Research Review 2018-2019

Modern Slavery: The Research Challenge | Nonprofit Innovation
Respite for Caregivers | Alternative Criminal Justice Programs
Welcome to the 2018-2019 Research Review for the University of Georgia School of Social Work! The School is committed to educating excellent social work practitioners, and we know in order to do this 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.

It is for this reason that I’m excited to share with you all of the impactful research we conduct here at UGA; through this work, the School champions a better quality of life and social justice for all.

In this Review, you’ll get a deeper picture of faculty findings that support people’s physical and mental health, fight poverty and promote a more secure future, and strengthen communities and families. You’ll learn about our work to drive innovation in social work education and practice, to promote quality in criminal justice systems, and to support caregivers of older adults. In addition, you’ll read about our Department of State funded efforts to eradicate human trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Our commitment to finding answers to society’s toughest questions—family stress, mental illness, health disparities, oppression and injustice—drives our research. 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
Welcome from the Dean

Modern Slavery: The Research Challenge
David Okech and an international team tackle human trafficking with a collective impact approach

Nonprofit Innovation: Designing for Social Change
Kristina Jaskyte Bahr’s interests and deep inquisitiveness are at the center of both her teaching and research.

Lifting the Burden
Tiffany Washington studies the impact of respite on caregivers

Shutting the Revolving Door
Orion Mowbray assesses two alternative criminal justice system programs

Faculty Refereed Publications and Presentations

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Gifts in Action
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MODERN SLavery

THE RESEARCH CHALLENGE
David Okech and an international team tackle human trafficking with a collective impact approach
Human Trafficking

— which encompasses both sex trafficking and forced labor — is perhaps the most vile criminal enterprise of the 21st century. It also is a global concern, as there are some 24.9 million trafficking victims, with the ill-gotten proceeds reaching as high as $150 billion, according to the International Labour Organization.

There are many people working around the world to stop human trafficking, among them David Okech, an associate professor in UGA’s School of Social Work, who is the founder and director of a team known as the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES).

The project — which also includes collaborators from Great Britain and Uganda — is a five-year, $4.03 million program funded by the State Department’s Office to Combat and Monitor Trafficking in Persons, to collect and analyze data on child trafficking in portions of Sierra Leone and Guinea and to fund interventions and reintegration programs for survivors.

As summer turned to fall, Okech — whose UGA colleagues include faculty from the department of sociology in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Public Health, and the College of Family and Consumer Sciences — says the APRIES group will be collecting prevalence data among children ages 6 to 17 in Sierra Leone and Guinea who are victims of trafficking to establish baseline prevalence data and identify service and policy gaps.
“I would say we’ve just begun,” says Okech. “We are in talks with government, NGOs, and researchers in Guinea and Sierra Leone. This has got to be a collective impact approach where together we will make a contribution to policies and programming in this area. So far, so good, as we learn from each other about the nuances of trafficking in these countries and how to implement a robust methodology.”

Okech, a native of Kenya who serves on Georgia’s Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force Research Section, assented that there are many challenges in the area of human trafficking research, not the least of which is a recurring language barrier.

“One challenge is translating trafficking to other cultures, because there is not a word for trafficking in these cultures,” he says. “And most agencies have no resources, so we’re working on increasing the capacity of local implementing partners and focusing on more sustainable approaches.”

One area where Okech and his international team have not faced challenges is their willingness and ability to work together.

“We have a strong team, and when we put the mechanics in place to be able to enlist many minds, we can respond to these challenges,” said Okech, whose colleagues on the project include APRIES Associate Directors Jody Clay-Warner, a Meigs professor of sociology at UGA, and Alex Balch, a professor of politics at the University of Liverpool, and researchers in West Africa.

“(The team) has had weekly, one-hour conferences over the past year. Alex Balch was here in April 2018; I was in Liverpool in October
The APRIES team and members of the ResilientAfrica Network (RAN) at Makerere University, Uganda.

