



UW–Madison School of Social Work
1350 University Ave.
Madison, WI 53706

45 Years Later, Five Alumnae Closer Than Ever

In the fall of 1968, five master's students met at the student orientation get-together. Little did they know then that the friendships they forged in their social work program would see them through life's joys, adventures and challenges.

"We supported each other through breast cancer (three of us), a brain tumor, divorce, and death of a spouse. We've hiked in the Rocky Mountains, walked in the Race for the Cure, and gathered in Chicago, Milwaukee, Des Moines and – of course – our favorite, Madison, where we have a Babcock ice cream tradition," said Carol Ziesemer. "It would be hard to exaggerate how these lifetime friendships have enriched our lives."

Are you an alum who has a story about how friends you met in the School of Social Work have continued to be an important part of your life? We'd love to hear those stories; you can reach out to us at alumni@socwork.wisc.edu.



Jane Weller Choquette, BSW '67, MSSW '70, Jane McHugh Miller, MSSW '70, Elaine Irwin Nelles, MSSW '70, Carol Ziesemer, MSSW '70, and Jean Kroon, MSSW '70, Ph.D. '82

Connections

is the alumni magazine of the School of Social Work at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

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SCHOOL OF
Social Work
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Fall 2015

Connections

Joe Rasmussen, MSW '12, helps veterans at UW navigate GI benefits



School Has Major Commitment to **Veterans and Military Personnel**

By bringing together educational resources, faculty research, field internships, and financial support, the School of Social Work is a leading department on campus for students who are committed to assisting active military personnel and returning veterans. Impressively, nearly 20% of all UW-Madison graduate students receiving military benefits are pursuing an MSW degree.

Continued inside

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Letter from the Director

I am honored to start my new role as director of the School of Social Work this fall.



I have been on the faculty since 1998, and have had many roles in the School and university, including doctoral program director and associate director of the School. My research focuses on understanding how social factors impact our health and wellbeing over the life course.

I am pleased that Professor Betty Kramer will join in the leadership of the School. Professor Kramer will serve as both the associate director of the School and the director of the Part-Time MSW Program. Professor Kramer joined the faculty in 1992, and is an internationally recognized gerontologist and palliative care researcher and educator who studies family caregiving and conflict and innovations for improving care at the end of life.

As I begin this new role, it is hard to ignore that our university, state, and society are going through difficult times. Given these challenges and the effect on the communities we serve, the mission of the School of Social Work is more important than ever. Thanks to the leadership of former director Jan Greenberg, our recently-formed advisory board, and our committed faculty, staff, and community partners, I'm confident that we are ready to launch the next generation of social work practitioners and researchers who will be at the forefront of creating positive change.

In my years at the School, our students and alumni have continually inspired me. I am grateful to continue to play a role in developing strong and skilled social work professionals who are committed to promoting social justice.

On, Wisconsin!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Robert".

Stephanie Robert, MSW, Ph.D.

School Has Major Commitment to Veterans and Military Personnel

...continued from cover

EDUCATION

Many veterans who return to school see social work as a career path to help others, especially fellow veterans. When Andy Heitman returned to Madison after eight years as an Air Force intelligence officer, one of the first things he did was enroll in the MSW Program.

"My goal, post-military, was to help vets any way possible," said Heitman, now a case manager for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans at the VA Hospital in Madison. "I saw social work as the best avenue to help veterans that were hurting."

Army veteran Sarah Uphoff graduated with her MSW degree in May 2015. She's currently working with the VA's Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Rockford, Illinois.

Alumnus Joe Rasmussen, MSW '12, learned the complexity of veterans benefits when he used his GI Bill benefits from service in the Marines to enroll in the MSW program as a first-generation college student. He is now the veteran services and benefits coordinator for UW-Madison, helping students understand and plan their own veteran benefits.

"The social work master's program helped me with my management and with my confidence," he said. "It really helped prepare me for this job."

Rasmussen was recently honored by the UW Student Personnel Association for the significant impact of his work.

