Message from Acting Dean Kathleen Pottick

Greetings School of Social Work alumni and friends,

With graduation just a few weeks away, many of our students are preparing for graduate studies, while others are launching their careers by taking the LSW exam. This month, we highlight Darlene Hammel, an MSW student at our Camden campus who just completed her field placement in the hematology department of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, at Voorhees, New Jersey. Darlene shadowed social workers in different departments to experience first-hand the breadth and depth of their responsibilities.

In this newsletter we also highlight the work of Dr. Chien-Chung Huang and the Huamin Research Center. The Center, which was established last year, supports research projects that relate to nonprofit organizations and social welfare issues in China. In partnership with universities in China, the Center publishes books and reports, hosts international conferences, and sponsors visiting scholars. Together with the Institute for Families, the Center recently trained more than 30 executives from Chinese Non-Governmental Organizations, and awarded them a Certificate in Training Skills.

I am proud of our students and faculty as they conduct meaningful work in both local and international communities: they truly are Partnering for Change.

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

Welcome Mark Lamar, Executive Director of Field

After earning masters degrees from the Rutgers University School of Social Work and the Graduate School of Management, Mark W. Lamar, MSW, MBA, LCSW, served in many different roles, including field instructor for MSW students at various colleges. A professional social worker since 1976, he has worked to provide psychotherapy to children, families, and adults, supervision to staff, and consultation to Headstart, school districts and
human service organizations. We are pleased to have Lamar join us as the Executive Director of Field.

Lamar has also served as the Executive Director of Family Guidance Center Corporation, a non-profit health care, education, and social service organization headquartered in Hamilton, NJ, since 1986. In addition, he is a New Jersey Licensed Clinical Social Worker and an NASW certified Clinical Social Work Supervisor.

Furthermore, Lamar has been heavily active in the community of Mercer County. He has served as vice president, Executive Forum, United Way of Greater Mercer County, on the Resource Investment Committee of United Way of Greater Mercer County and on the United Way Campaign Cabinet. Lamar was vice president and treasurer, New Jersey Family Service Association and served as chair, Professional Advisory Committee, Mercer County Mental Health Board. He was also a member of the Mercer County Gang Task Force and a member of the Minority Concerns Committee of the Mercer County Youth Services Commission.

Currently, Mark Lamar is a trustee of the Puerto Rican Community Day Care Center in Trenton, serving terms as president, vice president, and secretary. He is also a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the American Association of University Professors.

Tiffany Mayers Receives Harriet Bloomfield Memorial Scholarship

We are pleased to announce that the 2013 Recipient of the Harriet Bloomfield Scholarship is MSW student Tiffany Mayers. She is about halfway through the MSW Program having taken some PCC courses and matriculated with us in the Fall of 2012. Mayers is from Somerset.

The Harriet Bloomfield Memorial Scholarship Fund is dedicated to the memory of Social Worker Harriet Bloomfield. This $1,000 scholarship is awarded for the 2013-2014 academic year to a member of the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Work.

Faculty Updates

Andy Germak was recently invited to write a guest editorial in the journal Administration in Social Work. The article was published online ahead of print.

Emily Greenfield, Becky Davis and James Fedor recently authored an article that was published in Journal of Social Work Education. In the article, our colleagues analyzed data from a survey of 122 RU SSW students, before and after they completed either a guided study-abroad course or an on-campus course on international social work.

Chien-Chung Huang, Judy Postmus and Juliann Vikse, a first-year MSW student and intern at Huamin Research Center, recently published "Economic abuse, physical violence, and union formation" in Children and Youth Services Review. The paper examined the occurrence of and changes in economic abuse and physical violence over time and how these factors influence union formation.

Citation: Huang, C-C., Postmus J. L., Vikse, J. H., & L. Wang. (2013). Economic Abuse,

The **Institute for Families, Office of Continuing Education**, was awarded a grant from The New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to design and develop a certificate program on community-based planning. The program will provide training for three cohorts of county Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors representing each of New Jersey's twenty-one counties. The program will teach needs assessment, data collection, evaluation, and writing skills to support each participant's responsibility to develop a comprehensive county substance abuse plan.

