

COLLEGE OF  
SOCIAL SCIENCE

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## Social Work faculty members “Advancing Knowledge...”

Michigan State University is one of the top research universities in the world. The purpose of this research is to advance knowledge in multiple areas. In addition to scholarly publications, our faculty members share what they are learning through professional presentations to a range of audiences. This provides quick dissemination and an opportunity to interact with social workers from a variety of settings. This interaction helps refine our thinking and work, resulting in mutual learning. It has been a record year for the School.

For example, at the NASW–Michigan statewide conference, held in May 2007 at the MSU Kellogg Center, our faculty and students presented the following workshops:

- ▶ “Chronic Pain: A Primer for Social Workers,” Sue Bowden
- ▶ “The American Indian Boarding Schools—Revelation, Reverberation and Resiliency,” Suzanne Cross, Glenn Stutzky, Emily Proctor, and Jason Cross
- ▶ “In Their Own Voice—What Adoptive Parents Say About Strengthening Their Marriages,” John Mooradian, Tina Timm, Peg Whalen, Rob Hock, and Brian Ahmedani
- ▶ “How to Make Clinical Supervision Work for You,” John Mooradian
- ▶ “Sex Therapy 101—What Every Social Worker Should Know,” Tina Timm
- ▶ “The Human-Animal Bond: Implications for Social Workers,” Peg Whalen and Linda Lawrence
- ▶ “The Essential Role of Leadership,” Gary Anderson

Another example, at the October 2007 national meeting of social work educators, the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, the following workshops were presented by MSU faculty members and graduate students:

- ▶ “Technology in Social Work Education and Practice—Faculty Development,” Marya Sosulski and Paul Freddolino
- ▶ “Issues for Underrepresented and Diverse Job Seekers,” Suzanne Cross, panelist
- ▶ “Measuring Field Education Outcomes, Ongoing Dilemmas, and Resolution Strategies,” Tina Timm and Jo Ann McFall
- ▶ “Attachment: Indicators from Toddlers—Implications for Adult Treatment,” Victoria Fitton

*Continued on page 17*



# Confirming social work values



Gary R. Anderson

Within a context of shared values, there are diverse opinions and views and the need for dialogue.

This fall, NASW and social work education were criticized by a group called the National Association of Scholars (NAS); and their critique has been echoed by newspaper columnist George Will. This critique highlighted the use of terms such as “social justice,” “cultural diversity,” and “work with vulnerable populations” in schools of social work mission statements and equated these terms with the indoctrination of political liberalism. The NAS report included several student stories alleging religious discrimination in schools of social work.

In addition to questioning the basis for the NAS study, some other observations have been noted: (1) it is appropriate, even necessary, for professions to affirm certain values; (2) a commitment to justice is historically central to social work and should be embraced by a broad spectrum of viewpoints; and (3) social work education does not support political or religious discrimination.

At MSU, we affirm social work’s historic commitment to social justice as a value for our students, faculty and programs. In the tradition of Hull House’s Jane Addams, Grace Abbott, Florence Kelley and Julia Lathrop, who championed the dismantling and regulation of child labor, we are concerned about societal practices that harm families and communities. Like Edward Devine, of the New York Char-

ity Organization Society, we are troubled by an extreme Social Darwinism and individualism that exclusively blames and condemns vulnerable people. In the tradition of Jane Addams and Ida B. Wells, who attacked the practice of lynching and helped found the NAACP, we appreciate cultural diversity and challenge discrimination. In the tradition of Homer Folks and Owen Lovejoy, two men from the state of Michigan who questioned the over-reliance on orphanages, we would advocate for agency and social policies that promote the well-being of children and families. With Richard Cabot and Antoinette Cannon, who pioneered medical social work, we affirm the importance of attentiveness to the needs of the whole person. Similar to Mary Richmond, we believe that clinical skill and societal concern go hand-in-hand.

We have a rich professional history that informs our contemporary values and practices. Within a context of shared values, there are diverse opinions and views and the need for dialogue. I know that through my experience as a student, as a child welfare professional and in social work education, my assumptions, beliefs and viewpoints have been and continue to be examined and affirmed, challenged, and refined. This process is not always comfortable. However, at MSU we strive to create a respectful and safe educational environment that promotes learning and our professional values. **S**

## Many familiar faces within NASW–MI leadership

Congratulations to PhD student and clinical instructor **Erica Shifflet Gibson**, LLMSW, who was elected to serve as president-elect of the National Association of Social Workers–Michigan Chapter board of directors! This is a four-year commitment. Erica also serves as BASW advisor and research associate for our program.



Erica Shifflet-Gibson

Others serving on the NASW–Michigan board this year who have connections to the School are **Sharon Chamberlain** (alumna), **Anni Gregor** (alumna, field liaison and former instructor), **Judy Krause** (blended program mentor), **Lynn Nee** (alumna and field instructor), **Angela Hull** (BASW grad, current MSW student, and field education assistant), and **Patrick McAlvey** (current BASW student). *Go Green!*

# Collaborative project between social work and epidemiology examines stigma

**S**ocial workers are very often the first source of contact for individuals experiencing mental health and drug use problems. Inside and outside the formal treatment systems, social workers have opportunities for practicing early detection, intervention, and referral. Despite the importance of this access to affected populations and the potential for intervention, social workers often do not receive adequate training—particularly in addictions. In fact, a recent national study found that only 48% of social workers received education and training in working effectively with substance abusing clients. This lack of training may result in, or exacerbate, the development and perpetuation of negative attitudes about clients' addiction and mental health issues. The literature suggests that, as a result, social workers and social work students may hold a bias against working with drug/alcohol-involved clients, which contributes to stereotypes that stigmatize persons with these disorders. These beliefs may impede practice behaviors and dissuade individuals from intervention and treatment.

Assessing potentially stigmatizing beliefs and conducting interventions that modify stereotypes or inaccuracies about persons with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug disorders has been the goal of a group of researchers from social



Sheryl Pimlott  
Kubiak



Paul Freddolino



Brian Ahmedani

work and epidemiology. The group—consisting of **Drs. Sheryl Kubiak** and **Paul Freddolino** and doctoral student **Brian Ahmedani** from social work, and **Dr. Jim Anthony** and **Dr. Carlos Rio** from epidemiology—have been meeting for nearly a year to collect pilot data and submit a federal grant request.

Web-based and paper surveys collected information from 117 MSW students. Results were presented at the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in October. A proposal has been submitted to the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the US National Institutes of Health and is currently under review. **S**



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## **BLENDED STATEWIDE CLINICAL MSW PROGRAM**

*to your area—supporting professional goals while acknowledging personal lives*

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The MSU School of Social Work is accepting applications for the accredited, blended statewide Clinical MSW Program with a concentration in clinical practice. Available to qualified students throughout Michigan, this program combines the best features of face-to-face, videoconferencing, and online instruction. A unique learning community structure brings quality, clinically-focused graduate social work education and regional MSW faculty mentors close to you.

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**Application deadline is January 10**



# Youth psychoeducation for children of a parent with a mental illness

How can social workers help children of a parent with a mental illness learn about psychiatric disorders and mental health treatment? Will youth learn that a family member's mental illness is not their fault? The mental illness information and support needs of these "invisible" children are rarely recognized or met within mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice, or educational services settings. Social work faculty were part of the original development of work in this area in the 1990s—work that is still ongoing.

The research team for the Children Coping with Parental Mental Illness project, also known as the Youth Psychoeducation project, includes **Dr. Joanne Riebschleger** and **Dr. Peg Whalen** from the School of Social Work, **Dr. Esther Onaga** from the Department of Child and Family Ecology, and **Betty Tableman** from the Office of Outreach and Engagement. With seed funding from MSU Families and Community Together (FACT)



Joanne Riebschleger



Peg Whalen

Coalition and the MSU School of Social Work, 12- to 15-year-old youth will participate in a pilot intervention to learn about mental illness, mental health treatment, and coping. A pilot curriculum for youth psychoeducation groups will be used within groups that begin in January 2008.

Community intervention sites operate with a team model of university and community collaboration. Community partners include Shiawassee Community Mental Health, Bay Arenac Behavioral Health, and the Houghton Lake School-Based Clinic

operated by MidMichigan Health Park (a rural primary health care clinic). Bay Arenac Behavioral Health is also the recipient of a Children's Block Grant from the State of Michigan Department of Community Health (Mental Health Children's Division) for project support. Consumer parents and other stakeholders within these agencies also provide valuable technical assistance.

