

VISIONS



WINTER 2013



Challenging Minds, Leading Change, Transforming Lives

School of Social Work

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Attention SSW alumni!

- Receive important information electronically! Visit www.alumni.wayne.edu and click on "Update Your Information."
- We want to know about your promotions, appointments, awards, honors and publications. Please drop a line to Julie Alter-Kay at ae8440@wayne.edu.
- Don't have alumni gear? Show your spirit wherever you go with items from our alumni store. Go to <http://socialwork.wayne.edu/alumni/store.php> and download an order form. And if you wear your gear on a roadtrip, snap a photo for us!



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As 2012 comes to an end and 2013 appears before us, full of potential and promise, it's natural to assess the past year, consider what we have attempted and what we have achieved, and make goals for the next 12 months. Perhaps we will start new projects; perhaps we will continue worthy tasks we've already begun. Regardless, there's something invigorating about the "clean slate" that the new year represents.

FROM THE DEAN

The School of Social Work has had a tremendous year. We have hired new faculty with diverse research expertise, strengthened our academic programs through revised concentrations and scholarship tracks, obtained grants to advance our contributions to the field, nurtured our relationships with our institutional partners throughout Southeast Michigan, ramped up our continuing education offerings, and bolstered our communications with the public and particularly with you, our cherished alumni. We have achieved a great deal, and we intend to continue this important work as we pursue our goal of becoming a premier school of social work.

As I think about the past year and look forward to the next, I see a common theme: collaboration. Interdisciplinary endeavors were a driving force behind our achievements in 2012, and they remain on our "to do" list for 2013. This collaborative spirit can be seen in the joint appointment of Carolyn Dayton, an expert in early parent-child relationships, as assistant professor in both the School of Social Work and Wayne State University Department of Clinical and Translational Science. It can also be seen in the research on teen intimate partner violence that two of our faculty, Poco Kernsmith and Joanne Smith-Darden, will pursue with an Eastern Michigan University faculty through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Our foster care contract with the Michigan Department of Human Services includes collaboration with offices and professionals across our campus to ensure Wayne State students, formerly in foster care, receive the support needed to have academic success. The interdisciplinary collaboration initiatives we have forged with the Michigan Area Health Education Center are described by our research center in this publication and serve as another great example.

Collaboration can be seen in the valuable expertise we are gaining from Delores Dungee-Anderson, our interim associate dean for academic affairs, who came from Virginia Commonwealth University. She brings a fresh set of eyes and new ideas to move the school forward. We've described these initiatives and many more in this issue of *Visions*, and I am sure you will agree with me that we are benefiting tremendously from the combined talents of diverse individuals and organizations.

Of course, one of our most important collaborations is the one we enjoy with our alumni. Our school endures because our supporters perceive the value of social work through the work that you do as practitioners. We are ever mindful of your role as ambassadors, and we are ever grateful.

Please enjoy this issue of *Visions*. I wish you all the best in the new year.

Cheryl E. Waites
Dean and Professor

NEW FACES

AT THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Alumni Association officer joins SSW staff as academic advisor

Sarah Barlow (M.S.W., '08), vice president of the School of Social Work Alumni Association board from 2009-2012, joined the SSW staff in May 2012 as academic advisor to the master of social work program. Barlow replaces Shantalea Johns, who is now the school's B.S.W. advisor.

Barlow provides academic advisement to M.S.W. students and those in graduate certificate programs. Other responsibilities include recruitment and retention activities, advisement on admission procedures and degree requirements, and assistance with developing student support services.

A licensed master of social worker, Barlow has worked as a facilitator, counselor and advocate for at-risk youth and families in a variety of settings, including schools, residential facilities, in-home and clinics. She worked from 2008-2010 as a counselor and then as a case planning services manager for Alternatives For Girls, a Detroit nonprofit helping high-risk and homeless girls and young women. Prior to earning her M.S.W., she was an education advocate for homeless youth at Gateway Community Services in Lansing, Mich.

At-risk youth and families have been the focus of Barlow's educational concentration and academic research. Of her staff position, Barlow says, "I am grateful to once again be a part of the School of Social Work and excited to serve our students and work with such wonderful faculty and staff."

Before joining the SSW staff, Barlow was a B.S.W. and M.S.W. mentor for the School of Social Work S.T.A.R.T. Program. She also served as trainings and technical assistance chair for the Michigan Network For Youth and Families' board and a community advisory board member for the University of Michigan Maternal and Child Health Training Program.



Brown to coordinate initiatives of Center for Social Work Research

Caitlin Brown in November became the manager of research support for the Center for Social Work Research after spending two years with the center as a student research assistant. Brown's new position was previously filled by Rachel Lathrop, who has accepted an appointment working with Poco

Kernsmith and Joanne Smith-Darden as project director for a CDC grant (see page 12).

As manager of research support, Brown will train and supervise research assistants and technicians, organize faculty projects and School of Social Work and center contracts, and maintain the center's website. She will also assist with faculty research and provide assessment and evaluation support to the school.

Brown, who earned her M.S.W. from Wayne State in 2012, hit the ground running in November, having performed many of these tasks since 2010.

"I learned so much working as a student research assistant for the Center for Social Work Research for the last two years and am honored to continue being part of the School of Social Work in this new position," Brown said.

While earning her M.S.W., Brown was a graduate student intern at the Inner Door Center in Royal Oak, Mich., and at Urban Neighborhood Initiatives in Detroit. She conducted client assessments and spearheaded a therapy group for anxiety and depression while at Inner Door; while at Urban Neighborhood Initiatives she helped develop youth bike and leadership programs and an English as a Second Language student goal assessment.



Expert on mental illness, substance abuse joins School of Social Work faculty

The faculty of the School of Social Work has been enriched with the addition of an expert in mental illness, particularly substance abuse and its impact on families.

In August, Suzanne Brown joined the faculty as an assistant professor after receiving her Ph.D. at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. While there, Brown was a NIDA-funded research fellow on a longitudinal study of the social networks of women in substance abuse treatment while conducting her own research on the parenting competence, parental bonding history and social networks of the mothers in the study. She has co-authored multiple book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles on a variety of topics.

Before obtaining her doctorate, Brown worked in community mental health settings for 15 years. She was clinical director for the May Institute, a behavioral health organization in Boston, for eight years, prior to which she was an outpatient clinician

focused on trauma, eating disorders, persistent mental illness and personality disorders.

Brown describes her clinical approach as “eclectic, utilizing methods from psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral, family systems and narrative perspectives.”

“The Wayne State School of Social Work is a great match for me,” Brown said. “This is a place where I feel encouraged to bring all of my research interests, teaching interests and clinical experience together in the service of scholarship and the social work profession.”



Early parenting expert joins WSU School of Social Work, Department of Clinical and Translational Science

An expert in early parent-child relationships has joined the faculty of the School of Social Work and Wayne State’s Department of Clinical and Translational

Science, bringing with her a wealth of experience in parenting and developmental psychology within populations exposed to violence and poverty.

In August, Carolyn Joy Dayton began a joint appointment as assistant professor in both the School of Social Work and Wayne State’s Department of Clinical and Translational Science, with support from the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute. Dayton’s joint appointment makes her a valued addition to the roster of active funded scientists working out of Wayne State’s new Multidisciplinary Biomedical Research Building.

Dayton completed her postdoctoral clinical fellowship at the University of Michigan Institute for Human Adjustment, where she provided psychosocial intervention services to adults, children and families. She subsequently pursued a postdoctoral research fellowship in the University of Michigan’s Department of Psychology, where she conducted research on an NIH-funded project examining the transition to siblinghood in families expecting their second child. Most recently, Dayton was appointed as a postdoctoral translational science fellow within the University of Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR), where she conducted work in the Department of Psychiatry examining the neurobiology of parenting in mothers exposed to psychosocial trauma using functional magnetic resonance imaging methodology.

“I am very excited to be joining the vibrant academic community here at Wayne State University,” Dayton said. “I look forward to collaborating with students, faculty and staff as I pursue my program of research examining risk and protective factors in parents and their young children who are struggling to overcome adversity within their families and communities.”

Dayton describes her program of research as “fundamentally translational and transdisciplinary. It is informed by clinical

work with high-risk families, and aims to identify biological and psychosocial targets of intervention that will prevent or effectively treat early signs of psychopathology in young children.”

Her clinical intervention experiences include work with overburdened families in a wide range of settings, including home-based, center-based and hospital programs.



School of Social Work faculty member to lecture, direct continuing education

Lauree Emery, formerly a part-time faculty member in the School of Social Work, has accepted a full-time position with the school as a lecturer and director of continuing education and professional development.

