Former and Current Deans Celebrated with Portrait Wall on all Three Campuses

Wayne Vasey
Dean, 1954-1962

Werner W. Boehm
Dean, 1963-1971

Morris Siegel
Acting Dean, 1971-1973

Ralph Garber
Dean, 1973-1976

Harold W. Demone
Dean, 1977-1987

Elfriede G. Schlesinger

Paul H. Glasser
Dean, 1988-1992

Mary Edna Davidson
Dean, 1993-2005

Richard L. Edwards
Dean, 2005-

Kathleen J. Pottick
appointed Acting Dean
Message from the Dean

It is with enthusiasm that I bring you the fall 2011 edition of our newsletter. The purpose of this publication is two-fold: to keep you up-to-date on happenings at the school and to celebrate the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

In this issue, we congratulate each of the 2011 graduates of our BASW, MSW, and PhD programs on their accomplishments, and on the new ventures that await them. We also highlight the accomplishments of a social worker who is well-connected with the school as an alumna, a part-time lecturer and a field instructor who saw a gap in services and created a program to fill it. She is an example of what social work is all about – taking action against social injustice. In addition, we thank our private donors whose support enables us to offer enhanced programs and scholarships for our students.

We are pleased to announce two new programs at the School of Social Work. The first is the much anticipated Doctorate in Social Work. This initiative, headed by Associate Professor Jerry Floersch, is designed for MSWs who are seeking advanced clinical education. Another program, headed by Associate Professor Darcy Siebert and alumna Nancy Violette at the Center for Alcohol Studies, is the Addiction Counselor Training Certificate Program. This program will allow students in the MSW program to graduate having completed the licensing requirements for the Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LCADC). Both programs will position Rutgers to meet the demand for individuals who have advanced clinical skills in New Jersey and beyond.

It is my hope that you like what you see at the Rutgers School of Social Work. No matter what your affiliation with the school: alumni, student, faculty, staff, or friend, you can be proud that this is your school, and that we continue to grow and produce top-tier professionals and research that will make our world a better place to live.

Kathleen J. Pottick, MSW, MA, PhD, LCSW
Acting Dean and Professor

Associate Dean Appointed Acting Dean

Dean Edwards is pleased to announce that President McCormick appointed Kathleen J. Pottick as acting dean during his service as the executive vice president of the university. “I know I leave the school in excellent hands. Dr. Pottick has the right experience to do the job and I am confident that under her leadership the school will continue to thrive.”

Kathleen J. Pottick, MSW, PhD, LCSW, is professor and associate dean for faculty development at the School of Social Work and has a joint appointment as core faculty at the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research. Dr. Pottick joined the faculty in 1982 after receiving her PhD in Social Work and Social Psychology from the University of Michigan. The bulk of her research focuses on better understanding the barriers to the provision of effective mental health services for children and adolescents, and disadvantaged populations, and on developing strategies for removing them. She publishes in the fields of social work, psychology, and psychiatry, with recent articles appearing in Social Service Review, Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, and American Journal of Psychiatry. Her research studies have been funded by government and foundation sources (e.g., National Institute of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Annie E. Casey Foundation). A popular lecturer, Dr. Pottick has held numerous administrative appointments at the School of Social Work. Her program for mentoring junior faculty is being used as a model throughout the university. She is an avid admirer of Jane Addams and collects and contributes to literature about the social work pioneer.

“I am pleased to serve as the school’s acting dean, welcoming the opportunity to work with faculty, staff, students, and alumni to advance the profession by building on the strong foundation that Dick Edwards established for the school in the university and state,” Pottick says.

Social Work Dean Appointed Interim Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs at Rutgers University

Rutgers University President Richard McCormick announced that Richard Edwards will serve as Interim Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs effective July 1, 2011. The position is the university’s second-highest ranking administrator. In his email to faculty and staff at the university, McCormick says, “Dick, as you know, has been an outstanding Dean of our School of Social Work for the past six years, elevating and enhancing the reputation of its programs on all three of our campuses.”

Member of the faculty and former Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Human Services Bill Waldman says that while the School of Social Work faculty and staff will miss the dean, they are pleased about the appointment. “The school is more respected than ever before and much of it is due to his management and his ability to attract top-notch faculty and staff. It is unusual for a social worker to be put in the position of Executive Vice President – the chief operating officer - of a tier one research institution like Rutgers. This is a real honor for Dean Edwards, a real affirmation of the profession of social work, and a real example of the capacity and value added by social work managers.”
Dr. Harold W. Demone, age 87, of East Falmouth, MA, died suddenly at his home on Sept. 1, 2011. He is the beloved husband of Marguerite F. (Reilly) and father of Deborah Jan Demone of Mashpee. He also leaves several nieces and nephews. Born in Arlington, MA he served in the US Army and was a veteran of WWII. He was an 18 year old enlisted infantryman, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Dr. Demone was captured by the Germans in Belgium in 1945 and was held as a Prisoner of War for 4 months. Following his honorable discharge from the Army he received his BA and MA from Tufts University. Dr. Demone went into social work through his studies at Brandeis University where he received his PhD in Social Welfare. He has been active in NASW and CSWE, the International Council on Social Welfare and has been a consulting editor and review editor for Social Work. His professional career in social work, academia and public service reflects his scholarship, leadership abilities and his willingness to explore “uncharted areas” of basic social and public health issues. He has been an administrator, a teacher, a researcher, a public policy and program planner and an advocate. His areas of emphasis and expertise have included substance abuse, mental health, mental retardation, criminal justice and community health. In his career of 43 years of full-time professional positions, Harold Demone worked mostly in three states, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New Hampshire. However, his work has had a national impact as he has consulted in more than 20 states and served on many state and federal committees and advisory groups. He was a driving force behind federal and state legislative initiatives related to services and research related to mental health, mental retardation and alcoholism, adult corrections, parole and probation, mental health commitment procedures and vocational rehabilitation. He was the chief executive officer of several public and private organizations, including serving as Executive Director of the Medical Foundation in Boston (1960-67), Executive Director of the United Community Planning Corporation in Boston (1967-77), and Dean of the School of Social Work at Rutgers University (1977-1987). Throughout these years, he served on a wide range of professional, public policy and community advisory groups. He has been a prolific writer with eight books and dozens of articles to his credit. Since his retirement from full-time professional work in 1992, he has served as a visiting lecturer in Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health at Harvard, and has continued to write and participate in professional and community organizations. One of his long-time interests was issues related to the privatization of human services. He was a member of the Original Affordable Housing Task Force. He later became Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee and was the 1st recipient of the Bruce Espey Award from the Falmouth Housing Trust, for his outstanding work in Affordable Housing. A person with as many interests and new ideas as has Harold Demone, never really retires, but continues to work towards improvement of and better public understanding of human needs and services.

“Curious; engaged; devoted scholar; policy advocate – these are words that describe Hal Demone’s retirement – as well as his time on the Rutgers faculty. He was always writing and reading and pursuing policy or community change on some level. He was a conscientious mentor to junior faculty – offering direct and thoughtful feedback and advice. His enthusiasm for his policy work was contagious, and he provided a strong role model. He will be missed.” --Allison Zippay, PhD Program Director, long-time colleague and friend of Hal Demone
School of Social Work Dean Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

The National Network of Social Work Managers (NNSWM) selected Dean Richard Edwards to receive the prestigious 2011 Chauncey Alexander Lifetime Achievement Award which recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding, substantial and enduring contribution to the field of social work management. The award was presented at the NNSWM Annual Institute on 29, 2011 at the Baltimore Campus of the University of Maryland. “I can think of no person who has a more distinguished career in social work and is more deserving of this award,” says Allison Blake, Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families who nominated the dean. Read her nomination letter below.

Like many social workers, Richard L. Edwards is one who began his career in direct practice with the goal of one day having a private practice. He has come a long way from those early dreams, never realizing that particular one, but accomplishing more than most along the way. After four years in direct practice as a psychiatric social worker, Edwards began his career in social work education at Augustana College in Illinois, where he developed one of the first BSW programs to be approved by CSWE. This predated accreditation of social work education programs.

Later, after a position on the staff of NASW during which time he came to better understand the issues facing the profession, Edwards furthered his career in higher education at the University of Knoxville. Subsequently moving to SUNY Albany, Edwards worked to grow the school’s continuing education program for social workers in the state and also created a training and certification program for social work field educators. While at SUNY, he earned his PhD and was promoted to Associate Dean, a position he maintained for three years.

In addition to his current position as Dean of the Rutgers School of Social Work, Edwards has held deanships at Case Western Reserve University’s Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also was interim provost at Chapel Hill which is very rare for someone in the social work discipline. As an administrator, Edwards has been an effective advocate and innovative leader for his institutions. While at Case Western University he created a summer intensive doctoral program, and took the first group of faculty to Romania. Under his leadership at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, new doctoral and certificate programs were developed at the School of Social Work, while external funding for research, training and technical assistance increased dramatically. Both of these schools saw the development, construction and move-in to new buildings during Edwards’ tenure as Dean.

The impact that Edwards has had on social work education extends beyond U.S. borders. He has been a visiting professor at Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and Memorial University in Newfoundland, Canada, and served as a consultant for the Soros Foundation’s Open Society Institute on the development of gerontology education for professionals in 18 central and eastern European countries. In 2008 Edwards spent several weeks at Ben Gurion University in Israel as a Fulbright Senior Specialist.

As a scholar and author, Edwards has studied the management and organizational effectiveness of public-sector and nonprofit organizations. He is the author of numerous articles, book chapters, and books on fundraising, management and nonprofit organizations. He was the editor-in-chief of the 19th edition of the Encyclopedia of Social Work, published in 1996. He serves on the editorial boards of several professional journals and was the associate editor for North America for Social Work Education: The International Journal. He has written extensively and consulted widely on issues related to social work education and nonprofit and public management.