Members of the Project Advisory Committee also provide technical assistance. Committee members include **Mary Ludtke** from the Michigan Department of Community Health, **Craig Hause** from Shiawassee Community Mental Health, **Ellen Albrecht** from Bay Arenac Behavioral Health, **Richard Osburn** from Northern Lakes Community Mental Health, **Sandy Kammer** from St. Clair Community Mental Health, **Cathy Adams** from Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Community Mental Health, and **Amy Winans** from the Association for Children's Mental Health. **S**

## Timm named Lilly Teaching Fellow

The Michigan State University Lilly Teaching Fellows Program is intended to advance the University's continuing efforts to support excellence in teaching and learning through activities designed to focus attention on the art and skills of teaching both generally and in particular disciplines.

**Tina Timm**, PhD, LMSW, LMFT, assistant professor in the School of Social Work with a joint appointment in the Department of Family and Child Ecology, is committed to promoting the scholarship of teaching



Tina Timm

with a desire to demonstrate for students a commitment to lifelong learning. She was one of six Lilly Fellows selected for 2007-2008. Her Lilly Teaching Fellows project, being implemented this fall in Social Work 850—Advanced Clinical Practice with Individuals and Groups, is titled *Looking in the mirror: Using transformative learning to promote self reflection on issues of diversity*.

Transformative learning, developed by Jack Mezirow in 1991, is an approach to education that involves helping individuals become more reflective, more open to the perspectives of others, less defensive, and more accepting of new ideas. According to Mezirow, the role of the educator is to: (1) help the learner focus on and examine the assumptions that underlie their beliefs, feelings, and actions;

# Groundwork underway to prepare to recruit deaf/HOH students to MSU

A steering committee composed of faculty and students from the School of Social Work, Deaf Education, Communication Arts, and the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities continues to meet to work towards recruiting deaf/ hard of hearing (HOH) students to the BASW Program. Representatives from the Michigan Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, the State Office for the Deaf/HOH, the Department of Human Services, and the Michigan School for the Deaf also attended, along with several of our deaf/HOH MSW alumnae who are employed at agencies in Flint and Mt. Pleasant.

The committee, originally convened by our undergraduate program coordinator, **Sue Bowden**, LMSW, has submitted a proposal to the MSU Office of Residence Life for a sign language floor in the newly remodeled Snyder Phillips Dormitory beginning Fall 2008. Students housed on that floor would not only communicate in sign language, but also be involved in deaf oriented classroom and cultural activities occurring in the dorm. Sign language classes would be held there, and student interaction would be facilitated by the presence of faculty from all three departments and representatives of some of the state agencies. It is the commit-



Sue Bowden



Ellen Whipple

tee's belief that MSU must have programs and living spaces that are "deaf-friendly" and culturally appropriate before recruiting deaf/HOH students to our campus.

Additionally, **Dr. Ellen Whipple** of the School of Social Work and **Dr. Harold Johnson** of the Deaf Education Department received a grant from the Families and Communities Together (FACT) Coalition that focuses on the incidence of abuse with deaf children ages 0-5. In part one, parents will be identified by the Michigan Department of Community Health's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program—both experienced, trained parents (known as Parent Guides) and newly identified parents of deaf/HOH children. The HOME (Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment) Inventory, which assesses whether the home environment of young children is conducive to learning and promoting positive parent-child interactions, will be administered to both groups to determine whether it will work as a measure for this population. Then, a nationwide online survey of professionals and parents who work with deaf/HOH children will be administered to assess knowledge, interest, and concern about incidence, prevalence, and risk factors associated with child abuse and neglect. **S**

(2) assess the consequences of these assumptions; (3) identify and explore alternative sets of assumptions; and (4) test the validity of assumptions through effective participation in reflective dialog.

This projects also fits exceptionally well with the missions of both the School of Social Work and Department of Family and Child Ecology, which seek to prepare students for competent, responsive, and ethical clinical and community practice, and more specifically to promote positive change and social justice for diverse communities, families, and individuals. Timm says, "I teach students to work effectively with a wide range people—not just certain people, but ALL people. Most of my students will go on to work as clinical social workers and couple and family therapists. At the core of both of these professions is a respect for the dignity and worth of all human beings, and a mandate to be culturally

sensitive and competent. It has long been a dilemma of mine to know if I am effectively engaging students who are intolerant of differences."

A hallmark of the program is the pairing of Lilly Fellows with experienced faculty mentors. Timm is paired with **Susan J. Peters**, associate professor of teacher education and counseling, educational psychology, and special education, who is well-known for bringing multicultural and international perspectives and issues of inclusion to her courses in teacher education.

Timm expresses her philosophy this way: "I know that in helping students to reflect about issues of diversity, I will be affecting the thousands of clients they will work with over the years. That is what makes teaching so satisfying. When you do it well, it has a powerful ripple effect over time." **S**

# Health care challenges of youth exiting foster care featured in new study



Angelique Day

In 2006, Michigan State University received a two-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to conduct an exploratory study of the health care challenges of former Michigan foster care youth, focusing on the health care status and health care supports available to young adults who have aged out of the foster care system.



Gretchen Archer

The goals of this study include: (1) understanding the behaviors of foster care alumni to promote healthy lifestyles, prevent illness, and foster physical and mental well-being and extrapolate these lessons to enhance the futures of youth who will age out of the system; (2) gaining an understanding of the current best practice initiatives and how they could be reproduced; (3) providing information that will enhance and strengthen the partnership between the organizations and public health programs that serve these youth; and (4) providing information to child welfare agencies that could be used to strengthen current practices organizationally.



Greg Pugh

Preliminary findings indicate that the majority of young people who age out of the foster care system live with a vast array of severe and chronic physical and mental health care conditions. One-fifth did not have access to health insurance and were struggling to meet their health care needs; 23%



John Seita

were current recipients of Medicaid benefits and were anxious about what they would do when they turned 21 and lost eligibility for services. Findings further indicate that the more placements a person experiences in foster care and the longer they are in care, the harder it will be for them to form supportive relationships long into adulthood.

The research team consists of **Dr. John Seita**, primary investigator, **Angelique Day**, and PhD students **Gretchen Archer** and **Greg Pugh**, all from social work, and **Dr. Waln Brown** from the College of Communication Arts and Sciences Office of Research. The study is being conducted in collaboration with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan and the Michigan Network for Youth and Families. The advisory committee includes the Michigan departments of Human Services and Community Health, Wayne County Community College District, Western Michigan University, Vista Maria, Alternatives for Girls, The Family Place of Detroit, the Detroit Children's Center, The Michigan Federation for Children and Families, Starfish Family Services, The Corner Health Center, Holy Cross Children's Services, other Michigan child welfare agencies, and many foster care alumni who have helped to inform the research. Research is ongoing. **S**

## Master of Social Work (MSW) Program in FLINT

For students who want to earn the fully accredited MSW degree. All required courses offered at the Mott Community College Campus. This program has been enrolling students since Fall 2001. Special features include:

- ▶ Classes begin in May or August 2008, taught by MSU faculty
- ▶ Concentration (major) in Clinical Social Work
- ▶ PART-TIME three-year program, with evening courses designed for working students
- ▶ Required field education can be arranged close to where you live or work
- ▶ Our successful experience with MSW Programs in Traverse City, Gaylord, Alpena, Saginaw, Marquette, Flint, Lapeer, and Sault Sainte Marie

Early decision deadline: December 15. Final deadline for completed applications: February 1. For further information, contact Julie Farman, Flint Program Coordinator, at (810) 762-5127, farmanju@msu.edu or go to <http://www.socialwork.msu.edu> and follow DEGREE PROGRAMS to the FLINT CAMPUS link under MSW Programs.





## Hartford program is committed to well-being of older adults



Marcia Lampen

The John A. Hartford Foundation is a committed champion of health care training, research, and service-system innovations to ensure the well-being and vitality of older adults. Their Practicum Partnership Program (Hartford PPP) at MSU began its second year this fall with eight new students. Our first cohort of nine MSW students graduated with Certificates in Aging last spring. (Read more about the program in the Fall 2006 News.) **Marcia Lampen**, PhD, LMSW, is coordinator of the MSU Hartford PPP and acts as faculty liaison for this group of students.

A meeting was held in November with our consortium agencies, now numbering 22 members. The support given by these agencies through their provision of field sites for students and advisors for the field practicum is one of the strongest components of our Hartford PPP. Another meeting will be held in April to celebrate both Careers in Aging Week and the graduation of the Hartford interns.

Each Hartford intern practices in two different organizations providing a variety of services and programs to the diverse older adult population. Six are placed in agencies in the greater Lansing area, and two are placed in Mt. Pleasant at the Saginaw-Chippewa Indian Reservation, working in their Senior Center, At-Large Services Program and Behavioral Health Center. All Hartford interns toured the reservation this fall, and will visit the Arab Community Center (ACCESS) in Dearborn this spring, further expanding their exposure to the multi-cultural issues involved in working with families and their elder members.

