School mission brought to life

Michigan State University aims to advance knowledge and transform lives. The MSU School of Social Work plays a key role in bringing to life the mission and purposes of Michigan State University.

At Fall Orientation, incoming Flint and East Lansing MSW students work together on a scavenger hunt to help them learn about social work at MSU.

Students go global, gain from experiences in Finland, Mexico, and Ghana. See pages 6–7.

Pictured here with the School's Homecoming float highlighting our Foster Youth Alumni Services Program are (L-R) seniors Kelsey Crimmins, Samantha Acavedo, Sarah Shortt Williams, and Jessica Greenfield. See foster youth stories on pages 9 and 24.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=OoOwpzw43ks
Every eight years, the School’s curriculum and programs are thoroughly examined through an accreditation process led by the Council on Social Work Education. This accreditation affirms the School’s quality and assures that our graduates are eligible for licensure. The examination process began in Fall 2010, with the School submitting a six-volume self study for the BASW program and six volumes for the MSW program. After review by the CSWE Commission on Accreditation, we had a site visit with two CSWE visitors in April 2011. After their examination and conversations with a range of School groups, the Commission had a final vote in October 2011. The School’s accreditation was fully reaffirmed for eight years (through 2019) with no progress reports, revisions, or improvements noted or needed. This is great news!

More good news

An innovative program for special youth: We held our third annual Foster Care Camp at MSU in August. There were 35 foster care youth in attendance, with a troop of MSU students as camp counselors—all veterans of the child welfare system. This is a unique and pioneering experience—check out the description of the foster care youth program at MSU in this newsletter on page 9 (and on YouTube: “MSU Foster Care Camp”).

A new international opportunity and relationship: After sending 15 students and three faculty members to Finland for a new study abroad program in June 2011, we hosted a delegation of students and faculty from Finland in September 2011. Special thanks to our partner agencies that provided tours and discussions about social services in America. Our growing number of study away and study abroad opportunities are described on pages 6–7 of this newsletter.

An expanding partnership: The School has received a contract from the Michigan Department of Human Services to provide training for new adoptive parents, and a contract to provide in-service education for child welfare workers in Michigan. The adoption training has resulted in the development of a nine-hour curriculum for parents and will be expanded to include workers in 2012. The in-service training is a special partnership that includes all seven graduate schools of social work in Michigan (see page 11). Combined with our continuing federally funded leadership role in the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute, MSU is a national leader in the preparation of the child welfare workforce.

A flurry of individual and group recognitions: Whether it is our new research signature theme for the BASW program (matching faculty members and students interested in hands-on research experience) in which faculty gained MSU funding for our students, our faculty members who have won research mentoring awards (Adams, Hartford, and BIRCWH), our member of MSU’s Homecoming Court and float in the homecoming parade, HomiesGiving, a candlelight vigil for victims of child sexual abuse, or being elected the student representative to Michigan NASW, our faculty and students have gained considerable recognition for their commitment, intelligence, values, and talent, and so have our alumni. Many of their stories are in this newsletter on pages 20–25.

There is much more to celebrate at your School of Social Work. We continue to grow, with our largest graduate class ever (450 MSW students) and our largest recent cohorts in the BASW program (over 200 majors and pre-majors). The PhD program continues to educate academic and organizational leaders—many gaining additional experience during their studies at MSU.

We are proud of our faculty and students, grateful to our many community partners, and appreciative of your interest and support! Go Green!

—Gary R. Anderson, PhD, LMSW
Director, Michigan State University School of Social Work
Weekend MSW Program
to begin in Fall 2012

The MSU School of Social Work is proud to announce that its Weekend MSW Program is now available! This highly innovative program will begin in Fall 2012. The program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, essential for licensure.

This leadership-focused weekend model will prepare students to practice a wide range of advanced skills for leadership and change management within diverse organizations and communities. Students engage with the same faculty and complete the same course content and requirements as all MSU MSW programs. Additional certificate options include a focus on community engagement, supervision, and leadership.

The Weekend MSW Program is designed for social workers who want to advance their careers and learn about organization and community leadership by completing an MSW degree in a part-time program while keeping their jobs. When they come here, they will find a group of social work colleagues who are also interested in organization and community leadership for collaboration and support during the MSW program and beyond.

Classes will be held at MSU’s James B. Henry Center for Executive Development in East Lansing, a lifelong learning center supporting the educational needs of businesses, organizations, and individuals. It is a state-of-the-art facility which also houses the Eli Broad Graduate School of Management’s Executive Development Programs. An on-site hotel provides an affordable option for Weekend MSW students.

This program is a year-round, three-year, part-time hybrid program that combines the best of technology-based learning with field education and face-to-face weekend sessions on the East Lansing campus. It also includes one week of face-to-face instruction each year on the MSU campus.
The MSU School of Social Work has brought its traditional Advanced Standing MSW Program to the Saginaw/Midland/Bay City area, expanding access to the highest quality education as part of the School’s and the University’s mission as a land grant institution.

The intricate details of establishing a new program can be a challenge, but when you work with supportive and collegial people, the work becomes so much easier. That is exactly what happened with the Saginaw Advanced Standing MSW Program this past summer.

The School has received tremendous support from the administration at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) as we worked together on classroom scheduling, access to technology, and everything in between. SVSU Administration has worked with MSU Saginaw MSW Program Coordinator Julie Farman to ensure that all aspects of the program were ready to begin. This warm reception was also conveyed by the SVSU Social Work program and, in particular, by our liaison, Lucy Mercier, PhD, LMSW. Office space was readied, and faculty shared their enthusiasm with us about what this opportunity would provide to the region.

The first cohort of 32 students began their core classes in July, and those in the full-time program will be graduating in May 2012. We are very fortunate to hold the classes in SVSU’s newly completed Health and Human Services Building. Many of the MSW students in this program are alumni of the SVSU BSW program, so they already knew the wonderful assets of the university. Students are handling the transition into the accelerated program well. Instructors have noted that they have high engagement in their course work, and lively discussions are held. New Flint/Oakland/Saginaw Field Coordinator Corie Denay is from the area, so the agency and community collaborations for student field placements have also gone very well.

We look forward to a long association with SVSU and the Saginaw Valley region.
The Statewide Blended Program welcomed its sixth cohort to Summer Institute in June 2011.

Statewide Blended MSW Program recruiting now for its seventh cohort

The Statewide Blended MSW Program is currently recruiting its seventh cohort. This innovative hybrid model combines face-to-face, videoconferencing, and online instruction structured in a unique learning community to provide easy access to quality, clinically focused graduate social work education all over the state. It is a fully accredited program with the same course content and requirements as the regular MSW Program, taught by the same faculty as teach on campus.

While the emphasis of the program is on quality graduate education, we still find time to have some fun during our annual Summer Institute. The program makes innovative use of technology, but it’s still all about the relationships!

Flint involvements

Flint MSW student Regina Baker is on the anti-bullying committee for Flint Community Schools and participated in their first-ever bullying awareness week.

Flint MSW alumna Kenyetta Dotson (2010) represented a Flint Community Action group working to establish a culture of non-violence, encourage crime reporting, and increase involvement in programs and community service. Flint MSW student April Alexander is active among group participants who have lost family members due to violence.

Both events were covered by Flint WJRT-TV.

Oakland updates

Associate Director Dr. Rena Harold, the Oakland Program’s Coordinator Julie Farman and Graduate Advisor Linda Campbell travelled to the Oakland University campus to help celebrate the final CSWE accreditation of Oakland’s BSW program and honor the partnership we have developed over the past several years.

They joined Dr. Albert “Jay” Meehan, Sociology and Anthropology Department chair; Dr. Lisa Dalton, SW program director; SW department faculty members Dr. Scott Smith and Dr. Angela Kaiser; and Field Director Maria DeVoodg-Beam in November.

