

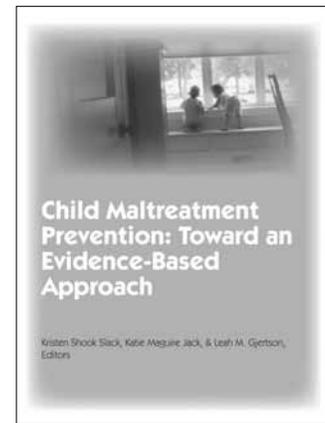
Student-Faculty Collaboration Results in Child Maltreatment Prevention Guide for the State of Wisconsin

Child maltreatment is a major concern in Wisconsin with nearly 60,000 cases of abuse and neglect reported annually. Seeking to develop innovative programs to address the problem, Wisconsin's Department of Children and Families turned to Social Work Professor **Kristi Shook Slack**, an expert in child welfare, for help in identifying "what works in the field of child maltreatment prevention." At the same time she received that request, Kristi was teaching a joint BSW/MSW class, Child Abuse and Neglect, and working with several doctoral students interested in the area. She brought the state's request to her graduate class and they decided to work together to systematically review the research on child maltreatment prevention. Students formed eight groups, each of which investigated one of the key prevention approaches in the child maltreatment field (e.g., parent education, social support interventions, public awareness campaigns) and wrote a review of the literature in that area. Doctoral students Katie Maguire Jack and Leah Gjertson assisted with editing the document after the semester ended.

The semester-long project resulted in *Child Maltreatment Prevention: Toward an Evidence-Based Approach*, which was published in November 2009 by the Institute for Research on Poverty (it can be accessed in its entirety at <http://www.irlp.wisc.edu/research/WisconsinPoverty/>



Kristi Shook Slack's graduate class project resulted in a publication to assist professionals in making informed choices about what works best for children and families.



pdfs/ChildMaltreatment-Final.pdf). in a letter acknowledging the work done by students and Professor Slack, Reggie Bicha, Secretary of the Department of Children and Families, explained: "The Department of Children and Families will work to enhance prevention and early intervention efforts across Wisconsin and will use the findings of this publication to assist us in making informed choices about what works best for children and families."

As impressive as the publication is, it was the process of working on it that provided an outstanding and exciting learning opportunity for students. Commenting on the experience, Julie Wesenberg who worked on the chapter on sexual abuse prevention, said "my group (of students) were interested in the subject and were

hard workers ... we did a lot of work and communicated well." Frustrated about the lack of research on the topic, Julie hopes to work on it "as part of my post-school career." Crystal Ikanih, one of a group of three students working on the chapter about school interventions and early education programs, said at the outset of the project she "felt a little intimidated." But with the support of Professor Slack and her fellow students, Crystal explained "it was definitely a highlight of my college career." Hannah M. Anderson, a student in the class "felt honored to have had the opportunity to help create a manual that would be useful to the state ... and said "it was truly one of the best learning experiences I had during my time at UW."

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The School of Social Work at a Glance

- 600 BA/BS, BSW, MSW and PhD Students
- 45 Faculty and Staff
- 150 Agency Field Placement Supervisors
- 9,000 Alumni

Teaching: Faculty-based field model, strong commitment to social justice, cultural competence and evidence-based practice. Concentrations in Child and Family Welfare, Mental Health, Health, Aging and Disability.

Research: More than \$4 million in state and federal grants supporting faculty/student research in areas such as mental health services, child abuse and neglect, welfare reform and child-support, race, social class and gender disparities, family caregiving and end-of-life care.



Undergraduate Social Welfare Students Win Bucky Award

Our very active undergraduate Students for Social Welfare Group received the Morgridge Center for Public Service's Bucky Award for Service. The award recognizes a student run group that participates in community and campus service activities while also providing a means for students to reflect on their service contributions. Often, the group would have a guest speaker one week and follow that with a service opportunity the following week. For example, after having a speaker discuss working with Latino families, students volunteered with Project Cuidandome which encourages Latino student interest in the sciences. A speaker on resources in the LGBTQ community was followed by assisting with Transgender Remembrance Week activities.

President Obama Receives Monica Wrightman's Book

After President Barack Obama visited James Wright Middle School in Madison this November, he was given a copy of *James C. Wright, the Man, His Work, His Legacy*, written by field faculty member **Monica Wrightman**. Monica, who teaches our Social Work in Educational Settings Field Unit, wrote the book based on a 2007 Wright Middle School project when sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students, wanting to know more about the man for whom their school was named, examined the life and accomplishments of Mr. Wright, a civil rights leader in Madison.

Sandy Magana Receives Outstanding Women of Color Award

To recognize the multitude of accomplishments by women of color at UW-Madison, the campus established the Outstanding Women of Color Award. Professor **Sandy Magana** received the award in recognition of her advocacy for the Latino population on campus and in the community. Sandy helped form the campus Latina/o Faculty Association and serves as a mentor for several ethnic minority groups on campus.

