

Our Mental Health Concentration Promotes a Consumer-Centered, Recovery-Oriented Approach: Alum Ed Erwin Helps Us “Practice What We Preach”



Ed Erwin (top left) and David LeCount (right) with field unit students

The School has long been a leader in student training and research in the area of severe mental illness. Beginning in the 1970s with nationally known faculty like Mary Ann Test, Mona Wasow and Deb Allness, the School drew on the outstanding resources of the Dane County community (the Program for Assertive Community Treatment [Pact] and the National Alliance on Mental Illness [NAMI] were founded here) to lay the foundation for the coursework, fieldwork experiences and research

that continues here today. Current faculty like Peggy Sleeper, Tally Moses, Colleen Mahoney, Nick Yackovich and Dave LeCount are committed to infusing our mental health curriculum with a recovery-oriented, consumer-centered approach — stressing how the strengths and abilities of consumers of mental health and substance-abuse services and the skills and commitment of mental health professionals can work together to enable those dealing with significant mental health

problems to have a meaningful life while striving to achieve their potential.

For the past two years, Ed Erwin BA'06, MSW'07 has spent two hours each week with faculty member David LeCount co-facilitating our field seminar, SW Practice in Community Mental Health Agencies. A major commitment for anyone, it is all the more remarkable when you understand that Ed has schizophrenia.

As Professor LeCount explains, “Ed was a student in my field seminar class when I started teaching in 2005. For many

“He gives you a lot of wisdom from his personal experiences. I’ve gotten a lot of valuable insight, and I really appreciate Ed’s working to help other consumers (of mental health services) and students who will be social workers.”

— Megan Smits

years, Ed, as a consumer, was a frequent contributor to the adult mental health system — serving on nonprofit boards, writing numerous articles and advocating for others. His participation in the seminar is a logical extension of his interest and abilities ... Just as he has been a strong peer

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The School of Social Work at a Glance

750 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 \$5 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.



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

1350 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53706

Email: socialwork@uwalumni.com
Website: www.socwork.wisc.edu

Director of the School of Social Work:
Professor Kristi Shook Slack

Editor:
Mel Morgenbesser

Contact for gifts information:
Mel Morgenbesser
mmorgenb@wisc.edu
(608) 233-4260

or
Jennifer Karlson, UW Foundation
jennifer.karlson@supportuw.org
(608) 262-7225

Design: Wisconsin Alumni Association

Kristi Shook Slack Named New School Director

Professor Kristi Shook Slack was named the School of Social Work's new director. Former director Jan Greenberg is returning to his teaching and research following his three-year term. You can read more about Kristi's work with the new Child Welfare Center on page 7.



Jan Greenberg and Kristi Shook Slack

"Ed Erwin" continued from page 2

and professional support within the adult mental health system, he is now helping to prepare social work students who will work in that system."

Megan Smits, a recent grad and a student in the field unit, talked about Ed's impact on her learning. "He gives you a lot of wisdom from his personal experiences. I've gotten a lot of valuable insight, and I really appreciate Ed's working to help other consumers [of mental health services] and students who will be social workers. He adds a different dimension to the class. I've always known this is what I wanted to do, but this has helped me understand in a more reality-based way what it would be like."

In 2009, the School established the

Mary Ann Test Fund in Assertive Community Treatment to allow the School to support a broad range of teaching, service and research activities in the area of mental health, with a specific focus on severe and persistent mental illness. In 2010, Ed received the Mary Ann Test Service Award for his work with the School. In addition to recognizing Ed's contributions, the fund allows the School to provide a small stipend for Ed's work in the classroom. The fund is supported entirely by private donations.

Note: Those interested in supporting the Mary Ann Test Fund in Assertive Community Treatment can make a donation by sending a check made out to the UWF MAT Fund to Alumni Relations and Development,

School of Social Work, UW-Madison, 1350 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706. To make a contribution online, go to www.socwork.wisc.edu and click on "Donate" in the upper-right corner. Please indicate your gift is for the MAT Fund.

A version of this article appeared in the Spring 2011 *Insights*, a publication of the UW Foundation. Thanks to Sue Zyhowski who wrote the article this story was based upon.



Mona Wasov (left) and Mary Ann Test

DIANE KRAVETZ

Sandy Magana Receives Federal Grant to Study Autism in Latino Children

A Federal grant will support Associate Professor Sandy Magana's research on "Autism Assessment for Latino Children." Latino children are under-diagnosed with autism, and assessments may not take into account important aspects of language and culture. Sandy's study will look at the process of assessment and diagnosis of children with autism or other developmental disabilities who are from Spanish-speaking families.

Associate Director Bill Heiss Appointed to National Social Work Commission

Bill Heiss is serving a three-year term on the Council on Social Work Education's Council on Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression, which promotes the development of curriculum materials and faculty development opportunities relevant to sexual orientation and gender expression. Bill also received the Social Work Achievement Award at the NASW Wisconsin's South Central Chapter Social Work Month celebration in March 2011.

Brian Benford Is UW's "Outstanding Returning Adult Student"



Brian Benford, a BSW student, received UW-Madison's Outstanding Returning Adult Student Award. The award recognizes adult undergraduate students whose exceptional determination and perseverance have

enabled them to pursue their academic work and to contribute to the community by demonstrated leadership and service.

