

The University of Georgia School of

SocialWork

SPRING 2007



social work
and

Aging
IN **AMERICA**



Greetings Alums, Colleagues and Friends!

I express thanks to all alumni, current and former faculty and staff, and friends of the School of Social Work who attended the inaugural All Class Reunion in November 2006, celebrating 40 years of graduates. We celebrated in seeing our friends and in our School's achievements. Some of you have already inquired about the next reunion scheduled for 2008, and I will inform you of the date as soon as we have more details on the event. Photos from the inaugural All Class Reunion begin on page 15 of the magazine. I hope they help you recall our good time and encourage you to attend the next reunion.

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Regents and the university approved the MSW/JD degree in Fall 2006 and that our School is collaborating with the new College of Public Health (CPH) on the development of a MSW/MPH degree. The SSW and CPH are also exploring joint research and extra-mural funding opportunities in areas such as health disparities. The College of Public Health was a co-sponsor of our 2007, African American Families Conference that focused on "Health Disparities in the African American

Community: Trends and Implications for Social Policy and Practice." The conference highlights included keynote addresses by Dr. Warren W. Hewitt, the AIDS and infectious diseases coordinator for the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and Dr. Jesse J. Harris, dean emeritus of the University of Maryland School of Social Work.

According to a Fall 2006 article in the *Journal of Social Work Education*, our School is ranked among the top ten schools of social work for faculty publications. Our faculty continues to garner national and international recognition for excellence in teaching, research, and service. Faculty achievements for the year include the university's recognition of Dr. Tom Artelt, Dr. Donna Bliss, Dr. June Gary Hopps, and Dr. Betsy Vonk for outstanding achievements in the area of instruction. The outstanding achievements of these honorees are illustrative of the commitment, dedication, and excellence that our faculty displays in preparing students for social work practice.

I express my deepest gratitude to many of you for your contributions to our scholarship funds and other forms of support. As you know our School has two endowed professorships, the Thomas M. "Jim" Parham Professorship and the Pauline M. Berger Professorship. The School is currently seeking to endow student assistantships to support the research of these professorships. Student scholarships and other forms of student support continue to be our most critical need and priority in our fundraising efforts.

Our School is making good progress in our efforts to fund the Donald L. Hollowell Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies. Donald Hollowell was a champion of social justice who used the law to fight the inequity and disgrace of racial discrimination. The School has surpassed its initial fundraising goal to create a *Professorship* and we are now aspiring to create a *Distinguished Professorship*, which will honor Donald Hollowell's work for the cause of social justice. In fall 2007, we will co-host a screening of the documentary film, *Donald L. Hollowell: American Freedom Fighter*, and that will be another occasion for friends and alums to learn more about the life and accomplishments of one of our nation's greatest advocates for social justice.

It is with delight that I announce a unique partnership with the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Department of Art in the College of Arts and Sciences. Because of the generosity of the Broun family, who are loyal supporters of the School of Social Work, our School has been invited to join a collaborative to develop service-related projects that will benefit the community and provide educational opportunities for students. I have asked Interim Associate Dean, Dr. Nancy Williams to represent the School in this exciting venture.

As always, thank you for your commitment to and support of our School, and I am honored to serve as your Dean.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Maurice Daniels".

Maurice Daniels



The University of Georgia
School of Social Work

Advocates for Positive Social Change



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Social Work

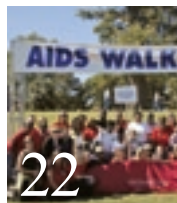
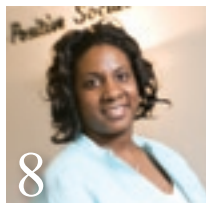
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social work and Aging IN AMERICA

By Kristen Smith

There is no denying that day by day we are all growing older. We are growing older as individuals and as a nation. Most likely, you have had to face some aspect of your own aging. Or maybe you've helped your parents make tough decisions about their long-term care or about end-of-life care. You may not think you work in the field of gerontology, but the aging of our society is affecting social work practice and the lives of social workers.

THE NEED Aging baby boomers and longer life expectancies are the two factors that will combine to double the number of Americans age 65 and older over the next 20 years or so. By 2030, 20 percent of the U.S. population will be over 65. Stacey Kolomer, an associate professor at the School of Social Work and a John A. Hartford Geriatric Social Work Faculty Scholar, says that the impact of this demographic shift is already an issue for the profession.

"We'll need about 70 to 80 thousand social workers specializing in geriatrics by 2010—that's in three years. At this point we're only at 13 thousand. We have a real gap in what's available and what people need so as our population ages we need to look at more services. The reality is that almost 95 percent of people over 65 live in the community. They

don't live in nursing homes. But we don't have enough services to take care of them— programs like meals-on-wheels, senior companions, home healthcare, mental health services. We don't have enough services now."

Kolomer, who is also the director of the BSW program, does her part to make students and faculty aware of how issues in aging present opportunities and challenges to the profession and to the School's curriculum. As part of the Hartford Foundation's Geriatric Enrichment in Social Work Education Project, Kolomer worked with faculty in the School to investigate where aging could be infused in the foundation courses so that every graduating student is familiar with issues regarding social work practice with older adults. She also encourages BSW students to do their required volunteer hours and practica in settings with the elderly. This exposure often causes students to rethink their career plans.

Jessica Kennedy is a BSW student who wanted to work with children after graduation. Kennedy, who battled leukemia as a child, had volunteered for eight years with Camp Sunshine, a free year-round program for children with life-threatening illnesses. When it was time to choose volunteer sites for her BSW program hours, Jessica wanted to continue to work with children. "Dr.

Kolomer encouraged me to at least branch out—to work with a population I didn't think I wanted to work with," said Kennedy. So she accepted a volunteer position with hospice. The experience caused Kennedy to change her mind about where to work after graduation. "I never thought I could step foot in a hospice setting, but it was an eye-opening experience for me," said Kennedy. "I've decided I would like to find work in a clinical setting working with older adults either with hospice or in a nursing home or hospital," she said.



Sarah Price Talmadge is 101 years old and is part of the McWhorter family, whose members have been attending UGA since the 19th century. She is pictured with Claire Nicholson (BSW '81), the director of social services at Athens Heritage Home.