Connections is the alumni newsletter of the School of Social Work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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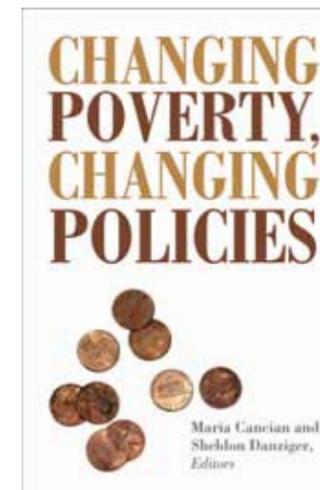
Maria Cancian: A New Book Published and a Fellowship Received

Changing Poverty, Changing Policies, co-edited by Professor **Maria Cancian** and Professor **Sheldon Danziger** (formerly UW-Madison School of Social Work faculty now at the University of Michigan), was recently published by the Russell Sage Foundation. The book "documents how economic, social, demographic and public policy changes since the early 1970s have altered who is poor and where antipoverty initiatives have kept pace or have fallen behind."

Professor Cancian was also awarded a W.T. Grant Distinguished Fellowship which seeks to help researchers "understand what type of research evidence is

helpful to and needed by policy makers and practitioners." Maria will use her award to work full time for the State of Wisconsin's Department of Children and Family Services to gain a deeper appreciation of the challenges in reorganizing a state welfare/child welfare bureaucracy. She will also shadow child welfare workers in two counties to gain a better understanding of day-to-day child welfare practice.

Beginning January 2011, Maria will be the Associate Dean for the Social Sciences in the College of Letters and Science.



Professor Schroeppfer (left) receives teaching award from UW-Madison Chancellor Biddy Martin

A Triple Play for Professor Tracy Schroeppfer

It's been a very good year for faculty member **Tracy Schroeppfer**. She was awarded the Association for Gerontology in Education in Social Work's 2009 Faculty Achievement Award, received the UW-Madison's Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award, and was promoted to Associate Professor.

The AGESW's national Faculty Achievement Award is given to a faculty member who is in the early stages of his/her academic career and whose scholarship, teaching and contributions to the field show significant potential for ongoing contributions to aging and social

work. Tracy, an outstanding teacher and student mentor also received the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award at a university ceremony in April 2010. Reflecting how her own background has influenced her passion for teaching, Tracy explained how important it was for her to have teachers who mentored her, believed in her and encouraged her. "I am a first-generation college student from a working-class background. I found myself at age 24 living in a trailer, raising a child on my own, very poor with only a high school education. I had no idea how to register for college."

Students Select Darald Hanusa as Honored Instructor

Long-time lecturer **Darald Hanusa** was selected as an "Honored Instructor" by students living in University Housing. In addition to teaching our Family Violence undergraduate and graduate courses, Darald is in private practice and has conducted training programs about domestic violence for the Department of Defense, Naval and Marine Corps Family Advocacy Programs.

Professor Robert Receives Mentoring Award

Professor **Stephanie Robert** received the 2009 Doris Slesinger Award for Excellence in Faculty Mentoring, given annually to a faculty member who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to support and retain women assistant professors throughout the tenure process. The UW-Madison Women's Philanthropy Council sponsors the award.

Ada Deer Named Social Work Pioneer

Distinguished Lecturer Emerita, **Ada Deer**, was named a Social Work Pioneer by the National Association of Social Workers. This prestigious designation "honors members of the social work profession who have contributed to the evolution and enrichment of the profession," Ada joins two other distinguished School of Social Work faculty, Alfred Kadushin and the late Anne Minahan, who were previously honored. Ada is also featured in *Women in Social Work Who Have Changed the World*, (Lyceum Books, 2010).

Magnuson Named Associate Director of the Institute for Research on Poverty and Promoted to Associate Professor

Associate Professor **Katherine Magnuson** is now Associate Director for Research and Training at UW-Madison's Institute for Research on Poverty (www.irlp.wisc.edu). IRP does research into the causes and consequences of poverty and social inequality in the U.S.

Professor Betty Kramer Receives Contemplative Practice Fellowship

Engaging skillfully in social work practice to ameliorate suffering and promote social justice and a more humane society requires a high degree of self-awareness, mindfulness, compassion, and interpersonal skill development. To further these goals, the Fetzer Institute and the Center for Contemplative Mind in Society awarded Professor **Betty Kramer** a fellowship to develop learning modules that can be integrated into the social work curriculum. These modules will highlight the importance of mindfulness for compassionate and ethically based social action

and examine theory, research and practice related to the use of meditation as a therapeutic intervention.

Undergraduate Student Receives Hilldale Scholarship

Holly Morton was awarded a University Hilldale Scholarship to support her senior thesis examining the disparities in autism services for Latino immigrant children. Holly is entering the MSW program this fall. She worked under the guidance of social work professor Sandy Magana.