Three School Faculty Receive Prestigious University Awards

Professors Marsha Mailick Seltzer, Katherine Magnuson and Lonnie Berger recently received highly competitive university awards designed to recognize outstanding faculty and support their research. Receiving three major awards in the same year is a testament to the high regard the School's faculty is held at the university and should be a source of pride for us all.

Professor Seltzer's Hildale Award is **the university's top honor for faculty members**. It includes a Named Professorship and \$75,000 in flexible funds to support Marsha's research and professional activities focused in the area of family caregiving — especially in those families where autism is present.

Professor Magnuson received a Romnes Fellowship given to outstanding newly tenured faculty members. The \$50,000 award will support her research on the well-being and development of economically disadvantaged children and their families. Professor Berger received a Vilas Fellowship, which will provide substantial support for his research on the ways in which economic resources, sociodemographic characteristics, and public policies affect parental behaviors and child and family well-being.



Lonnie Berger, Katherine Magnuson, and Marsha Mailick Seltzer

DIANE KRAVETZ

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The School's students and faculty are engaging in an expanding array of international social work projects and research. These include:

Susan Kidd Webster Leads University Students to Nepal

Susan Kidd Webster has provided leadership to the School's International Social Work efforts for many years. Recently appointed to UW-Madison's Global Health Initiative, which seeks to confront large, complex, global health problems through research, education and service learning, Susan lead a group of UW students to Nepal this June where they visited health and other human services, and learned about the involvement of the United Nations, Sarvodaya, and USAID in addressing health disparities.

Dan Meyer Teaches International Family Policy Course

Professor Meyer taught International Family Policy, during the fall semester. Students worked on projects related to a social problem and its manifestation in three countries, including an assessment of the extent of the problem and an evaluation of efforts to address the issue. Dan, an expert in child support, presented his research on international approaches to child support at a meeting of the European Social Policy Association.

Emeritus Professor Norma Berkowitz Receives Award

Norma Berkowitz received the Global Citizen Award from the Dane County United Nations Association in recognition of her many years of effective work at the international level. Norma founded FOCUS (www.focusinc.com), which assists individuals and communities in Ukraine that have been severely affected by the Chernobyl nuclear accident. During the past five years, several of our students have done their fieldwork in the Ukraine under Norma's supervision.

Social Workers Interested in International Involvement Group (SWIIG)

Our student group, SWIIG, engaged in many projects this year, including: organizing "barefoot" day to raise consciousness about kids around the world who can't even afford shoes; hosting Mark Othello of the Jirani Project in Kenya that works with at risks youth; and offering a panel discussion on getting started in international work, which more than 30 students attended

Right: SWIIG Student Group and Susan Kidd Webster (top row, far right)



Audrey Conn, Maurice Gattis and Tally Moses Appointed to State Advisory Groups

Audrey Conn, field coordinator for our Part-Time MSW Program, is serving on Wisconsin's Department of Children and Families committee, which reviews cases of children in out-of-home care and provides consultation and recommendations to state social workers.

Newly hired Assistant Professor Maurice

Gattis was appointed to the Wisconsin Division of Health's Statewide Action Planning Group which advises the state on the development and implementation of comprehensive HIV prevention and care services.

Associate Professor Tally Moses will join other experts in adolescent mental health on a committee appointed by the Wisconsin Legislature to study and make recommendations about the emergency detention of minors who have significant mental health challenges.

Brower Evaluates Online Learning

Study Blue, a popular online study-aid company, has contracted with Professor Aaron Brower to do an evaluation of student learning outcomes. Aaron, currently UW-Madison's vice provost for teaching and learning, also received the Chancellor's Award from UW-Madison's Student Personnel Association for his "enormous contributions to student life."



Katie (right) with her "policy mentor," Mary Anne Snyder, executive director, Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund

Doctoral Student Katie Maguire-Jack Receives Doris Duke Fellowship

Katie Maguire-Jack, working closely with her advisers, professors Kristen Shook Slack and Lonnie Berger, already has an impressive record of contributions to the field of child maltreatment prevention. Recognizing her potential to be a leader in the field, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, working with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, awarded Katie \$25,000 a year for two years to support her dissertation research looking at variation in child maltreatment practices and policies in counties in Wisconsin. Katie also joins six doctoral students from across the country participating in a two-year mentoring, networking and training initiative to nurture promising leaders and innovative approaches to child abuse prevention.

Doctoral Students Publish Research and Present at National Meetings

We are pleased that our PhD students continue to publish their research and present at national and international meetings. Space limitations allow us to present only examples of their work. One of the main venues for scholarly presentations is the annual meeting of the Society for Social Work Research held each January. The doctoral students who presented their work at SSWR include:

- **Rebekah Selekmán**

"Qualitative Inquiry in Low-Income Communities: Recent Findings from the Front-Lines" and "One Step Forward, Two Steps Back: Preserving Economic Success Among Welfare Leavers"

- **Jeong-Hee Ryu**

"Longitudinal Effects of Food Insecurity on Health Status among School-Aged Children"

- **Katie Maguire-Jack**

Presentation: "Spanking and Child Outcomes"

- **Yeongmin Kim**

"Work and Material Hardship of Low-Income Households"

- **Hong-Min Ahn**

"Longitudinal Patterns of Social Relationships across Adulthood"

- **Eunhee Joung**

"Father Repartnering and Involvement with Nonresident Children"



Social Work Students Do Polar Plunge for Special Olympics

First year MSW students Rebecca Lorentzen, Josh Davidson and Abi Nass raised more than \$1,000 for Special Olympics by jumping in the lake in February (no small feat during a Madison winter). They are planning a repeat performance next year and would love to have alumni join them. If you'd like to take part (or make a donation), contact Rebecca at rlorentzen@wisc.edu.