According to the Hartford Foundation's recent report of student outcomes from last year's program, pre- and post-testing measures indicate that MSU students gained in their

knowledge related to policies, programs, intervention, assessment and values, ethics, and theoretical perspectives related to the aging population. Our students scored above the mean when compared to other students across the nation who participated in the Hartford PPP program during 2005-2007. **S**

## Strengthening marriages and the well-being of children

The School of Social Work—along with a broad network of community partners, including the Michigan Department of Human Services, the Michigan Federation for Children and Families, and the Michigan Association for Foster Adoptive and Kinship (MAFAK) Parents—is continuing efforts to construct and deliver a curriculum designed to strengthen the relationships of couples who adopt children from the child welfare system. This work is funded by a federal Adoption Opportunities Grant through the US Administration on Children Youth and Families' Children's Bureau. **Dr. Gary Anderson** is the principal investigator. (Read more about it in the *Spring 2007 News*.)

**McKenzie Consulting**, well-known for their work in adoption, permanency planning, and child welfare, is spearheading curriculum development in conjunction with the grant's faculty assessment and evaluation team, which includes **Drs. John Mooradian, Tina Timm, and Peg Whalen**, and **Rosemary Jackson**, LMSW, and PhD students **Brian Ahmedani** and **Robert Hock**, and **Dr. Ruben Parra Cardona** of the Department of Family and Child Ecology.

Grant activities are directed toward integrating knowledge about adoption with knowledge about marriages and committed relationships, because very few studies have focused on the adult relationship in adoptive families.

Team members have conducted focus groups with adoptive couples in four locations across Michigan and have completed preliminary analysis of qualitative data. These findings were presented this year at NASW-Michigan Chapter's Annual Conference and the MAFAK conference. Focus groups were also conducted with adoption professionals in southeast Michigan and the northern lower peninsula. Focus group data informed development of a survey for couples that is planned for statewide distribution; it will investigate relationship satisfaction, adult attachment, co-parenting, and adoption-specific issues. The team has also planned a series of interviews with couples to ask in-depth questions about their needs and preferences, in order to further develop the curriculum.

Presentations of findings from the research and elements of the curriculum are planned for adoptive parents and professionals at trainings in November, and the Child Welfare League of America conference in December. **S**

## Research skills key to graduate school success

**D**r. Ronald E. McNair was a recognized expert in laser physics who joined the space shuttle program in 1978. After his death in the USS Challenger space shuttle accident, members of Congress provided funding for the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program to encourage minority, low-income, first-generation college students to expand their educational opportunities and pursue graduate studies.

At MSU, McNair runs simultaneously with our Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), which is a minority undergraduate research program funded jointly by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), an academic consortium of 12 major teaching and research universities, and Michigan State University. It gives minority students the opportunity to acquire research skills necessary to be successful in graduate school.

The School of Social Work had the opportunity to work with **Nicole Lozano**, visiting McNair/SROP Scholar and



John Seita



Angelique Day and Nicole Lozano

current student at Sam Houston State University in Texas. Nicole was assigned to faculty mentor **Dr. John Seita**, associate professor, with **Angelique Day**, research specialist, providing additional support.

Nicole worked throughout the summer on a mixed method research study assessing the mental health needs of former foster care youth who have aged out of the foster care system. She presented her findings in both poster and paper format at the McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program/SROP Research Symposium held in August.

Funding for Nicole's efforts was made possible through the CIC and MSU. Nicole will graduate with her BS degree in May of 2008 from Sam Houston and is looking at several universities throughout the midwest for pursuing her MSW that fall. **S**

## BASW Program carries forth diversity theme

**I**n 1999, our undergraduate program adopted the signature theme of diversity, with a special emphasis on social justice. Information on diversity is integrated in all of our courses. The centerpiece of this curricular initiative is the junior year diversity project; students do paid or volunteer work with a person or group with characteristics differing from their own. Assignments related to the project occur in three courses; one of these is the creation of a poster discussing their project, judged by members of the Undergraduate Advisory Board and the faculty and staff. Last year, thanks to the College of Social Science, the winners received cash awards.



Sue Bowden  
BASW Program  
Coordinator

Through its Diversity Themed Events Committee, the undergraduate program plans events such as field trips, pot lucks and participation in the School's Martin Luther King Day celebration to supplement classroom activities.

This year, interested BASW students travelled to the Saginaw Chippewa

Indian Reservation to see the Tribe's new Ziibiwing Center, which chronicles the culture, heritage and history of the Anishinabek people of the Great Lakes, and agencies including the Tribal Court, the Behavioral Health Center, the ambulatory medical facility, and the new assisted living center. Special thanks go to **Dr. Suzanne Cross** and

**Joseph Sowmick**, public relations director for the Tribe, for their help in making this trip possible. Also, thank you to seniors **Jill Hemming** and **Katie Ish** for their help with the planning.

Because of the diversity theme, undergraduate students have volunteered hundreds of hours to social service agencies while learning more about different cultures, religions, racial groups, disabilities, sexual orientations, and economic differences. Lessons learned from their projects and other activities will help prepare them for the challenges they will face as they pursue their social work careers. A session describing our diversity themed curriculum was presented in November at the Best Practices Conference of the MSU Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives. **S**



## Focus on adolescent sexual assault victims



Angie Kennedy

**A**ngie Kennedy, PhD, LMSW, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, is a co-investigator on two new research grants that focus on criminal justice responses to adolescent sexual assault victims. **Dr. Rebecca Campbell**, MSU Department of Psychology, is the principal investigator. These projects extend Dr. Kennedy's work on adolescent

women's experiences with cumulative trauma, and Dr. Campbell's work on how Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs facilitate criminal justice system responses toward sexual assault victims.

Despite increasing rates of adolescent sexual assault, most adolescent rapes go unreported to the criminal justice system. If young women do decide to tell someone about the sexual assault, most disclose to a peer rather than to a formal services provider. Therefore, very little is known about both the process of help-seeking among adolescent sexual assault victims and the effectiveness of programs such as SANE in connecting with and serving adolescent victims.

Both of the current projects address these issues. The first grant, funded by the MSU Families and Communities Together (FACT) Coalition, will use qualitative methods to explore adolescent sexual assault victims' help-seeking, as well as their experiences with SANE programs in two Michigan counties. There will also be a quantitative study that will assess the SANE programs in these two counties in terms of their service provision to adolescent sexual assault victims, and examine if and how these programs contribute to police reporting and prosecution.

The second grant, funded by the National Institute of Justice, will focus primarily on comparing service provision between the two counties in order to better understand what factors predict reporting and prosecution of adolescent sexual assault cases. While both counties have SANE programs as well as Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs), they differ in terms of their integration, level of cooperation, and community influence. These differences in system functioning are important to examine because they may affect the quality of community relationships, which prior research on SANE-SARTs suggests is key in influencing rates of prosecution.

For more information, contact Dr. Kennedy at [kenne258@msu.edu](mailto:kenne258@msu.edu). **S**



Joe Kozakiewicz  
CAC Director



Delanie Pope  
CAC Staff  
Attorney



Kim Steed  
CAC Program  
Coordinator

## Chance at Childhood

By Joe Kozakiewicz, JD, LMSW

**M**SU's Chance at Childhood (CAC) Program, a joint initiative of the MSU School of Social Work and the MSU College of Law, has completed a pamphlet to help physicians properly follow the Child Protection Law. The pamphlet outlines the legal definitions of child abuse and neglect, provides examples of common indicators of abuse and neglect, and explains how to make a report of abuse or neglect. The pamphlet was designed with input from the MSU College of Human Medicine Department of Pediatrics. This pamphlet, as well as the one developed for school personnel, may be downloaded from the CAC website ([chanceatchildhood.msu.edu/pub.htm](http://chanceatchildhood.msu.edu/pub.htm)). Requests for hard copies of the pamphlet should be made to the CAC clinic at (517) 432-8406. To date, over 8,000 of the pamphlets for school personnel have been distributed.

Past issues of the *Michigan Child Welfare Law Journal*, now being published by CAC, are also available at that site. Upcoming issues will cover foster care and adoption, child trauma, and juvenile delinquency.