PhD Students Present at National Meetings

Our doctoral students often are invited to present their work at national conferences. This year's presenters include:

Subha Gosh

"Aging Parents with dual caregiving responsibilities: caring for an adult child and spouse with disabilities" at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work Research (with Jan Greenberg and Marsha Seltzer)

Melinda Kavanaugh

"Factors associated with economic burden in lung cancer spousal caregivers" at the Society for Social Work Research Annual Meeting (co-presenter)

Callie Langton

"Maternal re-partnering and non-resident father investments in children" at the Society for Social Work Research Annual Meeting (co-presenter)

Hilary Shager

"What role do peer effects play in Head Start? Evidence from the 2003 FACES survey" at the Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management

Lynn Sisco

"Promoting social interactions among students who use augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and their peers" at the 34th annual TASH Conference

Lynette Studer

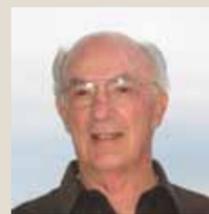
"The Role of the Psychiatrist on an Inter-Disciplinary Team" at the annual conference of the American Psychiatric Association (co-presenter)

In Memoriam

Irving Piliavin

Popular social work teacher and well-known researcher **Irv Piliavin**, died on November 19, 2009 at age 81.

From 1970 to 1996 as the primary social work faculty member teaching our Introduction to the Field of Social Work courses, Irv taught hundreds of undergraduate and MSW students. He also taught several courses in our doctoral program and during his career, Irv mentored many undergraduate students, especially student-athletes.



Professor Piliavin championed the critical role of research in guiding social work practice, long before it became popular. He brought methodological sophistication and the use of advanced statistical analysis to his research in the areas of disadvantaged youth, foster care, crime and delinquency control, and the evaluation of welfare reform. Speaking of Irv's work, his friend and colleague Bob Haveman noted that "Irv welded a humane approach to a rigorous scientific standard. This scholarly combination gained him the respect of rigorous social scientists as well as social service practitioners, a unique position in the field."

Irv was married to Jane Piliavin, Emeritus Professor of Sociology. Irv's friends, family and colleagues have established the Irving Piliavin Award in his memory. The award will be given annually to a social work student who, like Irv, is committed to applying advanced statistical techniques and research methodology to "real life problems." Alumni who would like to contribute to the award fund may send a check made out to the UW Foundation-Irving Piliavin Award. Donations should be mailed to UWF, 1848 University Ave., Madison, WI 53726. For more information, contact Mel Morgenbesser at mmorgenb@wisc.edu.

Five School Faculty and Staff to Retire

That the baby boomer generation is beginning to retire couldn't be clearer with five School full-time and part-time faculty and staff retiring recently. Full-time clinical faculty member **Don Coleman** and advisor **Judy Switzky** will join part-time child welfare Title IV-E program staff member **Jane Freiburg** and part-time lecturers **Bob Mohelnitzky** and **Judy Sikora** in retirement.

Judy Sikora taught hundreds of students in our undergraduate and graduate Introduction to the Field of Social Work courses and Bob taught several courses in the mental health concentration. Jane provided a wide range of staff support for the School's Title IV-E child welfare training grant program. More information about Don Coleman and Judy Switzky is below. Although we'll be sad to lose their commitment and vitality, we're pleased that all are looking forward to new opportunities and challenges.



Don Coleman talks with students at the School's annual Field Fair.



Judy Switzky advises a Social Work student.

Don Coleman

Don joined the School in 2002 after a career as an administrator and therapist at the Mental Health Center of Dane County. He brought more than 30 years of human services experience to our department with a primary focus on culturally competent clinical social work practice.

An excellent teacher and always an advocate for students, Don taught our Advocacy and Multicultural Field Unit and several practice courses. He worked closely with our Recruitment and Retention of Students of Color Committee. Don was also a member of the Curriculum Committee and co-chaired the Cultural Competence Assessment Committee charged with assessing the cultural competence of the School. Though retiring from full-time teaching, Don will remain quite active. He is co-founder of the Midwest Center for Cultural Competence providing training, education and consultation to human services agencies and an associate with the Midwest Center for Human Services providing clinical social work services. Don is also the co-owner of and lead instructor for Madison Daoguan (<http://madisondaoguan.org>), a school which teaches Tai Chi Ch'uan, Meditation, Ba Kua Chang and other healing arts.

Judy Switzky

During her 15 years as an advisor with the School, Judy provided advice, support and problem-solving assistance to several thousand graduate and undergraduate students. Judy cared deeply for students providing a range of assistance from sharing course, degree and career information, to helping students who were facing serious personal and family issues.

While Judy worked individually with students, she also worked collectively for them. For example, she developed and organized career development and licensing workshops, organized our annual graduation ceremony and collected post-graduation information to assist the School in long-term planning.

"Judy is a wonderful woman who really cares about her students and wants what is best for them. During my last year as an undergraduate, I went through a lot of pain when my mom passed away unexpectedly. ... Judy was always there to listen, offer advice and let me know it was OK to call."

Turning Tragedy to Tribute

Family's Incredible Generosity After Tragedy Awards 50 Scholarships Over 20 Years

As a social work student, Debra Ann Beebe made sure every resident had a cake on his or her birthday. It was just one of the little things that made her special at the group home where she worked with people with serious mental illness.



Debra Ann Beebe

An outstanding student and social worker, Debi was recognized with the Wally Bauman Distinguished Service Award for Social Services in 1988 for her dedication in working with people with mental illness. In January 1989, she was tragically killed by a resident in the group home.