Left: Rebecca, (behind man with beard) Abi and Josh jump in the lake.



Bucky Badger helps students set up their display.



Campus students stop by to talk.

Social Work Students' Intimate Partner Violence Project Draws University-Wide Participation

"A young woman stopped, picked up some information and talked for a short time. A few minutes later, she returned crying saying she now realized what was happening in her relationship was 'wrong' and that she needed help."

Each year, students in our BSW and MSW programs take part in group "change agent" projects designed to develop practice skills at the individual, group and community levels and foster teamwork. When Field Director Sandy Kohn asked her seven field unit students to consider a project they wanted to pursue, they decided to focus on the very real problem of partner violence and the campus community. A substantial problem on many college campuses, studies suggest that 25 percent of college students report experiencing some type of partner violence in their relationships during their college years.

As they worked on the issue, the group decided that to be most effective and have the greatest impact they needed to encourage other campus groups to participate in this effort to combat IPV stigma while drawing substantial visibility to the

problem. After a great deal of networking and planning, students organized an Intimate Partner Violence Fair, which was held on Library Mall in the heart of campus.

Ideally, the "change agent" project allows students to see how their interventions can make a difference at the micro, mezzo and macro levels. The Interpersonal Violence project was a success on many levels.

Steph Mock, one of the students involved, explained "one man walked up to me and said that he stopped because we called our event an Intimate Partner Violence Fair, not a Domestic Violence Fair ... he said so often domestic violence is associated with opposite-sex relationships and that as a gay man he appreciated our using the IPV title."

Student Stephanie Jung's experience was profound: "A young woman stopped, picked up some information and talked

for a short time. A few minutes later, she returned crying saying she now realized what was happening in her relationship was 'wrong' and that she needed help." Stephanie and another student took her aside, talked with her and provided helpful campus and community resources.

In addition to the individual interventions described above, the project brought together a number of campus and community groups involved in similar efforts and TV coverage. The Rape Crisis Center brought there "clothesline project," colorful T-shirts, where IPV survivors had written short quotes about their experiences. TV coverage of the fair brought information and resources to the wider community. The IPV Fair is one of many School of Social Work classroom projects where the goals of student skill development and service to the community reinforce each other.

Protecting Children: The School of Social Work and the Institute for Research on Poverty Announce New Child Welfare Center

This April, the School of Social Work (SSW) and the Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) announced the formation of the Center on Child Welfare Policy and Practice (CCWPP) at UW-Madison. The center will promote child and family well-being through interdisciplinary research and enhanced collaboration and communication among researchers, policymakers and practitioners seeking best practices in preventing child maltreatment. It provides a home base for the SSW and IRP's long-standing efforts on behalf of vulnerable children and builds on IRP and SSW researchers' past collaborations, which,

during the past five years, were supported by almost \$5 million in child-well-being-related research grants from federal, state and private stakeholders.

Center co-directors Kristen Shook Slack, Social Work, and Jennifer Noyes, IRP, bring a wealth of expertise in child welfare research and administration. They explain that researchers at the center will identify what works in child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention and share that empirical evidence with individuals and groups vested in reducing the incidence of child maltreatment and improving the circumstances of children and

families served by child welfare systems.

The research of Slack is already in use in by local Child Protective Services workers and policymakers, who consult the Center's first publication, *Child Maltreatment Prevention: Toward an Evidence-Based Approach*. Another publication, *Child Maltreatment Prevention: Where We Stand and Directions for the Future*, written by IRP graduate research fellow and SSW doctoral candidate Katie Maguire-Jack and Cailin O'Connor, was published by the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund and the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families.

CCWPP to Work Closely with School's Child Welfare Training Program

The CCWPP will work closely with the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program, which provides financial support and training for BSW and MSW students who are committed to careers in public child welfare. More than 100 graduates of the program, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, are now providing public child welfare services throughout Wisconsin. It's particularly gratifying that early graduates of IV-E are now supervising current IV-E students. As Ellen Smith, assistant child welfare coordinator, explains, "It's great when we have our graduates as agency supervisors. They work hard to provide the learning experiences trainees need to hit the ground running when they accept jobs as public child welfare social workers." Pictured are former students — now supervisors — Emily Chybowski and Molly Filipek, with their students Camille Pehi and Sue DeBuhr.

See "Mr. Child Welfare," Emeritus Professor Alfred Kadushin, on YouTube

Emeritus Professor Alfred Kadushin will soon celebrate his 95th birthday. In 2009, Mel Morgenbesser interviewed Al as part of UW-Madison's Oral History Project. We've edited the longer interview into sections so you can hear Al talk about how he became interested in social work and child welfare, growing up during the Depression, as well as his reflections on the current state of social work education and practice. Just go to YouTube.com and search for Alfred Kadushin.