FACULTY EXPERTISE

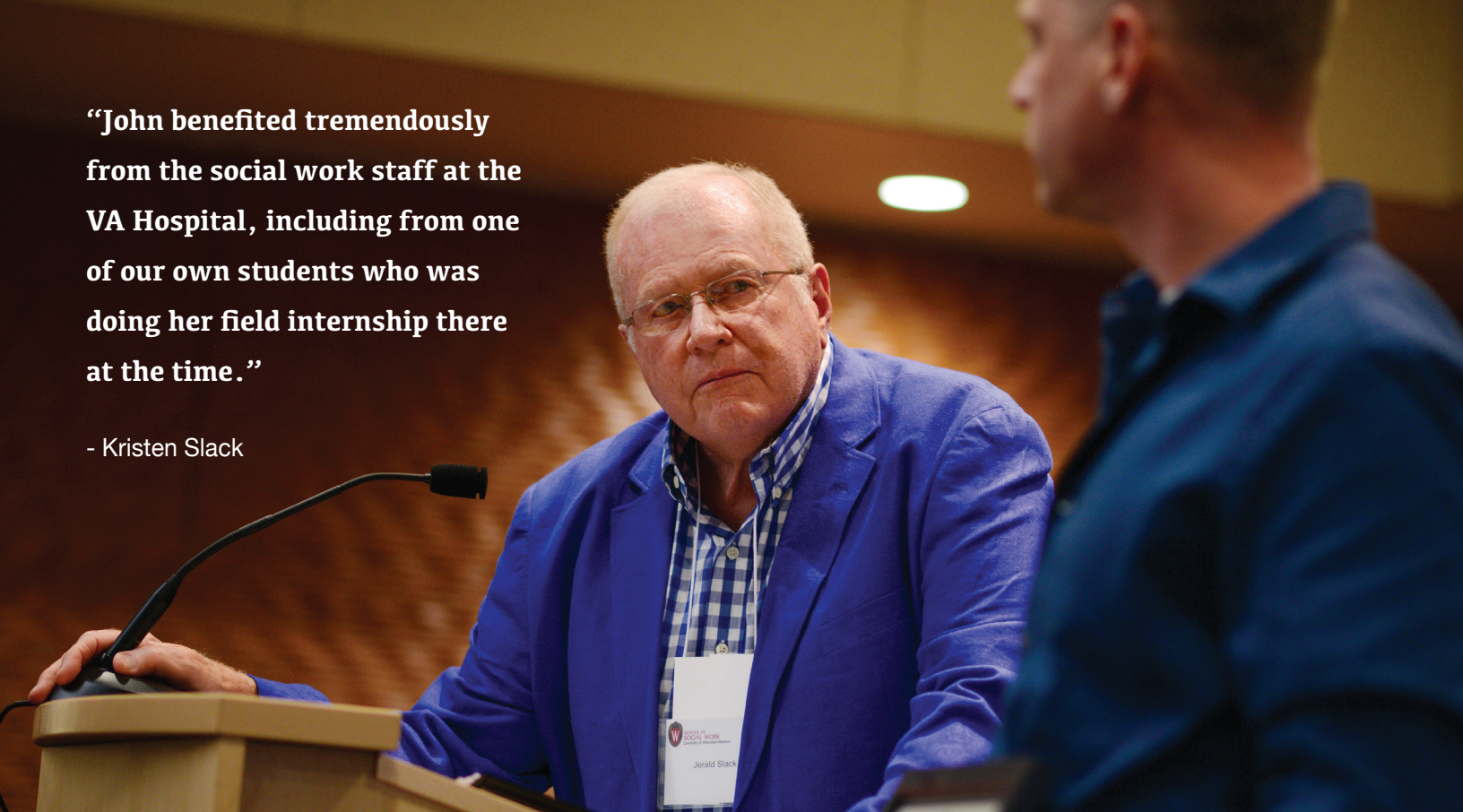
School faculty members Tova Walsh and Joseph Glass are committed to research which assists those in the military and veterans.

Assistant professor Tova Walsh studies the challenges military parents face across the deployment cycle. Her most recent work explores the parenting challenges that fathers returning from military service face. Her next project will explore the experiences and support needs of mothers who are separated from their young children due to deployment.

Assistant professor Joseph Glass, an addictions researcher, is also committed to research that can

“John benefited tremendously from the social work staff at the VA Hospital, including from one of our own students who was doing her field internship there at the time.”

- Kristen Slack



Jerald Slack presents first John Cordts Slack award to MSW student and veteran Jason Bryant

assist veterans and inform policies at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Glass' current work interviewing veterans about their experiences with the stigma of addiction seeks to reduce barriers to obtaining effective treatment for drinking. In another project, he is looking at patterns of help seeking in veterans who have alcohol problems, paying close attention to racial and ethnic differences to identify if stronger outreach efforts are necessary to reach certain populations in need of treatment.

Clinical faculty members Tim Latimer and Andrea Willits, who teach health and mental health field units, have extensive experience working with veterans and military personnel. Tim is head of Social Work and Chaplain Services at the VA Hospital in Madison where Andrea provides evidence-based psychotherapy to Veterans with PTSD.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The School's partnership with the VA has provided field placement opportunities to students for many years, many of whom received stipends and other financial support.

Recently, the Slack family established an annual scholarship for social work students committed to working with veterans dealing with alcohol and other drug problems

and PTSD. It honors the memory of retired Major John Cordts Slack, who served six tours of duty in the Middle East. Family member and social work faculty member Kristen Slack explains that one reason they established the scholarship was that “John benefited tremendously from the social work staff at the VA Hospital, including from one of our own students who was doing her field internship there at the time.”