Michael Holosko, the Pauline M. Berger Professor of Family and Child Welfare at the School of Social Work, edited the textbook *Social Work Practice with the Elderly*, which is in its third edition. He's currently teaching a course by that title also. Holosko says that generally speaking schools of social work in North America have a long way to go in providing educational initiatives that adequately prepare students to provide minimally competent care for people who are elderly. "The bottom line is, if it's not systematized, then students really lack a feeling of specialization," said Holosko. "Social work accreditation standards are rather stringent, so schools are unlikely to give up courses for new content areas."

UGA has an Institute of Gerontology within the College of Public Health and several School of Social Work faculty members are part of the institute. Social work students can earn a graduate certificate in gerontology through the institute. "We have a nucleus of people in the School who are interested in the subject area and who are doing writing and thinking and research on it," said Holosko. "And still whatever we do, we're falling short because the needs of the people exceed our ability to train enough social workers."

A SNAPSHOT OF SSW ALUMS IN THE FIELD Social workers will encounter people who are elderly in most practice settings and also in settings that specialize in serving older people such as in retirement and assisted living communities, nursing homes, adult daycares, hospitals, and hospices. School of Social Work alums are working in all these fields, and a few alums described their work and the services their organizations provide.

SENIOR CENTER Chris Hill, who received his BSW from the School in 1998, is the director of the Athens Community Council on Aging Senior Center. The Senior Center is just one component of the Community Council on Aging, which provides many services and programs for people living in the Athens area—programs like foster grandparents, retired and senior volunteer opportunities, senior companions, support groups, and transportation services.

At the Senior Center a fleet of vans is sent out each morning to pick up people who are mostly in their 70s and 80s. "Then at the Center we offer things such as crafts, reminiscing, and guest speakers on topics such as nutrition education, legal issues, and Medicare," said Hill.

Lunch is served to this group, and then the participants are taken home again. "In the afternoons, younger older-adults—people who still drive—come for activities like yoga, tai chi, and painting," said Hill.

The Senior Center is also responsible for Meals on Wheels for Athens-Clarke County. "We have two full-time staff and use volunteers to deliver over 200 meals a day," said Hill. "We have 120 active volunteers, who tend to be retired people, but we have volunteers all ages." The Meals on Wheels program helps foster independent living for older adults in their own homes, and the combined services of the Senior Center and the Community Council on Aging contribute to keeping some people out of nursing homes.



Chris Hill (BSW '98) is the director of the Athens Community Council on Aging Senior Center. On the right is Bill Powell, a retired professor from the plant pathology department at UGA. Powell retired from UGA in 1993 and that same year began delivering meals as part of the Meals on Wheels program.



Alice Mullins (MSW '05) is a social worker at Crossroads Hospice in Atlanta. "It's a great job . . . I wish more people knew about hospice and would take advantage of it."

NURSING HOME Claire Nicholson's experience working for 15 years as director of social services at Athens Heritage Home, a 104-bed nursing home in Athens, Georgia, bears out the idea that there are more people living in the community who in years past would have resided in institutions. Nicholson has seen changes in discharge rates for residents and in the nursing home environment during her career.

Nicholson, who earned her BSW in 1981 from the School of Social Work, does all the discharge planning at Athens Heritage Home. "When I started this job we did one or two discharges a year," she said. "That has changed completely. Sometimes we do four or five a week now. It's very rewarding."

Athens Heritage Home has full-time physical, occupational, and speech therapists. "We do a lot of rehab,"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

s t u d y l o o k s a t

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS

By Sam Fahmy

Study by
Brian Bride
finds that
social
workers
are twice
as likely as
others to
experience
post-
traumatic
stress

In the wake of national disasters such as the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina as well as traumas such as sexual assault, social workers are among the first to help victims heal.

But a first of its kind study by a researcher in the University of Georgia School of Social Work finds that repeatedly hearing the stories of trauma victims doubles the risk of social workers themselves experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder.

In a study published in the January issue of the journal *Social Work*, assistant professor Brian Bride finds that while 7.8 percent of the general population experience PTSD over a lifetime, 15 percent of the social workers surveyed met the diagnostic criteria for PTSD within the week prior to being surveyed.

"In addition to working with disaster victims, social workers hear from children who have been sexually abused, victims of incest, rape, and people who have experienced the horrors of combat and community violence," Bride said. "Hearing these stories over and over can produce thoughts and images that can be traumatic."

The phenomenon of being indirectly victimized by trauma, known as secondary traumatic stress disorder, has only recently gained the attention of researchers. It was first recognized a decade ago in spouses of war veterans and family members of holocaust survivors. Bride said his study is the first to examine the phenomenon in a broad sample of social workers.

He surveyed nearly 300 practicing social workers in fields such as mental health and substance abuse, health care, child welfare and school social work and found that:

- 40 percent thought about their work with traumatized clients without intending to
- 22 percent reported feeling detached from others
- 26 percent felt emotionally numb
- 28 percent had a sense of foreshortened future
- 27 percent reported irritability
- 28 percent reported concentration difficulties

PTSD is a disorder characterized by symptoms that include repeated and unwanted memories of the event, avoidance responses such as emotional numbness, and so-called arousal responses such as hypervigilance or difficulty concentrating. Bride's study found that 55 percent of those surveyed met one diagnostic criteria, 20 percent met two criteria and 15 percent met the three criteria necessary for a diagnosis of PTSD.

Bride said that although rates of secondary traumatic stress are significant among social workers, awareness of the disorder among professionals is low.



“Social workers may hear about burnout and they may hear about self care,” Bride said. “But they’re not hearing about secondary post traumatic stress disorder.”

He recommends that colleges and universities educate social work students on how to minimize the risk of secondary traumatic stress. Bride also urges employers to provide continuing education on the subject and to offer appropriate workloads, support, time off and mental health insurance.

Bride said that social workers themselves can reduce the likelihood of secondary traumatic stress by finding time for themselves and activities they enjoy. He also recommends that social workers understand which cases are most distressing to them and to schedule those clients so they are not a disproportionate share of their workload.

People enter helping professions such as social work because they want to make a difference, Bride said, but he warns that secondary traumatic stress has the potential to reduce the quality of care social workers provide and may ultimately drive people from the profession.

“We suspect that people are leaving social work because of this,” he said. ●

Brian Bride (PhD '01), an associate professor in the School of Social Work, said his study of secondary traumatic stress disorder is the first to examine the phenomenon in a broad sample of social workers.