Appreciation was expressed for the assistance of Dr. Marcia Lampen, coordinator of our MSW Programs, in the accreditation process of the OU social work program and for OU’s support of the MSU Oakland MSW Program.

Forging a strong partnership has been key to the growth of both programs.
Social workers require new levels of understanding and new models of practice if they are to contribute effectively toward the resolution of social problems that are rooted in worldwide social, political, and economic realities.... [These] must reflect an understanding of the transnational nature of the social problems that bring clients, client groups, and other constituencies to the attention of human service workers.

—Council on Social Work Education Global Commission

Students get hands-on experience in Finland, Mexico, and Ghana

During this past academic year, in response to the need for understanding and practice that CSWE describes, the School of Social Work introduced two new international experiences: International Experience in Mexico during spring break and Finland: International Social Policy and Social Service Delivery during the summer session. The two countries provide a contrasting learning experience—specifically, studying a developing country like parts of Mexico, in terms of social welfare policy and the struggle to provide for their citizens; and a country like Finland, which is a leader in social services and labor market policy. Each in-country experience is paired with a required social work course. Students also had the opportunity to observe social workers and their educational backgrounds in settings and roles that may not be typical for their American counterparts, thus also expanding their sense of professional identity.

In response to the Finland program, two faculty and six students from our partner Tampere University of Applied Science (Finnish: Tampereen ammattikorkeakoulu, TAMK) paid an exchange visit to MSU; they even had the opportunity to spend an afternoon at the beach in Grand Haven! (You can read what they wrote about their trip at http://tamk-en.blogspot.com/2011/11/social-service-students-in-states.html)

The students in Mexico had the choice of staying in one of four cities (Oaxaca, Puebla, Cuernavaca, or Merida) where they participated in community service activities for a hands-on approach and led reflection exercises with the undergraduate students as part of their leadership requirement. In Finland, students had exposure to a range of social service research groups, agencies, and professionals during their time in Helsinki and Tampere. Students also experienced a day trip to Tallinn, Estonia, and an overnight cruise and day in neighboring Stockholm, Sweden.

MSU faculty for international study
Finland: Marcia Lampen, Karen Newman, and Amanda Woodard
Mexico: Marcia Lampen, Karen Newman
Ghana: DeBrenna Agbényiga
One of the School’s longest-running international experiences is the summer program Social Development and Education: Perspectives from Ghana, also a two-stage approach. Following completion of a social work course, the four-week, in-country experience features a concentrated field experience, lectures, field trips, and interactions with the people of Ghana.

Field experiences in Ghana offer MSU students the opportunity to collaborate with students from the University of Ghana and other social service agencies in several communities around greater Accra, La, and Osu, made possible through an ongoing relationship with faculty at the University of Ghana and directors of various governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Regarding Mexico and Ghana, Elizabeth Taylor wrote: “I think that both experiences were equally amazing. I loved the fact that I was able to bond with the children, and they were genuinely interested in us as volunteers, and Americans. I think that every student should have an abroad experience in a developing country because it opens your eyes to an array of social issues that you may have never known.”

Read more students comments and see more of their pictures on the web. Visit http://www.socialwork.msu.edu/global_experiences

“The International Experience in Mexico was full of cultural excursions, reflection sessions, and the most vital component: engagement,” says MSW student Elizabeth Taylor.

“The highlight of Cape Coast would have to be the trip to Kakum National Park and crossing bridges about 40 m vertical. After the first wobbly step, the view was beyond beautiful as I took a new appreciation for conquering fears and daring to be different. Sounds similar to the profession right?” reports MSW student James Bell.
Strengthening marriages of couples who adopt special needs children

Five-year project involved many partners

In 2007, MSU School of Social Work was awarded a five-year federal grant to strengthen the marriages of couples who have adopted children with a range of special needs. This project set out to provide a supportive training experience for couples, an educational training experience for workers, and a resource-rich website. We recognized that there was some attention given to helping parents build strong relationships with their adoptive children but also believed that a couples’ relationship would be affected by that adoption—in wonderful ways and in challenging ways.

When we tried to adapt existing couples/parenting curricula we quickly discovered that classic couples’ education missed the nuances of the adoption experience and traditional adoption curricula overlooked the couple’s dynamics. So we developed Building a Home With Heart, an innovative and interactive curriculum to support couples and teach skills for strengthening relationships. This curriculum was written by two talented professionals—Judy McKenzie and John McKenzie—with support from the overall project coordinator, Rosemary Jackson, informed by focus groups and interviews with adoptive couples led by our faculty team: Dr. John Mooradian, Dr. Tina Timm, Gretchen Archer, and PhD Graduate Assistant Rob Hock (now Dr. Hock, University of South Carolina Assistant Professor).

This curriculum is available for free on the School’s website (www.socialwork.msu.edu/postadopt).

With this new curriculum, Jackson and a team of expert adoption trainers (including Duane Wilson (MSW 2004) and Ken Berger, Nancy Berger, Kirsta Grapentine, Bob Pletcher, and Kathy Yates) conducted weekend retreats for adoptive couples across the state of Michigan. The McKenzies led workshops for couples at Michigan Association for Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Parents/MAFAK conferences coordinated by Alma Schmidt. Jackson also led workshops for adoption workers through MSU continuing education, with support from Michele Brock and Monaca Eaton. The McKenzies and Jackson were invited to train all of the adoption leaders in the state of Kansas as part of this project. In addition, statewide two-day train-the-trainers workshops for the curriculum were provided for professionals with interest in supporting adoptive couples, delivered in partnership with the Michigan Federation for Children and Families (Janet Reynolds Snyder, Executive Director) and the adoption program managers of Federation member agencies, and assisted by the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange/MARE (initially Family Service and Children’s Aid of Jackson, later the Judson Center).

The Adoptive Family Support Network/AFSN (Director Betsy Boggs) also supported the effort, training all Family-to-Family Support staff in the curriculum. AFSN has taken on the task of providing training for adoptive couples in the Building a Home With Heart curriculum after the federal grant ends.

The evaluation effort, led by Archer with assistance from Jackson and the faculty team, demonstrated that both adoptive couples and adoption professionals found the training extremely valuable because it addressed topics that were important to adoptive families and was presented in an organized and engaging format easily utilized in adoption professionals’ future work with families. Adoptive couples reported that the training “was loaded with great information,” enthusiastically stating that, “It is perfect for adoptive/foster parents!” Adoption professionals indicated that they were looking forward to using the materials in their work with adoptive families. They believed that the training would be “a very useful tool in the home study process” or in counseling situations and diagnostic assessments with adoptive families.

This project also included a survey of workers a to learn about why adoptions in Michigan are disrupted or dissolved. This study was conducted in partnership with MARE with support from the Michigan Department of Human Services.

With assistance from Toby Salzman, the website for Post Adoption Support Services was updated and expanded to support this project (www.socialwork.msu.edu/postadopt).

This was an immensely popular and successful project. Serving hundreds of families and workers, MSU School of Social Work has made an important contribution to the well-being of children and families. Although the grant funding has ended, the special training curriculum exists and is available for use, the workshops will be built into the School’s Continuing Education program, the website is connected to the School’s website, a number of publications were created from the project, and several more reports will be finalized and disseminated.