MOVING FORWARD

The School is developing a course on Social Work with Service Members, Veterans and Military Families. Tova Walsh, who will teach the course, said it reflects the School's commitment to preparing students for making a difference in the lives of military-connected individuals and families.

“While some students may go on to work specifically with the military, others will interact with military-connected individuals and families in a variety of settings such as schools and hospitals,” she said.

“In order to serve military and veteran families well, it's important to have an understanding of their experiences, needs, strengths, and interests.”



Campus leaders in violence prevention speak to students.

Berger Addressees Poverty in Mexico and U.S.



Social work professor and director of the Institute for Research on Poverty Lawrence Berger attended the third annual Mazatlán Forum: Platform for Cross-Border Collaboration, which

brings together top scholars on poverty to collaborate on ideas addressing material poverty in the U.S. and Mexico.

In his presentation, “Supporting Young Men in their Family Roles,” Berger discussed reducing child and family poverty in a context of family complexity in the U.S., including non-marital childbearing, cohabitation, multi-partner fertility or adults who have children with more than one partner.

Berger proposed preventing and reducing unintended pregnancies by making long-acting reversible contraceptives widely available. Additionally, he suggested reducing poverty directly by offering parents who do not reside with their children – largely fathers – access to social welfare benefits and services parallel to those available to parents in the home. Access to such benefits and services would be conditional on both work and child support payment.

Greek Men Become Leaders in Violence Prevention

Fraternity members engage with concepts of masculinity, gender, the media, and violence against women in Greek Men for Violence Prevention, a unique social work class offered for fraternity men at UW-Madison. In this discussion-driven course, Professor Tracy Schroepfer, in partnership with University Health Services, and the Greek community, help students learn strategies for combating sexism in their own lives and work to understand the links between unhealthy expressions of masculinity and violence.

Jaden Exner, peer facilitator in Spring 2015, said the course provides fraternity men a frank and open environment for discussion that helps them build awareness of the cultural factors that can drive violence.

“The Greek community is full of positive men,” he said. “It just takes establishing a voice and leadership qualities within those people to get that going.”

Carmen Hotvedt, assistant director for violence prevention at UHS, said that ten years ago, it was somewhat radical for the men enrolled in the course to publicly speak out against sexual violence. Now, the tide on college campuses has shifted, and programs like Greek Men for Violence Prevention play an important role in encouraging positive leadership.

“It is normative to want to be part of the solution, and we need men’s engagement to do that,” Hotvedt said.

“We need all people’s engagement to do that.”



Conference Leads Discussion on Role of Social Workers in **Confronting Racial Inequity**

The School of Social Work facilitated dialogue on the role of social workers in overcoming racial inequity in Wisconsin by bringing together area social workers and community leaders for a one-day conference in April.

Over 200 social work practitioners and students attended the conference, “Confronting Racial Injustice: Social Workers Moving Beyond Neutrality.” The conversation was contextualized by community-wide interest in the topic that spans from the 2013 Race to Equity project report detailing racial disparities in Dane County to the officer-involved shooting death of 19-year-old Tony Robinson in Madison on March 9.

Jalateefa Joe-Meyers, a second year MSW student who helped organize the conference, said it “challenged social workers to reflect and think about their own role in mediating racism.”

“I deeply believed that there was a need for the African American community to come together on one platform to discuss advocacy around the issue of racial disparities in the black community,” Joe-Meyers said of organizing the event.

Speakers throughout the day included former state assembly member Tamara Grigsby, Percy Brown Jr., director of equity and student achievement at Middleton-Cross Plains area school district, Reverend Dr. Alex Gee, pastor of Fountain of Life Covenant Church, and other community leaders.



Watch now on go.wisc.edu/injustice

and view full presentations from each speaker at the conference on YouTube.



Susan Kidd Webster, in black, poses with students during a trip to Nepal

Susan Kidd Webster Retires After 32 Years of Teaching

After more than 30 years of teaching at the School of Social Work, instructor Susan Kidd Webster retired this spring. She received the Social Work Achievement Award in March for her dedication to the profession.

The award recognizes Kidd Webster's "outstanding contributions and 35 years of dedication to social work." Those years of work encompass mentoring students, working with prominent agencies and programs that provide disability services nationwide, and serving as a core interdisciplinary advisor to the UW Global Health Institute. Additionally, Kidd Webster chaired the Social Work International Committee and played a vital role in connecting students to international social work opportunities.

Kidd Webster was the field instructor for Social Work and Developmental Disabilities for 32 years, and taught International Aspects of Social Work for 10 years before retiring in May.

NEW FACULTY



LAUREN BISHOP-FITZPATRICK

will join the faculty after completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the Waisman Center. She received her doctorate in social work from the University of Pittsburgh, focusing her research on autism and developmental disabilities, including evidence-based treatments. Her dissertation research examines the role of stress in predicting social outcomes of high-functioning adults with autism.

Can Early Childhood Education Mitigate the Effects of Income Inequality?

