

Visions

a publication of the WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

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Alumni Group Returns for a Reunion A Look at the Campus and the School

On a beautiful Friday in August, August 4 to be exact, a selected group of alumni who attended the School of Social Work in the 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's returned to campus for lunch with Dean Vroom, a campus bus tour and an ice cream social on the grounds of the Thompson Home. Spearheaded by two of the school's most active alumni volunteer leaders, Annette Freedman and Virginia Baumgartner King, and development director Marguerite Carlton, the event was the first in a planned series whose purpose is to reconnect alumni with the university and the school, bringing them up to date while collecting information on what they have been up to since they left WSU, so we can document their contributions and achievements, adding to the school's proud history.

The program began with lunch at McGregor Center and an update by Dean Vroom. Then participants boarded a bus for a campus tour, featuring the many new buildings recently added to the landscape, accompanied by a running commentary on the details behind the campus additions. Fittingly, the last stop on the tour was the Thompson Home, where the group enjoyed another chance to catch up with classmates, learn more about the state of the school and an ice cream social. Many attended SSW when it was housed

in Cohn Building or even earlier. There were great conversations, with alums recalling their time at WSU and the great history of work in the field. Many were and are innovators, leaders in their areas. There was talk of agencies started, programs started, careers as school social workers, community agency workers, and more. Also, of course, fond memories were shared of times on campus.

As we said, other events of this type are in the planning stages. Watch your mail for notice of other events planned by Dean Vroom and alumni volunteers to reconnect alumni with the progress of the university and the school, while at the same time finding out what has been happening both professionally and personally among those who have been away from campus for a number of years.

Visions knows that our readers love to learn what's happening with their fellow alums, so we look forward to reporting on these future events, but we don't want you to wait for those to bring us up to date on your activities. Please drop us a line, send us an e-mail, or call us. We'd love to hear from you, and so would our readers. Al Acker, 400 Thompson Home, 4756 Cass Ave., Detroit, MI 48202, at8466@wayne.edu or (313) 577-0309. See your story in our next issue! ◉



Dean Vroom brings luncheon group up to date on the school



Ice cream social on Thompson Home lawn

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UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

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Message from the Dean ...

Welcome to the fall edition of Visions. A lot has happened since our summer edition. I have been granted a five-year extension of my contract as dean of the school. I am very grateful for the assistance I have received from the Board of Visitors, the alumni, the faculty and the staff to make my tenure as dean successful...and from my standpoint, very enjoyable.



In the past seven years, we have accomplished a lot. Yet there are still several important items from our strategic plan on our "to do" list, including expanding our financial support and establishing an endowed chair, which will provide support for faculty and student research and technical assistance on important issues such as foster care/permanent placement, post-traumatic stress treatment for victims of violence, strategies for student achievement and school dropout prevention, to name only a few.

But our most immediate goal is establishing our technical assistance/research center. In that regard, I was pleased earlier this year to serve on a national panel by the National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work (NADDSW) whose topic was, "Leveraging Funds and Infrastructure Enhancement for Research Centers." The panel was organized to represent programs whose centers are in various stages of development, from well-established centers to those in the planning stages, such as ours. Our plans for a center are broader than research. We plan to work with agency partners to increase social work practice effectiveness and inform social welfare policy makers; we'll also focus on building the capacity of non profit organizations, large and small, to design programs; develop proposals for funding of these programs, including models to evaluate them; and develop means to monitor the implementation of programs, once funded. And we plan to work with community partners to develop continuing education programs for professional development of staff. We are looking for funding for the center. I invite any alumni interested in underwriting all or a part of this project to contact me directly.

We have recently completed the steps to achieve our reaccreditation from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE.) While the overall process has been going on for quite awhile, this fall has seen heightened activity, with the necessary documents, pounds and pounds of them... sent off in October. In early November the five-member team spent nearly three days in an on-site visit. All in all, they were very impressed. While we won't have final results until the middle of next year, all indications are that we will achieve reaccreditation with flying colors. I would like to thank all of those who have been involved in this arduous but rewarding process—including a number of our alumni.

