Field Instruction: From Theory to Practice

"I don't think anyone could have a better field placement." "I go to my placement for a day and a half a week, but I'd go every day if I could." "My field placement allowed me to learn new skills with which I previously had little familiarity."

At a time when MSW students are extolling the virtues of their field placements, agency requests for students are declining. "Shifts in US social policy and an unstable, market-driven human service environment have resulted in the high attrition of field placement sites," says Lily Jarman-Rohde, Director of the Office of Field Instruction (OFI).

The move to managed care, and the resulting emphasis on increased revenue and productivity, is causing agencies to view students as a cost in money or time. Also, there are fewer agency staff with the qualifications or time to supervise students. Jarman-Rohde notes that "Agencies used to flood the School with requests for students, but now we need to search them out. As economic safety nets for unemployed and poor workers disappear, and as welfare recipients reach the maximum time limits for receiving benefits, there is a greater need to serve the poor, but fewer programs to do so. Field educators have to go into the communities to see where the needs are, figure out what learning opportunities they present, and help establish new services to meet these emerging needs. This may require different models of field placement development, structure, and supervision."

In an effort to respond to new trends and the need for more outreach, OFI has expanded its staff. It has gone from 2.5 permanent staff and 1 temporary employee to 5 full-time permanent staff. Among other things, having more staff allows the Office to create fieldwork opportunities that correspond to the new curriculum and to develop more financial supports for students that are linked to their internships. "Increases in tuition costs and interest rates for student loans push us to develop more financial supports for students," says Jarman-Rohde. "We need to cultivate stipend donor prospects and access corporate and government dollars. Field educators need to become fund raisers."

Extra effort in this area is already paying off—the Field Program has developed proposals for stipended field placement with the Schools of Business, Nursing, Public Health, Dentistry and Pharmacy to support students in community economic development and health care settings. Also, Dean Allen-Meares and Jarman-Rohde have developed a contract with the Michigan Family Independence Agency that will be...
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Uniquely positioned between education and the practice community, field instruction staff can readily track and anticipate trends in the social work profession. They can use this knowledge to prepare their students for a changing job market and to assist community agencies and organizations in meeting their needs. Miguel Medina, a recent addition to the OFI, is doing just that in his work with Latino communities in Detroit.

Community organizations that act as health centers to a high percentage of Michigan's Latino population, such as Casa Maria in Detroit and Cristo Rey Community Center in Lansing, are crying out for Spanish-speaking MSW workers. There are at least 250 centers serving Latinos across the state, which require the services of social work professionals. Most of these agencies have MSW supervisors, but there is a great demand for workers who understand the diverse Latino-American cultures that exist in the state.

The Latino Community Outreach Project, begun by Assistant Professor Robert Ortega and Associate Professor Lorraine Gutierrez, is making an all-out effort to connect MSW students with centers serving Michigan's Latinos. Medina is hoping that by placing Spanish-speaking students in these centers and offering them stipends to help defray costs, it will encourage them to stay in their communities and in Michigan. Medina says, "Students get a good clinical experience, a good health care social work experience, and an excellent general social work experience through one of these placements. And they won't find anyone more grateful for having them there."

Michigan's Children has received funding from the Kellogg Foundation to participate in an effort to monitor the implementation of federal block grants, and help increase community participation in related state and local decision-making. This is an expansion of its Budget Watch and Devolution Project, which was funded by the Skillman Foundation to monitor budgets and report on the changes that have been wrought by the federal welfare reforms. Nargess Akhavi, a student of Abbey's with a concentration in community organization, wanted to learn more about the legislative process in general and about child advocacy in particular. She was fortunate that Abbey, who is an independent consultant on the Project, was looking for just such a student.

Akhavi could not be happier with the experience she is gaining. Akhavi says, "My previous placement was in an elementary school. It was a great experience, but I found that I wanted to work for children's issues rather than with children directly. Now I feel like I have found my niche. I have come to realize what I like and what I'm supposed to do. Things are fitting together."

Through her work with Budget Watch, Akhavi is gaining experience in proposal writing, survey writing, and database development, but she is especially pleased with the work she is doing with the KidSpeak Forum. The purpose of KidSpeak is to give young people a voice in the public debate over how issues affecting them and their families will be resolved. Akhavi is helping to organize events in Grand Rapids and the Detroit area that will allow children and youth to deliver testimony to a panel of state lawmakers and policymakers, just as forty children did in Lansing in October 1996.

But Akhavi is not the only person who benefits from this placement; Abbey is also delighted with the arrangement. She finds that she gains as much from her responsibili-
ties as supervisor as she gives. Abbey feels that Akhavi not only helps with the work load, she also brings a fresh perspective that Abbey finds invigorating. “I learn a lot from my interns,” says Abbey. “A student of the caliber of Nargess re-energizes me when I’m feeling burnt out. She brings enthusiasm, different experiences, and good questions to the relationship. Nargess allows me to see my work with fresh eyes.” In turn, Akhavi feels that a student will get as much out of a field experience as they are willing to put into it.

**PROJECT ZERO**

“A good field placement has the power to help shape public opinion,” Jarman-Rohde says. “Every placement involves some sort of public interaction that creates an impression that can be critical in advancing social change.”

If a student can shape public opinion through her contact with clients and community, it is Valerie Myers, an excellent emissary for the social work profession. Myers enrolled in the MSW program because she wanted a career change. After years of working in marketing for an international corporation, she decided it was time to turn her attention from developing products to developing programs for people—and she finds it infinitely more rewarding. Myers positively bubbles over with enthusiasm when she describes the work she has been doing in her placement with Project Zero, a state initiative with the goal that no welfare recipient will be without earned income, such as age, educational level, time on assistance, and family history on welfare dependence. Myers then designed a survey that addressed those questions, but also looked at other barriers to employment, such as low self-esteem, stress, negative childhood experiences, etc.

FIA workers administered the survey during in-home visits, after Myers trained them, and participated in pilots of the survey. Initially she resisted these pilot visits, but soon came to find the process was invaluable in gaining insights to the challenges that clients face. Myers says, “I had no previous contact with welfare recipients. My interest was intellectual at the beginning of my placement but became very personal and passionate over time. I’ve learned that policymakers and program planners really must hear the voices of the people for whom they are making policies and designing programs.”

Myers’s survey produced some interesting results. She not only discovered that 60% to 80% of the population surveyed identified a negative mental state as one of the greatest psychological barriers to employment, but that prayer enabled 88% of the population to better cope with their situations. This survey has become a standard component of working with the poor. The information gained helps service workers to know their customers better, to refer them to appropriate services, and to identify opportunities for help. The districts use the survey to profile caseloads and to partner with organizations in the community to develop resources to help recipients gain employment. Myers is now developing a training manual to help workers do strengths-based, solution-focused setting of long-term goals.

Myers says that through her placement, she has a better understanding of how governments work. “My illusions about changing the world have been reshaped. I now realize that I can only change a little corner at a time.” Her positive experiences in field placement and her career goals have encouraged Myers to stay in school a while longer. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in social work and organizational psychology. Myers says, “I am very interested in learning about the role that organized religion, and particularly the black church, can play in employment, vocational, and career development issues.”

Field work is a required part of the social work curriculum, and is the largest part in terms of hours expended. The Office of Field Instruction strives to develop placements that meet the goals of the student, the goals of the agency, and the goals of the School. “But we have other goals as well,” says Jarman-Rohde. “We have a responsibility, through the field placements

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Above: Doctoral student Valerie Myers (r) and her field placement supervisor, Vaira Rozentals (l)

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Sudakshina Ceglarek, Brandon, and Miguel Medina

Lily Jarman-Rohde, Sudakshina Ceglarek, Warren Clark, Esther Brandon, and Miguel Medina

LATINO COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT
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we develop, to both respond to and anticipate changing policy and practice trends, and also to help shape them." That is precisely what the OFI is doing.

If you think you may qualify as a field placement site and/or supervisor for MSW students, please call OFI at (734) 764-5331.

— Suzan Alexander

Further Afield...

While there have been many unique field placements in the history of the School, Brian Robinson's placement certainly qualifies for an award for longest commute—Michigan to Ghana.

Robinson, who has an undergraduate degree in finance and is pursuing a dual degree in social work and urban planning, intends to do community economic development planning in urban cities after he graduates. His first field placement was with Focus: HOPE in Detroit, but he decided that he wanted to do something in his second year that would give him more exposure to working with community development issues in developing countries. Having previously served in the Peace Corps in West Africa, he welcomed an opportunity that arose in Ghana. Robinson says, "No matter where in the world they are, cities are cities—they all have the same characteristics, same demographic constraints, the same problems and the same solutions. There are fewer barriers to community involvement in developing countries. There, I can have more of an impact on people."