Emery, who received her M.S.W. from Wayne State in 2002, will oversee the development of classes and workshops for the school’s robust continuing education program, which since its launch in 2007 has been used by social workers to bring innovative skills, theories and research to their practice and to maintain licensure with the State of Michigan. Emery will also teach in the interpersonal practice track of the master’s program and lecture on existential humanism in the doctoral program.

“As lecturer in the School of Social Work, I have the opportunity to challenge and engage doctoral students by introducing existential humanism as a means to inform research and influence theoretical perspectives,” Emery said. “Additionally, my goals as director of the continuing education program are to develop high-quality online programs that meet the changing needs of our social work alumni and to provide professional development for social workers throughout the state.”

Emery has served the school in many capacities, including lead teacher for the human behavior in the social environment sequence, providing support and direction for curriculum compliance with social work Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS), and interim special assistant to the dean. She has a private counseling practice and has worked extensively with the Latino community specializing in psychoanalytic psychotherapy and music therapy. Her practice crosses international borders: She has engaged in outreach to orphans in Mexican garbage dumps for the past 30 years as a vital aspect of her social work experience.

Emery, who earned a J.D. and a Ph.D. in Spanish and music therapy from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, taught Spanish from 1990-2012 at University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods, where she served as chair of the Modern and Classical Languages Department.

continued on page 4

NEW FACES CONTINUED



Lloyd assumes oversight of personnel processes

Marnita Lloyd in December 2012 became the personnel clerk senior for the School of Social Work, a newly created position designed to centralize the personnel processes for the school.

Lloyd, who earned a bachelor's in business administration with a specialization in human resource management at Wayne State University, will be responsible for preparing and processing personnel paperwork to establish work assignments for select groups of School of Social Work employees and related duties.

"I'm excited to be in charge of ensuring that the employee hiring procedures are followed and processed in an efficient manner by university guidelines," said Lloyd.

Lloyd has been with Wayne State University for 16 years. She first worked for the Student Center and Program Activities Office (now the Dean of Students Office), then for the Student Records Department in the Registrar's Office. In 2004 she joined the School of Social Work as a student records clerk senior in the Office of Admissions and Student Services, in which position she processed and maintained records for M.S.W. program applicants and produced OASS admission reports for the B.S.W. and M.S.W. programs. In 2006, she became the Office of Field Education (OFE) secretary, providing administrative assistant support to the director and assistant director, training and supervising student assistants, processing B.S.W. and M.S.W. students' field placement information and maintaining the office database. She also provided Office of Field Education information and support to social work students, faculty, and staff.

"I have learned so much in the last eight years working for the School of Social Work, which has allowed me to mature professionally," Lloyd said. "I am ready to take the knowledge I have acquired at Wayne State on the job and in the classroom to make my transition to personnel clerk senior, and I couldn't be more honored and proud."



School of Social Work faculty gains gerontology expert

The School of Social Work is strengthening its gerontology teaching and research with the addition of a new faculty member with expertise in ethnology.

Assistant Professor Tam Perry, who recently earned a joint doctoral degree in social work and anthropology from the University of Michigan, focuses her research on long-term care issues and how seniors navigate the built environment, the social environment, and the processes of aging. Perry, who has extensive experience practicing as a social worker in Singapore, also specializes in international social work.

"I am pleased to join the School of Social Work faculty and I am excited about the plethora of research and teaching opportunities at Wayne State," Perry said. "I am pleased to research aging issues, my primary area of interest, in this urban context."

The metropolitan Detroit area presents an ideal context for Perry to examine housing transitions of older adults from a network perspective.

"Changes in health, mobility, and kin and peer networks alter how older adults contemplate their homes and their contents," said Perry. "Research on housing transitions is important because, while aging in place is often preferred and cost-effective, inevitably some older adults must relocate. This brings with it emotional and physical labor as well as challenges negotiating medical, financial and long-term care infrastructures."

Perry's research has been supported by the National Institute on Aging, the John A. Hartford Foundation and the University of Michigan.

E. Delores
Dungee-Anderson



E. Delores Dungee-Anderson, formerly the M.S.W. program director at the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Social Work, is serving as interim associate dean for academic affairs and visiting professor in the Wayne State University School of Social Work for the 2012-13 academic year. Her research is focused on dissociative correlates of childhood and adult trauma with emphasis on substance dependence, homelessness and personality disorders. Since 1985, Dungee-Anderson has taught at VCU and maintained an independent practice specializing in clinical hypnosis, personality disorders, and complex trauma such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), military PTSD and dissociative disorders.

Dungee-Anderson brings to the School of Social Work an excellent record of ongoing service and professional leadership at the national, regional and local levels of professional social work. Since 2006, she has provided a broad range of accreditation services for the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the nation's only accrediting agency for social work education. She is a member of the CSWE Commission on Accreditation, and was on the national steering committee that developed the CSWE social work practice competencies for advanced clinical practice. She is a member of the national task force that recently completed the development of trauma practice competencies in collaboration with the National Center for Social Work Trauma Education and Workforce Development, founded by Fordham University and Hunter College and sponsored by SAMHSA, and CSWE.

Accreditation, mental health expert is interim associate dean at School of Social Work

MEETING CHALLENGES

While at VCU, Dungee-Anderson was a University of Washington John Hartford Foundation Gerontology Grant-funded Mentor to social work programs in five states, supporting the infusion of gerontology content in social work curricula. She is now a CSWE Gerontology Education Consultant. Dungee-Anderson has held leadership roles with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work, and she was vice president of the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social (ABE).

Dungee-Anderson has been active in promoting standards and providing licensure training at national and local levels. She has written standards of clinical supervision for the state of Iowa. She is a credentialed trainer for NASW-Virginia and provides ongoing clinical licensure preparation training and clinical supervision training for licensure applicants.

Leaving VCU for the interim associate dean position at Wayne State represented a "life-changing decision" that Dungee-Anderson said captures a core task of social workers, which is to facilitate change. She said, "As a longtime social work practitioner and educator, I have consistently shared my own personal mantra with clients and students alike, which is, 'One cannot lead where one is unable to go.' I strongly believe that the consideration of substantial change in the interest of meeting challenges is always infused with the hope of making positive contributions in a new venue."

She praised WSU School of Social Work faculty and staff for a warm and generous reception. "Having had the wonderful opportunity to join the Wayne State School of Social Work has truly been for me nothing other than positive," said Dungee-Anderson.

"It is my hope to utilize much of the knowledge and experience I have gained over the years to 'give back' in contributions to the School of Social Work and to the university. I am both excited and humbled to be here!"

“Dinner with the Dean”

MIXES FUN AND FUNDRAISING

Students and alumni joined faculty, staff and supporters of the School of Social Work at the Detroit Yacht Club on June 21, 2012 for a strolling supper and silent auction hosted by the school’s Alumni Association. The evening’s main draw was the opportunity to dine and chat with newly appointed Dean Cheryl Waites, who had assumed leadership of the school on June 1. Guests listened to the music of Motown, munched on coney dogs and fajitas, and bid on an array of items that included Red Wings paraphernalia, theater tickets, spa services, and original art. Proceeds went to the Alumni Association’s endowed scholarships.



Dean’s luncheon fetes 2012 social work graduates



School of Social Work faculty and staff celebrated the Class of 2012 at a festive May 1, 2012 luncheon at the Roostertail on the Detroit River. Graduates of the B.S.W., M.S.W. and Ph.D. programs were honored for their hard work and perseverance in completing long hours of service and study and welcomed by their professors as colleagues to the field of social work.

School of Distinction

Our faculty and staff have received recognition this year for their contributions to research, teaching, training, policy, governance and leadership. We are proud to announce the following awards, appointments, and honors:

Jerrold Brandell was the featured presenter at the 2012 Fall Conference of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work...**Suzanne Brown, Cassandra Bowers, Janet Joiner, Joanne Smith-Darden, and Cheryl Waites** were presenters at the Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting in November...**Carolyn Dayton** presented a poster at the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology in October...**Carolyn Dayton** gave an invited talk on domestic violence in pregnancy to the faculty of the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute...**Carolyn Dayton** and **Julie Alter-Kay** were appointed to the Infant Mental Health Advisory Board at the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute...**Angelique Day** was invited to join the editorial board of Child Welfare by the publication's team at the Child Welfare League of America...**Angelique Day** was invited by Rep. Karen Bass (D-Calif.) and the Foster Care Alumni Association of America to present her research on foster care youth and education at the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth Tour in Saginaw, Mich...**Angelique Day** was invited by the Child Welfare Information Gateway to present research at the National Resource Center on Youth Development conference in June...**Angelique Day** was invited to present research at the Foster Family-based Treatment Association's 26th Annual Conference in July...**Angelique Day** was awarded an R 25 traineeship in January 2012 by the University of Washington in St. Louis, George Warren Brown School of Social Work...**Angelique Day** was appointed to two committees organized by the American Psychological Association's Section Foster Care and Mental Health