PHOTO BY PETER FREY

A transformational
cross-cultural
teaching

experience: **KRISTINA
JASKYTE'S
TRIP TO
CHINA**

by Kristen Smith

For the past five years Kristina Jaskyte, an associate professor in the School of Social Work, has taught classes on nonprofit management and the role of nonprofits in U.S. society to delegations of Chinese officials who come to UGA as part of the Sino-American Joint Training Program coordinated by the Carl Vinson Institute of Government's International Center for Democratic Governance (ICDG).

In the fall, Jaskyte was one of four faculty members invited to China to teach in the cities of Xi'an and Chengdu. She taught program evaluation to two groups

of Chinese officials who work at the municipal and provincial levels of government. Her students were in public management positions with jobs as varied as transitioning former prisoners back into Chinese society, handling labor data, working with people with special needs, and monitoring compliance with Communist Party rules.

One of the goals of the program is the development of officials who are more accountable to citizens. "They are very open to new ideas and seem to be exploring a variety of international management models that would make China's government more efficient and responsive," said Jaskyte.

"I developed five modules around program evaluation," said Jaskyte. "They were organized around major types of program evaluation—needs assessment, client satisfaction, process evaluation, outcome evaluation, total quality management. We also covered the topics of ethics in conducting program evaluation and participatory action research."

Peter Gess is the ICDG faculty member who has coordinated many of the program's exchanges of UGA faculty and Chinese officials. Since 1999 more than 500 local officials from China have participated in the program. "Dr. Jaskyte has provided excellent lectures on nonprofit management for several of these groups when they visited the United States," said Gess. "She was able to bring the same deep understanding, enthusiasm, and practicality to the Chinese provincial and municipal leaders. She really understood the need to leave the trainees with skills they could employ to improve the services they offer their citizens."

Jaskyte, who grew up in Lithuania, has had Western professors throughout her undergraduate and graduate studies, so she recognizes the importance of good interpretation and sensitivity to different cultures. "While I'll never know how much of the information was actually transferred to my students, I came home feeling that I contributed my knowledge to the students' overall professional development," she said.

Jaskyte said teaching in China was a humbling and transformative experience. "I've been teaching program evaluation for years, and this definitely made me rethink how I see things, how I teach things, how I approach things and think about things," she said. "I feel very lucky to have had this transformational experience, which helped me grow as a professor." ●

Below: Associate professor Kristina Jaskyte poses with a few of her students from the Sino-American Joint Training Program in China

Bottom: Kristina Jaskyte (center) with representatives from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and Chinese officials at the fifth anniversary celebration of the Joint Training Program in Sichuan.

Opposite: Kristina Jaskyte in Chengdu province.







Social work professor spends time in jail . . .

Schnavia Smith Hatcher has never been arrested and yet she's spent years in jails. She studies a population that is often overlooked—the more than 2 million people held in jails in this country.

Hatcher is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work and a Lilly Fellow at UGA. “I worked in the Atlanta City Jail before I went back for my Ph.D., and since then all my research has centered around adults in jails and looking at the service delivery systems there and how offenders can successfully re-enter in the community and not return to jail.”

Hatcher is particularly interested in those inmates who have mental health problems and substance abuse problems because she saw a revolving door in the Atlanta jail of people who primarily needed medications to

manage mental illnesses or who were drug abusers in need of treatment.

“There’s a park right by underground Atlanta where people sit on the benches with nowhere to go,” she said. “Those are the people who are eventually arrested and brought to the Atlanta jail. And those are the people who have mental health issues and substance abuse problems. If only the officers had some place to take them other than jail.”

In some communities, including Athens, drug courts have been designed as an alternative to incarceration for people arrested for possessing drugs or for criminal or delinquent behavior related to drug abuse. Hatcher serves as a consultant to the drug court in Athens.

“With the drug court here, if you’re sentenced you go through treatment on an outpatient basis. You go to various counseling sessions. You have to continue to take drug tests, and on a weekly basis you go back in front of the judge to report on your progress,” she said.

In the summer, Hatcher will help evaluate the success of the Athens drug court. “The research that’s out there says drug courts have a positive effect and lower recidivism rates than just incarceration,” she said. “But more research is needed.”

Hatcher is teaching “Evaluation of Family-Centered Social Work Intervention” at the Gwinnett Center where most of her students already work in social service agencies. “I really enjoy the evaluation courses because I like to marry practice and research when I teach them,” she said. “I use lots of clinical examples to help students see that they need to go to the literature to find the best practices for clients and not just do what’s always been done in their agencies.”

Hatcher recently received funding from the National Institutes of Health to study health disparities in the juvenile justice system. “I’ve wanted to develop a link with juvenile justice because if we can help juveniles manage their mental health and substance abuse problems before they become adults, it may decrease their chances of going to jail, and then everyone in the entire community benefits,” she said. ●

Schnavia Smith Hatcher (MSW '98), an assistant professor in the School of Social Work and a Lilly Fellow, centers her research around incarcerated adults, especially inmates with mental health problems.

. . . to keep
repeat
offenders
out

PHOTO BY PETER FREY

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I bring you greetings from the School of Social Work, the University of Georgia and beautiful Athens town!

I want to thank all of you who made it to our first All Class Reunion in November. What a great time was had by all! Friday morning started out with a CEU event that was chock full of interesting information on *Ethical Implications of Social Work with Substance Abusing Populations*. The morning session was led by the Honorable Steve C. Jones, Judge, Superior Court, Western Judicial Circuit. Judge Jones has set up a Felony Drug Court Program here in Athens which is a non-traditional approach to sentencing criminal offenders who are drug and/or alcohol addicted. The afternoon sessions were led by two of our own faculty, Dr. Donna Bliss and Dr. Brian Bride. We had a full house for all the sessions, and I think everyone came away with a great deal of new knowledge and ideas. Our thanks to each of these individuals and others involved in their presentations.

Friday evening was a wonderful social event, complete with a whole bunch of social workers joining in to do the electric slide. I must say that we've got some really good dancers! It was fun to watch folks getting reacquainted and finding out what their classmates have been doing since graduation. I think everyone had a good time, and we plan to do another reunion in 2008. Meanwhile, look for some of us to be visiting in your area of the state or country. We've been on the road quite a bit lately!

Some of us made the trip to San Francisco for the annual Society for Social Work and Research conference in January. We had our exhibit set up to tout the School's programs and accomplishments and to urge prospective students to come to Georgia. While there we had dinner with several of our alumni in the area, including Dr. John Shields (MSW '96; PhD '99). Other alums that we got together with were Dr. Bruce Thyer (MSW '78), Dr. E. K. Yoon (PhD '04), Harriett Cohen (AB '74, MSW '75, PhD '01), and Ross Hudson (MSW '84). In October 2007 when we are again in San Francisco for CSWE-APM, the School will hold a dessert reception, and we hope to see many more of our alumni in attendance.