Knowing their daughter's commitment to working with people with major mental illness, Marilyn and Richard "Dick" Beebe created a scholarship in their daughter's name to assist other students following the same career path Debi had chosen. More than 50 social work students have received Debra Ann Beebe Memorial Scholarships since the fund was created. Recently, on the 20th anniversary of the fund, the School of Social Work and the University of Wisconsin Foundation contacted recipients to inform them of the milestone and offer an opportunity for those former students to share with the Beebe family what this gift meant to them. Many responded with heartfelt appreciation and admiration for the Beebe family.

"Throughout my career in social work, my framed Debra Beebe award certificate has been displayed in my office, where people have often asked me about it," said Lisa Hubbard, LCSW and Beebe Scholar 1995. "I always tell them what I know about Debra, her love and dedication for helping people with severe

"Throughout my career in social work, my framed Debra Beebe award certificate has been displayed in my office, where people have often asked me about it. I always tell them what I know about Debra, her love and dedication for helping people with severe and persistent mental illness."

— Lisa Hubbard, LCSW

and persistent mental illness, and her amazing family's ability to see through their grief to offer something positive and hopeful to future social workers and the clients they serve."

"Of all the awards and recognitions I have received, I am most proud to say that I received the Beebe Scholarship," Benita Walker, MSSW and Beebe Scholar 1998, explained. Walker recently was appointed by Wisconsin Governor James Doyle to serve on the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health to advise the governor, legislature and state agencies on matters relating to mental health.

"I felt like I had been entrusted to carry a small piece of Debra forward with me into the work I was preparing for," Dawn Kaiser, LCSW at the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco and

Beebe Scholar 1993, said. "I have thought of your daughter Debra many times through the years ... and have thought of your ability to transform your suffering and grief into a positive tribute."

Marilyn and Dick Beebe wanted the School of Social Work and the University of Wisconsin Foundation "to do what they thought was best to help these wonderful students and ease some of their financial worries." Marilyn recently shared that she and Dick "are in awe of what our original contribution has accomplished." Bill Heiss, the School's assistant director, collaborated with the Beebe family to establish the original scholarship. Twenty years later, he is still amazed at how the Beebe family "turned a great tragedy into a great tribute."

Every other year, the School offers the Debra Beebe Memorial Lecture, bringing to campus a nationally prominent expert in the field of mental illness. This year, Professor John Brekke, of the University of Southern California, spoke on "The Brain and the Social Environment: How Cognitive Functioning Interacts with Psychosocial Treatment to Improve Functioning in Schizophrenia."

Note: This story is based on an article by Sue Zyhowski which appeared in the Fall 2009 Insights, a publication of the UW Foundation.



2010 Beebe Scholarship winners with Professor Brekke (far right)

Two Jobs and a Newly Adopted Son

New Part-time Program Allows Stefanie and Joe Scribbins to Work on Their MSW Degrees



(Above) Joe and Stefanie Scribbins with son Malcolm. (Below) Part-time program students in Eau Claire.

After finishing their BSW degrees in 2005, **Stefanie and Joe Scribbins** both found social work jobs in Wisconsin. Although they wanted to pursue their MSW degrees, their full-time jobs and the decision to adopt a child, put those plans on hold. Last year, when UW-Madison in cooperation with UW-Eau Claire, started part-time MSW programs in Madison and Eau Claire, Stefanie and Joe realized this was the opportunity they had been waiting for. As Stefanie explains, "Choosing the part-time program was the only option for Joe and me (and) attending classes on Saturday fit perfectly into our lives." They've found the opportunity to be in classes with other experienced social workers "from every imaginable background" exciting and say "the classes

are interesting and the instructors knowledgeable."

Weekend classes and creative field work opportunities allow students from many counties in Wisconsin (and several from Minnesota) to attend the program. During its first year, 42 students enrolled at the Eau Claire site and 40 in Madison. Ed Steinacker, a 47-year-old social worker from Eau Claire, echoes the view of many part-time program students, explaining: "Professors are extremely knowledgeable and have a good combination of academic and practical experience. My fellow students all have experience in the helping professions, and have added much to the learning experience."

The School is excited about this new venture and pleased to be able to

"Professors are extremely knowledgeable and have a good combination of academic and practical experience. My fellow students all have experience in the helping professions, and have added much to the learning experience."

— Ed Steinacker
MSW degree student



provide working adults, many of whom are not able to pursue a traditional graduate program, the opportunity to pursue their graduate education. School alumni in Wisconsin and Minnesota can help us spread the word about this opportunity by directing potential students to the School's website at www.socwork.wisc.edu.

Roberta Gassman BA'71, MSSW'72 Receives School's 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award

On April 12, 2010, the School of Social Work presented **Roberta Gassman** with its 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award. More than 150 people attended the award ceremony held at the Waisman Center on the UW-Madison campus. Joining Social Work Director Jan Greenberg in praising Roberta for her many contributions to the citizens of Wisconsin were Governor Jim Doyle, UW-Madison Chancellor Biddy Martin and Regent Jeffrey Bartell.