CAC staff presented at the 2007 Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education this fall. CAC staff has conducted trainings and presentations regarding children's legal rights, kinship care issues, and mandated reporting issues. They also continue to implement their third grant from the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), the Access to Visitation and Parenting Time Project. Through this project, students in the CAC Law and Social Work Clinic work with families and children involved in the Ingham County Family Court system. With all of these varied activities, CAC staff is pleased to have the largest group yet working in the CAC clinic. **S**



## MSU–OU expand social work programs

Last summer, Michigan State University and Oakland University made public a formal partnership to build an accredited BASW Program at Oakland, and also to expand and improve access to an MSU Advanced Standing MSW Program to be located on Oakland’s campus. (See *Fall 2006 News*.) During the course of this year, **Dr. Marcia Lampen**, clinical assistant professor in the School of Social Work, continued consultation with OU faculty.

Oakland’s social work program has been moved from pre-candidacy to candidacy status, with a site visit by CSWE scheduled this fall. All reports and materials will be evaluated in February at the Council on Accreditation meeting, when the program may be judged eligible for candidacy; it will take another two years of further program development and a self-study for CSWE to grant initial accreditation.

**Karen Newman**, PhD, LMSW, was hired last fall as associate director, to work with **Lynetta Mosby**, PhD, LMSW, associate professor of sociology on Oakland’s

faculty. Together, Mosby and Newman have worked not only to fulfill the requirements of the CSWE accreditation standards, but also to achieve approval from Oakland University’s Committee on Undergraduate Education and Senate Planning and Review Committee. Oakland’s Board of Directors formally approved their plan for a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work this past spring.

Approximately 50 students have already enrolled in the new program as either social work majors or pre-majors. They have organized a Social Work Club, which is involved in the University, and are also active in projects involving the Oakland and Pontiac communities. With this level of student interest and participation, the need for an additional faculty member is anticipated, and a projected search for this position will begin soon.

All of this sets the stage for our second collaborative venture with Oakland University—an MSW Advanced Standing Program that will start in Summer 2009. **Julie Farman**, LMSW, and **Linda Campbell**, LMSW, clinical instructors in the School of Social Work who both also work with our Flint program, will be the coordinator and advisor, respectively, for this new program. Work has begun with representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences at Oakland and MSU’s School of Social Work graduate program to address the logistics required for a program on the OU campus. This new graduate program location will provide convenient access for students in the area and meet the growing demand for our MSW Programs across the state. Our proven success with a wide variety of graduate program offerings makes this a great opportunity for students seeking an advanced social work degree. **S**



Marcia Lampen



Julie Farman



Linda Campbell

## Statewide Blended Program begins second year

The official name for the week-long experience is the Summer Institute of the Blended Statewide Clinical MSW Program, but two groups of students have now affectionately renamed it Social Work Boot Camp. Last June, those 25 students from the 2006 cohort and the 21 students in the second cohort pursued course work, enhanced the relationships in their cohorts, and received training in the various technologies that are available to support their learning.

Drawn from all over Michigan, these students complete the same MSW clinical concentration curriculum as students on campus. Courses are offered using a “blend” of face-to-face, video-conference, and online components. Each student works for three years in a regional group along with a faculty mentor, who is a practitioner from the region. Students complete their field education requirement in their region, with the mentors serving as field liaisons. Special advan-

tages include the flexibility provided by online asynchronous tools, reduced driving time, and no evening classes. According to one student, “The flexibility allows me to keep working while I learn.”

The Blended Program is now recruiting for the third cohort, which begins in May 2008. Find details at <http://www.msu.edu/~swdisted/statewide.html>. The deadline for completed applications is January 10. Email questions to [swdisted@msu.edu](mailto:swdisted@msu.edu). **S**



## Developing effective strategies for recruitment and retention of child welfare workers

**W**hy do workers leave child welfare agencies? Most studies point to job conditions and organizational factors. Why do workers stay in child welfare? Connecting to agency mission, good supervision, flexibility and support are crucial factors. Why focus on the child welfare workforce? It is hard to promote permanency planning for maltreated children with an inexperienced workforce that turns over rapidly. These are some of the issues this important project is addressing.

In this fifth and final year of our federally funded project, the emphasis is on completing assessment projects, using the six workbooks developed during this project, working with our partner agencies to try out new methods of promoting retention, and sharing knowledge gained and resources developed with multiple stakeholders. **Dr. Gary Anderson** is principal investigator; **Dr. Peg Whalen** and **Monaca Eaton** have also worked on this project.

Assessment includes: (1) a longitudinal study of factors that encourage or discourage social work students from pursuing a career in child welfare; (2) a survey of MSW graduates from Michigan schools of social work employed by the Michigan Department of Human Services; and (3) a survey of exit interview strategies used by private agencies and some lessons learned from these interviews. A report on the competencies and training needs of supervisors and middle managers, based on a survey conducted by the Michigan Federation for Children and Families, will also be completed.

The six workbooks are available from our website free of charge.

The six workbooks developed by **John and Judy McKenzie** and **Rosemary Jackson** during the first two years of this project continue to be used in the School's continuing education program; one can enroll for a "certificate in supervision" or take individual courses. (Read more about this in the *Spring 2007 News*.)

A summary of lessons learned will be included in the *Fall 2008 News* as the federal funding comes to a close. We hope to be able to continue many aspects of the program. We are particularly grateful for the advisory committee for this project representing multiple agencies, the Department of Human Services, and the Federation, whose members have contributed so many hours of service these past four years.

Members of the advisory committee, all questionnaires developed for the project, the six workbooks, and other training resources are available at the School's website: [www.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu) in the section "Outreach and Research Projects." You are welcome to print and use these materials; we merely ask that you acknowledge the source of the materials. **S**

### FIELD FACTS IN BRIEF

- ▶ The MSU School of Social Work Field Education Program has 279 students in the field.
- ▶ Of these, 61 are BASW students, and 218 are MSW students.
- ▶ By program, 187 students are placed in East Lansing, 41 in Flint, 29 in Marquette, and 22 statewide through our blended program.
- ▶ The School has working agreements with 197 agencies and programs.
- ▶ We provide 134,920 service hours over the course of the school year.

## Field education update

**J**o Ann McFall, LMSW, ACSW, RN, along with the Field Education Program research team continues to collect student and field instructor data, analyze results, and write about field education outcomes with an eye toward future accreditation reaffirmation. This year, a field instructor component and focus groups were added to the study. Thanks to all who participated.

The field office has active collaborations this year with St. Vincent Catholic Charities (see page 22), Volunteers of America, and the Carefree Medical Clinic, all in Lansing. Our new clinical practice curriculum is in effect now. Fall practice classes focus on clinical work with individual and treatment groups. Spring classes address clinical work with couples and families. The field curriculum has been modified to be consistent with those changes. **S**



Jo Ann McFall

## Newest School faculty hail from near and far



Amanda Toler Woodward



Robert J. Griffore



Hyunkag Cho

**A**manda Toler Woodward earned her PhD in Social Work and Sociology from the University of Michigan and her MSW from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. She was a predoctoral fellow in aging with the National Institute on Aging of the US National Institutes of Health and a Hartford Doctoral Fellow in geriatric social work. Her practice experience includes work with adults with serious mental illness, homeless services, and community development. Her current research focuses on the combinations of professional services and informal supports individuals use and the role that informal networks play in the mental health care of vulnerable and underserved groups, particularly older adults and racial and ethnic minorities. Woodward is committed to helping service providers better coordinate their efforts with informal networks and to removing the many barriers that prevent older adults, especially older minorities, from receiving appropriate mental health treatment. She joins the School as an assistant professor and will be teaching research methods.

**R**obert J. Griffore, PhD, is a professor of Family and Child Ecology and Social Work at Michigan State University. He was first appointed in the College of Urban Development and then in the College of Human Ecology, where he served as chairperson of the Department of Family and Child Ecology. His current teaching interests include quantitative methods, human development, family theory, and integrative studies courses. His recent and current research interests include elderly in long-term care, homelessness, human ecology methodology, impact of Bovine Tuberculosis on farm families, epidemiology of Bovine Tuberculosis, evaluation of programs in large urban school systems, quality of life and children's environmental health, health of Native American youth, and Native American values. He is a member of many professional organizations, including the American Psychological Association, American Statistical Association, Association for Psychological Science, National Council on Family Relations, American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

**H**yunkag Cho, PhD, MSW, joins us as an assistant professor. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Asian History from Seoul National University, his Master of Social Welfare degree from Seongkonghoe University in Korea, and his PhD in Social Work from Florida State University. Before entering the MSW Program, he volunteered for years at a non-governmental organization doing civic education, community organization, and advocacy. He has eight years of professional experience in developing and delivering distance education services via CD-ROM, internet, and satellite broadcasting. His current research interests are at the intersection of domestic violence, criminal justice systems, and community organization. Cross-national comparisons of policy and multicultural competence will be included in his future research. He currently teaches human behavior and the social environment and social work macro practice with groups, organizations, and communities. He had taught the research and statistics courses at Florida State University before joining the School. **S**



## Meet our new PhD candidates

This fall, we welcomed another talented cohort of doctoral students with varied and extensive social work practice experience and research interests.

