

The University of Georgia School of

# Social Work

FALL 2007



## Crisis in Darfur





*Greetings Alums, Colleagues and Friends!*

As we approach the end of another year, and I take stock of all that we have accomplished together, I am humbled and honored to serve as the dean of our dynamic School of Social Work at the University of Georgia.

The internationally esteemed philosopher and world leader, Mahatma Gandhi, challenged us to “Be the change you want to see in the world.” This issue of our magazine has a global focus and tells the story of an MSW alumna working in Chad with refugees from the Darfur region of Sudan to promote positive change in this crisis of epidemic proportions. We also report on our study abroad programs from this summer that sent our students and faculty to Ghana, Argentina, and

Northern Ireland.

Our fall magazine focuses on service through a story about alums who volunteer at Burn Camp each summer with Associate Dean Nancy Williams and through a profile on Assistant Professor Donna Bliss, whose service-learning projects are well known in the Athens community.

This issue also provides details about exciting developments within the School, including the progress we are making toward a dual degree program, the MSW/MPH, with the College of Public Health at UGA, and the growth of the Institute for Nonprofit Management. The School is proud of the Thomas (Jim) Parham and the Pauline M. Berger Endowed Professorships, which are contributing immensely to teaching excellence, research, and public service. I am pleased to report that it is our goal to complete the fundraising for our third endowed professorship, the Donald L. Hollowell Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies, before the end of the year.

In the fall 2006 issue of the *Journal of Social Work Education* our School is ranked among the top ten schools of social work in the nation for faculty publications. Our faculty continues to excel in research and scholarship, and we will include a list of recent faculty scholarly activities in the next issue. We welcome a new faculty member with expertise in public health, Dr. Kimberly S. Clay, and a new grants specialist, Melvin Rambeau, who will assist faculty by building on our success in extra-mural funding. You can read more about our new hires on page 19.

The Honor Roll of Donors is also in this issue, and I am encouraged by the commitment of our alumni and friends who provide the support necessary for our School to continue to excel. As social workers, we understand the importance of human relationships in making this a better, more humane, and just world for all. I urge you to consider making a gift to the School of Social Work so that we may continue to promote these goals through our teaching, our research, our service, and through the work of our students. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maurice C. Daniels". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Maurice C. Daniels, Dean



The University of Georgia  
School of Social Work

*Advocates for Positive Social Change*



The Magazine of the School of Social Work  
at the University of Georgia

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# Social Work

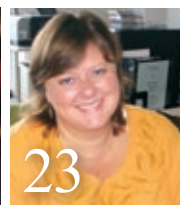
F A L L 2 0 0 7

## C o n t e n t s

**Jennifer Melton (MSW  
'04) in Aradip, Chad  
in a village market  
neighboring the Goz Amir  
Camp where she worked  
in 2006. Aradip is now  
the host to thousands  
of Internally Displaced  
Persons due to ethnic  
conflict within Chad.**



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# Crisis in Darfur

The United Nations estimates that the Darfur conflict in Sudan has left as many as 450,000 dead from violence and disease. And according to Amnesty International more than 2 million people have been displaced from their homes. Twelve refugee camps run by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the neighboring country of Chad house over 230,000 people who fled Sudan's Darfur region. UGA School of Social Work alumna Jennifer Melton (MSW '04) works in Djabal Camp in Chad as an employee of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, the oldest international migration and refugee resettlement agency in the United States.

**Background** The causes of the crisis in the Darfur region of western Sudan are complex and rooted in structural inequality between the center of the country around the Nile River and the outlying areas like Darfur. The combination of decades of drought and overpopulation have caused nomadic people to take their livestock further south in search of water and food to land occupied mainly by farming communities. One side of the armed conflict is made up mostly of the Sudanese military and a militia group called the Janjaweed, which consists mostly of members of the nomadic tribes. The other side consists of rebel groups, recruited mainly from the farming communities.

Some readers may recall the devastating Second Sudanese Civil War, which began in 1983 and ended in 2005 leaving 1.9 million civilians dead. That war was fought primarily between Muslims and Christians. The conflict in Darfur, however, is between Muslim groups. "Often it's a misconception in the West that the conflict in Darfur is between Christians and Muslims," said Melton. "I think it is important to educate readers that Darfurian refugees are Muslim. The conflict is between the Black Muslim population and Arab Muslim population."

By Kristen Smith

Jennifer Melton

works with  
refugees from  
the Darfur  
conflict who  
have crossed  
the border to  
Eastern Chad

**Jennifer Melton's work** "I had a great experience at UGA," said Melton. "I met professors and advisers with similar interests in international social work. I consistently received encouragement from each of these professors during my studies at UGA and continue to receive professional guidance from some of them," she said.

Melton credits Larry Nackerud, Kristina Jaskyte, Miriam Sabin (now at the CDC) and Mark Lusk (now at the University of Texas, El Paso) as professors who encouraged her during her time at UGA. She visits the United States regularly but intends to remain in the field of international humanitarian work. Melton began working in Africa as a Peace Corps Volunteer in 1997. After returning to the United States and completing her studies in social work and public health, she sought out international field work again. After six months in Sri Lanka, she decided to return to Francophone Africa and landed in Chad.

Melton says that over 15,000 people live in Djabal Camp and arrived in 2003. "In Djabal Camp in eastern Chad, I manage and coordinate a psychosocial and community service project," said Melton. "We seek to serve the most vulnerable portion of the refugee population. Generally, this tends to be sexual and gender based violence survivors, people with disabilities, unaccompanied elderly persons, the mentally ill, and separated and unaccompanied children. We provide case management and counseling, distribute items such as tents, plastic sheeting, blankets, kitchen supplies, buckets and





## For more information on Darfur and how you can help:

### Save Darfur

[www.savedarfur.org](http://www.savedarfur.org) An alliance of over 170 advocacy, faith-based, and humanitarian organizations. The Coalition's member organizations represent 130 million people of all ages, races, religions and political affiliations united together to help the people of Darfur.

### Eyes on Darfur

[www.eyesondarfur.org](http://www.eyesondarfur.org) Explore satellite evidence of destroyed villages and detailed on-the-ground information and see with your own eyes what is happening in Darfur.

### Amnesty International

[www.amnestyusa.org](http://www.amnestyusa.org) Amnesty International's mission is to undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of the rights to physical and mental integrity, freedom of conscience and expression, and freedom from discrimination, within the context of its work to promote all human rights.

### Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

[www.hias.org](http://www.hias.org) As the oldest international migration and refugee resettlement agency in the U.S., HIAS played a major role in the rescue and relocation of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust and of Jews from Morocco, Ethiopia, Egypt and the communist countries of Eastern Europe. As the migration arm of the organized American Jewish community, HIAS also advocates on behalf of refugees and migrants on the international, national, and community levels.

mats, conduct community awareness campaigns and facilitate children's activities."

The World Health Organization has begun recommending psychosocial support for people in disaster areas that takes into account the distinct healing methods of the culture and to provide culturally sensitive programs. "Culture does count," said Melton. "The people who have received the individual or group services we offer have reported a sense of relief, and also an increase in self-sufficiency and re-establishment of their social networks and relationships," she said.

Though the refugees from Darfur are under the protection of the international community in eastern Chad, they are still at risk for violence or being recruited as soldiers when they cross the border. Chad is no idyllic safe haven. Political instability and ethnic conflict within Chad, including their own displaced citizens competing for scarce resources, threaten the safety of the Darfurians.