Edwards was honored as a distinguished alumnus by the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, where he received his master’s degree, and the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the State University of New York at Albany, where he earned his doctorate. He also held the Alumni Distinguished Professorship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Edwards was elected NASW National President in 1989, after serving as national treasurer and national board member. While president of NASW, Edwards reinstated a joint NASW National Board and CSWE National Board committee, and he also created special presidential awards for Social Work Educator and Social Work Researcher, always understanding the importance of the relationship between educator and practitioner. These awards were continued for several years following his tenure. During his presidency, Edwards was a member of the Executive Committee of the International Federation of Social Workers. He has served on the national leadership identification committee for NADD, and as the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the St. Louis Group. Edwards currently serves as a board member of the National Network for Social Work Managers.

Edwards came to Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey five years ago. His impact has been significant to the development and growth of the school, the reputation of the school among alumni, and raising the status of the school within the university. Under his leadership at Rutgers over the past five years, The Rutgers School of Social Work, headquartered in New Brunswick, is one of the largest social work educational programs in the U.S., with approximately 1400 students. The School serves students on all three Rutgers campuses: New Brunswick, Camden and Newark. It offers undergraduate (BASW) and graduate degrees (MSW and PhD) in social work and dual degree programs in conjunction with the law schools in Newark and Camden and with the Princeton Theological Seminary. A DSW degree aimed at currently employed clinical social workers is currently under development.

Dean Edwards is known for creating programs that satisfy both academic and scheduling needs identified by students and potential students. Under his leadership at Rutgers over the past five years, Edwards led the development of a new Institute for Families and four new academic centers (Center for International Social Work, Center for Nonprofit Management and Governance, Center for Gambling Studies and Center on Violence Against Women and Children). When Edwards arrived at Rutgers there were 21
tenure track and only a handful of non-tenure track faculty members. Today, there are 31 tenure track faculty, and 32 full time non-tenure track faculty members. The school is also the largest university based provider of continuing education in the country, serving over 6000 professionals a year. There are several specialized courses of study including the Gerontology Fellows Program, the Child Welfare Weekend Program, and a new Intensive Weekend MSW Program in the southern part of the state. A program for those working in the addictions field is currently under development.

Edwards recognizes the cornerstone that field education is to social work education and is credited for his vision and implementation of a revitalized field program. He expanded the full time staff from three to seven, and initiated the development of stipends for students in a limited number of field placements. Rutgers has approximately 700 students in field placements at any given time.

In addition to serving as a Fulbright Specialist for Ben Gurion University in Israel, Edward's efforts have resulted in the development of a study abroad program each January. That program has just completed its third successful semester. During this time, Edwards also created a Center for International Social Work, which has developed another successful study abroad program in Romania.

While at Rutgers, Edwards has focused on strengthening the clinical social work curriculum, and developed a track in nonprofit and public management. He also created "areas of emphasis" so that students could have a subspecialty which they self-identify through electives. In addition, Rutgers is home to the nation's only MSW certificate in Violence Against Women and Children, which receives its funding from the Verizon Foundation.

As he has been at other institutions, Dean Edwards is highly visible throughout the university. He serves on the Executive Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee, and the Advisory Committee of the President of the Rutgers University Foundation. He also served on the university's Labor Negotiations Committee, and is a member of Athletic Academic Oversight Committee.

Perhaps most notable, Dean Edwards continues to understand the value of interacting with students. He currently teaches the doctoral professional development seminar, is a regular guest lecturer in the MSW program, develops undergraduate interdisciplinary seminars on fundraising, and conducts workshops on fundraising in continuing education. He attends all social work open house sessions personally, putting a face on the administration of the school for potential applicants.

Richard Edwards has had a substantial positive impact on the profession of social work through direct practice, educating thousands of social work students, and consulting with and writing about nonprofit organizations both here and abroad. While clearly illustrative of the contributions Edwards has made to social work education and social work practice during a career that has spanned 40 years, this nomination can in no way do justice to the transformative impact Richard Edwards has had on institutions of higher education, and the role social work has to play in those settings. For this reason, I nominate Richard L. Edwards for the CSWE Significant Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Award.

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**News from the PhD Program**

**2011 Dissertation Titles**

**Dawn M. Adams**
“The Relationship between Parent Involvement and a Child’s Transition into Kindergarten”  
*Dr. Antoinette Farmer, Dissertation Chair*

**B. Lynn Hutchings**
“Factors Influencing Functional Ability Among community-Dwelling Adults Aging with Developmental Disabilities”  
*Dr. Allison Zippay, Dissertation Chair*

**Esther Son**
“Peer Victimization of Children with Disabilities: Examining Prevalence and Early Risk and Protective Factors Among a National Sample of Children Receiving Special Education Services”  
*Dr. N. Andrew Peterson, Dissertation Chair*

**Elaine Edelman** (May 2010 graduate)
“Patients’ Perceptions of Family Involvement and Its Relationship to Medication Adherence for Persons with Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorders”  
*Dr. Raymond Sanchez Mayers*

**Kerrie Ocasio**, a School of Social Work Graduate Research Assistant and doctoral candidate in the PhD program, has received the Doris Duke Child Abuse Prevention Fellowship through Chapin Hall. She will receive an award of $25,000 for up to two years. Duke Fellows participate in research and professional development activities including mentorship by leaders in the field, a collegial network for fellows, and presentation and training opportunities.

**Svetlana Shpiegel** was selected to participate in the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) annual Summer Research Institute, Cornell University in June. Most of the institute participants are faculty representing a variety of disciplines - a few competitive slots are open each year for doctoral students working on dissertation research. The topic of her dissertation is, “Resilience among youth transitioning out of foster care: Profiles of risk and protection and their relationship with positive adaptation”.

**Jamey Lister** has been awarded a Fulbright Research Fellowship to Canada for 2011-2012. He will conduct his dissertation research on goal setting and decision-making in a state-of-the-art virtual gaming lab at Carleton University in Ottawa.
Institute for Families (IFF) Update

I am delighted to communicate my first IFF update with you. Since my arrival in February 2011, I have been continually impressed with IFF’s commitment to its mission of strengthening individuals, families, and communities by building the capacity of human service professionals and organizations. IFF has experienced significant leadership change and growth in recent months, which I would like to highlight.

Beginning with my appointment after the departure of our previous director, Dr. Allison Blake, now serving as commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF), we have made the following key appointments to our management team. Mia Sena is now director of the Office of Training and Educational Programs, Maureen Braun-Scalera was recently named director of the Office of Child Welfare Initiatives, and Donna Van Alst is serving as interim director of the Office of Research and Evaluation. IFF’s management team is now complete and we are well-positioned for the future.

A few highlights of our recent work include:

- The inclusion of Continuing Education certificate programs on New Jersey’s Eligible Training Provider List, which allows IFF to take referrals from one-stop centers for individuals seeking to enhance their professional skills. In addition, employers with Customized Training Grants issued by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development may now contract with IFF to train their employees at their workplaces.

- In March, the New Jersey Child Support Institute partnered with the New Jersey Child Support Council to provide 21 out of 35 training workshops and general conference support for the Annual Child Support Conference in Atlantic City attended by some 700 child support professionals.

- The New Jersey Child Welfare Training Partnership hosted a one-day Trainer Summit in May. This event marked the first time all trainers throughout New Jersey, who are working with the Division of Youth and Family Services to enhance case practice services, came together to explore ways to work more effectively.

- In June, the Family Development Credential Program celebrated the graduation of 80 participants that each earned up to 9 college credits by completing a 90-hour course and passing a certification examination during the 2010-2011 academic year.

- The New Jersey Victim Assistance Academy (NJVAA) provides entry-level victim assistance providers, victim advocates, criminal justice personnel, and allied professionals with a comprehensive foundation-level 40-hour training of victim rights and services. NJVAA was offered in the spring with 19 participants and summer training with nine participants.

I sincerely thank Bill Waldman, who served as interim director of IFF before my arrival, for orienting me to IFF, and also Dean Richard Edwards for his ongoing support of our work. In addition, I would like to recognize former IFF staff, Allison Blake and Barbara Rusen, both now with DCF, for helping IFF transition smoothly this past year. While I anticipate future growth in existing programs and in new areas, I assure you that I will continue to champion the work and support the people that have helped build IFF into what it is today.

Andy Germak, MBA, MSW, LSW
Executive Director and Lecturer
**Rutgers Launches Addictions Counselor Training Certificate Program**

In partnership with the Center of Alcohol Studies, the School of Social Work has been funded $3.4 million to develop and implement an Addictions Counselor Training (ACT) Certificate Program. This project responds to a need for masters-level, dual-credentialed addictions and mental health professionals in the state of NJ. The Division of Mental Health and Addictions Services in the Department of Human Services is funding this program through a workforce development initiative.

Currently, helping professionals in New Jersey wishing to become certified or licensed addictions counselors face a challenging system of training and requirements, in addition to a lengthy approval process. Recent legislative guidelines provide the SSW, as a matriculated program, the opportunity to offer masters-level training and supervised field hours through our MSW program that will dramatically improve and streamline the credentialing process for hundreds of New Jersey students and professionals.

To fulfill the educational requirements of the addictions credential, the School of Social Work will revise our two current addictions courses and add four new courses to the curriculum. Courses will fulfill both the content and contact hours required by the state for credentialing. Courses will be delivered in a hybrid format that reduces the number of in-class hours required. A goal is to offer the courses on all three campuses – New Brunswick, Newark, and Camden – to allow ease of access for all program participants. Students who complete the six courses will have completed the educational requirements for a CADC/LCADC.