The grant was identified and written by Dr. Gary Anderson, who served as the project’s initial Principal Investigator, then co-PI with Dr. Mooradian. It was a great team effort within the School. We are grateful for our wonderful community partners.
Fostering Academics–Mentoring Excellence

Here are nearly 200 current and former foster care students enrolled at MSU. MSU Foster Youth Alumni Services, now in its fourth year, is a part of the School of Social Work. The FAME program (Fostering Academics–Mentoring Excellence) was developed and coordinated by Angelique Day (see sidebar), herself a former foster care youth, while she was on faculty at the School. The program was created for two reasons: to increase the educational outcomes of young people who age out of foster care, and to ensure that once they are an MSU student they receive the support they need so that they graduate successfully. Key features include:

- **Foster Care Youth Endowed Scholarship** provides a limited number of tuition-and-living-expense scholarships to incoming freshmen who have spent some part of their childhood or adolescence in a court-ordered foster care placement in Michigan.

- **Mentoring Program** pairs professionals and educators with current or former foster care youth.

- **Care Package Deliveries** go to current or former foster care youth during final exam week each semester.

- **Foster Youth Alumni Services Website** is an information and referral portal for foster youth, providing links to services and resources across campus. [http://www.finaid.msu.edu/fyas/AppMain.asp](http://www.finaid.msu.edu/fyas/AppMain.asp)

In addition, the School organizes and coordinates a pioneering **Summer Foster Care Camp** to help youth in foster care prepare for college attendance (see sidebar).

Future program goals include stabilizing funding and expanding external supports and resources to increase current program capacity; BASW senior Sarah Shortt Williams, AmeriCorps member, is MSU Foster Youth Alumni Services coordinator. For more information: shorttsa@msu.edu or 517-353-0764.

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**FEATURED FOSTER YOUTH**

Angelique Day (MSW 2005), a foster alumna herself, is now Assistant Professor of Social Work at Wayne State University after receiving her PhD from Western Michigan University. Her dissertation, *An Examination of Post-Secondary Educational Access, Retention, and Success of Foster Care Youth* was awarded the prestigious Dissertation Award in August 2011 by the American Psychological Association Section on Child Maltreatment; her findings have been published in *Children and Youth Services Review*. In addition to developing the MSU FAME program, Angelique has worked as a child protective services worker and has extensive experience in research and training, including services in tribal communities across the state. She is well known as a child welfare advocate, and a highly regarded expert in the subject of youth transitioning from foster care.

Wesley Patton had never thought about going to college while growing up. During his first year at MSU, he received the School of Social Work's Foster Care Scholarship and met his mentor, Director Gary Anderson. Wesley states, “The FAME program provided me with a Michigan State family I could relate to. I noticed that how peers judged you depended on how much your family cared for you. I felt alienated because I never received care packages from my family. When I received an email from FAME that they would be giving out care packages during finals week it boosted my confidence and motivated me a lot more than when I was witnessing everyone with a care package except for me.” Wesley graduated with a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science with a concentration in Community Relations.

Linda Venema (BASW 2011) was first introduced to the foster care alumni program not as a recipient, but as one of the volunteers for the summer camp. She writes, "This opportunity came about through my application to the School of Social Work when I was first encouraged to pursue research in the area of child welfare. Based on my own time spent in the foster care system as a young girl, I was driven to help those in the same situation. After my four years at MSU, I wanted to change career focus and work with military personnel and their family members, which has led to attending the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Here, using the base I gained while studying in East Lansing, I am able to serve the men and women that defend our country.”

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**Foster Care Youth Camp holds its third summer session**

The pioneering **MSU Foster Care Youth Camp** was held for the third summer. More than 30 youth in foster care were in attendance and residence at MSU. The camp was led by Jim Hennessey and Sarah Shortt Williams (AmeriCorps member and BASW senior) and assisted by Joanne Riebschleger and a great team of camp counselors (many of whom are foster care alums). The Camp aims to prepare and support foster care youth attending institutions of higher education by increasing their knowledge and understanding about financial support, student life, and studying at MSU.

In addition to serving youth who are currently in foster care, the camp also provides an opportunity for at-risk youth that are currently enrolled at MSU to build and practice responsibility and leadership skills. This is one of the most unique opportunities for foster care youth in the US.
Professional development opportunities abound

The mission of the Michigan State University School of Social Work Continuing Education Program is to help people thrive in service to their communities by offering innovative, valuable, and accessible professional development opportunities throughout the state of Michigan and beyond.

To this end, our Continuing Education Team works year-round to collect professional development programs for social work, human service, and healthcare professionals taught by outstanding faculty and practitioners.

Great Lakes Summer Institute

July’s 3rd Annual Great Lakes Summer Institute in Traverse City at the Great Wolf Lodge offered 13 continuing education workshops, with over 140 professionals in attendance. The Institute has nearly doubled in size since its inaugural year and has become a premier training event in northern Michigan. Thirteen outstanding educators provided a mix of half-day, one-day, and two-day intensive professional development courses designed to advance the practice of both micro and macro practitioners. As many as 18 Social Work CECHs could be earned in beautiful Traverse City, MI, with time left over for relaxation and activities. If you want to be notified of next summer’s Great Lakes Institute, go to http://www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu/ and register for the e-mail list or call 517-353-3060 to be put on our mailing list.

Michigan Indian Day

Once again, MSU School of Social Work provided some outstanding continuing education to celebrate Michigan Indian Day on September 23 in Manistee. This year’s program was titled Ethical & Culturally Competent Practice with American Indian People.

Michigan is home to 12 federally recognized and four state-recognized tribes, as well as urban Indian communities. The day was dedicated to exploring the ability to integrate cultural knowledge and competence into an appropriate helping process for American Indians, sharing stories of what can happen when helping professionals are not aware of cultural beliefs, traditions, and values when working with American Indian families and the ethical dilemmas that may occur.

Presenters for MID were: LeAnne Silvey, PhD, LMSW, ACSW, MSU associate professor and acting director of the MSU American Indian Studies program; Bill Memberto, MSW, director of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Family Services Department; and Lois Beardslee, MA, author and adjunct instructor at Northwestern Michigan College. Our thanks to Suzanne Cross as she is the person who inspired Michigan Indian Day.

New staffer in CE program office

The School welcomes Gina Van Horn as continuing education events specialist. Gina comes from Santa Cruz, CA, where she worked as executive director for EduAlliance Network, a nonprofit that worked with educational leaders and the California Department of Education to create learning events to provide education to K-12 teachers and administrators working with students at risk. Her conference management and planning skills fit well with her new responsibilities. She is married to an assistant professor in the MSU Department of Human Development and Family Studies and has a daughter and grandson in California. She loves to travel and garden.

Michigan State University School of Social Work is approved as a provider for continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (Provider No. 1136 June 15, 2010–June 15, 2013). ASWB ACE approval is recognized by the State of Michigan Board of Social Work Examiners as acceptable continuing education for social workers in Michigan. Other social workers should contact their regulatory board to determine course approval. MSU School of Social Work is also a Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative Approved Provider (MICEC #0001 March 24, 2011–March 23, 2012) for all face-to-face and live stream programs.
School leads Michigan graduate social work programs in coordinating In-Service Child Welfare Training

The MSU School of Social Work was awarded a three-year grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) to organize and coordinate a dynamic partnership among the seven Michigan graduate schools of social work to provide a Child Welfare In-Service Training Program. The catalog for this program is available now.

A core curriculum has been developed with feedback from child welfare stakeholders, participants in past trainings, and directly from the field. There are also elective courses that will address a number of specialized issues in child welfare and may apply to some advanced cases. The goal is high quality services for children and families supported by child welfare workers engaged in ongoing professional development. These trainings are eligible for social work continuing education credit hours, too.

With the support of DHS, we are able to offer these sessions free of charge for child welfare (principally child protective service), foster care, and adoption workers as well as DHS-contracted private agency foster care and adoption workers on a first come-first served basis.