**End in sight?** By January of 2008 the first joint peacekeeping operation by the African Union and the United Nations will be on the ground in Darfur. If deployed fully, it will be the largest peacekeeping operation in the world, with a 26,000-strong force. In a press release in August of this year, Amnesty International welcomed the unanimous U.N. Security Council vote to send the strengthened peacekeeping force to Darfur, but called for urgent deployment, effective resources to support the deployment, and the full support of the Sudanese government. Larry Cox, executive director of Amnesty International USA said, "We are mindful that hundreds of thousands of Darfurians have died and over a million people have been driven from their homes while the world did little to stop the killing . . . The truth is that Darfur can wait no longer for help. The region desperately needs a protective force now to prevent more killings."

There are many ways that social workers, either professionally or as concerned members of the global community, can give aid and comfort in this crisis as well. "The more informed we are of human rights abuses around the world the more pressure we can place on governments to protect their populations regardless of ethnicity, race, sex or religion," said Melton. "Also, I

recommend that people identify the charities that they trust and make monetary contributions."

Melton encourages people to consider employment or volunteer opportunities with the Hebrew International Aid Society or with other organizations. "I find that social workers, especially those who studied in the United States, are underrepresented in the international humanitarian field," she said. "Though the work is sometimes under difficult conditions, I would encourage social work students and professionals to pursue international experiences and exchanges. Not only can it be a profound personal experience, but can also improve the capacity of social workers working domestically to address the needs of an ever more diverse United States." ●



# *Institute for* NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

By Kristen Smith

**N**ONPROFIT PROGRAM Jacquie Hilterman drives The Whale Bus™. It's part of her job as a marine science instructor for The Marine Mammal Center, a nonprofit organization in Sausalito, California, that rescues, rehabilitates and releases sick, injured and orphaned marine mammals. Hilterman also manages education volunteers at The Marine Mammal Center and provides environmental education to school groups. The Whale Bus™ is part of an outreach program that takes marine specimens into schools and teaches students about caring for the environment.

Is Hilterman a social worker? Not really, but she earned her degree from an institute within the School of Social Work at UGA. Hilterman has a master's degree in nonprofit management from the Institute of Nonprofit Management.

"It's becoming better known that you can have a degree in nonprofit management," said Hilterman, who also has a master's degree in marine science. "The breadth of experience and education I got in the MNPO program—classes in social work, law, volunteer management—made my résumé that much better and made me more well rounded as a person."

The Institute was envisioned and founded by Tom Holland, a professor in the School of Social Work, who first co-directed and then solely directed the Institute since its inception in the late 1990s. For 35 years Holland has been a consultant for nonprofit organizations particularly with executives and boards of directors on leadership, governance, and management of nonprofit organizations.

Holland says that the School of Social Work is a natural home for the Institute. "Historically, social work has had two territories, micro and macro," said Holland. "Macro

has a lot to add to communities, organizations, public policy, and that was the tradition that I grew up in. It's widely realized now that this part of social work is appealing to people in diverse nonprofits. Zoos and museums and volunteer fire departments and little league football teams all have to recruit volunteers and manage them and raise money and meet payroll."

This fall, Holland stepped down as director of the Institute and Michelle Carney, an associate professor in the School, is assuming the role of director. "I feel so good about handing off my baby to somebody as competent as she is," said Holland, who will still teach for the Institute.

As it turns out, one reason Carney chose to come to UGA was because of the Institute. Her entire career history outside of academia has been in nonprofits. Carney and Holland both see the future of the Institute moving toward more on-line courses and more courses offered in the Atlanta area.





“The breadth of experience and education I got in the MNPO program . . . made my résumé that much better and made me more well rounded as a person.”

“We’re also exploring an executive MNPO program much like an executive MBA program, which would be a weekend a format,” said Carney. “And we envision it in Gwinnett because there are so many folks over there who are running nonprofits and working fulltime.”

In addition to the master’s degree in nonprofit management, the Institute also offers a certificate in nonprofit management, which is open to students enrolled in any graduate program at UGA.

“We have one student who’s getting her doctorate in veterinary medicine and is also getting the certificate in nonprofit management because she wants to open a nonprofit veterinary clinic,” said Carney. “Our students are very diverse, and they come in wanting to be leaders in the nonprofit world.”

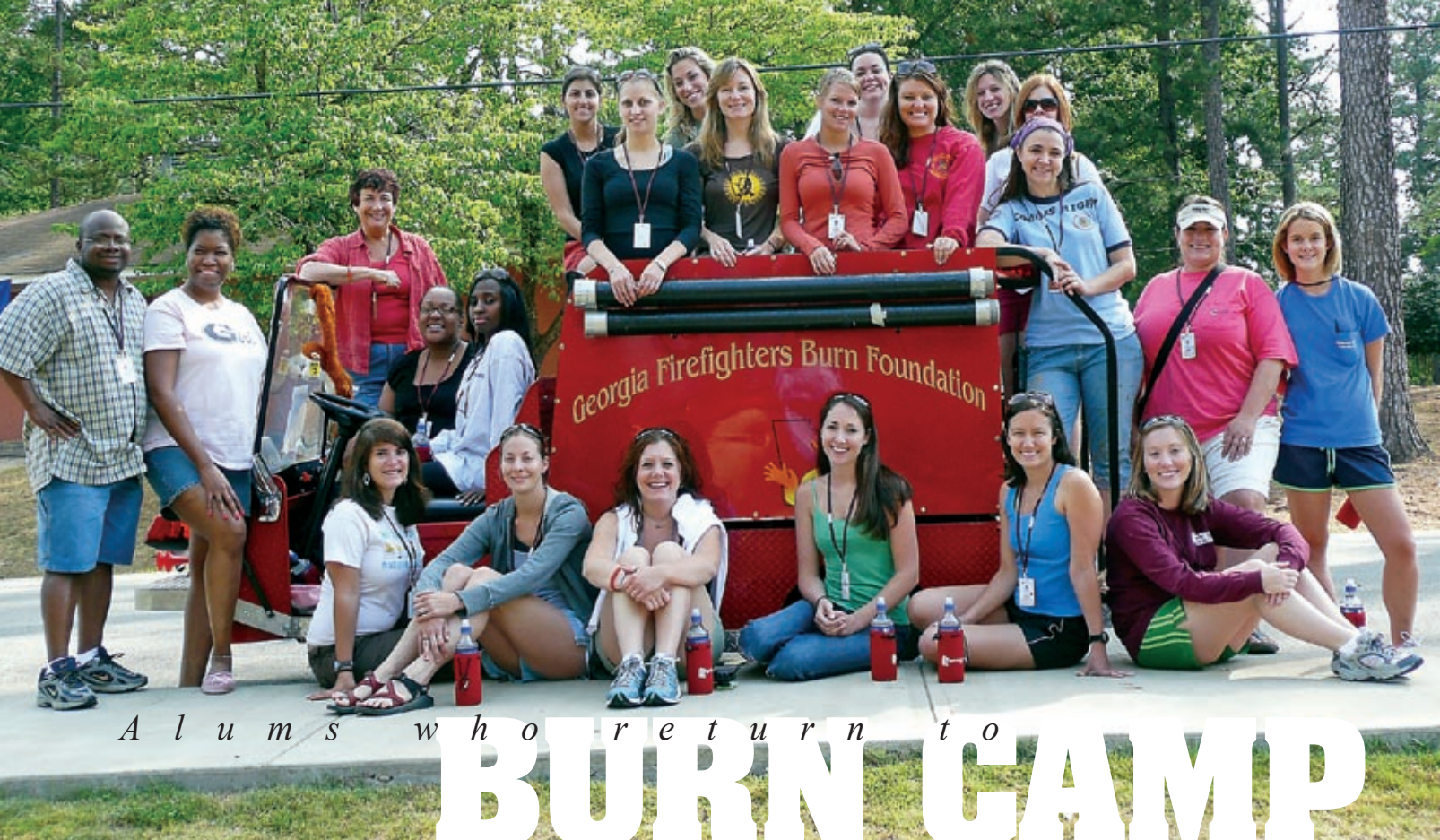
Many MSW students who choose to concentrate in community empowerment and program development also opt for the certificate. “These students often end up in nonprofits so if they have the benefit of this program while getting their MSW then they have insight into nonprofits and how they run,” said Carney. “So it’s natural they will be more successful. And when they do get promoted, they’ll know how to manage people and how to do fundraising and grant writing.”