Social work Professor Katherine Magnuson is nationally known for her research on the well-being and development of economically disadvantaged children and families, as well as how programs such as early childhood education, or preschool, can alter the way children's development is affected by socioeconomic disparities.

Last fall, Magnuson and her colleague Greg Duncan, a professor at the University of California, Irvine, were invited to present at the Federal Reserve's conference on inequality of economic opportunity in the U.S.

In their report, "Can Early Childhood Interventions Decrease

Inequality of Economic Opportunity?" they found preschool to be effective at improving young children's academic skill and human capital development, making it an important way to increase their economic opportunities.

Though these effects would apply to all children, increasing preschool enrollment is especially important for low-income children, who are less likely than their higher-income peers to be enrolled.

"Because income gaps in early development forecast lower levels of human capital accumulation, improving attendance should be a first priority for policy," Magnuson and Duncan state in the report.

Their findings underscore the need to invest in public preschool programs, a cost that the authors say will likely be offset by the economic gain made in increased earnings in these children's adult years.



Katherine Magnuson

*You can access a copy of this presentation at go.wisc.edu/interventions. A version will also be published in *The Russell Sage Journal of the Social Sciences*.*

Adding Expertise on Autism, Child Care, Families & Mental Health



Photo credit: Amy Hart

TOVA WALSH joined the faculty after completing a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars postdoctoral fellowship. She researches the role that fathers play in the health and well-being of their partners and children, and the influence of parenthood on men's health. Walsh has a special interest in efforts to support and strengthen parent-child relationships in military families. She previously worked as a social worker in Jamaica and the U.S. providing home visiting services for low-income families.



ANGELA WILLITS joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in 2015. She received her MSW from Simmons College. In 2005, she began working at the VA Hospital in Madison in the outpatient mental health clinic, providing evidence-based psychotherapies as a member of the PTSD clinical team. Willits has taught part-time for the School in recent years, including teaching the Mental Health Practice field unit, and will add expertise to the mental health focus area.



ALEJANDRA ROS PILARZ will join the faculty after completing an Anna Julia Cooper postdoctoral fellowship. She earned her doctorate from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration. Her research focuses on child and family well-being, poverty and inequality, and child care policy, such as child care subsidy instability and child care continuity.

American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare Honors Greenberg

Prestigious University Award Recognizes Professor Meyer's Policy Research

In recognition of his outstanding research career and commitment to teaching, Professor Dan Meyer received the Kellett Mid-Career Award, one of UW-Madison's most prestigious awards.



The Kellett award, which includes \$60,000 in flexible funds, supports Meyer's research on how government policies affect the economic well-being of low-income families. Meyer is a leading figure in research on the child support system whose work has influenced public policy in the U.S. and other nations.

Recognizing his outstanding research and scholarship, the *American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare* named Professor Jan Greenberg a fellow of the honorific society of distinguished social work scholars and practitioners.

"Dr. Jan," as his students affectionately call him, researches the challenges faced by families of persons with severe and persistent mental illness and developmental disabilities, and investigates the long-term effects of caregiving on parental health and well-being in later life.

Mailick, Greenberg Appointed to Top Leadership Roles in UW-Madison Research and Graduate Education

Professor Marsha Mailick was recently named the university's first Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education. She serves as the university's chief research officer, leading one of the largest and most diverse research programs in American higher education.

Professor Jan Steven Greenberg will lead the social studies division as an associate vice chancellor for research. Greenberg, also affiliated with the Waisman Center, has held numerous campus leadership roles, such as interim associate dean of the graduate school and director of the NIMH Predoctoral Training Program in Family Caregiving and Mental Health Services.



Marsha Mailick

Students Take Advantage of Summer Research Opportunities in Jordan and Washington, D.C.



Spataro-Haynes, left, meets with Senator Ron Johnson.

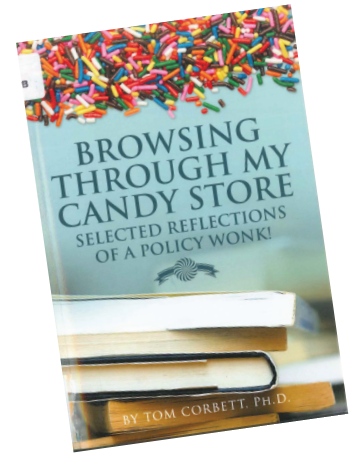
Cierrena Spataro-Haynes, MSW '15, spent her summer in Washington, D.C. with the congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. She worked in Senator Ron Johnson's office to influence support for policies that reduce barriers to permanency for children in out-of-home care. At the end of the summer, she presented her research at a congressional briefing.

Social welfare major Wilder Deitz spent the summer in Jordan, examining how governmental, political and social structures in the country help or hinder social workers in effectively meeting their society's needs. In Jordan, social work is a relatively young discipline that has been shaped in part by the large numbers of refugees who come to the country after fleeing crises around the Middle East, such as in Iraq and Syria. Deitz's research was supported by a UW Sophomore Research Fellowship Award.