The School has had a good year so far in the area of raising needed monies for our many programs and scholarships. I urge you to consider making a gift to the School to continue supporting our mission and to further enhance these programs and scholarship funds. If you have any questions concerning giving, please contact Ms. Jennifer Abbott at 706-542-9093 or e-mail her at 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 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

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

● 1970–1979

Virginia A. (Jones) Hein, MSW '72 – retired from her job with DFCS in 1996 and lives in Macon, Georgia. In June 2006, Virginia married Roger Hein in Brevard, North Carolina. They spend much of their time at their home in Connestee Falls near Brevard.

Barbara Kleckner, MSW '75 – after 26 years as a child welfare worker in San Francisco, Barbara retired in January 2003. She and her husband, Ed Forte, live in Healdsburg, California about 70 miles north of San Francisco. Barbara is now involved with fundraising for Habitat for Humanity for a Women Build house to be started in the spring.

Barbara Williamson, MSW '73 – after leaving UGA, Barbara went to Georgia State and received her PhD in education and management. She now lives in Neptune Beach, Florida.

● 1980–1989

Carrie Campbell Jarrett, MSW '81 – lives in Milledgeville, Georgia. Since January 2005, she has been working for the Jeffrey Smith Company, Division of Affordable Housing and Developer of Senior Living for the elderly as Project Manager/AEP Liaison. Carrie also serves as a member of the School of Social Work Development Council, helping to raise money for the School to enhance scholarships and support the programs within the School.

Cynthia Neal-Herzog, MSW '84 – lives in Sanford, Florida with her husband, Scott. She is self employed with Vista EAP,

Inc. Cynthia is a management consultant and corporate trainer and has worked with FEMA and other first responders.

Margarete Parrish, MSW '84 – is a professor at the University of Gloucester in Gloucester, England. She is working on a new book on human behavior that should be published by November 2008. Margarete says this should keep her busy for awhile.

● 1990–1999

Rebecca Davidson-Flack, MSW '99 – lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee and works at the Baylor School as a dorm parent. Before becoming a dorm parent, Rebecca worked in rape crisis, hospice and long-term care and obtained an LCSW.

Patrice M. Davis, MSW '91 – lives in Columbus, Georgia and works for Columbus Hospice. Patrice is a proud single parent of a 7-year-old son, Ethan.

Sara Ferrar, MSW '95 – is now living in Statesville, North Carolina.

Shannon Stewart-McCarty, BSW '96 – is a special education teacher in the Madison County (Georgia) High School. She completed her MA in teaching in the area of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders in May 2006. Shannon has two children, Nathan and Presley.

Dawn Provencher, MSW '99 – teaches Intro and History of Social Policy at New Mexico State University. She also supervises practicum students. This past fall, Dawn ran for a seat in the New Mexico House of Representatives.



Harriett Cohen (AB '74, MSW '75, PhD '01)



David Whithers and Denise Davison

Alumni Sightings



Laura Ciucevich and John Shields (MSW '96; PhD '99) and the Golden Gate Bridge.

John Shields, MSW '96, PhD '99 – lives in San Francisco, California with his wife and two children. He works for ETR Associates, an internationally recognized nonprofit organization providing comprehensive services for the development, implementation, evaluation and dissemination of critical public health initiatives. John has recently published a new study that sheds light on children's exposure to domestic violence in San Francisco. When we saw John at the SSWR Conference in SF in January, he told us of other studies arising from this one. Great to see you John!

2000–

Yu Chong (Seth), MSW '06 – is living in Washington, DC and working with low income Asian immigrant families.

Melissa Conrad, MSW '05 – lives in Decatur, Georgia. She is a researcher/project organizer for Georgia Stand-Up.

Alumni Sightings: SSWR



E.K. Yoon (PhD '04)

I N M E M O R I A M

Jack Hayes, MSW 2006 died on January 26, 2007. Jack was very involved with the Rockdale County Juvenile Court's Evening Reporting Center. He was an inspiration to many Rockdale County troubled youth and their families. The School extends its deepest sympathy to Jack's family.



Laura Kaplan Levine, the wife of Dr. David L. Levine, died on December 25, 2006. She earned a BA and Master's of Social Work degree from Florida State University. Mrs. Levine worked as an instructor at the School of Social Work as well as a field instructor at the Georgia Retardation Center in Athens. These and other institutions and agencies are better today because of her involvement with their programs. Our deepest sympathy goes to Dr. Levine and his family.

Sylvia Jones-Richards, BSW '98, MSW '05 – is a special education teacher and case manager at Hilsman Middle School in Athens. She graduated from Piedmont College in May 2006. Sylvia is married and has three children.

Trevis Killen, MSW '06 – is with the Houston County (Georgia) Board of Education as a school social worker. Trevis was awarded the Healthy Steps for Teen Parents grant to work with teen parents who are enrolled in the Houston County Career & Technology Center. Congratulations Trevis!

Jennifer Melton, MSW '04 – is working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Sudan with young children and their families. Recently she was featured on Anderson Cooper's show, "360 Degrees" on CNN. Congratulations Jennifer!

Vanessa Robinson-Dooley, MSW '00, PhD '05 – has been awarded a certificate from the UGA Career Center for greatly contributing to the career development of our students. Vanessa also became the mother of twin boys, Bennett Aiden and Brennen Axel, on January 16, 2007. She also has a two year old, Bailey. Congratulations to a busy mom!

Katie Schabel, BSW '04, MSW '05 – lives in Athens and is a caseworker at All God's Children, Inc.

Genie Umbarger, BSW '03 – in April 2006, Genie became the Victim Services Specialist at the Rape Crisis Center of the Coastal Empire in Savannah, Georgia.

DEVELOPMENT

Making a Difference!

Meet our 2007 Scholarship Recipients!

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.

Nicole Love is full-time MSW student. Ms. Love's areas of interest are community empowerment and program development, poverty issues, homelessness and international studies.



Nicole

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.

Carly D. Armour is a graduate of the School's BSW program and is currently enrolled as a full-time advanced standing student in the MSW program. Ms. Armour's areas of interest are at-risk youth and individuals with disabilities.

