

Social Work

NIDA grant allows
SSW faculty member
to explore link
between

PTSD and substance abuse

treatment services

FALL 2009

Letter from the Dean



Greetings Alums, Colleagues and Friends!

It is a real pleasure to write you this fall and tell you about the exciting achievements at the University of Georgia School of Social Work. Despite these uncertain economic times on the University campus, throughout the state and across our nation, our school is excelling and continuing to make outstanding strides in faculty research, student achievement and, yes, even in development.

Earlier this year, the National Institute on Drug Abuse – one of 27 institutes and centers that comprise the National Institutes of Health – awarded the University of Georgia School of Social Work \$839,735 to research the connection between Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and substance abuse treatment services. The grant, an NIDA Mentored Research Scientist Development Award, was awarded to Social Work faculty member Brian Bride. Dr. Bride's exceptional work is sure to make an impact on social work practice and research for many years to come. This grant also represents the culmination of scholarship by an outstanding faculty member, our research interests and our mission as a school to promote social and economic justice.

In August 2009, thanks to the generosity of St. Joseph's/Candler Hospital, the school reached the endowment level for the Tisha Abolt Graduate Assistantship. Special thanks to St. Joseph's/Candler and the wide spectrum of fine citizens in the Savannah region for their support of this good cause.

Additionally, we are most honored to announce a new student scholarship: The Elizabeth B. Loyd Scholarship. Before her passing this spring, Mrs. Loyd and her husband, Jerry, decided to support MSW students pursuing a clinical focus. We are so grateful to the Loyd family. Their generosity will make a difference in the lives of many of our students for years to come.

Our programs continue to excel, as well. New students who have enrolled for the fall include 88 MSW full-time, 41 MSW Gwinnett part-time and 8 PhD students. This new group of students will join 159 BSW students, 76 MSW second-year students, 37 advanced standing students, 60 second- and third-year Gwinnett part-time and 25 PhD students. The Institute for Non-Profit Organizations enrollment includes 16 new and 16 continuing students.

I am especially pleased that Dr. Jerome Schiele, our new associate dean and graduate coordinator, is aboard. Dr. Schiele has already been extensively involved in curriculum and instruction, accreditation, personnel and budget matters. He is already proving a valuable asset for our school.

It is a distinct honor to welcome four new board members to our school's Board of Visitors: Marjorie Carswell Bush (MSW '87), president and CEO of St. Jude's Recovery Center in Atlanta; Deana Morrow (MSW '86), professor and graduate program director in the Department of Social Work at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina; Thomas Bomar Edmonds Jr. (MSW '69) clinical social worker and principal partner in MECA, LLC, Mediation, Education and Counseling Associates; and Freeman Walker Jr. (MSW '69), retired associate director of the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Decatur and retired assistant adjunct professor at the University of South Carolina School of Social Work. Their contributions to our board will certainly be beneficial for our school and university.

In April our school presented awards at its Honors Day Awards Luncheon. SSW students, faculty, staff, alumni and field instructors were honored at the annual gathering. UGA SSW Professor Emeritus David Levine was presented the Dean's Award for Social Justice for his devoted service to the Athens-Clarke County community and the state of Georgia and for his advancement of the field of social work through his teaching and research. The school's Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Susan C. Waltman for her outstanding work in the field of public health. Waltman is senior vice president and general counsel for the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA), which represents more than 200 public and not-for-profit hospitals and continuing care facilities. Each of these individuals extraordinarily exemplifies the character of our school.

The school also continues its work on the Donald L. Hollowell Distinguished Professorship and we hope to announce the endowment of that professorship in 2010. I am pleased to report that UGA Pres. Michael Adams recently awarded funds from the President's Venture Fund to support the premiere screening of the Hollowell documentary, *Donald L. Hollowell: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice*. The premiere screening will be a major fundraising event in the spring for the Hollowell Professorship. More details on the Hollowell documentary screening will be announced soon.

I want to express a heartfelt thanks to each and every one of our alumni and friends. You are the reason our school continues to be a success and continues to set the bar for other schools of social work in the southeast and across the nation.

Sincerely,

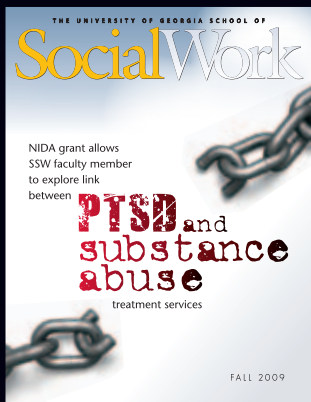
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maurice C. Daniels". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Maurice" being more prominent.

Maurice C. Daniels, Dean



**The University of Georgia
School of Social Work**

Advocates for Positive Social Change

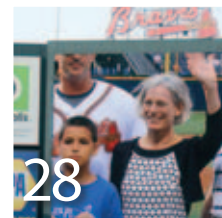
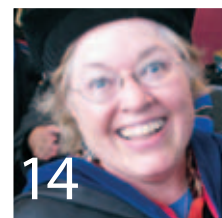


Social Work

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NIDA grant allows SSW faculty member

to explore link

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PTSD and substance abuse treatment services

By Janet Jones Kendall

The National Institute on Drug Abuse – one of 27 institutes and centers that comprise the National Institutes of Health – has awarded the University of Georgia School of Social Work \$839,735 to research the connection between Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and substance abuse treatment services.

The five-year grant, a NIDA Mentored Research Scientist Development Award, was awarded to Social Work faculty member Brian Bride. Bride's teaching and research interests focus on mental health and substance abuse services for special populations including women, older adults, persons living with HIV/AIDS; persons with co-occurring disorders, and traumatized populations. Bride also has a particular interest in studying secondary traumatic stress/compassion fatigue in human services professionals.

There are two related goals of the study: The first is to gain an understanding of the degree to which substance abuse treatment centers are addressing PTSD in their client populations. Of particular interest is the extent to which evidence-based trauma practices are being utilized in the field and what organizational, counselor and client factors are associated with trauma-focused services. Ultimately, Bride's hope is that this will provide insight into approaches to increase the dissemination and adoption of evidence-based, trauma-focused practice in the nation's substance abuse treatment system.

The second goal of the grant is to gain a better understanding of substance abuse counselors' experiences of secondary traumatic stress and its link to counselor turnover.

"There is a very high turnover rate among substance abuse counselors which impacts the effectiveness and efficiency of services," Bride said. "I will examine organizational, counselor, and client factors that impact secondary trauma in counselors in an effort to identify mechanisms to prevent or mediate STS. ... Hopefully this study will help us develop or identify strategies to reduce or eliminate STS among counselors, which in turn may decrease turnover."

Bride's research in association with the grant has multiple dimensions: It will document current trauma-focused services in substance abuse treatment centers; identify factors associated with adoption of trauma-focused services in substance abuse treatment centers; document the prevalence of secondary traumatic stress among substance abuse counselors; examine the influence of the provision of trauma-focused services, clinical supervision, and organizational culture on counselor secondary traumatic stress; and examine the relationship between counselor secondary traumatic stress and counselor turnover.

"Little is known about the assessment and treatment of trauma/PTSD within substance abuse treatment settings, which in turn impacts the efficacy of treatment efforts for individuals with co-morbid substance use disorders and PTSD," Bride said. "This grant will provide the mechanism for understanding the current state of the field in regards to trauma-focused services, which has significant implications for effective substance abuse treatment."

Bride's grant proposal was developed as part of his participation in and support from the Faculty Research Funding Mentoring Program of the UGA Institute for Behavioral Research. This interdisciplinary program pairs junior faculty with teams of faculty who have been successful in obtaining extramural funding. Working in concert with the senior faculty as well as peers from diverse behavioral science backgrounds, the program participants experience every phase of the application process from initial inquiry to administration of awarded funds. The program, active for 18 years, has had considerable success with its "learn-by-doing" format.

Dr. Paul Roman, UGA Distinguished Research Professor of Sociology, will serve as Bride's Primary Mentor and Drs. Lillian Eby (UGA Psychology Department), Robert Vandenberg (UGA Terry College Department of Management) and Kathleen Brady (Medical University of South Carolina Department of Psychiatry) will serve as co-mentors for the five-year duration of the NIH funding.