**Louanne Bakk** received her BSW in 2000 from Arizona State University (Glendale), where she majored in social work with a focus in both aging and school social work. Her 2001 MSW degree was awarded by the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), where she was a Hartford Geriatric Fellow. She left her position as director of access and benefits assistance for the Area Agency on Aging 1-B to begin her doctoral studies. Her experience will inform her work as she plans to focus on the changes that resulted from Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, and how well the plans that resulted from this Act have served vulnerable populations.

**Jessica Gladden** returns to Michigan from Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, where she worked as a team leader/ supervisor of an assertive community treatment program for adults with serious mental illness. She received her BA in 2001 from Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, majoring in music and religion. Her 2003 MSW degree was awarded by Grand Valley State University, also in Grand Rapids. Her social work practice experience includes work with sexual abuse/ incest victims, domestic violence victims, refugees, foster children, and adults with serious mental illness. During her doctoral work, she plans to focus on trauma work, and issues relating to refugees and international social work.

**Natalie Kasiborski** received her BA (psychology) in 2004 and her MSW degree (interpersonal practice with children and youth) in 2006 from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Her social work practice experience includes in-home therapy, youth mentoring, and various substance abuse research projects. During her doctoral work, she plans to study the intersections of substance abuse, criminal justice, and child welfare. Natalie's talents go beyond academics—she once sang the national anthem, solo, at Detroit's Comerica Park!

Coming to us from the state of Washington, **Greg Pugh** received his BSW degree in 1992 from Humboldt



PhD students from left to right: Natalie Kasiborski, Jessica Gladden, Louanne Bakk, Dee Ann Sherwood-Bosworth, Greg Pugh, Karen Newman.

State University in Arcata, CA. His MSW degree was awarded by Eastern Washington University (Cheney) in 1996, with a concentration in health care. His social work practice experience includes work in the areas of juvenile delinquency, adolescent mental health, pediatrics, medical care, adult inpatient medical care, outpatient care and HIV/ AIDS. He plans to study social work practice in healthcare, outcome evaluation, ethics, quality of life, and related topics.

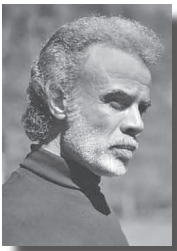
**Karen Newman** received a BA in Women's Studies from the University of Colorado (Boulder) in 1994. She returned to Saginaw Valley State University for a BSW in 1998, and received her MSW from MSU in 1999, with a concentration in macro practice. Her social work practice experience has been in the areas of substance abuse and mental health. She is currently a graduate advisor and coordinates the Advanced Standing MSW Program for our School. Her doctoral work will focus on substance abuse and mental health, particularly as it applies to workforce development.

**Dee Ann Sherwood-Bosworth** received a BS (psychology) in 1997, an MPA in 2003, and her MSW in 2007, all from Grand Valley State University (Grand Rapids). Her social work experience includes hospital based medical social work in the areas of hospice and chronic illness, and career counseling and job placement. Currently, she is an organizational development consultant for Spectrum Health, working in the areas of cultural competence, team building and training, and performance improvement. Recently, she was invited to Princeton University Health Services to present on the importance of cultural competence in the medical environment. She'll continue this work as a part of her doctoral studies, focusing on organizational cultural competence. **S**

## Continuing Education Program partnerships expand

In the fall of 2006, **Michele Brock**, LMSW, continuing education coordinator, developed a partnership with the Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) to mutually plan and provide quarterly one-hour audio/videoconference Social Work Continuing Education Program workshops at no cost to participants. This is in direct fulfillment of our mission to make programs accessible and affordable to social workers throughout Michigan and beyond. The MCRH performs many important functions, one of which is to provide professional development opportunities for healthcare professionals in rural settings throughout Michigan. So far, we have served 300 participants in this capacity.

From May 2006 through May 2007, the School provided more than 45 programs, equaling 260 continuing education hours, serving over 2,080 participants. This fall, we offered 34 programs and served nearly 900 people.



Harry J. Aponte

### DHJ lectureship

The Dorothy Harper Jones Family Therapy Lecture Series presented **Dr. Harry J. Aponte**, LCSW, LMFT, speaking on *Bread and spirit revisited: Family therapy with today's poor* on November 16.

Aponte is a family therapist in Philadelphia, PA, known for his work with poor and oppressed populations. He writes and speaks about the person of the therapist, spirituality in therapy, therapy with disadvantaged and culturally diverse families, and structural family therapy and believes that many of our family problems are the results of larger social problems.

The Dorothy Harper Jones Family Therapy Lectureship was established in honor of Jones's career as professor of social work, assistant dean for diversity issues in the College of Social Science, associate dean of the graduate school and senior consultant to the provost.

### Michigan Indian Day 2007

More than 200 participants University-wide joined together for *Seven Generations (Niizhwaaswi): Planning for the future of Anishinaabe in the 21st century* for sessions that were culturally grounded with the incorporation of the seventh generation philosophy and the seven traditional teachings of humility, love, honesty, wisdom, truth, bravery, and respect. The morning keynote speaker was **Priscilla A. Day**, EdD, MSW, professor of social work at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, followed in the afternoon by **Don Day**, EdD, president of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. Both are members of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Additional sessions included the seven teachings of traditional cultural values; clients' perceptions of mental health practitioners; collaborative examination of social work practice with indigenous populations; developing tribal courts in harmony with culture and traditions; the impact of substance abuse, child abuse, and foster care programs; American Indian social work students' reflections of field placements with tribal nations; contemporary issues of American Indian youth; and a tribal nation elders' forum.

The School was strongly represented in the leadership and planning committee, and many social work faculty, staff and students attended. Our PhD student **John Whyte** attended with two colleagues from the social work faculty at the University of Melbourne, Australia, who are our partners in a grant to compare aboriginal peoples and Native Americans, with the findings informing the preparation of social workers through improved curriculum.

Special thanks go to the co-chairs, **Dr. Suzanne Cross** (social work), **Susan Applegate Krouse** (American Indian Studies), and **Eva Menefee** (Lansing Community College). And thanks to the Continuing Education Program team and planning committee members, as well. **S**



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

SOCIAL WORK  
CONTINUING EDUCATION



## New CE classes scheduled for Spring 2008

### Alumni Breakfast

- February 1 Understanding the Mood Disorder of Unipolar and Bipolar Depression  
 April 4 Alzheimer's Disease: Assessment, Treatment, and Risk-Limiting Strategies

### Contemporary Issues in Aging

- February 16 Loss and Grief in Later Life  
 March 15 Elder Law: Determining Capacity and the Changing Landscape of Long-Term Care  
 April 12 Aging in the Gay Community

### Leadership Seminar Series: Macro Practice

- February 16 Developing a New Program: From Vision to Fruition  
 March 15 Your Board of Directors: Friend or Foe  
 April 12 The New Twist in Lifelong Giving for a Sustainable Future

### Supervision in Child and Family Services Certificate

- February 22 New Staff: The First Six Months  
 February 22 The Practice of Retention-Focused Supervision  
 April 18 Working with Differences

### Flint Social Work Month Celebration Breakfast

- March 13 How to Survive a Major Organizational Crisis

### Kinship Care

- April 11 Resources and Legal Options for Kinship Care Providers

### Specialty Workshops

- February 7 Chronic Pain: A Primer for Social Workers  
 February 22 Adventure Therapy: Building Groups from the Ground Up  
 March 7 Dialectical Behavior Therapy  
 March 28 & 29 Intro to Social Work Ethics  
 April 4 Reforming the Child Welfare System: Building a System Based in Best Practices  
 April 25 Creative Interventions in the Treatment of Sexual Abuse and Other Trauma with Children and Adolescents

### Social Work Exam Preparation Course

- May 2008 • East Lansing • Date TBA  
 June 2008 • Livonia • Date TBA

### For Social Work Educators

- February 11 Challenges and Stresses of Work-Life Balance and Academic Life: Issues and Strategies  
 March 13 Active and Interactive Learning Strategies for the University Classroom  
 April 9 What's Your Plan? Programmatic Assessment to Improve Student Learning

With the exception of the Social Work License Exam Preparation courses, programs offered by the MSU School of Social Work meet State of Michigan social work continuing education requirements. Michigan State University School of Social Work is approved by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE), Provider No. 1136.