Task Force and Advocacy Work Group...**Antonio González-Prendes** was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor...**Antonio González-Prendes** was appointed by the Council on Social Work Education to the Council on Practice Methods and Specialization for a three-year term...**Antonio González-Prendes** was selected to participate in the National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work's Behavioral Health Disparities Infusion Project...**Antonio González-Prendes** was appointed by the Society for the Study of Social Problems as a member of its Nomination Committee and as member and chair-elect of the C. Wright Mills Award Committee...**Antonio González-Prendes** received the WSU 2012 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching...**Faith Hopp, Tam Perry, Richard Smith** and **Cheryl Waites** presented at the 65th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in San Diego...**Faith Hopp** was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor...**Faith Hopp** accepted an invitation to join the editorial board of The Gerontologist in January...**Janet Joiner** was an invited guest presenter at the Michigan Association of School Social Workers (MASSW) annual conference in October in Kalamazoo speaking on the topics of cyberbully prevention and responsible use of Technology...**Janet Joiner** in June presented a workshop at Marygrove College on responsible use of social media...**Janet Joiner** delivered multiple trainings and workshops in the area of cyberspace and cyberbully for the Michigan Association of School Social Workers, Madonna University, Marygrove College, NASW-MI Annual Conference, Washtenaw CC Division of Continuing Education, and a podcast for the School

of Social Work SUNY-Buffalo...**Fay Martin** was awarded the 2012 School of Social Work Teaching Award by student vote...**Neva Nahan** was reappointed by Hillary Ratner, WSU vice president for research, to the Behavioral (B3) Institutional Review Board as Vice-Chair...**Anwar Najor-Durack** accepted an invitation to be a consulting editor for the new online open-access journal, the Field Educator...**Debra Patterson** delivered the key note address, "Working Together: Using Multidisciplinary Approaches to Improve the Response to Rape Victims," at the International Conference on Survivors of Rape in Galway, Ireland, in November...**Tam Perry** accepted a guest editor position for Advances in Aging Research...**Richard Smith** was part of an eight-member delegation sent in July to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) by the Oakland, Calif.-based Ecocity Builders...**Richard Smith** was invited to become a consulting editor of Social Work, a journal of the National Association of Social Workers...**Richard Smith** has been invited to serve on data management committees at the Michigan Department of Human Services and Focus Hope, Inc...**Joanne Sobeck** received the WSU Alumni Association's Faculty Service Award for 2012...**Cheryl Waites** will participate in the Leadership Academy in Aging as part of the Fifth Cohort at the New York Academy of Medicine's Social Work Leadership Institute...**Cheryl Waites** was appointed by the Council on Social Work Education to the Commission on Educational Policy for a three-year term...**Phyllis Vroom** was named deputy president to Wayne State University President Alan Gilmour by the WSU Board of Governors.



Antisdel Apartments give hope to homeless

City leaders gathered on Oct. 24 on the Cass Community Social Services campus in Detroit to kick off the “gut rehab” of the Arthur Antisdel Apartment Building, a 34,500 square-foot building at 1584 Elmhurst that will provide permanent supportive housing for extremely low-income adults who are homeless. Named after “Art” Antisdel, a distinguished professor of social work at Wayne State, the renovated complex will furnish offices, meeting areas, public spaces, a recycling center and 41 one-bedroom units. Three of the apartments will accommodate visually and hearing impaired tenants, while the remaining 38 will be ADA-compliant. Antisdel, who retired in 1997 after 31 years of teaching, was a tireless champion of Detroit and longtime CCSS volunteer, serving on the board until his death in 2003.



Suzanne Antisdel, center, at the Oct. 24 dedication with Anwar Najor-Durack, left, and Margaret Madej.

Art Antisdel sits on the steps of Thompson House next to bags containing his social work books. Concerned about economic and social challenges in India, Antisdel shipped his library to a school of social work in Chennai upon his retirement.

Mel Raider retires after four decades of shaping social workers

Professor Melvyn Raider retired at the close of the 2011-2012 academic year after 42 years of service to the School of Social Work. The popular instructor enriched the school’s students through his expertise in children, adolescents and families, and the field of social work through numerous published books, journal articles, book chapters and research monographs. He also served as principle investigator of many research and training grants and contracts, funding for which exceeded four million dollars. His primary research interests included mental health and trauma in children and adolescents.

At an Aug. 17, 2012 retirement celebration in the Thompson Home’s first-floor parlor, Raider was feted by faculty, staff and students for his lasting impact. Alumni in particular spoke of his inspired teaching and influence on their careers. Among them were Antonio González-Prendes (M.S.W., ’93), WSU associate professor of social work. González-Prendes recalled admiring Raider’s teaching style as a master’s student.

“I was impressed by the way he related to students,” González-Prendes said. “He was friendly, well prepared and open. He was even-keeled; you never saw him rattled. He was a role model in the classroom, and I decided I wanted to be like Mel if I ever started teaching.”

Years later, when González-Prendes joined the WSU social work faculty and his former teacher became his colleague, Raider showed him the ropes.

“I came from a practice background, and I had no experience in academia,” González-Prendes said. “Mel was one of the faculty who helped me through the process, encouraging me to develop a common theme throughout my scholarship and impressing upon me the importance of saving time for research.”



From left to right: González-Prendes (M.S.W., ’93), William Steele (M.S.W., ’86), Raider, and Odeather Allen Hill (M.S.W., ’82)

THOMPSON HOME PARLOR

DEDICATED TO DEAN EMERITA PHYLLIS IVORY VROOM



President Allan Gilmour and Provost Ronald Brown came to Thompson Home on Sept. 20, 2012 to help dedicate the building's first-floor parlor to School of Social Work Dean Emerita Phyllis Ivory Vroom. At a 1 p.m. ceremony, Gilmour and Brown cut the festive green ribbon cordoning off the space along with Vroom, Dean Cheryl Waites, and Alice G. Thompson, president and CEO of Black Family Development, Inc. and chair of the School of Social Work Board of Visitors. The event was followed by a reception.

From left to right: Thompson, Brown, Gilmour, Waites, and Vroom.

Reception brings scholarship donors, recipients together

The School of Social Work on Oct. 18 honored donors who have contributed critical financial support to students through scholarships as well as the 2012-2013 recipients of those awards.

At a reception in the Wayne State University Student Center, donors and recipients met and mingled, sharing with one another their experiences with the School of Social Work. Donors explained their reasons for establishing awards, while recipients described their courses of studies and career plans.

Among the donors who offered remarks were Ivan Louis Cotman, a member of the school's Board of Visitors, and alumna Rochelle Gold. Cotman said his career has benefited immensely as a result of WSU social work education and the mentoring of his doctoral advisor, while Gold said her mother, a member of the school's first graduating class of 1935, discovered a purpose and direction for her life while studying at Wayne State.

Students also took the microphone. Tyeisha Carr, a B.S.W. student and recipient of the Maldo Ellen Talick Memorial Endowed Scholarship, said she aspires to be an advocate for underserved populations because of injustice she has seen in her community. Falisha Bentley, an M.S.W. student who received both a School of Social Work general fund scholarship and the Emmie S. Chestang Memorial Endowed Scholarship, said she plans to use her social work degree to open an agency for older adults.



Annie Louise Pitts Handy, right, with Sierra Brown, recipient of the Annie Louis Pitts Handy Endowed Scholarship.



Lecture Explores Impacts of Culture and Gender

On Anger

*Wayne State University
School of Social Work
Associate Professor Antonio
González-Prendes.*

Anger is a powerful and universal emotion that propels humans to embrace both justice and injustice, right conduct and misconduct, righteous action and bitter reaction. Because of this dual impact on the psyche, says Wayne State University School of Social Work Associate Professor Antonio González-Prendes, anger remains a widely misunderstood part of the human condition and an important area of clinical study.

A specialist in anger research among culturally diverse populations, González-Prendes on March 22 delivered the School of Social Work's Sixth Annual Dean's Diversity Lecture, entitled "Culture- and Gender-Sensitive Regulation of Anger." The talk examined how cultural norms and gender-role messages can sanction expressions of anger and presented various cultural- and gender-sensitive models that are available to assess and treat clients.

González-Prendes, who has been studying anger for two decades, described anger as a normal emotional response to mistreatment that should not be confused with hostility, which is an attitude, and aggression, which is a behavior. Anger can be expressed in a healthy manner by individuals who know how to regulate it, but among those who lose control of this expression, anger is a risk factor for violence and emotional and physical problems.

Research shows that men and women experience and express anger equally, but show their anger in different ways. While men are more apt to show anger through aggression, González-Prendes said, women are more likely to divert or internalize anger, which can create stress. Powerlessness is considered a significant source of anger in women, who experience this condition to a greater degree than men in many cultures.