Because the addictions credentials also have supervised work requirements, we will provide appropriate supervision (e.g., LSW/LCSW and CADC/LCADC) to students placed in licensed organizations. We will have designated personnel in the Field office to meet the students’ needs. All masters-level students will accrue supervised hours that count toward their credential, but the number of hours they accrue will depend upon their program (i.e., Traditional or Advanced-Standing) and whether they enroll in the Addictions Certificate Program prior to beginning their first field placement.

All masters-level students and postgraduates in clinical disciplines are eligible to apply to the ACT certificate program. Students will be recruited initially from current, incoming, and prospective MSW students. Subsequently, recruiting efforts will extend to masters-level clinicians already working in the addictions field, and to incoming students in other helping disciplines (e.g., psychology, psychiatric nursing) who wish to become credentialed addictions counselors. These non-social work students will enroll in our six certificate courses, but their other coursework and field placements will be offered in their home programs. All students applying to the ACT certificate program must meet the requirements for admission to our MSW program; those who do not meet our requirements will be offered resources for improving their capacity for graduate-level education and subsequent re-application to our program.

Our goal is to enroll 400 students in the program over a 3-year period, and to provide between $3,500 and $5,500 scholarships to each student who successfully completes the program requirements, with those who agree to field placements in under-resourced locations receiving the higher awards. Graduates of the ACT certificate program will be poised for streamlined credentialing, leading to higher salaries and to becoming supervisors more rapidly than professionals without the addictions credentials.

**New Rutgers DSW Approved!**

For many years, the Rutgers School of Social Work has offered a Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (PhD) for individuals who are interested in careers in research, higher education and other non-clinical settings. Now, for the first time, the Rutgers School of Social Work will offer a practice-focused, post-MSW doctorate in clinical social work (DSW) for individuals interested in advancing their clinical knowledge. The DSW prepares graduates for leadership in clinical and behavioral health fields serving youth and adults.

“The response to the program from our alumni has been overwhelmingly positive. The Rutgers School of Social Work is addressing a long-time need for advanced clinical education and the DSW will meet that need with an innovative curriculum and delivery. I’m happy to be part of this initiative, and look forward to working with practitioners,” says Jerry Floersch, PhD, Director of the DSW program.

**Innovative Curriculum and Format:**

- Cohorts of 15 students will progress through the program in concurrent classes and graduate in 3 years.
- The intensive weekend, once-monthly residency requirement (fall, spring, and summer semesters) will offer students the flexibility to remain in fulltime, uninterrupted employment.
- To assure maximum program and topical flexibility, courses will be delivered through interconnected modules.
- Classes will be conducted in downtown New Brunswick, a short walk from New Brunswick, NJ train station.
- Faculty will be drawn from the Rutgers School of Social Work and from among a distinguished group of regional and national practitioners.
- Graduates will develop a portfolio of scholarship-for-practice (not a traditional research-based dissertation): writing and publishing clinical case studies, reading and critically examining academic and research literatures, and developing collaborative research projects.

Applications for the first class will be available in the fall/winter 2011 and the first cohort will begin classes in late summer (August) 2012. Admission and curricular details will be posted on a DSW website (late September and early October) under Academic Programs at socialwork.rutgers.edu.

Dr. Jerry Floersch, PhD, LCSW, program director, and Dr. Jeffrey Longhofer, PhD, LCSW, lead instructor, will provide leadership. See their bios at: socialwork.rutgers.edu/Faculty.aspx. Contact Dr. Floersch at jfloersch@ssw.rutgers.edu

Want more information? Follow the DSW blog, which provides the most up-to-date information about the program. The blog URL is http://jerry-floersch.blogspot.com

Organizations interested in learning more about the program for their personnel should contact Dr. Nancy Violette, Co-PI and Director of Professional Development at the Center of Alcohol Studies and a graduate of the SSW PhD program, at nancyvio@rci.rutgers.edu. Prospective students, field placement supervisors, and instructors should contact Dr. Darcy Siebert, Co-PI and Associate Professor at the School of Social Work at ACT@ssw.rutgers.edu.
Alumni Highlight

Rutgers SSW Alumni Dreams Up Success
Serendipitous Meeting Leads to Successful DYFS Youth Retention Program

By Susan Merkel

It started on a normal day for Judy Secchiutti, a Rutgers undergrad and MSW alumna, School of Social Work adjunct faculty member, field supervisor and field liaison, who also works full time for the Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem DYFS Area Office. Secchiutti, a social work dynamo, made time for lunch with a friend who wanted to share some newly released data. It was a lunch meeting that would change Secchiutti’s and many at-risk adolescent’s lives.

“I was having lunch with Jeff Harvy, Chief Operating Officer of Ranch Hope in Alloway, NJ and he told me that he had found data regarding adolescents exiting the foster care system across the country”, says Secchiutti. “The results showed a very high exit rate, and the percentages were very high for individuals leaving the system and ending up in jail or becoming young unwed parents. He had looked at US statistics and found that New Jersey fell at the absolute bottom in foster care retention and programs for preparing our young people.”

Secchiutti says she was deeply troubled by the data, particularly New Jersey’s status at the bottom of the barrel, and could not stop thinking about the conversation.

“After a mostly sleepless night I woke up around 3:00 AM, turned on the light next to my bed and started writing down ideas on the note pad I keep there,” she says. “I started thinking about Ranch Hope and the Camp Edge program which is about a mile away from my home. The next day I called Jack Hardy and told him I had come up with an idea; use the Camp Edge property for an intensive life skill camp for at risk youth who are about to age out of the New Jersey foster care system and give them positive life skills needed to live on their own.”

The two went to work looking for topic experts who would be asked to volunteer their time, make presentations and facilitate hands-on training. Hardy then put together plans for athletic activities on the 250 acre Green Acres site. Originally a mill with adjoining man-made spring fed lake, Camp Edge was purchased in 1930 by the Atlantic Area Boy Scouts who purchased adjoining land, added facilities and improved the site. In the late 1990’s Camp Edge was sold to Green Acres who approached Ranch Hope, Inc. to manage the site.

“The kids we initially targeted in 2010 were about to turn 18 and had been very vocal about being DYFS cases and were probably headed for the streets,” says Secchiutti. “There were a couple or 18 year olds who were just tired of Day #1 of Camden Camp Edge focuses on team building exercises. Kids had to untangle a huge knotted rope and each could only use one hand and they couldn’t talk.

Another camper learning to kayak

purchased adjoining land, added facilities and improved the site. In the late 1990’s Camp Edge was sold to Green Acres who approached Ranch Hope, Inc. to manage the site.

“The kids we initially targeted in 2010 were about to turn 18 and had been very vocal about being DYFS cases and were probably headed for the streets,” says Secchiutti. “There were a couple or 18 year olds who were just tired of

Dessert “chefs” conference in the cake mix isle; read labels, discuss nutrition ultimately and wisely deciding to slice up a fresh fruit salad.
being with DYFS and felt that they wanted to be on their own. The challenge was trying to get them to stay in the DYFS program until they turned 21. We knew if we did not help them they would fall between the cracks”.

Retaining adolescents in the foster care system is a hot issue in the state and NJ recently decided to continue to provide support to adolescents up to age 21. Previously, cases had to be closed at age 18; however Secchiutti reports that when the state extended the cut off age there were not enough resources to handle the additional case load and long waiting lists for crucial services became a problem for the population most at risk. Foster youth who remain in the system until age 21 receive superior medical insurance, accredited training, college tuition, scholarships, Chafee funding and other financial assistance. Those who leave the DYFS program lose these benefits.

The Adolescent Life Skills Camp at Camp Edge initially targeted DYFS foster youth between 17 and 20 who were believed about to sign out of the system. The program’s goal is to eliminate recidivism, maintain foster youth most at risk in the DYFS care system, and teach meaningful coping and life skills. Participants are introduced to swimming, kayaking, cooking, budgeting, and how to use banking services with all learning based on hands on skills building. Workshops are led by volunteer topic experts and this year was able to fund employment of camp counselors who remain with the attendees throughout the evening for campfires and until the morning. In 2010, 18 foster adolescents completed the initial two week program and all but one decided to remain with DYFS.

Secchiutti says that teamwork skills and “Survivor®” types of competitions promote strong bonds between the campers who remain in touch via the Camp Edge Facebook site.

“We continue to see amazing progress,” Secchiutti reveals. “This summer and last we had several participants reveal that they were gay or lesbian, others told us that the camp provided them with a feeling of safety, closeness and warmth that allowed them to reveal painful information about childhood abuse for the first time. One female participant revealed the existence of family in another state and since has been adopted by them and attends community college.”

What is most astounding about the success of the program says Secchiutti is the close bond between the kids. “What is important to consider is that these are the hard cases”, emphasizes Secchiutti. “These are tough kids who have not been adopted and are deeply scarred by their experiences. Yet, no matter where they go or what course they pursue, whenever one of them is in trouble, the others jump right in and help them. The most important life lesson they learn at the end of the day is that no matter how well we take care of ourselves, it is what we do for others and our sense of community that make us who are”.