For Bride, the grant provides the opportunity to further explore two areas of interest.

"One of the things that excites me most about this funding is that it allows me to integrate two lines of my research – substance abuse treatment and secondary traumatic stress," Bride said. "Though I have always seen the link, I have had little opportunity to integrate the two into a single study."

Bride first became interested in researching PTSD and its link to substance abuse during a history class (entitled America in Vietnam) he took as an undergraduate at the University of Florida.

"During one class, we had a guest speaker by the name of Bob Mason who had written a bestselling book, *Chickenhawk*, about his experiences as an Army helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War," Bride said. "As part of his talk, he discussed his difficulties readjusting to civilian life including substance abuse and legal difficulties. His wife, Patience Mason, also spoke to us about the impact on their marriage and family of the PTSD that Bob experienced upon his return stateside. It was she who introduced me to PTSD which at the time was a relatively new concept with very little in terms of a research knowledge base.

It was this class that also first suggested to me a link between PTSD and substance abuse, as both Bob and Patience talked about Bob's substance abuse as an attempt to cope with his PTSD."

When he decided to pursue an MSW, Bride chose Florida State University in part because one of the pioneers in PTSD, Charles Figley was on the faculty.

"Figley was also among the first to begin researching secondary traumatic stress/compassion fatigue and it was my work with him that got me interested in this particular area of research which is a major focus of the research I am conducting as part of the NIDA grant," Bride said.

Bride's MSW concentration practicum was at the James A. Haley VA in Tampa, Florida, where he was able to see first-hand the link between PTSD and substance abuse. Following graduation with my MSW he started working at St. Jude's Recovery Center, Inc., a substance abuse treatment center in Atlanta.

"Though only a freshly minted MSW, I quickly developed a reputation as the 'trauma expert' at SJRC and was often assigned clients who were believed to be experiencing PTSD along with the substance abuse problems that they were in treatment for," Bride said.

Bride received his PhD from UGA's SSW in 2001. He then took a position as an assistant professor at the University of Tennessee. After three years, Bride returned in 2004 to UGA as an assistant professor and became a tenured associate professor in 2007.

His grant represents a major achievement for Bride, the School of Social Work and our University, according to Dean Maurice Daniels.

"Dr. Bride's exceptional work is sure to make an impact on social work practice and research for many years to come," Daniels said. "This grant also represents the culmination of scholarship by an outstanding faculty member, our research interests and our mission to promote social and economic justice." ●

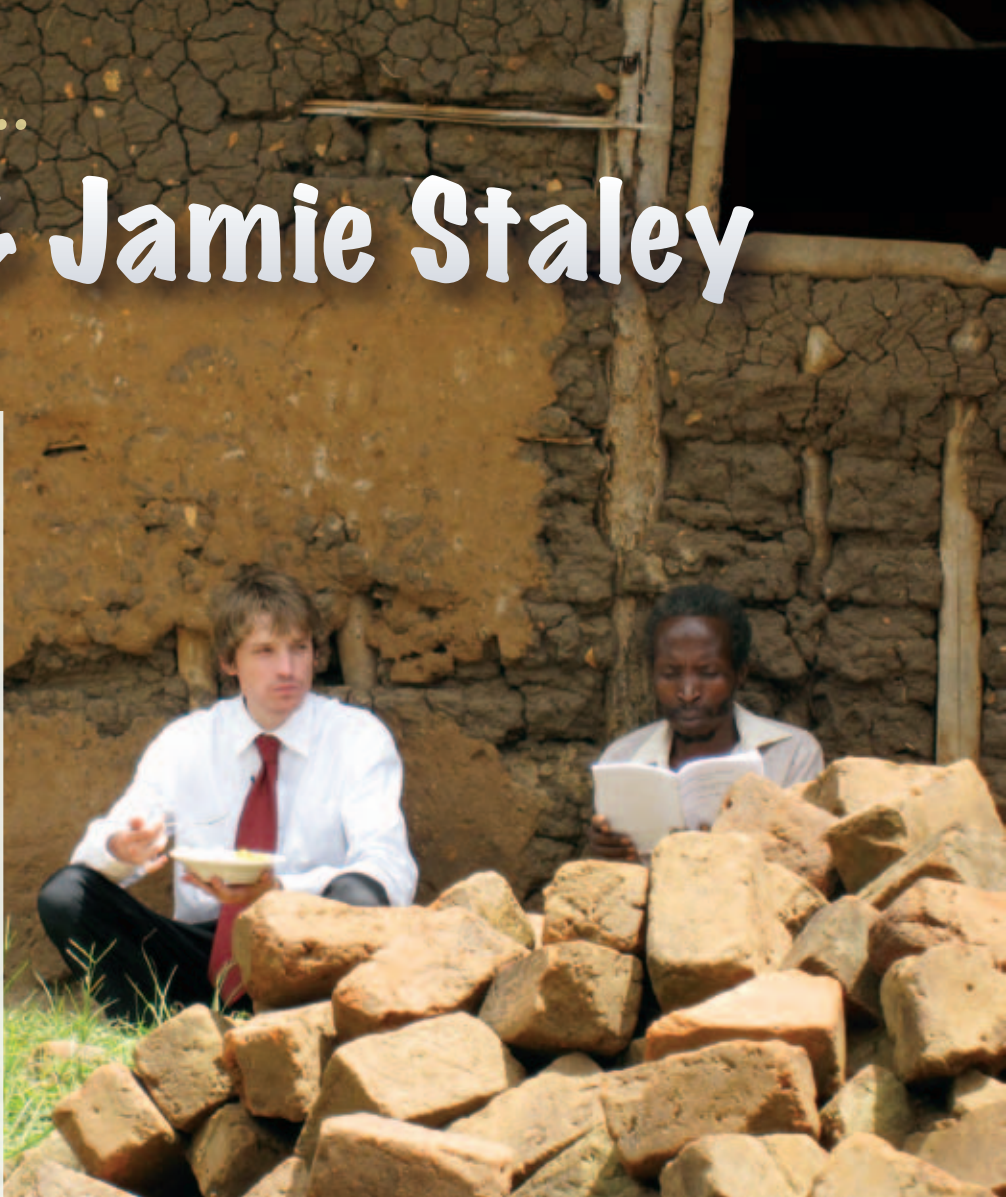


Dr. Brian Bride

A day in the life of ...

Sara & Jamie Staley

The following is the first in what will be a new series of first-person day-in-the-life-of accounts of School of Social Work alumni. This entry is written by Sara Staley (MSW '08). Sara and her husband, Jamie, accepted one-year positions with an organization called the International Justice Mission (IJM) in Kampala, Uganda. IJM is a nonprofit faith-based human rights organization that works around the world to protect people from violent forces of injustice by securing rescue and restoration for victims and ensuring public justice systems work for the poor (for more information, visit www.ijm.org). The major issue that IJM seeks to address in Uganda is illegal property seizure, a practice that affects more than one in five widows and orphans in the country.



I awake to the “sweep, sweep, sweep” of a broom and a vendor forcefully and urgently shouting the word *matoke* (a staple food in Uganda) outside of my window. I snap out of my dream and promptly begin to get ready for the day. Grabbing our travel mugs full of Ugandan coffee and pausing long enough to listen our freshly downloaded NPR five-minute news summary, my husband Jamie and I rush out the door to begin another day in the “Pearl of Africa.”

We make the 10-minute walk to our office, turning down rides from several *boda boda* (motorcycle taxi) drivers along the way.

Cars zip past me as I maneuver around the potholes, livestock and other random hazards—a ritual that has become both endearing and slightly irritating. We reach the office just in time for Morning Prayer—International Justice Mission (IJM) is a faith-based organization, and every day is begun this way.

Jamie and I pile in the car at 9:00 a.m. along with several of our colleagues. Today we are both headed to IJM’s project area, a mostly rural county approximately 40 minutes outside of Kampala, the capital city in which we live. We plan to split up once we get there: Jamie will be conducting a community legal education in a small village and I will be meeting with several organizations to determine whether their

services could benefit our clients. We drop off Jamie and our colleagues involved in the legal education first; they set up their presentation and wait for the first community members to trickle in. If this is a typical education, 50-100 people will attend to learn about inheritance rights under the law of succession and how to write a valid will.

