University Approves Establishment of Center for Social Work Practice and Policy Research

“[The Center for Practice and Policy Research] represents the culmination of careful planning and hard work and will help us take the school to a new level as an academic and community resource.”

— Dean Phyllis Vroom

Continued on page 2 …
Welcome to the Social Work Month edition of Visions. Perhaps you have already glanced at our cover story on the establishment of our brand new Center for Practice and Policy Research. If not, I urge you to read it through carefully, because we are counting on our alumni to help us spread the word about this new community resource. I am very gratified that the Provost and Faculty Senate have approved this major step, because it represents accomplishment of yet one more key piece of the school’s strategic plan.

Also in this issue is a story about two events in March that celebrate Social Work Month. The first is our Second Annual Diversity Lecture, to be delivered this year by Associate Professor Anthony King. Dr. King will report on a timely and crucial topic: efforts to ease the reentry of returning offenders back into the community. Anthony has done extensive research on this area and is building a national reputation as an expert on the subject. I urge you to join us on March 20 to hear his important message. The second Social Work Month event is the annual Alumni Association Award luncheon on March 28. This is a wonderful event which I always look forward to attending, because we consistently honor two well-deserving professionals. This year’s honorees at the luncheon will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant. I hope to see a lot of you there.

Be sure to notice the story on Representative John Dingell’s very first earmark for Wayne State University. Earmarks have gotten a tarnished reputation in the media recently, but what is often lost is that many earmarks do very good things. This one is no exception: it will allow the school to work with a respected community organization, First Start, to ease the trauma of sexual assault victims. I am very grateful to John Dingell and I am optimistic that this is only the beginning of yet another important outreach and partnership to benefit the community and particularly the residents of the downriver area. Representative Dingell has served so well for so long.

May I end by saying I hope you enjoy all of these stories and the others in this issue, and to wish you a joyous spring.

Dean Phyllis Vroom

Welcome to the Social Work Month edition of Visions. Perhaps you have already glanced at our cover story on the establishment of our brand new Center for Practice and Policy Research. If not, I urge you to read it through carefully, because we are counting on our alumni to help us spread the word about this new community resource. I am very gratified that the Provost and Faculty Senate have approved this major step, because it represents accomplishment of yet one more key piece of the school’s strategic plan.

Also in this issue is a story about two events in March that celebrate Social Work Month. The first is our Second Annual Diversity Lecture, to be delivered this year by Associate Professor Anthony King. Dr. King will report on a timely and crucial topic: efforts to ease the reentry of returning offenders back into the community. Anthony has done extensive research on this area and is building a national reputation as an expert on the subject. I urge you to join us on March 20 to hear his important message. The second Social Work Month event is the annual Alumni Association Award luncheon on March 28. This is a wonderful event which I always look forward to attending, because we consistently honor two well-deserving professionals. This year’s honorees at the luncheon will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant. I hope to see a lot of you there.

Be sure to notice the story on Representative John Dingell’s very first earmark for Wayne State University. Earmarks have gotten a tarnished reputation in the media recently, but what is often lost is that many earmarks do very good things. This one is no exception: it will allow the school to work with a respected community organization, First Start, to ease the trauma of sexual assault victims. I am very grateful to John Dingell and I am optimistic that this is only the beginning of yet another important outreach and partnership to benefit the community and particularly the residents of the downriver area. Representative Dingell has served so well for so long.

May I end by saying I hope you enjoy all of these stories and the others in this issue, and to wish you a joyous spring.

Dean Phyllis Vroom
Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.

King to Deliver Diversity Lecture March 20
Diversity Lecture March 20 at 2 pm

Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.

King to Deliver Diversity Lecture March 20
Diversity Lecture March 20 at 2 pm

Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.

King to Deliver Diversity Lecture March 20
Diversity Lecture March 20 at 2 pm

Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.

King to Deliver Diversity Lecture March 20
Diversity Lecture March 20 at 2 pm

Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.

King to Deliver Diversity Lecture March 20
Diversity Lecture March 20 at 2 pm

Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.

King to Deliver Diversity Lecture March 20
Diversity Lecture March 20 at 2 pm

Associate Professor King is an expert on prisoner reentry issues. His topic for the second annual Diversity Lecture is “Characteristics of Returning Offenders: Implications for Community-based Reentry Programs and Service Providers.”

As hundreds of thousands of ex-offenders nationwide (and thousands in Michigan) head home from prison each year, many programs are being established to help inmates transition successfully back into their communities and reduce recidivism. In Michigan, for example, the budget for the Department of Corrections is the largest in state history, so authorities are searching for ways to cut costs. The state is looking to local service providers to provide job-seeking training, housing assistance and other forms of support for ex-offenders when they return home.

In his lecture, King will discuss the characteristics of returning offenders and the implications of state and federal re-entry policies on communities and community-based human service providers.