This project is led by Continuing Education Coordinator Michele Brock, LMSW, and Director Gary Anderson, with the leadership and project coordination of Kadi Janssen (MSW 2010). The evaluation is led by Assistant Professor Sacha Klein, with Research Associate Gretchen Archer, MSW.

We appreciate the commitment and support of DHS Director Maura Corrigan and her administrative team, particularly the training team leaders, Terri Gilbert and Donna Mullins, with Jeanne Ballard.
CONTINUING education

Fall 2011 special School-sponsored CE programs

Thanks to generous donors, the School has been able to establish several endowments to support practice-focused education and training. In addition, our Alumni Association has been active in providing a series of breakfast programs each year, and we have a variety of strong partnerships that help us expand our offerings to broader audiences.

Endowment-supported programs

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<th>Program</th>
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<td>Dorothy Harper Jones Lecture Series</td>
<td>Latino Families in Therapy – Celia Jaes Falicov, PhD</td>
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<td>Fund for Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Justice</td>
<td>Connecting the Dots—Luck or Skill: Organizational Advocacy – Gary Tester, MRC</td>
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<td>Leadership Ethics &amp; Organizational Impact – Deborah Nykamp, PhD, MSW</td>
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<td>Advocacy for Successful Life Transitions for People with Disabilities – Susan Rogers, LMSW</td>
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<td>Developing Leaders in Social Work &amp; the Importance of Succession Planning – Stefanie Peters, LMSW, ACSW, MPA</td>
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<td>Levande Program in Gerontology</td>
<td>Recognizing the Spiritual Dimension in Older Adults – Linda Keilman, DNP, GNP-BC</td>
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<td>The Brain &amp; Behavior in Dementia: Interventions that Address Cognitive Impairment – Shelly Weaverdyck, PhD</td>
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<td>Responding to Elder Abuse &amp; Neglect – Traci L. Ruiz, MA</td>
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<td>Major Depression, Ethnicity, &amp; Disparities in Care among Older Adults – Hector Gonzalez, PhD</td>
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<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>MSU Social Work Alumni Board Breakfasts</td>
<td>Understanding Cultural Differences &amp; the Experience of Pain in the American Indian &amp; Alaskan Native Population – Suzanne Cross, PhD, ACSW, LMSW</td>
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<td>Advance Directives: The What, the How, the Ethical Considerations &amp; Legal Requirements – Nan Hunt, LMSW, CMAC</td>
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<td>Programs co-sponsored by the School</td>
<td>American Indian Communities: Building Culturally Resilient Services for Suicide Prevention &amp; Treatment, with the American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan and Michigan Statewide Behavioral Health Communication Network</td>
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<td>Aging, Sexuality, and Sexual Health: What Social Workers Need to Know, with the Michigan Center for Rural Health Social Work Grand Rounds</td>
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<td>Beyond Advocacy: Future Directions in Case Management, with the MSU College of Nursing</td>
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<td>Michigan Bullying Prevention Initiative, with the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Made possible through a partnership with the Association of Children’s Mental Health in Michigan and a grant awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health</td>
<td>Understanding &amp; Supporting Children with a Parent with a Serious Psychiatric Illness – Joanne Riebschleger, PhD, LMSW</td>
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<td>Transforming the Difficult Child through Treatment &amp; Parenting – Anne Lange, BSN, LMSW, ACSW</td>
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Specialized training provided to adoptive and foster parents across Michigan

In January 2011, the MSU School of Social Work was awarded a contract by the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop and provide training to foster parents who were adopting their foster children as well as other families who would be adopting children from the foster care system. This training addressed the unique issues that adoptive families face, such as:

- “Dealing with the Stress of Transitioning Children from Foster Care Status to Adoption” focused on the issues of shifting family dynamics when foster parents legally adopt the children in their care. It also looked at the issues that children face when their legal status changes. Information about identifying and managing the unique stressors associated with raising children from the foster care system were provided.

- “Temperament, Attachment, Trauma and the Brain, and Grief and Loss: How to Understand and Manage Behavior and Emotion in Your Child” provided information on the impact of attachment disruption and trauma experience on children’s brain development. It helped participants understand the reasons for children’s behavior and emotion in the context of development, environment, and the foster care experience, as well as ways to increase attachment and help children manage emotions.

- “Understanding the Services My Child May Need and How to Access Them” presented information about common diagnoses for children in the child welfare system, including Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Reactive Detachment Disorder (RAD), and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). In addition, information about how to seek services commonly needed for adopted children and their families was presented, and a discussion about the Michigan Adoption Subsidy Program was facilitated.

Participants were encouraged to attend all three workshops but had the option to attend any combination of the workshops that worked best for them. Foster parents who participated were able to earn up to nine training hours that could be used to meet licensing requirements. In addition, a stipend was provided that could be used to defray the cost of transportation to the training site as well as child care.

The training was delivered by experienced child welfare and infant mental health specialists and was interactive in nature, with an opportunity for follow-up on specific questions and issues.

During the first year, training was offered throughout the state, including sites in Lansing, Metro Detroit, Flint, Saginaw, Grand Rapids, Alpena, and Marquette. Project staff included: Victoria Fitton, project advisor; Rosemary Jackson, project coordinator; and Lynn Nee, project support. This grant was Michigan Department of Human Services contract #APS-11-99003. Links to detailed information can be found at www.socialwork.msu.edu/postadopt/.
Online courses increase access to CECHs

Michigan State University School of Social Work seeks to be as accessible as possible. You can now receive social work continuing education credit at your leisure—when it’s convenient for you! Save travel time and cost. It is as simple as visiting our website, clicking the program you wish to view, pressing Play, and sending in the downloadable post test and evaluation with payment.

Understanding the Psychopharmacology of ADHD for Mental Health Professionals

Prepare to learn about Attention Deficit with Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and the neurobiology of the brain as it relates to this complex disorder. The more you as a mental health professional can learn and understand about this condition, the more impact you can have on quality of life and treatment outcomes.

Faculty: Zakia Alavi, MD

Adolescent Self-Harm & Suicide Ideation

This workshop will cover the definitions and symptoms of self-harm, social myths about self-injury, factors that contribute to self-harming behavior, and treatment options. We will also discuss suicide risk factors and suicide management in the context of crisis intervention.

Faculty: Victoria Fitton, PhD, LMSW, ACSW, RPT

Grief & Loss across the Lifespan

Grief and loss affect all of us. Offering support to someone who is suffering from loss or bereavement is a tremendous challenge, both personally and professionally. This course provides guidance and advice for anyone whose work brings them into contact with the bereaved and is particularly suitable if you are working in a helping or caring profession. This course will provide an overview of grief responses, assessment, and treatment planning across varying lifespans from childhood to older adulthood.

Faculty: Julie Farman, LMSW

Substance Abuse: Motivational Strategies & the Stages of Change

Motivational interviewing is an increasingly well-known and researched method in counseling clients that was first described by William Miller in 1983 (Rubak, et al., 2005). As a directive and client-centered approach, motivational interviewing techniques have been shown to be particularly useful with persons engaged in harmful substance use in a wide variety of care provision environments.

Faculty: Karen Newman, MSW

Reflective Supervision

This workshop will focus on reflective supervision. Participants will identify ways to initiate and foster a reflective process that enhances the social worker’s learning and professional development. Additional understanding of professional development stages will provide supervisors with additional tools to support professional growth.

Faculty: Cheryl Williams-Hecksel, LMSW

Supporting People Affected by Pain through Pain Management Advocacy

Pain affects more than 76.5 million US residents and most health care providers will work with patients and families whose lives have been touched by pain. It is, therefore, important to seize every opportunity to be an advocate for people living with pain. Becoming educated on issues surrounding appropriate treatment of pain, knowing the rights of people with pain, and increasing visibility of issues related to pain in your community will help you serve as a stronger voice for all those affected by pain. This presentation will highlight the importance of advocacy in its many forms and the roles that each social worker can play in advancing effective pain management. Advocacy and policy opportunities will be considered, and resources will be shared.