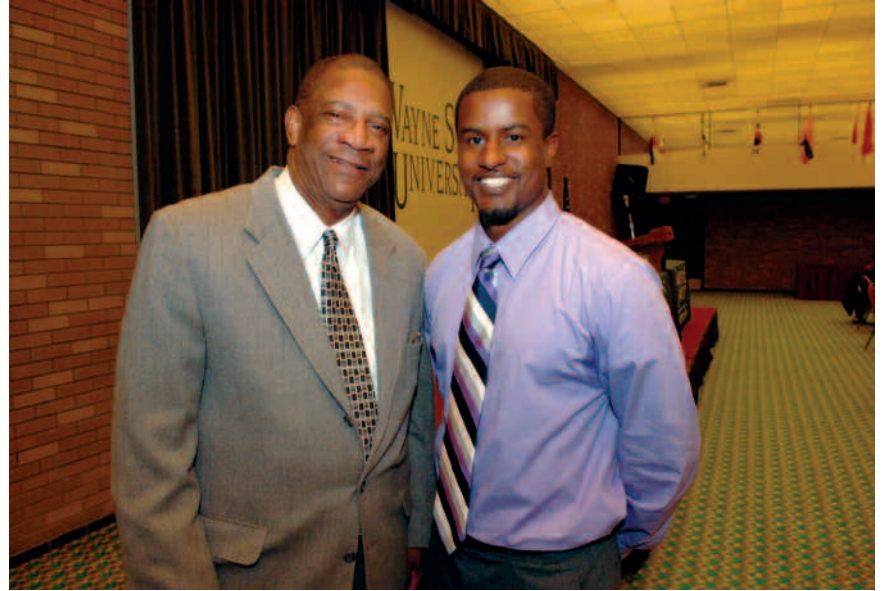
September marked a truly historic milestone for the school: the first students have entered our long-sought PhD program. You can read a little bit about their expectations and first impressions in this issue. Expect to hear more about them as the year and their studies progress.

Three outstanding women have joined the faculty. This issue introduces them with brief profiles. In other faculty-related news, look for our new on-going feature reporting on faculty accomplishments. And, continuing our reporting on published works from the faculty, there's a story on two books co-authored by Associate Professor Melvyn Raider. Finally, continuing our series on faculty research, this issue reports on Royce Hutson's important study on human rights abuses in post-Aristide Haiti. The report makes fascinating, if disturbing reading, and the innovative techniques necessary for this type of research reflect the creativity our faculty brings to every research project.

All in all it's been a busy but rewarding period at the school. My wish is that those same words might describe your holiday season. May it also be warm and filled with joy. ◉

Dean Phyllis Vroom

2006 Scholarship Reception Celebrates Generosity and Scholarship



Former Dean Leon Chestang and scholarship winner Ashley Abrams



Board of Visitors member and scholarship donor John Talick with scholarship recipient Debra Brown

On October 26, the School of Social Work held its annual scholarship reception honoring both the students who have earned scholarships and the generosity of the donors who provide that financial support.

Following the format first developed last year, the program was highlighted by two speakers, one, John Talick, speaking for all the scholarship donors and a second, Ashley Abrams, representing the students receiving scholarships. Talick has endowed a scholarship honoring the memory of his mother, Maldo Ellen Talick, and Abrams holds the Emmie S. Chestang scholarship, established by Professor Emeritus Leon Chestang honoring the memory of his mother.

In summing up the event, Dean Phyllis Vroom said, "Of all the events I attend each year representing the school, this is one of the most satisfying because I have the opportunity to renew acquaintances with both scholarship students and donors. To see the warmth and excitement as donors meet the beneficiaries of their investments and students can personally thank those who support their efforts." She added, "Donors are able to get a sense of just how far their investment in our students will go in improving our society by helping to encourage dedicated eager students to join the profession and ultimately make a difference in Detroit, the state of Michigan and the larger world."

Scholarship recipients historically strive to make the most of their educational opportunities and to use what they learn to better the lives of others in the community as they move from academia into the profession. These contributions are key reasons why the programs of the School of Social Work continue to be highly ranked by our peers in the field as we work to achieve our mission in the university, the community and the world. ◉

Homelessness...

School of Social Work Partners with College of Nursing to Highlight Escape from Homelessness... with the help of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Each night in Detroit, 10,000 people have no home. About half of the city's homeless are African American and many of those are women, 50 or older. Yes, the problem of homelessness has long plagued Detroit, but David Moxley, professor, School of Social Work, and Olivia Washington, associate professor, Institute of Gerontology and College of Nursing have researched homelessness for nearly a decade, and found an innovative way to bring a new perspective to the problem. Another SSW faculty member, Lois Garriott was also a part of the project.



Three women "storytellers": aka Joyce, Rita Johnson and Rachel Harper



Three of the women who told their stories: Gilda Jones Washington, Dona Tatum and Elaine Richardson



At the Blue Cross Blue Shield event, from left to right: Washington, Walter Edwards, Director of Wayne State's Humanities Center, Moxley and Dean Vroom

Sharing stories

In June, in cooperation with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, the two professors premiered a breakthrough event combining photographic artistry with honest autobiography to profile the often-forgotten older woman who becomes homeless. "Telling My Story at the Edge of Recovery" featured eight homeless women willing to share with the public the intimate and disturbing details of their journeys.

At the premier eight large photographic panels lined the foyer of the BCBS lobby. Each panel represented the life of the African-American woman seated before it.

From a distance, the panels shimmered with flowing colors, photos and drawings layered into an aesthetic backdrop. Up close, specific images within the panels emerge. Photos of crumbling buildings, garbage-filled yards, empty churches and more take shape within the swirl of colors. You enter the mind and soul of homelessness in Detroit where hope vanishes and society is a closed door.