Meanwhile, González-Prendes noted, the meaning of mental health – and by extension the definition of appropriate expressions of anger – “is subject to many interpretations rooted in value judgments that may vary across cultures.” Cultural dimensions that can impact the expression of anger within a people include oppression, discrimination, and socioeconomic and political realities. Expressions of anger may be more acceptable in highly individualistic cultures, González-Prendes pointed out, than in cultures that are collectivist. Cultural competence is critical in social work practice, he noted, because “if you don't understand a culture, you run the risk of pathologizing behaviors that are cultural.”

González-Prendes, discussed a number of culturally sensitive approaches for the assessment of anger problems. He also presented a number of culture- and gender-sensitive approaches to anger treatment, including a three-phase cognitive-behavioral model that he developed with WSU School of Social Work Assistant Professor, Clinical Shirley Thomas. Finally, he highlighted important implications for the treatment of anger in women and men. Social workers treating women should watch for anger diversion, particularly to pathologies such as eating disorders, substance abuse and self-harm. They should also be aware of the dynamics of powerlessness and helplessness and help women to develop skills for healthy expression of anger. Social workers treating men should help them identify and give voice to emotions of “vulnerability” that may mask anger, such as fear, sadness and disappointment. They should also help men understand the maladaptive role of anger, develop empathy, and learn to be assertive but not aggressive when communicating anger.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK RECEIVES DHS CONTRACT TO HELP FOSTER YOUTH THRIVE IN COLLEGE

The Wayne State University School of Social Work has received a three-year, \$340,197 contract from the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide youth transitioning out of foster care with the educational, material and social resources they need to thrive as WSU students.

Children who exit the foster care system at the age of 18 or older tend to lack independent living skills and have a diminished secondary education as a result of frequent relocation. These setbacks, coupled with unstable living arrangements and emotional trauma, make children aging out of foster care far less likely to enroll in and graduate from college than youth in the general population. This award will help the School of Social Work spearhead a WSU Foster Youth Access and Retention Program to give 25 undergraduate-enrolled foster youth at Wayne State reliable housing and transportation, a social support system, physical and mental health services, financial aid, life skills, mentoring, and training for post-university employment.

The program will train liaisons, dubbed “foster youth champions,” within Wayne State’s offices of Student Financial Aid, Counseling and Psychological Services, Career Services, and Housing and Residential Life; the Campus Health Center; and other relevant university offices. It will also employ a full-time living skills/campus coach who will develop a customized service plan for each student based on the student’s strengths and goals, assist program youth in all areas of life skills, identify mentors for program participants, and provide crisis and other counseling. The program will be supported by a number of community partners, including Childhelp of Greater Detroit, which will assist with mentoring; Farmington Hills-based GreenPath Debt Solutions, which will provide financial literacy education; and the Southfield-based Park West Foundation, which will provide advisory support and program sustainability.

Program leads include Angelique Day, Ph.D., assistant professor of social work, and Janet Joiner, Ph.D., assistant dean of admissions and student affairs in the School of Social Work. Day has conducted extensive research on college-going foster youth, and she developed one of the state’s first foster care and higher education initiatives at Michigan State University in 2008. Day is also credited with developing the foster youth mentoring curriculum used by several Michigan colleges and universities. She said the program will advance knowledge by transcending research in the fields of higher education and child welfare in order to better understand the critical components necessary to ensure that foster care youth can graduate from college at the same rate as their peers.

“Wayne County provides child welfare services to nearly half of all foster care youth in the state,” Day said. “We have a duty here at Wayne State to ensure that these young people have the option to attend college with support.”

Foster youth campus coach leads by experience



Kristiana Pfeiffer, left, and Brittany Dandridge, center, are students in the WSU Foster Youth Access and Retention Program. Danita Echols is at right.

Danita Echols (M.S.W., '98) describes the emancipation of foster youth as “throwing an 18-year-old into the ocean without benefit of swimming lessons or a life raft. Getting safely back to shore becomes more about luck than ability.” Echols knows what she’s talking about. Having spent her youth passing from the custody of family members to the state and back again, she was emancipated at 18 to find herself set adrift, without the social services support systems she had always relied on or the skills to live independently. Angry and shiftless, Echols spent years moving about and dabbling in college until she discovered her unwavering vocation: to empower transitioning foster youth through social work.

For nearly two decades, Echols has worked to give youth transitioning out of foster care the skills needed to hold down a job, a home, and healthy relationships. She brings a unique understanding and dedication to transitioning foster youth – what she terms the “degree of caring” – as a result of spending her youth beset by poverty, neglect, physical abuse, emotional abuse and domestic violence. Her experiences with the system have led her to challenge existing child welfare policy as “cookie cutter,” leaving “little room for individual circumstances, human error or personal frailties.” She espouses policies that help foster youth form permanent bonds through stable placements in her discussions with the Michigan legislature, community panels, faith-based groups and foster care organizations.

CDC FUNDS WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH TO UNDERSTAND AND PREVENT TEEN DATING VIOLENCE



Poco Kernsmith



Joanne Smith-Darden

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded Wayne State University's School of Social Work a three-year, \$1,049,223 grant for researching the factors that facilitate and discourage intimate partner violence (IPV) perpetration among middle school and high school youth.

Led by Wayne State's Poco Kernsmith, associate professor of social work, and Joanne Smith-Darden, assistant professor, research, in collaboration with Roger Kernsmith, professor of sociology, anthropology and criminology at Eastern Michigan University, the study will follow two cohorts of students from Detroit metropolitan area middle schools and high schools. Participating students will be surveyed in each of three years, starting with their sixth and tenth grade of school, respectively. Researchers will explore modifiable risk and protective factors — including the complex interrelationships of individual, relational, school, community and societal processes — that lead to healthy and as well as violent behaviors, such as stalking and physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Research has shown that between nine and 30 percent of high school students experience IPV. The three-year research project is innovative in several ways. First, it will examine IPV through a “gender-sensitive” lens that is largely absent from similar studies on IPV, and which considers differences in the context and precursors to IPV perpetration by males and females. Next, the study is responsive to the changing nature of relationships, in which lines between friendships, dating and committed relationships are blurred. Finally, given reports that one in four teens has been the victim of technologically facilitated abuse, the research will consider how technology and social media provide both opportunities and challenges for the development of healthy relationships.

The study should help inform IPV prevention and intervention protocols as well as school policies. Youth are forming attitudes and developing behaviors that they will carry into adulthood. By learning about the supports in the family, school and community that reduce the risk for violent and abusive behaviors at a young age, social workers can prevent violence across the life span.

SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS GAIN INSIGHT INTO SENIORS' UNIQUE NEEDS THROUGH HOME VISIT PROGRAM

Wayne State University in June announced it had received a \$124,000 grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations to support the Interdisciplinary Older Adult Home Visit Program. The program educates Wayne State medical, pharmacy and social work students about the unique psychosocial and health needs of older adults. During team visits to adults 65 and older medical students use assessment tools to evaluate seniors' nutrition and/or functional and cognitive abilities, pharmacy students address medication use and management, and social work students discuss and evaluate social networks.

"Our students learn best when they have real, hands-on training and can apply theory to practice. This program fits perfectly with that objective," said Cheryl Waites, dean of the WSU School of Social Work and an interdisciplinary participating faculty member in the program.

Now in its second year, the Older Adult Home Visit Program annually serves about 500 seniors, who receive guidance on nutrition, reducing falls and developing a daily medication regimen. By implementing a few small changes, older adults can increase the likelihood that they can stay safe at home on their own.

Steve Schere, a first-year M.S.W. student in the School of Social Work, took part in an interdisciplinary visit as an assignment for his social work practice course.

"It was really interesting, especially getting insight into the programs of the students," said Schere, who created a social network map for a woman in her nineties. "From experience, I know it's really important to work with other professionals, as a team approach is really beneficial to the client. You get so much experience and knowledge from every member."

Enhanced master's and Ph.D. programs

The School of Social Work has strengthened and expanded its M.S.W. and Ph.D. programs to prepare graduates for important careers in clinical practice and community leadership.

Master's students pursuing careers in local, national and international communities will benefit from a revised concentration called Innovation in Community, Policy and Leadership (I-CPL), which has an urban focus and prepares students to impact sustainable change through one of three career platforms: community change, organizational change, and social policy. Ten new courses have been added to the M.S.W. program to support the revised concentration, which will feature integrated learning labs, online or hybrid curricular formats, and field placements tailored to the individual career platforms. Compared to the previous concentration, Community Practice and Social Action, I-CPL features fewer required courses and more electives, which will create more opportunities for certificate and matriculated joint programs.