Faculty: Yvette Colón, PhD, ACSW, LMSW

Sex Therapy: 101

Most mental health professionals have received very little training in sexuality or sex therapy. This is unfortunate given that their clients may consequently be struggling in silence with these issues. This session will provide a brief overview of common sexual dysfunctions for men and women.

Faculty: Tina Timm, PhD

The School Social Work Competency Series is offered only as an online series of courses (see page 16).

Each of the courses listed above is worth 1 CECH. All courses offered by MSU School of Social Work Continuing Education are approved by CSWE ACE; please check with your state Social Work Board for rules and regulations regarding online continuing education, as they vary by state.
## CE COURSES SCHEDULED FOR SPRING 2012

**Register early and save money! You may register by fax, online, or by mail.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adoption Certificate Series</th>
<th>Clinical Practice</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Family Assessment &amp; Preparation for Adoption Professionals</td>
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<td>March 13</td>
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<td></td>
<td>March 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocacy • Leadership • Social Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>Identifying &amp; Leading Change within Your Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Developing Collaborations: Building Relationships Is As Important As Creating Agendas</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Ensuring an Effective Partnership between the Executive Director &amp; the Board of Directors: Advice to the Executive Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Helping the Judge Make the Right Decision: Effective Courtroom Testimony</td>
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### Aging

- February 25 Sexual Health, Sexuality, & Aging
- March 24 Surrogate Decision Making in Michigan
- April 21 End-of-Life Decision Making with Chronically Ill Older Adults
- March 12 Understanding Autism: Beyond the Basics
- March 16 Motivational Interviewing with At-Risk Youth & Families & Substance Abuse
- March 30 Empowering Parents: Strategies for Working with the High Risk Adolescent & Family
- April 13 Sandtray Therapy 101: Beginning Sandtray Therapy for Students & Mental Health Professionals
- April 13 Using Sandtray Therapy for Advance Treatment Issues
- April 27 “Real Life Heroes”: An Introduction to a Promising Practice

### Children, Youth, & Families

- February 24 Social Work Practice with LGBT Parent Families: Issues & Interventions
- March 14 Understanding Autism: Beyond the Basics
- March 14 Behavioral Supports & Interventions for Individuals with an ASD
- March 16 Motivational Interviewing with At-Risk Youth & Families & Substance Abuse
- March 30 Empowering Parents: Strategies for Working with the High Risk Adolescent & Family
- April 13 Sandtray Therapy 101: Beginning Sandtray Therapy for Students & Mental Health Professionals
- April 13 Using Sandtray Therapy for Advance Treatment Issues
- April 27 “Real Life Heroes”: An Introduction to a Promising Practice

### Children, Youth, & Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs coming this summer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▶ Creating a Playroom: Play Therapy Assessment &amp; Intervention for Traumatized Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▶ Creative Interventions with Older Adults</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Adventure Therapy: An Experiential Approach to Social Work Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Dialectical Behavior Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Grief &amp; Loss Across the Lifespan</td>
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<td>▶ Community Organizing &amp; Partnerships: Building Coalitions for Social Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Substance Abuse Assessment &amp; Intervention 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Transformative Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ An Introduction to Internal Family Systems Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Rethinking Delivery of Children’s Mental Health Services: The Next Evolution toward Improved Outcomes for Youth &amp; Their Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▶ Health Centered Social Work Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>▶ Social Work Practice in the Legal Arena</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supervision in Child &amp; Family Services Certificate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Register for online courses at: <a href="http://www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu">www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
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### Clinical Practice

- March 13 | Moving Beyond the Theory & into Action: Demystifying & Practicing Core Strategies of Dialectical Behavior Therapy |
- March 16 | Building Religious & Cultural Competency with Muslim Clients |
- March 15 | Ethical Decision Making in Social Work Practice: Applying a Common Morality Framework |
- March 23 | Ethical Decision Making: The Role of the NASW Code of Ethics, Personal Values & World Views |
- April 10 | Recovery: It’s Not Just a Buzzword |
- March 12 | Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in the Treatment of Anxiety Disorders & Hoarding Behaviors |
- April 27 | Cognitive Behavioral Therapy with Individuals Suffering from Schizophrenia |

### Online CE Courses

- Support for online courses at: www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu |
- Subsistence Abuse: Motivational Strategies & the Stages of Change |
- Supporting People Affected by Pain through Pain Management Advocacy |
- Sex Therapy 101 |
- Reflective Supervision |
- Grief & Loss |
- Adolescent Self Harm & Suicide Ideation |
- Understanding the Psychopharmacology of ADHD for Mental Health Professionals |

### School Social Work Competency Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Find info at: <a href="http://www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu">www.socialwork.msu.edu/ceu</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Social Work Assessment: Integrating Psychological &amp; Educational Testing</td>
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### Social Work Licensure Exam Preparation

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check our website in February for information regarding May and June courses.</td>
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With the exception of the Social Work Licensure 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. Contact us at (517) 353-3060 or e-mail swkce@msu.edu if you have questions or concerns. Schedule is subject to change.

**WWW.SOCIALWORK.MSU.EDU/CEU • PH. (517) 353-3060**
Social worker practitioners have the opportunity through MSU School of Social Work Continuing Education to improve and increase their skills in two specialized areas: *Supervision in Child and Family Services* and *Adoption*. In addition, the School offers online course work for school social work proficiency via the *School Social Work Competency Series*.

### Supervision in Child & Family Services Certificate

MSU School of Social Work and the Michigan Federation for Children and Families, a statewide association of private nonprofit child and family service agencies, offer the *Supervision in Child and Family Services Certificate*. This program was created for social workers who aspire to a leadership role in a child and family service agency. It is designed to promote retention of child and family services workers by increasing the skill sets of current and aspiring task and program supervisors and agency leaders. By improving supervision and retention practices, outcomes for children and families are also improved.

Course participants are not required to obtain the certificate. However, in order to be eligible for the certificate, three core courses plus one elective need to be completed from the course offerings below, for a total of 15 CECHs. A workbook created specifically for each course with exercises, assessment tools, activities, and information is provided with each course.

**Core courses (all required)**
- The Role of Leaders in Staff Retention (6 CECH)
- The Practice of Retention- Focused Supervision (3 CECH)
- The First Six Months (3 CECH)

**Elective courses (select one)**
- Communication Skills (3 CECH)
- Working with Differences (3 CECH)
- Recruiting and Selecting the Right Staff (3 CECH)

### Adoption Certificate Program

The School has teamed up with Spaulding for Children to co-sponsor an *Adoption Certificate Program*. The program contains a series of adoption-focused workshops and courses for child welfare staff, adoption workers, and mental health therapists.

These workshops and courses focus on the adoption practice as it relates to professionals, families, and children involved in direct consent infant adoptions, children adopted from the child welfare system (including kinship and guardianship families), and international adoptions.

The program focuses on evidence-based practice and equips participants with the specialized knowledge and skills needed to work effectively with adoptive and birth families. The goal of the program is to bring together child welfare staff, adoption workers, and therapists to create a community of resources with the expertise to competently support adoptive families.

The objectives of this certificate program are to:
- Address all types of adoption in one comprehensive program.
- Create flexible workshop and course formats that respond to the varied needs of participants.
- Increase the number and adoption competency of helping professionals.
- Decrease the risk of adoptive family disruption and dissolution.