The women's stories varied from drug addiction and mental illness to escaping an abusive husband or losing a home to a fire. Following the exhibit, the women participated in a symposium, each bravely and eloquently telling her story to a rapt audience.

Contributing factors

Homelessness has many faces and many causes, according to Washington. She and Moxley isolated six critical factors that can tip vulnerable people (low income, mid-life or older) into homelessness: changes in status due to divorce or death of a spouse or partner; accidents such as house fires; changes in employment due to the onset of serious health issues; limited retirement income; lack of affordable housing; and the least influential, substance abuse or mental illness.

The pilot project provides innovative therapy intervention to participants. Group support meetings try to lessen the psychological trauma of homelessness while building self-esteem, trust and confidence. Women are encouraged to own their experience (primarily by sharing their story) and to take responsibility for the changes needed to move out of homelessness. "Group members are empowered," Washington explains. "We help them to master their conditions and the circumstances that encouraged them."

"Telling My Story at the Edge of Recovery" is not about hope abandoned but about hope reborn. Today, seven of the eight women are self-supporting and live in their own apartments. They heal themselves by helping other women travel the rough roads out of homelessness and by their willingness to expose the truths of their own journey. ◉

Human Rights Abuses in Haiti: A Report on Professor Royce Hutson's Research

As our readers may recall, we have begun a series of articles summarizing various research projects undertaken by faculty members. In this issue, we report on Assistant Professor Royce Hutson's and Athena Kolbe's work assessing human rights abuses in Haiti. This project has received a great deal of media attention and was first published in a recent issue of *Lancet*, from which much of this article is an excerpt.

Researchers in our audience will be interested to note the difficulty of performing this kind of research in a country without traditional sources of data from which to derive a sample—not even a census! The study also represents a novel use of GPS systems.

Background

The purpose of the study was to gather reliable evidence of the frequency and severity of human rights abuses in Haiti after the departure of the elected president in 2004. We assessed data from a random survey of households in the greater Port-au-Prince area.

(continued on page 4...)

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Methods

Using random Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinate sampling, 1260 households (5720 individuals) were sampled. They were interviewed with a structured questionnaire by trained interviewers about their experiences after the departure of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The response rate was 90.7%. Information on demographic characteristics, crime, and human rights violations was obtained.

Findings

Findings suggested that 8000 individuals were murdered in the greater Port-au-Prince area during the 22-month period assessed. Almost half of the identified perpetrators were government forces or outside political actors. Sexual assault of women and girls was common, with findings suggesting that 35,000 women were victimized in the area; more than half younger than 18. Criminals were the most identified perpetrators, but officers from the Haitian National Police and armed anti-Lavalas groups were also identified as perpetrators of sexual assaults. Kidnappings and extrajudicial detentions, physical assaults, death threats, physical threats, and threats of sexual violence were also common.

Interpretation

Results indicate that crime and systematic abuse of human rights were common in Port-au-Prince. Although criminals were the most identified perpetrators of violations, political actors and UN soldiers were also frequently identified. These findings suggest the need for a systematic response from the newly elected Haitian government, the UN, and social service organizations to address the legal, medical, psychological, and economic consequences of widespread human rights abuses and crime.

Background

In February, 2004, an armed insurrection overthrew Jean Bertrand Aristide, the democratically elected president of the Republic of Haiti. Since that time, supporters of Aristide and members of Lavalas, his movement, have accused UN troops, the Haitian National Police (HNP), personal militias hired by private citizens, and military irregulars associated with the disbanded Haitian army, of mounting a campaign of human rights abuses aimed at members of the Lavalas political party. Other political groups have countered with claims of rampant human rights abuses by Lavalas partisans and pro-Aristide gangs in the country's impoverished urban neighborhoods.

The number of people in Haiti who experienced human rights violations since the departure of Aristide on February 29, 2004, was uncertain. Claims ranging from several hundred to more than 100,000 have been made. Neither the UN, which has had a peacekeeping presence in the country since mid-2004, nor the Haitian government, had a firm estimate of the human rights violations that have been committed or the identity of the perpetrators. Qualitative studies from the United States State Department, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Freedom House, and the University of Miami indicated that abuses had occurred and perhaps even increased under the interim Haitian government. The goal was to use survey research to estimate the number of victims and patterns of perpetration of human rights violations in the population of the greater Port-au-Prince metropolitan area between February 2004 and December 2005.

Sampling techniques

Standard random sampling often cannot be used in developing countries because they require publicly available census data or address lists. This challenge can be overcome through the availability and affordability of Global Positioning System (GPS) locators, which enable random sampling of households in communities without address lists, telephone numbers, or other household identifiers commonly used in sampling methods.