To register or to view workshop descriptions, completion requirements, and accommodation needs policy, please visit [www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu). Contact us at (517) 353-8620 or email [swkce@msu.edu](mailto:swkce@msu.edu) if you have questions or concerns. **Schedule is subject to change.**

## NASW video and toolkit available

As part of its public education campaign, the National Association of Social Workers has produced a 5 minute video introduction to social work titled On any given day, social workers help which can be seen on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJGJwr91nhQ>. NASW has provided a guide for using this video as well as instructions on how to post it on your own web site at <http://www.socialworkers.org/pressroom/events/any-GivenDay1007/default.asp>

NASW has also announced the publication of its *Peace Policy Toolkit*, available in pdf file format and available on their website at <http://www.socialworkers.org/diversity>.

With the publication of this document, NASW continues an important component of social work practice, directly addressing the need for social workers to be involved in the public discourse about current wars and advocating for policies that build a more peaceful world. Also available are the *Immigration Toolkit* and *Institutional Racism and the Social Work Profession: A call to action*. Other resources available from NASW include standards for practice and clinical indicators for several social work settings, which may be found at <http://www.socialworkers.org/practice/default.asp>. **S**



## Check out the School's URL

For many years, the School's web pages could be found at <http://www.ssc.msu.edu/~sw>, an address no one could remember. Now we have moved to a new server where you can find us:

<http://socialwork.msu.edu>

Check out our *Faculty Directory* to see photos of faculty and read about their current professional activities and research interests. If you go to *Research and Outreach Projects*, you can link to some of our signature programs; you can also read or download research results from some of our grant-funded projects or useful information we have collected to meet special needs. You can find past issues of the *News* there also.

It's so easy now, we hope you will visit often! Check us out as we continue to expand the information and begin our update of the design.

## School faculty work reaches audiences across North America and the world

**G**ary Anderson, PhD, LMSW, was quoted in *The New York Times* on August 16, 2007, in an article titled "Creating a village to foster a child."

**Sue Bowden**, LMSW, has been appointed the ads and exhibits chair for the national Baccalaureate Program Directors' 25th Annual Conference in Destin, FL in March 2008. She also received an award from them for her contributions to social work education in the state of Michigan. Her paper on the undergraduate program's signature theme of diversity was accepted for the 2007 MSU Best Practices Conference.

**Suzanne Cross**, PhD, LMSW, received tenure in June 2007. She is the fourth American Indian woman to receive tenure at MSU in the history of the University and the first from a Michigan Tribal Nation. She will be a CSWE Senior Scholar in Washington, DC, developing a report on the status of American Indian and Alaskan Natives in social work education. MSW student **Emily Proctor** is a research assistant for this project. In Spring 2008, Dr. Cross will be Distinguished Visiting Research Scholar at the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center in Arizona.

Last summer, **Victoria Fitton**, LMSW, and **Peg Whalen**, PhD, presented several sessions for Grandparents University, a three-day program for grandparents and grandchildren ages 8-12 on the MSU campus. Participants live in dorms and experience aspects of campus life.

**Paul Freddolino**, PhD, was recently elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of HUSITA (HUMAN Services Information Technology Applications), an international virtual association dedicated to promoting the ethical and effective use of IT to better serve humanity.

**Rena Harold**, PhD, LMSW, has co-edited volume 19 of the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Services*, with **Lucy Mercier**, PhD, of Saginaw Valley State University, comprising an ecological perspective on lesbian parent families. Harold and Mercier also presented their work on *Lesbian health care: Women's experiences and the role for social work*, with doctoral student, **Margaret Dimond**, LMSW, at the 2007 Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in San Francisco.

As associate director of MSU's Canadian Studies Center, **David Katz**, PhD, organized a series of four work-

shops on how to export to Canada (tradingwithcanada.msu.edu) in conjunction with the Law School's Institute for Trade in the Americas in an effort to raise the level of awareness about exporting as a key factor in state economic recovery. The sessions were attended by over 100 policy makers and business people. Dr. Katz will next explore the potential for Michigan-Alberta trade.

**Angie Kennedy**, PhD, LMSW, has been reappointed in the tenure system. She is currently the co-investigator on two research grants—funded by MSU FACT and the National Institute of Justice—that focus on criminal justice responses to adolescent sexual assault victims. **Rebecca Campbell**, PhD, MSU Department of Psychology, is principal investigator. Both projects use mixed methods to examine service provision to adolescent victims, assess if and how Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Programs contribute to increased police reporting and prosecution rates, and explore the experiences of adolescent sexual assault victims. (See page 9.)

**Sheryl Pimlott Kubiak**, PhD, LMSW, was awarded a university FACT grant for her project *Assessing the mental health of jailed women* and submitted a National Institutes of Health grant with **Dr. James C. Anthony** of the MSU Department of Epidemiology to study *Stigmatized views of persons with alcohol, tobacco or other drug dependence (ATOD) and depression by social workers*. (See page 3.) In addition, she presented a paper in Prato, Italy, at the International Conference on "What works with female offenders" and co-authored a paper with **Cynthia Arfken**, PhD, from Wayne State University and presented in Cairo, Egypt, at the International Society of Addiction Medicine.

**John Mooradian**, PhD, LMSW, has had three articles published and has



Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore

### Jackson-Elmoore appointed dean of Honors College

**C**ynthia Jackson-Elmoore, PhD, associate professor, has been appointed dean of the MSU Honors College. Jackson-Elmoore has also had appointments in the Urban Affairs Program and the Department of Political Science and has served as director of the Urban Studies Graduate Program, co-director of the Program in Urban Politics and Policy, and acting assistant dean of the Urban Affairs Program. Although this means that her role in our

School will change for the time being, it is an honor for the School of Social Work to have a faculty member appointed to a deanship.

presented at three conferences. He also contributes a quarterly column, "Ask 'Dr. M': A Resource for Parents and Professionals," in the Kinship Care Resource Center's newsletter and supports clinical directors at St. Vincent Catholic Charities in a project that will expand clinical supervision to include use of videotape and "live supervision" through a one-way mirror, as part of the School's St. Vincent collaborative involving both professional staff and graduate student interns. He has been invited to participate as visiting faculty for the intensive post-graduate certificate in clinical supervision offered by Adelphi University School of Social Work in New York.

**John Seita**, PhD, LMSW, has been awarded tenure at MSU. He continues his research on the health status of those who have left foster care and their ability to access health care. A preliminary finding suggests that the higher the number of foster placements as a child and adolescent, the lower the level of community engagement as adults. (See page 6.)

**Marya Sosulski**, PhD, LMSW, has been reappointed in the tenure system. Her paper, "Mixing methods for full-strength results: Two welfare studies," has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*.

**Glenn Stutzky**, PhD, LMSW, together with **Drs. John Mooradian** and **Suzanne Cross** recently published "Across generations: Culture, history, and policy in the social ecology of American Indian grandparents parenting their grandchildren" in *The Journal of Family Social Work*.

**Tina Timm**, PhD, LMSW, has been selected as a 2007-2008 MSU Lilly Teaching Fellow. There is a competitive selection process for this program, which supports excellence in teaching and learning. (See page 4.) Timm is working with doctoral student **Robert Hock** on a project titled "Assessing the needs and strengths of families who have a child with an autism spectrum disorder" funded by the Gwen Andrew Endowed Research Fund through the School, plus in-kind support from the Marriage and Family Therapy Program.

**Ellen Whipple**, PhD, LMSW, and **Dr. Harold Johnson** from the College of Education Department of Deaf Education have obtained a grant from MSU to study child abuse issues concerning very young Deaf/HOH children. **S**

## School faculty "Advancing Knowledge...."

— Continued from page 1

- ▶ "Interdisciplinary Law and Social Work Model for Child Welfare Education and Practice," Kim Steed, Joe Kozakiewicz, and Delanie Pope
- ▶ "Lesbian Health Care: Women's Experiences and the Role of Social Work," Lucy Mercier (Saginaw Valley State University and Clinical Assistant Professor at MSU), Margaret Dimond (Henry Ford Bi-County Hospital and PHD student), and Rena Harold
- ▶ "Second Life: Exploring the Potential of Virtual Worlds for Social Work Education," Paul Freddolino (and others)
- ▶ "Leadership Skills and Cultural Competence: Mentorship of Tribal and Non-tribal Nation Students," Suzanne Cross, Angelique Day, Emily Proctor and Donald Lyons
- ▶ "Indian Child Welfare Act After 30 Years: The Social Work Response," Suzanne Cross, Angelique Day, Emily Proctor and Donald Lyons
- ▶ "Preparing Students for Transnational Practice: The Next Generation of Practitioners and Educators," DeBrenna Agbényiga and Joanne Riebschleger
- ▶ "Feminist Social Work Teaching as Pedagogy in Action," Tina Timm (and co-presenter)
- ▶ "Meeting CSWE Professional Development Objectives through an Experiential Program in Ghana," DeBrenna Agbényiga and Julie Navarre
- ▶ "Developing Quality Blended/Hybrid in-Person Plus Online Degree Programs for New Markets," Paul Freddolino and Jo Ann McFall
- ▶ "Have Social Workers Abandoned Nicotine Addiction?" Sheryl Kubiak and Brian Ahmedani
- ▶ "Comparing Apples and Blueberries: Course Design, Implementation, and Outcomes in Two Formats," Marya Sosulski and Sally Rypkema
- ▶ "Systemic Racism's Impact on Equal Access to Long-Term Care Services," Joan Ilardo
- ▶ "Aging Agencies and University Partnering in Field Education: The PPP Model," Jennifer Edsall (St. Vincent Catholic Charities—MSU Field Instructor)