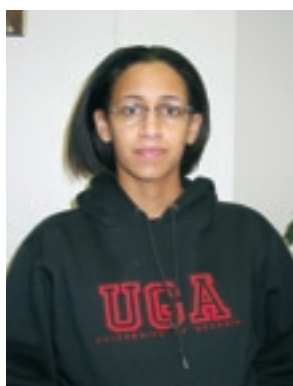


Carly

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.

Ana Rivera is currently enrolled as a full-time advanced standing MSW student. Ms. Rivera's areas of interest are community development, social work in the schools, child welfare and nonprofit organizations.



Ana

Joe and Diane Perno Scholarship Fund

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.

Shannon Brown is currently enrolled as a full-time MSW student. Ms. Brown's area of interest is family-centered practice with an emphasis in pediatric oncology.



Shannon



Emily

Heather Christina Wright Memorial Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships

Established in memory of Heather Christina Wright, a former student of the School 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.

Emily Cook is currently enrolled as a BSW student. Ms. Cook's area of interest is working with cancer patients and their families.

Kelly Blanchard resides in Atlanta and is currently enrolled as a full-time MSW student. Ms. Blanchard's area of interest is oncology social work.



Kelly



Hayley

Norman Polansky Scholarship in Child Welfare

Established in memory of Dr. Norman Polansky, a Professor Emeritus of the School of Social Work and a nationally recognized scholar in the area of child neglect. This scholarship is awarded to a BSW student in his or her senior year who demonstrates a special interest in the field of child welfare and has a desire to work in this field upon graduation. The student must also be participating in an internship placement in a public or private child welfare setting.

Hayley Adkisson is a full-time BSW senior. Ms. Adkisson is currently interning at the Oglethorpe County DFCS. Ms. Adkisson's area of interest is child welfare.

Susan York Memorial Scholarship in School Social Work

Established in memory of Susan York, alumna and field instructor for the School of Social Work. This one-time award provides financial support to a student pursuing a career in school social work.

Maureen Sullivan resides in Cumming and is a full-time advanced standing MSW student. Ms. Sullivan's areas of interest are school social work and child welfare.



Maureen



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

Ms. Jennifer W. Abbott, MPA

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Patrick Bordnick studies the use of virtual reality to help smokers quit

by Kristen Smith

Patrick Bordnick (PhD '95), an associate professor in the School of Social Work, has shown through his research that virtual reality environments can trigger cravings for cigarettes in smokers. In one study, Bordnick put smokers in a simulated party environment in which they interacted with computer-generated smokers and with people drinking alcohol and coffee. The participants in the virtual smoking environment reported that their cravings for a cigarette increased significantly in intensity compared to smokers exposed to a virtual control environment.

Now Bordnick is the principal investigator on a study that incorporates virtual reality into teaching coping skills to smokers who are trying to quit. Bordnick is collaborating with Fernando Holguin, M.D. and Alicia Walton, M.D. of the Emory University School of Medicine on the study.

"If you're trying to quit smoking, you can't avoid coffee or people who smoke for the rest of your life," said Bordnick. "It's not practical. So we want to teach them skills to keep them from smoking in situations that trigger the urge to smoke."

Study participants, who are volunteers who smoke at least a pack of cigarettes a day, will spend an hour each week maneuvering through virtual environments known to

trigger smoking cravings, such as restaurants, parties, cars, and courtyards attached to office buildings. The scenarios include visual, auditory and olfactory triggers (such as the smell of coffee and cigarettes), as well as nearby individuals who may be smoking or who may ask the subject if he or she wants a cigarette.

During each virtual reality experience participants will be taught relapse prevention and coping skills to increase their ability not to smoke in these scenarios. The scenarios will be specifically designed for each study participant and will provide debriefings and homework related to practicing newly acquired skills and behavioral changes.

The participants' efforts to quit smoking will be tracked over six months. The researchers hope that the virtual reality experience will result in increased long-term quitting rates.

"Success to me would be reducing the percentage of relapses," Holguin said. "If virtual reality works, on top of patches and other treatments, then you have a therapeutic intervention that is essentially free of side effects and may have a potential long-lasting effect."

If the virtual scenarios are shown to help the study participants, the scientists envision many other ways that virtual reality may be useful.

"Virtual reality treatments could be extended to research and treatment in other addictions, such as alcohol relapse prevention training," said Bordnick. ●

Participants in Bordnick's study wear the headgear shown here to experience the simulated smoking environments. These images depict a party where people are smoking and drinking. The environment is used to teach coping skills—how to resist smoking while in social settings and when offered a cigarette.



ATTIUS GRAYBILL



SSW All Class Reunion Party

REDUX



▲ Party-goers paused for a group shot.



◀ As you might have guessed, Merle Foeckler's dance card was full.

► Shiela Johnson (BSW '02, MSW '04), Mildred Lyle (BSW '83, MSW '03), and friends enjoy the party.



▲ Randy Gunter (MSW '77) and Anne Harris at the reunion.

► Social workers checked their inhibitions at the door and got out on the dance floor!



"The reunion was awesome!

It was great seeing my professors and classmates! Most importantly, I learned about the significance of alumni financial support to our institution and the many new programs sponsored through the School of Social Work. I can't wait for the next one!

Lawanna R. Barron, ACSW,
LCSW
MSW '91

SSW All Class Reunion Party **REDUX**

"I had a great time! I appreciate all the hard work that went into planning the events. It had been 22 years since I had been back to Athens, and I was pleasantly surprised by all the changes on campus. I enjoyed the conference and plan to attend future events, even though the drive is a 10-hour round trip. I enjoyed hearing how the School of Social Work has grown and meeting other alumni."

Ross Hudson
MSW '84

► Social Work professors, alumni and their families enjoyed an old-fashioned Southern breakfast on Saturday morning.



► Finally, a chance to eat in the classroom.



◄ Bernard and Carrie Jarrett (MSW '81). Carrie is a member of the Development Council and was part of the reunion hosting committee.



▲ Development director Jennifer Abbott with Merle Foeckler, professor emerita.



▲ Development council member Eddie Roland (MSW '71) with alumni director Laura Ciucevich.

"The first ever All Class Reunion was a wonderful way to celebrate the University of Georgia School of Social Work's contributions throughout the years since 1966. It was a joy to see former students, faculty, and staff, to reminisce about the good old days, and to rejoice over the ever-changing challenges, opportunities, and roles of social work in today's society. Let's do it again!"