Emily Chybowski and Camille Pehi



Sue DeBuhr and Molly Filipek

Faculty's Research Reflects the Breadth and Depth of Social Work and Social Welfare

School of Social Work — University of Wisconsin-Madison

Recently Published Articles by School of Social Work Faculty

Our faculty are among the leading scholars in social work and social welfare research. Their work reflects the breadth, depth and complexity of the issues facing social work and social policy today. Below are a few examples and titles of their recent publications (some had non-School co-authors who are not listed here). These appeared in diverse social work and social science journals and as book chapters.



Lonnie Berger

"Young Disadvantaged Men as Fathers"

Aaron Brower

"Living-Learning Programs: One High-Impact Educational Practice We Now Know a Lot About"

Maria Cancian and Dan Meyer

"Promising Antipoverty Strategies for Families"

"The Evolution of Family Complexity from the Perspective of Children"

Maurice Gattis

"Psychosocial Problems Associated with Homelessness in Sexual Minority Youths"

Jan Greenberg and Marsha Mailick Seltzer

"Parenting Climate and Internalizing Symptoms in Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders"

"Divorce in Families of Children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder"

Anna Haley-Lock

"Waiting for the Minimum: U.S. State Wage Laws, Firm Strategy and Chain Restaurant Job Quality"

Betty Kramer

"Perceived Success in Addressing End-of-Life Care Needs of Low-Income Elders and Their Families: What's Family Conflict Got to Do with It?"

Sandy Magana

"Family and Community as Strengths for Latinos"

Katherine Magnuson

"Reducing Poverty through Early Childhood Interventions"

Tally Moses

"Adolescents' Perspectives about Brief Psychiatric Hospitalization: What Is helpful and What Is Not?"

Stephanie Robert

"Health Disparities among Older Adults: Life Course Influences and Policy Solutions"

Tracy Schroepfer

"Seeking to Bridge Two Cultures: The Wisconsin Hmong Cancer Experience"

Kristen Shook Slack

"The Impact of Health-Promoting Behaviors on Low-Income Children's Health"



Social Work library



“Rosemarie took the time to honor my questions both foolish and meaningful; she encouraged me to venture beyond my comfort zone; challenged my assumptions; and most of all did so with humor, charm and sincerity.”

— Rabbi Morris Allen
BA’76, MSSW’77

Forty-One Years of Teaching, Scholarship and Service: Rosemarie Carbino Retires

When then School Director Martin Loeb telephoned Rosemarie Carbino in late summer of 1970, he asked her to “bring a fresh breeze from the East” to teach a field unit in child welfare and developmental disabilities in rural Wisconsin. Rosemarie accepted the opportunity and challenge, assuming she might spend two years in the Midwest, move on to see more of America, and then return to the East Coast. Two years turned into 41 years and on May 1, former students, agency field supervisors, faculty, staff and friends celebrated Rosemarie’s contributions to social work and social work education at a wonderful party on campus. Notes, photos and letters are still being collected in a scrapbook and you can send yours to karnaky@wisc.edu.

Her scholarship has focused on family foster care, especially her pioneering academic and policy advocacy on improving how children and their foster families are treated when allegations of child neglect/abuse are made. She also served from 1994 to 1998 as an expert witness for plaintiff children in a ACLU Children’s Rights Project federal lawsuit, resolved by the state takeover of the Milwaukee County child welfare system. Throughout her career, Rosemarie has provided education, con-

Rosemarie’s career at UW-Madison, teaching our field unit in child welfare and classroom courses in foster and kinship care and in social work practice, was marked by an unwavering commitment to providing students a strong generalist orientation to social work, and to social justice.

sultation and support to state, national and international foster care organizations and programs. She served as guest editor for a 2006 special issue of *Families in Society* journal on family foster care around the world. This July, she was a plenary speaker at the International Foster Care Organization’s biannual conference in Canada.

Speakers at her celebration included former students Rabbi Morris Allen BA’76, MSSW’77, Linda McCarroll Stamm MSSW’86 and field supervisor Rachel Krinsky, MSW, executive director of the Road Home Dane County. All stressed how Rosemarie’s commitment to student learning, her willingness to provide both direct feedback and support, and her commitment to the profession had a strong effect on their own professional development. We wish Rosemarie the best in her retirement.



Professor Carbino’s current and former students join in the celebration.



Marion Usher MSSW'65 spoke with students during a visit to campus this spring.

Twists and Turns: From Community Organizer to Psychotherapist, a Journey Through My Social Work Career, 1965–Present

When the School invited Marion Usher MSSW'65 to visit campus this spring, we hoped she would share her enthusiasm for the social work profession with our students. We certainly weren't disappointed. At a special luncheon for a group of 25 BSW and first-year MSW students, Marion helped students see how one can combine creativity, passion and skill to create a personally and professionally meaningful career. As one student commented, "I think it was great to see someone that was so passionate about social work ... whenever I say to people I'm doing social work they automatically say that I won't make any money and I'll get burned out ... (Marion) uplifted my spirits and made me believe that I am making the right choice."

While on campus, Marion also met with faculty and offered a community workshop on Interfaith Marriage, an important part of her work during the past decade. A long-time supporter of the School, Marion has graciously agreed to host a get-together for School of Social Work alums living in the Washington, D.C. area this November. If you're interested in attending, please contact Mel Morgenbesser at mmorgenb@wisc.edu.