Professionals attending the lecture can earn 1 Continuing Education contact hour. To register for credit or learn more details, contact Loren Hoffman at (313) 577-4464 or by e-mail aa2851@wayne.edu

To mark March as Social Work Month, the School of Social Work and the Alumni Association will co-sponsor two events. The first is the second annual Diversity Lecture, which will be delivered by Associate Professor Anthony E. O. King on Thursday, March 20th at 2:00 pm in the Community Arts Auditorium on the Wayne State University campus. The other is the Alumni Association award luncheon, which is scheduled for 11:30 am on Friday, March 28 at Alumni House. This year’s honorees at the lunch will be Robert Ennis, named “Citizen of the Year” and “Alumni of the Year” Doug Plant.
Representative John Dingell Announces First Earmark for WSU, Program to Aid Victims of Sexual Assault

United States Representative John Dingell recently announced funding for a program to help victims of domestic violence in his congressional district. The program is a first collaboration between the School of Social Work and First Step’s Out-Wayne County SAFE (Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner) program. The principal coordinator for the school is Assistant Professor Poco Kernsmith who is building a national reputation as an expert on domestic violence and sexual-assault prevention.

First Step’s Out-Wayne County SAFE program will meet the needs of sexual assault victims with specialized forensic exams, immediate crisis intervention, legal advocacy, and assistance with prosecution in the rest of the county. Based upon reports of sexual assaults at area hospitals, it is anticipated that the program will reach 250 victims during the first year, helping to meet the emotional, physical, and legal needs of the survivors.

For almost 30 years, First Step has built a successful and award-winning collaboration within the 35 communities in Out-Wayne County. This funding will enable First Step and Wayne County SAFE, in concert with the School of Social Work, to develop a much needed SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE, enhancing existing partnerships by providing training and awareness for key personnel, social work student interns, and with the 35 Out-Wayne County police departments and the following hospitals: St. Mary’s, Annapolis, Garden City, Heritage, Oakwood Main, Oakwood Canton, Southshore, Wyandotte, and Henry Ford Medical Center.

This one-of-a-kind partnership also engages the School of Social Work to measure the impact of SAFE programming on the emotional well being of the survivors and criminal justice response, including conviction rates, and the effectiveness of the coordinated community response.

Nurse examiners will respond to assaults on an on-call basis. Social work interns and First Step staff will provide advocacy services for survivors, both at the time of the initial call and on a follow up basis. These assault response advocates would be available to respond to survivors of sexual assault, either at the time of a police report or in the hospital if a victim seeks medical attention.

Board of Visitors Member Allan Gelfond Wins Berman Service Award

Longtime Board of Visitors member Allan Gelfond was honored last October with the Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman Award for Distinguished Jewish Communal Service. In bestowing the award, Bill Berman said of Allan Gelfond, "With the heart and stamina of an Olympian, ‘Geli’ has served the Jewish community of Detroit for 46 years ... (he) continues to raise the conscience of the Jewish community and in the process has helped raise hundreds of millions of dollars to its benefit.”

Gelfond has worked for the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit since 1980 and currently holds the title of Senior Financial Resource Development Officer. In addition to the Berman award, Gelfond has received the Vivian Rabineau Memorial Award, the William Avrunin Fellowship and the Pappas “Innovative Idea of the Year” Award.

Dean Vroom Honored with BFDI Zenobia Payne-Drake Humanitarian Award

On December 13 of last year, Dean Phyllis Vroom was honored at the Black Family Development, Inc. (BFDI) Twelfth Annual Presidents’ Dinner, held at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American American History. Along with five other 2007 honorees, Vroom received the Zenobia Payne-Drake Humanitarian Award, which memorializes Ms. Payne-Drake, a Board Member and Public Relations Chairperson of BFDI, who passed away in January, 1997. In the ceremony, which was presided over by Mistress of Ceremonies, entrepreneur, playwright and songwriter Keisha N. Allen, Vroom was commended for her outstanding commitment to family and community. Other honorees included Delois Whittaker Caldwell, Mavis Cofield, Marian Kramer, David Baker Lewis and Heaster L. Wheeler.
“Roots” refers to the reclaiming movement’s immediate predecessors in the 1940s through 1960s at Wayne State University and the University of Michigan Fresh Air Camp, and “wings” refers to “legacy” programs which are currently operating.
The best news I have for you in this winter message is that the fall semester is behind us, a new semester has started and soon we will all have the pleasure of experiencing the reawakening of a new season.

I love spring. It’s a wonderful season. Everything is new: the grass, the flowers and even the leaves on the trees. Spring makes you want to spend time outside, grilling, jogging, planting, walking or just sitting, reading or dreaming. Your Alumni Board already has spring fever. We have been busy as bees, pulling our three fundraisers together.