The faculty members who teach in the Institute are a diverse group too. “Our faculty are in law, adult education, accounting, agricultural leadership, public administration, social work, but we don’t have any dedicated faculty members because there’s no budget for that. We haven’t gotten there,” said Carney.

Both Carney and Holland view the growth of the Institute and the interest in the program as good problems to have. Fifty-five alums have completed master’s degrees in nonprofit management, sixty-three students have earned certificates, and the program currently has 22 full-time students.

“I just see job opportunities and public awareness expanding so dramatically that the program will scramble to keep up,” said Holland. “Our applications are going up and popular awareness of the field has risen sharply in the last few years. In times past the tradition was on-the-job training, but now that there is a specialized body of knowledge there is not only increasing demand, but increasing employer demand.” ●





# Alums who return to BURN CAMP

By Kristen Smith

Attending summer camp can be a profound experience for young people. Away from their families and their familiar lives, campers must learn new skills, make new friends, and challenge themselves at almost every turn. The children who attend Camp Oo-U-La at Rock Eagle State Park are burn survivors. Many of the campers return year after year for the friendship, fun, and support the camp offers. And many School of Social Work alums, who once took Nancy Williams' service-learning course "Social Work with Burn-Injured Children," return year after year too as volunteers committed to this particular camp experience and to the children the camp serves.

Camp Oo-U-La began in 1991 and is a project of the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation. The week long camp is free to any child in Georgia aged 6-17 who has sustained a significant burn injury. In 2000, Nancy Williams, associate professor and interim associate dean in the School of Social Work, began taking MSW students to "Burn Camp." Since then, about 30 of the 150 former MSW students volunteer each year as part of the camp staff.

Dana Dillard (MSW '00) is a school social worker with the Cobb County school district in metro Atlanta. Dillard went to Burn Camp in 2000 as an MSW student, and she has been back as a volunteer every year since. "It's been really amazing to watch the kids grow up and to form relationships over the years," she said. "Of course, and unfortunately so, there will always be a handful of new kids who are recent burn survivors, but there are lots of returning faces over the years."

Dillard is committed to Burn Camp. The International World Burn Congress held their annual meeting in Vancouver in October and Dillard was there. The annual international conference brings together more than 650 burn survivors, their families, care givers, firefighters, and burn care professionals. "I've always wanted to go," said Dillard, "and just decided on my own to attend."

As with any complex and moving experience Dillard says it's hard to put into words what the camp means to her. "I love the camp, kids, and volunteers with all of my heart," she said. "I'm grateful to have been given the opportunity to be a part of such an important program and organization. It has truly shaped my life and where I hope to be in the future."

▲ Some of the SSW alums who volunteered at Burn Camp this summer.



**Kadesha Charles (MSW '04) has volunteered at Burn Camp for five years.**

Another alumna who returned to volunteer at Burn Camp is Serena Baldwin (MSW '02). Baldwin's commitment to Burn Camp eventually led to her current position as program director for the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation, of which Camp Oo-U-La is but one part. "I went to camp as part of the MSW program and I fell in love with the organization, and I kept volunteering at camp, and then when a job came open at the Foundation, I applied," she said. "In my job as program director, I am responsible for developing, implementing, and managing all of the Foundation's programs and services. These include education and burn prevention efforts as well as supporting burn survivors in their recovery. I have been able to be a part of developing educational and psychological assistance programs for young burn survivors, and I cannot begin to tell you how fulfilling it has been to be a part of this process. I will be forever grateful to Dr. Williams for having the courage to begin such a service-learning course, as the experience has truly changed the course of my life and subsequently allows me to play a part in changing the lives of others."

There are many other SSW alums who volunteer each year at Burn Camp, and they all couldn't be interviewed for this story. Kadesha Charles (MSW '04) is the last alumna I spoke to about Burn Camp. She has returned to volunteer at camp for five years. "I love helping others, which is why I'm a social worker," she said. "At the end of my first year of camp, I told the children I would return next year, and I have been keeping my word."

Like any camper, Charles admits that she enjoys complaining about camp. "The food is awful if you're like me and don't eat red meat and pork, and the cabins are old, and



I'm not an outdoorsy person," she said. "However, I go back every year for the children. We hear stories from parents, and how much their children look forward to Burn Camp, or how they've improved their grades, have a higher self-esteem, or want to go to college. I love being able to make a positive difference in their lives."

The volunteers all say that another reason they keep going back is that camp is fun. "I have as much, if not more, fun as the kids do," said Dillard. "You get to play and act like a kid all week—getting dressed up and having water balloon fights and playing jokes on each other. It's just good fun!"

It is hard to imagine that a college course could lead to such sustained volunteering and dedication. Even Nancy Williams has been surprised. "Because it was such an experiment, I thought the learning for students would be

their understanding of service and also compassion and working with a traumatized population. It never occurred to me that they would take that notion of service and apply it and live it by coming and volunteering over time," she said. "As a faculty member, it doesn't get any better than to continue to see my former students over the years and then to see them come back as colleagues and witness their personal growth and development as professionals. It's amazingly satisfying to see first hand that they are still holding on to that spirit of volunteerism and their passion for the kids even as they are out in the work world." ●



◀ **Dana Dillard is the longest returning alumna volunteer. She took the course in 2000 and has returned as a volunteer at Burn Camp every year since.**

## Faculty Profile: Donna Bliss

By Kristen Smith



PHOTO BY PETER FREY

“**H**ow in the world did you get in my life?” That’s the question Donna Bliss, an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, asks when she sees her dream motorcycle, a black and silver Harley-Davidson, sitting in her garage. Bliss says that riding recreationally as she does is a kind of meditation. But the motorcycle is also a metaphor for her life and work because Bliss is a woman on the move.

She is a Lilly Teaching Fellow this year, and the program is one reason she chose to come to UGA. “The program really interested me because it was clear that teaching was valued here beyond just the level of rhetoric,” Bliss said.

Also this fall, Bliss is an IBR Fellow, participating in the Institute for Behavioral Research’s faculty mentoring program.

Last year, she was one of five inaugural Service-Learning Fellows, and it’s her service-learning projects that have made her well known in the Athens community. Bliss’ social work students have helped evacuees from Hurricane Katrina connect with resources, services and jobs in the Athens area; they have worked with community agencies to develop grassroots interventions to help stem homelessness, drop out rates, recidivism and poverty; they have developed short films, Bliss calls them digital stories, highlighting the lives of individuals and using the power of storytelling to talk back to the stereotypes of people with social problems.

“What I like about service-learning is that it gives me a conceptual framework and an operational framework to think about how universities and communities can collaborate to help communities with their problems and also facilitate student learning,” she said. “In terms of being a professor, it’s hard for me to separate out teaching, research and service. They all go together.”