Allie Kilpatrick
MSW '66; Retired Faculty

► Getting the lowdown in the lobby of Tucker Hall, just like old times.



“I got reacquainted with people that I have not seen in 32 years! I thank everyone at the School of Social Work for taking the time to put together this fantastic alumni party. It was a wonderful time seeing my classmates and favorite faculty. I swapped emails with people who I intend to keep in touch with forever.”

Elizabeth Brown
MSW '74; PhD '01;
SSW Board of Visitors



▲ Dancers could take a break and watch images from the history of the School projected on a large screen.



▲ Addicted to line dancing? Maybe it's time to consider a two-step program.



▲ Katie Thompson (second from right) caught up with members of the MSW class of '83 including Mary Zorn Bates, Jody Iodice, and Elaine Gerke.



Natasha Stansfield (BSW '03), Katie Schabel (BSW '04, MSW '05), and Tiffany Johnston (BSW '01, MSW '04) at the All Class Reunion.

Brittany Girle *earned her BSW from UGA in 2004. After graduation she took a position as a team coordinator for Casas por Cristo, a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organization that builds houses for families in need in Mexico. Kristen Smith caught up with Brittany to find out more about her work.*

KS How many houses have you built in your time working with Casas por Cristo?

BG Between completing two internships in the summers of 2002 and 2004 and starting full-time with Casas por Cristo in October 2004, I have led or co-led the building of more than 50 houses.

KS Where do you live?

BG I live in an apartment in El Paso, Texas. On the weeks that I lead a team to build a house, I stay in a church in Juarez, Mexico with the group of volunteers for that week.

KS As a team leader for CPC what are your job responsibilities?

BG I wear many hats. I'm the construction foreman, and I teach volunteers how to build the house—from pouring the slab to running electricity and hanging drywall. I'm the Spanish translator. I am definitely not fluent but am continuing to improve my communication skills. I act as a tour guide by leading the group across the border and everywhere in Juarez until we return to El Paso at the end of the week. And I'm the spiritual leader. I share my testimony with the group about how I came to work here, and I share my personal faith.

KS What do you miss about Georgia and Athens?

BG Trees and green grass! I am surrounded by the desert here. I miss my friends and family, especially my twin sister, more than anything. The biggest thing I miss about Athens is Georgia football. My Saturdays have changed from cheering in Sanford Stadium and tailgating with friends, to my mom watching the games and text-messaging me the score on the weekends when I am building in Mexico. When we won the Colorado game, I was dry walling a house and getting text messages from my mom. During the Auburn game, I was working on the roof of a house and getting updates from my dad on the rare occasions that I had phone service.

KS How has working in Mexico and with your clients changed your worldview or changed you?

BG I am so much more aware of the huge world around me and the suffering and poverty that our eyes are so blinded to

here in the United States. We have the opportunity to confine ourselves into the “American bubble” of our lives and never see what is going on in the world surrounding us. I feel like that bubble has, to an extent, been busted for me, and I now see pain and suffering constantly. I am surrounded by this extreme poverty whether I am in Mexico or driving down I-10 in El Paso, which runs right along the Rio Grande and the US-Mexico border. One side of this interstate is cluttered with tall buildings and the lights of the U.S., while the other is jumbled with the cardboard shacks and pallet houses of Mexico. More than ever before, I have become aware of the gifts received not by our own earning, but simply because of where each of us was born. I have handed the keys of a new home to a mother and father the same age as I am, and I've wondered why I was the one handing the keys and not receiving them. I have been blessed with a burden that I feel will remain with me the rest of my life. Whether it is helping people in my own country or those around the world, I know that I will never again be able to turn a blind eye to the world that is hurting and suffering around me. For this realization, I am forever grateful.

KS When you think about your time at UGA's School of Social Work, do any professors, words of wisdom, class lessons, or experiences come to mind as helping to inform your work today?

BG I know that UGA's School of Social Work and what I gained in my time there definitely laid the groundwork for what I am doing today. Because of the small size of our classes, I feel that I had the opportunity to have a great student-teacher relationship with my professors. The professors were able to share more than just lessons with us. They also shared stories of their own lives and journeys in social work and outside. These stories and conversations have definitely encouraged and pushed me to be where I am today. Because of my social work background, I take a more global perspective to my work here, not only in trying to build families a home, but also to understand why they are living as they are and what more can be done to help each of them. This winter I started a campaign to supply a heater for each family for whom I build a home. Because of the support of friends and families and those involved with our organization, I was able to raise over \$3900 to provide

heaters for the families in Juarez. Now not only will I be able to provide a heater for the families for whom I build, but also for the homes that my coworkers build. It has already snowed three times here this winter, and although we are providing shelter from the elements, these families still go to sleep every night without heat. I found a burden laid on my heart every night as I turned my heat on and knew that most families just miles away did not have the same luxury. I know that the mindset of looking at more than just the big picture of what is happening is a direct result of my social work background at UGA and all of the professors and classmates who were a part of my experience there.

KS What would you like other social workers to know about Mexico or your work?

BG This is being read by individuals who have already decided that they want to do more than just live in this world, but to also give of their lives to make it better for those around them. I just hope this is an encouragement to continue to give of yourselves to make a difference in our world. I truly believe that making a difference in the life of just one person will not only impact that person forever, but can also have the power to go on to make a global impact.



Brittany Girle with one of the families for whom she has built a home in Mexico.

KS Is there anything I haven't asked that you'd like to tell me?

BG Well, if anyone wants more information about the work I am doing here on the Mexico border, I can be contacted at bgirle@casasporcristo.org. If anyone wants to help support Casas por Cristo or my work in particular, information about tax deductible donations can be found on the website www.casasporcristo.org. ●

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Advocates for Positive Social Change

The VOICE at the Other End of the Line



by Kat Farlowe

Teresa Wells is a perfectionist. After working in the MSW graduate admissions office for 11 years, Teresa knows her job inside and out. Every MSW student admitted over that period of time had his or her application checked and rechecked by Teresa. This is no small feat considering that Teresa handles applications for four MSW programs – Athens full-time, Athens part-time, Gwinnett part-time and Advanced Standing. She opens every application envelope, scrutinizes the materials, enters information into her database and makes sure that each applicant is given the same level of attention.

“My job is non-stop from start to finish,” said Teresa. “We receive large quantities of mail that we have to sort through every day. We also get numerous phone calls and e-mails, and we keep current applicants informed on the status of their applications. It’s a job in which there are really no down periods.” Teresa also processes and mails out all of the acceptance letters for

incoming students, as well as helps with recruitment.