Simple random sampling was chosen as the preferable sampling method for this study. Reliable data on population numbers were not available at the time of this survey, making probability proportion to size cluster sampling unfeasible. When a single unit dwelling was located at the randomly generated GPS point, that household was selected. The GPS locators were accurate to within 10 feet.

Between Nov 24 and Dec 24, 2005, a two-person research team visited each location up to four times until an adult (18 years old or older) household member was located. Interviewers were university graduates who spoke fluent Haitian Kreyol. Interviewers assisted in field-testing and revision of the survey instrument.

Information collected

The main section of the survey asked respondents for retrospective information about his or her experiences and the experiences of other household members with human rights and crime in the 22 months since the departure of Aristide on Feb 29, 2004. Amnesty International and other international human rights organizations described extrajudicial detentions in parts of Haiti where ex-soldiers and armed anti-Lavalas leaders acting as de facto government agents were arresting their opponents by abducting them and then holding unofficial trials. Respondents were asked if they or a member of their household had been detained by anyone other than the Haitian National Police or foreign military. Those who responded yes were questioned about the circumstance, including the length of time the person was held and whether they had been released. Respondents were asked how many members of their household had been killed since Feb 29, 2004. Respondents were also asked if they had been threatened with death, physical injury, or forced sexual contact. For each section, the number of separate incidents was recorded for each perpetrator. The same format was used for questions about threats of death, physical injury, or forced sexual content made to other household members.

The findings show that human rights violations were common in the greater Port-au-Prince area in the post-Aristide period. Estimates suggest that about 8000 individuals were murdered, with almost half of the perpetrators identified as political actors. Sexual abuse, especially among children, was also a frequent occurrence. Our data suggest that 35,000 women and girls were raped during the time period examined; more than half of them children. Death threats, threats of sexual violence, and threats of physical violence were also common occurrences. Criminals, the Haitian National Police (and other governmental security forces), and UN peacekeepers were the most identified perpetrators of threats of bodily harm. Brazilian and Jordanian peacekeepers were the most frequently identified among foreign soldiers.

Only eight types of human rights violations were studied: property crimes, arrests and detentions, physical assaults, sexual assaults, murders, death threats, and threats of sexual or physical violence. News reports suggest that some Haitians have been expelled from their homes, fired from their jobs, prevented from going to school, and forced to become refugees; all these circumstances can include human rights violations, but the study did not address such violations.

Although all types of sexual abuse were probably under-reported, the extreme frequency at which sexual abuse was reported suggests that under-reporting might not be as severe as could be expected. Restaveks are often viewed as property and any violation of these children by others represents an attack on the household's assets. In these situations, we believe that the respondent would probably have been forthcoming about sexual abuse of a restavek in his or her home by a non-household member. Because respondents might have been more likely to report the sexual assault of a child than they were to report that of an adult, the reported frequency of sexual assault by age may be skewed.

The data suggest that about 12 individuals per day were murdered in Port-au-Prince during the period investigated. Armed anti-Lavalas groups and their partisans, along with the HNP and other government security forces, accounted for almost half of all identified perpetrators, with the other half identified as criminals. Regarding criminals and anti-Lavalas partisans, establishment of a responsive police and judicial system is tantamount if this rate of murder is to be diminished. This task may be difficult, since elements within the police department also seem to be responsible for some of these killings. Stringent oversight and training for all current and incoming police officers to prevent extrajudicial killings seems to be necessary. Identification and vigorous prosecution of the perpetrators might ameliorate this murder rate.

The rates of sexual abuse for all age groups are shocking. We are particularly troubled by the very high rates of child sexual abuse reported in this study. We estimate that about one in 40 girls younger than 18 years are sexually assaulted per year in the greater Port-au-Prince area. Further, the rate of sexual assault for female restaveks is almost four and a half times greater than that for girls who are not restaveks. Of female restaveks, we estimated that one in 19 are sexually assaulted per year, compared with one in 84 girls who are not restaveks.

Restaveks, in particular, are victims in two disturbing ways. First, restaveks are often relegated to second-class citizenship and in many ways could be considered modern-day child slaves. Few attend school and many often work in labor-intensive activities that would be judged as human rights abuses by international standards. Secondly, this second-class status seems to make them more vulnerable to sexual exploitation by others, although respondents might have been more likely to report abuse of restaveks than abuse of other children in the household, because of the restavek's perceived status as household property.

Non-governmental organizations, churches, and women's organizations might need to establish coordinated services to meet the needs of sexual assault survivors. The number of rape victims shows the overwhelming need for psychological, medical, and social support services. Culturally appropriate therapeutic interventions should be developed, especially for vulnerable populations such as children and elderly victims.

Medical services should be offered to victims of torture and other physical and sexual assaults. Extensive research already exists on the most effective ways of providing such services to victims, their families, and their communities through the establishment of neighborhood clinics, public-health programmes, and peer intervention projects. Haitians should be able to access free or affordable medical services to resolve problems caused by human rights violations.