### F A C T S

**Donna Leigh Bliss**  
Assistant professor of  
social work

**B.A.,** Psychology,  
University of Maryland  
College Park, 1989

**M.S.W.,** Social Work,  
University of Maryland  
Baltimore, 1991

**Ph.D.,** Social Work,  
University of Maryland  
Baltimore, 2005

**At UGA:** 2 years

Bliss is the first person in her family to attend college and when she committed to getting her degree, she was a non-traditional student. “I was a 31-year-old freshman on the University of Maryland College Park campus,” said Bliss.

After earning her B.A. and M.S.W. degrees, she worked in various drug treatment and mental health facilities as a counselor, caseworker, supervisor or director for 11 years before returning to school to get her Ph.D.

“I was running a halfway house for women who had completed an inpatient substance abuse treatment. Their children lived there too. We were resource-starved, and I was the only one with any licensing or real experience working with women who have addiction problems. I went to get our program set up as a field placement site for the University of Maryland

School of Social Work, and for whatever reason, that clicked something inside that said, ‘It’s time for you to go back to school and get your Ph.D.’”

Bliss’ primary area of research is addictions in a broad sense and then more specifically she seeks to understand the relationship between spirituality and addiction. “I am very interested in what it is that makes some people decide to recover from addiction,” said Bliss. “I think like a practitioner, and to me research comes down to how does this affect real people in the real world.”

Maurice Daniels, the dean of the School of Social Work, hears people mention Donna Bliss’ name throughout the Athens community. “Dr. Bliss is an outstanding member of the School of Social Work faculty. She has a strong commitment to community service and uplift and has demonstrated exceptional creativity in integrating service projects with her teaching and research. She exemplifies and embodies Social Work’s commitment to social justice in her teaching, research, and community service,” he said. ●



# Dear Alumni and Friends,

Greetings from the School of Social Work, the University of Georgia and beautiful (and now somewhat cooler) Athens town. I hope your summer went well and that maybe you had a bit of down-time to relax and enjoy life!

We ended the 2006-2007 school year with a bang, and welcomed 216 new alumni to our distinguished list of social work graduates. On May 12, we had 8 PhD, 140 MSW, 60 BSW and 8 MNPO students receive diplomas after much hard work on their part and the support of their families. Congratulations to each of our new alumni and best wishes to you as you embark on your life's journey. We now have started the 2007-2008 school year off with a wonderful group of new students and continuing students. We look forward to having another productive year!

Jennifer Abbott (SSW Development Officer) and I have been on several trips around the state visiting alumni along the way. We spent some time in south Georgia with Josie Green (MSW '70) in Cordele and Ted Lynch (BSW '83) in Cairo. Ted serves as our School of Social Work representative to the UGA Alumni Society Board and from all reports is representing the School with excellence. We've got more visits in the planning stages, so look for us in your area!

One of the things the SSW Alumni office would like to do is get two class agents from each graduation year to help with input as we plan another All Class Reunion as well as other alumni events. We have several folks already signed up, but I would like to invite any of you who are interested in joining this fired up group of SSW alums to contact me. We want your input into what you would like us to plan as an alumni get-together or CEU event. Looking forward to hearing from some of you!

Our External Affairs Committee, Dean Daniels and several of our faculty members will be heading west to San Francisco in October for the CSWE Annual Program Meeting. The UGA School of Social Work will be exhibiting (booth #802) during the conference and will also hold a dessert reception. If any of you are going, please come by the booth and reception. We'd love to see you!

I would again like to encourage you to remember the School of Social Work in your charitable contribution thoughts. Your gift to the School will continue to support our mission and to further enhance our varied programs and scholarship funds. If you have any questions concerning giving, please contact Jennifer Abbott at 706-549-9093 or e-mail her at [jabbott@uga.edu](mailto:jabbott@uga.edu).

Please stay in touch with us with any news, professional or personal, you'd like to share, and if you have an address 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*

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Laura Hartman Ciucevich (UGA, ABJ '67)  
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# SSW alumni news & notes

## ● 1970–1979

**Lenora Mazlaghani, BSW '79** – lives in Gainesville, FL and for the past five years has been working as Program Coordinator at Arbor House. Arbor House includes two programs, New Beginnings, a maternity home for single mothers, and Mom's Place, which is transitional housing for single mothers with one child. She has been married for 31 years and has two children, Mikel (26) and Naseem (23).

**Ed Risler, BSW '77, MSW '82, PhD '98** – a faculty member of the School of Social Work has a chapter titled "Blueprint for a Youth Empowerment Model (YEM) through Volunteerism" in the book *Youth Empowerment and Volunteerism: Principles, Policies and Practices* published by the City University of Hong Kong Press. Coauthor of this chapter is Dr. Michael Holosko, the Pauline M. Berger Professor of Family and Child Welfare here in our School.

**Nancy R. Williams, MSW '78** – was appointed interim associate dean of our School in January 2007 after serving as the first faculty liaison for UGA's Office of Service-Learning.

## ● 1980–1989

**Susan Morse Andrus, BSW '83** – has recently remarried and lives in Snellville, GA.

**Jody D. Iodice, MSW '83** – lives in Atlanta, GA and is in private practice doing psychotherapy, consultation and training and research. Jody has recently had a new book published, *Sit Up In Your Truck and Smile: Lessons for Living an Enriched Life of Courage, Compassion and Joy* published by Morris Publishing Co. She has also developed specialized Cancer Wellness programs for Piedmont Hospital of Atlanta's new Cancer Wellness facility. Jody is an adjunct professor in our School as well as at the Georgia School of Professional Psychology-Argosy University Counseling Psychology Program in Atlanta.

**Beth Rahn Mosley, BSW '80** – is a realtor with Platinum Properties in Rincon, GA. She recently received an award from ERA as the #9 Team in the nation for real estate. She is the secretary for Habitat for Humanity in Effingham County (GA). She is married to Danny H. Mosley an investor who is retired from BellSouth.

**Jane A. Tipton, MSW '80** – is living in Nairobi, Kenya and working to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

## ● 1990–1999

**Patrick Bordnick, PhD '95** – has left our School after a successful tenure of teaching, research and service and has accepted a faculty position at the University of Houston. Patrick has been featured recently on CNN and NBC television for his ground-breaking research in Virtual Reality. His awards for research include the Canadian Chair in Cyber Psychology Research, New Investigator Award for Scientific Merit.

**Joyce Marinich, MSW '99** – we had a nice note from Joyce this month. She lives in Lawrenceville, GA.

**Stephanie Swann, MSW '94** – is past president (2005-2007) of the Georgia Society for Clinical Social Work.

## ● 2000–

**Katherine Lee Bachman, MSW '06** – is Program Director for Children's Restoration Network in Roswell, GA.

**Misty Ward Britt, MSW '01** – is a school social worker in New Haven County Schools in Wilmington, NC. She and her husband welcomed their first child, Georgia Grace, born May 24, 2007. Congratulations!

**Gareth Fenley, MSW '04** – is a Certified Peer Specialist in the Department of Psychiatry and Health Behavior at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta.

**Jessica Kennedy, BSW '07** – was awarded The Virginia Smyth Scholarship by the Georgia Gerontology Society. This award is presented annually to offer financial support to persons seeking to advance their careers in aging. Jessica is currently an advanced standing student.

**Trevis Killen, MSW '06** – is a school social worker in the Houston County (GA) School System. On August 4, 2007, he graduated with an Educational Specialist Degree in Professional School Counseling from the University of Georgia. He lives in Warner Robins, GA.

