation was to examine the ways adolescents are using technology in communication and interaction with other people from a strengths based perspective, using qualitative methods to capture the voice and experience of adolescents. Following a review of historical and current literature on the phenomenon of adolescent technology use, the study focused on what adolescents are accessing using technology, how they see this use impacting their daily lives and development, and

how adolescents are using technology to communicate.

This dissertation is based on a qualitative study that used semi-structured interviewing with 128 middle school students in the Midwest. Adolescent use of technology was universal among the study sample. Adolescents reported a variety of activities involving technology and discussed the pervasiveness of technology in their everyday lives. They regularly reported benefits of using technology, as well as awareness of potential risks, and confidence in their ability to protect themselves from these risks.

Adolescents value technology and eagerly accept new technologies into their everyday lives. Social work practice, education, policy, and research need to accept the pervasiveness of technology use among this population and incorporate technology into all levels of work with adolescents and young adults. **S**

In Knowledge Abstracts, recent PhD graduates from the MSU School of Social Work



Couples' Sexual Recovery after Surgery for Prostate Cancer: The Development of a Conceptual Model

By Daniela Wittmann (PhD 2013)

This multiple manuscript dissertation addresses a gap in the literature on couples' sexual recovery after surgery for prostate cancer. The theoretical framework of the research described is a biopsychosocial model of sexuality with grief as a process through which couples work on recovery.

The first qualitative study describes couples' anticipation of the sexual recovery and their actual experience after surgery. The study findings support the theoretical framework in which couples experience the effect of the side-effects of prostate cancer surgery on the biopsychosocial aspects of sexuality and cope more or less successfully with the sexual losses through grief and mourning which starts at diagnosis. Female partners' interest in sex, regardless of menopausal status of their sexual function, makes a contribution to the recovery.

The second study, also qualitative, describes patients' and partners' view of the role of the partner in the sexual recovery. Men and partners have many common perceptions of the role, including the importance of

the partner's interest in sex regardless of menopause. However, men are not aware of partners' sexual needs and the necessity of support; partners are not certain about help-seeking.

The third study uses validated measures to quantitatively assess the mean change in patients' and partners' sexual function, sexual satisfaction, and dyadic satisfaction from before surgery to 18 months after surgery. In spite of the patients' improving sexual function, patients' as well as partners' sexual satisfaction decreased. Female partners' dyadic satisfaction appears to depend on the partner's sexual satisfaction. In addition, the couple's level of income has a moderating effect.

The three studies are independent in their research questions and methodologies but related in their exploratory nature and in their effort to examine different aspects of couples' sexual recovery. The author integrates the findings from the three studies into existing research literature and proposes a conceptual model of couples' sexual recovery after surgery for prostate cancer that can be tested with future research. **S**

Exploring the Transition to Adulthood by Youth Who Have Aged Out of Foster Care and Identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender

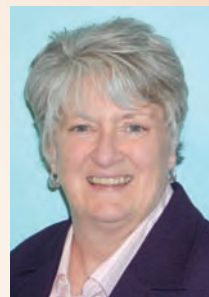
By Mary Banghart Therrien (PhD 2013)

Tens of thousands of youth age out of foster care in the United States each year and face the challenges of adulthood while also experiencing a transition in their social support system. Many of these young people identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) and can encounter additional barriers as a result of reactions to their sexual orientation or gender identity. Previous research has identified the acquisition of stable housing, steady employment, and continuing education as indicators of the successful transition from foster care to adulthood.

This qualitative study explores whether sexual orientation or gender identity affects a youth's ability

to acquire these signs of success once they have exited foster care.

Using in-depth semi-structured interviews and eco-maps, the experiences and perceptions of 12 LGBT young people between the ages of 18 and 25 who have aged out of foster care within five years were examined. A modified grounded theory approach was utilized to analyze data and build a framework to understand the impact of sexual orientation and gender identity on the transition to adulthood. Implications for future research and the need for support and educational services for both LGBT youth and service providers within the foster care system are discussed. **S**



share practical implications of their dissertation research for social work practice.

Adjustment and Coping of African American Parents of Children with Severe Cerebral Palsy

By Rita Rane Walters (PhD 2013)

The aim of this dissertation was to understand the lived experiences of 15 African American parents of children ages 5 to 18 with severe cerebral palsy. Although very few in number, current and historical research studies that have focused on racial differences in the prevalence of cerebral palsy have consistently shown that African Americans have a higher prevalence ratio and that the prevalence of severe cerebral palsy was 70 percent higher in Black children than white children. Unfortunately however, there remains a considerable gap in the literature relative to African American parents of children with severe cerebral palsy.

The main objectives of this exploratory study were to elicit the attitudes, opinions, and experiences of the participants through in-depth interviewing. Influenced by Rogers-Dulan and Blacher's (1995) conceptual model, African American Families, Religion, and Disability, this dissertation explored adjustment and coping of these families, how they are impacted by caring for a child with severe cerebral palsy, and the support systems they utilize. The study was designed and conducted from a phenomenological perspective. A thematic coding method based on grounded theory was chosen to analyze the qualitative data. Questionnaires were used to compile demographic profiles of the parent participant

and their child with severe cerebral palsy.

Significant themes that emerged from the data were self-reliance, caregiver tension, and mistrust. Results indicated that parents rarely sought support from others for assistance in caring for their child, despite feeling overwhelmed and limited. A second significant finding was that although the vast majority of the sample identified a religious affiliation, they received little to no support from their faith community and rarely attended worship services or participated in other church-related activities. Findings also indicated that racial discrimination and cultural incompetence and insensitivity contributed to mistrust of professional services and the underutilization of formal support services. Even though these parents encounter numerous challenges and complex life circumstances, they have developed positive adjustment and coping skills. Parents view their children as a "gift" and their role as their child's primary caregiver as "rewarding." Knowledge gained from these study participants about their lived experiences and reflections of their role as caregivers not only contributes to the literature, but has implications for social work practice and future research. **S**



Here's what you're up to!

