Welcome to the 2017 Research Review for the School of Social Work!

Here you will see all the exciting and impactful research done at the school this year, which has been disseminated through articles, books and presentations. You’ll also have a chance to learn more about a new initiative we’re beginning, with a goal of sharing our research findings more broadly with the practice community. We will also tell you a little about the next generation of researchers—our doctoral students—and their important contributions to the field.

The School of Social Work is committed to educating social work practitioners, and we know in order to do that most effectively we need to generate new knowledge through research. Only with the most current and accurate information will our students be able to engage in effective practice.

Our commitment to finding answers to society’s toughest questions—poverty, mental illness, addiction, health disparities, oppression and injustice—is unwavering. I hope you’ll be inspired by the work of our faculty and students, and that you’ll support us in our efforts.

Contact me with your thoughts and ideas, and come to visit us when you are in Athens—I look forward to hearing from you!

Warmly,

Anna Scheyett, PhD, MSW
Dean and Professor
Research to Practice

Faculty Publications and Presentations

In Praise of Student Research

PhD Graduate, Candidate and Student Publications and Presentations

Faculty

Giving
Good research takes time, but bringing discoveries into the workplace where they can change lives can take even longer. According to one widely cited study\(^1\), it takes an average of 17 years for clinical research findings to reach clinical practice.

“Right now, if you find something out and write a paper, it takes nearly two years for an article to get published in a social work journal,” said Anna Scheyett, dean of the School of Social Work. “That’s two years lost.”

Even after a discovery is published, the information may still not reach practitioners in a timely fashion. Peer-reviewed journals are costly, and practitioners often don’t have much time for a deep dive into detailed academic reports.

To more quickly push out useful information, as well as share information that may have been overlooked, the school now alerts colleagues and friends about research through a free annual publication, the UGA School of Social Work Research Review. Here practitioners and scholars can see the breadth of the school’s inquiries, from micro to macro practice, and identify scholars to contact for details or discussion.

The school has also added a section to its website that shares the most potentially impactful findings by social work faculty and graduate students. The Research-to-Practice (R2P) web pages take a closer look at some of the work mentioned in the 2017 Research Review. Thanks to Michael J. Holosko, the Pauline M. Berger Professor of Family and Child Welfare, the R2P work is summarized in simple, direct language.

Topics run from micro to macro level, with an eye toward application. On the direct practice level, for example, Y. Joon Choi and her colleagues found potential roles for the faith community to address intimate partner violence among abused immigrant women. In their paper they suggest ways that social workers can engage that community. “Police and the Unarmed Black

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Male Crisis,” a new book co-edited by Michael Robinson, is full of novel strategies that practitioners may want to consider for addressing police brutality against African-American males.

Elsewhere, researchers take a broader look. Jane McPherson’s paper on how the Universal Declaration of Human Rights reframed her social work practice could also increase political activism for the profession. In her award-winning paper on worker-owned childcare cooperatives, Rebecca Matthew found an underused work system that improves the well-being of caregivers and could revolutionize eldercare in America.

None of this will happen, however, if the research is a well-kept secret.

“We are seeking better ways to get out information that can change practice, that can change communities, that can empower natural community leaders to make change,” said Scheyett, “and we welcome input.”

You hold a part of the solution in your hands.

To learn more, visit ssw.uga.edu/research.html.
LEON BANKS
SR. ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL,
BSW PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
MSW ADMISSIONS COORDINATOR

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


HAROLD E. BRIGGS
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REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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ROSALYN DENISE CAMPBELL
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Campbell, R. D. (in press). “We pride ourselves on being strong…and able to bear a lot”: The importance of examining the socio-cultural context of Black Americans’ experiences with depression, help-seeking, and service use. Advances in Social Work.
Mowbray, O., Campbell, R. D., Kim, I., & Scott, J.A. (2017). Quitting mental health services among racial and ethnic groups of Americans with depression. *Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s11414-017-9560-0


**REFEREED PRESENTATIONS**


**MARY A. CAPLAN**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**REFEREED PRESENTATIONS**


Y. JOON CHOI
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DONALD L. HOLLOWELL DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND CIVIL RIGHTS STUDIES, AND DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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**JENNIFER ELKINS**

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**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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**ALBERTA J. ELLETT**

PROFESSOR

**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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MICHAEL J. HOLOSKO
PAULINE M. BERGER PROFESSOR OF FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE

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**KRISTINA JASKYTE BAHR**  
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**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**REFEREED PRESENTATIONS**


**REBECCA A. MATTHEW**  
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**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS


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SHARI E. MILLER
ASSOCIATE DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS


REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

Miller, S. E., Walther, J., Sochacka, N., & Miranda, H. (2017, October). From concern to co-creation: Shifting the social work and technology discourse. Paper to be presented to the 63rd Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.