The Leadership Platform is for students pursuing careers in nonprofit administration or as leaders of advocacy organizations or social work member associations. The Social Policy Platform, will prepare students for careers as policy advocates or analysts. Finally, The Community Building/Development Platform will offer two focus areas. The international focus area will train students for careers in immigration and human rights, international development, and economic and social development. The broad-based community perspective area will prepare students for work in community development corporations, community organizing, and work with community coalitions and place-based initiatives.

Meanwhile, the Ph.D. program has added a clinical scholarship track to prepare graduates for careers in clinical social work teaching, scholarship and research and for leadership positions in the greater clinical social work community. While doctoral students in the track will still take courses in research methods and statistics and complete a dissertation, they will also take a course in advanced clinical theory and a two-course sequence in applied clinical practice. Students with fewer than five years of postgraduate practice experience will take a doctoral-level clinical practicum.

The Center for Social Work Research

assists MI-AHEC with community engagement

Created by Congress in 1971, Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) were established as a national strategy to address workforce needs relative to the supply, distribution, retention, and quality of primary care health practitioners in medically underserved areas. The Michigan Area Health Education Center (MI-AHEC) was established in 2010 by Wayne State University through a federal grant to improve access to primary care for all Michigan residents. MI-AHEC is a program of the Wayne State University School of Medicine and College of Nursing in partnership with the Wayne State University School of Social Work, the Wayne State University Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. Sponsored by the Wayne State University College of Nursing and the School of Medicine, MI-AHEC is governed by a state advisory board as well as an executive advisory board on which serves Cheryl E. Waites, dean of the WSU School of Social Work.

MI-AHEC's mission is to connect students K-16 to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health through health career recruitment, training of health professional students, support of health professionals, and health and community development. To accomplish this, the implementation plan calls for the creation of five regional AHEC centers across the state. In 2011, the first regional center was established in Southeast Michigan and housed in the Detroit Wayne County Health Authority. Called the Southeast Regional Center (SERC), it comprises Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne counties.

The Center for Social Work Research and the School of Social Work are collaborating with MI-AHEC to determine community-specific capacity relative to recruiting, training, and supporting K-16 students who are interested in pursuing health careers. At the first regional center rollout, Joanne Smith-Darden, research faculty and center representative, and Jamie Mitchell, assistant professor of the School of Social Work, facilitated a series of five community engagement events throughout Southeast Michigan in partnership with SERC to determine whether proposed activities are programmatically relevant to the needs of the nine counties being served.

With their staff, Smith-Darden and Mitchell solicited attendance from a diverse pool of participants that included health and mental health professionals, educators, parents, providers of clinical and vocational health training, and youth-serving organizations. An open-space methodology was employed to assess efforts toward, and readiness for, each community to provide health career programming for youth.

The following recurrent themes emerged over the course of the five events:

Lesson 1: The MI-AHEC engagement team must assess the readiness of communities prior to community engagement. The MI-AHEC engagement team should work on building relationships prior to repeating the community engagement process with other regional centers and should build and promote the MI-AHEC brand.

Lesson 2: The MI-AHEC team should create county-specific resource guides with opportunities for networking, mentoring, and shadowing, while highlighting and promoting best practices being utilized by AHECs nationally. The MI-AHEC team also should provide career-specific information and resources in coordination with and independently of schools and technical centers.

Lesson 3: With the knowledge that health care facilities may lack funding and/or staff to implement training programs for students, MI-AHEC could provide informational and material support to health providers, schools, and students to promote strategies that can be tailored to each regional center and its resources. Through regional centers, MI-AHEC could also partner with schools to develop a health careers curriculum and incentivize its use.

Lesson 4: MI-AHEC should provide programs that link academic subjects to health care competencies, and these programs should provide opportunities for health and mental health career speed dating, clinical tours, career days, competitions and social media. Programs could also serve as early career roadmaps to help students align interests with health fields.

Lesson 5: Professionalism and customer service training is needed for high school students in health internships, as is mentoring on unspoken social norms, conflict resolution in the workplace, and negotiating relationships with clients, co-workers and authority figures. This training could be achieved through creative hands-on training using scenarios, role playing, and critical thinking. MI-AHEC should strive to draw connections for students between academic skills (math and science), social skills (role playing and interviewing techniques) and health professional competencies, such as providing patient-centered care, working in interdisciplinary teams, employing evidence-based practice, and identifying errors in care consistent with quality improvement.

Lesson 6: MI-AHEC and its regional centers need to develop creative strategies to engage students directly and work to increase parental involvement as a strategy for supporting students. Moreover, additional work is needed to increase conversance with the mission and role of MI-AHEC throughout the state of Michigan, as several stakeholders in each county were unacquainted with MI-AHEC and even AHEC. This lack of familiarity posed a significant barrier to attracting attendees to the community events.

Moving forward

Through the community engagement process it became clear that members of the community enjoyed emphasizing the best practices currently being implemented in their organizations, schools and agencies. Each community wanted to be recognized for their track record of success in working with students' health career needs prior to discussing MI-AHEC interventions.

Smith-Darden and Mitchell proposed final recommendations to MI-AHEC as it moves forward in the rollout of regional centers throughout the state. These recommendations include prioritizing relationship-building prior to community engagement; building and promoting the MI-AHEC brand; conducting in-person meetings with school counselors, administrators, and a sample of students and parents to assess current practices and resources; and stepping into the role of "bridge builder" to address the perceived lack of collaboration in each county. They also recommended developing, marketing, and continually circulating health workforce resources for schools, providers, parents and students; publishing a monthly program calendar in each county; targeting parents and families for alliance-building and information; and creating developmentally appropriate, interactive programming beginning in middle school to draw-in interested students early.

Based on the findings from the five meetings, MI-AHEC and the public relations committee are developing a statewide and regional center plan for AHEC awareness and branding to help the communities better understand AHEC and its impact. Smith-Darden and the center will remain involved on a consultation basis to the four additional MI-AHEC regional centers that are scheduled to roll out, one per year for the four years remaining on the grant.



School of Social Work
Challenging Minds, Leading Change, Transforming Lives

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Brehler winner explores anguish of battling child sexual abuse



Mickey Sperlich and Richard Brehler

Mickey Sperlich recalls with painful clarity the first time she saw a child betrayed by “the system.” Her name was “Emily,” she was nine, and after years of familial mistreatment she had mustered all her courage to testify in court against the grandfather who had sexually abused her. An M.S.W. student at Wayne State University who had worked on Emily’s case through a field placement, Sperlich had comforted and encouraged Emily in court, telling her everything would be fine if she told the truth. But in the end, Emily was no match for her grandfather’s attorney, who tripped her up on details, discredited her, and helped free her assailant. Sperlich was stung by the injustice; it seemed as though Emily had been set up to fail.

The helplessness Sperlich felt inspired her to write “Asking Why: Confronting Childhood Sexual Abuse,” the winning submission in the 2012 Elizabeth N. Brehler manuscript competition. The competition, held annually by the WSU School of Social Work, bestows a \$3,000 scholarship on the student who best describes the way his or her personal and professional values conflict with the obligations of social work practice.

Sperlich, who completed her M.S.W. in May and is undertaking doctoral studies in social work at Wayne, examined in her manuscript the multiple systems in place to detect and protect children from abuse and argued that more must be done to prevent child abuse rather than merely respond to it. She also looked at the critical role social workers can play in restructuring the child protection system to create a “preventative culture.”

At an April 25 scholarship recognition ceremony in the parlor of Thompson Home, Jerrold Brandell, distinguished professor of social work, called Sperlich’s winning submission “the embodiment of what is most essential in a successful Brehler manuscript. It offers a powerful and moving narrative of the author’s struggle with an important ethical dilemma, speaking not only to the personal and clinical, but also the social welfare policy implications of this issue.”

After obtaining her Ph.D., Sperlich plans to conduct research on counseling sexual abuse survivors, particularly those who want to start families.

DECADES OF INTROSPECTION:

THE BREHLER SCHOLARSHIP TURNS 20

It’s been 20 years since Richard Brehler established a manuscript competition to honor the memory of his wife, Elizabeth, who passed away from cancer while earning a social work degree at Wayne State University. During those two decades, the competition has spurred scores of social work students to reflect on how their personal and professional values complicate their practice.

The Elizabeth N. Brehler Scholarship is an enduring memorial that, through its formation of young social workers, benefits the countless individuals they will go on to serve during their careers. But it is also unique, notes Brehler, in that it honors the role of adversity and uncertainty in professional growth. Elizabeth, he recalls, came to the School of Social Work in part to better understand and respond to the frustration she experienced when those she tried to help rejected her aid. Unlike many scholarships, which ask applicants to extol their strengths, the Brehler competition compels students to take an unvarnished look at their biases, with the understanding that bias is normal and inevitable and that awareness of it makes for wise social work practitioners.