Derrick D. Ampey (MSW 2000) had an article, *The Role of School Social Workers in Restoring Hope for High School Graduation*, published in the national NASW School Social Work Specialty Practice Section newsletter.

Allyson S. Bolt (MSW 2009) is a social worker, educator, and advocate for social justice. She has been working with survivors of domestic violence and with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities, both in Grand Rapids and Lansing, MI. She currently works with people who are homeless and people

experiencing loss and trauma. Allyson is committed to the continuous examination of her own privilege; she believes this urgent and critical work must be done from a place of love, hope, and patience and that if we stay stuck, afraid, or silent, we contribute to the oppression.

Bria Berger (BASW 2012) and Associate Professor **Marya Sosulski** presented a paper, *Religiosity and Spirituality in the Lives of African American Women with Severe Mental Illness: Evidence from a Life History Study*, at the Society for Social Work and Research 17th Annual Conference in January. Berger was Sosulski's research

In memoriam

Louise Barrows Northam of Kalamazoo (MSW 1939) passed away June 22, 2012, at the age of 97. She was a county social worker in Kalamazoo and Northern MI before joining the Kalamazoo YWCA as their business and industrial girls secretary. In Manhattan, KS, (1947–1957) she organized a Manhattan Civil Rights Commission; she also served on the Kalamazoo Public School Board (1962–1968). She was an early advocate for women's rights and was active in many social action and inter-racial groups. In 1994, she

received a *Distinguished Service Award* from Kalamazoo College where she had long ago been the 1936 class agent and also received a *Citation of Merit* in 2005.

Maeola C. Danielson (BASW 1949) passed away Dec. 13, 2012.

Carol Fowler (BASW 1957) passed away in 2010.

Nova Muir Green (MSW 1986) passed away in Jan. 2012.

Dana Lynn Harris (BASW 1990) passed away Aug. 21, 2012.

Glenn E. Reynolds (MSW 1968) passed away Jan. 2, 2012.

Sheryl VanDyne (MSW 1987) passed away in 2010.

Alumni are recognized for special skills and leadership

Dr. Brian Ahmedani (MSW 2006, PhD 2010), assistant research scientist at the Henry Ford Health System Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research in Detroit, received a **Mentored Scientist Award** from the Fund for Henry Ford Hospital (a four-year internal award similar to a NIH K-award) on adherence to treatment for depression. He also has a pilot grant for 18-months to develop and implement a new computer tablet-delivered screening and brief intervention for depression in the chronic pain clinic, and a continuing Mental Health Research Network grant from NIMH. He also presented a paper, *Differentiating Treatment Responsiveness among Subgroups of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*, with Robert Hock at the Society for Social Work and Research 17th Annual Conference in January. He still teaches for the School occasionally as a clinical assistant professor.



Maureen Moloney (MSW 1983) is retiring from the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties after 23 years. Her current position is director of Adult Mental Health Services, a post she has held for nearly five years. Coming from a position consulting with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), she began at CMH as coordinator of



the Housing Outreach Program; this was followed by Adult Mental Health Services supervisor, during which she served a year as acting co-director of Adult Mental Health Services. In addition, she has served the School as a field liaison since 2003, receiving the **Outstanding Field Liaison Award** from the School in 2007, and has been teaching for us as a clinical instructor for the past three years. She has been a great friend to the School. Maureen also holds the ACSW and CAADC credentials.

Shari Murgittroyd (MSW 2000) is program coordinator for the Sexual Assault Program on campus. She manages day-to-day operations, administers grants, and supervises staff and volunteers. Shari also provides general counseling services for MSU students and individual therapy and advocacy services for sexual assault trauma survivors. Shari has been selected as one of six **Jack Breslin Distinguished Staff Award** winners for 2012–2013. This prestigious award recognizes an employee's overall excellence in job performance, supportive attitude, and contributions to the unit or University that lead to improved efficiency or effectiveness, and valuable service to the University. Her colleagues nominated her for her commitment to students, the University, and the community in promoting safety and an end to sexual violence. The award is named in honor of the late Jack Breslin, a student leader, honored athlete, former University vice president, and steadfast advocate of MSU.



assistant for two years and is currently in graduate school at the University of Chicago.

Molly (Pinsince) Burns (MSW 1966) sends word that she is “totally retired, old, 85+” and has outlived everyone as far as she knows. She has had a wonderful life, and is totally content with no pain and no need for any pain medicine.

Robert Hock (PhD 2010) presented a paper, *Differentiating Treatment Responsiveness among Subgroups of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*, with Brian Ahmedani (PhD 2010) at the Society for Social Work and Research 17th Annual Conference in January.

Barbara Hughes (BASW 1982, MSW 1984, PhD 2004) was appointed chair and associate professor of the Social Work Department at Madonna University in Livonia, MI in 2011.