Roberta (left) with social work students and Governor Jim Doyle and Jessica Doyle

Early in her career, Roberta was a social worker with teens and the elderly. Soon she was drawn to public policy and community development and since 2003, Roberta has been Wisconsin's Secretary of the Department of Workforce Development. Here she leads the state's efforts to strengthen Wisconsin's work force and meet the needs of job seekers, working families and employers. In his remarks, Governor Doyle commented that Roberta "lives and breathes her commitment ... to advancing women, people with minority backgrounds and people with disabilities." He noted that "under her tenure, the state's minimum wage has been raised three times." Before that, it hadn't been raised in 10 years.

As part of honoring Roberta, friends, family members and colleagues donated more than \$23,000 to establish The Roberta Gassman School of Social Work Opportunities Fund. The fund will be used to assist the School in the recruitment and retention of students of color, support programs addressing poverty and the needs of people with disabilities and offer the Roberta Gassman Distinguished Lecture Series.

1930s

K. Beryl Sutton BS'36, MSSW'49 retired in 1979 after being co-founder and director of Dane County Family Court Services. A charter member of NASW, Beryl writes, "In 1949, I wrote my MSSW thesis on 'Recreation for the Aged in Madison, Wisconsin.' My thesis advisor was Professor Helen I. Clarke. Looking back, when I wrote my thesis, retirement was a long way off. Never thought I'd be there, let alone be 95."

1950s

Marion Thompson BS'52 is retired and living in New Jersey. Marion, who received her MSW from Columbia, is quite a social work entrepreneur. In the early 1980s she started her own private geriatric case management company, Intervention Services. Many of her clients were referred by law firms and banks. She expanded to a home health agency and prior to selling the company to the Quakers in 2000, Marion had 125 employees. She has fond feelings about

her time at UW-Madison, saying her experiences here "opened my mind."

Alan Wade BA'50, MSSW'52 is Emeritus Professor of Social Work at Sacramento State University. Alan was recently named a Social Work Pioneer by NASW. Early in his career, he was interviewed by Studs Terkel for a piece, "What Would Jane Addams Do If She Were Alive Today."

Jerry Majerus MSSW'53 is retired and living in Middleton, Wis. In 2007, Jerry was interviewed as part of the UW-Madison's Oral History Program. He discussed his work in several county agencies and at the Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services, and his role as a Field Placement Supervisor for the School. Jerry was a student of Helen Clarke's, the school's first full-time faculty member.

Eunice Lantow MSSW'58 works at the Holiday House of Manitowoc County (Wisconsin) which provides a wide range of services to people with disabilities

1960s

M. Patricia West MSSW'67, a forensic epidemiology consultant for the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, has a strong interest in understanding the multigenerational aspects of violence in the family and the long-term health consequences of exposure to violence as a child. Since 1988, she has helped build Child Death Review Teams in five states and the city of Philadelphia, and in 1997 developed a unique Women's Death Review Team for Philadelphia

1970s

Donald J. Hoffmann MSSW'70 received the Peacemaker of the Year Award from the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice. A retired probation and parole officer and a veteran of the Vietnam War, Donald works with veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and leads the Rapids Citizens for Peace.

Donna Ulteig MSSW'70 is a regular contributor to the "Therapists Notebook"

column in *Social Work Today* (<http://www.socialworktoday.com>). Since 1985, Donna has been a therapist at Psychiatric Services in Madison, Wis.

Lee Raffle MSSW'72 was the recipient of the 2009 Carol Whitaker Award from the Wisconsin Association of Marriage and Family Therapy in recognition of her contributions to the field of Marriage and Family Therapy. A psychotherapist for more than 35 years, Lee is the author of *I Hate Conflict* (McGraw-Hill, 2008) and *Should I Stay or Go? How Controlled Separation Can Save Your Marriage* (McGraw-Hill, 1999).

James Sampson MSSW'73 is President of Gateway-Longview, a child and family service organization in Buffalo, N.Y. From 1999–2004, Jim was the President of the Children's Service Society of Wisconsin.

William Kendall Johnston MSSW'73 became publisher of the *Wisconsin State Journal* in 2006. Prior to his appointment, he was the publisher of the *Lincoln Journal Star* in Lincoln, Neb.

Neil Geminder MSSW'76 recently retired as a psychiatric social worker at Raritan Bay Mental Health Center serving Middlesex County in New Jersey. He writes that he often runs into UW-Madison alums at the dog park in his neighborhood.

Rabbi Morris J. Allen BA'76, MSSW'77 who leads the Beth Jacob synagogue in Mendota Heights, Minn., was honored by the *Forward* newspaper as one of America's 50 most significant Jewish leaders. He is a leader in the movement to produce a Justice Certification, as a means to ensure that workers are treated with dignity and respect as they produce Kosher food.

Deborah Haliczzer MSSW'79 was named NASW of Northwest Illinois' 2009 Social Worker of the Year. Deborah, Director of Human Relations at Northern Illinois University, played an important role in organizing and implementing debriefing

services for the NIU community following the 2008 campus tragedy in which a gunman killed five people and injured 19.

April Faulkner-Sessner BA'79 works at OnePoint Patient Care, a specialized pharmacy provider which meets the unique and often urgent needs of hospice patients. April, who lives in Tempe, Ariz., wrote to congratulate Social Work faculty member Betty Kramer on receiving the national Hospice and Palliative Care Award that was featured in last year's *Connections*.