**Jeounghee Kim**'s study examining the protective effect of higher education on divorce rates among white and African-American women was recently featured in two national media outlets: *The Huffington Post* and *PsychCentral*.

**Mark Lamar** and MSW Student **Nathan Fishman** were recently featured in *My Central Jersey*. The article, "Self-help group grows its mettle," highlights Fishman's self-help group and its efforts to create a community garden.

**Sarah McMahon**'s work on sexual assault and athletes was recently highlighted in a number of national media outlets: *The Huffington Post*, *WMNF*, *Tampa, FL*, *Wisconsin Public Radio* and *The Nation*.

**Shari Munch** was recently approved for the Fulbright Specialist Roster, a list of candidates who are eligible to be matched with incoming program requests from overseas academic institutions for Fulbright Specialists. As a Fulbright Specialist Candidate, Shari was competitively selected and approved for the Roster by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

The **Center for Nonprofit Management and Governance** received an award from the State to continue the Rutgers AmeriCorps Healthy Futures Initiative. Since its inception in 2010, The Rutgers AmeriCorps Healthy Futures Initiative has provided over 70,000 hours of service to the community. This initiative promotes healthy lifestyles for residents of Camden through nutrition education, physical fitness and community gardening.

Together with colleagues, **Kristin Scherrer** examined the Couples Life Story Approach, a recently-developed method by which practitioners work with couples affected by memory loss and dementia to help them narrate the story of their life together. The findings were published in the article "Constructing Couples' Stories: Narrative Practice Insights from a Dyadic Dementia Intervention" in Clinical Social Work Journal. The article is currently published online pending journal assignment.
HUAIMIN RESEARCH CENTER

The Huamin Research Center, which was established in April 2012, supports research projects that relate to nonprofit organizations and social welfare issues in China, promotes exchanges between China and the United States, and provides fellowships to students studying nonprofit and social welfare issues in China.

The Research Arm: Publications
The Center supports faculty research on nonprofit management and social welfare issues, and their findings are disseminated through books, research reports, and brochures. Together with Remnin University of China, the Center co-published Comparison of Social Welfare in China and United States (in Chinese). Two other books will be published in the coming year — Social Work Education and Research (published in Chinese-with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and China's Nonprofit Sector (in English), with Tsinghua and Beijing Normal Universities.

Seven research reports have also been published as well as collaborative work with the China Philanthropy Research Institute (CRPI) in Beijing Normal University to issue ten brochures on issues related to social welfare and nonprofit organization and management.

The 2012 China Study Abroad Program and the Exchange Arm
The Center supports exchanges of faculty, students, researchers, and professionals through study abroad programs, conferences, and training programs. In 2012, 18 students and 6 faculty traveled to China as part of the Study Abroad Program. The Center also co-hosted two conferences: "Leadership of Nonprofit Organizations in the Current Economy" with CPRI and "Social Work Education and Research in China and the United States" with CASS.

Successful Work with Institute for Families
Together with the Institute for Families in December 2012, the Center trained more than 30 professionals from Chinese NGOs, and awarded them a Certificate in Training Skills. The Center and IFF will host an NGO Leadership Program in May for a cohort of Chinese scholars. In addition, the Center housed two visiting scholars and recently hosted a lecture on economic security of single-mother families.

Strategic Initiatives for 2013-2014 and International Recognition
This summer, the Center will hold an international conference on Social Policy and Social Work with Nankai University in China. The Center is sponsoring five researchers and scholars from China as visiting scholars during the 2013-2014 academic year. The demand for these positions indicates our increasing recognition in China, and the Center looks forward to hosting and conducting research with these colleagues.