In Uganda, succession-related property grabbing is a prevalent human rights issue that largely affects the most vulnerable of society: widows and orphans. According to traditional tribal practice, when a woman's husband dies or when a child's parents die, the brother of the late is expected to take over the land and care for the widow and orphans left behind. However, with the onset of individual (as opposed to tribal) land ownership and the rapidly ascending value of land, powerful family or community members will claim ownership rights to the late's property with little or no regard for the welfare of the widow and children.

It takes surprisingly little to push a widow and children off of their land. Often they do not know their inheritance rights and, even if they do, perpetrators commonly threaten violence or will actually remove the widow and children by force. Further crippling these victims is their nearly nonexistent access to justice. Culturally, women and children are regarded as having few rights in Uganda – though the law dictates otherwise. Additionally, the poor cannot make the “grease payments” – or flat out bribes – that the justice system demands. A policeman may insist that gas is put in his car before he will drive to the scene of the crime or may require the victim to pay for the photocopies and files needed for a proper police report. And certainly if a widow or orphan cannot afford these things, an advocate is out of the question. Whatever the scenario, one thing is certain. Without their land, a widow and her children are not likely to survive. Uganda is an agricultural society and, with most people making less than a dollar a day, an unskilled widow's only hope for food and shelter comes from what she can grow and build herself – on her land.

And this brings us back to my husband and several IJM lawyers, who are spending the day educating the community so that potential perpetrators and victims, as well as the community-at-large, understand the protection Ugandan law provides for widows and orphans. Afterward, they will invite attendees to report cases of property grabbing. A team of IJM lawyers will review these reports to determine whether IJM can intervene, providing the victim a *pro bono* advocate who will work to restore her property to her through mediation and, if necessary, civil and/or criminal suits.





Jamie Staley answers questions at an illegal land seizure information session hosted by the Staleys on behalf of the International Justice Mission (IJM), a faith-based human rights agency that secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression. IJM lawyers, investigators and aftercare professionals work with local officials to ensure immediate victim rescue and aftercare, to prosecute perpetrators and to promote functioning public justice systems.

I leave the legal education team and travel on to another rural village. Here I visit an organization that provides education to destitute children through child sponsorship. Our clients are very poor and lack even basic necessities. Providing both psychosocial support and other social services is vital to the development of a thriving and self-sustaining life situation for them. IJM social workers and contract counselors help the victim through the trauma they have experienced due to the dual loss of a loved one and their livelihoods. However, other pressing services are met through partner organizations, and that is what I am doing today – meeting with other organizations to determine whether they would be a good fit for partnership with IJM. I move on from the child sponsorship organization

– we established that IJM can refer 20 children to them per year if we hold a legal education for the caretakers of their sponsored children (note: draft a Memorandum of Understanding ASAP)! I visit an organization that educates women in microenterprise, another that provides wheel chairs for the elderly, and a third that distributes antiretroviral drugs for HIV+ community members. I am tired, but feel accomplished—a long day of documenting these meetings is ahead of me tomorrow.

We pick up the legal education folks and head back to Kampala. Indian food sounds good for dinner tonight, so Jamie and I head to our favorite restaurant, Pavement Tandoori, with some friends. All is quiet except for the wild dogs, car horns, and rooster crows as we drift off to sleep. ●

New Associate Dean Joins SSW Team

Jerome Schiele, professor and director of the PhD program in the Department of Social Work at Morgan State University in Baltimore, has been named associate dean in the University of Georgia School of Social Work.

The associate dean has responsibility for leadership and oversight of the academic and instructional programs within the School of Social Work. Responsibilities include administration, scholarship, teaching, advising and service.

Schiele's research and teaching interests are in the areas of social welfare history, social policy analysis and social work theory. He received his doctorate in social work from Howard University in Washington, D.C., in 1991 and his master's degree in social work from Howard in 1985. During his graduate education, Schiele was a National Institute of Mental Health Fellow.

"I am pleased that Dr. Schiele will join our faculty," said Dean Maurice Daniels. "Dr. Schiele is a nationally recognized, creative scholar with depth of knowledge in his area of research, social work and higher education, curriculum design, and accreditation. He has experience in administration of both MSW and PhD programs. His achievements in teaching, research, and public service and his expertise in administration will be a major asset as our school seeks to increase its national stature and continue to advance our mission of preparing leaders for positive social change."

Prior to joining the faculty at Morgan State, Schiele was a professor and interim director of the Doctor of Social Work program at Norfolk State University School of Social Work in Norfolk, Va., from 2002-2004. From 1994-2002, Schiele was an associate professor in the Clark Atlanta University School of Social Work where he served as director of PhD programs from 1996-2000. He was also an assistant professor and director of the MSW program at SUNY Stony Brook School of Social Welfare from 1990-1994.

"As associate dean, my goal is to facilitate the school of social work's expansion in ways that build on the best of its 45-year legacy and that ensure that it effectively addresses the human service challenges of a new society and world," Schiele said. "Resolving today's social problems requires the integration of well-tested social work interventions of the past with innovative and time-appropriate strategies of the present. Alumni of the UGA SSW have historically been human service leaders, and my hope is that we continue this leadership legacy well into the future."



"Resolving today's social problems requires the integration of well-tested social work interventions of the past with innovative and time-appropriate strategies of the present."

— Jerome Schiele



In conjunction with the Donald L. Hollowell Professorship for Civil Rights Studies, the University of Georgia School of Social Work announces the presentation of

DONALD L. HOLLOWELL: FOOT SOLDIER FOR EQUAL JUSTICE

a Foot Soldier for Equal Justice film documenting the life of one of the greatest civil rights leaders in our nation.

Donald L. Hollowell was the leading civil rights lawyer in Georgia during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1961, he was the chief architect of the legal work that won the landmark *Holmes v. Danner* case, which opened the doors of the University of Georgia to two black students—Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter. Hollowell represented prominent civil rights leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and scores of lesser-known civil rights activists. Hollowell's brilliant, selfless legal work also advanced numerous civil rights causes, including equal access to public education, public accommodations, health care, and voting rights and the right of blacks to serve on juries.



In fall 2005, the University of Georgia approved the establishment of the Donald L. Hollowell Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies in the School of Social Work (SSW) to commemorate and continue the legacy of Hollowell, one of our nation's greatest advocates for social justice. This professorship will mark the first University of Georgia Distinguished Professorship named for an African-American.

In preparing for the formal announcement of the Hollowell Professorship and with support from the University of Georgia Venture Fund through the Office of the President, the SSW will present the premiere screening of ***Donald L. Hollowell: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice***, a documentary produced for public television by the Foot Soldier Project for Civil Rights Studies. This film, narrated by **Charlayne Hunter-Gault**, Peabody Award-winning journalist, portrays how Hollowell's experiences with segregation while serving in the Army during World War II inspired him to pursue the study of law, which became his weapon of choice in the fight for social justice for blacks in the South and across the nation. The film also chronicles his groundbreaking civil rights work that opened the doors of opportunity for countless thousands of men and women.

THE HOLLOWELL LEGACY

I finished law school the first Friday in June 1960. The Monday morning after I graduated, I went to work for Donald Hollowell for \$35 a week. I was his law clerk and researcher, and I carried his briefcase and I was his right-hand man. He taught me how to be a lawyer, a leader, how to fight injustice. Whatever I have become in the years, I owe it to him in large measure.

- Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.
- Attorney, chairman Hollowell Endowment Committee

... what you should know is that [Don Hollowell's] legacy is what we are all living today, whether in the South or the North or in places beyond our borders, like South Africa, where people loving freedom came to grow, inspired in part by our victories in America.

- Charlayne Hunter-Gault, former CNN Bureau Chief and Correspondent, Johannesburg, South Africa

He was one of the few lawyers who stepped up and used the Constitution as a way to say, "Let my people go."