These are just two examples of 2007 faculty activities. There are multiple other examples of Social Work faculty contributions to knowledge and engagement in professional practice and community outreach. More will be featured in future newsletters. For a complete list of faculty members and their practice and research interests, please visit our website at [www.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu). **S**



## Here's what you're up to!

**Molly (Pinsince) Burns**, MSW 1966, is retired from many interesting work experiences. She currently volunteers at a local senior center and also participates in some of their fun activities like art classes. She states that she found the *Spring 2007 News* particularly interesting. She feels that she has had more lives than a cat and that MSU opens so many doors for graduates.

**Theresa F. deVries**, BA 1967, received her MSW in 1969 from the University of Michigan. She moved to Maine where she has been in private practice with her husband for 31 years, working with individual adults, couples, and groups. She loves the rich outdoor life that Maine offers and enjoys kayaking, hiking, and cross-country skiing. She states that it is a great place for watercolor painting.

**Zareen Hansotia**, BA 2005, is employed at Shelter, Inc., Arlington Heights, IL, as an older adolescent group home counselor. She works with 16- to 18-year-old males in a group home setting that prepares youth for independent living programs. The counselors plan all groups and activities, supervise clients, and provide case management for a primary client.

**Doug Miller**, MSW 1980, currently serves as a division director at Child and Family Services, Capital Area. He was recently awarded a National Family Week Advocacy Award from the Alliance for Children and Families.

**Kristina Schmidgall**, MSW 2004, is employed at AIDS Partnership Michigan in Detroit. She is a case manager in the Re-Entry Program, working with individuals who are HIV-positive and recently released from prison or jail. She finds her job challenging but very rewarding.

**Dr. Susan Scully**, BASW 1986, is an associate professor and director of the Institute for Social and Rehabilitation Services at Assumption College in Worcester, MA. She is chair of the undergraduate department in Human Services and

Rehabilitation Studies and oversees graduate programs in School Counseling and Rehabilitation Counseling.

**Kate Pew Wolters**, MSW 1981, who received an honorary Doctorate of Humanities degree from MSU last spring (see page 19), has been invited to serve as a juror in the competition for the design of MSU's new Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. Five international architectural firms are competing for the honor of designing the building, to be built on the north edge of campus, which will focus on modern and contemporary art. **S**

## Alumnus returns as visiting scholar

**O**n October 12, the School welcomed **Dr. Oliver J. Williams** as a visiting scholar. Dr. Williams is executive director of the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community and a professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul. He met with our faculty and interested students to discuss domestic violence and fatherhood and made a presentation later in the day as part of our Continuing Education Program. Dr. Williams began his social work career with a BASW from MSU.



Oliver J. Williams

As a practitioner, Dr. Williams has worked in service delivery and training in the field of domestic violence for more than 25 years and has provided individual, couples, and family counseling. Dr. Williams' extensive research and publications in scholarly journals and books have centered on creating effective service delivery strategies to reduce violent behavior. He serves on several national advisory boards and received numerous awards for his work addressing issues of domestic violence. **S**

## Kate Pew Wolters' (MSW 1981) acceptance speech when awarded an honorary doctorate at the MSU Spring 2007 University Convocation at the Breslin Center



Kate Pew Wolters

**T**hank you so much to President Simon, Dr. Gray, Provost Wilcox and the selection committee for this great honor. As an alum, I can't think of anything that makes me more proud.

I don't want to take time away from our speaker, but I'd like to take a minute or two to talk about goals and expectations. I

assume that all of you here had a goal of graduating, and you've achieved that...congratulations. Did your family, your friends, expect you to graduate...for some I suspect not. For me, as a woman and as a person with a disability, people's expectations of me were limited. College, work, graduate school, marriage, an honorary doctorate...to many, those were unrealistic expectations for me. For me, they became goals. Now for some of these things, I'll admit that I wasn't so sure. The phrase, "fake it till you make it" was often my mantra. But because expectations are different for

people with disabilities, when we achieve the same things that the rest of you do, we're often heralded as "amazing" or an "inspiration." I struggle with that.

I'll tell you what I think is amazing. For many of you, you are the first in your family to graduate from college. You may have held down one or two jobs while going to school full-time. I couldn't have done that. For some of you this was your first experience learning in a place that was not native to you...either by state or by country. I've lived in the same city all my life. For many of you, this college thing was a second try. You came back after five, 10, maybe 20 years. After a family. After a first career. That takes guts.

So, when something like this happens in your life... you get an honorary doctorate...you become reflective. At least I have. That, and turning 50. I still have goals, things I want to be the best that I can be at. Things that I have never done before. Maybe a new job. Maybe politics...no. But the first 50 years have taught me that it's my own goals and expectations that I need to be concerned about. So at least on this one goal, thank you for helping me realize it! **S**

## Michigan Federation executive moves to national arena

**E**lizabeth Carey (BASW 1992, MSW 1996) assumed duties on November 1, 2007 as senior vice president and chief operating officer for the Alliance for Children and Families, a national membership organization for human service nonprofits and economic empowerment organizations across America. The Alliance advocates for strengthening America's nonprofit sector to maintain its independence. The more than 350 Alliance members serve more than 3.4 million clients annually in 8,000 communities nationwide.

From March 2004 through October 2007, Carey was executive director of the Michigan Federation for Children



Elizabeth Carey

and Families, a statewide association for nonprofit human service agencies, and prior to that was the director of government relations for the Council on Accreditation, a New York-based nonprofit accrediting body for child welfare and behavioral health care organizations.

"Elizabeth has the unique skill of listening to all sides of an argument, determining their value, and then driving toward excellence," said Robert Miles, board president for the Michigan Federation for Children and Families when Carey announced her decision to go national. "She has always kept her focus on children and families, and what is good for the community-based nonprofits that serve them. We look forward to her taking the same approach across the country....Although she is moving on, our work will be strengthened by her presence at the Alliance, and we know she'll be taking a little bit of us with her." **S**

## Welcome to new staff

The MSU School of Social Work Field Office welcomes three new staff members: **Angie Hull**, a master's level graduate assistant, provides support in the Field Office. She is an Advanced Standing student, graduating in May 2008. **Deb Moray** joined us in late July as our new support staff person. She has been an employee of MSU for 18 years, previously working in the Printing Department. **Abigail Waller**, LMSW, has been hired part-time to lead the MSU-St. Vincent Catholic Charities Collaborative. Abigail comes to us from Melbourne, Australia and has expertise in services to children and families.

Also joining the School: **Timothy Woods** is an information technology professional with the School of Social Work and the Department of Anthropology. He provides network support/administration and computer hardware/software technical support. Tim received a BA (public administration and public policy) from MSU after earning a dual degree from Henry Ford College in Computer Information Systems and Arts. **S**



Timothy Woods



## New faculty position to honor Ruth Koehler

The MSU School of Social Work is conducting a national search for a new, endowed, faculty position dedicated to services for children. Established in honor of our esteemed colleague **Ruth Koehler**, who was a master teacher and clinician, this unique academic year appointment will support the School's mission of advancing knowledge and practice in the area of clinical work with children through teaching, research projects, continuing education, and student mentoring.

Ruth Koehler began her distinguished career in social work in the 1940s. She joined our faculty in 1965 and became a full professor in 1971. At the time of her retirement in 1987, the School established the *Ruth T. Koehler Lectureship* series on clinical work with children, which has become an important part of the School and community.

Major financial support for the *Ruth T. Koehler Lectureship* came from **Dr. Gwen Andrew**, who originally joined the MSU School of Social Work in 1966 as associate professor, ultimately serving as director before going on to serve the University in many leadership roles. Shortly before her death, Dr. Andrew established this new faculty position within the school to support MSU social work professors studying child related issues and contribute to advancing knowledge in the area of children's services.