Frank Medina BA'79 was a probation and parole agent with the state of Wisconsin for 20 years. In 1997, he received his law degree and is now a defense attorney in Madison. At one point, when he was a social work student, Frank was a professional wrestler who wrestled against Jesse Ventura (later governor of Minnesota).

Beverly Kopper MSSW'79 was recently appointed provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. She was previously at the University of Northern Iowa and has a PhD in psychology from the University of Iowa.

1980s



James A. Hall PhD'80 was named Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Alabama in July 2009. Jim was chair of the doctoral program at UA and had been a faculty member

at the University of Iowa. During his career, Jim has received more than \$15 million in support to fund his research involving the development and evaluation of interventions for the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and mental health disorders.

Katy Sorenson (Dzelzkalns) MSSW'80 has been a county commissioner in Dade County (Miami) Florida since 1994. She has been a leader in crafting legislation in many areas including efforts to hold urban

boundaries in place and support sustainability, and she "championed the inclusion of 'sexual orientation' to the county's anti-discrimination laws." Katy writes, "I often ... encourage social workers to run for office. After all, politics is social work — with power."

Alice Lieberman PhD'83, Professor of Social Welfare at the University of Kansas, recently edited *Women in Social Work Who Changed the World* (Lyceum Books, 2010).

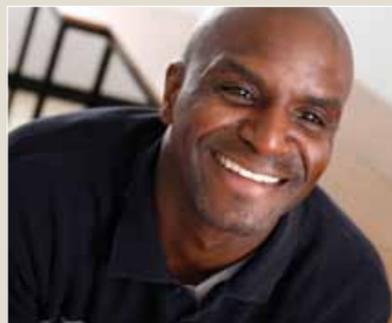
Ray Engel PhD'88 is the co-author (with Russell Schutt) of *Fundamentals of Social Work Research*, published by Sage. An Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh, Ray is married to alum **Sandy Budd** BA'82, MSSW'83. Sandy is a social worker at Jewish Family and Children's Service in Pittsburgh.

1990s

Becky Fernette (Spencely) MSSW'92 is an Instructor in Human Services at Southwest Technical College in Fennimore, Wis. She is also the Regional Director of the Midwest Organization for Human Services and serves on the board of the National Organization for Human Services. Becky writes, "I was very excited to see the Mary Ann Test Fund for Assertive Community Treatment (since) I worked with people with severe and persistent mental illness for seven years."

Risa Berg MSSW'97 is a social worker with the Milwaukee Public Schools. As a graduate student, Risa worked with the community residents who took the photos now on display at the School.

Leslie McAllister MSSW'98 received the Social Justice Center of Madison, Wisconsin's 2009 Social Visionary Award recognizing her "advocacy for low-income and homeless families." Leslie is the Home Visiting Coordinator for the Department of Children and Families.



Aaron credits his graduate education and his field placement at the UW's Waisman Center as where his "passion for the disability field, systems change, and policy development were born."

Aaron Bishop MSSW'00 Honored by the Wisconsin Alumni Association

School of Social Work alum **Aaron Bishop** was honored with a 2010 Forward Under 40 award from WAA for "making an impact in the world by living the Wisconsin Idea." An advisor to Wyoming Senator Michael Enzi, Aaron is a national leader in fighting for the rights of persons with disabilities. He has been very active in several important federal legislative efforts including the Traumatic Brain Injury Act, the Combating Autism Act, the Education of the Deaf Section of the Higher Education Opportunity Act and the Assistive Technology Act of 2004.

Aaron credits his graduate education and his field placement at the UW's Waisman Center as where his "passion for the disability field, systems change and policy development were born." School of Social Work faculty Don Anderson, Marsha Mailick Seltzer and Susan Kidd Webster were especially important mentors. Aaron also explains that his "interest and motivation to work in this field are derived from what I believe are the similar histories that exist between people with disabilities and people of color struggling to establish human rights that are rightfully theirs." Read more about Aaron and the Forward Under 40 awards at forwardunder40.com.

Juan J. Guerrero MSSW'99 was featured in *Men Who Help*, a video produced by the Allstate Foundation. In it, Juan talks about domestic violence and his work with male perpetrators. Juan works with the Canopy Center in Madison and is a Wisconsin probation and parole agent. You can view the video on YouTube by searching "Allstate Foundation: Men Who Help."

Pahoua Yang MSSW'99 received her PhD in counseling and student personnel psychology from the University of Minnesota in 2008. She currently provides mental health services and supervises staff at the Wilder Foundation in St. Paul.

2000–Present

Rebecca Lehnen BA'99, MSSW'00 received the 2010 Distinguished Social Worker Award from Wisconsin's South Central NASW chapter. She works for UW Health Gateway Recovery Clinic providing individual and group counseling to clients with addictions and mental health problems.

Leng Lee BA'05, MSW'06 is a therapist working with refugee families at the Sebastian Family Psychology Practice in Milwaukee, Wis., where he provides



mental health services to refugee families. Upon receiving his LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) credential in 2009, Leng became the first Hmong LCSW to practice in Wisconsin. He writes, "I would not have been able to get where I am if the social work program had not provided me with guidance and a fellowship."