Mandy Jones (MSW 2011) is employed as a therapist in the Adoption Preservation Program, Metropolitan Family Services, Chicago, IL. She conducts home-based therapy with children and families that have a child who has been adopted or is in a subsidized guardianship. Typically, her families have a child who had been adopted out of Illinois foster care. **S**

Emily Proctor (BASW 2004, MSW 2008), Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, joined MSU Extension in 2008 in the position of tribal extension educator. Emily develops and provides research-based educational programs for six tribal nations in northern lower Michigan and the eastern Upper Peninsula, including the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, the Little River Band of Odawa Indians, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, and the Hannahville and Bay Mills Indian communities. Her projects cover topics of gerontology, diversity, health and nutrition, and youth development. She currently is an associate commissioner for her tribal nation's Child Welfare Commission. She also has worked as a Child Protective Services agent for her tribal nation. While a student, she was very active in implementing the Michigan Indian Day programs, working with her mentor, Dr. Suzanne Cross. In 2008, Emily was recognized with the National Association of Social Workers–Michigan Chapter *Student Leadership in Diversity Award* and in 2011 received the *MSU Extension Diversity Award*. **S**



Social workers make a difference at MSU

The MSU School of Social Work contributes to the University in a number of ways. We have excellent faculty and innovative programs for teaching at the bachelor, master, and PhD levels; we do research to further the knowledge base of the profession and add to our outreach efforts; and our Field Education program provides service, outreach, and teaching and provides sites to develop best practices. Beyond that, however, social work skills, knowledge, and values are being applied across campus every day through the work of our alumni. We have ongoing relationships with the many alumni who work at the School and throughout MSU.

SSW alumni who worked at MSU, now retired...

Ann Andrews (MSW 1966)
Shirley Bordinat (MSW 1987)
Juleen Cink (MSW 1978)
Patricia Czarnecki (BASW 1979, MSW 1981)
Joseph Dickinson (MSW 1964)
Phyllis Evans (MSW 1964)
Homer Hawkins (MSW 1968)
George Logan (MSW 1968)
James Lyon (MSW 1960)
Juan Martinez (BASW 1972)
Sandra Mason (MSW 1988)
Suzanne Peacock (BASW 1966)
Muriel Rokeach (MSW 1964)
Sharon Schwille (MSW 1985)
Barbara Walkington (BASW 1971, MSW 1978)
Julia Walton (MSW 1984)
Diane Windischman (MSW 2001)

SSW alumni currently working across campus outside the School of Social Work...

Working in an instructional capacity...

MSU Extension, Children & Youth

Melanie Chiodini (MSW 2007)

MSU Extension, Health & Nutrition

Karen Fifield (MSW 2012)

Lynn Krahn (MSW 2003)

Emily Proctor (BASW 2004, MSW 2008)

Family Practice

Heidi Bennetts (BASW 1988, MSW 1990)

Clare Luz (BASW 1981)

Human Medicine

Joan Ilardo (MSW 1993, PhD 2009)

Human Medicine–Psychiatry

Stephen Cottrell (MSW 1986)

Judy McLane (MSW 1976)

Harold Lenhart (MSW 1980)

Human Medicine West Michigan

Jane McCarthy (MSW 1985)

Internal Medical Specialties COM

Sue Castleman (MSW 1997)

Radiology

James Lyon (MSW 1960)

Continued on page 20

Social workers make a difference at MSU — continued from page 19

Working in an administrative or leadership role...

Kathy Forman (MSW 2000)

Academic Service Learning
Karen Casey (BASW 1972)

Arts & Humanities
Carol Cole (BASW 1975)

Arts & Letters
Marilyn Frye (MSW 2011)

Counseling Center
Shari Murgittroyd (MSW 2000)

Department of Residence Life
Alyssa Baumann (MSW 2006)
Erica Schmittziel (MSW 2006)
Holly Rosen (BASW 1981, MSW 1987)

Extension CYF Family Consumer Sciences
Erica Tobe (MSW 2003)

History
Heather Hawley (MSW 2004)

Social Science
Angela Stockman (BASW 2007)
DeBrenna Agbényiga (MSW 1999, PhD 2005)

Working in an advisory role...

Broad College of Business
Anne Crain (MSW 2007)

Human Medicine
Elizabeth Krenek (MSW 2005)

Resource Center for Persons w/ Disabilities
Leslie Pertz (MSW 2011)
Jennifer Solitro (BASW 2005)

Supportive Services Program
Danielle Lopez (MSW 2007)

Undergraduate University Division
Sandra Eagan-Hill (BASW 1998, MSW 1999)

Providing some kind of direct service...

Kerry Roy (BASW 2009)

Counseling Center
Lauren Allswede (MSW 2007)
Leah Elliott (BASW 2007)
Robert Eubanks (MSW 1989)
Ramiro Gonzales (MSW 1979)

Culinary Services
Maureen Winslow (BASW 1975)

Department of Police & Public Safety
Susan Busnardo (MSW 2011)
Jessica Root (MSW 2012)

Health Center Student
Rebecca Allen (BASW 1988, MSW 1989)

Health Team
Cara Ludlow (BASW 1990, MSW 2009)
Emily Vlieg (BASW 2004)

Holden/Wilson Halls
Roberta Matheson (BASW 1977)

Human Medicine
Donald Lyons (MSW 2010)
JoAnne Christenson (BASW 1972)
Alan Jansen (MSW 1974)

Intercollegiate Athletics
Karen Newman (MSW 2012)

Medicine
Katie Martin (MSW 1997)

Osteopathic Medicine
Gloria Bouterse (BASW 1955)

Radiology
Velma Ferguson (BASW 1976)
Jillian Rancour (BASW 2000)

Residence Education & Housing Services
Natisha Adams (BASW 2003)

University Physician
Lisa Laughman (MSW 1991)

West Circle
Laura Schultz (BASW 1982)

Providing technical support...

Sara Bacheller (BASW 2003)
Electrical & Computer Engineering
Jennifer Woods (BASW 1971)

Financial Aid
Sara Becerril (MSW 2009)
Diane Batten (BASW 1978)

Psychology
Ledra Graham (MSW 2010)
Melissa Klompstra-Brown (MSW 2010)
Courtney McCracken (BASW 2009, MSW 2010)
Melissa Nicholson (MSW 2010)
Marie Ross (MSW 2010)

Providing professional support...