Once he had made up his mind about where to go, Robinson realized he needed help with the how, so he approached the OFI for assistance. (No one had requested a placement in West Africa before, but since Robinson completed his placement in August 1996, five other UM students successfully completed their field work in Ghana this past summer.) Robinson attributes this wonderful opportunity to Lily Jarman-Rohde and his advisor, Associate Professor Edith Lewis, who were a great source of practical information and emotional support in his efforts. They reviewed the proposals for funding Robinson wrote, which received support from the UM International Institute, the Center for International Business Education, and the Center for Conflict Resolution to assist with a feasibility study for Citi Savings and Loans in Accra to assess the ability of Ga Mashie, one of the poorest districts of Accra, to support a community bank if it were to be established there.

Although the central financial district for the country of Ghana is situated just one kilometer from Ga Mashie, there are no formal branch operations of a financial institution nor extended banking services available to the Ga Mashie community. The area suffers from overcrowding, lack of sanitary services, and a weak economic base. Most of the Ga Mashie population are fishermen; the men catch the fish and the women sell it.

In the course of his study, Robinson, in conjunction with Ghanaian colleagues, interviewed focus groups consisting of fishermen, market traders, food processors, and artisans. They also conducted one-on-one interviews with policy makers, administrators of financial institutions, and community leaders of neighboring urban districts.

After collecting the data, Robinson and his associates analyzed the findings, and produced a final report with recommendations. He found that saving money is a concept widely-recognized and practiced by workers and entrepreneurs alike in Ga Mashie. Most residents want to save money and do so informally using the services of roving bankers called "susu". Robinson found that there was room for the susu and a more formal banking structure, and recommended that Citi Savings and Loan seek the counsel and advice of susu collectors in setting up a Ga Mashie branch.

Robinson found his three-month placement in Ghana to be an extremely rewarding experience that allowed him to learn new skills and to experience and implement, firsthand, grassroots community development strategies aimed at empowering communities. He also learned to be open-minded and to adapt to change, be it social, cultural, or economic. "In Ghana, my project research really began to flourish when I was able to understand the environment in which I was living, participated in some community events unrelated to my research, and was welcomed into the community by residents and community leaders."
Robert D. Vinter

Bob Vinter's forty-five-year career in the social work profession has been so diverse and colorful, one would think it sprang from the imagination of a screenwriter. His experiences, from working in the streets of East Harlem trying to rehabilitate youth recruits of the Mob, to coping with mobs of students as the Acting Dean of the School during the campus upheaval of the early 70s, are worthy of any Hollywood screenplay. Well-known people, such as Lucky Luciano and Robert F. Kennedy, have played roles in Vinter's life story in such varied locations as New York, Washington, DC, and Jamaica. How did all this happen to a man who originally wanted to be a forest ranger?

Basically, it resulted from an interest Vinter developed working as a camp counselor. He decided he wanted to work with youth with problems and, after a stint with the U.S. Air Corps in the Psychological Research Unit, then with Convalescent Services in a large military hospital during WWII, he enrolled in the MSW program at Columbia University.

His field placements included working with youth gangs as a "street worker." After graduating in '48, Vinter became Director of Group Services at Union Settlement in New York where he built up and trained a staff of street workers. His goal was to move gang members into the job market, but the Mob warned him off from interfering with the drug trade. When his office window was ventilated with bullet holes, Vinter decided it was time to return to Columbia to study for a PhD in Social Psychology. He wanted to learn more about urban gangs, and to be a social scientist as well as a social worker.

Professor Vinter was recruited to UM by Dean Fedele Fauri in 1954. From the time of his arrival until his retirement in 1985, Vinter was a tireless worker in almost every aspect of academic activity. The list of his contributions in the areas of teaching, administration, research, and consulting is endless, proving him to be a worthy recipient of the Arthur Dunham Professorship of Social Work.

As a teacher, Vinter would see a void and move to fill it. He initiated the Group Work program, and developed one of the largest and most talented group work teaching faculties and student cohorts at a time when most social work students were studying case work. He helped launch the Joint Doctoral Program, and later introduced courses in budgeting and in program planning.

Vinter served as Associate Dean from 1964 to 1970. Professor Charles Garvin remembers, "he contributed immeasurably to the development of the School. He guided the School through one of its first major curriculum revisions in which the School sought to develop its strong intellectual connections to the social sciences." In 1970, Vinter was persuaded to take the position of Acting Dean for one year. It was a year of great turmoil on campus, characterized by student rebellion. Vinter recalls receiving twenty-two non-negotiable demands from one student caucus. "I gave some concessions, but I wasn't going to turn the School over to them!"

Vinter is, understandably, proud of his work in the area of juvenile justice. Professor Rosemary Sarri says, "Bob Vinter played an important national leadership role in juvenile justice research and policy for several decades." An example of his ground-breaking research is the National Assessment of Juvenile Corrections that he and Professor Sarri conducted from 1971 to 1976 for the U.S. Department of Justice (see Summer/Fall 1997 Ongoing). This multi-million dollar research project documented the character and problems of juvenile justice and corrections in all fifty states.

He was the only social worker chosen to be a staff member of the President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Crime in 1962. He so impressed Attorney General Robert Kennedy that he was asked to take a two-year leave to become a Justice Department staff member. Vinter refused that offer, but years later, he packed up his family and took a leave to begin service as a technical advisor to the Ministry of Justice of Jamaica.

Professor Vinter retired in December 1985, and is now content to contribute his time and energy to projects such as the St. Andrews Homeless Program and the Peace Neighborhood Center, and still works with the courts. The rest of his time is devoted to gardening, photography, scuba diving, and his new companion, his dog Tigger.

Professor Ed Thomas describes Bob Vinter as a man who "provided intellectual, organizational, and collegial leadership at critical periods in the early development of many areas that are now well-established at the School, such as applications of social science to social work, group work, program development, and human service organizations." A self-described workaholic, Bob Vinter has certainly earned the right to kick back and indulge his other interests.

— Suzan Alexander
FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS


School Registrar Verna Bell was the recipient of the Fall Term 1997 Staff Recognition Award.

Emeritus Professor Harvey Betcher has a web site (www-personal.umich.edu/~betcher) that includes all six issues of the “Tell-A-Group Hotline” and a manual on how to start and facilitate a telephone support group.

Assistant Professor David Burton received a $5,000 grant from the UM Center for Research on Learning and Training (CRLT) to facilitate a monthly seminar focusing on issues of advanced multicultural teaching. A Web site, designed to advertise and assist in the development of this seminar, will be available to interested social work academicians and will include space for asynchronous discussions as well as announcements.

Professor Barry Checkoway is the director of the UM Center for Learning Through Community Service. The Center was established last year to engage students and faculty in community service and academic learning in order to promote civic participation, build community capacity, and enhance the educational process.

Professor Mary Corcoran conducted a study of 1,300 men (58% white, 42% black) between the ages of 25 and 35, and found that men raised in poor families earn 41% to 63% less per year than men from middle-class families.

Associate Professor Sandra Danziger was appointed to the Welfare Reform Advisory Committee for the U.S. General Accounting Office’s Health, Education, and Human Services Division. She was quoted in the July 6, 1997 edition of The New York Times regarding the impact of food stamp cuts. On September 25, she gave a speech on community impacts of recent public policy shifts for the 1997 National Leadership Forum of the National Assembly of National Voluntary Health and Social Welfare Organizations.

Professor Sheldon Danziger and doctoral student Scott Allard received a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a study “Prosperity and Opportunity: How Residence, Race, and Community Resources Affect Welfare Reform.”

Professor Kathleen Faller will be principal investigator for a grant from the Administration for Family and Children of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for “Interdisciplinary Training of Public Agency Workers and Supervisors to Improve Child Welfare Services.” Participating investigators are Daniel Saunders, Larry Gant, Bill Birdsall, David Burton, Beth Reed, Richard Tolman, Diane Vinokur, and Mieko Yoshihama. This is a three-year federal training grant from the Children’s Bureau to train multidisciplinary teams in the 1997 National Leadership Forum at the Ann Arbor District Library in June on the topic of childhood sexual abuse.