Front row from left: Roy Mayega\textsuperscript{1,3}; Jody Clay-Warner\textsuperscript{2,4}; Tamora Callands\textsuperscript{3,4}; William Bazeyo\textsuperscript{1,3}; David Okech\textsuperscript{2,4}; Alex Balch\textsuperscript{2,5}; Nathan Tumuhamye\textsuperscript{3}; Christine Muhumuza\textsuperscript{1,3}. Back Row: Anthony Ssebagereka\textsuperscript{1,3}; and Timony Edgemon\textsuperscript{4}. Not pictured: Nathan Hansen\textsuperscript{2,4}.

1: RAN • 2: APRIES • 3: Makerere University • 4: University of Georgia • 5: University of Liverpool | Photo courtesy ResilientAfrica Network.
2018, and we all went to Uganda, where our research partner ResilientAfrica Network is located, in September 2019. We are in constant communication. It has worked very well because of the communication and cooperation.”

Tamora Callands, an assistant professor of health promotion and behavior in UGA’s College of Public Health, is the training and evaluation coordinator for APRIES, says the group is well-versed in research in unusual locales.

“The interesting thing is all of us on the team have had some international experience,” she says. “Most of the work I’ve done has been in Liberia and Sierra Leone, so I’m familiar with various aspects of those countries — they have very similar war histories, so a lot of what I’ve gathered from being part of the Sierra Leone team when I was working in Liberia is bi-directional or cross-learning. That part has been amazing.

“It’s been one of those experiences because there are so many of us, we’re able to chime in with what our expectations are, given the context.”

Callands also called Okech “the glue” that holds the team and the project together.

“David came to us (talking about) a perfect team and a perfect situation, so we should all do this together,” she says. “So David is the one who brought us together, and once we came together he’s been able to help facilitate things. He knew about Alex, and Alex was able to bring in people he knew. It has all come together very nicely.”

by Chris Starrs
Kristina Jaskyte Bahr’s interests and deep inquisitiveness are at the center of both her teaching and research.
KRISTINA JASKYTE BAHR, an associate professor at UGA’s School of Social Work and Institute for Nonprofit Organizations, has focused her research on creativity and innovation in nonprofit organizations.

“All my research projects have been driven by my own personal curiosity,” says Jaskyte Bahr, who in the fall will begin her 18th year at UGA. “It’s not something I have to do – it’s something I want to do just because I’m curious.” Jaskyte Bahr’s work – and her passions – have not gone unnoticed, as she’s one of just a few social work professors to receive a grant from the National Science Foundation to study innovations in nonprofit organizations, and she also earned a research grant from the American Society of Association Executives to explore the role of nonprofits’ boards of directors in facilitating innovation.

Last September, Jaskyte Bahr was one of a dozen UGA faculty members to participate in a yearlong program developed by the Office of Service-Learning. Her project was devising a new service-learning course, called Design Thinking for Social Innovation, funded by a Venture Well grant that she’s co-teaching in concert with John Weatherford of UGA’s New Media Institute.

Her interest in design thinking has led her to Stanford University’s renowned d.school, “a hub for innovation, collaboration, and creativity” in problem solving. She’s had two d.school experiences, most recently in the summer of 2019.

“That’s the perfect place for anyone who is interested in the design thinking method to go and be trained in it,” says Jaskyte Bahr. “Having the luxury of spending two full weeks immersed in doing it was an unbelievable experience…It helped me to grow as a design thinker and practitioner because I do a lot of pro bono and other work in the field for nonprofits. It ended up being a perfect combination of all these experiences coming together to provide maximum benefit.”

While much of her work has revolved around nonprofit organizations, one of Jaskyte Bahr’s latest projects is studying B Corporations, certified for-profit companies that have a constructive impact on employees, communities and the environment – something she says is a “40-degree turn from where I’m going.”
“This qualitative project includes interviews, and I ask (B Corporation founders and executives) their motivation about becoming a B Corporation, about how that certification process was for them and what happened after that,” said Jaskyte Bahr.