Agriculture, Food, & Resource Economics
Lanea Miller (MSW 2009)

Counseling Center
Ikram Adawe (MSW 2010)
Kathy Hogg (BASW 1977, MSW 1985)
James Loree (MSW 2001)

English Language Center
Katy Dewar (BASW 2012)

Health Center Student
Karen Boyd (MSW 1983)

Human Medicine
Myrna Simms (BASW 1966)

Psychology
Kristin Cardew (MSW 2009)
Valentina Djelaj (BASW 2011)
Sara Erbe (MSW 2012)
Gail Kiacz (MSW 2010)
Amanda Paquette (MSW 2012)
Francine Sefton (MSW 2009)

Radiology
Kristin Liles (BASW 1988)

Providing research support...

Advanced Microscopy (Center for)
Carol Flegler (BASW 1979)

Diagnostic Center for Population & Animal Health
Susan Stahl (BASW 1973)

Psychology
Nicole Bonter (MSW 2007)
Sean Hankins (MSW 2007)

Providing program support...**Administrative Support—MLK Initiative**

Lisa Alexander (MSW 1998)

Criminal Justice

Patricia Nowak (MSW 2000)

Department of Police & Public Safety

Krystal McMaster (BASW 2009)

Health Center

Ashley McGuire (MSW 2012)

Human Resources

Angela Brown (BASW 1973)

Jennie Petrovich (BASW 1986, MSW 1991)

Intercollegiate Athletics

Robert Chapman (BASW 1978)

Brandyn Thorsen (BASW 2005)

James Madison College

Lucy Ballejo (BASW 1977)

Libraries

Marcia Paterna (BASW 1987)

Debra Hoppes (BASW 1974)

Office of Minority Student Affairs

Juan Flores (MSW 2008)

Office Services—OBS

Susan Puls (BASW 1980, MSW 1984)

Pediatrics & Human Development

Cherie Langkabel (BASW 2007)

Physical Medicine & Rehab—HT

Cheryl Goodman (MSW 1980)

Provost's Office

Janet Urban-Lurain (BASW 1973)

Psychology

Michael Mahaffey (MSW 2003)

Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Elizabeth Atwood (BASW 2009)

SSW alumni who are working for the School today in a continuing role...**Professors**

John Mooradian (PhD 2000) Associate Professor—Tenure

Joanne Riebschleger (MSW 1990) Associate Professor—Tenure

Ellen Whipple (BASW 1981) Associate Professor—Tenure

Marcia Lampen (PhD 2004) Clinical Associate Professor

Sally Rypkema (MSW 1989, PhD 2001) Clinical Associate Professor

Brian Ahmedani (MSW 2006, PhD 2010) Clinical Assistant Professor

Martha Beuerle (BASW 1975, MSW 1978) Clinical Assistant Professor

Victoria Fitton (PhD 2008) Clinical Assistant Professor

Lucy Mercier (PhD 1999) Clinical Assistant Professor

Faculty

Gretchen Archer (MSW 2004) Clinical Instructor

Kimberly Battjes (MSW 1999) Clinical Instructor

Christina Blaschke-Thompson (MSW 2007) Clinical Instructor

Julie Farman (MSW 1995) Clinical Instructor

Jessica Gladden (PhD 2012) Clinical Instructor

Lihua Huang (PhD 2011) Clinical Instructor

Anne Lange (MSW 1994) Clinical Instructor

Linda Lawrence (BASW 1997, MSW 1998) Clinical Instructor

Maureen Moloney (MSW 1983) Clinical Instructor

Lynn Nee (MSW 1997) Clinical Instructor

Mark Nester (MSW 1982) Clinical Instructor

Lori Parrish (MSW 1985) Clinical Instructor

Joshua Smith (BASW 2001, MSW 2002) Clinical Instructor

Kimberly Steed-Page (MSW 2001) Clinical Instructor

Glenn Stutzky (BASW 1994) Clinical Instructor

Rita Walters (MSW 2002) Clinical Instructor

Kathleen Yates (BASW 1983) Clinical Instructor

Advisors and Specialists

Corinn Lafave Denay (MSW 1996) Advisor

Monaca Eaton (MSW 1999) Advisor

Jose Garcia (MSW 2012) Advisor

Karen Newman (MSW 1999) Advisor

Kadi Prout (MSW 2009) Outreach Specialist

Toby Salzman (BASW 1979, MSW 1980) Outreach Specialist

Field Liaisons and Mentors

Catherine Adams (MSW 1986)

Daniel Diepenhorst (MSW 1972)

Elizabeth Dyste-Bales (MSW 2004)

Raelyn Elliott-Remes (MSW 2007)

Nancy Farison (MSW 1994)

Paul Hillier (MSW 2007)

Bernadette Hilliker (MSW 2008)

Barbara Hughes (BASW 1982, MSW 1984, PhD 2004)

Frederic Hulce (MSW 1984)

Kimberly Keilen (MSW 2001)

Judith Krause (MSW 2003)

Faustinia Loper (BASW 1973)

John Matus (MSW 2006)

Deborah Oliva (MSW 2007)

Sara Sroufe (MSW 2006)

Christine Walton (MSW 1995)

Duane Wilson (MSW 2004)

Many other alumni have served the School over the years as instructors and field liaisons.*Thank you all for your service!***Numerous other MSWs work on campus****Many MSWs teach in other disciplines...**

College of Arts and Letters

College of Education

College of Human Medicine

James Madison College

College of Natural Science

College of Nursing

College of Osteopathic Medicine

College of Social Science

Others work for University administration...