**Shawna Moss, MSW '05** – lives in Stone Mountain, GA. She works for the Agape Community Center in Atlanta.

**Tonya Westbrook, PhD '06** – is an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. She is living in Asheville, NC. Tonya recently became one of three recipients of the 2007 Graduate Student Excellence in Research Award. Congratulations Tonya!



## REACCREDITATION:

### *Academic Planning and Evaluation Committee*

Improving the quality of all aspects of the School's performance is a goal of the faculty and administration. Reaccreditation by the Council on Social Work Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities is dependent on clear evidence of how the School is making such improvements. This summer, Dean Daniels appointed a team of faculty members, including all program chairs, to ensure that such steps are being carried out. This team has developed new forms for evaluating many dimensions, including ones for student evaluations of courses, an alumni survey, monitoring and assessment of adjunct and part-time instructors, and getting employers' views of our graduates. Feedback from using these instruments will guide the faculty and the Dean in identifying ways to strengthen the School. Our alumni can expect to receive requests for views of the School and recommendations for improvement. We hope you will respond candidly and promptly. The committee will keep you apprised of feedback as it becomes available. All are asked to join in this important effort for curriculum evaluation and improvement.

*June G. Hopps and Tom Holland, Co-chairs,  
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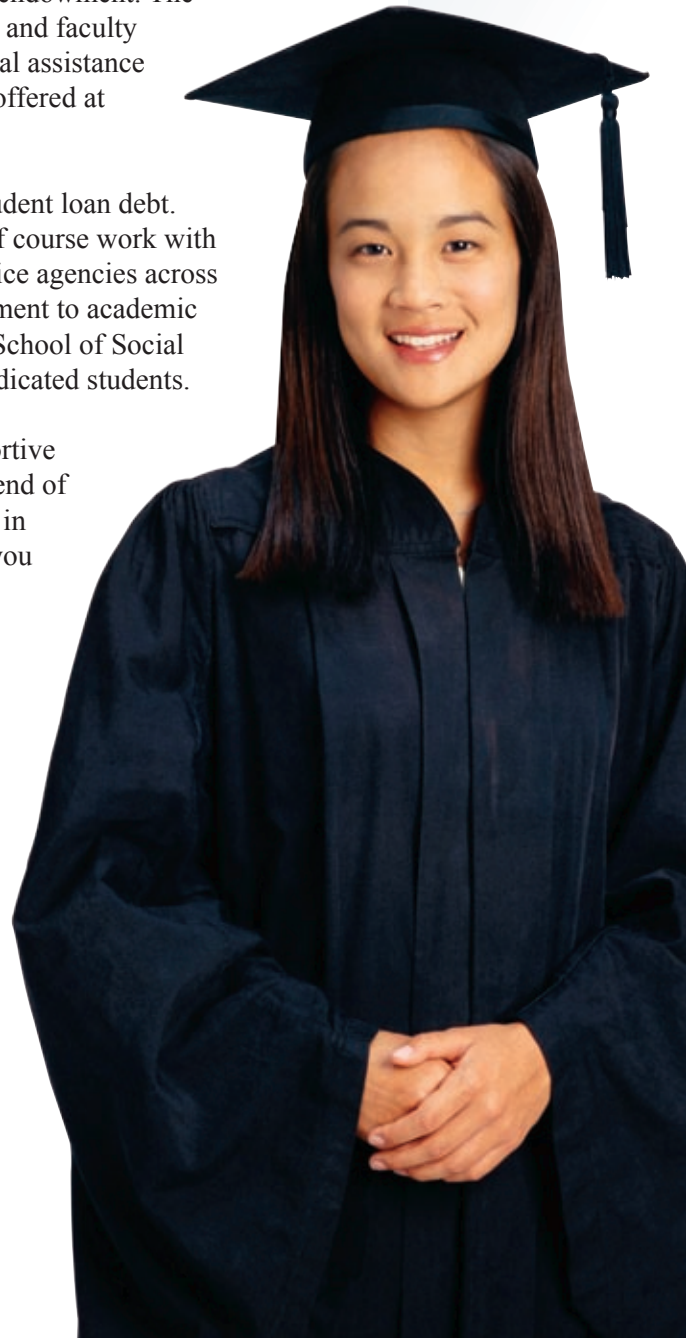
Currently, the School of Social Work offers nine scholarships, one privately endowed graduate assistantship, has two professorships and a Field Education endowment. The School's ability to attract top students and faculty depends on our ability to offer financial assistance to complement the quality education offered at the School of Social Work.

Many social work graduates face unmanageable student loan debt. Social work students balance a rigorous schedule of course work with hundreds of hours of field work in community service agencies across the state. In order to maintain the School's commitment to academic excellence and diversity, it is essential that UGA's School of Social Work be able to provide financial support for its dedicated students.

The School of Social Work has generous and supportive alumni, faculty and friends. As you consider your end of year giving, please keep the School of Social Work in mind. I am always happy to answer any questions you may have about options for giving. Thank you for your support.

---

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## Study Abroad in Argentina

In July ten social work students, accompanied by Dr. Stacey Kolomer, Dr. Ed Risler and staff member Katherine Adams, spent four weeks in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The purpose of this study abroad program is for students to be immersed in the culture of Argentina as well as to become familiar with the variety of social problems and service delivery systems and policies there. The group met with social work faculty and students from the University of Buenos Aires and made several visits to organizations that advocate for and work on behalf of the poor. The UGA social work group also had the opportunity to tour Buenos Aires and Iguazu Falls. They also got to experience a once-in-a-lifetime snow in Buenos Aires on their Independence Day.

◀ **UGA social work students visited an organization in Argentina that provides bread and milk to 200 children and older adults daily among many other activities. It is organized and run by the poorest of the poor.**

## Conflict resolution, reconciliation & crisis intervention in Northern Ireland

**Nancy Williams**, an associate professor and interim associate dean in the School, returned to Northern Ireland with graduate students enrolled in her summer service-learning course titled Conflict Resolution, Reconciliation and Crisis Intervention in Northern Ireland. Associate professor Brian Bride made his first trip to Northern Ireland and co-taught the course with Williams.

Students learned about the culture and history of Northern Ireland and worked and lived at a retreat center called Corrymeela, "Hill of Harmony," that has served as a safe haven for the people of Northern Ireland since the late 1960s and throughout the many-sided conflict known as the Troubles. Corrymeela is a non-profit organization that has served Protestant and Catholic families, groups, and communities in conflict for 40 years and played a role in the peacekeeping efforts. While the Troubles officially ended with the 1998 Peace Accord, Corrymeela's work continues to the present.

**Heather Kotler**, an MSW student in the School, wrote about her experience in Northern Ireland and had this to say, "One of the main reasons that I chose to take this course was so that I could adapt some of the conflict resolution techniques used in political systems to the micro level in order to help me work effectively as a clinician with families. I still hope to apply

those skills, but one of the more broad concepts that I came away with is to not assume that you ever have the full story, or that what you have is even accurate. I learned the importance of putting judgment aside so that I can be a better listener—that sometimes not having an opinion, or not taking a side can make me more present to actually hearing what the other person or group of people has to say."





## Hopps receives Pioneer Award

June G. Hopps received the Pioneer Award from the Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. The Pioneer Award was also given posthumously to Dr. John H. Hopps. The black-tie event was held on August 18th in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women is an advocacy organization built to empower African-American women through greater access to education, political strength, business opportunities and civic responsibility.

Virginia Harris, Metropolitan Atlanta President, said the awards ceremony provides an opportunity to continue to honor and show appreciation to dynamic women whose tireless service to their communities often goes unrecognized.