Jaskyte Bahr also remains focused on design thinking by working in collaboration with Jeanne Liedtka, who teaches strategy, ethics, and entrepreneurship at the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business, whom she met at an Academy of Management meeting. Jaskyte Bahr and Liedtka’s project zeroes in on developing a new instrument to capture the effectiveness of the design thinking process.

She also serves on the Terry College of Business entrepreneurship advisory board and on the advisory council for the State of Hope, a state-wide initiative by the Department of Family and Children Services for family-safe local communities.

It is with the State of Hope, Jaskyte Bahr says, that she’s seen some remarkable examples of innovation and creativity.

“In my experience, it’s the most ambitious effort to use innovation to transform child welfare at the state level,” she says. “I’ve seen organizations use innovating programming but this was a massive undertaking. It is by far one of the most innovative things I’ve ever been part of.”

“Seeing this happening in a government agency on such a large scale, I can tell you that Georgia is in the forefront of making strides in child welfare reforms…There’s a nice connection from top to bottom.”

by Chris Starrs
Lifting the Burden

Tiffany Washington studies the impact of respite on caregivers

Margie Dowling assists her 96-year old father Welby Risler while taking a walk on a recent trip to Athens. Unable to live alone after his wife’s death, Risler moved in with Dowling and her family in 2017. Dowling is the primary caregiver for her father, and with daytime assistance from her adult daughter, still works a full-time job.

Photo by Wingate Downs
At some point in our lives, most of us will experience caregiving, whether we provide assistance or receive it. Studies suggest that there are more than 40 million unpaid family caregivers in the United States, many of whom spend 20 or more hours a week caring for an older adult family member.

While the family member requiring care is clearly the most critical part of the equation, there’s little argument that caregivers also need relief in the form of respite, which gives them much-needed time away from the task at hand.

Tiffany Washington, an associate professor in UGA’s School of Social Work, is digging deep into the concept of respite care, leading an extensive research project on the short-term breaks that caregivers are afforded.

“Caregiving touches everyone, directly or indirectly,” says Washington. “It should be something that all of us care about. If you think about it from a public health standpoint, it affects many people.

“The consequences of caregiving can be positive and negative. The negative consequences can be the emotional toll, the stress, the depression. Caregivers can also be affected physically... There are positive aspects of caregiving, too, which we don’t talk about enough. We tend to focus on what’s negative about it. But there are positives.”
“Respite is any service that gives caregivers an opportunity to take a break.”

Washington, who was trained in health social work, is focusing on respite care in a research project funded by the Health Foundation of Central and Western New York. She and her cohorts are utilizing phone interviews and then focus groups with dozens of caregivers in a 16-county area to identify the amount and type of respite care needed to provide a positive (and measurable) impact on caregivers, and what factors – including financial, community and familial factors – have an influence on access to respite care.

“Respite is any service that gives caregivers an opportunity to take a break,” says Washington, who received her PhD in social work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and joined the UGA faculty in 2013.

“It’s all about taking a break from that role. We don’t have enough respite services to go around. It’s so limited – there are few community resources, or maybe they’re inaccessible because they’re expensive or have long waiting lists. So for those who can access respite, there’s still a need to understand what motivates caregivers to use respite. What does that look like? How much respite really matters?”

Washington’s research project – called Building Evidence for Respite – began in August 2018 and she expects to complete the project in the spring of 2020 at the latest.

The North Carolina native praised the graduate assistants toiling with her on the project and pointed out that she’s working with two consultants, Sheryl Zimmerman, PhD, from UNC’s School of Social Work (whom Washington referred to as her mentor) and Thomas Caprio, M.D., from the University of Rochester Medical Center.