Class Notes

1950s

Mary (Scharnke) Hasty BS'59, MSSW'69 was one of the original UW-Madison students to sign the "Founding Petition" resulting in the development of the UW Honors Program, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Philip Holliman MSSW'58 worked for many years in the Juvenile Court System in Portland, Ore. He retired in 1980 and lives in Vancouver, Wash. Phil saw Jerry Majerus MSSW'53's name in last year's *Connections* and wanted to thank Jerry for giving him his first job at what was then Dane County Public Welfare Department.

1960s

Karen Tilley (Gilbertson) BA'66, MSSW'69 retired in October. She was the manager of the Clinical Social Work Department at the Children's Hospital in Aurora, Colo. where she worked for 25 years.

1970s



Joan Levy Zlotnik MSSW'75 is executive director of the Social Work Policy Institute, (www.socialworkpolicy.org), a think tank established within the NASW Foundation. She was formerly the executive director of the Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research.

Walt Goodrich MSSW'71 recently retired after 28 years as program director at the Kalamazoo Guidance Clinic. A lecturer at the School in the late 1970s, Walt supervises the Lance Armstrong Fitness Center at the Southwest Michigan Cancer Center.

Barbara Rudolph MSW'76, PhD'96 is senior scientific director at the the Leapfrog Group in Fitchburg, Wis., an organization of employers that buy health care and who are working to initiate breakthrough improvements in the safety, quality and affordability of health care for Americans.

Christine (Tina) Nye MSSW'75 was appointed a senior fellow in health care research at National Opinion Research Center (NORC). Tina has held a number of major health care positions including serving as director of Wisconsin's Medicaid Program and, most recently, as the coordinator of health technology for the state of Florida.

Jane M. Pettit MSSW'74 is an artist whose vision involves "recycling things that otherwise would end up in landfills, getting disparate parts to work together and enlivening everything with lots of color and texture." You can see Jane's work at <http://janepettit.com>.

Jim Sirianni BA'82, MSSW'83 is executive director of UBS Wealth Management in Madison. Jim recently received an award by UBS International for his leadership.

Julie Theismann MSSW'82 is now a social worker at the VA Hospital in St. Cloud, Minn. She was previously the clinical director at Lutheran Social Services in Iowa and Minnesota. Jean writes "I have a lot of great memories from going to UW and living in Madison."

1980s



Jean Quam PhD'81, was named dean of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota. Formerly director of their School of Social Work,

Jean recently served as a consultant on a nationwide study of gay and lesbian Baby Boomers supported by the American Society on Aging and MetLife Insurance.

Julie Theismann MSSW'82 is now a social worker at the VA Hospital in St. Cloud, Minn. She was previously the clinical director at Lutheran Social Services in Iowa and Minnesota. Jean writes "I have a lot of great memories from going to UW and living in Madison."

Cheryl DeMars BA'80, MSSW'84 is president and CEO of the Alliance, a not-for-profit health care cooperative owned by 160 employers and serving over 80,000 employees in 13 Wisconsin counties. She is leading her organization's efforts in addressing the challenges and opportunities as new federal health reform requirements are phased in.

Michael Daley PhD'83 was elected president of the Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors (BPD), serving a two-year term ending in January of 2012. Mike is currently the social work director for the University of South Alabama in Mobile.

1990s

Fabiola Hamdan BA'96, MSSW'97 received a Women of Distinction Award from the YWCA of Madison. Fabiola, a social worker with Dane County Human Services, has been "a driving force behind the creation of several organizations including La Sup, which brings together people working for and in the Latino Community."

Dale Decker MSSW'94 provides important leadership and advocacy on clinical social work issues for NASW Wisconsin's Clinical Social Work Network. He is a therapist at Moontree Counseling Center in Madison.

David Herszenon BS'98 went to medical school and earned his MD in 2004. David is now a physician at the South Bronx Health Center in New York City. He writes, "I am very proud to have been a social work major — it certainly made sense in light of what I am doing now. I do miss Madison, though, but I love New York."

Cassandra McKay-Jackson MSSW'91, received her PhD in curriculum and instruction in 2007. She's now an assistant professor at the Jane Addams School of Social Work, University of Illinois-Chicago.

Shannon Barry MSSW'99 was featured in the November 2010 *Madison Magazine*

as "The Ultimate Advocate." Shannon, executive director of Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) in Madison was featured in a news article that noted that she posts photos and obituaries of the people who've died from domestic violence above her desk to stay focused on her mission.

Mica Matsoff BA'98 was appointed director of communications for Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn.

2000s

Aaron Bishop MSW'00 has been named the executive director of the National Council on Disability, an independent federal agency advising the president, congress and other federal officials on disability policy and program issues.

Laurie Meulemans MSSW'02 and **Megan Jackson** MSSW'92 were featured in an article from Wisconsin's Department of Children and Families about their work.

Suzanne Sublette MSW'03 who teaches at Madison College was one of six community college faculty from across the country invited to attend the White House Summit on Community Colleges in Washington, D.C., last October.

Casey Schutte MSW'06 recently published an article, "Spurred by New Federal Law CA and Other States Help Improve Outcomes for Foster Youth," in the July-September *Youth Law News* from the National Center for Youth Law. Casey is pursuing joint law and public policy degrees at UC-Berkeley and the Harvard Kennedy School.