- Judge Marvin S. Arrington, Fulton County Superior Court

Donald Hollowell was one of an extraordinary band of civil rights attorneys throughout the South who helped end legal apartheid. He was a skilled and powerful advocate for justice whose work has had a lasting impact on our nation. I am proud that he was my lawyer during the sit-in movement in Atlanta and a stellar Spelman College trustee for many years.

- Marian Wright Edelman, President and Founder, Children's Defense Fund

Hollowell really dedicated himself to the civil rights struggle. He took on some bizarre cases over the state where the civil rights of blacks were flagrantly violated. He worked 16 hour days on these cases. We felt that with his dedication and commitment, that we could take on all the battles that we had to.

- Jesse Hill, Jr., President and CEO (Retired), Atlanta Life Financial Group

Hollowell and these others advanced justice and freedom. They really helped make democracy work by chipping away, case by case, plaintiff by plaintiff, school by school, to knock down this evil system of institutionalized, legalized racial separation.

- Julian Bond, Chairman of the Board, NAACP

I don't think it would be too much to suggest or to say that these lawyers should be looked upon as the founding fathers and mothers of the new America. What they have done is they helped free, and they helped liberate ... not just African Americans and not just people in the south, but all people.

- Congressman John Lewis, Georgia's 5th Congressional District

As a student at Morehouse, I came down to see the court proceeding. And there was Donald Hollowell – flamboyant, eloquent, knowledgeable, competent. And I could just see myself being a Donald Hollowell. And as a result of that single experience, I decided that I wanted to become a lawyer. And I am a judge today because of Hollowell's efforts.

- Honorable John Ruffin, Chief Judge, Georgia Court of Appeals

I have been a member of the faculty of the University of Georgia for more than 25 years. My tenure here was made possible because of the courage, commitment, and brilliance of Donald Hollowell. Therefore, I am personally and professionally committed to continuing Mr. Hollowell's legacy as a champion for the cause of social justice.

- Maurice C. Daniels, Dean, University of Georgia School of Social Work

► *To be presented in
Spring 2010 in Atlanta...*
*More details to follow soon
at www.ssw.uga.edu*

finding their VOICES

*Public housing
residents share
their stories
online*

By Matt Weeks
mweeks@uga.edu



You pass them everyday. They are all around, and their numbers are huge. In fact, more than a quarter of Athens residents live below the poverty line, but those 28 percent tend to suffer in silence. Often their power is limited, their stories untold.

That is until now.

Video and slideshow stories of 10 Athenians living in public housing are available at www.givingvoiceto.us, a Web site created through collaboration between the School of Social Work and the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

“These stories are not about poverty. They’re about people,” said Mark Johnson, a lecturer in the photojournalism department and one of two faculty sponsors of the project. “It’s not us talking about them. It’s creating a space for them to tell their own story in their own words.”

The stories are told through nine social work and 17 journalism students, who each made the presentations.

“I visited Joe all throughout the semester, at least six times,” said social work student Amanda Davis of her subject Joe Lawrence. “It surprised me that I was so welcomed by the residents (of Rocksprings Community Center) as an outsider. I was surprised by the level of involvement Joe had with all the other members of the community. Hopefully this will change people’s perspective on what it’s like to live in public housing.”

Changing minds is what it’s all about, said Donna Bliss, assistant professor in the School of Social Work and faculty co-sponsor.

“I can tell you that the stereotypes are just not true. I’ve had the privilege to work with some of these people, and they are some of the best people in the world,” she said. “What I can do for them is to speak for them, to tell their stories. But to allow them to tell their own stories is much more powerful.”



The project is funded through a \$10,000 grant from the Paul and Margaret Beasley Broun Student Support Fund.

These are the kinds of stories that surround not just the Athens community, but countless others across the nation and the globe.

As video subject Russell McBain watches a video about himself in which he goes to church, applies for a library card and visits a senior center in Watkinsville, his eyes begin to tear up. His voice, normally a low grumble, softens.

“I can’t believe it. That’s so nice,” he says to TiTi Akinkanju, a first-year graduate student in the School of Social Work who produced this video about him. “Thank your for telling my story.” ●



For more information and to read the stories of the Giving Voice participants, visit www.givingvoiceto.us.

Class projects provide local nonprofits with valuable benefits



"The students not only obtain the knowledge about program evaluation process but also develop the skills for designing and implementing a program evaluation and for using Statistical Software for Social Sciences"

By Janet Jones Kendall

When Zach Alig was contacted by students in School of Social Work faculty member Kristina Jaskyte's class, the timing couldn't have been better.

"I had recently been asked to create a survey and report on our volunteers' build site experiences," said Alig, public outreach coordinator for the Athens Area Habitat for Humanity. "At about the same time, I was contacted by a group from Prof. Jaskyte's class asking if they could do just that. It was fantastic. With little more on my part than a brief meeting and several phone calls, I was presented with a detailed and professional report. The group's hard work saved Athens Area Habitat time and money and proved useful in improving our volunteer experience."

The Athens Area Habitat for Humanity is just one local nonprofit organization that has benefited from the work of students in Jaskyte's SOWK/MNPO 7106 class, Evaluating Community Initiatives and Institutional Practices. For three years, the students have worked with local nonprofit and government organizations helping them design and implement program evaluations. Thus far the students completed 16 program evaluation projects for 14 different organizations.

While recognizing the complexity of designing and implementing a program evaluation project in under four months, Jaskyte sees this type of a service learning project as a great learning opportunity for her students and a benefit to the community. Upon completion of this project every organization receives a program evaluation report that discusses the evaluation questions, methodology, and most importantly, results and implications for organization's future programming. The organizations can use the results when writing grant proposals to demonstrate the effectiveness of their programs, in their promotional materials, and they can also use them to improve their programming.

"The students not only obtain the knowledge about program evaluation process but also develop the skills for designing and implementing a program evaluation and for using Statistical Software for Social Sciences (SPSS)," Jaskyte said. "They also learn how important flexibility, team work, time management and planning are for success of such a complex project. At the end of the semester they have a tangible product—a program evaluation report—that they can include in their professional portfolios."

For MSW student Regina Smalls who took the course fall semester 2008, Jaskyte's class was a challenging but rewarding one.

"It is one thing to design a program evaluation on paper, but to actually implement the evaluation takes learning to a whole different level," Smalls said.

“Through the course of the fall semester, our class learned the nuts and bolts of program evaluation and we were able to create and implement an actual evaluation ourselves. It was a valuable experience getting to meet with actual organizations and design program evaluations tailored to their needs.”

Smalls’ group completed an evaluation for the Clarke County School District Migrant Education Program (MEP) for which they assessed the comprehension and

visibility of the program among parents of migrant students as well as teachers. Despite some logistical issues and bumps along the way, the students were able to provide MEP with useful data that could help to improve the program and better serve migrant children.

“Completing research, designing a project from scratch, developing a measurement instrument, gathering and analyzing data, and presenting and discussing results has provided me with knowledge and skills that will prove useful in the future, especially since I want to embark on a research oriented career,” Smalls said. “But in addition to the knowledge and skills I learned from completing a program evaluation, knowing that our evaluation project may make a difference in the lives of others, especially children, is one of the biggest benefits of all, because helping others is what true social work is all about.”

The experience was one that proved beneficial for the Migrant Education Program, as well, according to program coordinator Sabrina E. Godinez. Each year, the program is required to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment every year in order to engage their stakeholders in the design and planning of the services that they offer and to gauge the effectiveness of those services.

“As you can imagine, this can be a very daunting task,” Godinez said. “However, Dr. Jaskyte’s students proved to be of great assistance in every step of the process; from helping to



Kristina Jaskyte (second from left) with students from her 2008 SOWK/MNPO 7106 class.

create the survey to collecting the information and reporting the results in a very organized and clear manner. The information these students helped collect has not only given us insight into how our stakeholders perceive current program offerings, but also provided guidance for the design of future services. I was very pleased with our collaboration.”

Student Natasha Murphy’s group worked with Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful. After conducted a needs assessment survey to gauge area resident’s knowledge of the organization’s outreach activities and campaigns as well as their knowledge and opinions of penalties associated with littering, Murphy developed a personal interest in the organization and will be interning with KACCB this semester.