This position will encourage special and multiple opportunities for creative interdisciplinary teaching and research, community-based studies, and involvement in neighborhood, agency, and governmental activities. The full job posting can be found on our web page [www.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.socialwork.msu.edu). **S**

## Congratulations to our newly-elected Phi Alpha officers!

President: MSW student **Erin Mullen**  
 Vice President: BSW student **Stacey Blodgett**  
 Secretary/Treasurer: MSW student **Emily Proctor**

Phi Alpha is a national honor society for social work students. **Sue Bowden**, undergraduate program coordinator, is the Phi Alpha adviser.



# Students go forth and do good

**M**argaret Dimond, LMSW, has assumed the position as senior vice president and chief operating officer at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in Warren, MI, formerly the Bi-County Hospital. Margaret is working on integration of the Warren campus with the former St. Joseph's Hospital in Clinton Twp.

MSW student **Juan Flores**, chair of our student chapter of the Organization of Latino/a Social Workers (OLASW), headed up the fifth annual "Homies Giving" dinner on November 22. MSU cafeterias do not provide food during the Thanksgiving holiday. OLASW provides a festive meal to students who might otherwise be isolated in their rooms, including international and first generation migrant college students; they are joined by fellow students, alumni, professors, university administrators and community members. OLASW does community service, fundraising and cultural events to contribute to the legacy of public service they and the School represent. **Dr. Margie Rodríguez Le Sage** is faculty advisor, and **Letisia C. Peña** is alumni advisor to the group.

**E. Jane Hayes** (MSW 1987) holds a position with Grand Valley State University as an assistant professor and Traverse City coordinator for their Northern Region MSW Program. Jane's work combines political science theory with policy practice dimensions of social work. Her dissertation will examine social work licensing (the policy) as a lens on the policy change process; she has been awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the College of Social Science and the Graduate School. Last year, Jane presented on related topics at four policy conferences.

**Deborah J. McCormack**, MSW, has been appointed as president/ chief executive officer of Catholic Charities West Michigan (CCWM) for the Diocese of Grand Rapids. Her former position was president/ chief executive officer of Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties. At CCWM she will have overall responsibility for the direction of vital social services that are provided to people



Social Work doctoral student **Lihua Huang** (center) joined professors **Paul Freddolino** and **DeBrenna Agbenyiga** in Hong Kong to present reports on their research at the 15th Symposium of the International Consortium for Social Development. The event was attended by over 800 scholars and practitioners from throughout the world.

In May 2007:

- ◀ 24% of the BASW seniors graduated with Honors or High Honors
- ◀ Gaylord cohort graduated 21 clinical MSWs

in the diocesan area, regardless of their religious, social or economic background.

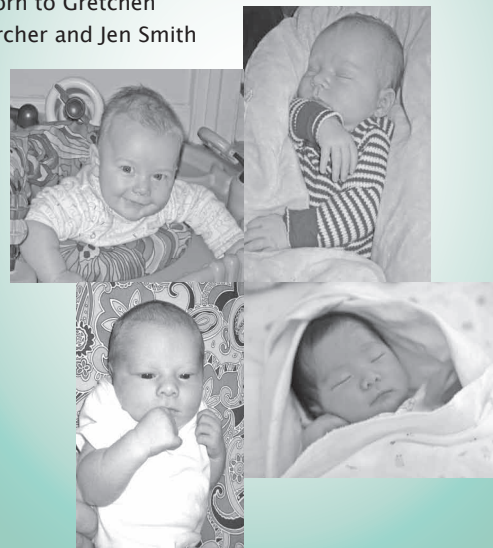
Flint area agencies have been providing an annual free meal to the poor and homeless in the area for many years. This year, organizers interviewed participants to find out more about what they felt was needed. The **MSW students from our Flint campus** participated by assisting with the interviews. You can read about it in the article "Giving food, getting feedback from poor: Annual dinner gives agencies an opportunity to learn what else is needed," published in the *Flint Journal* on November 15. Also participating were **Julie Farman**, LMSW, program coordinator, and **Linda Campbell**, LMSW, field education coordinator, both of the MSU Flint campus MSW Program.

BASW senior **Elyse Wartel**, who works as program planner for Prime Time Center for Seniors in East Lansing, was quoted in the *Lansing State Journal* on November 11 in an article titled "Helping creates a dynamic bond." **S**

## Social Work—The next generation

**W**e are pleased to welcome four new members of our social work family! Born to our PhD students (clockwise starting at upper left):

- ▶ **Ian David Hock**, born to Robert and Meghan Hock;
- ▶ **Nicholas Newman**, born to Karen and Kurt Newman;
- ▶ **David Aujin Yeo**, born to Yeon Soo Kim and Il Yeo; and
- ▶ **Matea Archer Smith**, born to Gretchen Archer and Jen Smith



## Tax-deductible gifts turn wishes into reality

Our three wishes would all relate to endowment funds and other gifts being sufficient to generate financial resources:

1. To provide a scholarship for every student admitted to the MSU School of Social Work. With tuition on a steady increase each year, we would like to reduce student debt and encourage our students through scholarships and other assistance. Our students have a deep commitment to help others, to improve society and change the world—we would like to support them in attaining their education and launching their careers of special service.
2. To support our creative programs that provide unique training, such as our veterinary social work program working in the MSU campus-based animal hospitals, such as our Chance at Childhood Program that trains social work graduate students and law students together to

be more effective advocates for children, such as our Kinship Care Resource Center that assists grandparents and other relatives raising grandchildren, such as our Study Abroad Program to Ghana, or our lectureships that bring talented national leaders to campus to interact with our students, faculty, and community members.

3. To support faculty research so that we can advance knowledge that is relevant for the field and for our society, and disseminate what we learn to a broad audience across the state of Michigan, and beyond.

Your gifts help turn these wishes into possibilities for our students, faculty members, and for the children, families and communities that we serve. Thank you!

Your year-end, tax-deductible gifts to “Michigan State University” for the School of Social Work are particularly appreciated as we prepare to admit our next class of students and plan for the year ahead. Again, thank you!

—Dr. Gary Anderson

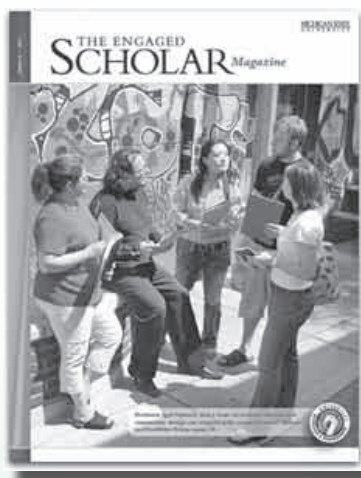
## University spotlight on School’s activities

The *Engaged Scholar Magazine* is published annually by MSU Outreach and Engagement. It focuses on collaborative partnerships between MSU and its external constituents—partnerships forged for mutual benefit and learning, with an emphasis on research.

The Summer 2007 issue featured a focus on families, work, and health. Included in that issue was an article by **Dr. Gary Anderson**, director, **Jo Ann McFall**, associate director for field education, and **David Knaggs**, social work clinical instructor, who until recently also held an appointment with the Office of University Outreach and Engagement; **Dr. John Seita** was also featured. They described the Child Welfare Learning Collaborative that is a partnership of

the School, MSU Outreach and Engagement, and St. Vincent Catholic Charities of Lansing. It is a program modeled on the “grand rounds” of medical education, bringing academic and practitioner experts together to share knowledge and review cases. St. Vincent’s has become the largest field placement opportunity for our students.

Also featured was our Chance at Childhood Program, the joint program of the School and the College of Law in which social work and law students work together cooperatively to learn both sides of the child welfare system. (See page 9.) Also highlighted under “A few of MSU’s resources for families” were the School’s Post Adoption Support Services and our Kinship Care Resource Center. **S**





## Thank you for your generous donations

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PHOTO BY TOBY L. SALZMAN

Students in the first cohort of our Blended Statewide Clinical MSW Program participate in a group exercise during their first Summer Institute. This photo has been selected for inclusion in the CSWE (Council on Social Work Education) annual report. See story on page 10.



# Tell us what you're doing today!

Notes from Alumni will be featured in the *Fall 2008 News*.

Name when enrolled \_\_\_\_\_ Circle degree earned: BA / MSW / PhD  
Current name \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_  
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Briefly describe your professional activities and other information you want your classmates to know

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Web site: <http://www.socialwork.msu.edu> Alumni web site: <http://www.msu.edu/~sswalum/>

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Our teaching, research, and outreach seek to promote positive change and social justice  
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