Shawn Cassiman MSW'04, PhD'08 and **Amanda Gengler** BA'01 MSW'03 recently led a panel discussion, Bridging Social Work and Sociology, at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Shawn is assistant professor in social work and sociology at the University of Dayton, and Amanda is completing her PhD in sociology at Brandeis.

Caitlin Artz BSW'09 is a medical social worker at Franciscan Skemp Hospital in La Crosse, Wis. Caite says she loves her work and in a few years she plans on returning for her MSW.

Katherine Bocanegra-Murphy BSW'08, MSW'09 is a social worker at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Brownsville, Texas.

Kara Kratowicz MSW'09, who is working at the Wisconsin's Department of Children and Families, received a Wisconsin Women in Government Scholarship to attend a six-week public policy graduate seminar.



Courtney and Linda Harris

Like Mother, Like Daughter

Linda Harris MSSW'77 was named administrator of the State of Wisconsin's Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, where she will oversee the state's community mental health and substance abuse programs. Linda has held several administrative positions in the Division during the past 34 years as well as being a social worker at the Mendota Mental Health Institute. Linda's daughter Courtney is currently a student in our MSW program. She is in our children, youth and families concentration and is "developing an interest in social policy and macro work, like my mom."

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 email to socialwork@uwalumni.com or to UW-Madison School of Social Work, 1350 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706, Attn: Alumni Relations and Development.



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Roberta Gassman BA'71, MSSW'72 Joins the Obama Administration

Roberta Gassman, has been appointed deputy assistant secretary of the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration in Washington, D.C. The ETA has almost 18,000 employees and is responsible for providing high-quality job training, employment, labor market information and income maintenance services. Roberta, former secretary of the State of Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development, received the School of Social Work's 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award and the

Roberta Gassman School of Social Work Opportunities Fund was established in her honor.



In Memoriam

Gregory Skibinski BA'75, PhD'89 was a professor of social work at Missouri State University. Greg co-authored *Family Health Social Work Practice: A Knowledge and Skills Casebook*, Haworth Press, 2003 (12/09).

James Witalison BA'77 retired in 2008 after 28 years as a Madison police officer. Jim was a sergeant in the Army during the Vietnam War (04/10).

Alice (Bailey) Oelhafen MSSW'62 formerly a social worker with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, was retired (5/10).

Vivian (Schwartz) Aronson BS'66 was a psychoanalyst in New York City, retiring in 2007 (6/10).

Jean Skinner BA'72, MSSW'73 had been a social worker for the State of Wisconsin (8/10).

Fred Rand MSSW'56 died in Madison. While most of his social work career was spent in the areas of probation and parole

and staff development, Fred was a clinical faculty member at the School in the early 1970s, teaching a field unit at Dane County Social Services (08/10)

Mort Perlmutter died in Sebastopol. Mort was a faculty member at the School beginning in the late 1960s. He was an early advocate of using video feedback for students and was responsible for securing a grant to develop a video studio for the School (08/10).

Elizabeth Erbe MSSW'50 worked for more than 40 years at UW Hospital. She was the first woman on the board of directors at St. Vincent DePaul's in Madison and was also a gifted painter and poet (09/10).

Kathy Loos Bell, a former doctoral student and an outstanding teacher, supervisor and clinician, worked with HIV/AIDS patients at UW Hospital and Clinics for more than 20 years (01/11).

Thurston Davini was the librarian at the School of Social Work's library from 1972–1985 (03/11).

Alumni-Owned Businesses: You Can Save While Supporting the School and Your Fellow Alums!

One of the benefits of a social work education is that it provides a strong base in interpersonal skills, problem-solving and creative thinking. So it's not surprising that some of our alums have taken this background and applied it to a career in business.

We're excited that three of our alums have partnered with the School to provide a discount for their fellow alums while also making a donation to the School for every purchase you make. Please check out these creative businesses.

Are you an alum who in business who would like to offer a discount to the School's 8,500 alumni? Please contact Mel Morgenbesser at mmorgenb@wisc.edu for more information.

"The most rewarding aspect of this journey was the realization that I am helping break down ageist and sexist stereotypes while creating dolls that provide comfort to older adults by tapping into their earliest musical memories."

— Carol Fenster MSSW'74

Co-Founder, Baby Abuelita Productions



Wisconsinmade.com

Offering a large array of gourmet foods and gifts hand-selected from Wisconsin artisans

Linda Remeschatis BA'83

Linda's work with Domestic Abuse Intervention Services and Volunteers in Probation paved the way for her decision to pursue social work and then a law degree. In 1999, Linda founded Wisconsinmade.com which showcases a wide variety of gourmet food, gift baskets, art gifts, Wisconsin photography and more from more than 250 Wisconsin artisans and small businesses. Linda and Wisconsinmade.com make it possible for these artisans to reach a larger audience for their products.

Discount: www.Wisconsinmade.com

Use the promotion code "ALUMS" when ordering for a 5% discount.



Baby Abuelita Productions

Specializing in products that foster learning while preserving the Hispanic Culture.