Wilder with Dr. Ayat Nashwan of Yarmouk University, Jordan.

AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Corbett Reflects on a Lifetime in Social Policy in New Book

In his new book, *Browsing Through My Candy Store: Selected Reflections of a Policy Wonk*, Professor Emeritus Thomas Corbett reaches out to current policy students and policymakers with reflections upon, and advice from, his career in social policy.

Corbett tells of the challenges and joys he had in tackling policy issues and working to create a more just society in a thoughtful and humorous narrative that hits on the different issues as if they are counters at his own "policy candy store."

Corbett, who taught social policy courses at the School for many years, also served as the associate director of the Institute for Research on Poverty. He spent several years as a senior policy advisor at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services while working on welfare reform under President Clinton's administration.



"The ways that we do think differently are really important for exchanges of ideas about how to approach different problems."

-Joe Dooley

Joe Dooley (center) with two of his faculty colleagues at the Université Angers

Doctoral Students Present Nationally

One indicator of the high quality of our PhD Program is the number of students who are invited to present their research at national meetings. At the Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management's meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico six students discussed their work.

PRESENTATIONS INCLUDED:

Economic Wellbeing of Youth Aging Out of Foster Care: The Role of Financial Capability Services, by Leah Gjertson

The Effect of Housing Assistance on Maltreatment Risk: Evidence from Fragile Families, by Emily Warren

Mental Health, Perceived Discrimination, and Socioeconomic Status Among Adolescents in US Latino Immigrant Families, by Vanessa Rios Salas

Dooley Sheds Light on Cultural Differences in Social Work Practice After Time in France

Senior lecturer Joe Dooley travelled to France last fall to teach and observe a variety of field sites. He was a visiting professor at the University of Angers in the Department of Psychology where he taught classes in French on client-centered therapy, working with groups and life history inquiry methodology.

He also shared his research on how LGBT individuals cope with discrimination and stigma at an international colloquium hosted by the university.

To hear more about his experiences in France and cultural differences in social work practice, visit socwork.wisc.edu/dooley.

Alumni Updates

ALUMNI

1950's

Irving Raffe, MSSW '53, is a professor emeritus of psychiatry and behavioral medicine at the Medical College of Milwaukee where he still teaches on occasion. Irv is well-known in Milwaukee for his commitment to, and advocacy for, mental health causes.

Anton Meister, MSSW '55, spent most of his social work career in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin working at the Child Guidance Center. Although he retired almost 25 years ago, Anton continues to do occasional discharge planning for the Fond du Lac Health Care Center.

1960's

Wayne Arihood, MSSW '62, had a rich and lengthy social work career in several Wisconsin counties, and ran large residential housing facilities for the elderly. He proudly writes that two of his daughters have also joined the social work profession.

John Giovannini, B.A. '62, MSSW '67, was the CEO of Neighbor to Neighbor in St. Paul, Minnesota. After retiring in 2004, he moved to Galveston, Texas where he currently serves in the Texas Silver Haired Legislature.

1970's

Andrea Buss, B.A. '78, recently retired after working for many years at Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin in Appleton.

Greg Jirik, MSSW '79, recently retired after 33 years in social work, the last 26 of which he was a school social worker in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Sandra Venner, MSSW '79, is the policy director at the Institute on Assets and Social Policy at Brandeis University, where she currently manages research assessing programs and strategies that support economic security through the promotion of employment opportunities for low-income minorities in the health care field.



1980's

Carlos A. Hernández, B.A. '83, was named president and CEO of Jewish Family and Children's Services of Southern Arizona, based in Tucson.

Rebecca Smith, B.A. '83, is the Upper River Program Director for the Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin.

Laurie Elwell, MSSW '84, was elected president of the Board of Friends of PACT (Program of Assertive Community Treatment) in Madison, Wisconsin which serves clients with severe and persistent mental illness.

Tita Yutuc, B.S. '84, MSSW '86, was named CEO of Family and Children's Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin. This 300-staff regional agency provides a continuum of services designed

to strengthen families and promote individual well-being. Prior to accepting the position, Tita served as chief operations officer at SOS Children's Village in Illinois.

Randy Magen, MSSW '87, Ph.D. '92, was appointed director of the School of Social Work at Boise State University in Idaho. Randy was previously on the faculty of the University of Alaska-Anchorage.



Philip Tedeschi, MSSW '87, is executive director of the Institute for Human-Animal Connections at the School of Social Work, University of Denver. The program studies and trains students in using animal interventions to help many populations, including children in forensic interviews, self-destructive people in prisons, children with autism and seniors with depression.



Classmates and Ph.D. alums Ray Engel '88, Professor of Social Work at University of Pittsburgh, and Charles Nagatoshi, '87, University of Hawaii, met up in Honolulu this summer.