Kathleen Faller

Associate Professor Lorraine Gutierrez’s book Empowerment in Social Work Practice: A Sourcebook, co-authored with Ruth Parsons and Enid Cox, was published by Brooks/Cole. In October, she presented a session, along with PhD student Izumi Sakamoto and Tom Morson MSW ’80, at the Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups symposium in Quebec City. The topic was their community development project with Asian interna-
Adjunct Lecturer Jane Hassinger is director of the Interdisciplinary Program in Feminist Practice (IPFP) at UM. In March 1997, IPFP presented a conference for mental health practitioners on “AIDS Moves In: The Psychological Impacts for Women and Children Living With HIV.” In the Fall Term, she taught a seminar for graduate students from Social Work, Psychology, Education, and Nursing on “Trauma: Memory, Repression, and Meaning.”

Assistant Professor Leslie Hollingsworth’s article “Effect of Transracial/Transethnic Adoption on Children’s Racial and Ethnic Identity and Self-Esteem: A Meta-Analytic Review” was published in a special issue of *Marriage and Family Review* on adoption. It was also included as a book chapter in *Families and Adoption* published by Haworth Press. This fall, Professor Hollingsworth presented lectures to a UM Academic Job Search symposium, a Center for the Education of Women symposium, and to MSW students for the School’s Fall Lecture Series.

Welcome to Senior Research Associate Mark Holter, working with Sheldon Danziger at the NIMH Center for Poverty, Risk, and Mental Health. He comes to us from Columbia University, and will join the faculty as an assistant professor in the Fall Term 1998.

Professor Berit Ingersoll-Dayton was awarded travel grants from the UM International Institute and from the UM Office of the Vice Provost for Medical Affairs to present a paper on respect for the elderly in Asia at an international gerontology conference in Singapore.

Director of Field Instruction Lily Jarman-Rohde presented a paper “Community Organization and Field Instruction in the 21st Century” at the ACOSA luncheon at the 1997 NASW Annual Meeting in Baltimore in October. Also in October, she presented “Strengthening Advocacy for Children and Families in a Changing Political Environment” with Michael Reisch from the University of Pennsylvania at the 1997 Child Welfare League of America Conference in Detroit. With field directors from the University of Pittsburgh and Western Michigan University, she is conducting the first national study of MSW and BSW programs on “Privatization, Retrenchment, and Reimbursement: Implications for Field Education.” Along with Student Services Associate Warren Clark, Jarman-Rohde was awarded a $5,000 grant from the Gilbert Whitaker Fund for stipend support for a social work student at the new community health center in Ann Arbor.

Associate Professor Edith Lewis participated in the UM new faculty orientation in September. She also participated in the UM Intergroup Relations conference in November. Their conflict program, with which Lewis has been associated since its inception, was recently named as one of the nation’s “Best Practices on Race Relations” by President Clinton.

Sharon Moskwaik, Secretary to Dean Paula Allen-Meares, was awarded the Spring/Summer Term 1997 Staff Recognition Award. Associate Dean for Research Carol Mowbray has been awarded several new grants; two are from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Center for Mental Health Studies) for “Supported Education—Michigan Statewide Systems Change” and “Edited Book on Supported Education”; from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Serious Mentally Ill Women: Coping with Parenthood”; and from the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) for “Consumer-Run Alternatives in Mental Health—Pilot Study.”

Along with Daphna Oyserman of the UM Institute for Social Research (ISR) and Dean Paula Allen-Meares, Mowbray was also awarded an internal grant from OVPR for “Pathways for Youth: Risk and Resilience.” Mowbray is the lead editor (along with David Moxley, Coleen Jasper, and Lisa Howell) of the recently published book *Consumers as Providers in Psychiatric Rehabilitation*. The book covers mental health consumers serving in self-help roles, consumer-run services, and professional and staff roles in mental health agencies.

Assistant Professor Robert Ortega was invited to serve as a consultant to the Technical Work Group for the Child Welfare Longitudinal Study sponsored by HHS and carried out by Research Triangle Institute, UC Berkeley and UNC Chapel Hill. On October 30, along with Lupe Lara and Gloria Rosas, he presented on “Latinos and Child Welfare” for the Child Welfare League of America’s Midwest Regional Training Conference and the National Conference on Out-Of-Home Care held in Detroit. On November 4, he was invited by the Council of Latino Executives to meet in Washington, DC with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to discuss the status of Latinos in child welfare.

Associate Professor Beth Glover Reed was presented the prestigious UM Distinguished Faculty Governance Award on October 8. Reed was honored for her dedication to faculty governance, her service, and her commitment to improving the campus climate for all members of the UM community. She has contributed substantially to campus discussions and policies related to substance abuse. Reed has provided thoughtful, strong leadership to the School and to the Women’s Studies Program, and is respected for the energy and wisdom she brings to decision-making. Reed has also been awarded a grant from OAPAMA for “Praxis and Multicultural Learning.”
University: Educating Employees for the 21st Century.

Professor Emerita Rosemary Sarri received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Social Work Research at the NASW meeting in Baltimore in October. The award was presented to her by NASW President Josephine Allen MSW ’70, PhD ’79. Sarri recently completed a research study on juvenile offenders in Michigan.

In September, Associate Professor Daniel Saunders was interviewed by several regional media organizations following the murder of LS&A student Tamara Williams. Saunders is co-chair of the UM Task Force on Violence Against Women. In November, he was the keynote speaker at the Maryland Statewide Roundtable of Abuser Intervention Programs, presenting on “How Effective are Batterer Programs?”

Associate Professor Robert Taylor, along with Professor of Psychology James Jackson, has been awarded a grant from the National Institute on Aging for the project “Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research.”

Associate Professors Diane Kaplan Vinokur and Lorrain Gutierrez were Fall Term 1997 recipients of a School-funded research assistant for associate professors.

Assistant Professor Mieko Yoshihama has been awarded a grant from the Gilbert Whitaker Fund for “Invisible No Longer: Asian Pacific Islanders in Social Work Education.”

Visiting Scholars Program on Welfare Reform and Social Justice

On September 18, The Honorable Donna Shalala, U.S. Secretary for Health and Human Services, presented the annual Fedele F. and Iris M. Fauri Lecture on Child Welfare to a large audience at the Power Center. Secretary Shalala emphasized her commitment to wanting the best for all American children. She outlined areas of achievement, such as substantial increases in providing childhood immunizations, significant decreases in infant mortality with the “Back to Sleep” campaign, and a continuing decrease in teen pregnancies. Shalala also discussed areas that need more resources, such as health insurance for children of the working poor, child abuse and neglect, and drug and tobacco use by teenagers. Shalala stressed that she is committed to outcomes—maintaining programs that work and cutting programs that don’t, even if they are popular. Copies of her talk can be obtained by calling the Dean’s Office (734) 764-5340.

Dr. Wendall Primus, of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, DC, was the second visitor in our new Visiting Scholars Program. He was in residence at the School for two days in October, lecturing MSW and PhD students on such topics as welfare reform, the social safety net, and poverty and income support programs; he also met informally with faculty and students. Dr. Primus was formerly Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy in the Clinton Administration and Staff Director of the U.S. House of Representatives’ Ways and Means Committee.

The Honorable Donna Shalala
In both her professional life and her personal life, Elizabeth Mutschler shows her willingness to take risks and be challenged. She completed her social work training in Germany and came to the U.S. in 1971 as an exchange worker at Methodist Children’s Home in St. Louis. She took two courses at Washington University School of Social Work, and decided to enroll in their PhD program and focus on social work research. At that time, Aaron Rosen PhD ‘63 was the director of the PhD program at Washington University. Mutschler believes she was trained in the “Michigan way,” so her later move to Ann Arbor was a natural one.

Following the completion of her PhD, Mutschler went to Baltimore and worked at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. She received an NIMH grant to conduct evaluations at family service organizations. In 1979 she was recruited by Dean Phil Fellin to Michigan. He says, “the School was fortunate to be able to hire a person who had studied with a distinguished alumnus, Professor Aaron Rosen. Mutschler came to Michigan with a strong research and practice agenda.” She was hired to teach the Management Information Systems courses and integrate micro and macro issues. In her first ten years here, she focused on the development of evaluation methods for clinical practice.

Mutschler was a pioneer in the use of computers and information technology in social work. She has always believed that the effectiveness of social work practice must be evaluated by measuring interventions and outcomes. In her classes, students designed information systems for their field instruction sites. She said that the students’ initial reaction to this project was “We want to work with people, not machines,” but they ended up seeing the value of information technology for the non-profit sector.

Mutschler was instrumental in the creation of Michigan Comnet, the computer-based communication, conferencing, training, and information-sharing system for Southeast Michigan community service organizations. This system was started following a project that she, Larry Coppard (former Director of External Relations), and Debbie Kroopkin, MSW ‘92, had with agencies which serve the homeless in Detroit. Mutschler says this project, like others she has been involved with, taught her that “as I learned what was useful, my students learned, too.” She has always endeavored to bring practical experience into the classroom.