“My main projects are designing a contact database that will enable the organization to create groups and target their outreach correspondence,” Murphy said. “I will also be doing some graphic design for their newest litter prevention ad campaign.”

Other organizations served by Jaskyte’s students include: Georgia Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, Good Will, Bike Athens, Emmaus House, Northeast Georgia Head Start, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, UGA Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Resource Center, Hands On Northeast Georgia, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, and the Clarke County Department of Family and Children Services. ●

Class of 2009

The School of Social Work welcomed 193 new alumni on May 9 as family, friends, faculty and staff united for the school's spring commencement ceremony at Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall. This year's graduating class selected student speakers from each program to keynote the event: Kerith Bunting, BSW; Rebecca Frye, MSW; Jeff Muhleman, INPO; and Kareema Gray, PhD.





SSW *donor honor roll*

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DEVELOPMENT

Making a Difference!

Dear School of Social Work Alumni and Friends:

As part of the University of Georgia Archway to Excellence campaign, the School of Social Work set a goal to raise \$1 million. The school finished the campaign raising \$1,114,421 and exceeding our goal by 11 percent! Annual giving also was a huge success with 295 individual donors who gave a total of \$92,088.

During the Archway campaign, our school received some very significant support:

- Two graduate assistantships to honor the memory of former SSW faculty member, Pauline M. Berger.
- St. Joseph's/Candler Hospital in Savannah gift helped endow the Tisha Abolt Graduate Assistantship,
- The Donald L. Hollowell Endowment Committee led efforts to help our school establish the Donald L. Hollowell Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies



Ms. Jennifer W. Abbott, MPA

Office of Development
School of Social Work
Tucker Hall, Room 211
Athens, GA 30602-7016
Phone (706) 542-9093
Fax (706) 542-3845
Email: jabbott@uga.edu

We are also pleased to have three Coca-Cola First Generation Scholars as students in our BSW program this year, as well as a UGA Foundation Fellow.

The success of 2008 continued into 2009 with the establishment of the school's first scholarship in the Arch Foundation. The Elizabeth B. Loyd Scholarship has been established by her family in memory of her and in honor of her love of the social work profession. Need-based scholarships and graduate assistantships continue to be the school's top funding priorities.

This addition of the magazine includes the school's Honor Roll for FY09 which runs July 1, 2008, until June 30, 2009. Charitable giving by alumni and friends of the School of Social Work continues to make a difference in the lives of our students, faculty and those we serve.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and our mission.

Jennifer Abbott
Director of Development

Meet Our 2009 Scholarship Recipients ...



Pictured are 2009 scholarship recipients, front row (l-r): Mary Fortson and Alyssa Bernstein; back row (l-r): Cathy Sutton, Kristen Runge, Atiya Charles and Kelly Hickey.

Atiya Charles, recipient of the
James D. Horne Memorial Scholarship

Established in memory of Mr. Horne, a philanthropist and friend of the school, this scholarship provides financial assistance to BSW or MSW students with a preference given to students interested in working with the homeless.

Marie Danie Cadet, recipient of the
Wilbur P. Jones Scholarship

Established in memory of respected community activist Wilbur Jones, this scholarship promotes excellence, diversity and equity in the profession of social work by diversifying the student population within the School of Social Work. The scholarship is awarded to a graduate student from a historically underrepresented group within the field of social work.

Kristen Runge, recipient of the
Pauline D. Lide Scholarship

Established in memory of Dr. Pauline Lide, professor emerita in the School of Social Work. Preference is given to students pursuing the MSW degree.

The School of Social Work is so proud of this year's scholarship recipients and we appreciate our donors. Gifts to the SSW scholarship fund help produce outstanding social workers. Your gift can really make a difference in the lives of our students and individuals in need. Thank you for your support.

Mary Fortson, recipient of the
Joe and Diane Perno Scholarship

Established in memory of Joe Perno, an alumnus of the School of Social Work, and his wife, Diane, this scholarship provides financial assistance to students pursuing the MSW degree.

Cathy Sutton, recipient of the
Heather Christina Wright Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship and **Kelly Hickey**, recipient of the
Heather Christina Wright Memorial Graduate Scholarship

Established in memory of Heather Christina Wright, a former student of SSW who died of cancer in her final year of study, these scholarships provide financial assistance to BSW and MSW students who have demonstrated a financial need and the desire to work with cancer patients and their families.

Alyssa Bernstein, recipient of the
The Mary Jane Coberth Award

Established in memory of Mary Jane Coberth, mother of MSW program advisor Katherine Adams, the purpose of this award is to provide funding to a first-year MSW student with preference given to a student with an interest in suicide awareness and prevention.

SSW alum leaves legacy through student scholarship

By Janet Jones Kendall



Elizabeth Loyd lived what she preached: Live big and follow your heart. “She was willing to set aside her needs for another priority but never gave up on her dreams and always found a way to reach them,” said Elizabeth’s husband, Jerry Loyd. “She did her best every day in every situation and held back nothing.”

Earlier this year, Elizabeth passed away at 60. President of Elizabeth Loyd and Associates, a company offering personal coaching, seminars, workshops, weekend retreats and leadership training to individuals, groups and corporations, Elizabeth was a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Board Certified Diplomate in Social Work and a Certified Personal Coach. After graduating with her master’s degree from the University of Georgia School of Social Work in 1985, Elizabeth worked in psychiatric hospitals in the Atlanta area and was a private practitioner and consultant in mental health, personnel management and training for over 20 years.

Jerry first met Elizabeth on a blind date when he was 18 and she was 16. Two years later, the two were married while Jerry was attending college.

“She dropped out of college and worked to put me through,” Jerry said. “She finally got her undergraduate degree after five colleges, relocating and starting a family. Her two daughters were very important to her, so she did not go back to college until they were attending school. She never gave up the desire to graduate no matter the difficulty or other priorities.”

Although she got her degree later in life, Elizabeth wasted no time putting it to work.

“Group therapy was a great strength and she really enjoyed leading many groups,” Jerry said. “Later in private practice she did family, individual and group therapy. While in private practice she led women’s retreats. She

developed mental health treatment options for older adults and she spent time as a mental health counselor for a four-year college. She was involved in social work for a non-profit hospice organization. During her career she was counseled all age groups— college age, early adults, middle life adults, and the elderly. She was a mother, friend, teacher, wife, healer, leader, learner and helper.”

Before Elizabeth’s death, she and Jerry decided to establish a scholarship at the School of Social Work so that other students could gain the knowledge and training they need to best meet the needs of their clients. The Elizabeth B. Loyd Scholarship will be awarded to a MSW program student pursuing a clinical focus who has completed their undergraduate degree and been out of school for at least three years.

“Education and training were very important to her. It was 14 years between her first college course and receiving her bachelor’s degree but the desire was always there,” Jerry said. “Getting her graduate degree at Georgia did not take as many years but was equally as difficult, raising two children and driving to Athens for classes three days a week. After graduation, with each new therapy or alternative treatment that she believed might be helpful to her clients, adequate training was foremost in her mind. She would acquire the best training she could and then always get a recognized certification in the specialty. She wanted this whether or not it was actually required.”

The scholarship is a true gift to the School of Social Work, according to Dean Maurice Daniels.

“Our school is especially grateful that Elizabeth and Jerry established the Elizabeth B. Loyd Scholarship,” Daniels said. “Student scholarships are our most critical need and this endowed scholarship will provide vital resources for MSW students.”

The scholarship is just one way in which Elizabeth shared how important it was to her to impart on others the importance of giving selflessly.

“In addition to the financial award, Elizabeth would want the scholarship recipient to gain the desire to put the needs of others first,” Jerry said.

She would also want the scholarship recipient to do what she did every day, Jerry said: Live big and follow your heart. ●

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Warm greetings from the School of Social Work and the University campus! I hope you have had a relaxing, enjoyable summer.

On May 9, 2009, we welcomed a whole new class of distinguished alumni into our family of graduates. We awarded three PhDs, 141 MSWs, 45 BSWs and four MAs in Non-Profit Organizations degrees. On August 1st, we graduated another five MAs in Non-Profit Organizations. All of these students worked very hard to achieve their goals, and we wish them well as they venture out to a new phase of their life.