“I have a wonderful team of research assistants,” she says. “Part of what makes me so
“I have a wonderful team of research assistants... They are so invested in this project.”

happy in my role as a researcher is the opportunity to train graduate students, and the graduate students working with me are so smart and come with a variety of experience. They are so invested in this project. They’re learning and I’m learning. I want them to have the opportunity to have input. I want to make sure they feel they’re playing a role in this work.”

There are many miles between Athens, Georgia, and Central and Western New York, and Washington assents that closing the distance often isn’t easy.

“Distance can be a challenge, but I have had some wonderful partners in New York who have been helping me with recruitment and have been working to make sure we can reach people,” she says, pointing out the assistance
she’s received from the New York State Caregiving and Respite Coalition and the New York State Office for the Aging.

“They’ve been helping us get the word out, for sure. Our partners have been very helpful and our students have been calling around to some more partner agencies in New York to get the word out and do more recruitment.”

In addition to her research, Washington teaches a First-Year Odyssey class, at which students receive doses of the wit and wisdom of the long-running network comedy “The Golden Girls.”

“It’s really cool,” she says. “My students and I use social media to determine how age-friendly Athens is. By age-friendly, is it a place where aging in place or healthy aging is promoted? Is it conducive to healthy aging?

“The title of the course is “Aging in Athens,” but our social media hashtag is #Thankyouforbeingafriend, the theme song from The Golden Girls. I use The Golden Girls’ series as a framework for daily discussion because it was well ahead of its time, in my opinion, as every episode touched on a social issue that affects older adults, including caregiving. That’s a class we have a lot of fun in.”

by Chris Starrs
“The answers are not clear, the challenges are massive, and the solutions are hard to come by, but not for a lack of motivated people to do something about it.”
The state of Georgia has more people on probation or parole than any other state in the country, according to the Prison Policy Initiative.

Orion Mowbray, director of research and an associate professor in UGA’s School of Social Work, is working on a pair of research projects that could go a long way in addressing how to close the revolving door that many people in Georgia with mental health and substance-abuse problems encounter in the criminal justice system.

The first project covers evaluating Day Reporting Centers for their effectiveness through an internal program assessment instrument, and the second study looks at Family Treatment Drug Courts in Georgia.

“It’s been very rewarding,” says Mowbray, who joined the School of Social Work faculty in 2013, of the research projects. “The answers...
are not clear, the challenges are massive, and
the solutions are hard to come by, but not for
a lack of motivated people to do something
about it.”

Day Reporting Centers, which provide a more
intensive form of supervision for probationers
and parolees, offer opportunities for persons
with mental health and substance use prob-
lems to change criminal thinking and behavior
through a combination of counseling, educa-
tional programming and close supervision.
There are more than three dozen Day Report-
ing Centers in the state.

Mowbray says the idea behind Day Report-
ing Centers – which have been in existence in
Georgia since 2005 – is that participants who
are exposed to more rigorous direction have a
better chance of not returning to the criminal
justice system.

The Georgia General Assembly has decreed
that Day Reporting Centers must be evalu-
ated every five years. Over the last 18 months,
Mowbray has partnered with the state’s
Department of Community Supervision on
the project, and has utilized the assessment
instrument they developed in visits to each
Day Reporting Center in the state.

Although the project – which has been funded
by the Department of Community Supervi-
sion -- isn’t scheduled to be completed until
early fall, some of the preliminary findings
have proven beneficial.
“We finished the assessment and we were able to demonstrate that Day Reporting Centers which scored higher in our assessment had better outcomes,” says Mowbray. “Participants at high-scoring centers had fewer new felony charges, fewer positive drug tests, and fewer probation revocations.”

The second project covers individuals taking part in an accountability program available through the state’s Family Treatment Drug Courts, enabling caregivers to regain custody of their children in a more timely manner.

Not every judicial circuit has a drug court program and Mowbray says that before these courts can expand throughout Georgia, the state needs data on the court’s best practices and what resources are required for further development.