Dr. Alan Singer (PhD ’95) has written a book entitled, “Creating Your Perfect Family Size: How to Make an Informed Decision About Having a Baby”. The book offers answers to crucial questions that have a large impact on family success and well-being. The author has been researching and treating couples for more than twenty years, addressing such critical issues as: When should you have kids? How many and why? Can you afford a family? What’s the best interval between children’s birth in a family? How does your work life influence how many kids to have? What’s the impact of divorce, remarriage and blended families on the decision to have more kids? How does your family of origin? Self-tests punctuate all chapters in the book, helping each reader to customize their own decision making based on their unique background and current situation.
2011 Scholarship Donors and Recipients

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP
Nanci David-Flores *
Laura Gever *
Sarah Jones-Redd *

DOROTHY CARTUN AMDURER MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP
Nicole Cupit
Kristin Pragle *
Jennifer Zicherman

KENNETH CHRISTMON SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Anna Wu

MARCA COHEN AND MARK FORMAN MEMORIAL AWARD
Rebecca Weiner

DARIEN FAMILY ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP FOR SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Brigid Kelly *
Heather Levitt *
Kimberly Spirito *

JEAN D. FREDRICKSON MEMORIAL AWARD IN SOCIAL WORK
Heather Benso *
Elizabeth Craft *
Brandy Dotson *

HAROLD F. & CHARLOTTE D. FULTZ ENDOWMENT
Mia Abigail Agbuya *
Leigh Baglin
Serena Cucco
Kathleen Cullen *
Kathryn Donnellan
Megan Donnelly *
Crystal Harper *
Christine Hons
Gary Katz
Tara Meyer
Jalilah Muhammad +
Lesly Pesquera
Jennifer Petre *
Janay Taylor *
Sara Toth
Natalie Wyant
Heidi Basler
Chelsea Stack

PATRICIA M. MYRON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP
Elizabeth Escobar *

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK FELLOWSHIP FUND
Naomi Alwis *
Melissa Angling-Williams *
Seth Antin
Jaclyn Bertsch
Alexis Biedermann *
Nicholas Bizarro
Emily Buchenhorst *
Shannon Burdick *
Rolando Burgos
Pamela Burke
Bonnie Camp *
Deirdre Cassidy
Bo Young Cho
Kathleen Ciser Manalio
Eryn Clark
Gloria Correa
Michelle De Amorin
Amanda Franklin
Avi Gardenswartz
Kamaria Greenfield
Mai-Khanh Gunther
Gregory Hansch
Jennifer Heffernan
Taquila Hendry
Adam Hilton *
Amml Hussein *
Lauren Jessell
Gaudi Jiminian
Lisa Juliano *
Erica Jungels
Reena Kamath
Jade King *
Desiree Knight
Emmanuella Komba
Joanna Kubik
Christine Legder *
Jessica Libby *
Felicia Lopez
Brittany MacAdams *
Jennifer Martinez *
Deborah McDill *
Kelly McGlynn *
Sukaina Mithani
Ianna Monferrari
Pauline Montemayor
Krista Muzikowski
Kristina Oudumes *
Bradley Redeker
Sara Rosengard
Omar Shakoor *
Lynn Stinziano
Pamela Taormino
Luis Virella
Elizabeth Voegtlin
Lindsay Welker
Emily Whitman
Julie Williams
Kasey Wilson
Rachel Yarin
Jennie Young *

VERIZON WIRELESS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP
Tamara Davis *
Jennifer Martinez *
Alberto Olarte *
Janina Tauro *

BERNICE BOEHM MEMORIAL
Evelyn Eghan
Sean Gilligan
Patricia Lundgren
Dorothy Martin *

CHRISTINE GORMAN MEMORIAL FUND
Molly Salovitz *

FELLOWS IN AGING
Lauren Cleary *
Amy Florence
Myrna Gomez *
Jennifer Smajkal *

LILLIAN RINGEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Diane D’Agostino *
Dana Longstreet
Leslie Rosen

WILLIAM WALDMAN SCHOLARSHIP
Alexandria Williams

ROBERT C. WELLS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Geraldine Atkins *
Kyle Smidt *

* Graduating Students
+ Bachelors Students

2011 BASW Graduates

Michael A. Aitcheson
Ashley E. Allen
Jacqueline R. Alvarez
Marlene V. Anderson
Anastasia Dixon
Sidney P. Battle
Joshua D. Bauers
Brittany R. Blackwood
Tricia L. Blanton
Sarah E. Boniface
Shamika Boswell
Katrina E. Brophy
Yuri N. Brown
Rachel A. Bryan
Hannah K. Bubis
Swehndy Cantave
Jeffrey M. Caruana
Lindsay A. Catarzi
Benjamin D. Chastain
Melissa M. Chedid
Amy M. Corrigan
Breann M. D’Alessandro
Najwa Driggins
Nicolette L. Duncan
Charlene J. Edwards
Sarah E. Ellis
Destiny L. Erbie
Jessica A. Falk
Shanea A. Foster
Devon J. Fox
Enrique A. Garcia
Gloria Gonzalez
Christine M. Goodstein
Toni M. Gramigna
Thomas Chris Grizzaffi
Adam T. Hilton
Kiarra Jackson
Michelle L. Johnson
Kathryn C. Johnston
Christine Juliano
Rebecca A. Kately
Rozana Katideen
Marie E. Keating
Toni L. Kiger
Austyn M. Labouhe
Joyce Y. Lee
Aisha S. Lewis
Anaise L. Lopez
Katrina G. Lundgren
Christine E. Mancuso
Victor W. Marotta
Jonathan T. Mason
Jaimie L. Mergel
Arielle Milsted
Courtney R. Nees
Marjorie A. Nejman
Crystal J. Olson
Tasha N. Page
Sharon A. Phillips
Patrice L. Pierce
Krystyna A. Pirozzoli
Yvonne D. Pittman
Sheila P. Purizaca
Jessica M. Quinones
Brandon M. Rauchbach
Jacqueline Elaine Rivera
Kathleen N. Rosa
Karol L. Soto
Amanda P. Starner
Janice I. Steeg
Katherine M. Sutton
Marcus Taylor
Latasha R. Terry
Bridget M. Thoresen
Yenia M. Vasquez
Katherine D. Villanueva
Nicole L. Williamson-Tripp
Sakina Yusuff

RUTGERS
School of Social Work
2011 MSW Graduates

Kristen Abbatemarco ♦
Anjail Abdul Badee ♦
Megan Acedo ♦
Michelle Ackerly ♦
Mia Abigail Agbuya ♦
Ashley Agosto ♦
Katherine Agresta ♦
Danika Ali ♦
Sanie Allen ▲

Tomas Brazaitis ● ● ●
Erica Brenes ● ● ●
Jodi Brodsky ● ● ●
Arlene Brooks ♦
Joanne Brotherson ♦
Emily Buchenhorst ●
Lisa Buckwalter ●
Francis Bulman ● ● ●
Shannon Burdick ● ●

Barbara Cohen ● ● ●
Gerard Collins ● ●
Elizabeth Colucci ♦
Grace Commiso ●
Karen Cooper ●
Robert Cooper ●
Concetta Coppola ● ●
Lisa Cornacchi ●
Samantha Corvino ●
Teresa Costantini ●
Elizabeth Craft ● ●
India Crawford ●
Kathleen Cullen ●
Shana Cullen ●
Doris Cunningham ● ●
Diane D'Agostino ● ● ●
Michael D'Amico ●
Navenea David ●
Nanci David-Flores ●
Ebony Davis ●
Elaine Dawson ●
Vanessa De Marco ●
Nicholas De Pascale ● ●
Regina De Rosa ● ●
Stephanie De Santi ● ●
Flavia DeAbreu ●
Judith DeBlasio ● ● ●
Lauren Dechiara ●
Bethany DeGeorge ●
Marcus Demott ●
Gerard Depasquale ●
Samantha Devita ● ●
Millicent Dias-Ross ● ●
Caitlin Dillaway ● ●
Louis Donnelly ● ● ●
Megan Donnelly ● ●
Brandy Dotson ●
Rachel Dubois ●
Jodi-Gail Duncan ●
Mara Durkin ● ●
Jessica Elelman ●
Elizabeth Escobar ●
Ruth Espada ♦
Aleya Farrell ●
Jennifer Feather ● ● ●
Damaris Feliciano ●
Loreen Fennell ●
Tasha Ferguson ●
Danielle Ferrone ●

Karin Fiore ●
Christophe Fleming ♦
Amy Florence ● ● ●
Allison Flynn ●
Caitlin Flynn ●
Alexis Fotiades ●
Marline Francois ●
Jonathan Frank ●
Vanessa Frazer ● ●
Shannon Frecon ●
Deanna Friedland ●
Gretchen Fry ● ● ●
Marisol Galindo ●
Arias Garcia ● ●
Melissa Garganta ●
Rawle Gaskin ●
Katya Gastulo ● ●
Neeshia Gayle ● ●
Katherine Germano ●
Laura Gever ● ●
Karen Gilbert ●
Elizabeth Gill ● ●
Julissa Gil-Loaiza ●
Julie Goldsmith ●
Myrna Gomez ● ●
Xiomara Gonell ●
Maria Gonzalez ● ●
Kimberly Gould ●
Sharon Grau ● ●
Annette Green ● ●
Daniel Greenberg ●

Megan Alonso ● ● ●
Naomi Alwis ●
Deja Amos ●
Karen Anderson ● ●
Jada Andrews ● ●
Melissa Angling-Williams ●
Ruthe Antoine ▲
Okechukwu Anyanwu ● ●
Florence Aristilde ●
Gina Arnone ●
Joel Aronowitz ● ●
Felicia Askew ●
Geraldine Atkins ●
Maitreyee Bagchi ●
Lisa Bailey ●
Thomas Baird ● ● ●
Jennifer Baldwin ▲
Jennifer Barber ●
Jessica Barreau ● ●
Rekisha Beans ● ●
Natalice Belcher ▲
Heather Bense ● ● ●
Cheryl Lyn Berger ▲ ●
Rachel Berger ●
Tanoa Bettis ●
Alexis Biedermann ● ● ●
Ann Boland ●
Racine Borde ●
Beatrice Bordley ● ●
Jon Boschen ●
Jennifer Boswick ● ● ●
Paul Bowie ● ● ●
Cheri Braithwaite ● ● ●