Teresa is particularly proud of making her office one that is efficient. She created her own filing and recordkeeping systems, which help her immensely when dealing with such large quantities of important personal information. “Extreme care must be taken to make sure that all applications are processed correctly,” she said. “It is vital that the office be organized so that we know where everything is at all times.”

Over the years, Teresa has worked with six MSW admissions directors. “Each one has been unique,” said Teresa. “They all helped me learn about the MSW program and how we can work together to help our applicants, and they each made me feel that I am a valued member of the Social Work team. I especially enjoy working for Dean Daniels and Dr. Carney.” When asked what she likes most about her job, Teresa replied that she enjoys dealing with the student applicants and then watching so many of them succeed. “I have become close to many students in the process, and I feel proud that I was part of their path to success.”

Before working in the School of Social Work, Teresa worked for UGA Public Safety as well as several years in the mathematics department. A native Athenian, Teresa is a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. “My family is my life,” said Teresa. “Nothing makes me happier than spending time with them and seeing them happy. My husband and I have been truly blessed to have a wonderful daughter with a loving husband and two of the most beautiful granddaughters anyone could ask for.” For Teresa Wells, this is perfection. ●

Aging . . . continued from page 3

said Nicholson. "Back in the old days the goal was to keep people at maximum potential in the nursing home, and we still do that, but much of the work is to help them get back home. There are so many more options for seniors now. Home healthcare services have boomed, private home care agencies have mushroomed, assisted living facilities have opened wide up. People stay in their homes longer."

The nursing home environment has changed in the last few decades too. Many nursing homes strive to be more like home for both the residents and the staff. "We're an Eden Alternative facility, which means that we subscribe to a philosophy of care that views our environment as a habitat for people, not a facility for the frail and elderly," said Nicholson. "Where we can, we try to get decision-making to happen at the level of the patient."

One part of the Eden philosophy is the importance of animal companions. Athens Heritage Home has five cats, two dogs, a rabbit, three cockatiels, and a tank of fish. "We've seen some remarkable relationships form between residents and companion animals," said Nicholson. "Children who visit enjoy the animals too, and the animals enhance the workplace for our staff."

HOSPICE Alice Mullins, who earned her MSW at the School in 2005, is a social worker at Crossroads Hospice in Atlanta. "I help to bring families into our services. I explain what hospice is and what services are available," said Mullins, "and I refer families to services outside of hospice." Mullins helps families develop a plan for caring for the dying person, and she provides emotional support through the process of death and grief.

Hospice is a concept of care designed to provide comfort and support to people who are dying and to their families. Modern pain management to ease the process of dying is a hallmark of hospice care. When death is imminent, hospice care is provided in people's homes, in a family member's home or in a nursing home. Inpatient hospice facilities are sometimes available too.

Hospice allows people to make choices about how they want to die. It also allows people a chance to reflect on their lives if they like. One service offered by Crossroads Hospice is the life review. "It allows people to go over the stages of their lives—what was meaningful, what shaped them," said Mullins. "People want to tell their stories, and I am dedicated to listening to and sometimes recording their recollections about their lives." During the life review, Mullins often discovers a last wish of the person who is dying and if possible she tries to make the wish a reality. Flying in an old friend from across the country, arranging a spa day, and hiring an Elvis impersonator are some of the



Miss Kitty is one of five cats residing at Athens Heritage Home.

final wishes Mullins has helped orchestrate.

Many people are not aware that hospice is a Medicare benefit. If a client has ever paid into the Medicare system, then she or he is eligible for hospice services. And hospice is covered in many states under Medicaid also. Private health insurance policies and HMOs offer hospice coverage too.

"I have the privilege of coming into people's lives and helping them at one of their most vulnerable moments," said Mullins. "It's a great job. It's an honor and a privilege. I wish more people knew about hospice and would take advantage of it."

ON THE WAY FROM UGA IN GERONTOLOGY The School of Social Work offers continuing education units on aging from time-to-time and will continue to do so. Another development at UGA that social work alums may want to investigate to further their education is an upcoming joint venture from the Institute of Gerontology in the College of Public Health at UGA along with Emory University and Armstrong Atlantic State University. The three schools are developing training modules for healthcare professionals on a variety of aging-related topics. These topics will include ethnogeriatrics, dementia assessment, dealing with problem behaviors, and normative aging. The modules will be available on-line later in the year. (If you would like to be added to a listserv to receive announcements as these modules become available, send your name, agency name, and e-mail address to Jayne Clamp at jclamp@geron.uga.edu.) ●

Atlanta AIDS Walk

Seventy-five, first-year MSW students in Denise Davison's classes participated in the Atlanta AIDS Walk in Piedmont Park in the fall. Davison, a temporary faculty member in the School of Social Work, said the group raised close to \$1,500 to support the work of HIV and AIDS service and education programs in Atlanta. MSW student Elaine Danner said, "I was inspired to go beyond participating and also included my two young sons. My favorite part of the day was exploring the AIDS Memorial Quilt. My youngest son was eager to interact with it, wanting to touch it, walk on it, etc., but I kept stopping him. He finally found a way—he lay down next to a quilt with the shape of a person. I look forward to this being an annual tradition in my family."



Jaskyte and Lee win award for scholarly excellence

Kristina Jaskyte, an associate professor in the School of Social Work, and Min Hong Lee (PhD '06), a former SSW doctoral student now on the faculty of Dong-Eui University in South Korea, have received the Slavin-Patti Award for Scholarly Excellence. This is an annual award that is made by The Haworth Press, Inc. in recognition of the best article published in each volume of *Administration in Social Work*. The pair won the award for their article, "Interorganizational Relationships: A Source of Innovation in Nonprofit Organizations."

The award was presented at the meeting of the National Network for Social Work Managers held on April 12–14 at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Holosko Named External Evaluator in Hong Kong

Michael Holosko, the Pauline M. Berger Professor of Family and Child Welfare in the School of Social Work, has accepted a prestigious invitation from the City University of Hong Kong to be one of two international external evaluators for the bachelor's and master's programs in applied sociology for that university. The external evaluator position is for a period of four years and involves visiting the City University of Hong Kong every other year and annually evaluating the goals, objectives, curriculum and learning outcomes for the programs using multiple criteria such as course syllabi, interviews with stakeholders and student examinations in all courses.