Office of the President

Office of the Provost

University Vice Presidents

Still other areas of campus have MSWs on staff...

International Studies & Programs

MSU Health Team

Michigan State University Extension

University Advancement

Residential & Hospitality Services

General University positions

School news and special events

The School's **Diversity Committee**, chaired by **Sue Bowden**, has recognized BASW students **Kassandra Freeman**, **Sophia Estrada**, and **Isabel Zepeda**, MSW student **Jazmyn Holley**, and PhD candidate **Rita Walters** as students who do an exemplary amount of work promoting diversity. In addition, the West Saginaw Bob Evans Restaurant was recognized for its generous support of the **Homies Giving** Thanksgiving dinner, and the **Lansing Association of Black Social Workers** was recognized for its support of the MLK Day event.

Transition from Student to Professional, the School's annual Career Development Day for students about to graduate, was held March 14. Linda Gross of MSU Career Services Network talked about writing résumés and cover letters, and how to launch a career. A panel of local practitioners spoke about transitioning into the profession: participants included Cara Ludlow of MSU Olin Health Center, Alan Platt of the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties, Jarrell Burkett of the Michigan Department of Human Services, and Tiyanna Whitt of the Department of Veteran Affairs, who also has a private practice.

The **MSU School of Social Work was ranked as the tenth best Social Work graduate program in the US**, according to graduateprograms.com ratings, whose rankings are based solely on surveys submitted by students from accredited social work programs across the country.

Director **Gary Anderson** and Associate Professor **Tina Timm** presented to 170 MSU faculty and staff on the topic of safety of minors as a whole in the MSU community and with outreach programs. The program was sponsored by the MSU Office of Faculty & Organizational Development and the School of Social Work.

January's **Michigan Bullying Prevention Summit** in Lansing, co-sponsored by the School, featured Attorney General Bill Schuette, singer and prevention activist Keenan West, expert on school law Lisa Swem, JD, and anti-bullying expert Marcia McEvoy, PhD. Topics included:

- A current legal perspective on bullying-related issues;
- Proven bullying prevention strategies;
- Examples of programs that are making a difference;
- The opportunity to connect with others who are passionate about bullying prevention; and
- A framework for creating a community action plan.

The MSU School of Social Work is a proud member of the **Capital Area Health Alliance Mental Health Partnership Council**, which presented two events:

February's *Mental Health Compass: Navigating through the Mental Health System* featured keynote speaker Robert Sheehan, executive director of the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties, followed by a panel presentation including: Mike Bowden, Sparrow Behavioral Health Services access manager; Connie Bain, Sparrow Behavioral Health Services Recipient Rights representative; Larry Ackerman, NAMI Michigan Office of Consumer Programs; and Renae Benard, Community Mental Health Crisis Services coordinator.

We Are Learning: Child Trauma was presented in March. The keynote speaker was Dr. Tina Payne Bryson, co-author (with Dan Siegel) of the best-selling *The Whole-Brain Child* (Random House Delacorte, 2011). She is a psychotherapist at Pediatric and Adolescent Psychology Associates (Arcadia, CA) and at the Center for Psychological Services (West Los Angeles), where she offers parenting consultations and provides therapy to children and adolescents.



The **20th Annual Día de la Mujer (Day of the Woman) Conference** was held in March at the MSU Kellogg Center. The School was a sponsor of this event. The theme for the 2013 conference was *La Nueva Epoca de la Mujer Latina (The New Era of the Latina Woman)* and featured motivational speaker Consuelo Kickbusch, founder of the human development company Educational Achievement Services (EAS), Inc., with the mission of preparing tomorrow's leaders. Conference goals are to empower, motivate, inspire, connect, and support Latinas and all women in their quest for advancement in society. The event also included the 3rd Annual Hispanic Women in Network (WIN) Latina Summit.

The **25th Annual MSU Geriatric Symposium, Can We Talk? Positive Approaches to Difficult Conversations**, was held in April. Presented by the Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM), it offered an approach to challenging conversations that health-care professionals often need to have with older adults as they adjust to life-changing transitions, such as those related to driving, management of finances, housing, disability, and palliative care. The GECM is a federally funded statewide consortium administratively located at MSU and is a member of a nationwide network of 45 GECs established to advance geriatric education within the state. The MSU School of Social Work is a GECM Consortium Partner. **S**

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Faculty news in brief

Summer 2012's SW290 Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse, developed and taught by **Glenn Stutzky**, has been selected as the first place fully online course winner for the 2013 MSU-AT&T Instructional Technology Awards Competition.

Dr. Marya Sosulski has been selected by College of Social Science Dean Marietta Baba and Associate Dean Thomas Summerhill as a recipient of the *MSU Curricular Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Award* in recognition of her creation of the civic engagement and community organizing component for SW441 (Social Work Practice with Task Groups, Organizations and Communities). This award goes to the faculty member or academic specialist who has demonstrated innovative and/or sustained efforts in the areas of academic, curricular, and/or co-curricular service learning and civic engagement.

Dr. Ronald E. Hall travelled to India last fall to study the relationship of skin color issues to the social caste system that is part of that country's history and culture. He lectured to the "untouchables," a group of people who are considered lower than the lowest caste in India, teaching them strategies from the American civil rights movement.



Dr. John Seita is co-author of a new e-book (with Waln Brown) titled, *A Foster Care Manifesto: Defining the Alumni Movement*, a declaration of principles and objectives written by foster care alumni for foster care alumni. It is a call to action to those who grew up in the care of strangers. The rationale, strategy, and an

array of important roles alumni must play are detailed herein. The mission and purpose of this manifesto is make sure that every young person in out-of-home care enjoys a safe, stable, and nurturing placement as well as a successful transition to independent living.