The newly elected government of Rene Preval, the UN leadership in Haiti, and social service non-governmental organizations need to take concrete measures to investigate the extent of human rights violations throughout the country. Understanding the extent and severity of the abuses experienced by individuals and communities can provide the necessary information for development of programs to address the health consequences and alleviate the emotional suffering of victims.

The frequency of human rights violations, and especially the prevalence of sexual violence against women, demands a serious and thorough response from the international community, the new Haitian government, and non-governmental organizations working in the region. The new administration should take steps to stop any ongoing human rights abuses through various domestic and international systems. ○

SSW Alumnus Steve Osinski Receives Nursing Awards

School of Social Work alumnus Steve Osinski recently received honors from two organizations for his work as a community health nurse. Osinski's first honor was a Nursing Spectrum 2006 Excellence award. The Midwestern edition of Nursing Spectrum has this to say about Osinski's community practice, "Known as an advocate for the underserved, Osinski can be found supporting needy patients in and around the city of Detroit. His compassion for these patients was displayed in the late 1980's when a high level of fear and reluctance to care for patients with HIV/AIDS existed. To combat this fear, Osinski developed a knowledge base that contributed to the quality of care these patients received."

Osinski's second award was the 2006 Nightingale Award for Nursing in the Community. His profile was featured in the Monitor, the Henry Ford Health System's employee newsletter, which quoted his supervisor, Lucy Thomas, "Steve leaves no life untouched and the families of his patients remember him forever."

Your Visions reporter was intrigued by the fact that Osinski has both an MSW and a nursing degree, so we asked him about that.

Visions: Since you already had a nursing degree, what got you motivated to earn your MSW?

Osinski: I had social work in the back of my mind for years. I returned to school for a graduate degree in social work to give me the option to do psychotherapy in the future.

Visions: Why did you choose the WSU School of Social Work?


Osinski: I chose WSU because I've worked in the city for years and Wayne is close to work and home. I like the fact that Wayne is an urban university.

Visions: How has your social work preparation helped you perform your duties as a nurse?

Osinski: Having an MSW degree, as well as being a RN in community care has given me a greater appreciation for community networking to help my clients get their various needs met. And it has honed my counseling skills.

Visions: Anything you'd like to say to your fellow WSU SSW alumni?

Osinski: Follow your dreams. Continue your education, formally or informally. Our clients benefit from all we can bring to the encounter. Trying to help people is a worthy endeavor.

Visions congratulates Steve Osinski on these honors and encourages other alumni to contact us with news of career milestones at 8466@wayne.edu or Al Acker at (313) 577-0309. We know our readers are very interested in reading about the activities of their peers. 

"Steve leaves no life untouched and the families of his patients remember him forever."

- Lucy Thomas

An Historical Moment for the School of Social Work: PhD Program Begins


Meet the First Students

A major milestone was reached in September when the first students began their PhD studies at the School of Social Work. Under the direction of Anna Santiago, the inaugural group of students include Angela Kaiser, April Idalski and B. Skip McClatchey. Shortly after the semester started, Visions had e-mail interviews with all three, examining their reasons for choosing the program and gathering their early impressions.

April Idalski comments: "I was so excited to learn about the WSU Social Work PhD program. I had been exploring my options, both at various in-state institutions and across different disciplines and had decided ... to participate in a pure social work program (vs. the dual degree programs offered at many institutions). WSU was the ideal location as it has a reputable MSW program and is located in the heart of Detroit, a city teetering on the brink of urban renewal. This is an exciting opportunity to help shape a promising program that will be integral in the transformation of our city."

Idalski details her first impressions, "The enthusiasm... of the faculty is incredible. Everyone is so excited that we are here and has such aspirations for us and the program. I look forward to this journey together!"

Another PhD student, Angela Kaiser, talks a little bit about her background, "I received my B.A. in Psychology from the University of Michigan in 1995. My initial plan was to pursue a PhD in psychology, but after a year of experiencing the world outside of school, I decided I wanted to work in communities on a grassroots level. Social work seemed like the best choice for me. I received my MSW in 1998, and since then have been working in the nonprofit realm. I currently work for Midwest AIDS Prevention Project as a Grants and Programs Manager."

Finally, the third PhD student, Skip McClatchey talks about his attitude in starting the program, "I am anxious/nervous about starting the Ph.D. program because of the amount of work that it will entail, but very excited. I hope to be on a path where I can work to create change in communities; first in the HIV community and consequently in the academic community at WSU and the Detroit community ..." McClatchey was enrolled in the new Masters of Public Health program through the school of Medicine which started out as a community based program but turned out to be more of a clinical one, in his opinion, so he preferred to work for a PhD, and as he says, "I am an employee of WSU, so the price is right as well." 