During the last year, the UGA SSW has been represented at several social work conferences around the nation and the state. In late October 2008, we attended the CSWE-APM conference in Philadelphia where UGA alumni gathered to watch the Georgia-Florida football game on television, including Margarite Parrish (MSW '84) all the way from England; Deana Morrow (MSW '86); Denise Levy (MSW '03; PhD '08); David Boyle (MSW '76; PhD '94); Fred Brooks (PhD '00); and Bruce Thyer (MSW '78).

Our school was also present in New Orleans at the 2009 SSWR conference. In addition, in March 2009 I was pleased to join the NASW-South Georgia Chapter conference in Valdosta and was able to visit with many of our alumni in that area. During April 2009 I was at the National Annual Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Atlanta and again was glad to see and visit with many of our alumni from across the country.

I was also honored to present Susan Waltman (MSW '75) with the school's 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award at our annual awards luncheon here in Athens on April 22. Susan is senior vice president and general counsel for the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA), which represents more than 200 public and not-for-profit hospitals and continuing care facilities. In addition, she is responsible for overseeing GNYHA's emergency preparedness and response activities on behalf of its members. She is a great example of one of our graduates making a difference in the world.

Please stay in touch with news, both professional and personal, that you would like to share. If you have an address changed or employment change let us know so we can keep in touch with you. Until we see or hear from you, please take care of yourself and those you love.

My best regards,



Laura Hartman Ciucevich (UGA, ABJ '67)
Office of External Affairs/Alumni Relations
706-542-5450
lciecevi@uga.edu



● 1960–1969

Andrew M. Berg, MSW '69, has retired as the Director of Social Work Services at Willmar Regional Treatment Center in Willmar, Minn., after 35 years of service. He and wife Jean are enjoying grandchildren, traveling, volunteering, outdoor activities and reading.

● 1970–1979

In March 2009, **Katheryn B. Davis, MSW '70**, was honored at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Social Work by Chris Larrison (BSW '95, MSW '96, PhD '99) and his wife Tara (a former faculty member of our School) when they made a gift in Kathy's name that will place her name on a wall at the new school of social work building.

In April, the University of Georgia National Panhellenic Council announced "The Katheryn B. Davis Spirit of Excellence Award." This award is an annual monetary award which will be presented each year to an outstanding Greek student who exemplifies a spirit of excellence. The first winner of this award was Tanesha Douglas.

Barbara Ellen (Davis) Griffin, MSW '73, is working an LMSW at DaVita Inc. Jesup Dialysis, in Jesup, Ga.

Though retired, **Lorrie Mell, MSW '74**, is busy with volunteer work that includes being on a community review panel for the Fulton County (Georgia) Juvenile Court.

William "Bill" Moon, MSW '72, is a clinical psychologist in Cartersville, Ga. He and his wife, Fran, have four children, two are students at the University of Georgia.

Sherry V. Sparks, MSW '74, is an LCSW and has been in private practice in Jackson, Miss., since 2007. Before moving to Jackson, she had a private practice in Atlanta from 1985 to 2007.

● 1980–1989

Beth Rahn Mosley, BSW '80, – is a realtor with Platinum Properties in Rincon. In 2008 Beth ran for Probate Judge of Effingham County, won the election, and was sworn in January 2009. She and her husband Danny live on a 50-acre farm and raise Red Angus cows.

● 1990–1999

Ilene Allinger Candreva, MSW '91, was recently named Program Director for *Including Special Kids*, an adaptive skills program for children with developmental delays based in an inclusive recreational environment. Drawing from personal and professional experience, Ilene helped to develop *Including Special Kids* in a collaborative partnership with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Monterey County, California. Ilene and her husband Philip have three sons.

Victoria Foss Bowers, MSW '98, is a foster care liaison for Washoe County Social Services in Reno, Nevada. She had a baby boy, Emerson Grant Bowers, on Feb. 16, 2008.

Laura L. Myers, MSW '92, PhD '98, is the BSW Program Director and Associate Professor for the Department of Social Work at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Fla.

Ann M. Pitts, MSW '92, has recently accepted an appointment at Dartmouth Medical School, Lebanon, N.H., as a Clinical Associate and Instructor of Psychiatry. She is a clinical social worker and provides psychotherapeutic treatment to patients in the departments of Psychiatry and Infectious Disease.

Sylvia Richards, BSW '98, MSW '05, is a special education team leader in the Clarke County (Georgia) School District. She completed an Educational Leadership Program at UGA in July 2008.

Adrienne Shuler, BSW '92, is as assistant coach women's basketball coach at East Carolina University. She served for six seasons as head coach at Appalachian State. Adrienne was an outstanding basketball player at UGA from 1987–1991, captained the Lady Dogs in 1990, and earned All SEC honors in 1989.

● 2000–2009

Marissa (Ritz) Curtis, MSW '09, is a therapist in Maniilaq Health Center in Kotzebue, Alaska. Maniilaq Association is a non-profit tribal consortium operating health and social service programs in Northwest Alaska. The Center is a 17-bed Inpatient hospital, with an ER, urgent care and outpatient facilities.

Candice Davis, MSW '05, is substitute teaching in Dublin, Ga.

Rachel Lea Green, BSW '08, is residing in New York City.

Heather Hart Greene, MNPO '02, is the Director of Development at Oxford College of Emory University. She was married in October of 2008.

Trevis Killen, MSW '06, is a school social worker in the Houston County (Georgia) School System. In August 2008 she completed a Certificate in Educational Leadership at UGA.

Denise L. Levy, MSW '03, PhD '08, is an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C.

Penny Zack Maggioni, MSW '02, is the Executive Director of The Coastal Empire R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Children Kindly) Group. This is a local child abuse prevention organization, a charter council of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia.

Amy Miller, MSW '02, and her husband Stephen welcomed their second child, Christopher Stephen Miller on May 7, 2008.

Vinode Debra Rubins, MSW '03, is working at Shands Teaching Hospital at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. She is a case manager/social worker with Adult Heart Transplant team.

Melanie Russell, BSW '07, MSW '08, has joined the Community Service Board of Advantage Behavioral Health Systems in Athens.

Jeffrey S. Yarvis, PhD '04, is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army and an assistant professor at the Uniformed Services University of Health Services in Bethesda, Md. He received the Uniformed Social Worker of the Year award from the Association of Military Services of the United States for his research on post-traumatic stress disorder. Jeffrey was also named U.S. Army Social Worker of the Year, inducted into the Order of the Military Medical Merit, and inducted into the Randolph (NJ) High School Hall of Fame for his humanitarian efforts in Iraq, Bosnia, and Haiti. He recently published his first book, *Subthreshold Post Traumatic Stress Disorder: A Comparison of Veterans with Different Levels of Traumatic Stress and Implications for the Prevention and Treatment of PTSD*.

IN MEMORIAM

The School of Social Work lost one of our alumnae during the last year. We extend to the family our most sincere sympathy in the loss of their loved one.



Elizabeth Boyce Loyd, a 1985 MSW graduate of the University of Georgia School of Social Work, died on March 21, 2009. She was President of Elizabeth Loyd and Associates, offering personal coaching, seminars, workshops, weekend retreats and leadership training to individuals, groups and corporations. Elizabeth was a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Board Certified Diplomate in Social Work and a Certified Personal Coach. After working in psychiatric hospitals in the Atlanta area, she was a private practitioner and consultant in mental health, personnel management and training for over 20 years. She is survived by her husband Jerry, daughters Amy and Emily and many other loving family members and friends.

Annual Awards Luncheon honors field contributors

The 2009 School of Social Work awards luncheon was held on April 22 at Trumps Ballroom on Milledge Avenue in Athens. SSW students, faculty, staff, alumni and field instructors were honored at the annual gathering.

UGA SSW Professor Emeritus David Levine was presented the Dean's Award for Social Justice for his devoted service to the Athens-Clarke County community and the state of Georgia and for his advancement of the field of social work through his teaching. Levine has served as Founding Director of the Athens Community Council on Aging and an active member of the Georgia Council on Aging, the Georgia Gerontology Society Board of Directors and the National Association of Social Workers.