### School Social Work Competency Series

The School also offers a rigorous professional development competency series for master’s-level social work practitioners interested in advancing their knowledge of social work intervention in educational settings. The *School Social Work Competency Series* is an online series of courses designed to meet specific educational requirements set forth by the Michigan Department of Education. If you live outside of Michigan, please contact the Department of Education in the state where you wish to practice to learn about the competencies and requirements set forth by that state.

The Competency Series courses are the same as those offered to current MSW students who are preparing to become School Social Workers.

- Social Work in Educational Settings (45 CECH)
- School Social Work Assessment: Integrating Psychological & Educational Testing (45 CECH)
- School Social Work Intervention: Children with Special Needs (45 CECH)

The title *School Social Worker* is a regulated title in at least 32 states, with varying requirements. Some states have accepted completion of one or more of the courses offered in the School Social Work Competency Series at MSU to meet some of these requirements. Many states regulate this title through their state Department of Education.
Sampling of recent tenure-system faculty activities

Books


Book chapters


Peer-reviewed journal articles published


FACTORY activities

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Continued on next page
FACULTY activities


Grants (external source)


Ongoing grants (external source)


Grants (MSU source)


P. Fredelino. 2010. Latino Socio-Cultural Barriers to HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment: An Ethnographic Case Study. Faculty Research and Teaching Innovation Summer Grants, MSU School of Social Work, to support research endeavors and teaching innovations during the summer months. A.K. Hughes (PI). 2010. Pearl J. Aldrich Faculty Research Award, MSU, in support of faculty research on HIV knowledge mea sure for older adults. A.K. Hughes (PI). Fall 2010. College of Social Science, PURI Award Bachelor’s student research assistant. S.P. Kubiak. 2010. Developing an international strategic partnership involving MSU’s violence against women Research Outreach Initiative, the Bioethical Clinic of Killala Ireland, and SAFE Ireland. Funded by MSU Center for Gender in Global Context.


Ongoing grants (MSU source)


T. Timm (Co-PI). Evaluating the Quality and Impact of the Contracts of the MSU School of Social Work Field Education.


Peer-reviewed presentations


School faculty: Many accomplishments and honors

The following have been awarded tenure and promotion to associate professor:

- DeBrenna Agbényiga
- John Mooradian
- Joanne Riebschleger
- Marya Sosulski

Suzanne Cross has received the highly competitive and prestigious Mit Joyner Gerontology Leadership Award from the Baccalaureate Program Directors Association and the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work. Cross’s work with Native American Elders who raise their grandchildren was highlighted in her nominating papers.

Sue Bowden was re-elected as president of the Michigan Association of Baccalaureate Educators for a two-year term. She also has been appointed chair of the newly established Phi Alpha Honor Society national scholarship competition.

Linda Campbell has been awarded an Adams Fellowship from the Walter and Pauline Adams Academy for Instructional Excellence and Innovation.

Victoria Fitton began her three-year term as president-elect of Michigan Association for Play Therapy (MIAPT) in October.

Pilar Horner has been elected secretary to North Central Education and Research Activity (NCERA) 216, an interstate collaborative association with focus on Latinos and immigrants. She also helped Vision Builders, a nonprofit consulting and fundraising organization, raise money in partnership with a humanitarian aid group in Varanasi, India.

Anne Hughes has been selected as a BIRCWH Scholar by MSU’s NIH-funded Building Interdisciplinary Research in Women’s Health program.

Tina Timm has been elected president of the Okemos Community Schools Personal Health and Sexuality Education Advisory Board (PHASE).

Amanda Woodward has been accepted as a Hartford Scholar in the program funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation of New York City and administered by the Gerontological Society of America.

Field team announces staff changes

After working in the School’s Field Team office for more than four years, Deb Moray has retired from the University. We wish her well.

The new Field Education office assistant is Chris Barden. Chris has been an employee of MSU for 10 years. She has worked with 4-H Youth Development at MSU Extension, with the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures, and with the Office of Study Abroad. Chris received her BA in English from MSU and is part of a large multi-generational family of MSU alumni. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, biking, gardening, and writing.

Leisa Fuller, a two-time alumna of the School of Social Work, became the East Lansing program field coordinator in June. As a former field instructor, field liaison, and member of the Field Advisory Committee, she has a long-term affiliation with the Field Office and looks forward to continuing to support a quality field education program through her expanded role. Leisa’s career has included both micro- and macro-level practice. Her background includes child welfare work in Scotland, crisis intervention, working with survivors of domestic violence, school social work, homeless services, medical social work, and outpatient therapy. Most recently, she provided crisis intervention, advocacy, and sexual assault treatment for child and adolescent victims.

Corie Denay has been hired as field coordinator for the Flint/Oakland/Saginaw MSW Programs. She comes to the School following a satisfying career as a clinical social worker in hospice, home health care, and geriatric outreach settings. She looks forward to working with new social workers and helping them build a meaningful career in an area of social work they are truly passionate about.

Her new role on the Field Team will allow her to match students with their potential areas of interest. Corie currently serves on a geriatric task force in Bay County and also provides services as a volunteer at a free mental health clinic. She is married with two daughters in college.

The Field Education Team is very happy to welcome Chris, Leisa, and Corie!
Introducing School’s new PhD candidates

The Doctoral Program in Social Work is pleased to introduce the incoming PhD students for the 2011–2012 academic year.

Jennifer Farley received her bachelor’s degree in business administration and criminal justice from Western Michigan University. Her MSW with a concentration in clinical social work was awarded by MSU. She has worked for the past 10 years with young children and their families in a variety of community mental health settings in western Wayne County. Currently, she is a clinical instructor for our MSW programs in Saginaw and Oakland and sits on the board of the Michigan Association for Play Therapy. During her doctoral work, she plans to study preschool mental health and families with young children.

LaVendee M. Fulton is a Spartan through and through, having received her BA in secondary English education and her MSW from MSU. She is returning to pursue her PhD after 18 years of practice experience in the schools and community mental health. During her studies, she plans to focus on educators’ and administrators’ perceptions of restorative justice and conflict resolution processes in secondary education. She currently has a graduate assistantship with Dr. Daniel Vélez Ortiz and works at Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Community Mental Health Emergency Services as a mental health therapist.

Yang Yue comes to MSU having received her bachelor of liberal arts in English translation and literature with a minor in Finance from Northwestern University (Evanston, IL). She earned her MSW from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, where she had field experiences with parents and families. She is currently a full-time doctoral student, working with Dr. Anne Hughes as a graduate assistant. Her major areas of interest are in mental health and parenting.

Research Brown Bag Sessions Fall 2011

October
3  Lihua Huang: Effects of social networks on health of family caregivers in later life: A cross-sectional study
17  Shawna Lee, PhD (Wayne State University): Fathers and risk for child maltreatment: Overview of research and implications for intervention
24  Gina Fedock and Lauren Fries: Helping social workers understand service needs for incarcerated individuals: Exploring gender differences

November
7  SW990 Research Practicum: Factors associated with use and intent to use Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) among social workers in Michigan
14  Daniela Wittmann: Gay men’s sexual recovery after prostate cancer treatment: A qualitative pilot study
28  Woo Jong Kim: Assessing the validity of the instrument [Self-Appraisal Questionnaire (SAQ)] in differentiating high risk and violent female offenders

More PhD candidate news...

Kristen Admiraal has been selected for the second cohort of the AGE SW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Initiative by the Gerontological Society of America.

Louanne Bakk was awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the College of Social Science, and will defend this coming January.


Sheryl Groden has been selected for the second cohort of the AGE SW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Initiative by the Gerontological Society of America. She has also been awarded a Pearl J Aldrich Graduate Student Research Award.


Daniela Wittmann’s article, “Patient Preoperative Expectations of Urinary, Bowel, Hormonal, and Sexual Functioning Do Not Match Actual Outcomes One Year After Radical Prostatectomy,” has been published in The Journal of Urology.