Carol Fenster, MSSW'74

During her 35-year career in social work in the Miami area, Carol has been instrumental in creating innovative programs and founding community-based organizations and small businesses that serve diverse communities. Carol is the co-founder of Baby Abuelita Productions whose products are now found in Target, Toys"R"Us and Walmart. In addition to their personal appeal, Baby Abuelita's products will be helpful if you work with Hispanic families.

Discount: www.babyabuelita.com

Use discount code "UWSW" when ordering for a 10% discount.



UJUZI
AFRICAN TRAVEL

Ujuzi African Travel

Organizing group and private wildlife, cultural and service tourism in East Africa

Anne Medeiros MSW'00

After graduating in 2000, Anne was employed as a lobbyist, consultant and project director with a focus on long-term care. When she was married in 2007, Anne's mother-in-law who lived in Uganda treated them to a safari and visits to family friends in East Africa. While Africa is most noted for its scenery and wildlife, Anne was also captivated by the people, culture and way of life. After her return home, Anne opened Ujuzi African Travel, which organizes wildlife, cultural and service tourism in East Africa.

Discount: www.ujuzitravel.com

5% discount on a scheduled group trip, 10% discount on a privately organized trip. For more information contact Anne at anne.medeiros@ujuzitravel.com.

DONOR REPORTS

Thanks to alumni and friends of the School, we are able to provide educational, research and special opportunities for students, which we would be unable to fund without that support. Below are examples of how donor funds were used this year.

"I just can't get over how wonderful the training was. Dr. Mays did an exceptional job presenting, discussing all of the disorders, as well as sharing proposed changes to the DSM (Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders)."

— Nina Borokhim, Student

Twenty Students Attend Professional Workshops

Your donations, and a creative partnership with UW-Madison's Division of Continuing Education, allowed 20 students to attend professional workshops in the areas of mental health, aging, child welfare and developmental disabilities. Interacting with professionals throughout Wisconsin, students later shared what they learned with their fellow students during their field unit seminars.

Following her attendance at a two-day Personality Disorders workshop held in Kohler, Wis., Nina Borokhim wrote "I just can't get over how wonderful the training was. Dr. Mays did an exceptional job presenting, discussing all of the disorders,

as well as sharing proposed changes to the DSM (Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders)."



Alumna's Vision: A Macro-Practice Lecture Series

After a long and distinguished career in social work, during which she stressed the importance of social workers being knowledgeable and involved in macro practice, an alum (who wishes to remain anonymous) wanted to offer a special learning opportunity for the School of Social Work. Thanks to her generous financial support and consultation, eight talented community organizers and social policy experts shared their expertise dur-

500 Attend Alumni-Supported Graduation Gala

Donations from our alumni and friends allowed the School to offer a wonderful graduation event for our students, their families and friends. More than 500 people attended the event held at the newly rebuilt Union South.



ing an eight-week macro-practice lecture series. Students, faculty and community members participated in the series, which focused on content and skill-training at the community and social policy level.

MSW student Melissa Mueller-Douglas, with help from assistant professor Anna Haley-Locke, took the lead in organizing and coordinating the series. After getting input from her fellow students about topics they would find most useful, Melissa did a wonderful job introducing the speakers and facilitating a lively discussion after each lecture.

Although all the presentations were stimulating, several stand out for their timeliness. Wisconsin Representative Tamara Grigsby; Vicky Selkove, staff for State Representative Cory Mason; and Eric Peterson, staff for State Senator Lena Taylor, made presentations during the period when thousands of people were protesting Gov. Walker's collective bargaining and budget proposals at the State Capitol. Emeritus Professor Norma Berkowitz's presentation on international social work occurred near the time of Japan's nuclear accident. Norma spoke about her work organizing community centers in the Ukraine, in the aftermath of the nuclear accident in Chernobyl.

In addition to the presentations above, the series also featured:

- Ya'qub Shabazz, from the UHURU Family Initiative
- Jill Jacklitz, executive director of Community GroundWorks
- Jacquelytn Boggess, Center for Family Policy and Practice
- Hal Baron, co-founder of EcoVita



Students attend the Macro Practice lecture series.



Rachel left celebrates with her host family

A Field Placement in Peru

MSW student (now graduate) Rachel Rakower spent the spring semester in Cajaraca, Peru working with DiscoverHope, a program that provides "micro loans" and education to women in poverty who are starting their own small businesses. Donor support helped us to assist Rachel with her travel expenses.

The Macro Practice Lecture series, which will continue next spring, is a wonderful example of how an alum with a vision created an outstanding learning opportunity for our students, faculty and the community. We are extremely grateful for her support.



Co-Sponsoring the 2010 Racial Justice Summit

In exchange for providing financial support and serving as a Community Collaborator for the YWCA of Dane County's 2010 Racial Justice Summit, 17 students were able to attend a

two-day conference, Transcending Color Blindness. In addition, eight students were invited to a special one-day pre-conference workshop by Dr. Joy DeGruy Leary, author *Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Enduring Legacy of Injury and Healing*. Special thanks to those who have contributed to the Mona Wasow Fund for Innovation in Field Education and the Roberta Gassman School of Social Work Opportunities Fund, which provided the funding.



Jane Piliavin presents the Irving Piliavin Scholarship award to Yiyoon Chung.