*Congratulations, Dr. Hopps!*

**June Hopps receives the Pioneer Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. Also pictured are asst. professor Tony Lowe and chapter president, Virginia Harris.**



## Alumni Sightings: AAFC Luncheon



**Mimi Sodhi, Letha See, Vanessa Robinson-Dooley (MSW '00, PhD '05)**



**Kathy Davis (MSW '70), Phyllis Maas, David Levine**

## Social Work/Public Health dual degree on horizon

The School of Social Work is in the process of developing a proposal for a dual degree program with the new College of Public Health at UGA. If all goes as expected, students seeking to earn an MSW and an MPH will be admitted to the program in Fall of 2009. Applicants will need to meet the admission requirements of both the MSW and MPH programs.

"Health and health disparities and the commitment to social justice have always been part of social work," said Trisha Reeves, an associate professor in the School who is helping to craft the dual degree proposal. "There is a natural convergence, a natural fit with Public Health's focus on disease prevention and populations. The dual degree will strengthen the skills and performance of public health social workers in health care agencies and settings," said Reeves. "Many of our students currently take classes in the College of Public Health, and social work faculty collaborate on research with public health faculty. So we've had an informal relationship with the College that led us to realize that the time is right for a more formal alliance in the dual degree," said Reeves.

While the paperwork for the dual degree makes it way through the university system, faculty in social work and public health have planned four seminars this academic year to showcase the strength of their collaborations and to present their research findings. More news on the proposed MSW/MPH will be forthcoming.

## UGA's first African American graduate credits Daniels

At the graduate school commencement ceremony in May over a thousand graduate students throughout the university received their degrees. The commencement address was delivered by Mary Frances Early, who desegregated the graduate school in the early 1960s and became UGA's first African American graduate. In her speech, which received two standing ovations, she told the story of her time at UGA, how no one outside of her family spoke to her during her own graduation, how she never heard from UGA until she was contacted by Dean Daniels. Today she is an active alumna and supporter of the university. The following is an excerpt from her speech.

---

*I returned to campus the summer of 1964 to work toward a Specialist degree because there were still very few African-Americans on campus. I received that degree in 1967. After that time, I heard nothing from the University of Georgia. It was as though I had never attended. In 1997, I was contacted by Dr. Maurice Daniels, then professor in the School of Social Work – now Dean of the School of Social Work. Dr. Daniels was doing research for his outstanding documentary and book: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice – the story of Horace T. Ward who was the first African American to apply for admission to UGA in 1950. He was denied. Attorney Donald Hollowell had told Dr. Daniels that I was the first African American graduate of UGA. Dr. Daniels interviewed me, continued his meticulous research and completed his documentary and book. After thirty years of feeling like an invisible alumna as far as UGA was concerned – I had been discovered.*

---



▲ Mary Frances Early delivered the commencement address for UGA's graduate school in May.

Early's speech in its entirety can be read in the summer edition of the graduate school's magazine or on the Foot Soldier Project for Civil Rights Studies at UGA website at:  
[www.footsoldier.uga.edu/foot\\_soldiers/early.html](http://www.footsoldier.uga.edu/foot_soldiers/early.html)



## Social Work students in West Africa

For seven years, students in social work and other disciplines at UGA have gone to Ghana in the summer as part of the West African Study Abroad Program. Cheryl Dozier, who is associate provost for institutional diversity at UGA and part of the social work faculty, leads the trip each year along with assistant professor, Tony Lowe.

The group participated in a symposium with the School of Social Work in Accra, which is the capital of Ghana. Students from UGA also completed a lecture series from the University of Ghana and the University of Cape Coast and met with representatives from many human service agencies.

The group from UGA continued their tradition of supporting the children of Suga Shea Village in northern Ghana by presenting the village with \$1,000 donated by faculty, staff, students, and friends of the School of Social Work at UGA. The money will purchase 60 school uniforms, 30 pairs of shoes, books for the library, and various school supplies.



▲ Study abroad in Ghana is a family affair. Two sisters, Cristina Mullin and Ciara Green (l-r), completed the West African Study Abroad Program this summer. Ciara currently is an MSW student at the Gwinnett University Center and Cristina is an undergraduate social science student at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.



### Rambeau is new grants specialist for the SSW

Melvin Rambeau is the new grants specialist in the School of Social Work. As head of the Office of Research and External Funding, he provides support to faculty members who are seeking grants or who have been awarded grants for research. Rambeau helps identify funding opportunities and offers editorial support for grant proposals, assistance with budgets and budget development, and other post-award

assistance. Prior to joining our staff, Rambeau served as a grants specialist in the University's Office for Sponsored Programs.

## Attention PhD Alumni!

**We need your help!** In the next few months we will be sending each of you an alumni survey. But in order to do that, we need to get your current information. Please take 5 minutes and visit our School of Social Work web site. Click on the PhD Alumni Information Update link on the home page and fill out the questionnaire.

*We can't wait to hear from you!*

### Clay joins faculty

Kimberly S. Clay is a new assistant professor in the School of Social Work. Clay received her bachelor's degree in communications from Xavier University of



Louisiana. She completed her graduate studies in clinical social work and public health at Tulane University. Following a health management and policy fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Clay pursued doctoral studies in health education and promotion as a National Cancer Prevention and Control Research Fellow at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). With NIH support, she also completed her postdoctoral training at the UAB Minority Health and Research Center where she began her focus in cancer survivorship and spirituality/religiosity research.

## Jordan receives honorary doctorate from UGA

At spring commencement exercises, the University of Georgia awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree to Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., who began his career helping desegregate UGA and became a national civil rights leader, distinguished Washington lawyer, and adviser to President Clinton.

Dean Maurice Daniels in nominating Jordan for the honorary degree, which after the earned doctorate is the highest recognition UGA can bestow, said, "Vernon Jordan's contributions to society and the cause of social justice are distinguished and broad. His influence on the history of the University of Georgia, on the region of the South, and on the national and global political stage is almost unprecedented in the lifetime of one man."

Jordan received a law degree from Howard University in 1960 and returned to his hometown of Atlanta to join the law firm of civil rights attorney Donald Hollowell, who was leading the legal battle to dismantle segregation at UGA. Today Jordan is Senior Managing Director with Lazard Frères & Co. LLC and serves as chairman of the committee raising funds to establish the Donald L. Hollowell Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies in the School of Social Work to honor Hollowell's legacy.



**Hollowell Professorship event: Federal Judge Horace T. Ward; Georgia Court of Appeals Judge John Ruffin, Jr.; Phaedra Parks, Hollowell Endowment Committee member; Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., Hollowell Endowment Committee Chairman; Georgia Supreme Court Justice Robert Benham; Maurice C. Daniels, Dean.**



**University of Georgia Vice President Steve Wrigley (left) and Provost Arnett Mace (right) hooded Vernon Jordan, (center) in recognition of his Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from UGA.**

Peter Frey



## Ninth Annual African American Families Conference

The Ninth Annual African American Families Conference was a huge success! Through the continued support from our partners, Dr. Art Dunning and the Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, we were able to offer another great conference. With the addition of our new partners, the College of Public Health and the Office of Institutional Diversity and Dr. Cheryl Dozier, we were able to exceed our own expectations this year!