“We’re now looking at what successes and difficulties they have, as well as what the general outcomes are of people in the court so we can use this knowledge to expand the capacity of family treatment courts,” says Mowbray of the three-year project, which is funded by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association.

Mowbray, who earned his PhD in social work and social psychology from the University of Michigan, says his work “shifted” from the study of mental health and substance use problems in the general population to studying the same problems in the criminal justice system, but he very much enjoys the research projects he’s involved in.

“I love it,” he says. “I have a little bit of background in criminology and academic-based criminal theory, but it wasn’t until I started doing this work that I actually got to meet a large number of people providing mental health and substance use services in the criminal justice system. And I found them all to be wonderful people who care deeply about not only improving the criminal justice system, but also trying to work in a system that was not designed to provide care to people with mental health and substance abuse problems.”

by Chris Starrs


JOURNAL ARTICLES


CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS


PRESENTATIONS


**PRESENTATIONS**


**BOOKS**


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


BOOK CHAPTERS


RESEARCH REPORT


JOURNAL ARTICLES


BOOK CHAPTERS


PRESENTATIONS


Campbell, R. D., & Winchester, M. (2018, July). Just practice: Church members speak on the role of their Black church in addressing the mental health needs of its members. Symposium at the 17th biennial Meeting of the International Society for Justice Research, Atlanta, GA.

MARY A. CAPLAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
PhD • University of California, Berkeley
MSW • University of California, Berkeley
BA • University of Oregon

“My research focuses on the relationship between poverty, personal debt, the welfare state and capitalism. Specifically, I want to understand how low-income people utilize informal, fringe and predatory financial services to make ends meet within the context of changes in social policy and the political economy.”

JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


Y. JOON CHOI
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
PhD • Virginia Commonwealth University
MSW • University of Michigan
MA • City University of New York – City College
BA • Ewha Womans University.

“My research focuses on intimate partner violence (IPV), substance abuse, HIV, and cancer among women. I am interested in developing and testing interventions to address these problems. My current National Institute of Justice-funded research focuses on developing and testing a virtual case simulation training for Korean American religious leaders. This research addresses the critical need to prevent IPV and enhance access to services and resources for immigrant victims of IPV.”

JOURNAL ARTICLES


"My research focuses on empirically documenting barriers of access to health care, mental health services, social services, educational opportunities and employment opportunities for underserved populations. It also focuses on engaging communities as copartners in the design and implementation of interventions that improve the overall health and well-being of disadvantaged populations locally, nationally and globally."

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS AND PROCEEDINGS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


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**BOOK CHAPTERS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


“My clinical social work practice, research and teaching expertise centers broadly around complex interpersonal, intergenerational and historical trauma. My current research focuses on culturally responsive, trauma-informed, multi-systemic, and trans-disciplinary approaches to addressing trauma, violence and abuse. I currently serve as PI/Co-PI on several local projects promoting individual, family, school, and community well-being in trauma-exposed populations.”

JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


RACHEL A. FUSCO

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

UGA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION PROFESSOR IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

PhD • Columbia University
MSW • University of Wisconsin
BA • University of Wisconsin

“My research focuses on the mental health and well-being of young children and their mothers, especially in families experiencing child maltreatment, intimate partner violence, and substance use disorders. My current projects include a study of sleep and its role in mediating behavioral health in foster care alumni, and a supportive intervention for pregnant women with opioid use disorders to evaluate its effect on improving maternal and infant outcomes.”

BOOKS


JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


Gibbs, J., & Goldbach, J. (2019, March). Recruiting young men who have sex with men: An examination of the feasibility of venue-based compared to technology-based probability sampling. Poster presentation at the International Convention of Psychological Science, Paris, FR.


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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“I help to design, implement and evaluate community-based interventions related to unemployment, job training and financial asset-building, as well as advocate for the development of public policies aimed at alleviating poverty. I also work with colleagues here at UGA and in the community to help build the capacity of nonprofit organizations locally, nationally and globally to fulfill their missions.”