Magda Kmiecik BA'05, MSW'06 received the YWCA of Madison Volunteer Recognition Award. She works with several children and family programs and is a member of "Y's" Racial Justice Summit planning committee. Magda is a Program Manger for the Center for Family Policy and Practice in Madison.

Linda Keegan MSW'07 is a Social Worker/Substance Abuse Counselor in the Earned Release Program at the Racine Correctional Institution in Racine, Wis.

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Dwyer BA'47 was Professor Emerita of Social Work at Loyola University, where she taught from 1953–1993. (6/09)

William Henry Kox MSSW'51 retired in 2005 as the Assistant Director of the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds and was formerly a Dane County Court Commissioner. (12/08)

John W. Earl MSSW'53 retired after working as Social Worker and Therapist at the Dane County Mental Health Center. From 1942 until the end of World War II, John was a pilot in the Army. (7/09)

Sharon Weisensel (Lofthus) BS'66 of Fox Lake, Wis., retired after working in the AODA field.

Roger Schmidt MSSW'68 was a retired minister and social worker in South Bend, Ind. (3/09)

Carole Parsons MSSW'72 was an accomplished watercolor artist and published poet. She wrote many articles for the *Post-Polio Pacer* newsletter. (5/10)

Jean Marie Wenzlaff BS'73 worked for WHA-TV and held several other jobs in Madison. (10/09)

Michelle Rochwarger BS'77 was founder and president of Strategic Resources Alliance in Irvington, Calif. Michelle was known for her active support of women and business and for her involvement in many community organizations. (12/09)

Julie C. Allison (Canning) BA'79, MSSW'82 was a school social worker in several school districts in Dane County. (9/09)

Carole Snowdon-Goldfarb MSSW'64 was a clinical social worker at Children's Hospital in Milwaukee for 30 years prior to her retirement. A lover of the outdoors, Carole was a river tour leader for the Wisconsin Sierra Club and an active canoeist and kayaker. (6/09)

Heather Rue (Cramer) MSSW'95 was active in many human service organizations in Albuquerque, N.M., and was Co-Director of the Colorado Vietnam Heritage Camps. (6/09)

Heather Olson BA'96 owned a business as a massage therapist in Fitchburg, Wis. (6/09)

Shanica Adkins, a BSW student, was tragically killed in an automobile accident. In addition to her coursework and field placement, Shanica worked with Professors Marsha Seltzer and Jan Greenberg studying challenges facing families with adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities. (12/09)

Keep in Touch

We'd like to hear from you! Please send any news we can include in future newsletters or any changes in your address, phone, employment or e-mail to socialwork@uwalumni.com or to: UW-Madison, School of Social Work, 1350 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706, Attn: Alumni Relations and Development.

Donations Support Student's Field Project

Social work student **Natasha Flatt** did her field placement at the Off the Square Club, which offers case management, crisis intervention, vocational opportunities, support services and advocacy for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness. The club had recently moved to a new space and the walls were rather barren. Seeking a way to bring club members and UW students together, and to make the club facility more attractive, Natasha organized and facilitated the painting of a large mural which raises awareness of the stigma associated with mental illness. All decisions about the design and painting of the mural were made collectively by club members and the students. Paint and supplies are expensive and the School was able to contribute funds to help with the cost of the project. Reflecting on the mural, Natasha says, "It has been amazing to see the sense of pride and community not only between members and volunteers, but throughout the entire club family."



Natasha Flatt and club member in front of mural

Helping Students to Attend Conferences and Workshops

Thanks to the support we receive from alumni and friends we are able to assist students who want to attend off-campus conferences and workshops. The following are examples of three requests we received and were able to support.

Undergraduate social welfare student **Renee Heller** volunteers as UW-Madison's Hunger and Homelessness Campaign coordinator. When she found out that the National Students Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness was having its 2009 conference in Chicago, Renee wanted to attend but said "the price is high for students to pay ... I was wondering if the School of Social Work provided any grants for this type of opportunity?"

Anita Arenson, a second-year MSW student sent the following e-mail to the School's Field Director, Sandy Kohn. "I am e-mailing you regarding the upcoming National White Privilege Conference, in La Crosse, Wis., that is very relevant to the work I do at my agency, the YWCA. Even the special student rate and the cost of lodging is beyond my price range."

There was a special reason that MSW students **Caroline Gomez** and **Melissa Mueller** wanted to attend the National Latino Social Work Conference in Chicago. School of Social Work faculty member Sandy Magana was serving as the conference's co-chair. We were able to help both students with the cost of registration and hotel expenses.



500 Attend Alumni-Supported Annual Graduation Event

This year, more than 500 graduating social work students, family members and friends attended the School's graduation ceremony held just before the general university graduation. This is a wonderful event that features distinguished guest speakers, student award and scholarship winners and provides a place for graduates and their family and friends to celebrate prior to the all-campus graduation.



Conference Sponsorship

The School co-sponsored the YWCA of Madison's 2009 Racial Justice Summit, "Dismantling the School to Prison Pipeline," which many students attended.