Three Fundraisers Coming up … Save the Dates!
The first fundraiser is our annual alumni awards luncheon, which will be held at Alumni House on Friday, March 28 from 11:30 am to 1 pm. The ticket cost is $25. Our second fundraiser is a fun afternoon at Detroit Repertory Theatre on Sunday, April 27 at 1 pm, beginning with hors d’oeuvres and champagne. At 2 pm the curtain will rise on Kathleen Clark’s delightful romantic comedy “Southern Comfort.” You get both the reception and performance for a very modest cost of just $25. The third of the year’s fundraisers is our Annual Dinner and Silent Auction, to be held Thursday, June 26 at 6 pm at the Detroit Yacht Club. For tickets to any or all of these events, call the Alumni Office at (313) 577-4464. I look forward to seeing all of you at all three of these wonderful, fun events.

In closing, I would like to remind you that we are a fun and exciting organization. And we take pride in working hard for you … but we can use your help and energy to accomplish our future goals. So allow me to issue an open invitation to all of our alumni, especially those of you who live in the Detroit metropolitan area to add your creativity and interests to our efforts by serving with us on the Board. If you are interested, call the Alumni Office at (313) 577-4464 to get more information. Then we will contact you for an interview. That’s all it takes. The board meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 5 pm to 7 pm at the Thompson Home.

Hope to see and greet you soon.

Georgene Thornton, MSW, LMSW
President, Alumni Association

Alumni Association Annual Awards Luncheon

Yes, I plan to attend the Alumni Association Luncheon on Friday, March 28, 2008 at 11:30 am. There is a registration fee of $25 per attendee.

Number of reservations @ $25 per person for $_________ total.

Name(s): _________________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________ City __________________________ Zip ______________
Phone: __________________________

E-mail Address: __________________________________________________________________

Lunch menu (check preference): ______ Traverse City Chicken stuffed with dried cherries and served with forrester sauce or

Vegetarian option: Grilled Portabella Mushroom, stuffed with grilled vegetables, spinach, asaigo and served on a bed of angel hair pasta and palamino sauce

Luncheon includes: Beverage, Garden Salad and Dessert — Cheesecake with fruit topping

Make check out to WSUSSWAA (Wayne State University School of Social Work Alumni Association) or

Credit Card (check box): [ ] Visa [ ] MasterCard Card Number ________________________________ Expiration Date: ______________________

Signature for credit card authorization: __________________________________________________

Fax back to WSUSSW Attention “Alumni”: (313) 577-8770 or e-mail: aa2851@wayne.edu

or mail check and registration to:

Wayne State University, School of Social Work
4756 Cass Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48202

Alumni Association Membership Registration

Membership is available to alumni and friends of the university. Call (877) WSU-ALUM for additional information or School of Social Work Alumni Association.

Join an affiliate group! Your dues include membership in up to three affiliate alumni associations:


Join the Wayne State Alumni Association

Wayne State University Association Membership Registration

Membership is available to alumni and friends of the university. Call (877) WSU-ALUM for additional information or School of Social Work Alumni Association.

Member #1

Member #2 (must reside at same address)

Address: _________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: __________ Zip: ______________
Home phone: __________________________ Work phone: __________________________

Member #1 email: __________________________________________________________________
Member #2 email: __________________________________________________________________

1 Year 2 Years 3 Years

Single membership $30 $50 $70

Joint membership $55 $65 $90

Additional tax-deductible contribution $ __________________________ Check payable to WSSWA

[ ] Visa [ ] MasterCard 

Exp. date __________________________

PC: SWNA

Join with Visions: 5¢

4¢
On November 15 last year, 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 traditional format, the program was highlighted by three speakers, one, scholarship steward Loren Hoffman, speaking on behalf of the scholarship donors and two student speakers represented those who received scholarships, Holly Borchardt spoke for MSW scholars, while Hassan Hammoud represented BSW recipients.

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.”

Speaking to donors, she added, “My message ... is a simple one: your contribution is an investment in a brighter future for both our students and the broader community. Our students work hard to prepare themselves for this important work. Your financial support not only frees the student to concentrate on academic work, but often also relieves the financial burden on the family. With the reality of diminished governmental support and a difficult state economy, your assistance takes on increased importance this year.”

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.
I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Name ________________________________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________________________
City __________________________________ State ________________ Zip _________________
E-mail Address _________________________________________________________________________
Business phone number (with area code) ___________________________________________
Home phone number (with area code) ___________________________________________

Designation
Please select a fund number from chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>Fund Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would like to make a contribution to Wayne State University. My gift will support the School of Social Work.

Amount enclosed: $______________________________________________________________

Payment Method
Make check payable to Wayne State University.
☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard
Card number ____________________________________________________________________
Expiration date __________________________________________________________________
Signature _______________________________________________________________________
(required for credit card gifts)
Please call (313) 577-8807 with questions.

Matching Gifts
Your employer or your spouse’s employer may multiply your contribution through a matching gift program.
☐ My company’s matching gift form is enclosed.

Mail this form to:
Wayne State University
School of Social Work – Development
4756 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

Non-profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID
Detroit, MI Permit No. 3844