Raider Books Gain Praise from Profession

Continuing our series on faculty authors, this issue features two books co-authored by Melvyn Raider, associate professor, both published by Edwin Mellen Press. A member of the faculty since 1970, Professor Raider's area of expertise is social work with families and couples. He acts as a consultant to many metropolitan Detroit social agencies. Raider's research interests include: social work with families and couples; trauma and PTSD treatment for children, adolescents, and families. Professor Raider's scholarly work and clinical practice span two distinct disciplines: Social Work and Family Therapy.


The first book, *Social Work Practice with Low-Income, Urban, African-American Families*, was published in 1998, and the second, *Structured Sensory Intervention for Traumatized Children, Adolescents and Parents Strategies to Alleviate Trauma* was published in 2002.

Raider's former colleague and professor emeritus Creigs Beverly had this to say about the first book ... "Based upon a good review of existing knowledge and research on social work practice with low-income urban African-American families, and embellished by their own research efforts, the authors have woven together a very useful guide for social workers practicing in low-income urban settings. Case examples serve to concretize theories and the summary

of treatment strategies effective with low-income urban African-American families is an excellent checklist of dos and don'ts. Social work educators and practitioners should find this book an excellent resource ..." David Moxley adds, "In a succinct, practice-oriented format the authors offer practitioners an interesting set of practices and procedures for working with an important but often overlooked group ... The incorporation of the research and development approach in a strategic manner helps the authors produce results that are valid and relevant to the current human service scene in urban settings ... this book has applicability as a primary text or manual in continuing education programs as well as applicability as a 'manual of exemplars' that can be easily incorporated into advanced practice courses and into core courses in family therapy."

Cathy A. Malchiodi, Director, Institute for the Arts & Health; Editor, *Trauma & Loss: Research & Interventions* describes Raider's most recent book as "... essential reading for any helping professional who works with children, adolescents, and adults who have experienced trauma, whether it be loss, violence, medical emergencies or serious illness, or natural or man-made catastrophic events ... Steele and Raider demonstrate a field-tested program of strategies that not only fulfill the brief treatment model used in most agencies, but also provide professionals with a practical method of providing effective interventions in a form amenable to all age ranges."

In her review of the book, Marquita Bedway, PhD, Pediatric Psychologist and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatric and Behavioral Neurosciences, Wayne State University; Co-director of the ADHD Life Span Center, says, "... fills a void in the child and adolescent trauma treatment literature. It promises to be a frequently utilized book in the libraries of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, school personnel and other mental health professionals who encounter traumatized children and their families. The adaptability of the model is one of its greatest strengths as it can be used in a variety of settings."

Both books are available through the Edwin Mellen Press, www.mellenpress.com or by phone at (716) 754-2266. 

Professor Raider's scholarly work and clinical practice span two distinct disciplines: Social Work and Family Therapy.

Kim Adams...the President Reports

Alumni Association Honors Barbara Simons, Shirley Mann Gray

Message from the SSW Alumni Association President, Kim Adams

Congratulations to Dean Vroom, faculty and staff members of the school for successfully completing the recent Council on Social Work Education reaccreditation process. This institutional review by CSWE engaged faculty, students and alumni in a comprehensive self study which highlights many strengths of the school and make us all proud of our alma mater. Further congratulations are in order to Dean Phyllis Vroom for the successful completion of a routine five year review by the University of the School of Social Work under her leadership. These five year reviews are completed for all the schools and colleges at Wayne State, and this most recent review highlighted many accomplishments of the School's strategic plan under the dean's leadership.

I want to thank members of the alumni association board for their service and bring all of our alumni up to date with our activities. We welcome two new board members, Donald Berry (MSW '01) and Maxine Hudgins (MSW '99) and our student liaison, Christine Landino (BSW '07). Christine, a senior BSW student, along with other students (future alumni) provided volunteer services for a summer youth program at Peoples Community Services. Your board held a planning retreat last summer to reflect on last year's accomplishments and plan for the current academic year. We are beginning to initiate our strategic plan in alignment with the goals of the University and the School of Social Work. Board members, again with student volunteers, recently completed a community service project when we visited the First Step program, a shelter for women and children escaping from circumstances of domestic violence. We provided donated items to the shelter, and served a meal prepared by our secretary, Phyllis Edwards. Students created a Halloween theme party and activities for the children and donated Halloween costumes.

Looking ahead, the School of Social Work Alumni Association will host our annual luncheon meeting on Friday, March 30, 2007 at the Alumni House on campus. Traditionally at this event we honor an alumnus or alumna of the year and a citizen of the year. If you would like to nominate someone for either of these awards please contact our liaison in the dean's office, Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464, and he will forward a nomination form to you. In the next issue of Visions look for details about our annual Yacht Club reception scheduled for Thursday evening, June 7.



Lastly, if you have not renewed your alumni membership, please consider doing so, and for current members we welcome your participation and service on our board or a committee. For more information contact the dean's office at (313) 577-4464.