International Student Travel Awards

Thanks to donor support, the School provided scholarship assistance to two students doing international fieldwork placements this summer. **Kelly Canter** is working at International Social Services (ISS) in Geneva, Switzerland. ISS supports and assists children who are separated from one or more family members by an international border due to migration, displacement, abduction, human trafficking or adoption. **Andrew Rwan** is placed with the Kamwokya Christian Caring Community in Kampala, Uganda, where he is working with the Youth and HIV/AIDS Prevention Program.

PhD Students' Conference Papers Supported

We are proud that our doctoral students are invited to present papers at national conferences and meetings. Thanks to donor support, we were able to provide travel and lodging assistance for several doctoral students who presented this year.

Scholarships and Awards Funded by Alumni and Friends of the School

Alumni and Friends of the School Scholarship — **Stephanie Jung** and **Shaya Schreiber**

Debra Beebe Scholarship — **Sellers Bell**, **Kelsey Gross** and **Jennifer Kuckuk**

Katherine Prichard Benz Scholarship — **Misty Koob**

Helen I. Clarke Award — **Stephanie Jung**

Lila and Robert Dibble Scholarship — **Laura Singler**

Richard L. Lockwood Memorial Award — **Tara Waldron**

Arthur Miles Scholarship — **Amy Clemen**

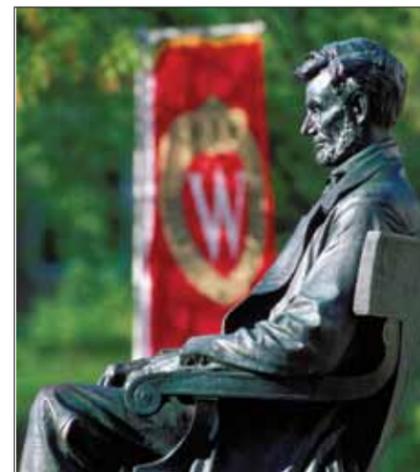
Kathryn Becker Norman Scholarship — **Marco Torrez**

Richard Schwert Award — **Casey Hoffman** and **Jared Pierce**

Mary Ann Test Fund in Assertive Community Treatment Awards — **Ed Erwin** and **Lynette Studer**

Joseph and Elaine Wojtowicz Scholarship — **Sarah Hanke**

Lillian Aked Yatvin Scholarship — **Rachel Smith**



Special Opportunity

Sponsor our Diversity and Cultural Competence Lecture Series

Each month, the School invites American-Indian, African-American, Asian-American, Latino-American and other community members to address issues related to diversity and cultural competence. Recently, a panel of African-American foster parents talked about their experiences with the foster care system.

In the past, we have had grant support offer small honoraria to our speakers and cover related expenses. Unfortunately, those funds are no longer available. We are seeking an alum who would consider making a \$1,000-per-year commitment over three to five years to fund the series. We'd welcome the opportunity to name the series in your honor, or in the honor of someone you choose. If you are interested in talking further about this opportunity, please contact Mel Morgenbesser at mmorgenb@wisc.edu or (608) 233-4260.

Opportunities to Support the School of Social Work

Your financial support is critical in strengthening the School's educational, research and service programs. Please join your fellow alumni who have made a gift to the School in the past year.

I/We wish to support the School of Social Work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison by making a gift.

Please use this gift for (check one):

- Areas of greatest need
 Student Scholarship Fund
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Giving Options

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Enclosed is a check for \$_____ made payable to the UW Foundation/School of Social Work. (If applicable, please enclose your agency/company matching gift form.)

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Please mail your check or credit card pledge with this form to:

Alumni Relations and Development, School of Social Work, UW-Madison, 1350 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706.

Online Giving

Make a gift online at <http://www.uwfoundation.wisc.edu/giving?seq=1339>.

Telefund Pledge

You may receive a phone call from the UW Foundation during their annual pledge drive. Please remember to designate your gift to the School of Social Work.

We would welcome the opportunity to talk with you about your philanthropic interests and share with you the School's greatest needs. Please contact Mel Morgenbesser, Alumni Relations and Development, at mmorgenb@wisc.edu or (608) 233-4260 or Jennifer Karlson, UW Foundation, at Jennifer.Karlson@uwfoundation.wisc.edu or (608) 262-7225.

Thank you for supporting the School of Social Work.

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Un Nuevo Amanecer para Ana y su Familia (A New Beginning for Ana and Her Family)

Spanish-speaking families of children with disabilities don't always have access to accurate information. Drawing on the popularity of the radio novella, a serialized storytelling format popular in many Spanish-speaking cultures, Social Work Professor Sandy Magana and MSW student Martha DeLeon Leal worked with Family Support 360, a project of the Waisman Center and several community and university groups to produce a 13-episode radio series that tells the story of the Chavez family raising their daughter, Ana, who has cerebral palsy. The story follows Ana's diagnosis as an infant to her first job as a young adult.

The novella format engages the listener by entertaining and informing at the same time. Martha played two important roles in the project. She translated the script into Spanish with special consideration to language and meaning that could be understood regardless of country of origin, and she plays the main character. The entire novella was broadcast by Spanish radio station La Movida and the audio series and guide is available to download at <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/familysupport360/novela.php>.



Martha DeLeon Leal recording

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