Scholarships and Awards Funded by Alumni and Friends of the School

We are fortunate that a number of our alumni and friends have provided support for student scholarships and awards. Many have endowed these scholarships, meaning that they will be awarded every year in perpetuity. Several are memorial scholarships, honoring an alum or faculty member who has passed away; others have been established by living alums who want to provide financial assistance to students. This year, two new scholarships were awarded for the first time, while others (listed on this page) continue to support students.



The Kathleen Oberbeck Van Gorden Scholarship was established by Kathleen's mother, Bernice Oberbeck, and her husband, Reed VanGorden, to honor her memory. Kathleen, a 1975 MSSW alum,

passed away in 2001. The scholarship supports students who exemplify the same passion, spirit and commitment to the field of child, youth and family services that Kathleen demonstrated throughout her career. MSW student Naomi Takahashi, who, upon graduation, plans on working with children and families dealing with crisis and trauma, was this year's recipient.



The Irving Piliavin Scholarship was established by Irv's family, friends and colleagues to honor his memory. Irv, a long-time faculty member of the School, passed away in 2009. PhD student Yiyoon Chung received the first Piliavin Scholarship recognizing her commitment, (like Irv's) to studying critical real life problems, and motivating positive change through the application of advanced statistical techniques and research methods.

We were especially pleased that Irv's wife, Jane, emeritus professor of sociology, was available to present the award to Yiyoon.

- Alumni and Friends of the School Scholarship — *James Pearson, Kia Xiong*
- Debra Beebe Scholarship — *Ana Winton, Naomi Takahashi*
- Katherine Prichard Benz Scholarship — *Brian Benford, Kia Xiong, Jael Currie*
- Helen I. Clarke Award — *Hattie Griggs, Angela Maher, Eric Schechter*
- Lila and Robert Dibble Scholarship — *Eric Schrechter*
- Richard L. Lockwood Memorial Award — *James Pearson*
- Arthur Miles Scholarship — *Caroline Gomez*
- Kathryn Becker Norman Scholarship — *Tamara Laskowski*
- Louise Palmer Shimpa Scholarship — *Ana Winton*
- Richard Schwert Award — *Danielle Barth, Leah Cjertson*
- Joseph and Elaine Wojtowicz Scholarship — *Jordan Mooney*
- Lillian Aked Yatvin Scholarship — *Katherine Bruni*



Special Giving Opportunities

Working with our partner, the University of Wisconsin Foundation, you can support the School of Social Work, maximize tax benefits and even generate more spendable income.

Examples of creative giving opportunities include:

- **Life Income Gifts**

In a time of low interest rates on traditional investments, life-income gifts such as gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts provide you with tax-free income and substantial income tax deductions now, while also supporting the School of Social Work.

- **Naming the School as a Beneficiary**

You can name the UW-Madison School of Social Work as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, retirement plan or in your will. You can even indicate a particular purpose for your gift in that designation.

- **Making Gifts of Appreciated Securities or Real Estate**

If you've owned stock or real estate for more than one year and it has appreciated in value, using these resources to make a gift can result in substantial tax benefits.

- **IRA Transfers**

In 2011, special legislation allows those 70 and a half and older to transfer funds from their IRA or similar retirement accounts to the School of Social Work without those funds being treated as a taxable distribution.

To discuss these and other options that can provide tax and other benefits to you and your family while also supporting the School of Social Work, please contact Jen Karlson at the UW Foundation. She can be reached at (608) 262-7225 or Jennifer.Karlson@supportuw.org. If you'd like to read more about these options, please see www.supportuw.org/gift-planning/.

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

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.)

☐ Please charge \$_____ to my credit card.

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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://socwork.wisc.edu/donate>.

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@supportuw.org or (608) 262-7225.

Thank you for supporting the School of Social Work.

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In Memoriam: Sheldon Rose

Leading social work researcher and popular teacher Sheldon Rose died on November 3, 2010, in Madison at age 82. Sheldon taught at the school for 30 years, from 1969 to 1999, and chaired our PhD program from 1983 to 1988. Many BSW and MSW alumni remember him fondly as their teacher in our direct practice courses including Interpersonal Skills and Interviewing, Group Work Practice and Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents. A dedicated, generous, and supportive mentor among doctoral students, Sheldon maintained close relationships with many of his former students until his death. He was the major professor for over 25 social work PhD students, many of whom have gone on to illustrious careers at major universities across the country.

Sheldon was internationally acclaimed for his research and scholarship in group work practice. He published 11 books, including *Working with Children and Adolescents in Groups* and *Group Therapy with Troubled Youth: A Cognitive-behavioral Interactive Approach*, as well as more than 75 peer-reviewed articles. A model of how to bridge the academic and practice community, Sheldon presented dozens of workshops, lectures and talks throughout the world, and developed training manuals to teach human service professionals how to apply his innovative and groundbreaking research on group work treatment to a wide range of childhood adolescent and adult problems.

A loving husband and father, Sheldon is survived by his wife of 39 years, Cindy, three children, Leah Rose, Wendy Hovel and Alisa Rose, and his grandchildren.

Sheldon's former students, family, friends and colleagues have established a memorial scholarship in his honor. Alumni who would like to contribute may send a check made out to the UWF-Sheldon Rose Scholarship, and mail to Alumni Relations and Development, School of Social Work, UW-Madison, 1350 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706. Or, make a gift online at www.socwork.wisc.edu/donate.

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