I wish everyone the warmest of holidays and a happy new year. ○

WSUSSWAA BOARD FOR 2006-2007:

Kimberly R. Adams, President '89	Tia Cobb '94
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Phyllis J. Edwards, Secretary '02	Pamela Hopkins '87, '93
Cathrine Bunker, Treasurer '04	Maxine Hudgins '99
Christine Landino, student liaison '07	Denise Johnson '94
Donald Berry '01	Delores O. May '82
Joanne S. Brogdon '01	Faiza Najjar '01
Gerald Caughey '78	Georgene Thornton '85

School of Social Work Achievements Report: June - August 2006

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Ai, A.L., Hopp, F.P. & Sherer, M. (2006) Getting Affairs in Order: Influences of Social Support and Religious Coping on End-of-Life Planning among Open-heart Surgery Patients. In Press, Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life and Palliative Care, 2, 71-94.

Galster, G. and Santiago, A. M. (2006) "What's the 'Hood Got to Do with It? Parental Perceptions about How Neighborhood Mechanisms Affect Their Children." Journal of Urban Affairs 28(3): 201-226.

Gonzalez-Prendes, A (2006, in press) Cognitive-behavioral treatment of men and anger: Three singles case studies. Cognitive and Behavioral Practice.

Hopp, F.P., Woodbridge, P, Subramanian, U, Copeland, L, Smith, D, Lowery, J. (2006) Outcomes Associated with a Home Care Telehealth Intervention. Telemedicine Journal & E-Health. 12, 297-307.

Kolbe, A.R. & Hutson, R.A. (2006) "Human Rights Abuse and other Criminal Violations in Port-au-Prince, Haiti: A Random Survey of Households." Lancet, published on-line Aug. 31, 2006.

Weisz, A. N., Black, B. M, and Nahan, N. (2005) Precinct domestic violence teams: Whose goals should determine program activities? Journal of Family Social Work, 9 (3), 57-75.

BOOKS

Brandell, Jerrold. Of Mice and Metaphors: Therapeutic Storytelling with Children. (Second Chinese Edition) Sichuan, China: University of Sichuan Press (2005/06).

EDITORIAL

Brandell, Jerrold. Appointment to the International Board of Consulting Editors, Israel Annual of Psychoanalytic Theory, Research and Practice

FUNDING

GRANTS RECEIVED - INTERNAL

Gonzalez-Prendes, A. "A study of the effects of a cognitive-behavioral anger-control group treatment for adult African-American and Spanish-dominant Latino clients" WSU Minority/Women Summer Grant Program, 2006-2007, \$10,000

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Gonzalez-Prendes, A. (May 2006) The path of anger: Cognitive themes in the conceptualization of anger problems The Southern Institute for Mental Health Advocacy, Research, and Training. Second Annual Mental Health Research Conference. Jackson State University, College of Public Service, School of Social Work, Jackson, Mississippi.

Moxley, D.P., Washington, O, Garriott, L. The Role of Mixed Methods in Helping Older African American Homeless Women at the Mixed Methods Conference, Cambridge England, July 10-11, 2006

Kolbe, A.R. & Hutson, R.A. "The Frequency of Human Rights Abuse in Port-au-Prince, Haiti" Paper presented at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, August, 2006.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Kolbe, A.R. & Hutson, R.A. "The Frequency of Human Rights Abuse in Port-au-Prince, Haiti" presentations made to Office of the President-Republic of Haiti and the Office of the Prime Minister-Republic of Haiti, August 2006

Kolbe, A.R. & Hutson, R.A. "The Frequency of Human Rights Abuse in Port-au-Prince, Haiti" interviews with media: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Radio), Flashpoints (Pacifica Radio), Democracy Now (Pacifica Radio), The Lancet Podcast, The Independent (London), August 2006.

OTHER

APPOINTMENTS

Brandell, Jerrold. Reviewer, essays and scholarly papers, 2007 NMCOP Conference Committee, National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis

Martin, Fayette. Selected to attend the National Institute on Aging (NIA) Technical Assistance Workshop (TAW), November 14 - 16, 2006. ○

IN MEMORIAM: Edna Miller, Professor Emerita

Edna Miller, associate professor emerita, who taught in the Wayne State University School of Social Work for more than two decades, died November 18 of complications from lung cancer and Alzheimer's disease at her home in Waterford. She was 80.

Born Edna Powell and raised in York, England, her family home was severely damaged in a German air raid during World War II. She often related stories to her children about gathering around the radio during the war to hear Prime Minister Winston Churchill rally the country with his stirring speeches.

After receiving degrees in English literature and social work from the University of Leeds in 1948 and 1949 respectively, she immigrated to the United States in 1951. She received a master's degree in social work in 1958 from Wayne State. She began teaching at Wayne State in 1964 as an assistant professor, was promoted to associate professor in 1972 and retired in 1987 as an associate professor emerita.

Miller worked at the former Lafayette Clinic in Detroit for several years and helped establish a Child Crisis Center. Later, she was appointed to a commission to rewrite the State of Michigan's Mental Health code.