At her retirement party in October, Mutschler’s colleagues remarked on her love of travel. Helen Weingarten observed that Elizabeth followed a tradition characteristic of European women who travel and live abroad in search of new experiences and opportunities. Mutschler has hiked and trekked in many countries and has spent sabbaticals in Australia and Israel. She plans to return to these countries and wants to visit Eastern Europe as well. She is also planning to volunteer as a tax return preparer for senior citizens. While thanking her colleagues for their gifts and good wishes, she noted she is appreciative of the opportunity to retire early and enjoy an active life while she is healthy and fit, a privilege her parents’ generation was not afforded. It is clear that the adventures of Elizabeth Mutschler are entering a new and exciting phase.

— Robin Adelson Little

Faculty Retreat

The governing faculty of the School held their annual retreat on September 12. Professor Charles Garvin facilitated a faculty discussion on “The Social Construction of Race,” a topic closely linked to multiculturalism and social diversity. This is one of the themes of the new curriculum that will be discussed at faculty meetings throughout the year. Other highlights were the “State of the School” reports presented by administrators on enrollment, the Joint Doctoral Program, the Office of Field Instruction, External Relations projects, the budget, and development.
Good News from the Research Office

According to the 1997 report from the Office of the Vice President for Research, statistics on research productivity in the School of Social Work show increases in many categories compared to fiscal year 1996: research expenditures are up by 7.9% (compared to a University-wide increase of 3.9%); research proposal submissions are up by a whopping 146%; and research awards are up by 128%—amounting to over $7.5 million.

Our records in the Research Office indicate that from 7/1/96 through 6/30/97, faculty submitted eighty-five grant applications to UM and external funding sources, encompassing training, research, and program development. Our assistant professors accounted for 26% of these submissions, suggesting that they are off to an excellent start in this aspect of their academic careers. More than two-thirds of the applications submitted by faculty have been funded and several are still pending.

Faculty research is addressing timely topics such as violence against women, welfare reform, and services to people with psychiatric disabilities. All this grant application activity pays off in terms of benefits to the faculty and to the field. Research activity also assists MSW and doctoral students. Last year's funded grants supported eleven GSRAs (with benefits and tuition) and forty-two hourly research assistants.

All this success is due to the support provided by Dean Paula Allen-Meares and our active, productive, and very helpful Research Office staff who, coincidentally just started their jobs in 1996—Barbara Tietjen and Karen Berwald. Also, the hard work and extra effort expended by our faculty resulted in eleven faculty, who had no grants in the previous year, being funded in fiscal year 1997.

Applause, applause, applause to all involved in this exceptional effort!

— Carol T. Mowbray

Larry Coppard Retires

Larry Coppard, Director of the Office of External Relations and Adjunct Associate Professor, retired from the University at the end of the year after twenty-six years of service. In January, Dr. Coppard was appointed Senior Consultant to the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan in Detroit. In his career at UM, Dr. Coppard held positions with the School of Natural Resources, The Rackham School of Graduate Studies, and the School of Education. Just prior to coming to the School of Social Work, he was Associate Director of the Institute of Gerontology where he directed their educational programs and the Kellogg International Health and Aging Program. In his years with the School, Dr. Coppard developed several outreach programs, including the Detroit Initiative, the Community-Based Training Cooperative, and Michigan Comnet, a public service computer-based communication and information service for Michigan non-profit organizations. Dr. Coppard was also instrumental in the establishment of the Michigan Neighborhood Partnership.

(l to r) Geneva Williams, Chief Operating Officer of United Way Community Services in Detroit, Larry Coppard, and Cynthia Wilbanks, UM Associate Vice President for University Relations
PhD Student Assesses Impact of Welfare Reform in Muskegon

Amelia Gavin, a first-year doctoral student in Social Work and Political Science, is working with the Family Coordinating Council of Muskegon on a long-term research project to assess the impact of welfare reform in that county. The Family Coordinating Council comprises twenty-four agencies in Muskegon County including the Family Independence Agency, Child and Family Services, United Way, Catholic Social Services, school districts, and hospitals.

Amelia will be assisting Jodi Sandfort, PhD ’97, who is now an assistant professor of public administration at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University in New York. Dr. Sandfort is also affiliated with the NIMH Research Center on Poverty, Research, and Mental Health at UM.

Muskegon County is an area in economic transition, with a high incidence of teen pregnancy, a low rate of college education, and racial segregation. However, it is a community firmly committed to improving the status of children and families. The project will focus on three dimensions: measuring indicators of community well-being, assessing how resources and services are changing, and assessing how these changes impact clients. Indicators of community well-being will include the numbers of children receiving free lunches, the number of infants born with low birth weights, the number of children affected by substantiated abuse and neglect, and the rate of births to teenagers. The assessment dimension will include surveys and focus groups with local human service organizations.

Amelia is excited about the partnership with UM. “We are a real-life laboratory. They are external researchers. Together we can look for truth,” she said.

Gavin was drawn to this project because of her interest in anti-poverty programs at the community level and the opportunity to follow a project from its inception through to its completion. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Wisconsin and holds a Masters in Public Policy from UM. Gavin will receive a stipend for her field work from the monies the School has received from the Michigan Human Services Internship Program, made possible by a special grant from the UM Provost’s Office. This program supports students whose field placements are in western Michigan, Flint, and Detroit. Her field supervisor will be Associate Professor Sandra Danziger.

— Robin Adelson Little

Doctoral Degrees Conferred

- Jodi Sandfort - “Welfare Reform from the Front Lines: A Study of the Local Organizations Implementing Public Policy in Michigan”
- Faith Pratt Hopp - “Patterns and Predictors of Unmet Need Among Older Persons Living in Residential Care Homes: The Role of Personal and Family Resources”
- Sybil McPherson - “The Mediating Effects of Goal Setting on Sobriety for Persons with Dual Diagnoses”
- Bonnie Hatchett - “Beliefs of Older African American Women about Alcohol Use and Abuse”

STUDENT NEWS

Kudos to doctoral student Izumi Sakamoto (Social Work and Psychology) who, along with Mildred C. Tirado, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, was awarded funding for the “International Families Outreach Project” (IFOP), from the President’s New Century Fund. This project will provide programs to help international families cope with the effects of cross-cultural stress. Colleagues from academic and service units across campus will work together to improve community support for North Campus international student families.

Peter Newman is the 1997 recipient of the Henry Meyer Award. This award honors students whose outstanding writing integrates social work and social science and is suitable for publication or conference presentation. Newman was chosen for his paper “Values, Social Identity, and Power: A Social Psychological Approach to Values.”

Brad Zebrack (Social Work and Psychology) has been named one of fifteen consumer advocates for the National Cancer Institute’s Consumer Liaison Group. Zebrack, a survivor of Hodgkin’s disease, is focusing his PhD studies on the needs of long-term survivors of childhood cancers.
News From the Office of Student and Multicultural Affairs

1997 MSW EMPLOYMENT SURVEY REPORT

The Office of Student and Multicultural Affairs recently completed the third annual employment survey of recent graduates. Three hundred and twenty-three graduates from December 1995, April 1996, and August 1996 were surveyed regarding their employment. The survey was conducted as part of a national survey of MSW graduates.

Surveys were distributed from May through July 1997. The response rate was 55%. The recent graduates were surveyed regarding their job status, field of service, salary, setting, job function, credential requirements, and location, timing and sources of employment. Complete results of the Employment Survey are available through the Office of Student and Multicultural Affairs at (734) 764-3309.

Survey findings include:

JOB PROFILE
- Over half (59%) of the graduates were compensated at $28,000 or more per year.
- Almost half of graduates were employed in the metropolitan Detroit area (44%); over one-third were employed outside of Michigan (37%).
- Most graduates were employed in the private not-for-profit sector (53%). Others were employed in the public sector (27%) and the private for-profit sector (11%).
- Clinical social work was the most popular method utilized by recent graduates (82%). Nearly one in seven of recent graduates were in a macro social work position (13%).
- An MSW was required or preferred for the vast majority of positions (78%).

JOB SEARCH
- 99% of the graduates related that they were employed when surveyed ten to seventeen months following graduation.
- Networking was the most effective job search technique (59%).
- An average of 2.6 months elapsed between the time graduates started intensively looking for jobs and the time they accepted a position.
- On average, graduates applied for jobs with fifteen organizations.
- On average, graduates interviewed for jobs with four organizations.
- On average, graduates received two job offers.