This year's theme, *Health Disparities in the African American Community: Trends and Implications for Social Policy and Practice*, brought together a diverse group of practitioners, researchers and students. Two hundred people attended the conference. Keynote speaker Warren W. Hewitt and luncheon speaker Dr. Jesse J. Harris informed the audience about the status of health in the community but also challenged the audience to work for change. We were honored to have speakers on the program from other community organizations and colleges including the Morehouse School of Medicine, Clark Atlanta University, Emory University, Virginia Commonwealth University, the National Development and Research Institute for Community Based Research, Georgia Fatality Review Panel, Your Health America, DHR-Nutrition Section, Recovery Consultants of Atlanta, and Visiting Nurses Health System.

I am always overwhelmed by the support from our Dean, Dr. Maurice Daniels, and the faculty, staff and students in the School of Social Work. It is impossible to do this conference each year without their ongoing commitment.

On behalf of the conference committee and the School of Social Work I say "thank you" and let's get ready to celebrate our 10th anniversary next year!

— Vanessa Robinson-Dooley, PhD, LCSW Conference Chairwoman



**Keynote speaker Warren W. Hewitt, Ph.D., the AIDS and Infectious Diseases Coordinator for the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.**



**Jesse J. Harris, dean emeritus of the University of Maryland School of Social Work.**

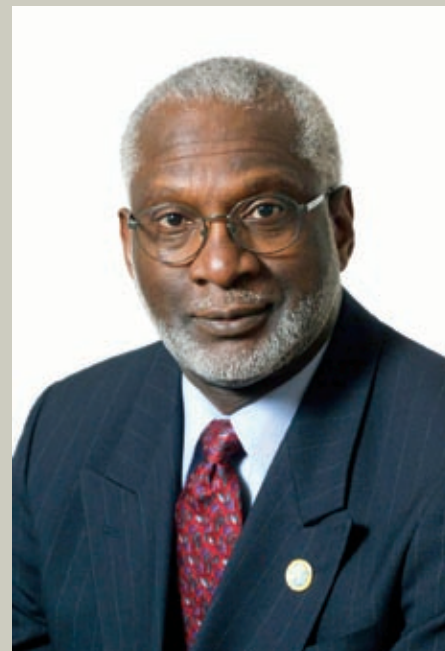
## SAVE THE DATE!

***The 10th annual African American Families Conference will be held on March 28, 2008 at the Classic Center***

The keynote speaker will be David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., former U.S. Surgeon General and current Director of the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities at the Morehouse School of Medicine

Dr. Satcher completed his four-year term as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States in February 2002. He also served as Assistant Secretary for Health in the Department of Health and Human Services from February 1998 to January 2001, making him only the second person in history to have held both positions simultaneously. He was also Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 1993 to 1998 and was the first person to serve as Director of the CDC and Surgeon General of the United States.

*Don't miss next year's conference!*



# Selected Faculty Achievements

● Associate professor **Brian Bride** and the findings from his study in the journal *Social Work* about post-traumatic stress disorder among social workers were the subjects of stories in *Newsweek* magazine, *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, and *NASW News*. In addition, Bride co-edited a special issue of *Clinical Social Work Journal* on Compassion Fatigue and he published numerous articles in journals including “Correlates of Secondary Traumatic Stress in Child Welfare Workers,” in the *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work* and “Measuring Compassion Fatigue” in the *Clinical Social Work Journal*.

● Dean **Maurice Daniels’** Civil Rights documentary, *Donald L. Hollowell: American Freedom Fighter*, was previewed by the National Bar Association’s 82nd Annual Convention Opening Session in Atlanta in July. Daniels also led a panel on “Leadership Skills & Tools in a Diverse Environment” during a leadership seminar sponsored by the Council on Social Work Education earlier in the year. The title of the two-day conference in Charleston, S.C. was “Building Leaders in Social Work Education: Pathways to Success.”

● Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity **Cheryl Dozier** co-authored along with Associate Dean **Nancy Williams** and former Director of Field Education **Mimi Sodhi** the article “Out of the Maelstrom of Katrina: Finding Our Voices a Year Later” in the summer 2007 edition of the journal *Reflections: Narratives of Professional Helping*.

● Associate professor **Alberta Ellett** recently had an article published in the *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work* titled “Linking Self-Efficacy Beliefs to Employee Retention in Child Welfare: Implications for Theory, Research and Practice.”

● **Michael Holosko**, the Pauline M. Berger Professor of Family and Child

Welfare, has co-edited two new books. One book is titled *Information Technology and Evidence-Based Social Work Practice* published by Haworth Press and the title of the other book is *Youth Empowerment and Volunteerism: Principles, Policies and Practices* published by the City University of Hong Kong Press.

● **June G. Hopps**, the Parham Professor of Family and Children Studies, presented the keynote address at the Harvard School of Education, Institute of Educational Management conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

● Associate professor **Stacey Kolomer** was presented with an award for leadership in teaching gerontology at the Georgia Gerontology Society meeting in September. Kolomer received the Marietta Suhart Award, which is given to an individual with demonstrated ability to educate paraprofessionals, professionals and other persons working with older adults; proven leadership and vision in gerontology by development/expansion of educational programs and services; and recognized ability to touch as well as to teach learners.

● Assistant professor **Tony Lowe** along with professor **Larry Nackerud** and associate professor **Ed Risler** recently received funding from the Department of Labor for their proposal titled “Employers’ Perspective on New Immigrants’ Impact in Georgia.” This project will capture employers’ perspectives of foreign-born immigrant labor from various industries across the state.

● Assistant professor **Tony Lowe** along with **June G. Hopps** and **Letha See** published the paper “Challenges and Stressors of African American Armed Service Personnel and their Families” in the *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*.

● After a five year appointment, associate professor **Ed Risler** was re-appointed to the Board of Juvenile Justice by Governor Perdue for four more years. The Department of Juvenile Justice Board establishes policy and provides leadership in developing programs to rehabilitate children committed to the state’s custody. Risler also serves as vice chairman of the board.

● **Letha (Lee) See**, who is Professor Emerita in the School, recently published a new edition of her classic text, *Human Behavior in the Social Environment from an African American Perspective* with the Haworth Press. The book has a new introduction by former Surgeon General, Dr. Joycelyn Elders. SSW faculty members **Tony Lowe**, **June G. Hopps**, and **Rufus Larkin** contributed chapters to the book.

● **Susan Strickland**, a temporary assistant professor in the School, was appointed by Governor Perdue to the Sex Offender Registration Review Board. Strickland serves as chairwoman of the board, which is responsible for risk assessment of all convicted sex offenders in Georgia.

● Associate professor **Betsy Vonk** is the first author of the textbook, *Research Techniques for Clinical Social Work*, which was published earlier this year by Columbia Press. Vonk is also a co-editor of a new book titled *International Korean Adoption: A Fifty-Year History of Policy and Practice* published by Haworth Press.

● Interim associate dean **Nancy Williams** was awarded one of ten international Scholarship of Engagement grants for this year from the Office of the VP for Public Service and Outreach at UGA. Her project is titled, “Linking Global Education with Local Community Needs through Service-Learning” focused on reestablishing a course in Xalapa, Mexico.



# The VOICE

## at the Other End of the Line

**K**at Farlowe worked in the restaurant business for 23 years and then, wanting a change, she took her first ever office job—a temporary position in the School of Social Work. “I started in April of 2000 working for Dr. Daniels in the MSW program,” she said. “It was a one-month position.”

But Kat liked the School of Social Work and the people here liked her. She was hired shortly thereafter as the assistant to the dean. “I worked with Bonnie Yegidis, and Larry Nackerud, and Nancy Kropf and then back to Dean Daniels,” she said.

Kat has been at the School now for seven years and currently works with the PhD and MNPO programs advising students, running the office, and handling admissions and recruitment for both programs. She also serves on the external affairs committee and works on special projects with the dean’s office. “The external affairs committee—we’re the ones who planned all those lovely things for the all class reunion,” she said.