TYLER CLEMENTI CENTER

Dedicated to the study of young people coming of age in the digital era, The Tyler Clementi Center is a collaborative effort between Rutgers University and the Tyler Clementi Foundation. TCC is focused on the transition from home to school, and facilitating important conversations between researchers and practitioners in the fields of student and academic affairs alongside those in mental health and other support services focused on these issues.
On March 29 the Center held the First Annual Tyler Clementi Center Humanities Lecture: "Growing Up Digital: Embodied Experience in the Virtual Age." The guest speaker was Richard Miller, Ph.D., a Rutgers professor and author of "As if Learning Mattered: Reforming Higher Education" and "Writing at the End of the World." Miller’s current research concerns "the end of privacy" and how education is being changed as a result of hand-held devices that enable instant publication and global distribution of information.

The lecture hall was packed with about 100 people as Miller started the lecture using the Twitter and Facebook interactions between Ravi and Wei to emphasize privacy concerns. He went on to consider what it means to develop a moral compass on the internet and explored the impact the instant availability of text and knowledge on the internet has on the role of higher education.

On Thursday April 18, the Center sponsored the opening keynote address at the Institute for Research on Women’s spring colloquium "Trans Politics: Scholarship and Strategies for Social Change." Dr. Sue Rankin and Dr. Genny Beemyn delivered "Creating a Gender-Inclusive" and met with Rutgers administrators to discuss new policies to help ensure that our campus is friendly and welcoming to transgender, queer, and gender nonconforming youth.

Beemyn will also do a lunch workshop with graduate students and TAs on creating safe spaces in their classrooms for LGBTQIA students and an informal meeting with students at the Center for Social Justice Education and LGBTQ Communities. In the fall, the Center is organizing a local/ regional conference on diversity, power and the psychodynamics of intercollegiate athletics. The Center is also excited to have three MSW interns joining them in the fall, two of whom are in the VAWC certificate program.

**FOCUS ON GIVING**

**Students Supporting Students Campaign Update**

The Students Supporting Students Campaign is in its final stretch, ending Friday May 3rd. Through the hard work and dedication of the student campaign committee as well as the support received from students, faculty, staff, family, and friends, the committee has raised over $8,000 for the campaign.

The campaign now has over 40 percent student participation. We would like to ask you to help us reach our goal of $10,000 and 100 percent student and faculty participation. With your support, we will be able to award at least 10 new fellowships in the fall.

For more information, visit [here](#).

**Opportunities to Give**

In addition to the Students Supporting Students Campaign, there are several other funds that donors can support at the School of Social Work: Academic Excellence Fund, Scholarship/Fellowship Fund, Institute for Families, Programs on Aging, Center on Violence Against Women and Children, Center for Nonprofit Management & Governance, Center for Gambling Studies, Center for International Social Work, Doctoral Student Support Fund, Transitions for Youth, Krystal Skinner Memorial Scholarship, and
Addiction Counselor Training Fellowship Fund.
For more information, visit here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Colloquium of the Violence Against Women & Children Certificate Program

**Thursday, May 16, 6:30-9:00 p.m.**
Honoring our Scholars | Colloquium of the Violence Against Women & Children Certificate Program

Our three scholars will present their research conducted during the past year in the program. We will also honor all those graduating from the program. Faculty, staff, students, family, and community members are all invited to attend.

Ruth Dill Johnson Crockett Building
Douglas Campus

Light refreshments will be served.

For more information and to register, please visit the site.

Are You Ready for the DSM-5?

We are pleased to offer compelling seminars to help you prepare for the DSM-5.

**Thursday, May 2, 9:30 a.m. - Noon**
“Update on the DSM-5”

The new DSM-5 is arriving with many questions and some controversy. This seminar, given by Javier I. Escobar, M.D., M.Sc., Associate Dean for Global Health, UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and a physician on the task force that developed the DSM-5, will provide insight on why the changes from the DSM-IV were made. It will focus on areas that may be particularly relevant to outpatient practice (depression, anxiety, somatic symptom disorders and possibly, personality disorders).