Social workers **Mark Nester** and **Kristin Hood** from Waverly Intermediate and Junior High schools will be offering groups in spring 2013 to help children learn about mental illness, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, recovery, and coping. Youth Education and Support (YES) program groups will be co-led with **Dr. Joanne Riebschleger**, who is also on the evaluation team. Following a competitive application process, YES is one of about 25 innovative new programs in the nation to be supported in 2012–2013 with technical assistance from prevention evaluation specialists from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Service to Science initiative. **S**

School faculty participate in national conference

The Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) is a professional society devoted to the involvement of social workers, other social work faculty, and social work students in research and the promotion of human welfare through research and research applications.

The theme of SSWR's 17th Annual Conference held in San Diego in January was *Social Work for a Just Society: Making Visible the Stakes and Stakeholders*. MSU School of Social Work faculty, students, and alumni who participated included:



Bria Berger (BASW 2012) and **Marya Sosulski**: *Religiosity and Spirituality in the Lives of African American Women with Severe Mental Illness: Evidence from a Life History Study*

Hyunkag Cho: *Factors Associated with Mental Health Service Use among Latino and Asian Americans*

Hyunkag Cho (moderator): *Ethnic Minority Alcohol Use, Substance Abuse, and Mental Health Service Use*

Lauren E. Fries, **Sacha Klein**, and **Molly Ballantyne**: *Are Foster Children's Schools of Origin Always Best? A Comparison of School Quality in Birth Parent versus Foster Parent Neighborhoods by Child Race/Ethnicity*

Robert Hock (PhD 2010) and **Brian K. Ahmedani** (PhD 2010): *Differentiating Treatment Responsiveness among Subgroups of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*

Woo Jong Kim, **Gina Fedock**, and **Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak**: *Predicting Pathways from Victimization to Perpetration of Violence by Women*

Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak: *Longitudinal Outcomes of an Urban Mental Health Court*

Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak: *Coercion and Trauma among Female Sexual Offenders with Co-defendants*

Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak (moderator): *Institutional Circuits: Psychiatric Hospitals and Specialty Courts*

Julie Ma: *The Association between Exposure to Neighborhood Crime and Grade Repetition: A Study of Adolescents in Santiago, Chile*

Daniela Wittmann: *Acceptance of a Pre-Operative Educational Seminar about Urinary and Sexual Recovery after Prostate Cancer Surgery*

Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak also served on the abstract review committee for the conference.

Students in the limelight

PhD candidate **Rita Walters** presented *African American Parents of Children with Severe Cerebral Palsy* at the 37th Annual National Council for Black Studies Conference in Indianapolis, IN, in March.

Senior **Ashley Gonsler** presented a paper at the March 2013 Native American Educational Conference at MSU with her faculty research mentor **Dr. Suzanne Cross**.

Additionally Gonsler, with Dr. Cross and education major Emily Hoag, presented a workshop at the 2013 Michigan Indian Education Council Native American Critical Issues Conference on the *Behavioral and Cultural Differences of the American Indian Population in the Experience of Physical Pain*.

MSW student **Martha Callow** had her letter "Michigan will be better off with Medicaid expansion" published in the April 1 *Lansing State Journal*.

Special awards

PhD student **Eva Palma Ramírez** has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Scholars Fellowship to support her doctoral research this summer. This is a highly competitive award made to doctoral students after completion of their first year of study who demonstrate a strong preparation for and aspiration toward a career in social science research. This is a three-year award, conditional upon successful academic and research progress.

Senior **Heather Foster** was selected by the social work faculty as this year's *Outstanding Senior*. Heather will lead her classmates to the podium at the Breslin Center for the May 4 College of Social Science Graduation Ceremony, she will hold the College of Social Science banner at the May 3 afternoon MSU Undergraduate Convocation, and she will be recognized at the May 3 School of Social Work Recognition Ceremony and the NASW-Michigan *Student of the Year Awards* in April. Heather has contributed much to the life of the School of Social Work through her research, kindness, and intellectual curiosity. She also is a single parent who came back to finish her degree a bit later in life than many in the class, and we recognize her for those added accomplishments.

National Association of Social Workers-Michigan Chapter has announced its *Student Social Worker of the Year* award winners for Michigan State University. Senior **Heather Foster** and second year MSW student **Jazmyn Holley** were selected based on their demonstrated leadership qualities, contribution to the positive image of a social work program, commitment to political and community activities, success in academic performance, and degree to which they represent the professional ethics of social work as defined in the NASW Code of Ethics.

As part of their diversity curriculum, a signature theme of the School's BASW program, all BASW juniors develop a poster presentation on their diversity project. The members of the Undergraduate Advisory Board serve as judges. The winners were announced officially at the School's MLK event, where the winning posters were on display; winning students were called to the podium to be recognized. Thank you to the College of Social Science for the allocation of prize money for this event. The winners are...