Eric Linn-Miller, BSW '93, Works to Continuously Improve County-Level Disability Services

Eric Linn-Miller, BSW '93, pursued a social work career because of the opportunities it offers to make an impact. Now, with almost 20 years of experience for Dane County Human Services under his belt, he manages developmental disabilities services and programs in the county.

Read about his work, and why he says his becoming a social worker was "inevitable," at socwork.wisc.edu/alumni-profiles.

1990's

Ann Soe, BSW '89, MSSW '90, is an owner of Central Wisconsin Counseling Associates, which provides comprehensive mental health services in Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids.

Daniel Burrell Jr., Ph.D. '92, retired from the Milwaukee Area Technical College where he served as associate vice president in late 2013. After 44 years of employment in higher education and government service, Dan is elated to spend time reading and thinking about the many issues affecting society.

Andrea Pasqualucci, MSSW '93, was the first school social worker to receive the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year award. Andrea works in the Ashwaubenon school district, where she has developed programs and partnerships to help students who are homeless or from low-income families.



Michael Yellow Bird, Ph.D. '94, is a co-editor of "Decolonizing Social Work," which was named a 2014 Outstanding Academic Title by Choice Magazine. He is a professor of sociology and the director of Indigenous Tribal Studies at North Dakota State University.

Joy Baumgartner, MSW '99, is associate director at Duke University's Health Institute's Evidence Lab, which works to reduce health disparities locally and worldwide.

Korean Alumni Reunite in Seoul

The School is proud that our Ph.D. and MSW programs have long attracted many students from South Korea. Here, Professors MiYoun Yang, Ph.D. '12, Louisiana State University, Yi-yoon Chung, Ph.D. '11, Konkuk University, and Meeryoung Kim, Ph.D. '01, Daegu University, visited with Chancellor Rebecca Blank at an alumni event in Seoul, Korea this past June.



2000 and Later

Mary Vasquez, B.A. '00, MSW '01, a patient resources social services coordinator in Madison, Wisconsin received an award from UW Health recognizing her volunteer efforts with the AIDS Network of Wisconsin.

Kisun Nam, MSW '03, Ph.D. '08, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor at California State University, Sacramento.

Royce Hutson, Ph.D. '04, was promoted to associate professor at Boise State University. He is a specialist in survey methodology, armed conflict, human rights, and community development.

Matthew Smith, Ph.D. '06, an assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Northwestern University, developed a virtual reality job interview training program for persons with severe mental illness and autism spectrum disorders. In addition to articles he published in Schizophrenia Research and The Journal of Autism and Developmental Disabilities, his work was featured on the "Today Show" and in The Wall Street Journal.

Laura Klunder, B.A. '06, MSW '07, was featured in a New York Times Magazine cover story about her advocacy efforts related to South Korean adoptions.

Karen Arnold Truax, MSW '08, is a medical social worker at the Sidney Health Center in Sidney, Montana. She says working in rural health care reinforces the importance of a background in generalist practice, and is thankful to the School for that reason.

Emily (Palmer) Kenney, MSW '09, is the 2014-15 president of the National Association of Social Workers, Wisconsin Chapter. She is also a crisis services coordinator at the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division.

Mary Kate Morr, MSW '14, is a community outreach coordinator with the Denver Public Schools GEAR UP program, which aims to increase graduation rates and college readiness among students.

Jennifer Jones, MSW '15, an advocate for children and families for more than 20 years, will join the Milwaukee-based Alliance for Strong Families and Communities to lead a new project meant to infuse, align and accelerate brain science research within nonprofit organizations.

IN MEMORIAM

Lila (Kubly) Dibble, B.A. '40, passed away in July 2015. Lila had a life-long commitment to helping others, retiring in 1985 from Family Service Association. Three of her children, Wendy, Nic and Mary, graduated from UW-Madison with degrees in social work. Her four children and their spouses established the Lila and Robert Dibble Scholarship which is awarded annually to a student in the School of Social Work.

Nancy W. Levihn, B.A. '47, passed away in February 2015. She was a school social worker in Wisconsin and Boise, Idaho, and lived and worked overseas with her husband Paul for many years. We appreciate that Nancy designated the School of Social Work as a place that family and friends could make memorials.

Arthur Nack, B.S. '50, passed away in May 2015. Art, who had a strong interest in social justice, worked with special needs children in the Madison, Wisconsin public school system.

Roy Campbell, MSSW '53, passed away in December 2014. He was the first male graduate following the School's accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education in 1952. Roy dedicated his career to the service of adults and children with disabilities, becoming Executive Director of Easter Seals of Wisconsin in 1979.



Orville Allen Jensen, MSSW '60, passed away in February 2015. He was a social worker for 36 years in Wisconsin, California, and Louisiana, retiring in 1996.