**Wednesday, June 12, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**
“DSM-5: Controversies, Changes, and Clinical Implications”

Led by former SSW faculty Jerome C. Wakefield, Ph.D, DSW, LCSW, University Professor, Professor of Social Work, Professor of Psychiatry, and Affiliate Faculty in Bioethics at New York University, this seminar will cover essential information on the changes in the new diagnostic manual. This workshop will present an overview of selected major changes and their rationales and clinical implications. We will then delve in greater depth into some
controversies over proposed changes (e.g., depression and grief, sexual paraphilias, substance disorders, personality disorders) in order to understand the "why" in addition to the "what" of DSM Task Force decisions and to have a fuller sense of their clinical meaning. Concerns, criticisms, and limitations of which the clinician should be aware will be emphasized in this presentation along with the details of the new rules themselves. The seminar is sure to be both interesting and provocative.

For more information and to register, please visit socialwork.rutgers.edu/ce, keyword DSM-5.

Continuing Education

The Spring/Summer catalog from the Office of Continuing Education was mailed in February and will offer over 140 dynamic workshops on a wide range of social work topics.

If you are not on the mailing list please email ce@ssw.rutgers.edu or call 732-932-8758 x12 to receive your catalog.

You can also register for workshops online at http://socialwork.rutgers.edu/ce.

Center for Gambling Studies Co-Sponsors 15th International Conference on Gambling and Risk-Taking

The Center for Gambling Studies is proud to co-sponsor the 15th International Conference on Gambling and Risk-Taking to be held May 27-31, 2013, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

The primary objectives of the conference are to contribute to the base of scientific knowledge about gambling in all its dimensions, to stimulate further research, and to facilitate discussion and dialogue about gambling and commercial gaming as it has developed and continues to evolve throughout the world. For more information and to register, please visit here.

2013 NASW-NJ CONFERENCE

The NASW-NJ Conference will be held at the Borgata Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ from Sunday, May 5 to Tuesday, May 7. For more information and to register, please visit here.

2013 GRADUATION EVENTS

The SSW Graduation Celebration for MSW, PhD and DSW students will be held at the Rutgers Student Center on Friday, May 10 from 10:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

On Sunday May 19 at 12:30 p.m., the University Commencement will be held at High Point Solutions Stadium.

The Scholarship Recognition Reception will be at the Douglass Campus Center in Trayes Hall on Monday, May 20 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This event is by invitation only.
On **Monday, May 20 from 3 to 5 p.m.** the School of Social Work Convocation will be held at the Louis Brown Athletic Center (RAC).

For more information about Graduation Events, please [visit](#).

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

The MSW Program Places Students in Successful Fieldwork Assignments

Darlene Hammel is an MSW student graduating this spring. Throughout her time in the MSW program she was involved with two rewarding field placements. Upon graduating, Darlene plans to complete her LCSW exam by the end of the summer which will allow her to assist other social workers growth in the field through supervision. Darlene sees herself in a classroom setting within the next few years. She feels that as a social worker growth is paramount doing your job well; there is always another way to assist families during difficult times.

We recently spoke with Darlene Hammel on these field placements and her time in the MSW program.

**You will be graduating this spring from the Camden School of Social Work MSW program.**

Yes I will be graduating on May 20, 2013. I have very mixed emotions about the event. I have met so many wonderful and outstanding professors through my three years with Rutgers not to mention a group of girls that I have shared my three year process with. I know that these are people that I will be in contact with throughout my life with because of the experience of Rutgers that we shared together. We actually call ourselves "The Unit" and have come to be known as such with many of our professors.