Levine has provided decades of service and advocacy to the field of mental health through his service on the Olmstead Committee and his chairmanship of the new Northeast Georgia Community Health Center Board. In addition, he has influenced the lives of many students and fellow professionals through his mentorship and his genuine concern for their lives and their careers

in gerontology. His teaching career includes tenures at the University of Minnesota, Florida State University, Syracuse University and, for the last four decades of his career, the Medical College of Georgia and the University of Georgia.

Dean Maurice Daniels presented the school's Distinguished Alumni Award to Susan C. Waltman for her outstanding work in the field of public health. Waltman is senior vice president and general counsel for the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA), which represents more than 200 public and not-for-profit hospitals and continuing care facilities. In addition, she is responsible for overseeing GNYHA's emergency

preparedness and response activities on behalf of its members.

Waltman has taught health law courses at New York University School of Law and Brooklyn Law School. Prior to joining GNYHA in January 1987, Ms. Waltman had been General Counsel at the Medical College of Pennsylvania and had worked at the Philadelphia law firm of Drinker, Biddle and Reath. Waltman earned her JD degree from Columbia University School of Law and holds AB ('73) and MSW ('75) degrees from the University of Georgia. Waltman also helped establish the Mary Jane Coberth Award, a scholarship for an undergraduate student at the UGA School of Social Work named in memory of SSW staff member Kathryn Adams' late mother.

Other award winners include:

BSW Teacher of the Year – Thomas A. Artelt, PhD

BSW Adviser of the Year – Jeffrey F. Skinner, LCSW

Outstanding BSW Student – Ashlee Stizmann

Outstanding BSW Student – Wenjie Sun

MSW Teacher of the Year – Stephanie Swann, PhD

MSW Teacher of the Year, Gwinnett Campus – Rufus Larkin, PhD

Outstanding MSW Student, Athens, Full-Time – Laurie Reyman

Outstanding MSW Student, Athens, Part-Time – Ember Awagu

Outstanding MSW Student, Gwinnett, Part-Time – Nancye Lee

Outstanding MSW Student, Gwinnett, Part-Time – Polly A. Bell

PhD Teacher of the Year – Larry Nackerud, PhD

Outstanding PhD Student – Sandra H. Yudelivich Espinoza

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant – Kareema Gray

INPO Teacher of the Year – Michelle Mohr Carney, PhD

Outstanding INPO Student – Elizebeth Tucker

2008-2009 Blue Key National Honor Society Initiates – Brittany

Arthur, BSW and Alyssa Dimatteo, MSW

Outstanding BSW Field Instructor – Vida Farr

Outstanding MSW Field Instructor – Evelyn Harris

Outstanding Staff Member – Jeanell Muckle





2009 Annual Awards Luncheon

Faculty News

SSWR

The National Conference of the Society of Social Work and Research (SSWR) was held in New Orleans from Jan. 14-18. **Dean Maurice Daniels** represented the SSW at selected functions/activities sponsored by the St. Louis Research Group and SSWR. **Bert Ellett** is secretary and board member as well as co-chair of the Child Welfare Research Interest Group. There were 1,273 attendees and the following faculty made presentations: **Kimberly Clay, Shari Miller, Schnavia Smith Hatcher**. There were over 1,300 abstracts submitted and UGA faculty abstract reviewers included **Brian Bride, Donna Bliss, Michelle Carney, Bert Ellett, Mike Holosko, and Betsy Vonk**. **Kevin DeWeaver** and **Stacey Kolomer** were also in attendance.

Michelle Carney was awarded a 2009-2010 Scholarship of Engagement grant from the University of Georgia Office of Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. Carney's grant, in the amount of \$5,500, will allow her to further her research on strengthening nonprofit organizations in Georgia via university-community partnerships.

Kimberly S. Clay judged a research competition at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in Orlando on Nov. 5-8. Clay was also awarded the ABRCMS Judge's Travel Subsidy, which supports first-time judges at the conference. Now in its eighth year, ABRCMS is the largest professional conference for biomedical students. It is designed to encourage underrepresented minority students to pursue advanced training in the biomedical and behavioral sciences and provide faculty mentors with resources for facilitating the success of these students.

Clay was also invited to participate in the University of Georgia Center for Teaching and Learning's 2008-2009 class of Writing Fellows. In addition, Clay was selected as a Scholar for the African-American Mental Health Research Scientist Consortium. The goal of the program is to provide African-American mental health research scientists with hands-on mentoring in preparing a competitive grant application to submit to the National Institute of Mental Health. Clay was nominated for the honor by Dr. Lettie Lockhart.

Bert Ellett, secretary of SSWR, attended the board meeting in St. Louis April 24-25. At the U.S. Children's Bureau Child Welfare Evaluation Summit from May 27-29 in Washington, D.C., she was an invited panelist on "Evaluation of Workforce Practices" as well as presented a juried poster "Development and Evaluation of a Research-Based Child Welfare Employee Selection Protocol."

Ellett also presented at the 17th Annual National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Atlanta March 30-April 4. Ellett's topic was "A Research-Based Child Welfare Employee Selection Protocol to Improve Retention and Practice." In addition, she also had multiple publications this year, including:

- Ellett, A. J. (2009). Intentions to remain employed in child welfare: The role of human caring, self-efficacy, and professional organizational culture. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31, 78-88.
- Perry, R. & Ellett, A. J., (2008). Child Welfare: Historical Trends, Professionalization, and Workforce Issues. In *The Comprehensive Handbook of Social Work and Social Welfare*, Eds. Sowers, K. M. & Culmus, C. N., Volume 1, The Profession, Ed White, B. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley & Sons.

Schnavia Smith Hatcher has been accepted into the UGA Institute for Behavioral Research Mentoring Program. In addition, Hatcher has had the following recent publications:

Hatcher, S., Toldson, I., Godette, D., & Richardson, J. (2009). Mental health, substance abuse, and HIV disparities in correctional settings: Practice and

policy implications for African Americans. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 20(2A), 6-16.

Maschi, T., Morgen, K., Hatcher, S., Rosato, N., & Violette, N. (2009). Maltreated children's thoughts and emotions as behavioral predictors: Evidence for social work action. *Social Work*, 54(2), 135-143.

Schwalbe, C., Hatcher, S., & Maschi, T. (2009). The effects of treatment needs and prior social services utilization on juvenile court decision making. *Social Work Research*, 33(1), 31-40.

Michael Holosko was presented the Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Social Work Education by his alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh. Also, June 1-5, Holosko keynoted the International Conference on Social Work and Counseling Practice at City University of Hong Kong. His speech was entitled, "Becoming an Evidence-Based Practitioner."

Kristina Jaskyte had two chapters published in the following two books: Jaskyte, K. Innovation in human service organizations. (2009). Y. Hasenfeld (Ed.), *Human Services as Complex Organizations*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, Inc. Jaskyte, K. (2008). Management: Practice interventions. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*, 20th Edition. Oxford University Press.

The Office of Service Learning awarded a mini-grant to **Stacey Kolomer** this spring. The grant is for the purchase of an online survey tool to conduct student evaluations of the interdisciplinary service-learning health fairs project in (SOWK 6141) Social Work and Older Adults and (NURS3215) Gerontological Nursing courses, as well as to conduct evaluations of Burn Camp students. Kolomer was also quoted in an in-depth article in UGA Research entitled, "The Art and Science of Aging Gracefully" in which she addressed the issue of older adults providing care to grandchildren.

Shari Miller had the following article published: Miller, S. E., Tice, C. J., & Hall, D. M. H. (2008). The Generalist Model: Where do the Micro and Macro Converge? *Advances in Social Work*, 9(2), 79-90.

David Okech has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the UGA Office of Public Service and Outreach as part of the PSO's Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants Program. The grant gives Okech the opportunity to explore how lower-income households in Athens are coping. "It is indeed difficult to talk about assets when jobs and income are disappearing. However, poor households tend to be resilient and sometimes tend to save some monies for very rainy days," Okech said. "This research will help me find out if this is happening or not and how it may be happening. Most of the asset research is interdisciplinary and so this grant has given me an opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from the Department of Housing and Consumer Economics here at UGA."