Abiola Burke ●
Patricia Bush ● ●
Diana Cabana *
Bonnie Camp ●
Lia Canavan ●
Heather Cannon ●
Amy Carlson ●
Paul Carroll ●
Lissette Chacon ●
Anindita Chatterjeebaumik ● ●
Alexis Chiani ●
Laura Chinnici ● ●
Janice Cho ●
Edward Choi ●
Ruslana Church ● ●
Corrie Clanton ●
Jessie Clark ● ●
Katherine Clarke ● ●
Lauren Cleary ● ●
Meghan Clemente ●

2011 Faculty-Staff Graduation Awards

ANDREW PETERSON, PhD
Most Supportive Professor Award

ARLENE HUNTER
Most Supportive Staff Award

MICHAEL LASALA, PhD
Innovative and Creative Teaching Award

LISA TOWNSEND, PhD
Professor of the Year Award

MARK LAMAR
Outstanding Adjunct Instructor Award

JAMES O’DEA
Outstanding Doctoral Student Instructor Award
Meredith Razen  
Bruce Reese  
Aminah Reeves  
Mallory Reichert  
Cassandra Reid  
Webert Remy  

Ramon Rosario  
Valerie Rosen  
Lisa Rosenberg  
Lisa Rosenberry  
Linda Rubingh  
Kimberly Rudolph  

Anne Marie Simonelli  
Indira Singh  
Jennifer Smejkal  
Kyle Smidic  
Tara Smith  
Lisa Smith  
Oluwaseyi Somorin  
Gwyn Sondike  
Matthew Soriano  
Sara Southrey  
Jayne Spengler  
Kimberly Spalto  
Adam Staats  
Jelena Straizivuk  
Naomi Stuart  
Erica Stuppler  
Breanne Swedler  
Paul Szypiotko  
Cosku Taalu  
Salman Tahir Hussain  
Janay Taylor  
Brijith Thomas  
Olawummi Thomas-Quarcoo  
Jason Thurlow  
Joyce Tiemens  
Lourdes Torres  
Amanda Torres  
Katherine Twomey  
Romana Uhlírova  
Amanda Uhrig  
Marc Ullman  

Yvette Weeks  
Ashley Wei  
Marissa Weick  
Katherine Weickert  
Melissa Weisel  
Krista Wesdyk  
Ayana West-Hewitt  
Lindsay Wheeler  
Tomara Whitaker  
Rachael White  
Paul Whitehurst  
Jeena Williams  
Sarah Williams  
Danica Williams  
Margaret Wilson  
Jamie Winters  
Krisen Wistuba  
Jenny Wittmer  
Mary Wood  
Corinne Wood  
Genevi’Ewe Wreh  
Erica Wurtzel  
Sara Wysocki  
Benjamin Yoffe  
Joy Yorkanis  
Nancy Yorlano  
Christina Zakrezewski  
Kim Zaun  

Tamir Reyes  
Tiffany Rhoney  
Shelley Richards-Arzola  
Laura Richardson  
Larry Rimbert  
Angelica Rivera  
Holly Robichaux  
Tiffany Robinson  
Carla Rodilosso  
Patricia Rodriguez  
Jennie Rodriguez  
Jeanette Rodriguez  
Maria Rodriguez  
Runelvy Rodriguez  
Elizabetch Rohalin  
Megan Rogers  
Rebecca Rogers  
Claudia Rolleri-Miranda  
Margaretta Rolon  
Melissa Ronga  

Alyce Ruth  
Paula Ryan  
Ericka Ryans  
Elisa Ryf  
Alexandra Salani  
Molly Salovitz  
Jessica Sanchez  
Elisabeth Santore  
Shuwanne Sapp-Greene  
Emily Savino  
Lynn Scapicchio  
Bridget Schirripa  
Ryan Schmidt  
Heather Schmutz  
Marissa Scott  
Nadirah Scudder  
Kelli Seibert  
Omar Shakoor  
Svetlana Shapiro  
Alyssa Simmonds  

Yohanny Valderrama  
Lauren Van Velson  
Amy Vignapiano  
Arlene Villanueva  
Jennifer Vitale  
Andrea Voola  
Amanda Wahl  
Beth Wanig  
Stephanie Warm  

October 2011 graduate  
January 2012 graduate  
4.0 GPA  
Phi Alpha Honor Society  
Dean’s List – GPA 3.7 and above  
degree awarded posthumously  

Candidate list is correct as of June 14, 2011.
**Newark Space Open**

As the new Director of the MSW Program on the Newark campus, I am very pleased to describe some of the exciting changes that have taken place this year. Since January 2011, we have greatly increased the amount of available office space to meet expanded administrative and programmatic needs. In addition to a brand new freshly painted and tastefully decorated suite comprised of an enhanced reception area and five offices, our space includes an additional six similarly well-appointed offices outside of, and immediately adjacent to, the main suite. Within the suite, our reception area is hosted by our Administrative Assistant, Malika Bennett, who welcomes visitors to our Social Work Program. The individual rooms are occupied, respectively, by Irma Terron-Wepner, Associate Director of Field Education, two tenure-track faculty who are Liliane Cambraia Windsor and Edward J. Alessi, and myself. A fifth room, the Dean’s Room, is reserved for special use by the Dean, Associate Deans, and other members of the School of Social Work administration when visiting the Newark campus.

Outside the suite, four of the rooms are utilized accordingly: by Nancy Schley, Field Coordinator, two administrative staff of the Transitions for Youth (TFY) Program who are Lesley Dixon, Senior Project Coordinator, and Adam Staats, Project Coordinator, as well as other staff and interns, and also several staff and research assistants of Professor Windsor’s Social Justice Lab. A fifth room is available for ad-hoc use by Adjunct Faculty for teaching and research purposes. The sixth room functions as a kitchen and storage room for supplies. To leverage our social impact in the future, we anticipate that our Newark-based office space will be shared creatively by additional faculty, researchers, students, research assistants, staff, and volunteers from across the New Brunswick, Camden, and Newark campuses, as well as by the larger academic and professional community throughout Newark.

Admissions requirements, concentration selection, and campus safety. The good news about our Newark MSW Program is that while we will always remain relatively small compared to the flagship New Brunswick MSW Program, we will continue to attract a significant number of adults who are smart with a heart. Due to curricular parity across the three campuses, bright social work students based in Newark and in surrounding areas seeking to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate can take all of their courses and field internship opportunities on the Newark campus. Given that Newark is the most diverse city in the nation, is conveniently located in the middle of New Jersey with excellent transportation access, and is surrounded by a network of social service agencies and other colleges, it is no wonder that a considerable group of students is attracted by and motivated to complete their MSW degree on our campus.

I would like to express deep thanks to Richard Edwards, former Dean and current Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at Rutgers, without whose vision and continuing encouragement our Newark Program could not have grown and flourished. Additionally, I am heavily indebted to Associate Dean Robert Nolan, Business Manager Christina Maggio, Acting Assistant Director of Information Technology Doug Richardson, and their staff as they have been instrumental in helping us to build our new home in Newark. Special appreciation goes to Associate Dean Arlene Hunter and her staff for assisting us to strengthen the Admissions component at our Newark site, and to Associate Dean Antoinette Farmer and her staff for hiring, training, and supervising our Newark-based Adjunct Faculty. Much gratitude goes to Nonprofit Management and Governance Center Director, Ronald Quincy, who brought the TFY Program to Newark this past summer. I am especially grateful to Director of Communications, Donna Wardell, for promoting a positive image of our Newark MSW Program via newsletter and online announcements. Going forward, I am happy to report that Kathleen Pottick, Acting Dean, recently visited us and was impressed with the hard work and camaraderie evidenced by our Newark Program. Our team is very appreciative that she will be working with us to collaboratively craft a plan to strategically ensure our continuing success.

Karun K. Singh, PhD, CSWM
Newark Program Director and Lecturer
Mother-and-son Graduating Duo Found Inspiration in Each Other at Rutgers-Camden

By Cathy K. Donovan

Every mother is full of pride when their child graduates from college. Michelle Johnson is more than proud, she’s inspired. But her inspiration started years ago when son Chris Grasty enrolled at Rutgers–Camden after traveling the world while serving in the U.S. Navy. “He inspired me,” says Johnson. “I saw how hard he was working and how much he liked Rutgers. It was my turn to better myself.”

After studying at Camden County Community College for more than a decade, Johnson graduated and then transferred to Rutgers–Camden. Now on Thursday, May 19, both Grasty and Johnson earned undergraduate degrees from Rutgers–Camden; Johnson’s in social work and Grasty’s in criminal justice.

A former school bus driver for Winslow Township, Johnson ultimately became a full-time student to focus solely on her own education. “It helped a whole lot,” says the mother of four. “My goal is to become a therapist for battered women.” Johnson got closer to that goal, thanks to fellow Scarlet Raptor, son Chris, who frequently offered academic support. “I would go to him for advice and relied on him a lot. It’s been so long, he helped me get back in the groove of things,” says Johnson.

It was four years of being away from home in far-off places from Haiti to Dubai that put Grasty back on his career track. “I knew since I was little that I wanted to be an FBI agent, but it was being away for so long that made me really want to go back to school,” he notes. As his special service application processes, Grasty has enrolled in graduate criminal justice classes at Rutgers–Camden.