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SALARIES

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FIELD OF PRACTICE

- Mental Health (27%)
- School (6%)
- Aging (7%)
- Health (15%)
- Substance Abuse (6%)
- Other (12%)
- Children's Family Services (27%)

Note - The Other category includes: Occupation and Industrial Social Work, Developmental Disabilities, and Public Assistance, research, political social work/policy analyst, unspecified macro and interpersonal practice positions, and non-social work employment.

JOB FUNCTION

- Combination: clinical practice and clinical case management (40%)
- Management/Administration/Community Development (9%)
- Policy/Planning (3%)
- Clinical practice (27%)
- Research (1%)
- Unknown (5%)
- Clinical case management (15%)

Kevin Lindamood is our MI-NASW Student of the Year

Congratulations to second-year MSW student Kevin Lindamood who has been selected as the School's Student Social Worker of the Year. Kevin was nominated by Professor Brett Seabury for his leadership with the Bertha Capen Reynolds Society. (See article in Summer/Fall 1997 Outgoing.) He helped coordinate last year's "51,000 Empty Bowls Campaign," in protest of Governor Engler's refusal to request a federal food stamp waiver for counties with high unemployment. Kevin was instrumen-tal in forming coalitions with other grassroots organizations and convincing public figures to speak at the rally in Lansing on May 28. He received his award at a ceremony in Detroit on November 18. Kevin was also the student speaker at Commencement on December 13.

ENROLLMENT IN MSW PROGRAMS

This Fall there were 636 students enrolled in the MSW program. Twenty-four percent are students of color. There are fourteen international students.

— Clarita Mays, Tim Colenback and Michael A. Dover
**Campaign for Michigan: Raising Funds and Hopes**

The tremendous success of the University of Michigan's $1 billion Campaign for Michigan had enormous impact on the University's endowed funds, including those funds that are held for the School of Social Work. In 1991, the School's endowed endowment stood at $382,000. Today, our endowment is at $3.4 million—and climbing!

The success of the campaign begs the question, what's next? For the School of Social Work, the answer is simple: Endowment! Endowment! Endowment! Building on the momentum of the UM campaign, we will work hard over the next three to five years to build the School's endowment to $25 million, effectively rivaling comparable endowments in social work institutions with lesser rankings.

Of course, having a $3.4 million endowment does not mean the School can access the entire principal. The University's endowment policy stipulates that the School receive approximately 5% of the endowment principal (interest earned in excess of 5% is added to the endowment principal). This means the School has $170,000 generated each year from its current endowed funds for expenditure, as the donor(s) have articulated in their endowment agreement. Needless to say, there are still important initiatives that require endowed funding if the School is to remain "the leader and best," ensuring that it continues to be ranked as the #1 school of social work in the nation.

The Campaign for Michigan helped the School fund two endowed professorships: the Harold R. Johnson Professorship on Aging and the Marion Elizabeth Blue Professorship in Children and Families (funded by Ann Lurie and her children). Endowment funding opportunities remain for similar chairs in violence, mental health, poverty, social justice, and international/comparative studies. Additional endowed funding will be sought for scholarships, fellowships, and internships in support of these specialized areas of study. These endowments will provide vision and leadership, shaping the School's research and curriculum to attract the best and brightest scholars throughout the nation and the world.

The new School of Social Work building also provides several endowment opportunities. Through an agreement with the University, funds raised from named classrooms, research facilities, the library, and the building will remain with the School and will provide permanent funding for the School to address its ongoing needs of student support and assistance, seed money for research, technology support, visiting scholars and lectures, and support for faculty, as well as other needs that may arise.

To the 250,000 donors who supported the Campaign for Michigan, and those in particular who supported the School of Social Work, we are deeply grateful. To those who were not able to assist during the campaign, rest assured—there will be plenty of occasions to support your School, thereby ensuring its viable, important future as a leader in the social work profession.

For a complete listing of funding opportunities at the School of Social Work, please contact the Development Office at (734) 763-5959.

**YOUR ANNUAL GIFT DOLLARS AT WORK**

Thanks to your support of the Annual Fund, we can now support a student placement at the Corner Health Center in Ypsilanti with a $5,000 stipend. Generating funds for paid practicum placements is an important effort of the School. We recognize that many students enter our program with considerable financial need and, for some of them, stipend availability determines their choice of Michigan over other schools of social work.

Stipends are just one of the many important enterprises that are funded through the Annual Fund. Your gift, combined with the gifts of others, provide for scholarships, equipment, and important seed money for faculty research. We hope you will keep the UM School of Social Work in your charitable giving plans this year by responding to either direct mail requests or a call from Michigan Telefund.

**Deborah Perry Joins School As New Director of Development**

I would like to introduce myself as the new Director of Development at the School, replacing Heather Kingsbury (West) who left to enroll in the MBA program at the UM Business School. Prior to my appointment here, I was employed at Wright State University (OH) as the Director of Annual Giving and I also worked at UM Central Development from 1987 to 1992. I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming months at various alumni events and, of course, at the new building dedication on September 25, 1998. Feel free to contact me at (734) 763-5959 if you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance.

—Deborah S. Perry
Spring/Summer 1998 Workshops:

CHANGING PATTERNS THROUGH NEW UNDERSTANDINGS

GRANDPARENTS AND RELATIVES AS PARENTS: DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY PROGRAM OF SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

Monday, April 6
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

When parents are unable to cope with the responsibilities of parenting due to mental illness, substance abuse, incarceration or poor parenting skills, grandparents and relatives are often called upon to care for children. This workshop will include perspectives of parents, children and professionals about the problems associated with this at-risk group, how to help the entire family relationship by giving support services, and providing information for community professionals. This workshop will include all aspects of program development: coalition building, funding, curriculum, and evaluation, as well as an exploration of family, societal, and policy issues.

Virginia Boyce, MSW, MPH

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE INCARCERATED

Thursday, April 9
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There are an estimated 1.5 million children in the U.S. whose parents are incarcerated. To prevent the continuation of intergenerational incarceration and to strengthen the family relationship by providing support services, Sons and Daughters of the Incarcerated (SADOI) was developed by Joyce Dixon. Ms. Dixon will share her personal story of incarceration, the impact it had on her children, and the history and development of SADOI. Participants will learn about the problems associated with this at-risk group, how to help the children and families deal with the trauma of losing a parent, and the SADOI group therapy approach. A panel presentation of parents, children, and service providers will share their experiences and perspectives.

Joyce Dixon, MSW ’94

REWRITING SELF-NARRATIVES: THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS IN THE ADOPTION CIRCLE

Friday, May 1
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A recent survey found that most practitioners are not aware of the unique issues that characterize adoptive families, and instead base their assessments, hypotheses, and interventions on their understanding and experience with biological families. Participants will learn to identify preadoptive, adoptive, and postadoptive issues in clinical practice and the developmental trajectory of adopted persons; to choose intervention models according to certain assessment criteria for the adoptive family; to recognize the clinical implications associated with open adoption and transracial adoption; and to identify clinical issues in adoption related to gender, identity, and searching for birth parents.

Elinor B. Rosenberg, MSW

ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND SELF-IMAGE

Tuesday, May 5
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

As recent psychological research has shown, adolescent girls develop differently than boys. In the morning, the presenters will explore adolescent development in girls, both typical and atypical, and how this effects our work with them. The afternoon session will focus on eating disorders, giving attention to both the medical and psychological aspects of this problem, and focusing on multi-professional treatment strategies. This workshop is appropriate for individuals who work with adolescent girls in a variety of settings.

Katie Pek-Davis, MSW ’75
David S. Rosen, MD, MPH

NEW FRONTIERS IN FAMILY PROGRAMS: SYSTEM REFORM IN MICHIGAN

Thursday, May 14
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The State of Michigan is in the process of revolutionizing social development and delivery to families following major welfare reforms. Susan Kelly, the director of the Division of Family Preservation Services for the Family Independence Agency, will speak about new initiatives that are addressing individual family needs in a holistic way. Program delivery is being reorganized so that clients may access comprehensive services which meet their unique needs. Ms. Kelly will share the objectives of this system reform, the role of outcome-based performance systems, and the value of these new, non-traditional programs. A panel comprised of representatives of service providers and consumers will discuss the new service systems from different perspectives.

Susan Kelly, MSW ’86

SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

WEB SOURCES FOR THE HUMAN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL: LOCATING AND EVALUATING WEB SITES

Tuesday, April 14
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Every day, the volume of information available on the Internet increases dramatically. In this hands-on workshop designed for social workers, you will learn to search the Internet effectively for resources such as networking e-mail.
DIAGNOSTIC CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS used by the special education and mental health systems; problems common to preschool and elementary age children, such as developmental disorders, ADHD, and behavioral disorders; and problems of adolescents, such as depression and suicide, substance abuse, and dating violence.