Bliss explores digital storytelling

In January, Donna Bliss, an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, attended a three-day workshop in Washington sponsored by the Center for Digital Storytelling (www.storycenter.org). "I took this workshop after seeing some examples of digital stories at a technology presentation at the Outreach Scholarship Conference at Ohio State University this past October," she said. "There was something very compelling about the way digital technology was used to help tell stories that emphasize a strong human perspective. This got me thinking how this technology could be used to help social work students learn about social problems on much deeper and more comprehensive levels."

During the workshop, Bliss learned to conceptualize a story, develop a script, work with digital media such as photos, videos, and sounds, and integrate all of these components into a finished three-minute digital story. "I also learned about different software that can be used to help create these stories," said Bliss. "Most importantly, I learned how I can teach my students how to create digital stories in a social justice class I plan to teach this fall."



Policy Day

The fourth annual Policy Day was held in October at the School of Social Work. Policy Day began as the brainchild of June Hopps, who is the Thomas M. “Jim” Parham Professor of Family and Children Studies. The professorship focuses on issues in social policy, and Hopps serves as the School’s leading authority in the area of public policy as it relates to families and children. The purpose of Policy Day is to facilitate policy discussions among a large, diverse group of future social workers, faculty, staff, community leaders, social workers, and clients. Several policy classes contribute to the dialogue. The students in Larry Nackerud’s special topics course “Torture as Policy” presented information from their work during the semester. And students taking the class “Social Welfare Policy and the Social Work Profession” presented posters on various policy issues. Several faculty members, including Michael Holosko, Nancy Williams, Tony Lowe, and Larry Nackerud also made presentations.

Alzheimer’s Memory Walk

Thirty BSW students plus faculty, staff, and friends of the School participated in the Athens Alzheimer’s Memory Walk in the fall. The BSW Club team raised over \$3,000, which will provide support services for families coping with Alzheimer’s disease, which affects more than 4.5 million Americans and costs our nation more than \$100 billion a year. BSW student Chelsey West was the team captain for this year’s walk. “Coordinating the Memory Walk was a wonderful experience,” she said. “All of our team members put forth great effort in raising awareness and money for an important cause.”

Daniels receives Fulfilling the Dream Award

Maurice Daniels, dean of the School of Social Work, was one of five recipients of the 2007 President’s Fulfilling the Dream Award as part of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday celebration at UGA in January. The award winners were recognized for their significant efforts to build bridges of unity and understanding among residents of Athens-Clarke County.

Among other achievements, Daniels was honored for his research on civil rights, which was used in the creation of a book and three documentary films that chronicle the stories of unsung foot soldiers in the struggle for racial justice. And he was honored as a co-founder and director of the Foot Soldier Project for Civil Rights Studies, which chronicles the civil rights movement in Georgia and for helping to create UGA’s Office of Institutional Diversity.



Nackerud Receives Grant to Study Perceptions of Poverty

Professor Larry Nackerud is part of a research team that was recently awarded over \$20,000 of seed funding from the Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach at UGA to support and encourage applied research and creative scholarship related to poverty and the economy in Georgia.

The project that Nackerud and his colleagues will work on is titled, “The Impact of Simulations on Attitudes about and Perceptions of Poverty.” The simulation, “Welcome to the State of Poverty,” requires participants to role-play the lives of single-parent families, seniors living on Social Security, recently unemployed adults with children, and other scenarios. The research team wants to know whether a better understanding of poverty can shape one’s views of the issue. Working with Nackerud on this study are Rich Clark of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and Sharon Gibson and Sue Chapman of the College of Family and Consumer Sciences. Also, Ed Risler and the doctoral students in his class “Assessment and Measurement” helped develop a standardized measure to be used to assess attitudes of poverty.

Retired Faculty Luncheon



First row, L-R: David Levine, Richard Anderson, Stacey Kolomer, Kathy Davis, Associate Dean Nancy Williams, Alton Gregory. Second row, L-R: Dean Maurice Daniels, Ray MacNair, Thomas Holland, James Gaudin, Kevin DeWeaver, Ed Risler

Retired faculty members, the dean and associate dean, board of visitors members and SSW program directors at our annual Retired Faculty Luncheon at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on February 14th.



Annual Field Education Conference

The School of Social Work hosted another successful field education conference in the fall at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on the UGA campus. The title of the conference was “Pathways to Professional Development: Careers, Competencies, and Challenges.” The

morning sessions focused on career paths chosen by social work practitioners in a variety of settings. David Haigler of the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving gave the keynote address. Kathy Davis, professor emerita, delivered a talk titled “Professional Development in Changing Times” at the luncheon. The afternoon sessions looked at the challenges faced by social work practitioners in setting such as nonprofits, child welfare, and work with the elderly and also included sessions on compassion fatigue and substance abuse treatment. Around 130 social work practitioners attended the conference and received five continuing education units for their participation. The conference is made possible with support from the Merle M. Foeckler Field Education Fund.

Williams travels to Tanzania and Kenya

Nancy R. Williams, Interim Associate Dean of the School of Social Work, received funding from the President’s Venture Fund, the School of Social Work and the Office of Service-Learning to travel to East Africa for twelve days last fall to attend a four-day women’s conference in Kenya and to visit schools, medical clinics and women’s cooperatives in Tanzania. “An enduring memory of my time there was the sound of the ever-present laughter of the women, their gratitude and graciousness and their warmth and joyousness. But I heard their stories as well—domestic violence, HIV and AIDS that had touched virtually all of their families, the lack of educational opportunities for girls, and always their wrenching work load,” said Williams.

As Director of Global Programs for the School, Williams investigated ways in which SSW students could learn from and assist with some of the organizations and people she encountered on her trip. “The list of ways to help is long and there are perfect opportunities for students to deeply contribute. I know that I am committed to continuing to further collaborative relationships and to broaden my knowledge as well as to reach out and support the African students who are already at UGA—especially in the School of Social Work. My work with Africa has just begun,” she said.

News to Share with Your Colleagues?

The 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: lciucevi@uga.edu. Or visit our Website: 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.: _____

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

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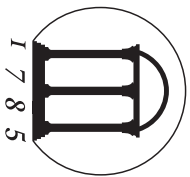
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53rd Annual Program Meeting**

Hilton San Francisco

The UGA School of Social Work will host a dessert reception on
Sunday, October 28th at the conference

*Please join us and also come by our booth # 802 in the exhibit hall
We look forward to seeing you and hearing all your news!*



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