Brehler credits the first Brehler winner, Mark Lee, for inspiring the competition’s unique focus. Initially, the scholarship had no statement of purpose, he notes, but after reading Lee’s 1992 manuscript about the ambivalence he felt serving HIV-infected substances abusers who resented his help, the selection committee found its “hook.” Over the ensuing years, the competition has yielded fascinating accounts of students’ struggles to reconcile personal values with professional obligations. The 2009 winner, for example, wrote of the anguish she experienced as a feminist assigned to work with mothers of sex offenders.

The award is now being stewarded by Pippin, Fletcher and Quentin, Brehler’s three sons by Elizabeth.

“From the outset we’ve tried to evolve this scholarship to have it outlive its donors,” Brehler said. “I’m tickled to death by the body of scholarship it’s created, and by its wholehearted adoption by faculty and administration.”

The winning manuscripts from 1992 through 2012 can be found at <http://socialwork.wayne.edu/brehler-winners.php>.



The presentation of the first Brehler Award.

Cyberbullying

EXPERT SAYS VALIDATING YOUTH EXPERIENCES IS CRITICAL TO HEALING

Parents' failure to validate their children's concerns about being cyberbullied can cause more emotional damage than the bullying itself, an international expert told a Wayne State audience this fall, stressing that interventions must stem the problem without demonizing the participants or the technology.

Telling children to "ignore" cyberbullying or simply "turn the computer off" can cause them to mistrust their feelings, believe they deserve to be bullied, and withdraw from their parents, said Faye Mishna, dean and professor at the University of Toronto Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, during a Nov. 15 appearance at the WSU Community Arts Auditorium. Mishna, who delivered the School of Social Work's 25th Annual Edith Harris Endowed Memorial Lecture, said "lack of adequate attunement and responsiveness to a child's reactions may make the pain [of bullying] unendurable."

"Being believed is absolutely critical," said Mishna, who has worked in children's mental health for two decades and recently published the book *Bullying: A Guide to Research, Intervention, and Prevention*. "Not validating the child can have significant effects that are more serious than the original bullying."

Research indicates that the majority of young people's online interactions are positive or neutral, Mishna said. Moreover, cyberinteraction has proven benefits among this population, serving to diminish social isolation, promote identity exploration, and furnish support systems for youth struggling with disabilities, chronic illness, or anxiety concerning their sexual orientation. But when negative cyberinteractions do occur, they can have devastating consequences, placing youth at risk of sexual solicitation, exposure to violent and pornographic images, predation by populations with low self-esteem who advocate exploitive behaviors, and – of course – bullying.

Whether or not cyberbullying is traumatic for targets depends on a number of factors, Mishna said, including frequency, severity, the nature of the bullying, and whether or not the target is aware of being victimized. Traumatization can cause victims to experience depression, avoid school or perform poorly in academics, use drugs, carry weapons, and experience a host of social difficulties. Perpetrators are also damaged by



Faye Mishna

the behavior, being at higher risk for aggression or violent behavior, and witnesses can be traumatized by feelings of fear, guilt, and even power. Consequently, said Mishna, it's important that interventions be educational, not punitive.

While removing technology from children who have been cyberbullied is not a solution, Mishna urged parents to actively monitor cyberactivity, block sources of harmful content, and establish ground rules for digital communication. Empathy is critical, she added, saying that parents should validate their children's concerns before addressing poor online practices.

"First, help them to feel better about themselves, then teach them better behaviors," she said.

Jerrold Brandell, a distinguished professor of social work at Wayne State who has previously presented at several national conferences with Mishna, most recently on the topic as infusing psychodynamic content into the graduate social work curriculum, called cyberbullying "one of the most germane issues for anyone who teaches or practices social work."

"Cyberbullying is a salient mental health issue that is now being confronted in an array of clinical venues, including school counseling offices, family service and community mental health agencies, and private practice," Brandell said. "But legislators and policymakers are also beginning to address this form of violence. Consequently, knowing how to identify, address, and prevent cyberbullying becomes critical at both the micro and the macro levels of social work practice."

Edith Harris was a graduate student in the School of Social Work from 1966 to 1968. Her memory is honored annually by the presentation of the Edith Harris Memorial Endowed lecture, featuring a prominent speaker and expert on the mental health of individuals and families. This yearly event is made possible through the generous support of the Harris Foundation.

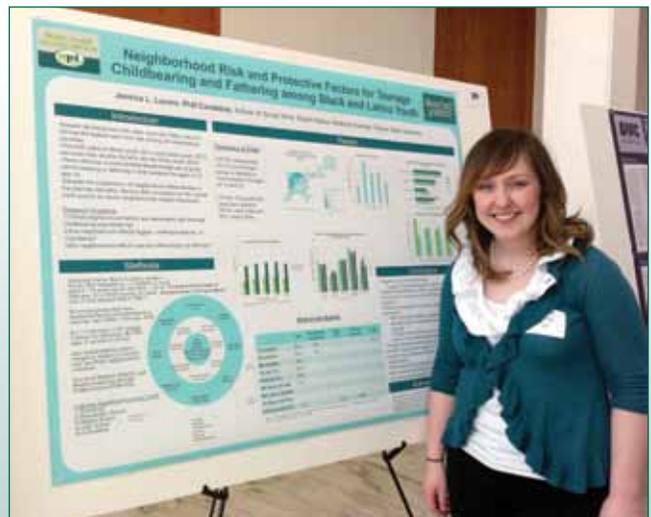
Student Honors



Danielle Hall was awarded the 2012 National Association of Social Workers-Southeast Michigan Student Social Worker of the Year Award.

Cassandra Barragan (Ph.D. program) in November presented at the Gerontological Society of America's 65th Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego...**Jessica Camp** (Ph.D. program) with advisor Eileen Trzcinski in March took third place in the Graduate Exhibition with her presentation, entitled "Differences and Trends in Income and Welfare Receipt: Working Age Individuals with Mental and Physical Disabilities in the United States from 1993 to 2007." Camp and Trzcinski spent two years examining the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation to identify differences in poverty, personal income, family income, and welfare receipt for individuals with disabilities by race and gender...**Thomas Crepeau** (M.S.W., '12) was awarded the 2012 National Association of Social Workers-Southeast Michigan Student Social Worker of the Year Award (M.S.W. category)...**Larmender Davis** (M.S.W., '94) received the "Spirit of Detroit" award from Detroit City Council in recognition for her service to bring awareness to domestic violence awareness and prevention...**Danielle Hall** (B.S.W., '12) was awarded the 2012 National Association of Social Workers-Southeast Michigan Student Social Worker of the Year Award (B.S.W. category)...**Partick Hannah** (B.S.W., '12) received the 2012 University of Michigan Student Mental Health Advocate Award for raising awareness of veteran mental health on Wayne State's campus.....**Bianca Henderson** (M.S.W. program) received the "Spirit of Detroit" award from

Detroit City Council in recognition for her service to bring awareness to domestic violence awareness and prevention...**Kalimah Johnson** (M.S.W., '97) received the "Spirit of Detroit" award from Detroit City Council in recognition for her service to bring awareness to domestic violence awareness and prevention...**Hillary Lesniak** (M.S.W., '12) was awarded a one-year post-M.S.W. fellowship at Yale Child Study Center, where she sees clients in the Outpatient Clinic and participates in educational trainings and meetings...**Jessica Lucero** (Ph.D., '12) in March took third place in the WSU Graduate Exhibition. Lucero, whose advisor was Arlene Weisz, presented a portion of her dissertation research, "Neighborhood Risk and Protective Factors for Teenage Childbearing and Fathering," which examined the neighborhood contexts associated with teenage childbearing and fathering among Black and Latino youth in Denver...**Jessica Lucero** (Ph. D., '12) will receive an honorable mention for the 2013 Society for Social Work and Research Outstanding Social Work Doctoral Dissertation Award...**Chrissie Marsack** (Ph.D. program) in November presented at the Gerontological Society of America's 65th Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego...**Peter Vaughan** (M.S.W., '66) received the National Association of Social Workers Knee/Wittman Lifetime Achievement Award...**Peter Vaughan** (M.S.W., '66) was honored with the National Association of Social Workers' "Leader of the Profession" award, given by the NASW's New York chapter.



Jessica Lucero took third place in the WSU Graduate Exhibition.

Alumna's tour business highlights the promise of Detroit



Linda Yellin (B.S.W., '82; M.S.W., '83) knows that seeing is believing. So when she wants people to believe in Detroit, she shows them Detroit.

Yellin's outside-the-box contribution to the city's revitalization is Feet On The

Street Tours, the business she launched in 2007 to showcase the food, art, architecture, history, music and neighborhoods of Detroit by bus, car and foot. The company's mission is to promote a positive image of the city and the region through cultural tourism and social issues. Tours not only introduce visitors to the city, notes Yellin, but they bridge the gap between the city and suburbs and re-acquaint residents of the region with the cultural, social and economic resources in their own backyard.