Mary Birks Sobota, MSSW '67, passed away in January 2015. Mary worked for many years with Catholic Charities in Madison, Wisconsin helping refugees from Vietnam to Kosovo make new lives in America.

Napoleon Mumford, B.S. '68, MSSW '70, passed away in June 2015. He was an instructor at the School of Social Work in the 1970's and worked for more than 35 years as a social worker for the State of Wisconsin.

Rene McShane, MSSW '69, passed away in February 2015. A parish minister who witnessed many local social problems, he returned to UW-Madison to further develop the skills and expertise to help his parishioners.

Gary Seltzer, MSSW '72, passed away in June 2015. Gary was a professor at the School from 1988-2003. His work focused on persons with developmental disabilities, and he made important contributions to knowledge concerning psycho-social issues faced by aging persons with developmental disabilities and their families.

Ticiang (Patricia) Diangson, MSSW '72, passed away in January 2015. Her 31-year career in Seattle, Washington, focused on issues involving the environment and racial and social justice. She received numerous awards for her work.

J. Geoffrey Magnus, MSSW '80, passed away in April 2015. He was a clinical social worker in private practice in Beloit, Wisconsin and Rockford, Illinois, and taught at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Rockford.

Michael Kenitz, MSSW '83, passed away in July 2015. Michael was the area director of Children's Service Society in Madison, Wisconsin for 15 years and most recently was the executive director of the Center for Children and Families.

Stay Connected

Don't be shy – stay in touch!
Has your contact information changed? Do you have a major accomplishment to share?

go.wisc.edu/update

Celebrating
75,000
YouTube views

You Tube

Visit socwork.wisc.edu/youtube to explore over 125 videos.

A wealth of lectures, workshops, interviews and information about programs at the School of Social Work are available on YouTube. These include talks by faculty, community practitioners and national leaders in the field of social work and social policy.

New Scholarships

Provide Needed Financial Assistance to Students



Senior fellow and board member Roberta Gassman, MSSW '72, presents scholarships to master's students Diamond Howard and Mai Chao Thao

Matching Campaign Funds 3 New Scholarships

Thanks to gifts from first-time alumni donors in 2014, spurred by a matching challenge from our Advisory Board, the School will offer 3 new Alumni and Friends of the School scholarships this year.

Gratified by the success of the campaign, the members of our Advisory Board will offer the match again this year. Information about how to support the School is on page 16.

FAMILY MEMBERS HONOR THE MEMORY OF SCHOOL ALUMS

Donald G. Benn Scholarship – This scholarship was established in memory of Donald G. Benn, B.S. '56, MSW '60, a proud graduate and professional in the field of social work. It honors the commitment that he and his wife, Alice E. Benn, had to increasing the access and affordability of quality education.

Mary Ann Mutchler Nelson Opportunity Fund – Mary Ann Mutchler Nelson graduated from the School of Social Work in 1970. Her husband, David Nelson, established this scholarship in her memory to honor her time at the university and her commitment to serving the elderly. Ms. Nelson was passionate about her work in the field of aging, and her fund will support students who plan to pursue geriatric social work.

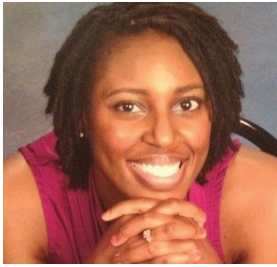
SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS CEREMONY HONORS STUDENTS, DONORS

In May, more than 100 students, faculty and donors attended the first Scholarship & Awards Dinner to honor 25 students who received awards generously supported by alumni and friends of the School of Social Work.

After a welcome by then-Director Jan Greenberg and Advisory Board Chair Gary Cohen, keynote speaker Martha Saucedo, MSW '10, spoke about how the financial support she received as a student made it possible for her to pursue her education in the U.S.

In addition to student awards, the School also honored distinguished, long-time agency supervisors, Gail Gunter Hunt, Sue Milch, Mary Tierney, and Nancy Wrenn Bauch for supporting students and enriching their field placement opportunities.

DONOR REPORT



Scholarship Has Huge Impact for MSW Student

When Brittany Copeland starts her first year in the MSW program this fall, she knows she can enjoy every moment of it, free of financial stress.

Copeland received the Helen I. Clarke Scholarship for the 2015-16 academic year, supporting her tuition and taking away the

burden of loans and tuition payments while she works toward becoming a school social worker at the high-school level.

To Copeland, who has always wanted to help others succeed and overcome life barriers, the award has a huge impact on her life.

“Receiving this award is great because I have this big desire to help someone else reach their potential, and this award is doing that for me,” she said. “They’re helping me to reach my potential.”

The Helen Clarke Scholarship honors Professor Helen I. Clarke, the first social work faculty member at UW-Madison. Hired in 1920, Clarke taught UW’s first social work courses in the economics and sociology departments. She had a pivotal role in establishing the School of Social Work, which the Board of Regents created in 1946. The Clarke award, available in perpetuity due to endowment, is one of the school’s largest awards and was made possible by a legacy gift.