Diversity Poster Presentations

First Place

Rachel Klisman: *Bridging Services for Hispanic Migrant Workers*

Second Place (four-way tie)

Agnes Bacon, Megan McDonough, Alison Thierbach, Morgan Zoroya,

Isabel Zepeda: *HOPE*

Kristin Angelocci: *Lansing Area AIDS Network*

Hannah Wadsworth, Margaret Shanahan, Catrin Assy, Heather Foster,

Hilary Russell: *Capital Area Youth Coalition Growing Hope Camp*

Keli Peterson, Sophia Estrada, Marilyn DeLorey, Alexandra Casemore:

Familias Saludalbes: Healthy Living for Migrant Workers

Research & Teaching Brown Bags



January 14

Woo Jong Kim and Gina Fedock:

Predicting Pathways from Victimization to Perpetration of Violence by Women

February 4

Dr. Jennifer Cobbina (Criminal Justice assistant professor):

The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program (unique course opportunity)

February 18

Faculty panel on current research projects and interests:

Drs. Kyunghee Lee, Rena Harold, and Sheryl Kubiak

March 18

Daniela Wittmann: *Couples' Sexual Recovery after Surgery for Prostate Cancer: The Development of a Conceptual Model*

March 25

Faculty panel on current research projects and interests:

Drs. Amanda Woodward, Anne Hughes, and Pilar Horner

April 15

Dr. Anne Hughes: *Ins and Outs of Writing Abstracts for National Research Conferences;* opportunity to have abstract drafts reviewed

Presenting...

Liadan Mareka Sanders, daughter of Sacha Klein and her husband Scott Sanders



Student groups serve the community

Students for Multi-Cultural Action (SMCA) again organized and presented the School's annual event honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More information is available on page 6.

Students for Social Work fielded a team for Relay for Life, which



raises money for cancer; the School's participation was organized by seniors **Jenna Fuller, Erin Harned,** and **Kristen Steiner** and juniors **Jennifer Campbell** and **Lauren**

Kirk. Their faculty advisor is **Monaca Eaton.**

Phi Alpha was again busy with a variety of service projects. The group donated money to help provide a Christmas holiday for a kinship care family. Together with the LCC Sign Language Interpreter program, they collected used backpacks for hearing impaired children in developing countries. Partnering with the School, Olin Health Center, and the Inner Door Center, they co-sponsored a free eating disorder awareness program, including yoga, discussion, and recovery stories.

Phi Alpha has been very active working with veterans this academic year, drawing inspiration from the several veterans who are enrolled in both the BASW and MSW programs. They held a fundraiser at the What Up Dawg restaurant in East Lansing to collect money for the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Fifteen percent of all sales from the evening went toward creating a food pantry for the Lansing area Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program.

The Induction Ceremony for new Phi Alpha members was held April 26 at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center. **S**



Organization of Latino Social Workers (OLASW) fed 250 people at their 11th annual Homies Giving dinner—and even ran out of turkey! A traditional Thanksgiving dinner was provided free to the many students who are away from their homes and families



at a time when the University food service is closed. The West Saginaw Bob Evans Restaurant helped with food. Thanks go to **Sophia Estrada** and **Isabel Zepeda** for their leadership; **Pilar Horner** is the faculty advisor.

Welcome to Shani Saxon, new assistant Continuing Education coordinator

Shani Saxon grew up in Lansing, MI, and after earning her bachelor's degree in human ecology at MSU and working in the human services field for several years, she decided to pursue her passion for helping adolescents and families by earning her MSW at Michigan State University. She founded, and remains on the board of, a nonprofit organization that provides mental health and mentoring groups for adolescents who are struggling to deal with behavioral and mental health issues due to economic, social, and environmental obstacles. Shani is passionate about

helping people pursue their passion and promoting higher education at every level. Shani is extending her career interests in the Social Work Continuing Education department because, "I could not think of a better way to nurture my own personal development, than by working and helping in an environment that encourages professional development." **S**



UURAF showcases research

The annual **Undergraduate University Research and Arts Forum (UURAF)** provides MSU undergraduate students with an opportunity to showcase their scholarship and creative activity. This prestigious competition brings together an intellectual community of highly motivated students to share their work with faculty, peers, and external audiences and provides a unique educational opportunity for aspiring researchers. Nearly 560 students from 13 different colleges participated in this year's event.

Because one of the signature themes of our BASW program is our Undergraduate Research Initiative, many BASW students participate with our faculty researchers each year. Because of our high UURAF participation in past years, the School of Social Work has its own program category, distinct from the other College of Social Science disciplines. Read more about our undergraduate researchers on page 8.