Yellin's abilities as a promoter are evident in her success generating publicity about Feet On The Street Tours. Her frequent appearance in the local and regional press impressed the Women of Wayne Alumni Association, which

in April 2012 honored Yellin at its annual Headliners Awards luncheon. The award, which calls attention to the fact that Wayne State women are making a significant mark in society, is given to alumnae whose achievements have made headlines in the media.

Yellin, a clinical social worker credited with some of Southeast Michigan's first-ever pre- and post-adoption counseling services for those touched by adoption, brings the conscience of a social worker to her programs, which highlight local social services, rehabilitation programs, social justice issues, community art projects, and civil rights. One tour examines food and hunger issues with assistance from Eastern Market Corporation and Gleaners Community Food Bank. Another tour leverages the expertise of Southwest Solutions to explore issues unique to a large Hispanic population. Yet another explores Detroit's rich African American history, including visits to sites of urban renewal and the Motown Museum. Given their sociological bent, a number of Feet On The Street's experiential learning bus tours offer Continuing Education Clock Hours for social workers and certified counselors.

OBITUARY: SHELDON SIEGEL, ALUMNUS AND CHAMPION OF INDIANA SOCIAL WORK

Sheldon Siegel (M.S.W., '55), dean emeritus of the Indiana University School of Social Work and a tireless advocate for social work education throughout the state, died on Aug. 26 at the age of 83.

Siegel, who served as dean of the Indiana University School of Social Work from 1985 to 1994 and as interim dean from 1999 to 2000, succeeding in creating the state's only social work doctoral program, developing community-based projects, and broadening the statewide M.S.W. and B.S.W. program. He also expanded the research mission of the school and helped reactivate the school's alumni association. The cumulative effect of his efforts was the enhancement of the school's academic stature and its impact on the lives of the state's struggling citizens.



Among the community-based initiatives Siegel helped develop was a model social services program for public housing residents and an action research project to evaluate failed foster care placements, which contributed to the establishment by the state legislature of the Commission on Abused and Neglected Children. Siegel was appointed by then-Governor Evan Bayh to chair the commission, which produced recommendations that were implemented by a newly created Children's Coalition.

Siegel also served as president of the Council on International Programs from 1991-1995 and sat on the board of the Central Indiana Coalition on Aging from 1997 to 2004, serving as president from 2000 to 2002.

Greetings!

It is my honor to have accepted a second term as president of this hardworking and dedicated alumni board. They give tirelessly for the betterment of our school and profession and for that I am most grateful. Many hands make lighter work. With that, I am pleased to welcome new members Felecia Berry, Artan Hughes and Shawntea Pernell.

It has been a productive and successful past several months. Our annual Dinner with the Dean and Silent Auction raised \$1,277.00 for student scholarships, with a Motown theme bringing fun and frolic for all at the beautiful Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle. In collaboration with the Continuing Education and Professional Development office, the Alumni Association sponsored a workshop, Social Work Survival Camp 2012, held on Sept. 15, 2012 at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. The workshop was well attended and brought programming to empower, motivate and rejuvenate attendees. It included breakout sessions, a spirited yoga demonstration, networking opportunities, and information on the licensing exam.

On Oct. 1, 2012 at the Wayne State Alumni House, a domestic violence candlelight vigil, "From victim to victor: Silence is not an option," was held. This year's event was hosted by FM 98 WJLB's morning show personality, Coco, and drew greetings from many community leaders and advocates. The event included great entertainment, community resources, and inspirational stories from survivors, and concluded with a powerful candlelight ceremony. In the spirit of the season and of giving back to the community, the board selected Bridging Communities, Inc., for holiday giving. Sponsoring and donations for needy seniors were accepted at a celebration event held at the Pablo Davis Elder Living Center on Dec. 18.

The board, along with the school, has been busy planning for future events and hopes that you will "save the dates." The **Seventh Annual Dean's Diversity Lecture** is scheduled for March 21 at the Partrich Auditorium at the Wayne State University Law School. The lecture will focus on cultural competence with LGBTQI populations and feature a keynote presentation from Lori Messinger, professor and director, School of Social Work, College of Health and Human Services, University of North Carolina, Wilmington. A week later, the **Alumni Association's annual awards luncheon** will be held on March 29 at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. To be honored are **alumnus of the year Risarg (Reggie) Huff**, director of homeless services for Neighborhood Services Organization, and **citizen of the year, Kem**, a recording star and community activist.

Finally, we have several board positions open and need dedicated, hard-working people to help us meet our goals of providing support to the school and engaging all alumni. If interested in serving on a committee or the board, and for further information on our upcoming events, please contact Julie Alter-Kay at ae8440@wayne.edu or at (313) 577-4464.

Peace and joy,
Larmender A. Davis, *President*



Rashida Tlaib, left, Ryan Hertz and Larmender A. Davis.

SSW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NAMES "CITIZEN" AND "ALUMNUS" OF THE YEAR

The SSW Alumni Association honored a Michigan state legislator and an innovator in social action at its annual awards luncheon on March 23.

Representative Rashida Tlaib, who has represented the 12th House District since 2008, was named Citizen of the Year for helping her constituents obtain access to human services, education and civil rights. Ryan Hertz (M.S.W. '08), executive director of South Oakland Shelter and former head of the HOPE Hospitality and Warming Center, Inc., was named Alumnus of the Year.

Tlaib, the first Muslim woman elected to the Michigan Legislature, established the only fully-staffed community based center established by a Michigan legislature. It provides over ten anti-poverty programs. Hertz, who earned his master's with a concentration in community practice and social action, founded the consulting firm EcoZoic L3C to foster sustainability and community resilience by helping organizations, communities, families, and individuals build and expand mutually enhancing relationships. He is also involved in the Oakland County Taskforce on Homelessness and Affordable Housing, and is a cofounder of Water for Huicholes, an initiative working to address the water needs of the indigenous communities of the Sierra Madre Occidental through the sale of sacred Huichol art.



Kernsmith, right, speaks with a member of the audience.

SSW Faculty, Alumnus Speak About Violence

At WSU Forum On Crime In Detroit

School of Social Work Associate Professor Poco Kernsmith and part-time faculty member and alumnus David Allasio (M.S.W., '87) spoke about ways to break the cycle of violence hobbling Detroit during "City Under Siege," a university forum on the city's crime "crisis" held Sept. 20-21.

Kernsmith, an expert in domestic violence, and Allasio, a clinical social worker at Children's Hospital, participated in a panel discussion entitled "Causes and Consequences of Violence: Voices of Wayne State Alumni and Other Experts," saying there are reasons to be hopeful despite the troubling rates of youth violence, neglect and illiteracy described by participating law enforcement officials and representatives of the judicial and juvenile correction systems.

Supporting perpetrators of violent crime during their reentry into society after incarceration is critical to ending violence, Kernsmith said, and should be a focus of the justice system "from the moment of conviction." Finding housing, jobs, transportation and opportunities can be extremely difficult for individuals exiting prison, leaving them dependant on loved ones who themselves have been traumatized by the incarceration. Providing a

continuity of care to perpetrators and their families during this period can help perpetrators find mechanisms to live responsibly and engage in nonviolent behaviors.

Kernsmith also spoke of prevention, stressing the importance of intervening quickly when young children experience or witness violence to stem the internalization of trauma, which can have a damaging and lifelong impact. She also underscored the importance of beginning school-based prevention programming as early as kindergarten to give children tools to solve problems constructively and develop a hopeful outlook.

Allasio described the plight of children hospitalized from gunshot wounds, physical abuse and neglect, and reports of families suffering the additional trauma of being burglarized while at the hospital with their wounded youngsters.

"I remain convinced there are significant things we can do," Allasio said, saying the widespread lack of paternal involvement in the population he serves is producing teenagers without social skills or respect for authority. "We need to teach men what it means to be a father," he said, saying communities and churches can assist with this education.

Other panel participants were criminal defense attorney Margaret Raben; Abed Hammoud, assistant U.S. attorney, Eastern District of Michigan; John Ridley, a juvenile corrections officer with Wayne County; and officer Tory Tederington of the Wayne State University Police Department.

**Challenging Minds,
Leading Change,
Transforming Lives**

POLICY MATTERS

HELPING KIDS BY SHAPING LAWS



The School of Social Work this year proudly unveiled a revised M.S.W. concentration called **Innovation in Community, Policy and Leadership (I-CPL)**, which will prepare students to impact sustainable change through community change, organizational change, or social policy (see page 13). SSW alumni Tim Briceland-Betts (M.S.W., '79) has spent his career improving quality of life for underserved populations through policy development, most notably in his current position as a director of government affairs for the Child Welfare League of America in Washington, D.C. In this Q&A, Briceland-Betts talks to Visions about why policy matters to social workers – and to the people they serve.