**I’m sure you have met wonderful professors and colleagues through your experiences as a School of Social Work student.**

My experience as a social work student has been one of growth, not only in the area of social work, but also growth within myself. All of the professors that I have had the pleasure of meeting saw every class as an opportunity to educate all the students in so many ways. The professors were extremely dedicated to not only the school but to the students. What I mean by that is that academia was not their only goal but also challenging me to think outside of the box. To be more aware of ethnic and political issues surrounding the world of the people that I will be serving. I would like to especially thank Professor Jennifer Boiler who has been instrumental in allowing me to reach the challenging goals that I had placed on myself at the beginning of the program.

**Tell us a bit more about your experiences in the MSW program.**

Throughout the MSW program I was involved with two field placements. My first placement was with Robins' Nest located in Glassboro, New Jersey. This placement allowed me to work in an in home, therapeutic setting. My role in this setting was of the therapeutic aspect of social work. The program allowed me to go into the home of two clients who were struggling with addiction issues. This year my placement is with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. My setting is in the hematology department located at the specialty center in Voorhees, New Jersey.
Tell us more about CHOP.
The experience is somewhat beyond words. I am currently working in a multidisciplinary setting where I am part of a team which involves doctors, nurses and a nurse practitioner. While my main location is in Voorhees I meet with all of CHOP interns once a week in Philadelphia. I was also able to shadow social workers in different departments at the main hospital allowing me the experience of seeing how varied the roles can be in such a large setting. My current field supervisor, just as my Rutgers professors, has continuously encouraged my growth in the area of social work.

What has been your most rewarding experience while there?
That is very difficult to answer since I have had so many. One situation that comes to mind was having the privilege of assisting a family, whose child needed a particular study completed. The study would determine the child's risk of having a brain stroke.

ALCOHOL AWARENESS

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

"Although most adults drink responsibly with no harm to their health, alcohol-related problems — which result from drinking too much, too fast, or too often — are among the most significant public health issues in the United States and across the world." (NIAAA, in RSA Newsletter March 28, 2013)

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism reports the following statistics:
Each year, nearly 80,000 people die from alcohol-related causes, making it the third leading preventable cause of death in the U.S.

- Alcohol problems cost the U.S. $225 billion each year, primarily from lost productivity, but also from health care and property damage costs. These issues affect every American, regardless of whether they drink or not.
- An estimated 18 million Americans have an alcohol use disorder — a medical term that includes both alcoholism and harmful drinking that has not reached the level of dependence.
- One in four children grows up in a home with an adult who has a problem with alcohol.
- Globally, alcohol is the third leading risk factor for premature death and disability. (NIAAA, in RSA Newsletter March 28, 2013).

Please spread the message that although moderate drinking can provide some health benefits, high-risk drinking* can pose serious health and safety risks for the drinker and the drinker's family and friends.

The School of Social Work and the Center of Alcohol Studies support students and alumni who wish to learn more about interventions for high-risk drinking or drug use behavior and co-occurring mental health issues. The Addictions Counselor Training (ACT) Program, funded by the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, provides all the necessary training for clinicians who wish to become a Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor.

Those accepted in the program also receive LCSW and LCADC supervised field hours, along with a financial award of between $3500 and $6000. The ACT Program is currently accepting applications, and to apply or for further information see the ACT website at http://socialwork.rutgers.edu/ACT. For specific questions, contact Heidi Rodrick, LCSW,
LCADC, CPS at ACT@ssw.rutgers.edu.

*For men, high risk drinking is consuming more than 4 drinks in a single day or 14 drinks in a single week. For women, high-risk drinking is consuming more than 3 drinks in a single day or 7 drinks in a single week.

ALUMNI

Stay in Touch with Us!

Just graduated? Congratulations! Make sure you update your email address at ralumni.com so that you can continue to get updates from the School.

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Doing cool stuff? We'd love to hear from you! Email us and we will put your updates in an upcoming issue of our print newsletter and online.

Make an impact! Make your gift to the Rutgers School of Social Work. Find out more about giving to the school or make an annual gift online today, and join your fellow SSW alumni who provide vital support for the people and programs that make the school a leader in education and research.

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PARTNERING for CHANGE