Adjunct Assistant Professor
Doug Davies

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING
Saturday - Sunday,
July 25-26 & August 1-2
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
The specific issues and types of knowledge needed by the social worker to evaluate and utilize psychological reports will be discussed in this course. Participants will acquire familiarity with the most frequently used instruments in personality, intellectual, and neurological assessment. Particular emphasis will be placed on the use of testing in educational settings and the use of behavior rating scales in the educational team evaluation process. The social and cultural frameworks within which tests are created, administered, and interpreted will also be examined.

Diane Donar, SPA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration Procedures: Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations cannot be accepted by phone. Payment may be made by check, money order, Mastercard, Visa, or Discover. If paying by check or money order, please pay in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank, payable to The University of Michigan School of Social Work. Fees must accompany the registration form unless agencies are to be billed. If agencies are to be billed directly, include a letter of approval and/or a purchase order number from the agency. Please call (734) 647-4281 for information. Fees include registration and some workshop materials. Parking, overnight accommodations, meals and textbooks (where required) are not included.

CEUs: Pending approval, UM Continuing Education Units will be provided. State of Ohio Counselor and Social Worker Board Approval Number: RX049303. CEUs will be provided for full day workshops only.

Cancellations and Refunds: Refunds will be made only for cancellations received at least two weeks prior to the first day of the workshop. A $25 processing fee is charged for all cancellations. Agencies will be billed for participants who fail to cancel on time. If you must cancel your registration, please call (734) 647-4281 as soon as possible.

Registration Form

Name:
Mailing Address:
Social Security Number:
Phone: (H) (O)

Please enroll me in the following workshops (Check your selections):

☐ Grandparents and Relatives as Parents: Developing a Community Program of Support and Education
☐ Sons and Daughters of the Incarcerated
☐ Rewriting Self-Narratives: Therapeutic Interventions in the Adoption Circle
☐ Adolescent Girls and Self-Image
☐ New Frontiers in Family Programs: System Reform in Michigan

Special Workshops

☐ Web Sources for The Human Services Professional: Locating and Evaluating Web Sites (Note: this is a half-day workshop)
☐ Inquire Within: A Teaching Tolerance Workshop
Fees: $95.00 per workshop
$60.00 for Web sources for the Human Services Professional
(1/2 day workshop)
Students: $45.00 per workshop (A valid student I.D. must be shown at the door.)

Social Work in Schools Courses

☐ Mental Disorders and Deviant Behavior of Children and Youth
June 6-7 & 13-14
☐ Psychological Testing July 18-19 & 25-26
For this workshop, choose A or B only:
☐ (A) Social Work in Schools May 19-22
☐ (B) Social Work in Schools June 27-28 & July 11-12
Fee: $380.00 per session (sorry, no discounts available for School Social Work courses)

Enclosed please find my check, money order, or charge card authorization for $.

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover (please check one)
No. Exp. Date

Signature

Mail Registration to:
UM School of Social Work • Continuing Education Program
1080 S. University • Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106
(734) 647-4281
Alumna Vidya Rao Returns as Visiting Lecturer

In describing the different stages of her career, Vidya Rao, a visiting lecturer from Mumbai (formerly Bombay), India, confesses that a number of the decisions she has made in her life were more spontaneous than planned, but Rao has done what she always wanted to do—be a social worker.

Professor Rao broke away from the family tradition of studying Sanskrit, math, or engineering to devote herself to helping others through social work. Not realizing there was a good school in her native city of Chennai (formerly Madras), Rao decided to leave home for the first time ever. In 1968, she came to Ann Arbor, where she enrolled in the MSW program and moved into a housing co-op. If sharing a house where men and women lived together wasn’t startling enough, Rao also had to take her turn cooking meats that had never been allowed in her orthodox family. Rao found life in co-op housing to be a valuable education and cherishes the experience. “I learned there were other points of view that were equally valid and correct as my own—it broadened my perception.”

Professor Rao breaks back on her field placements as being another valuable learning experience. She had placements in Ann Arbor with the Board of Education, the City Council, and Catholic Social Services, and with Family Services and United Community Services (now United Way Community Services) in Detroit. “The classroom went above my head, but this was real life.” After graduating in 1969, she worked for UCS in their Community Information and Referral Center as a social worker for four years. “I was very happy there and learned an enormous amount about social work from my supervisors and co-workers, but eventually went home to India to make my career in social work and to be with my family.”

Upon her return, Professor Rao was offered a teaching job at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Bombay, the premier school of social work in the country and the Asia/Pacific region. As her family was in Madras, she instead accepted a teaching position at the School of Social Work there and learnt about social work in India on the job. To gain field experience, Rao took a position with the Slum Clearance Board of the state government. During her three years in this highly political position, she supervised a staff of 300, including doctors, nurses, social workers, and other para-professionals.

To pursue doctoral work, Rao moved to the Tata Institute of Social Sciences where she taught full-time while doing her doctoral work on citizen participation in urban development, earning an interdisciplinary degree in social work and political science in 1995.

Presently, Professor Rao serves as the Chair of the Social Welfare Administrative concentration within the MA (Social Work) program at the Tata Institute. She has published in the areas of social policy, social welfare in India, managerial succession, and development of the voluntary sector in India. Returning to UM, as a teacher this time rather than a student, she is currently lecturing in “Concepts and Techniques of Community Participation.” As Rao observes with satisfaction, “What better place could I find to intellectually develop myself than my alma mater?”

— Suzan Alexander
Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient Passes Away

Taik Lee '72 died on July 9 following a brief illness. He was the recipient of the Alumni Society Board of Governors Distinguished Alumni Award in 1993, being honored for his distinguished career as a public servant and his service to the School as a fundraiser and field instructor. He worked for the Administration for Children, Youth and Family Services at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, coordinating the review of grant proposals for demonstration projects related to child welfare. In November 1996, Lee helped organize the first Pathfinders program, in Washington, DC. Taik Lee will be remembered for his high professional standards, his efforts to promote the social work profession, and his loyalty to the School and our alumni.

LINDA GLOVER '76 JOINS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Linda Stankwitz Glover is the new member of the Alumni Society Board of Governors, serving from January 1998 to December 2000. Glover is a program representative for the Foster Care Review Board in Lansing. In this position, she facilitates and manages the operations of seven citizen boards in the out-state area. Glover is passionately interested in child welfare, and would like to help the School develop committed and informed child welfare professionals. She was nominated for the board by Professor Kathleen Faller.

Three members returning to the Board for their second three-year terms are: Linda Brough '88, Oliva Kuester '85, and Robert Williams '73. Board responsibilities include attending quarterly meetings, serving as a liaison with an office/program at the School, assisting with alumni events and projects, and representing the School at University events. If

you would like to nominate yourself, or a colleague, for the 1999-2001 term, please send biographical information by June 1, 1998 to: UM School of Social Work, Alumni Office, 1080 South University, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106.

Members of the School of Social Work Alumni Society Board of Governors

Term expires 12/98
Fred Lawless '64
Donna Mullins '94
Earlene Traylor Neal '94
Regina Smith '94

Term expires 12/99
Denise Diggs-Taylor '91
Daniel Hampton III '93
Mary Joorjano '85

Term expires 12/2000
Linda Brough '88
Linda Glover '76
Oliva Kuester '85
Robert Williams '73

— Robin Adelson Little

ALUMNI VOLUNTEER DATABASE UP AND RUNNING

The Alumni Volunteer Database is operational! Those of you who returned the Alumni Volunteer Interest Form have records in a database that can be sorted by many categories, including address, areas of interest, and areas of volunteer availability. For example, if you would like the names of alumni in Grand Rapids who work in the area of mental health, you can call the Alumni Office and request a list. Please call Robin Little at (734) 763-6339 with any questions or requests for information from this new database.

PATHFINDERS PROGRAM

Emerita Professor Sallie Churchill addressed an alumni audience at the Cottage Inn Restaurant in Ann Arbor on October 13 on the topic “Current Dilemmas in Treating Sexually Abused Children.” She reviewed areas of concern to her as she works with children who have been sexually abused, including development of trust, the difference between voluntary and involuntary disclosure, the benefits of group treatment, and the issue of counter-transference.

Churchill also mentioned how important it is for therapists to protect themselves by having adequate malpractice insurance and by recording or videotaping interviews. She also said that social workers must advocate with managed care providers for longer treatment for sexually abused children.