The mother-and-son graduating duo walked at commencement during the Faculty of Arts and Sciences ceremony at 6 p.m. at the Susquehanna Bank Center.

Giving

Greetings!

Another tremendous fiscal year ended on June 30, 2011 and I gratefully thank all alumni, friends and organizations who enhanced the excellence at the School of Social Work with their gifts. Your contributions enabled us to offer scholarships to our exceptional students and to support our faculty research and programs.

I am thrilled to report the creation of three new endowed funds at SSW: the Donna and Art Falk Endowed Scholarship (by Donna Falk, MSW’85 and her husband Arthur Falk, RC’66, RBSG’90), the Krystal Skinner Memorial Scholarship (by family, friends, faculty and staff) and the Professor William Neal Brown Memorial Lecture Fund (by his associate Suzanne Zimmer).

We are engaged in Our Rutgers Our Future: A Campaign for Excellence, a transformative effort to support students and their learning, invest in faculty and their research, and improve facilities. We ask you to join us in this remarkable capital campaign by making a gift. Giving opportunities include our general support funds such as the Academic Excellence Fund and the Fellowship Fund; there are also opportunities to support specific programs, such as Transitions for Youth, the Center on Violence Against Women and Children, and the Professor William Neal Brown Scholarship Fund, to name a few. The investment you make in the School of Social Work truly matters to our students and faculty and strengthens our reputation as an undisputed leader in social work education and research.

I am available! Please contact me to discuss how to make a gift, where to direct your contributions, or answer questions you may have about supporting Rutgers.

On behalf of the many students and faculty who benefit from your philanthropy, I thank you for choosing to give to the School of Social Work.

In gratitude,
Judy Zenowich
732-932-7253 x104
jpzeno@ssw.rutgers.edu
It is widely accepted that sexual violence is a major problem on college campuses, with national research indicating as many as 25% of women experience a completed or attempted rape during their 4-5 year college careers. The devastating impact of rape on victims includes negative outcomes on physical and mental health, academic performance, and interpersonal relationships. In response, many colleges and universities have implemented educational programs on campus to raise awareness about the issue. Over the last 10-15 years, the bystander intervention approach has been gaining popularity as a means for engaging communities in sexual assault prevention. “These programs are appealing because they involve everyone. It is not just an issue for perpetrators and victims,” says Assistant Professor Sarah McMahon. “Students look out for one another. If you see things leading up to an assault, interrupt it before it happens.”

In an effort to address the problem on Rutgers’ campuses, the Rutgers Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance created SCREAM Theater, a peer educational, interactive theater program that educates groups and initiates dialogue about issues of interpersonal violence including sexual assault, dating violence, same-sex violence, stalking, bullying, and peer harassment. Performed by undergraduate students, the skits are developed for specific communities such as high school students, college students, community groups, social service agencies, and law enforcement. In addition, the performance is given each year at Rutgers new student orientation. The Center on Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) has been awarded a grant from the Centers for Disease Control to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. Entitled “Experimentally Testing a Campus Based Bystander Mode”, the 3-year, $1.2 million dollar project will assess the impact on behavior related to sexual violence and bystander intervention. Assistant Professor Sarah McMahon is the principal investigator on the project and Associate Professor Judy Postmus is the co-principal investigator. Based on the results, a guide will be created to assist programs nationwide in developing and implementing bystander education programs on college campuses.

**Introducing the School’s First Postdoctoral Associate**

The Center on Violence Against Women and Children has hired the School’s first postdoctoral associate. Christopher T. Allen earned his PhD in Clinical-Community Psychology and graduate certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of South Carolina. His research interests focus on exploring how gender relates to: intimate partner violence and sexual assault perpetration and victimization, bystander behavior and prevention of violence, and the development of violence prevention and intervention programs. Prior to joining the Center on Violence Against Women and Children, Dr. Allen worked on several projects in the area of intimate partner violence and sexual assault including the development and evaluation of a campus-based violence prevention program, developing a historical assessment tool for student survivors of violence, and coordinating a service-focused needs assessment of the MSM community in New York City. Dr. Allen will be coordinating the Northeast Region with the Allstate project and coordinating the data analyses for the iSCREAM (CDC) project.
Knowing When to Fold

Did you ever wonder why some people gamble until they lose everything while others are able to walk away?

Scholars in behavioral economics would say it’s because people behave in predictable ways when they’re making money decisions under certain risky conditions. For example, feeling sad may lead us to disregard warning signals to stop betting, because we just want to play to feel better. Similarly, the goals we set for ourselves and our drive to reach them may override common sense when we’re in the heat of play.

The Center for Gambling Studies is looking at these issues in a new study that will take 200 participants into the world of a virtual casino. The $166,000 study, funded by the Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre, is a partnership between the Center and principal investigator Dr. Lia Nower and co-investigator Dr. Michael Wohl of the Carleton University Department of Psychology. Doctoral student Jamey Lister has also received a Fulbright Research Fellowship to serve as on-site director for the project in Canada.

The study will invite players into a computerized casino environment where they will sit and play a realistic slot machine, programmed to evaluate betting under a variety of conditions. Players will set their goals for play – how much they want to win – then play until they either reach their goal or lose their money. The researchers will evaluate whether the magnitude of the goals, select personality and emotional factors, and/or a win/loss condition will result in greater losses over time. In a second experiment, players will be “primed” emotionally by viewing either a neutral or emotionally-charged (sad) video to determine how emotion affects play under similar conditions.

This is the first in a series of studies, exploring behavioral decision making paradigms. Findings from the study will provide important information regarding the factors that contribute to “chasing” losses, that is, continuing to gamble in the face of mounting losses. Do people who set higher goals have more determination to reach them even when circumstances suggest that’s unlikely? Do certain personality types have more confidence in their ability to win despite losing? Does a sad mood state influence persistence in play or increases in bet size? Answering these questions will assist governments and treatment providers in developing educational and other materials to reduce potential harm in those whose decision making is most affected by these factors.

Summer Housing and Internship Program Expanded to Serve More Youth

Transitions for Youth, a statewide initiative for foster youth transitioning to adulthood overseen by the Center for Nonprofit Management and Governance, was approved by the Department of Children and Families for a major expansion of the Summer Housing and Internship Program (SHIP) to include four program sites; Rutgers- New Brunswick, Newark, and Camden campuses, and Montclair State University campus allowing the program to serve 40 youth. The program offers youth safe and stable housing for 11 weeks during the summer months, internship opportunities, personal development workshops, support counseling, and a 3 credit course on special topics in social work. In the previous five summers, SHIP has served only 10-14 youth each year on the New Brunswick campus.
Rutgers Initiates Groundbreaking Partnerships During Summer Study Abroad Program

By Susan Merkel

Twenty-four MSW students and six faculty members, including SSW Dean Richard Edwards, travelled to the People’s Republic of China in May to learn about emerging social welfare initiatives and participate in a groundbreaking conference. ‘Special Topics in Social Work: Social Welfare Systems in China’ is Rutgers School of Social Work’s first study abroad trip to Asia and part of the school’s initiative to promote international welfare and service.

“Travel abroad experiences have made me realize how inspirational and enlightening it is to be exposed to different environments and cultures,” says Caroline Leeds, an MSW student who participated in the program and traveled abroad as an undergraduate. “Not only do you learn about others, you also learn about yourself. You are given the opportunity to test your limits, broaden your perspective and expand your boundaries.”

Associate Professor Chien-Chung Huang, first approached Dean Edwards in summer 2010 about developing a study abroad program after meeting several Chinese university scholars in Beijing who hoped to learn more about US welfare programs such as social security and how to deal with China’s immense and rapidly aging population. “I knew immediately that the two universities had an amazing synergy based on our mutual interests in social welfare practice and research,” says Huang, a native of Taiwan. “Rutgers and Renmin Universities co-organized an International Conference on Social Welfare Systems in China and the United States: Comparison and Innovation on May 2. As evidenced in the conference, we know we can offer a top rate study abroad experience that will provide our students with a very unique opportunity to directly engage with and learn about China’s welfare agencies and programs.”

“Even when we were not on site visits, spending time with the Renmin students and learning firsthand about Chinese culture and their experience with China’s social welfare systems was extremely helpful,” reports Haley Stasinos, a MSW student from Wheelock College in Boston.

Leeds agrees.

“We were warmly welcomed by the hosting universities, students and faculty alike, and got a true glimpse into China’s progressive social welfare system. Each experience illuminated our understanding of China’s social welfare needs and the steps that are being taken to address them. All of the places we visited were spectacular and all of the people we met were enjoyable, all of which helped to create unforgettable memories.”

Students visited welfare agencies in Beijing and Tianjin every morning, including: Huamin Charity Foundation; China Social Welfare Association; China’s Ministry of Civil Affairs; China Bureau of NGO; Institute of Mental Health of Peking University; Half the Sky Senior Center and the China Center for Adoption Affairs and Child Welfare. Afternoon trips focused on historic sites including the Great Wall, Forbidden City, Summer Palace and Temple of Heaven.

Rutgers University School of Social Work also met a key objective of the trip with the endorsement of new memorandums of understanding with Renmin University School of Labor and Human Resources on May 27 and with Nankai University on May 31. Both agreements promote collaborative research projects, scholarly exchange, joint research publication, as well as faculty and student exchange. Renmin and Nankai are two of the China’s most prestigious research institutions. Both programs will launch in fall 2011.

Rutgers University’s also announced a new China initiative in May and is currently searching for an executive to head this initiative.