Copeland said she is excited to start the MSW program, and “beyond grateful” to receive the Clarke award.

“It just reminds me to never give up, to keep hope,” she said.

Students Committed to Serving Refugee Populations Attend International Refugee Health Conference

MSW students Valerie Stevens and Josephine Lorya-Ozulamoi are committed to working with refugees as part of their social work careers. Lorya-Ozulamoi is from South Sudan, and Stevens worked with refugees in Bangkok, Thailand. Both did their field internships at Lutheran Social Services Refugee Resettlement Program in Madison.

After learning that the 2015 International Conference on Refugee Health was being held in Toronto, Canada this June, faculty member Susan Kidd Webster

asked if the School might be able to provide financial assistance to help Lorya-Ozulamoi and Stevens attend the conference. Thanks to alumni support, we were able to assist these students to make their attendance possible.



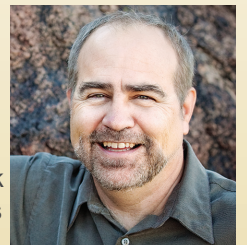
From the Advisory Board

Please join me in welcoming two new Advisory Board members who share our commitment to continuing and enhancing the school’s excellence in social work education.

– Gary Cohen, MSSW ‘80, Chair

CRAIG LECROY, PH.D. ‘83

is Professor of Social Work at Arizona State University. The author of 11 books and over 100 articles and book chapters, his work centers on child and adolescent treatment, the social work profession and research methodology. Craig, and his wife Kerry Milligan, MSW ‘83 are the owners of LeCroy Milligan and Associates, a Tucson, Arizona consulting firm specializing in program evaluation, technical assistance, and training.



MAUREEN PELTON, BA ‘85, MSW ‘86

has 29 years of professional experience as a psychotherapist, executive coach, EAP consultant, and group facilitator. Currently, Kerry is on the board of The Representation Project, which uses film and media content to expose injustices created by gender stereotypes and she is associate producer of the documentary film, “The Mask You Live In,” which explores how society is failing boys.



DONOR REPORT

Thanks to the financial support of alumni and friends, we are able to provide scholarships, offer lectures and workshops, recruit top-notch faculty and enhance the teaching, research and service missions of the School of Social Work. Below we share a number of examples of how your donations were used this year.

Support the activities of several **student organizations**, including a highly successful LGBTQ workshop for students, faculty and community members which drew over 250 attendees

Award **over 25 scholarships** to students, many of whom are in great financial need

Provide over 25 students the opportunity to attend a two-day **racial justice summit**, which focused on combating racial disparities in Wisconsin

Provide **travel stipends** to doctoral students presenting their research at the Society for Social Work and Research Conference, allowing a record number of students to attend in 2015

Hold the first School of **Social Work job fair**, which featured 33 regional employers

Subsidize the cost of 82 students to attend the National Association of Social Workers' Lobby Day and gain valuable experience advocating on the state government level

Photo credit: NASW-MW

At SSWR, doctoral student Young Sun Joo presents a poster examining poverty's effect on access to alcohol addiction treatment

Organize three distinguished **lectures**, featuring nationally known scholars and clinical practitioners

Recruit **two new faculty** members, Lauren Bishop-Fitzpatrick and Angela Willits

Celebrate and recognize the **achievements** of our graduates with ceremonies that drew over 1,500 family members and friends

– Support the School of Social Work –

If you value your education, want your school to remain a leader in social work education and social work research, and believe that increasing opportunities for students who want to pursue a career in social work is worthwhile, please help us increase the number of alumni donors.

Currently only 5% of alumni make a donation to the school each year.

If you've never made a gift to the school, please make one. If you've given in the past but not recently, please give again. If you are a regular donor, thank you!

And if you can increase your gift, please do. We welcome the opportunity to talk with you about your philanthropic interests and share with you the school's greatest needs.

DOUBLE YOUR GIFT!

Thanks to the generosity of alumni on the Advisory Board, **first-time gifts to the School of Social Work will be matched 100% up to a total of \$10,000.**

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 (112541630)

____ Student support fund (112548217)

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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's matching-gift form.)

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Box 78807
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ONLINE GIVING

You can make a gift online at socwork.wisc.edu/donate

TELEFUND PLEDGE

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

CONTACT US

Please contact Mel Morgenbesser, Alumni Relations and Development, at mmorgenb@wisc.edu or (608) 233-4260; or Andrew Kitslaar of the UW Foundation at andrew.kitslaar@supportuw.org or (608) 263-1658.

Thank you for supporting the School of Social Work.

Employer matching gift programs can double or even triple your gift to the university. **Learn more at supportuw.org/how-to-give/matching-gifts/**

Thank You, Donors!

Donors to the School of Social Work January 2014 to December 2014

**We thank our alumni and friends who have generously
supported the school.**

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