School welcomes newest offspring

Henry was born October 7 to Jennifer Farley

It’s a boy! Connor Francis was born June 6 to Natalie Kasiborski
Here’s what you’re up to!

Sarah Sonefeld Adler (MSW 2005) is currently working as a home-based family therapist for the Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Community Mental Health Authority.

Brian Ahmedani (MSW 2006, PhD 2010) is at the Henry Ford Health System Center for Health Policy and Health Services Research and is principal investigator on two new grants. *A Technology-Based Screening and Brief Intervention for Depression in Spine Care* is a 18-month award from the Institute for Population Sciences, Health Assessment, Administration, Services and Economics (INPHAASE), an inter-institutional, coordinated effort to bring together and integrate the faculty of Wayne State University and Henry Ford Health System; and *Medication and Visit Adherence in the Treatment of Depression* is a four-year Mentored Scientist Grant from the Fund for Henry Ford Hospital.

Kyle R. Anderson (MSW 2007) is currently working for Community Mental Health–Wraparound. He was formerly a DHS foster care worker. He married Stephanie Diass in 2007, and their son, Connor Lee, was born April 16, 2011.

Marilyn Volz Boyd (MSW 1981) retired in 2010 after 25 years as a medical social worker at Ingham Regional Medical Center in Lansing, MI.

Amelia Brumm (BASW 1989) is retired but continues to use her faith and social work values in her church. She is a second-time author of prayers “The Voice of the Healer” and “The Message of the Healer.” Both are an inspiration of hope, comfort, and encouragement with imagery.

Robert Carson, PhD, LMSC, LISN-S (MSW 1975) retired in 2003 from the US Public Health Services (DHHS) after 26 years of service in active duty military. Currently, he is the director of the Behavioral Health Department of the Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc. (NEON), a federally recognized community health center which opened in 1967. The Behavioral Health Department has five staff members serving six clinics for low/no income residents of Greater Cleveland. He is also an adjunct instructor at Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland State University.

Angelique Day, PhD (MSW 2005) completed her dissertation defense (“An examination of college access, retention, and success of foster care youth”) at Western Michigan University on July 8, 2011. She received a dissertation award from the American Psychological Association Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice division’s section on child maltreatment. One paper from her dissertation has been published in the *Children and Youth Services Review* and was presented in August 2011 at the DHHS Administration for Children and Families National Child Welfare Evaluation Summit in Washington, DC. Dr. Day is an assistant professor at Wayne State University.

Heidi Glew (BASW 2002) was elected NASW–Michigan Region 6 & 7 representative to the Chapter Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification.

Zareen Hansotia (BASW 2005) is currently a solutions specialist with Social Solutions (ETO software). Social Solutions helps promote effective data management practices in human services. The end goal is for organizations to use their data to inform their practices and services, resulting in improved outcomes.

Denise Marie List-King (MSW 2000) has been a social worker for the Saginaw Public Schools for three years. She spent five years as a clinical therapist/social worker at Saginaw Psychological Services, Inc.

Marybeth Gaash McCreight (MSW 1978) worked with the severely mentally ill at Community Mental Health from 1978 to 1993, moving from mental health therapist to senior mental health therapist to coordinator. She then moved to the school district as a school social worker where she worked with preschoolers from 1993 to 2006. She is currently working at Sexton High School in Lansing, MI. She says, “I love being a social worker! It is a noble profession with rarely a dull moment and lots of fun.”

Rachel F. Smith (BASW 1947) passed away on November 6, 2010.

Susan Konkle Wittig (MSW 1995) passed away on March 9, 2011. 

We look forward to hearing about the developing careers and adventures of our newest alumni!
School plays big role at 57th Annual CSWE event

The MSU School of Social Work enjoyed a strong presence at the Council on Social Work Education’s 57th Annual Program Meeting in October themed, “Increasing Access: Confronting Disparity and Inequality.” Sessions presented by MSU faculty and students at the CSWE conference included:

- **New Field Directors’ FAIR.** On-the-spot consultation by members of the Council on Field Education. Robin Wingo Minnesota State University, Mankato, Anne Marie Montijo Adelphi University, Debra F. Faria State University of New York, College at Brockport, Lisa Richardson St. Catherine University and the University of St. Thomas, Jo Ann McFall MSU, Laura Sadtler Widener University, Shannon Butler-Mokoro Salem State University, Sharon Zimmerman Wilson Ursuline College, Sandra Galvan Posada Army-Fayetteville State University

- **Accreditation Issues in Social Work e-Learning and Distance Education.** Presenters discussed the draft report of the CSWE Commission on Accreditation e-Learning Subcommittee. Paul P. Freddolino MSU, James P. Adams University of Kentucky, Jessica Holmes Council on Social Work Education

**Roundtable discussions**

- Accessing and Understanding Perspectives of Disparity and Inequality as a Part of Ethical Research Practice with Refugee Populations. DeBrenna LaFa Agbényiga MSU, Salamatu Barrie MSU

- **Working Well with Others: Promoting Social Work’s Contributions to Transdisciplinary Teams.** Mary Banghart Therrien MSU, Trisha M. Thrush MSU

**Paper presentations**

- Helping Social Workers Understand Service Needs for Incarcerated Individuals: Exploring Gender Differences. Gina L. Fedock MSU, Lauren Fries MSU, Sheryl P. Kubiak MSU

- Awareness of LGBT Aging Issues Among Aging Services Network Providers. Anne K. Hughes MSU, Rena D. Harold MSU

- Comparative Ethics for Social Workers. Greg L. Pugh MSU


- Examining Gender Differences in the Nature and Context of Intimate Partner Violence. Hyunkag Cho MSU

- GLBT Family Camp as Cultural Immersion for Social Work Students. Lucy R. Mercier Saginaw Valley State University, Rena D. Harold MSU

- **Best Practices in Recruitment and Retention of Native American Students.** Hilary N. Weaver University at Buffalo, State University of New York, Priscilla Day University of Minnesota-Duluth, Suzanne Cross MSU, Jessica Black Washington University, Molly Tovar Washington University, Sadye L. Logan University of South Carolina, Gordon E. Limb Brigham Young University

- **Exploring Student Perceptions of Cross-Cultural, Collaborative Classroom Experiences in Liberia.** Rachel Venema Calvin College, Joseph Kulema Calvin College and MSU

**Poster session**


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**Our faculty members are very active in ongoing CSWE service:**

- Paul Freddolino: Commission on Accreditation
- Rena Harold: Commission on Professional Development
- DeBrenna Agbényiga: Commission on Global Education & Chair of its Council on External Relations
- JoAnn McFall: Council on Field Education
- Suzanne Cross recently completed her service Council on Racial, Ethnic, and Cultural Diversity
- Joanne Riebschleger: *Journal of Social Work Education* consulting editor
- Gary Anderson recently completed his service on the National Nominating Committee and also serves as co-chair of the National Association of Social Work Deans and Directors Task Force on Child Welfare that meets in conjunction with CSWE.
Student activities and achievements

Senior Molly Ballantyne, Students for Social Work co-leader, was awarded one of eight (out of 170 applicants) ASMSU Student Leader Scholarships.

Junior Bria Berger was awarded a College of Social Science Dean’s Assistantship. She will continue her research with Dr. Marya Sosulski.

Senior Melissa Crosby was named to the 2011–2012 Homecoming Court. Nominees to the Court are outstanding seniors evaluated on leadership, community involvement, academic excellence, and Spartan pride.

Senior Jessica Greenfield won a scholarship to attend the national Women and Public Policy Seminar in Washington, DC, an opportunity to spend five days receiving coaching and discussing policy making with high-level Washington women.