“China was once thought of as the ‘sleeping giant’ of Asia but they have the second largest economy in the world and will overtake the United States GDP within the next three decades,” says Susan Merkel, a Rutgers University MSW student who also participated in the trip. “Given China’s status as the United States largest trading partner and the financier of the great majority of US debt, for practical reasons I feel that every American citizen should understand China’s issues and how our economies and social systems interrelate. For me, there is no more important place on the planet to understand, and ignorance of our interconnectedness is at our peril.”
Programs on Aging

In partnership with the Rutgers School of Social Work and their field education agencies, the Fellows implemented leadership projects at their respective agencies. Congratulations to the Fellows on their success!

An Evaluation of the Family Caregiver Support Program: Caregiver Satisfaction Survey

Lauren Cleary completed her fellowship internship at the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging in Philadelphia, PA, in 2011. She currently is employed as a social worker at Liberty Court, a skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility in Center City, Philadelphia.

The Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) at the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging provides a variety of services for informal caregivers of adults with health problems and grandparents raising grandchildren. In an effort to re-incorporate consumer involvement in evaluating the Family Caregiver Support Program, this project aimed to create and implement a consumer satisfaction survey instrument. The goal was to determine which areas the consumers were satisfied and dissatisfied with, and to generate ideas for improvement in areas that consumers perceive as lacking. Based on surveys from 377 respondents, the major findings of the survey were that the goals of the program were being met, as 87% of respondents reported reduced stress or burden as a result of being involved with the program and that burden is most reduced by reimbursement for respite and contact with FCSP care managers. Most respondents reported that more money toward respite and supplies would increase their satisfaction with the program.

Client Satisfaction Program Evaluation: Intermissions

Jennifer Smejkal completed her fellowship internship at the Cedar Crest Continuing Care Retirement Community in Monroe, NJ, in 2011. She currently is employed as a social worker at the Daughters of Israel skilled nursing facility in West Orange, NJ.

Cedar Crest Continuing Care Retirement Community offers independent living, assisted living, nursing care, rehabilitation, Alzheimer’s care, and respite care. The Intermissions program is a socialization program for Cedar Crest residents with cognitive difficulties and is available five days a week from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Intermissions participants take field trips, eat lunch together, and attend activities on campus as a group. The Intermissions program also provides respite to family caregivers. An evaluation of Intermissions had never been conducted prior to this project. A client satisfaction survey was distributed to spouses of current and former Intermissions participants. The survey responses were extremely positive. However, two respondents commented that they sought more information about their spouses’ participation during the day. To meet this need, a “report card” was created that Intermissions employees will fill out at the end of each day. This card will give an indication of the individual’s level of participation, socialization, eating, toileting, and physical or behavioral issues.

What Are Your Clients Saying about You? A Client Satisfaction Survey

Myrna M. Gomez completed her fellowship internship at the Daughters of Miriam Center for the Aged/The Gallen Institute, which is a long-term and sub-acute care facility in Clifton, NJ. She currently is employed there full-time and is working toward her LCSW.

Since nursing homes are regulated by several regulatory agencies, one of the requirements is to document clients’ input into the development of services that meet their needs. To meet this requirement, the project consisted of a client satisfaction survey to determine older adult consumers’ and their family members’ level of satisfaction with services. Each section of the survey tool addressed a different type of service at the center, including admissions, room accommodations, meals, physician and nursing services, religious services, social services, transportation and a special section specific to family member/caregivers. Based on 172 returned surveys, 91.9% of seniors and family members were highly satisfied with the services provided and would recommend the facility to others. The top three areas identified as the organization’s strengths were a feeling of the center being safe and secure, cleanliness of the room and facility, and respect for privacy. Congruent with past research finding a strong correlation between client’s level of satisfaction and food, the survey also identified food preferences, variety of choices and flavorfulness/tastiness as an area for improvement.

Congratulations to Seth Antin, Kristen Hatalla, Monique Roach, and Gail Ward-Kajander, the School’s 2011-2012 Fellows in Aging. To learn more about the Fellows, visit socialwork.rutgers.edu/aging.
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Ms. Esther Bovero
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A gift in memory of a friend, loved one, or colleague is a respectful way of remembering that special person. SSW thanks those who memorialize individuals who were important in their lives. The following are names of those in whose memory gifts were received during the year.

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Maureen Braun-Scalera
Director, Office of Child Welfare Initiatives, Institute for Families

Maureen Braun-Scalera is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has worked in various capacities within child welfare for over 25 years. She was most recently employed at Family Intervention Services as the Director of Kid Connection and Essex County Programs. In this position she has supervised staff working in an in home clinical treatment program and parenting education programs. Ms. Braun-Scalera has a long history with the School of Social Work, having been an adjunct professor and continuing education instructor since 1989. Ms. Braun Scalera is a graduate of Leadership New Jersey. She has also worked clinically with children and families both in a clinic setting and in a private practice. In her position as the Director of the Office of Child Welfare Initiatives at the Institute for Families, Ms. Braun Scalera will provide leadership to the New Jersey Child Welfare Training Partnership and other programs.

Andrew J. Germak
Executive Director, Institute for Families and Lecturer

Andrew J. Germak, MBA, MSW was appointed executive director of the Institute for Families and lecturer at the Rutgers School of Social Work in February 2011. In this capacity, he leads and manages a staff of 70+ and an annual budget exceeding $9 million. Mr. Germak collaborates with leadership in academic, government, foundation and corporate communities for the purposes of raising funds, disseminating knowledge, and building partnerships to achieve the mission of the Institute for Families - to support and strengthen individuals, families, and communities New Jersey, the United States and globally by building the capacity of human service professionals and organizations. Mr. Germak also teaches graduate students in the School of Social Work's Nonprofit and Public Management Concentration. Prior to joining Rutgers, Mr. Germak was president and chief executive officer of the Mental Health Association of Morris County, Inc. headquartered in Mountain Lakes, New Jersey.

Kristin Scherrer
Assistant Professor

Kristin Scherrer (PhD in Social Work and Sociology (2011), MSW (2006) and MA in Sociology (2007), University of Michigan) is assistant professor at Rutgers School of Social Work. Her research in the areas of aging and the lifecourse, GLBTQ sexualities, and family relationships, examines how age, generation and cohort shape how individuals recognize themselves as having sexual minority identities and how these identities affect their family life. Most recently, she investigated how grandparent-grandchild relationships are affected by the discovery of a grandchild’s gay, lesbian bisexual or queer (GLBQ) sexual orientation. Currently Dr. Scherrer is exploring how issues of sexuality (e.g., sexual orientation, sexual health, sexual education) shape the relationships between grandparents and the grandchildren they are raising. Ultimately, her research informs social work practice with intergenerational families, particularly on issues of sexuality. While at the University of Michigan her research was supported by a National Institute on Aging Pre-Doctoral Training Fellowship in Social Research on Applied Issues in Aging and a Hartford Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in Geriatric Social Work.

Edward Alessi
Assistant Professor

Edward J. Alessi (PhD, 2010, Clinical Social Work, New York University; M.S. 2001, Social Work, Columbia University) is assistant professor at Rutgers School of Social Work. He is interested in lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) mental health issues, particularly the connection between social stressors and psychiatric disorders among these populations. His dissertation research compared the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) between LGBs and heterosexuals, and examined whether perceived stigma, internalized homophobia, and social support predicted PTSD among LGBs. Dr. Alessi has published scholarly articles related to HIV prevention, clinical practice, and Internet research methodologies. Dr. Alessi’s scholarly interests also include clinical practice theories and advanced clinical assessment. He has been teaching master’s level social work courses since 2007. He was adjunct lecturer at the New York University Silver School of Social Work and the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service. A clinical social worker for more than 10 years, Dr. Alessi has worked primarily in outpatient mental health, and has been an independent practitioner since 2004.

Karun K. Singh
Director, Newark MSW Program and Lecturer

Dr. Singh received his PhD in Social Work from Columbia University. His teaching, research, and consulting interests focus on nonprofit and public human services management and leadership, collaborative strategic planning, social entrepreneurship, grantwriting, and capacity building. He is actively involved as a Vice-President of the Network for Social Work Managers-NJ Chapter. Professor Singh’s social work experience includes clinical, administrative, policy, and advocacy work in the fields of aging, mental health, substance abuse, homelessness, AIDS, and domestic violence. To help nonprofit human service organizations achieve superior performance, he developed The Singh Strategic Planning Measure for Excellence (SSPMX). Dr. Singh regularly presents his work at national and international conferences.
Selected Publications by Faculty and Staff


Fakunle, D., Morton, C.M.* & Peterson, N.A. (2010). The importance of income in the link between tobacco outlet density and demographics at the tract level of analysis in New Jersey. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse, 9*, 249-259.


* Indicates Doctoral Student


**Selected Conference Presentations by Faculty and Staff**


**Angell, B.** (2011, May). *Overview and evolution of the U.S. Mental Health System: Challenges and trends*. Presented at Renmin University Department of Labor and Human Resources, Peking University Institute of Mental Health, and Nankai University School of Social Work.


* Indicates Doctoral Student

continued on page 28


* Indicates Doctoral Student


Singh, K. (2011, April). Developing Community Coalition-Based Federal Grant Proposals Under the Governance Paradigm. Presented at the 22nd annual meeting of the National Network of Social Work Managers, Baltimore, MD.


Townsend L. & Gearing, R.E. (2011, March). The influence of health beliefs and social stigma on choice of internet support groups over traditional mental health services. Poster presentation at the 19th European Congress of Psychiatry in Vienna, Austria.


Windsor, L. (2011, July). Community Wise: Developing a research career while working to reduce health disparities. Talk given at the Rutgers University Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research, Project L/Earn, New Brunswick, NJ.