First Place

Recent Victimization, Mental Health, and Social Work Needs of Women in Jail

Amanda Freis

Mentors: **Sheryl Pimlott-Kubiak & Gina Fedock**

~~~

*Barriers to Trauma Treatment for Biological Parent Population*

**Alexa Thompson**

Mentor: **Paul Freddolino**

*Intimate Partner Violence and Help Seeking in College Student Relationships*

**Megan Kelly, Michelle Kaiser**

Mentor: **Hyunkag Cho**

*Community Mental Health Recovery Enhancing Environment Study*

**Samantha Morgan**

Mentor: **Marya Sosulski**

*Adult Mental Health: The Relationship between Stigma with Race, Gender, and Class Effects on Clients' Perceptions of Mental Health Recovery*

**Heather Foster**

Mentor: **Marya Sosulski**

*Field Education Working to Bridge the Knowledge Gap Surrounding Policy for Both Field Instructors and Students*

**Alisson Jahr**

Mentor: **Julie Navarre**

*Life History Review of Older Adults with Mental Illness: Comparing Early and Late Onset*

**Megan Fritsch**

Mentor: **Amanda Woodward**

*The Relationship between Aspects of Community Integration and Recovery among Participants in Adult Mental Health Services of CMHA-CEI*

**Jennifer Campbell**

Mentor: **Marya Sosulski**

## How to donate to the MSU School of Social Work online

This is a new feature for the School, but it is very similar to making other payments/contributions online.

- Go to the School's website: [www.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu).
- At the right hand bottom of the page, click on [Support the School](#).
- After a brief narrative, there are two general giving options, under "Make Your Gift," presented in two boxes: online donations "By Credit Card Now" and instructions "By Check," which would be via regular mail.
- In the "By Credit Card Now" option, two funds are identified: the "School of Social Work Endowed Discretionary Fund" (funds are accumulated to generate interest income that is used to support students, student scholarships, and programs) and a "School of Social Work Development Fund" (funds go directly to an intended purpose rather than being held in an endowed account).
- Click on one of these fund names.
- You will be presented with a Michigan State University donation page identifying a number of programs and logos—**ignore** the fancy display and just look at the upper right hand corner under the dark green stripe.
- In the upper right hand corner (it may be blinking) there will be a small box labeled "Gift Cart" listing the fund you selected and a space to enter the amount you would like to donate. The endowed fund will have a red **E** in the corner; the discretionary fund will not.
- After you enter the amount and select either "donor" or "couple" in the box labeled "Gift Credit," go to the page bottom and click "Continue."
- This next page will look familiar—it asks for your name, address, and e-mail. Not all areas are required, and this will look very similar to shopping online!
- As you scroll down, you will be asked to choose a payment method (which type of credit card), and it will ask for the card number, security code, and expiration date; again this should feel familiar to an online purchaser!
- Once you see the "Thank you for your Donation" notice, you are done! A confirmation will be sent to your e-mail, and it will be identified as "Michigan State University" on your credit card statement.

The School and University will acknowledge your gift and provide a receipt for tax purposes.

*Give it a try! Thank you!!*

## Connect with the School!

**facebook**

Find us by joining the group **MSU School of Social Work**. Are you a Flint MSW program grad? Join the **Michigan State University Flint MSW program alums** group! Or check out the **Michigan Kinship Care Resource Center**

**twitter**

Read the School's "tweets" at [www.twitter.com/MSUSocialWork](http://www.twitter.com/MSUSocialWork) or connect with other Spartan social workers by joining the **MSUSocialWork** group.

**Linked in**

Join by searching for **MSU School of Social Work** in the groups or visit the recently launched **College of Social Science** group at MSU College of Social Science.



# Your gifts make a difference!

**T**hank you to the many alumni and friends who have supported the School of Social Work in a number of ways this past 15 years. For many, this support has included making financial donations that have ranged from five dollars to one million dollars. We are so grateful for these gifts.

We have needed the funds because for over the past decade, the State of Michigan has reduced its support for higher education, and, consequently, tuition has increased for MSU students and their families. State support is now less than 20% of MSU's budget.

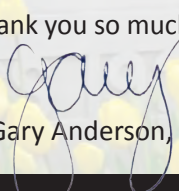
To help offset this tuition increase, thanks to your generosity, the School has been able to provide more and more financial help to our students. We have multiplied the amount of scholarships six times over the amount given 15 years ago: now more than 20% of our students receive some form of stipend or scholarship from the School. We now have limited funds to help students experiencing dire financial emergencies. PROVIDING MORE AND LARGER SCHOLARSHIPS IS A MAJOR GOAL

All of the students who have had an international experience so far in 2013 (to Finland, Ghana, Mexico, and South Africa) have received a modest scholarship from the School to support this transformative experience. A number of students have been sent to statewide and national conferences to participate and present their work. ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO GAIN LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES IN CROSS-CULTURAL SETTINGS AND WITH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IS A MAJOR GOAL.

Our BASW program has developed a research initiative as a signature theme. A BASW student, or team of students, works with a faculty member to develop and implement a research project over the course of the year. The students work hard to gain financial support from the College and University, with the help of their faculty mentors. The School assures that all student researchers gain at least a very modest stipend. The faculty members receive no financial help for equipment, supplies, travel, or time devoted to these mentorships. The positive impact on the student experience and the strengthened relationship with faculty members is invaluable. GAINING FINANCIAL HELP TO UNDERWRITE THESE RESEARCH MENTORSHIPS IS A MAJOR GOAL.

In the fall newsletter, we noted the increased number of endowments and the steady financial support that this provides for students, community programs, and faculty research. An endowment can be established at MSU with a gift of \$30,000. This gift can be provided over a five-year period of time or in an estate plan. I hope that more alumni and friends will consider this lasting contribution to the mission of social work and to support social work education at MSU. An endowment can be directed toward any aspect of the School that has special interest for the donor. BUILDING A SOLID FOUNDATION OF ENDOWED PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS IS A MAJOR GOAL.

Your gifts, of any size, have made a significant difference for hundreds of students and for our faculty members. We know that social work salaries generally do not lead to accumulated wealth, and we know that there are many opportunities to support worthy programs locally, nationally, and internationally. A gift to social work education is an investment in multiple professional lives with magnified positive impact across dedicated careers. Thank you so much for your past, present, and future support.

  
—Gary Anderson, Director, School of Social Work

Visit the School on the web: [www.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu)

# S

Spring/Summer 2013 SSW NEWS

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*Advancing Knowledge. Transforming Lives.*

OUR MISSION: We are dedicated to educating students for competent, responsive, and ethical social work practice. Our teaching, research, and outreach seek to promote positive change and social justice for diverse communities, organizations, groups, families, and individuals.

**Please e-mail us your e-mail address! Our address is [socialwork@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:socialwork@ssc.msu.edu) — What's yours?**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

Current name \_\_\_\_\_ Circle degree earned: BASW / MSW / PhD

Name when enrolled \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Current address \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here  if this is a new address

Business/Employer (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Business address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe your professional activities and other information you want your classmates to know

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Notes from Alumni will be featured in the *Fall 2013/Winter 2014 News*.

Please send this form to: MSU School of Social Work  
Baker Hall  
655 Auditorium Road, Room 254  
East Lansing MI 48824

or e-mail: [socialwork@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:socialwork@ssc.msu.edu)



School website: [www.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu)

HELP US STAY CONNECTED!