**ORION MOWBRAY**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


Mowbray, O., Campbell, R. D., Kim, I. & Scott, J.A. (2017). Quitting mental health services among racial and ethnic groups of Americans with depression. *Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s11414-017-9560-0


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LARRY NACKERUD
PROFESSOR

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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DAVID OKECH
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ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

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ANNA M. SCHHEYETT
DEAN AND PROFESSOR

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M. ELIZABETH (BETSY) VONK  
PROFESSOR

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TIFFANY R. WASHINGTON  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

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2017 Research Review


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The School of Social Work has always fostered inquiry and the skill-building needed to contribute to new knowledge. The process is not a one-way channel of instruction from faculty to young scholars, though—it’s a partnership with a very talented cohort. Social work doctoral students are often already experienced, professional social work practitioners. They return to school because they seek answers to huge questions, answers which could improve social work practice and countless lives. To that, they bring their curiosity, intelligence and heartfelt passions.

Their questions cover an extraordinary range of topics: barriers to health service utilization; the relation of law enforcement efforts to symptoms of trauma in children; disparities in behavioral and mental health for people of color and Latinos; how public policy affects the health of prison populations, to name but a few. The chosen topics cross disciplines as well, because social problems are not constrained by academic boundaries.

Even as they conduct their own inquiries, our students continue to offer their hard-earned know-how to other students. You may notice in these pages a number of book chapters by different authors credited to Social Work Case Management: Case Studies From the Frontlines (Sage Publications, 2017). The textbook, written and edited by Michael J. Holosko, the Pauline M. Berger Professor of Family and Child Welfare, utilizes the first-hand experiences and observations of many of the school’s doctoral students and recent graduates.

Student scholarship is also notable because novice researchers are asking important questions while simultaneously learning how to find the answers. The acceptance of their work in peer-reviewed journals and as presentations at national conferences not only affirms the value of the questions they pose, but also the professionalism of their approaches—be they qualitative, quantitative, gleaned from national databases or from their own work in communities and organizations.

Last but not least, doctoral student scholarship is impressive when you consider what
students give up in order to get the answers they seek. Students often trade a relatively comfortable existence for Spartan living conditions. They survive as best they can on student stipends that don’t always meet all basic expenses, while working incredibly hard, long hours away from family and friends.

For all these reasons, we proudly list their work here. Mostly however, we do so for this reason: their scholarship points to a better world.
J. LLOYD ALLEN, PHD

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**GISELLE M. BALFOUR**

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**REFEREEED JOURNAL ARTICLES**

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**NICOLE A. CORLEY, PHD**

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**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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**LINDSEY R. DISNEY**

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AMANDA D. HAM

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CHRISTI P. HARDEMAN

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LESLIE R. HERBERT

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**JOEL IZLAR**

**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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PORTER JENNINGS

REFEREEED PRESENTATIONS


EUNHYE KIM

REFEREEED PRESENTATIONS

IRANG KIM, PHD

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Mowbray, O., Campbell, R. D., Kim, I., & Scott, J. A. (2017). Quitting mental health services among racial and ethnic groups of Americans with depression. *Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s11414-017-9560-0


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MEGAN WOODRUFF LEE

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TENESHA LITTLETON

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YOLANDA MACHADO-ESCUDERO

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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STEPHEN V. MCGARITY

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JESSICA NOBILE, PHD

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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JANA A. PRUETT

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


GREGORY L. PURSER

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


**REFEREED PRESENTATIONS**


**ABHA RAI**

**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**

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Yates, T., & Rai, A. (2017, October). The state of feminism(s) in social work education. To be presented at the 63rd Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.


LAUREN A. RICCIARDELLI, PHD

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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SHERINAH K. SAASA

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


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TRASIE A. TOPPLE

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HELEN TAYLOR YATES

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

Yates, T., & Rai, A. (2017, October). The state of feminism(s) in social work education. To be presented at the 63rd Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.
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Zoe Johnson
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Tony B. Lowe
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Professor

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Assistant Professor
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- enables students to present research at a professional conferences
- provides pilot research support for faculty studying innovative areas
- gives students unique experiential learning opportunities in Ghana, Northern Ireland, and locally
- purchases equipment to keep faculty and students at the forefront of educational technology.

Thank you for helping us to generate new knowledge and educate future social workers in order to promote health, wellbeing and social justice.