Dean Phyllis Vroom recalled, "Edna Miller was an original in the old fashioned sense of the word: she was an independent and critical thinker, who enlivened discussions and arrived at solutions that were constructive and that made a situation better. I remember when affirmative action was being challenged in admissions policies in the 1980s. Edna was part of a committee that helped to develop policies and procedures for admission in our school that were fair, but continued our tradition of being able to select the best students who were diverse, competent and committed to helping ... people... live better lives."

Survivors include her son, Powell; two daughters, Ann and Elizabeth, and three grandchildren. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 22 at Christ Church Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. ○

School Welcomes Three New Faculty Members



New faculty members, from left to right: Faye Martin, Deborah Schild and Faith Hoppe

Effective with the fall term, three women have joined the School of Social Work faculty: Associate Professor Deborah R. Schild, and Assistant Professors Faith Hopp and Fayette Martin.

Schild comes to the school from The University of Michigan School of Social Work, where she was assistant professor and coordinator of the dual

degree master's program in social work and public health. She received her PhD from the University of California at Berkley, which also awarded her master's degree in public health. She earned her MSW from California State University and her BA from San Jose State University.

Hopp comes to WSU from the Veterans Administration Ann Arbor Healthcare System, where she worked as a research investigator with the Health Services Research and Development Center of Excellence. She completed her doctoral degree at the University of Michigan in social work and sociology, where she specialized in gerontology and health care. Her recent research focuses on interventions and policies to help people facing chronic diseases, including heart failure and diabetes, and end of life issues for these populations.

Prior to joining the SWS faculty, Martin was a National Institute on Drug Abuse post-doctoral fellow at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. She earned her BA from Howard University and her MSW from the University of Pennsylvania. Her special interests include gerontology and substance abuse, particularly among African Americans in urban settings. ○

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Fund Name

Social Work Improvement and Development Fund

Social Work General Scholarship Fund

Shawn A. Abraham Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Art Antisdell Memorial Scholarship

Carol Barron Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Virginia Baumgartner-King Endowed Scholarship

Everett Beishlag Memorial Loan Fund

Elizabeth N. Brehler Scholars Program

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Arnette Burwell Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Emmie S. Chestang Memorial Scholarship

Rachel I. Coleman Endowed Scholarship

Patricia L. Dillick Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Cecille Y. Dumbrigue and Shirley P. Thrasher Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Annette Sniderman Freedman Endowed Scholarship

Emmesia Mathews Frost and Kenneth M. Frost Scholarship

Allan and Harriet Gelfond Endowed Scholarship

Fred and Freda Gentsch Scholarship

Annie Louise Pitts Handy Endowed Scholarship

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Shirley Doris Hupert Memorial Scholarship

Evangeline Sheibley Hyett Endowed Scholarship

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Vernon Edward Keye Memorial Endowed Scholarship

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Second in a Series: Graduate Certificate in Disabilities

In the last issue of Visions, we begin a series of close looks at the individual graduate certificate programs offered through the School of Social Work, starting with the Graduate Certificate in Social Work Practice with Families and Couples. In this issue the focus turns to the Graduate Certificate in Disabilities.

The Graduate Certificate in Disabilities prepares students to assume leadership positions as service providers, policy makers, administrators or educators. Students learn to plan creatively and to implement activities that positively affect the lives of persons with disabilities. The program provides a useful educational experience to those committed to the full community inclusion of persons with disabilities. Course work reflects disability issues throughout the life-span and focuses specifically on disability issues in urban settings. The program is a collaborative effort of the Developmental Disabilities Institute and several other academic units, including the School of Social Work.

The DDI interdisciplinary curriculum addresses multicultural issues, the various causes of disability, the reasons for various disability concerns, and the strengths and shortcomings of the service system.

Applications for admission to the Graduate Certificate Program in Disabilities are available through the Developmental Disabilities Institute. Admission prerequisites include admission to a program of graduate study at Wayne State University and a minimum GPA of 2.6. Courses are open to all students possessing a master's degree from an accredited institution of higher education, as well as to all those actively pursuing a graduate degree at Wayne State University. Students must meet all course prerequisites as stated in the course listing or obtain the instructor's written permission to register.

The program is built around a core of interdisciplinary courses and the practicum, which are required of all students pursuing the Certificate. These three courses provide the basis for the students' interdisciplinary education experience.

The Graduate Certificate in Disabilities prepares students to assume leadership positions as service providers, policy makers, administrators or educators.

For more information, please contact the Developmental Disabilities Institute, 268 Leonard N. Simons Bldg., 4809 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202, phone (Voice /TTY): (313) 577-2654, or e-mail Coordinator Susan Adam Rita at: av2438@wayne.edu

Clip and return this form, completed, with payment to: WSU Alumni Association, P.O. Box 64340, Detroit, MI 48264

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