“My research and teaching strive to enliven conversations and (re)imagine possibilities for greater community health and well-being. By making use of community-based participatory research methods, I explore and evaluate culturally-responsive models of human service delivery to enhance not only service access and quality but also dignified labor conditions and grassroots leadership development.”

“My scholarship sees social work through a human rights lens, and I apply human rights principles to research, teaching, and service. I create tools to promote rights-based practice that are used to challenge the social work profession in China, Spain, Croatia, Albania and beyond. Locally and globally, my research promotes anti-discriminatory and rights-based practices in the areas of maternal/child health, criminal justice, and migration.”

JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


**ANTHONY J. MALLON**

**CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

PhD • University of Michigan, MSW • City University of New York BS • University of Connecticut

“I help to design, implement and evaluate community-based interventions related to unemployment, job training and financial asset-building, as well as advocate for the development of public policies aimed at alleviating poverty. I also work with colleagues here at UGA and in the community to help build the capacity of nonprofit organizations locally, nationally and globally to fulfill their missions.”

**PRESENTERALS**


Matthew, R. (2019, January). “My research and teaching strive to enliven conversations and (re)imagine possibilities for greater community health and well-being. By making use of community-based participatory research methods, I explore and evaluate culturally-responsive models of human service delivery to enhance not only service access and quality but also dignified labor conditions and grassroots leadership development.”

Matthew, R. (2019, January). “My scholarship sees social work through a human rights lens, and I apply human rights principles to research, teaching, and service. I create tools to promote rights-based practice that are used to challenge the social work profession in China, Spain, Croatia, Albania and beyond. Locally and globally, my research promotes anti-discriminatory and rights-based practices in the areas of maternal/child health, criminal justice, and migration.”

**REBECCA A. MATTHEW**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

PhD • University of California, Berkeley MSW • University of California, Berkeley MPH • University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill BA • University of South Florida

“Engaging in community-based participatory research provides us with opportunities to help build the capacity of nonprofit organizations so that they can continue to grow and serve the needs of the community. My research and teaching aim to help students and practitioners develop the skills and knowledge needed to effectively engage in CBPR.”

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


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**CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS AND PROCEEDINGS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


SHARI E. MILLER
ASSOCIATE DEAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
PhD • University of Maryland, Baltimore
MSW • Yeshiva University
BA • State University of New York at Binghamton

“My scholarship is rooted in an interest in culture and context, particularly how culture informs and is informed by the shifting priorities of any given time, and how we nimble navigate these shifts in social work. My research focuses on social work education and the profession, including professional socialization, educational innovation, self-care, development of theory, interdisciplinary and inter-professional education and practice, and reflective education and practice for a sustainable global society.”

JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


KATE MORRISSEY STAHL
CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
PhD • University of Georgia
MSW • University of Georgia
MA • Pennsylvania State University
BA • Ripon College

“My research includes considering anti-oppressive pedagogies as well as the intersection of aging and sexual expression. I have a practice in Athens working as a licensed clinical social worker and AASECT certified sex therapist with extra training in work with couples and families, especially the LGBTQ community. I am a certified yoga instructor and am experienced with a range of behavioral and mindfulness-based clinical approaches, including Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT).”

JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


**Presentations**


Faculty

LARRY NACKERUD
PROFESSOR
PhD • Cornell University
MSW • Tulane University
BA • Luther College

“I teach social welfare, policy analysis, and research methods courses in the School of Social Work at the University of Georgia. My main area of teaching and research interest is the design and implementation of U.S. immigration and refugee policy. I am particularly focused on the intersection between the formulation of public policies at all levels of government, federal, state, and local, and the applied practice of social work.”