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Grants and Contracts

Dr. Emily Greenfield’s proposal, “Community Practice Initiatives to Promote Aging in Place: A National Study of NORC-SSPs and Villages,” was approved for funding by the Silberman Foundation in the amount of $40,000.

Dr. Michael LaSala’s proposal, “Parental Influence on Young Gay Men’s High-Risk Sexual Behavior: Developing a Family Counseling HIV Prevention Intervention,” was approved for funding by the Silberman Foundation in the amount of $39,974.

Dr. Lenna Nepomnyaschy’s proposal, “Nonresident Father Involvement in Immigrant Families,” was selected for funding through the Foundation for Child Development Young Scholars Program in the amount of $150,000.

Dr. Lenna Nepomnaschy was awarded a grant from the Food and Nutrition Service of the US Dept. of Agriculture, administered through the University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research. The project is titled, “Nonresident Fathers’ Impact on Childhood Hunger.”

Dr. Patricia Findley received word that she has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant which will enable her to work for several weeks in Israel.

Dr. Karen Zurlo was awarded a grant from the Rutgers University Research Council. The project is titled, “The Effectiveness of a Psychosocial Program in the Republic of Georgia.”

Dr. Judith McCoyd, is principal investigator on a $2,500 grant from the Rutgers University Research Council Program. Research entitled “Medically Complicated Pregnancy and Maternal Experience and Development” will be done in collaboration with Drs. Laura Curran and Shari Munch.

Dr. Andy Peterson is principal investigator on a $200,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services entitled “Evaluation of New Jersey’s Strategic Prevention Framework.”

Dr. Liliane Windsor is principal investigator on two grants from the Center for Behavioral Health Services & Criminal Justice with funding from the National Institute of Mental Health. The grants are entitled, “Community Wise; Implementation and Feasibility” and “Living Reentry from inside the Community”. ($267,364 and $73,759).

Faculty News

Dr. Rebeca Davis is serving on an International Expert Panel for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute’s (CCAI’s) The Way Forward Project. She was assigned to a working group comprised of international leaders from the legal, medical, social work and development communities to recommend strategies for six African countries - Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Ghana, Rwanda & Uganda - for strengthening their respective child protection systems.

The University’s Board of Governors approved the granting of tenure to Associate Professor Dr. Jeffrey Longhofer and the granting of tenure and promotion to Associate Professor to Dr. Judy Postmus.

Dr. Beth Angell will be a Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, during her sabbatical leave next year. She will be there in residence for the spring semester, during which time she will also hold a Visiting Scholar appointment at the University of Cambridge Institute of Criminology.

Dr. Ayse Akincigil was selected as one of Medical Care’s Exceptional Reviewers. This list includes approximately the top 5% of all Medical Care peer reviewers. Top reviewers were chosen on the basis of quality, timeliness, and number of reviews performed.

Associate Dean Dr. Antoinette Farmer has been appointed as a member of the CSWE Commission on Accreditation for a 3-year term effective July 1, 2011-June 30, 2014.

Dr. Patricia Findley has been appointed as associate editor of the Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation (JOR). Dr. Findley has been working with JOR for about 6 years, having conducted 18 reviews in that time. Generally, this type of appointment is a recognition of reviewers for their substantive expertise as well as their management of the overall editorial process.

Dr. Jeffrey Longhofer and Dr. Jerry Floersch were among five individuals who presented at a conference at the University of Southern California. Dr. Longhofer and Dr. Floersch presented on “The Coming Crisis in Social Work: What Kind of Science is Social Work?”

The article, “Child Support Enforcement and Fathers’ Contributions to their Nonmarital Children,” co-authored by Dr. Lenna Nepomnaschy, was selected to receive the 2011 Frank. R. Breul Memorial Prize from Social Service Review in 2010.

Dr. Judy Postmus has been appointed as a member of the CSWE Council on the Role and Status of Women in Social Work Education for a 3-year term effective July 1, 2011-June 30, 2014.

Lecturer William Waldman was re-elected Chairman of the Board of Triple C Housing Corporation, which provides supportive housing services to individuals with special needs; Re-elected Chairman of the Board of the National Council of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence - NJ; Appointed as a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Essex County Family Justice Center, which provides advocacy and comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence; Appointed to serve as a member of the Executive Council of AARP - New Jersey Chapter; and was Recipient of the Advocacy Award from the Mental Health Association in New Jersey.

Dr. Allison Zippy has been appointed to the CSWE Council on Leadership Development.

Dr. Liliane Windsor was awarded the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) Early Career Travel Award.

Dr. Karen Zurlo was one of two leaders selected from New Jersey to participate in an Opportunity Leaders and Scholars Program sponsored by AARP and Time magazine.

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Alumni Notes

Edna Alex (SSW’84) is president of the Palm Coast Hadassah chapter, the largest women’s volunteer organization in the United States.

Marge Conner-Levin (SSW ‘94) has been named Chief Operating Officer for Strategic Business Development at Archway Programs, based out of Atco, NJ. This is a new position within Archway, and was developed to further help the organization meet the challenges they have faced throughout the unstable economic environment.

Lou Csabay (RC’73, SSW’75, SCF’85) is a franchise business coach with the Entrepreneur’s Source, serving Philadelphia-area aspiring business owners. He helps people understand the benefits of taking control of their lives through business ownership. Lou previously worked in human resource leadership positions for 25 years.

Patricia De Shields (CCAS’99, SSW’00) is CEO of Project HOPE (Homeless Outreach Program Enrichment), a primary-care medical facility serving 2,000 patients a year and the only federally qualified homeless health care center in Camden. She received the Rutgers Brian C. Wright Social Work Award in 1999 and serves on the board of the NJ Primary Care Association.

Mary Hunt (LC’77, SSW’82) is an associate member of the NJ State Parole Board. Mary was a social activist while at Livingston College and in her local community. She is the first person of Asian heritage to serve on the parole board.

Frank L. Greenagel Jr. (SSW’06) was made a special state officer on the NJ Governor’s Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse. Jackie Jackson (SSW ’05) was named Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers.

Chris James (SSW ’03) has been elected 2011-2013 Vice-President of NASW-NJ.

Jeff Johnson (RC’82, SSW ’86) has been director of Father Time, a fathers-only support group, for the last 6 years. Formed in collaboration with the Keansburg School District and Parents Anonymous, Father Time is funded by a grant from the Pascal Sykes Foundation.

Sheridan Quarless Kingsberry (SSW ’83, GSNB ’02) received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at Delaware State University, Department of Social Work. She served as the MSW Program Director from August 2009 to September 2010. She is currently President of NASW-DE Chapter.

Renee Koubiadiis (CCAS ’03) has been elected to the 2011-2013 Chapter Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CCNLI) for NASW-NJ.

Kristy Lavin (SSW ’07) has been elected to the 2011-2013 Chapter Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CCNLI) for NASW-NJ.

Victoria Lombardo (CCAS’86, SSW’89) is active in the National Alliance of Mental Illness in Advocacy and is teaching family-to-family education to those whose family members have serious mental illness.

Marianne C. Majewski (SSW’82) LCSW, executive director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen (CCDOM) and director of the diocesan Department of Social Services, will receive the Community Servant Award from the Diocese.

Lila (Kaplan) Redmount (SSW’97) is a psychotherapist at Sage Day School in Boonton, NJ, and has a private practice in Scotch Plains/Fanwood, NJ.

Robert M. Ring (SSW ’79) has been appointed Director of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Child Welfare Training Academy.

Nelyda Perez (SSW ’01) has taken on a new role as District Coordinator for Special Services for Long Branch Public Schools.

Jack Schibik (PhD, ’02) has joined the Barry University MSW program (Miami, Fl.) at the Ft Myers Campus as Field Education (Internship) Coordinator and MSW faculty member.

Have something to share? Email us at alumni@ssw.rutgers.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

The Rutgers School of Social Work family extends our deepest sympathy to the loved ones of recently deceased alumni and retired faculty.

Joanne F. Alessio (SSW’95) October 26, 2010
Carolyn Sue Bacher (SSW’73) July 25, 2010
Whitney A. Boye (SSW’90) February 18, 2011
Elise B. Canning (SSW’79) July 2, 2011
Ruth H. Carter (SSW’84) June 26, 2010
Gerard E. Greenhagen (SSW’79) July 8, 2010
Joyce Lee Keane (SSW’88) January 5, 2011
Mariagnes E. Lattimer, PhD (SSW’81) January 4, 2011
Lorrie Lewis (SSW’90) March 11, 2011
Joseph A. McBride (SSW’80) November 5, 2010
Eugene A. McDonald, Sr. (SSW’72) February 9, 2011
Carolyn Davis Moses (SSW’98) January 27, 2011
Harriet Ada Poland (SSW’62) May 6, 2011

M. Thomasina Reehill (SSW’71) August 1, 2011
Fern Relkin (SSW’61) December 25, 2010
Webert Remy (SSW’11 - posthumously) September 19, 2010
Ellen Goldman Rosen (SSW’02) November 16, 2010
Abraham Scher (SSW’75) March 9, 2011
Debra T. Segal (SSW’67) January 30, 2011
Cynthia Rivers Struve (SSW’63) September 30, 2010
Risa K. Walsh (SSW’88) June 15, 2011
Jean Ellen Whitmire (SSW’62) September 27, 2010
Deborah Zdanowicz (SSW’62) November 19, 2010
Norma W. Ziegler (SSW’61) June 11, 2011
Donald E. Zdanowicz (SSW’61) June 11, 2011
Jean Ellen Whitmire (SSW’62) September 27, 2010
Jean Ellen Whitmire (SSW’62) September 27, 2010
Deceased SSW Faculty
I’m a HENRY.
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