It’s fair to say that Kat brought the creativity, passion, management skills, dedication, and organizational wizardry that she applied in the restaurant business to her various positions in the School of Social Work. Faculty and staff have noticed Kat’s commitment to and excellence in her positions over the years, and last year she won the staff member of the year award. “I’m proud of the fact that people regard me with high esteem and that the faculty and staff of the School know they can count on me and depend on me,” she said.

Juggling several roles is Kat’s preferred work style. “I get restless very easily,” she said. “I like the fact that in my job, one minute I might be talking with students and helping them get their schedules together. The next minute I could be helping the external affairs team plan a huge function. I could be working with a graphic designer over in the printing department planning brochures for my programs. I do so many things, and I wear a lot of different hats, and that’s what I enjoy—the flexibility and the variety.”

At the university level, Kat represents the entire staff of the School by serving as our staff council representative. True to form, Kat doesn’t simply attend monthly meetings, but she’s become involved in the functioning of staff council and is co-chair of its communications committee. She writes for and will help maintain the staff council’s on-line newsletter.

Kat is an amateur photographer, and recently her photographs were chosen to be part of a juried show at the Lyndon House Arts Center in Athens. Two of her photos of animals won awards from the College of Veterinary Medicine at UGA. Kat designed the logo for the School of Social Work, and she’s considering pursuing a degree in digital media.

Fans of UGA football will note that Kat is very involved the Social Dawgs tailgating group that convenes outside Tucker Hall during the football season. And she maintains the Social Dawgs website [www.socialdawgs.com](http://www.socialdawgs.com), which along with photos, and football talk, contains great tailgating recipes.

Clearly, Kat can do almost anything. The fact that she chose to leave restaurant work to share her talents with our School has been our good fortune. It’s been good for Kat too. “Working at the School of Social Work has changed my life,” she said. “I love my job and the people I work with.” ●



*by Kristen Smith*

# PROGRAM NEWS

## BSW Program

*Dr. Stacey Kolomer, Director*

Academic year 2006-2007 was an eventful year for the School of Social Work BSW program. This past spring sixty students completed their programs of study and graduated. The seniors were involved in several activities and were one of the most active groups that our school has ever had. The BSW team raised over \$3,000 for Relay for Life and The BSW Memory Walk team was awarded a plaque for being the UGA team that raised the most dollars for the Alzheimer's Association foundation. Several students were named as Presidential Scholars and many students were on the Dean's List for the year. Other marks of distinction bestowed upon our students included the Rotary Club award to Hank Clay and rising senior Alicia Bellezza was inducted into the Blue Key Society, a prestigious academic honor society.

## MSW Program

*Dr. Brian Bride, Director*

The School of Social Work is buzzing again with the activity of new and returning students. The fall semester has ushered in one of the largest incoming classes in the School's history, with 85 full-time students, 51 advanced standing students, 32 Gwinnett Program students, and 20 part-time Athens students matriculating into the MSW program. These students join 139 returning students for a combined MSW enrollment of 327. Making way for the incoming class, 168 students graduated with the MSW degree in May during a hooding ceremony held in Hodgson Hall. We wish the recent graduates great success as they begin their careers as professional social workers.

The MSW Program has experienced both faculty and staff changes. Dr. Brian Bride assumed the role of MSW Program Director in July, taking the reigns from Dr. Ed Risler who has returned to full-time teaching and research after two years of dedicated service as the MSW Program Director. Dr. Bride has hit the ground running, as he entered into the position just days after returning from teaching in Northern Ireland with the MSW Study Abroad Program and is excited about this new opportunity. Dr. Kimberly Clay has joined the School of Social Work faculty and will be teaching in the MSW program. We also welcome Ms. Trudy McAfee, who joins the MSW Program as the Administrative Assistant for the Gwinnett Program.

## PhD Program

*Dr. Kevin L. DeWeaver, Director*

The Ph.D. Program has been extremely busy this past year! In addition to our full-time program, we have added a part-time option for students who live in the general commuting area. This option allows students to take a fewer than four course load, which is considered full-time, and proceed to complete the doctoral course work between three to six years.

During the last year we have been aggressively recruiting prospective students nationally and internationally. We are very excited about our new recruitment tools—a poster with tear-off reply postcards for further information and a beautiful new full color brochure. If you would like to help us recruit high quality students by displaying our poster or brochure, we would be more than happy to send you a packet. Just email Kat Farlowe at [kfarlowe@uga.edu](mailto:kfarlowe@uga.edu), and she'll get them out to you.

In the past year, we had 13 students successfully defend their dissertations and graduate; congratulations to all! Additionally, Dr. Sandy Murphy, who is now the Field Education Director for Western Michigan University, was selected the outstanding Doctoral Student of the year. Dr. Tonya Westbrook, who is now an Assistant Professor at Western Carolina University, was chosen by the UGA Graduate School to receive a special recognition award for excellence demonstrated in her dissertation.

Students in the incoming class this fall come from New York City, Minneapolis, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Two of the incoming students have been chosen by the UGA Graduate School for special scholarships after a competitive assessment of all graduate students entering UGA this fall. We enthusiastically welcome our new class!

If you are interested taking the next step and working toward your PhD, check out the SSW web site, [www.ssw.uga.edu](http://www.ssw.uga.edu). Click on Prospective Students, then PhD Program.

## Institute for Nonprofit Management

*Dr. Michelle Carney, Director*

See story on page 4.

It has been a busy year for the Institute! Michelle Carney took over the directorship on July 1, 2007 and is working very closely with Tom Holland to assure a smooth transition. Since spring 2006, 18 students have received their MNPO degree and 24 have been admitted to the program. Twenty-one graduate students received the MNPO certificate, most of whom were pursuing the MSW degree. We also have a shiny new brochure for recruiting top MNPO candidates to the program!

Alumni updates: Katie Griffith (MA '07) snagged a job at Google in Silicon Valley, CA. She is working in the Human Resources Information Systems department. B.J. Ard (MA '07) enrolled in Harvard Law this fall. Valerie Lake (MA '06) obtained a position with the Jeanette Rankin Foundation. Farr Prickett (MA '06) is working with the Rails to Trails Conservancy in Washington, DC.

The MNPO faculty committee is working on changes to the program including an application process for certificate students, an additional research component for the core, and increased involvement of affiliated faculty members. The program will also be undergoing review by the University Program Review and Assessment Committee in November or early December.



# News to Share with Your Colleagues?

**T**he Alumni Office tries to keep its records current to ensure that you continue to receive School of Social Work news. If you have an address or employment update, please fill out this form and send it to: Laura Ciucevich, Office of External Affairs, School of Social Work, The University of Georgia, Tucker Hall, Athens, GA 30602; e-mail: [lciecevi@uga.edu](mailto:lciecevi@uga.edu). Or visit our Website: [www.ssw.uga.edu](http://www.ssw.uga.edu). Thank you.

*Please print, include additional pages if necessary.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name when enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

SW degree(s) and graduation year(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Place of employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_ Employment address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Employment telephone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional news, honors received, volunteer positions held, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

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Personal news you would like to share (marriage, children, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

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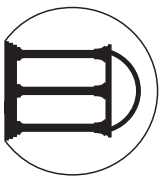
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## SAVE THE DATE

### **The 10th annual African American Families Conference March 28, 2008**

The keynote speaker will be David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D.,  
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the Morehouse School of Medicine



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**2007 African American Families Conference**

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