BOOKS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

BOOK CHAPTERS


BOOK CHAPTERS


PRESENTATIONS

Scheyett, A. (2019, May). Characteristics and contextual stressors in farmer suicides. Poster presentation at the 42nd Annual Rural Health Conference, Atlanta, GA.


**PRESENTATIONS**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


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**TIFFANY R. WASHINGTON**

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

PhD • University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

MSW • North Carolina A & T/UNC at Greensboro

BA • University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“My research interests include aging, health/minority health, and caregiving. Of note, I designed and pilot-tested a caregiver respite program, Houseguest, in partnership with the Athens Community Council on Aging. My current project, Building Evidence for Respite, is funded by the Health Foundation for Western & Central New York.”

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**REBECCA L. WELLS**

**CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

PhD • Georgia State University

MSW • University of South Carolina

MPH • University of South Carolina

BA • Mercer University

“I am interested in advancing inclusion, accessibility, and equity for people with disabilities. My research focuses on patient- and family-centered approaches for both children and adults with disabilities. The courses I teach and the trainings I conduct reflect my belief that the these principles are essential in reducing and eliminating health disparities experienced by people with disabilities and other underserved populations.”
PHD STUDENT
REFEREED PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

LUI S ALVAREZ-HERNANDEZ
JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


BARBARA ARNOLD
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND ABSTRACTS

PRESENTATIONS

SHENA BROWN (ABD)
PUBLICATIONS

PRESENTATIONS


PRESENTATIONS

KATHERINE GOWER
JOURNAL ARTICLES

JOEL IZLAR (ABD)
JOURNAL ARTICLES

PRESENTATIONS

MEGAN LEE (ABD)

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SUNWOO LEE (ABD)

JOURNAL ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


TENESHA LITTLETON (ABD)

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GEORGE MOIS (PHD CANDIDATE)

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CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND ABSTRACTS


PRESENTATIONS

ABHA RAi (ABD)

JOURNAL ARTICLES


BOOK REVIEWS


PRESENTATIONS


TATIANA VILLARREAL-OTÁLORA (PHD CANDIDATE)

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PRESENTATIONS


JOURNAL ARTICLES


JOURNAL ARTICLES


PhD candidate George Mois and volunteer Phyllis Hamilton put an interactive companion through its paces in the Assistive Robotics Technology Lab at UGA. In collaboration with Jenay Beer, assistant professor in social work and public health, Mois is conducting research in assistive technology to improve the quality of life for older adults, children and at-need populations.
Our alumni and friends are elevating the School of Social Work's research enterprise in ways not seen in the school's 50+ years.

At the 2016 launch of UGA’s Commit to Georgia Campaign, we committed to raising more than $1.9 million by 2020 and answering the call to solve our world’s grand challenges by turning innovative ideas into impact.

As we pursue that goal, we know that the most critical part of that $1.9 million is one.

One intervention that improves lives and communities everywhere.
One renowned thinker and expert practitioner who changes the field.
One commitment, across our campuses, to social justice.

With your commitment to life-changing research and teaching, we can open doors for faculty and students and our collective impact will forever change lives—one at a time.

Your commitment keeps our school at the forefront of connecting social work scholarship and nonprofit leadership to the world’s multifaceted challenges. It enables us to compete for and retain top faculty, practitioners and policymakers who are profoundly influential and actively engaged within the academy and beyond.

Your gift of $1,500 or more annually expands our capacity to drive social wellbeing with innovative solutions and reimagine what it means to be a social worker. Above all, your investment works collectively with others to enrich lives—transforming generosity into real, tangible benefits for all the communities we serve.

To renew your support, or to make your first-time gift, please go to https://gail.uga.edu/commit and make a donation to the School of Social Work.

As always, thank you for demonstrating your commitment to the UGA School of Social Work, its faculty and students, and the countless lives impacted by your philanthropy.

If you would like more information about philanthropy at the School of Social Work, please contact Devin Taylor, Development Coordinator, (706) 542-8971 or devin.taylor@uga.edu
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