Okech has also been invited by the Society for Social Work and Research to serve as a distinguished panelist for the organization's Doctoral Student Panel for the upcoming annual SSWR conference Jan. 14-17, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero Center in San Francisco. According to a letter from SSWR, Okech was selected for his, "outstanding work as a doctoral student as it relates to establishing a successful research agenda in his doctoral career and now in his post-PhD faculty position." As a distinguished panelist, Okech will be responsible for a 15-minute presentation that focuses on the most important skills used in solidifying a research agenda early on through the use of the GRA, post-doc and now faculty position including skills for creating opportunities for publishing, securing grants, obtaining mentorship, etc.



The West African Study Abroad Program completed its ninth consecutive trip to Ghana this summer under the leadership of Drs. Cheryl Dozier and Tony Lowe. A total of 13 students (seven social work students) completed the program. To date, this program has provided global learning opportunities to more than 120 students on the continent of Africa and leads the way in exposing UGA Social Work students to international research, practice and service opportunities.

Dean Daniels Delivers Mary Frances Early Lecture

The University of Georgia's ninth annual Mary Frances Early Lecture was held April 15 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel. SSW Dean Maurice Daniels spoke on "Unfinished Business: 21st-Century Civil Rights Movement."

The lecture covered highlights of the 20th-century struggle for freedom, civil rights and social justice in the United States. It focused on the individual and collective efforts that are vital in achieving social change to the 21st century, according to Daniels, who has extensively researched civil rights in Georgia.

"Mary Frances Early played a pivotal role in the desegregation of the University of Georgia," Daniels said. "She is a trailblazer, bridge builder and an important person in the history of dismantling segregation at UGA."

Sponsored by UGA's Graduate and Professional Scholars, the lecture series honors Early, who became UGA's first African-American graduate when she earned a master of music education degree in 1962.

"The Mary Frances Early Lecture will be institutionalized and housed in the Graduate School for perpetuity," says Graduate School Dean Maureen Grasso. "The Graduate School will continue working closely with graduate and professional scholars to honor Ms. Early's legacy."

Daniels wrote a book about an African-American's struggle to desegregate UGA titled *Horace T. Ward: Desegregation of the University of Georgia, Civil Rights Advocacy and Jurisprudence*. He also was the senior researcher and executive producer of two other award-winning public television documentary films about the civil rights struggle in Georgia.

Daniels joined the UGA faculty in 1979 and became the dean of the School of Social Work in 2005.

This article originally appeared in the UGA Graduate School Magazine.

Camp MAGIK receives grant from The Moyer Foundation

By Janet Jones Kendall

Each year in Georgia, thousands of children lose a parent. It is a reality that is, often times, a devastating one for many kids – especially those who receive no counseling or support.

In 1995, University of Georgia School of Social Work faculty member Rene Searles McClatchey decided to help those children through the form of a camp she named Camp MAGIK – Mainly About Grief In Kids.

That first camp session 14 years ago was attended by 17 children. However, word of mouth spread quickly, and the following year, McClatchey operated two camps with 30 and 40 children respectively. There have since been three camp sessions a year offered in various locations throughout Northeast Georgia, with a limit of 50 children per camp. Since its inception in 1995, Camp MAGIK has held 31 camps and served over 1,550 children and adolescents.

Now, thanks to a \$100,000 grant and partnership with The Moyer Foundation's Camp Erin initiative, Camp MAGIK will offer Camp Erin Atlanta, a fourth session of camp for grieving kids and teens. Established by Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Jamie Moyer and his wife, Karen, The Moyer Foundation's mission is to provide comfort and support to children enduring a time of profound physical, emotional or financial distress. Through partnerships with grief support agencies like Camp MAGIK, The Moyer Foundation is establishing more than 50 Camp Erins across the country, including one in every major league baseball city. Camp MAGIK was chosen for Atlanta and received \$100,000 to fund Camp Erin Atlanta over the next 10 years.

"Camp MAGIK was extremely fortunate to receive this grant," McClatchey said. "We have a waiting list for our camp sessions, and it is so hard to tell a child who needs our services that we do not have the resources to help. This grant means that we will be able to serve 50 more children a year."

Players for the Atlanta Braves heard about Camp Erin and Camp MAGIK through The Moyer Foundation. Camp Erin advocates Kim Hudson, wife of Braves pitcher Tim Hudson, and Jaena Norton, wife of first base Braves player Greg Norton, asked McClatchey if they could visit Camp Erin Atlanta in Hampton, Georgia, in April. After their visit, the Nortons and the Hudsons invited all Camp Erin Atlanta campers to a Braves game at Turner Field on June 10 for a reception before the game. During an on field pre-game presentation, Camp MAGIK was presented the check from The Moyer Foundation.

"For the Hudsons and the Nortons to invite our campers to a reunion at a Braves game was huge," McClatchey said. "The kids made deep friendships at camp and to be invited to the game meant not only that they got a chance to see their new friends again, but also that they got to meet, take photos with and get autographs from their baseball heroes. It was such a joy to see the campers have so much fun after the tragedies they have experienced. The kids will remember this day for a very, very long time." ●

For more information on Camp MAGIK, visit www.campmagik.org.

For more information on The Moyer Foundation, visit www.moyerfoundation.org.



Former MSW Student Improves VA Caregiver System

Mary Ann Shelton knows firsthand what it's like to be a caregiver. For 13 years, she took care of her grandmother, and for two years she took care of her mother.

Now, as a social work intern at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center, Ms. Shelton is the group leader and certified interventionist for REACH VA, a pilot program to provide caregivers of Alzheimer's patients with resources and support.

"Though they (her mother and grandmother) didn't have Alzheimer's, I was still involved in every part of their care, from taking them to the doctor to everyday tasks," said Ms. Shelton, who will receive her master's degree in social work in May from the University of Georgia School of Social Work. "I think that experience has really helped me connect with the caregivers and understand what they are going through."

REACH VA, which stands for Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregivers Health, is being piloted in 24 VA medical centers in home-based primary care.

The program recognizes the well-being of the caregiver as an important component of a patient's care, said Michele Mitchell, the program director for home-based primary care at the Norwood VA hospital.

"We are very focused on the veterans. That's why we are here. We've done little, historically, to assist other family members. It's almost like we dealt with our veterans in a vacuum," she said. "However, over the last few years we've really taken a different approach to that, realizing that our veterans are a part of a family. The family supports the veteran, and we, as the VA, have to support the family, too."

About 78 percent of the patients in home-based primary care are being taken care of by a spouse or family member, or live in a group situation such as a nursing home or assisted living facility. Others live alone, she said.

The intervention program lasts six months and includes home visits, phone sessions with caregivers and support group sessions by phone. It addresses safety, social support, problem behaviors, emotional well-being, health and preventive health behaviors.

"This program focuses on the caregiver so they can take better care of themselves," she said. "Caring for a loved one, especially with Alzheimer's disease, is stressful. The caregiver needs to know how to communicate with that loved one and know how to take care of themselves, because if they don't they will be burned out, tired, sick and unable to properly



Mary Ann Shelton (MSW '09) stands in front of the VA Medical Center in Augusta. (Photo courtesy of Mary Ann Shelton).

take care of their loved one. We share other resources in the community that they can use to help as well."

Each month, she sends reports on the local program to the program's base in Tennessee. The results from the participating VA medical centers will be presented later this year to Congress, which will decide whether the program is implemented at all VA medical centers.

In February, the Department of Veterans Affairs recognized Ms. Shelton for her work with the REACH VA program.

"Having Augusta participate has been invaluable for the project," a statement from the VA said. "In addition to the benefits for the project, without the efforts of Ms. Shelton, many caregivers in the Augusta community would not have had the opportunity to benefit from the information and guidance offered through the REACH VA program."

Ms. Shelton, who is from Albany, Ga., said that the internship experience has been invaluable.

"I have a lot more hands-on experience, from a different perspective," she said. "I've learned a lot that you can't get in a classroom. This experience only confirmed what I felt already -- that working with geriatric patients and their families is what I want to do." ●

This story first appeared in the Augusta Chronicle.

By Nikasha Dicks, Staff Writer



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