Senior Luke Gogliotti was elected as the NASW–Michigan BSW representative for 2011–12.

Saginaw MSW student Kim Johnson was elected NASW–Michigan Region 5 Representative and member-at-large to the executive board.

Ayana Fordham, De’Bora Hartfield, and Pam Nealy, MSW students in the Advocacy in Action elective, presented anti-bullying information supporting the enumerated legislation to members of their congregations. They were able to use material created by students from past classes. More than 100 people attended, and requests are coming in for further presentations.

Homecoming activities included a float and an information booth at the game. The event was used to publicize the FAME (Fostering Academics-Mentoring Excellence) program of MSU Foster Youth Alumni Services (more about the program on page 9). Marchers in the parade passed out cards with candy and pink ribbons on them to publicize our foster care mentoring program and breast cancer awareness. Special thanks go to seniors Samantha Acevedo and Sarah Shortt Williams and Associate Professor Joanne Riebschleger.

School’s Homecoming Court member promotes foster youth services

Senior Melissa Crosby, a member of the Homecoming Court, has been using her time in that position to publicize our social work program and the good work social workers do. Pictured above with the FAME float, L-R: Seniors Justin Pung, Kelsey Crimmins, Sarah Shortt Williams, and Samantha Acavedo. See article on this page for more about Homecoming activities and page 9 for more news about foster youth on campus.
Students in action

Phi Alpha, the student honor society, sponsored a book drive this fall for school-aged children. Books were donated to Beacon House in Ghana, St. Vincent Catholic Charities in Lansing, and an orphanage in Zimbabwe. They also sponsored a coat, hat, and mitten drive; items were delivered to Child and Family Charities in Lansing.

Newly elected Phi Alpha officers are: President: Kyla Vaillancourt; Vice President: Sarah Shortt Williams; Secretary/Treasurer: Justin Pung.

Students for Social Work held a Candlelight Vigil November 18 to show support for the victims of the Penn State sexual abuse scandal and to heighten awareness of this issue. Leah Tibbetts, LMSW (BASW 2007), a social worker at the Sexual Assault Program at the MSU Counseling Center, spoke about how sexual abuse affects victims and tips for prevention. Volunteers and staff from the MSU Sexual Assault Program attended to provide information about their program. Seniors Jessica Ceh and Molly Ballantyne, and juniors Jenna Fuller and Erin Harned organized this event.

The Diversity Themed Events Committee organized a November trip to the Saginaw Chippewa Reservation in Mt. Pleasant, MI, to visit the tribal museum and service organizations.

Students for Multi-Cultural Action (SMCA) organized 20 volunteers for a community service project at the Volunteers of America Homeless Shelter in Lansing. Students served food, drinks, and cleaned the kitchen area while the staff and diners shared their appreciation of students joining them for dinner.

Newly elected SMCA officers are: President: Kassandra Freeman (BASW junior); Vice President: Jazmyn Holley (MSW student); Secretary: AnTanique Edmonds; and Treasurer: Liz Elsner (BASW senior).

Our student chapter of Organization of Latino Social Workers again sponsored the annual HomiesGiving dinner for Thanksgiving, providing a warm Thanksgiving dinner for students all over campus who are not able to go home. They raised money, organized, ordered, and worked hard to put this event together.
Needs and opportunities

You can make a difference. Through supporting BASW, MSW, and/or PhD students, supporting our innovative programs, or supporting faculty teaching and research, you can positively shape the future for students and the School.

With student tuition now over $10,000 a year, expanding our ability to give scholarships to our students is essential. Most students work while enrolled in the School, attempting to do all that they can to pay for the high quality education at MSU. Thanks to the generosity of alumni, friends, and faculty, we have been steadily increasing the number of scholarships and amount of funding for students, but there is much more to do. Even modest amounts of assistance provide funds for living and help students to buy books and reduce their tuition debt.

Innovative programs include:

• The **Chance at Childhood** program in partnership with the MSU College of Law, with shared courses and field placements to improve advocacy skills;

• The School’s pioneering **Foster Care Youth** program with its scholarships, mentoring, summer foster care camp, and exam week care packages;

• The **Veterinary Social Work** program in partnership with MSU animal hospitals that provides placements, psychosocial services for staff, and a pet-loss support group for owners;

• The **Kinship Care Education Center** with its support groups and resource materials for grandparents raising grandchildren;

• The School’s **Study Abroad** programs that focus on Finland, Ghana, India, Jamaica, and Mexico;

• The **BASW Research Mentorship** program that provides social work undergrad the opportunity to gain research knowledge and skills by taking active roles in faculty research.

Each of these pioneering programs has a powerful impact on student learning and leadership. Additional financial support will allow us to expand awareness of the unique features of each program and of these special learning opportunities at MSU.

Innovative teaching by faculty members is encouraged by small grants that serve as a catalyst for experimentation. Some faculty research has tremendous potential—such as using technology with older adults to address mental health, or mental health psycho-education for children, or improving health care in Latino communities—but funding for pilot studies in under-funded areas is needed.

I hope that out of gratitude for your education, you might consider supporting today’s generation of hard-working and inspirational social work students. You also have a chance to make a difference by supporting our innovative programs and faculty research. Your gifts of any size will be applied to your intended purpose. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Gary Anderson, Director
MSU School of Social Work

How to donate to the MSU School of Social Work online

This is a new feature for the School, but it is very similar to making other payments/contributions online.

1. Go to the School’s website: www.socialwork.msu.edu

2. At the right hand bottom of the page, click on "Support the School"

3. After a brief narrative, there are two general giving options, under “Make Your Gift,” presented in two boxes: online donations “By Credit Card Now” and instructions "By Check," which would be via regular mail.

4. In the “By Credit Card Now” option, two funds are identified: the “School of Social Work Endowed Discretionary Fund” (funds going directly to an intended purpose rather than being held in an endowed account).

5. Click on one of these fund names.

6. You will be presented with a Michigan State University donation page identifying a number of programs and logos—ignore the fancy display and just look at the upper right hand corner under the dark green stripe.

7. In the upper right hand corner (it may be blinking) there will be a small box labeled “Gift Cart” listing the fund you selected and a space to enter the amount you would like to donate. The endowed fund will have a red E in the corner; the discretionary fund will not.

8. After you enter the amount and select either “donor” or “couple” in the box labeled “Gift Credit,” go to the bottom of the page and click on “Continue.”

9. This next page will look familiar—it asks for your name, address, and e-mail. Not all areas are required, and this will look very similar to shopping online!

10. As you scroll down, you will be asked to choose a payment method (which type of credit card), and it will ask for the card number, security code, and expiration date; again this should feel familiar to an online purchaser!

11. Once you see the “Thank you for your Donation” notice, you are done! A confirmation will be sent to your e-mail, and it will be identified as “Michigan State University” on your credit card statement.

The School and University will acknowledge your gift and provide a receipt for tax purposes.

Give it a try! Thank you!!
**Thank you to our generous donors**

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**Please e-mail us your e-mail address!** Our address is socialwork@ssc.msu.edu — What's yours?

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Name when enrolled______________________________________________________ Year of graduation_____________________

Current address_______________________________________________________ Home phone_____________________________
City/state/zip__________________________________________________________ Business phone___________________________

Please check here □ if this is a new address

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Business address_________________________________________________ City/state/zip__________________________________

Briefly describe your professional activities and other information you want your classmates to know
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Notes from Alumni will be featured in the Fall 2012/Winter 2013 News.

Please send this form to: School of Social Work, Michigan State University, 254 Baker Hall, East Lansing MI 48824 or e-mail: socialwork@ssc.msu.edu

School website: www.socialwork.msu.edu