Visions: What is your role at CWLA?

Briceland-Betts: As the director of federal policy, I work with a team to be the eyes, the ears and the voice of child welfare policy and legislation in Washington. We help the staffs who work for members of Congress and the committees they serve understand the issues and challenges affecting the child welfare system in the United States so that the laws Congress passes to address them have the greatest positive impact.

Visions: How does policy differ from law?

Briceland-Betts: When a lobbyist such as myself speaks of policy there is usually little or no distinction with law. There is a big distinction in the child welfare field however, where policy usually refers more to the practice standards that guide casework, with little relation to laws.

Visions: What are the federal statutes that govern the child welfare system?

Briceland-Betts: Title IV of the Social Security Act provides for many of the nation's child welfare services. The Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee have jurisdiction over the Social Security Act, so we reach out to them on a regular basis. The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce develop bills to increase the role of federal government in child welfare and increase federal funding for related initiatives, so we also have a relationship with them. We also work with the appropriations committees in both houses.

Visions: How do you advise lawmakers on the bills they develop?

Briceland-Betts: There's a pretty well-established community of people in D.C. who are focused on child welfare issues, and we meet regularly with a group of staffers on Capitol Hill. There's a constant back-and-forth: ideas are brought up and conversations take place. It just flows. Sometimes these congressional staff members will seek our reactions to their ideas, and sometimes we hear about their ideas and contact them with our reactions.

Visions: Why did you pursue an M.S.W.?

Briceland-Betts: I earned a bachelor's degree from Saginaw Valley State University, where I majored in sociology and minored in social work. After that I worked at a temporary placement facility for children who had been removed from their homes and got involved in community projects. I knew then that making the world a better place was something I wanted to do, and decided graduate school would help me do that.

Visions: How was your experience at Wayne State?

Briceland-Betts: I always tell people that I tie my career directly back to my first year at Wayne State, my field placement, and the classroom work. I chose the community organization concentration, and my field placement was with the Michigan Avenue Community Organization in Southwest Detroit. It was a direct action organizing group, and this was my first exposure to politics from a close and personal perspective. Lights were going off for me; it was exciting and it spoke to me about what needs to happen in a community. And all of this was reinforced in the classroom.

Visions: What career path took you from Wayne State to CWLA?

Briceland-Betts: After receiving my M.S.W., I took a job with a local mental health organization that was working to make improvements in psychiatric facilities, particularly for people with long-term mental health issues. Then I took a job in Flint [Michigan] with a neighborhood improvement project that was addressing issues such as abandoned houses, high crime, and lack of opportunities for young people. That was really the start of my professional career, as ever since that time I have done policy work related to advocacy, organizing and lobbying.

I then moved to Oregon with my wife, who was attending law school there, and worked for Oregon Fair Share, where I advocated for fair economic practices on behalf of working families and small businesses. When my wife finished her degree we moved to Washington, D.C. Between 1986 and 1998 I worked for a senior citizen's organization advocating for the protection of social security and Medicare; a housing campaign to strengthen assistance for low-income people; a campaign to expand Medicare coverage to include nursing home care; and the Children's Defense Fund, which shifted my focus to children's policy. In 1998, I joined the Children's Welfare League of America.

Visions: Why does policy appeal to social work students?

Briceland-Betts: I have had numerous interns during my time at CWLA, most of them M.S.W. students, and invariably they are interested in policy. They connect with it. Some find the politics exciting; others see how they are making a difference through legislation. This is not casework – we are not working with children and families – but the legislation we help pass improves circumstances for children and families who come into contact with the child welfare system and are dealing with trauma and challenges.

Visions: What do you consider your greatest achievement at CWLA?

Briceland-Betts: The passage of the Fostering Connections To Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. We reached out to the Hill, worked with CWLA's member agencies, crafted messages and materials, hosted conference calls and issued alerts. The law improved and expanded child welfare policy in the United States. It was historic, and represented major gains in child welfare policy. I am proud of that.

Visions: What would you tell social work students considering a career in policy?

Briceland-Betts: The component parts of the social safety net are directly related to the values of social work education, which are equality, justice, and opportunity for all. The United States has a big, strong social safety net that is a critical part of our society, but there's a very real battle going on that will determine its future. Some of the attacks on it are antithetical to social work education, and defending it through policy is a logical and honorable application of social work training.



School of Social Work SCHOLARSHIPS

The work we have described in the pages of this annual report is made possible by contributions to our general development and scholarship funds as well as to specific scholarships. Our students benefit immeasurably from this support. Please consider making an investment in their future and in the lives of the individuals they will help as social workers.

Yes, I would like to make a contribution to the School of Social Work!

Make check payable to **Wayne State University** and select a fund number from the chart below.

Mail to: WSU Fund Office
5475 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202



For more information, contact Marguerite Carlton, major gift officer, at 313-577-8807

NUMBER	FUND NAME	NUMBER	FUND NAME
2-22111	Social Work Improvement and Development Fund	0-60184	James W. Leigh Endowed Scholarship
4-44469	Social Work General Scholarship Fund	0-60208	Elizabeth and Reginald MacArthur Tribute Endowed Scholarship
0-61962	Shawn A. Abraham Memorial Endowed Scholarship	0-60119	Eileen M. Maceroni Endowed Scholarship
0-60082	Carol Barron Memorial Endowed Scholarship	0-60011	Maryann Mahaffey Endowed Scholarship
0-60204	Virginia Baumgartner-King Endowed Scholarship	0-61938	Lois J. McOsker Memorial Endowed Scholarship
0-50694	Everett Beishlag Memorial Loan Fund	0-50804	Aaron Mendelson Memorial Trust Fund
0-61180	Elizabeth N. Brehler Endowed Scholars Program	4-47708	Edward J. Overstreet Endowed Scholarship
0-51057	Charles B. Brink Loan Fund	445269	Richard J. Parvis Annual Support Fund for International and Humanitarian Social Work
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0-60179	Rachel I. Coleman Endowed Scholarship	4-47432	Donald J. Roberts Memorial Endowed Scholarship
0-60430	Patricia L. Dillick Memorial Endowed Scholarship	4-44775	Harold and Carolyn Robison Memorial Scholarship
0-61097	Cecille Y. Dumbrigue and Shirley P. Thrasher Endowed Memorial Scholarship	0-61944	School of Social Work Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship
0-61488	Annette Sniderman Freedman Endowed Scholarship	0-52234	School of Social Work Alumni Association
4-47602	Emmesia Mathews Frost and Kenneth M. Frost Endowed Scholarship	052234	Emergency Student Aid Fund
0-60266	Allan and Harriet Gelfond Endowed Scholarship	0-67786	Social Work Futures Endowment Fund
0-61334	Fred and Freda Gentsch Scholarship	0-60233	Raymond Snowden, PhD Memorial Endowed Scholarship
445233	Ted and Arlene Goldberg Annual Scholarship	0-60311	Mavis M. Spencer Endowed Fund for Scholars
0-60022	Annie Louise Pitts Handy Endowed Scholarship	0-60282	Maldo Ellen Talick Memorial Endowed Scholarship
067225	Edith Harris Memorial Endowed Lecture Series Edwin H. Holmberg Endowed Scholars Fund	0-60001	Mary Turner Scholarship
445226	Anthony D. Holt Annual Scholarship	4-77166	Phyllis Ivory Vroom Endowed Scholarship
0-61990	Joseph P. Hourihan Endowed Scholars Award	0-66044	Jacquelin E. Washington Endowed Scholarship
0-66013	Shirley Doris Hupert Memorial Scholarship	445304	Waites Family Annual Scholarship Lena Bivens and Juanita Newton Tribute Scholarship Endowed by Eloise C. Whitten
4-44765	Evangeline Sheibley Hyett Endowed Scholarship	0-60139	Beryl Zlatkin Winkelman Endowed Scholarship
0-51629	Bette Kalichman Student Loan Fund	4-47118	Ella Zwerding Memorial Scholarship
0-60240	Rose Kaplan Endowed Scholarship Fund		
0-60198	Vernon Edward Keye Memorial Endowed Scholarship		
477169	Charles (Chuck) Kramer Endowed Scholarship		
0-61843	Alice E. Lamont Endowed Scholarship		

“We established our scholarship fund partly because of our dedication to the WSU School of Social Work. We both earned M.S.W.s at the school, and Ted was a faculty member there. Our long practice careers deepened our commitment to the profession and we wanted to assist others to have the same opportunities that we had so many years ago.” — Ted and Arlene Goldberg, stewards of the Ted and Arlene Goldberg Annual Scholarship



School of Social Work

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