A second Pathfinders program in Ann Arbor is being planned for the Spring with Emerita Professor Rosemary Sarri.

Sallie Churchill
Class Notes

Regents of the University: Laurence B. Deitch, Bloomfield Hills; Daniel D. Horning, Grand Haven; Olivia E. Maynard, Goodrich; Shirley M. McFee, Battle Creek; Rebecca McGowan, Ann Arbor; Andrea Fischer Newman, Ann Arbor; and Philip H. Power, Ann Arbor; S. Martin Taylor, Grosse Pointe Farms; Lee C. Bollinger, ex officio.

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1957

Jake Terpstra retired after twenty years as a Child Welfare Program Specialist at the U.S. Children's Bureau in Washington, DC. Jake served as a national expert on child welfare licensing and out-of-home care, and was a major force in defining and institutionalizing permanency planning as a concept, and service delivery strategy. He lives in Grand Rapids.

1964

Thomas E. Villiger is retired and lives in San Pedro, CA. He was elected to the board of the American Humane Association and is chair of the Children’s Division Advisory Committee.

1965

Leslie Hargett has retired from the State of Michigan Department of Community Health.

1966

Susan Zinn Eisinger lives in Rochester, NY and recently retired from the University of Rochester’s Strong Memorial Hospital after thirteen years of working with pregnant and parenting teens. She is currently using her professional skills in volunteer activities in the community, serving on the board of several small agencies and working as a professional consultant. She is making "contributions to improve services that wouldn't get done otherwise in the current economic climate."

A. J. (Tony) Palumbo lives in Wareham, MA and is a play consultant, therapist, and public speaker. He founded the Children’s Radio Network. Palumbo hosts the “Dr. Silly Radio Show” and has a puppet theater and mobile playcare facilities (“Sillyumps”es) that serve children in several states. Following his MSW, he received a PhD at Wayne State, completed postdoctoral studies in biofeedback research at the San Antonio Medical Research Center, taught psychology in Australia, and studied puppetry in Europe.

1967

Joan Junas Fisch lives in Palo Alto, CA. She is in private practice, treating individuals and couples, and consulting in the treatment of survivors of trauma. She is on the clinical faculty at Stanford University’s School of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Joan was also a contributor to Celebrating the Lives of Jewish Women: Patterns in a Feminist Sampler, published by Haworth Press.

A. Sidney Johnson III is Executive Director of the American Public Welfare Association in Washington, DC. This organization represents all 50 state human service departments, 800 local departments, and 4,000 individuals. He began his career in public policy as special assistant to HEW Secretary Wilbur Cohen and then served for seven years as legislative aide to Senator Walter Mondale. Sid is a member of the School’s Visiting Committee (see photo p. 11) and presented the Federle F. and Iris M. Fauri lecture last March.


1968

Hilary Green Ford and John L. Ford (PhD ’76) have lived in Ithaca, NY since 1974. They have three children: Alison, Lewis, and Jill. Hilary is the Assistant Dean and Director of Admissions for Cornell University Graduate School. John is the Dean of Students and a professor in the department of Policy Analysis and Management at Cornell. They have recently seen or been in touch with several UM-SSW grads: Josephine Allen ’70, PhD ’79; Bev Gold ’68; Fran Levitt ’68; Phil (and Martie) McDowell ’68; Hedda Matza ’68; Anne Oliphant Smith ’68; Jeanne Moss Snapp ’71; and their respective families. Hilary and John were very pleased to see Suzanne and Henry Meyer last summer in Ithaca when they came to visit their grandson at Cornell.

John Russell Garris is Deputy Superintendent of Schools in Yonkers, NY.

1969

Hans William Anderson III has retired from the Ohio public child welfare system after thirty-one years of service. He now conducts post-adoptive individual and group services, administrative consulting, and child welfare training. He also enjoys feeding the ducks with his two-year-old grandson! Hans lives in Zanesville, OH.

1970

Sharon Miller is Vice President for Planning & Service Development for Merit Behavioral Corporation in Austin, TX. Her work is focused on public sector services, especially on new programs for seriously emotionally disturbed children and their families. Prior to moving to Austin, Sharon served as Executive Director of the Michigan Women’s Commission, was a candidate for State Senate from the 17th District, and was Executive Director and CEO of the Monroe County Community Mental Health Board. She was the 1994 recipient of the Hal Madden Award for Outstanding Service in Community Mental Health in Michigan.

Jane Ann Rubin (Shimmin) is a licensed clinical social worker in a county-operated, long-term and subacute care facility in Miami, FL. She is chairperson of a structured training program for cognitively impaired adults, ages 22 to 87. She has served as President of the Florida Health Care Social Workers Association (District I).

1971

Terry Goldberg Axelrod has her own consulting business in Seattle, WA doing fundraising and training with executive directors nationally.

A. J. (Tony) Palumbo
Michael Knox (PhD '74 Psychology) has been named a Distinguished Service Professor at the University of South Florida, making him one of only twelve faculty members in the history of the institution to receive that honor. He was honored for his outstanding work in mental health and HIV education. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, and the American Association of Applied and Preventive Psychology. Michael and his wife Lucinda Page Knox '74 have two sons and live in Temple Terrace, FL.

1973

Kathleen Hardy is Program Director for Gilda's Club in Farmington, MI, a social and emotional support community center for men, women, and children living with cancer. Art Mattson is a school social worker at the Southern Will County Cooperative for Special Education in Frankfort, IL. He is secretary of the Cooperative for Special Education, Local 604, Illinois Federation of Teachers/American Federation of Teachers. Art and his wife Mary Alice celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary last summer.

Arturo Rodriguez, President of the United Farm Workers of America, was profiled in the June 30 edition of The New York Times. He was described as "the Martin Luther King, Jr. of this generation, in that he stands, fights, and dedicates his life in private and public ways to social justice...he's a model for the rest of the labor movement to follow." Arturo is working to organize the more than 20,000 farm workers in California's strawberry industry. This is the first time since the early 1980s that farm workers are advocating for the right to unionize without intimidation from the growers.

1975

Christopher S. Carpenter is Director of Social Work for Maine General Medical Center. He was presented with the "Health Care Social Work Administrator of the Year Award" at the 1997 conference of the Society for Social Work Administrators in Health Care (SSWAHC) in Phoenix, AZ. He is also a four-time recipient of the "Social Work Director of the Year" award from the Maine chapter of SSWAHC.

Elaine Breshgold received a PhD in Clinical Psychology from Pacific University in Forest Grove, OR in 1987. She has written several articles and given presentations in the U.S. and Canada on gestalt therapy theory and practice. She is currently in private practice as Co-Director of the Gestalt Therapy Training Center-Northwest with her husband Steve Zahn, who is also a psychologist. In February 1998, they traveled to Australia to train gestalt therapist at institutes in Brisbane and Lismore.

1979

Jacquie (Stein) Rosenfield is general manager for Fellowship-Wide Services in Newton, MA, where she has worked for the past six years. This is the international office for Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step support group. Jacquie visited Ann Arbor in November for an international conference.

1980

Susan Tredway Hildum works with the Court Evaluation Unit at Worcester (MA) State Hospital. She also supervises Boston University School of Social Work students and co-facilitates a Parents Anonymous group.

Henry C. Millbourne is Associate Executive Director of AIDS Partnership Michigan, the largest HIV service organization in the state. It provides education, prevention, and support services to persons with HIV/AIDS, including case management, home-delivered meals, buddy/companion services, support groups, spiritual support, and the Michigan AIDS hotline. Henry is responsible for program and fiscal management of all care-related services. Mary C. Richards has held an honorarium position with the California Board of Behavioral Sciences for ten years as an examiner for the clinical social work license. She reports she is surviving the health care provider crisis by being flexible, having worked in psychiatric inpatient-outpatient and medical-surgical services. Mary works at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Los Angeles and would like to hear from other 1980 graduates.

Kathleen Ann (Billmaier) Schildbach has sixteen years of experience in providing assessment and casework services to children and adults who have developmental disabilities. She has also been a field instructor for Regina Gerstman teaches at the University of Texas (Austin) School of Social Work and is a doctoral candidate in Human Development and Education in the Educational Psychology Department at UT. Her dissertation is a qualitative study of second advanced degree seekers. She is looking at multiple career identities and challenging notions of career development and change. Regina also has a private practice.
graduate programs in counseling, psychology, and social work at Benedictine and Aurora Universities.

Jack Komejan lives in Redwood City, CA. He is Assistant Director of Social Services at Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University where he supervises a staff of twenty social workers and provides direct service in eating disorders, adolescent medicine, and child and adolescent psychiatry.

Robert DeLauro has been living in New Jersey for the past five years while his wife completed her PhD in comparative literature at Rutgers University. He works at Saint Vincent's Hospital in New York City as a trainer and organization development consultant.

Clara E. Cardriche lives and works in New Orleans, LA. She is the director of social services at Daughters of Charity Health Center, where the body, mind, and spirit of patients are addressed.

Lawrence M. Biggs is a school social worker at Monroe Junior High School in Monroe, MI.

Sally B. Olson is a part-time child and adult therapist and parent educator in Seattle, WA.

Bradley Casemore is deputy director of The Center for Healthcare Information Management (CHIM) in Ann Arbor. He is responsible for managing CHIM's educational and research products, serving as a liaison and ambassador between and among the parties involved in the healthcare transaction. CHIM is a trade association, comprising the world's leading suppliers of informational technology goods and services to the healthcare industry. Bradley is completing a Masters of Health Service Administration at UM and is a diplomate in the American College of Health Care Executives.

Kim E. Johnson is in her fifth year as a guidance counselor at Southgate (MI) Anderson High School. She runs student assistance groups, conducts substance abuse prevention efforts and programs, coordinates a peer mediation program, and does academic advising.

Erin M. Mulvihill (O'Connor) has been a medical social worker at McPherson Hospital in Howell, MI since 1989. Her current professional interests are medical ethics, policy development in areas of guardianship/conservatorship, domestic violence, and casework with a largely geriatric inpatient population.

Greg Hostetler lives in Denver and works as a mental health therapist in a family preservation program for grade school children in the public schools. He is creating an educational group of professionals around the topic of family therapy interventions.

Michael Peterson lives in Chicago and is employed at Northwestern Memorial Hospital as the Admissions and Managed Care Coordinator in the Department of Psychiatry. He obtained his LCSW and ACSW and maintains a small, private psychotherapy practice. He continues to volunteer with gay and lesbian organizations. With his partner Philipe, a Swiss expatriate, Michael has traveled extensively in Europe. His email address is mpeterso@nmh.org, and he would enjoy hearing from former classmates.

Julie Shroyer is Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs for the American Psychiatric Association's Division of Government Relations in Washington, DC. She serves a senior lobbyist representing APA on children's health, mental health parity, and other health policy issues, concentrating on the Congressional leadership and key Senate and House health care committees.

Sharon Wysocki was a presenter at a conference on "Creativity and Madness" in Santa Fe, NM in February. Her topic was "Spirituality and the Creative Process." Sharon works for Value Behavioral Health in Southfield, MI.

Patrick C. Bordnick is a research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas (Houston). His research interests include cocaine craving, pharmacological and behavioral therapies for drug dependence, and brain imaging. Patrick holds a PhD from the University of Georgia.

Xenoly (Xenny) Johnson provides clinical counseling and play therapy to children, adolescents, and adults at the Samaritan Counseling Center in Saginaw, MI.

Isabel S. Lin was elected chair of the National Hemophilia Foundation Social Work Committee. She began her term in October and will serve for two years. Isabel works in Ann Arbor for the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan.

Sarah Cunningham works in Madison, WI as director of a program which serves children who have developmental disabilities, helping to include them in their child care programs.

Jeffrey A. Butts works in Washington, DC for the Urban Institute's Program on Law and Behavior. Prior to that he worked for the National Center for Juvenile Justice in Pittsburgh and taught part-time at Carnegie Mellon University.

Mark G. Chupp reports that, as an outgrowth of his MSW practicum, he founded and served as executive director of the Violence Intervention Project in Elkhart, ID. The agency developed peer mediation in the schools, community mediation, and a program for youth at risk. Mark resigned in May 1997 to enter the PhD program at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences in Cleveland. He will have a fellowship at the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change.

Jillann (Limp) Demes was recently married and started a new position with the American Brain Tumor Association. She is one of three social workers in the U.S. to receive grants to provide social services to brain tumor patients.
Derrick Harris is employed as Deputy Director of a growing community mental health center in Anchorage, AK. He also has a consulting practice which takes him to islands in the Bering Sea to oversee clinical operations of rural substance abuse counseling centers.

Mei-Lan Huang received a master’s degree in Management Information Systems from Eastern Michigan University in April 1997. She is working as an analyst/consultant at the Ford Motor Company. She is involved in the Ford Production System Measurable Application using Oracle database, Visual Basic GUI, and Holos multi-dimensional reports.

Kathryn M. Smolinski was awarded an American Cancer Society Post-Master’s fellowship in oncology social work at the Johns Hopkins (MI) Oncology Center for 1996-97. She studied ethics for cancer patients. She continues to work at the Oncology Center and has completed a seven-month research project in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit.

Tina Timm is currently in a doctoral program in marriage and family therapy at Purdue University.

Christine Coleman works for Washtenaw County Community Mental Health in Ann Arbor, MI, supervising a habilitation program for adults with severe developmental disabilities.

Doris E. (Lyon) Ellery works for the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan in Traverse City.

Kimberly F. Shaw works in the U.S. Navy’s Family Service Center in Oak Harbor, WA. She is a child and family therapist working with the Navy’s version of Children’s Protective Services to help families in crisis.

Barbra Tunick is the new director of Resident Services at the Jewish Home for the Aged in West Bloomfield, MI.

Mari E. Bloing works with delinquent adolescents, ages 12 to 17. She also works as a psychotherapist at the Lexington (SC) Medical Center Emergency Room, dealing with drug overdoses, suicide attempts, and other emergencies, making diagnoses and referrals for treatment. Mari opened a private practice at the end of 1997.

Siri Gottlieb recently left Jackson Family Service to devote herself full-time to her private practice in psychotherapy, divorce mediation, and custody evaluations. Her passion for music has led to her recent appointment as Managing Director of Chamber Music Ann Arbor, which will present five recitals in May.

Tara L. Herrling has been employed as a school social worker with Saranac (MI) Community Schools for four years, working with grades K-5. She enjoys her work, but misses the atmosphere and excitement of Ann Arbor.

Kelley L. Johnson-Davis lives and works in San Antonio, TX. She is employed by Baptist Health System.

Alexandra Teresa Lucar is participating in a post-MSW fellowship at the Yale Child Study Center in New Haven, CT. She is refining her clinical skills in child and family therapy—and loving it.

Pilgrim Spikes received a $3,000 1997 Student Award from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation to help defray dissertation expenses. The title of his dissertation is “African American Men Living with HIV Disease in Detroit: Their Social Support, Social Networks, and General Well-Being Across the Lifespan.” Pilgrim is a student in the Joint Doctoral Program in Social Work and Social Science.

Renee Wright is a school social worker for the Baltimore (MD) Public Schools. She does individual, group, and family counseling. She also develops programs for her school and provides staff training on behavior issues. Renee is also a private consultant.

Shirley Kittle Newbold is a therapist at Teen Ranch Family Services in Southfield, MI. Her clients are children aged 4 to 14. She is working towards her CSW.

Bernie Strand is currently working as a clinical therapist in the therapeutic foster care program at Central Wyoming Counseling Center in Casper, WY. This is her second year as secretary for the Wyoming chapter of NASW. Bernie is an adjunct faculty member at Casper College, teaching feminist practice theory in addictionology, and at the University of Wyoming (Casper) teaching undergraduate electives in social work.

Greg Watt lives and works in Waltham, MA at Children’s Charter, an outpatient trauma clinic. He provides evaluation and therapy to abused kids and their families and also has a focus on child witnesses to violence, domestic violence, and forensic issues.

Carisa Woods-Gerber conducts in-home family therapy with juvenile delinquent males in residential care for Boysville of Michigan.

Donna E. Conley is a clinical social worker providing in-home services and school support to seriously emotionally disturbed children and their families in rural Bourbon County, KY.

Michelle Avery Ferguson lives in Jamaica Plain, MA and works for Boston Metro Early Intervention.

Kendra Payette works at Northside Mental Health Center in Tampa, FL. She also volunteers for the State of Florida with licensure requirements.

Arlene (Lee) Russell was elected as a Region 4 Board Representative for NASW. Region 4 comprises Wayne, Washtenaw, Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and Jackson counties.

Laura Zeito is working for FRIENDS Alliance in Detroit, doing HIV/AIDS case management and individual counseling. She also facilitates a support group for infected and affected people.

IN MEMORIAM

1972
Ellise Fay Cohen
(date not known)
Talk Lee (see story p. 19)
July 9, 1997

1994
Mary Ann Simin
December 20, 1997

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