

MSASS a c t i o n

The Newsletter of the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences

Summer 2007

GRADUATION 2007



Joseph, Morton and Jack Mandel receive the inaugural MSASS Advocates Award (see page 3)



Congressman Dennis Kucinich, Commencement Speaker and Dean Grover C. Gilmore



Myrtle Muntz, 2007 Recipient of the Mandel SASS Distinguished Service Award



Happy 2007 MSASS Graduates!

COMING UP AT MSASS

September 7

The Herman Stein Lecture in International Social Welfare
Michael Sherraden, Ph.D.

“Assets, Social Policy, and Community Development”

October 5

Workshop: “Social Work Research and Use of Systems--or in layman’s terms--“Beyond E-mail, A Primer on Putting the Internet to Work for You”

October 12

“Control Mastery Theory”

Norman M. Sohn, Ph.D., MSSA’68, LISW

RECEPTIONS

October 28

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
San Francisco, California

November 1

NASW Ohio Annual Conference
Columbus, Ohio

(See page 11 for more details)

BRODY CHAIR DEDICATION



l-r Dr. Groza, Dr. Brody and Dean Gilmore

The Grace F. Brody Professorship in Parent-Child Studies was dedicated at the Mandel School on April 13, 2007 when Professor Victor Groza, the inaugural chair holder, presented his first official colloquia, “Adoption Near and Far: A 20 Year Perspective” for Dr. Brody and a well-wishing crowd of nearly 80 alumni, family and friends. Dr. Brody was a member of the MSASS faculty from 1966 to 1986 and has done extensive research and

publishing in the area of family development and child rearing. Dr. Groza is internationally known for his research on families, children and service system issues in adoption.

In 1999, Dr. Brody established The Grace F. Brody Institute for Parent-Child Studies at the Mandel School. The Institute sponsored lectures with nationally recognized speakers, disseminated research findings and provided stipends and fellowships for projects that advance our knowledge of parenting. Last year, Dr. Brody established the Brody Professor. Because of Dr. Brody’s generosity, Mandel School has become an even more powerful research and educational institution. Dr. Brody is an active

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FACULTY NEWS

Kathryn Betts-Adams, Ph.D., was made a Hartford Faculty Scholar, a two-year mentored grant to conduct a research study entitled “Subthreshold Depression Among Older Adults in Congregate Housing: Characterization and Screening.” The Faculty Scholars program is designed for junior faculty in geriatric social work. There are 11 Hartford Faculty Scholars nationally who attend special workshops sponsored by the Hartford Foundation throughout the year.

Sarah Andrews, M.S.S.A., presented “Preparing Students for Spiritually Sensitive Practice with Terminally Ill and Grieving Clients” in June at the North American Conference on Spirituality and Social Work in Chicago. The presentation focused on the exercises and curriculum she uses in her “Death and Dying” course and the materials she will be integrating in a small group course on “Spirituality and Social Work Practice” being piloted this summer.

David E. Biegel, Ph.D., Henry L. Zucker Professor of Social Work, has received third-year funding from the Ohio Department of Mental Health for research into “The Impact of Supported Employment for Consumers with Co-occurring Mental and Substance Use Disorders.” Recent publications include “The Ohio Supported Employment Coordinating Center of Excellence,” *Research on Social Work Practice* (Biegel, Swanson & Kola, 2007); “Predictors of Burden in Families of Women with Substance Disorders or Co-occurring Substance and Mental Disorders,” *Social Work Practice in the Addictions* (Biegel, Ishler, Katz & Johnson); and “Supporting the Implementation of Evidence-based Practices for Adults with Co-occurring Mental and Substance Use Disorders,” *International Journal of Behavioral Consultation and Therapy*. He is also editing a ten-volume series with Elizabeth M. Tracy, Ph.D., on evidence-based practices being published by Oxford University Press.

Mark G. Chupp, Ph.D., presented an Appreciative Inquiry workshop and facilitated the opening plenary, entitled “The Future of Federations” at the annual conference of the National Alliance for Choice in Giving in Orlando, Florida, on March 1. Dr. Chupp appeared on panels in January 2007 at Heights Community Congress and Cleveland Public Radio’s “The Sound of Ideas” on the subject of race and class.

Rob Fischer, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor, has been named Co-Director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development effective July 1, 2007. He was also elected to a second two-year term as President of the Ohio Program Evaluators Group in May 2007.

Victor Groza, Ph.D., has returned from Guatemala where he served as a consultant to UNICEF-Guatemala, gathering key

DEAN'S NOTE

As MSASS completes another academic year, we are reminded that it is a time of endings and new beginnings. On May 20, 153 students received a Master of Science in Social Administration degree and 8 were awarded the Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare. Each one of these students has reached a significant turning point in their lives. They have spent the last several years in dedication to their studies and discovering how they can become a force for positive change in the world – whether their path is direct service, working in community development, policymaking, or teaching. They have also made great sacrifices to reach this point. But no one truly makes it on their own. With the support of their families and friends, these students have been able to engage successfully in their field placements, focus on their coursework, or complete their dissertation research. Our thanks to all the husbands, wives, partners, children and extended family who helped our graduates reach their goal.



Dean Gilmore

Our thanks also go out to the people beginning on page 12 of this issue of MSASS Action. Without the financial support of alumni, friends of MSASS, and foundations, we would not be able to provide the kind of support we give to our students. You are an indispensable part of their education.

On behalf of the faculty at MSASS, congratulations to our graduates and thank you to all who were a part of their achievement.

Glover C. Gilmore

informant interviews about the status of the child protection system and making recommendations for improving the system. There are an estimated 370,000 children in out-of-home care in Guatemala which still relies on an institutional-based system of care. Guatemala is the second sending country to the U.S. for international adoptions. Dr. Groza has also consulted with the governments of Romania and Ukraine on child welfare issues.

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MANDEL BROTHERS HONORED BY MSASS

On May 20 during commencement ceremonies at Temple-Tifereth Israel, the Mandel brothers – Jack, Joseph, and Morton – were recipients of the first Advocate for Social Justice and Leadership Development Award. Both the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the Mandel Center for Non-profit Organizations honored the brothers to recognize their family's commitment to educate leaders in the field of social services and nonprofit management.

Dean Gilmore remarked that the honor will only be given when the most selective criteria have been met. "There was never a doubt about who should be selected as the inaugural recipient of our highest honor," said Gilmore. "In the community of philanthropists, the Mandel family stands alone. Their high level of involvement and long-term commitment to the education of leaders in the social services and the nonprofit community is, in its own right, a reason for recognition. The award was presented by the Dean and by Susan Lajoie Eagan, executive director of the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations.

In 1984, the Mandel family took a leadership role in creating

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PROFESSOR ROSENBERG RETIRES



Professor Marv Rosenberg

On July 1, Marvin L. Rosenberg, D.S.W. retired after 32 years at Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences as associate professor of ethics and social work. Dr. Rosenberg has been associated with the University since 1948 when he entered Cleveland College. He received his M.S.S.A. degree from SASS in 1962 and his Doctorate in Social Work degree from SASS in 1968. When the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations was created in 1986, he became part of the faculty to train emerging leaders. Since 1997, he has directed and performed in the drama/discussion project "Voices of Diversity." A video production of "Cold Storage," part of that series dealing with death and dying, premieres in August 2007 for national distribution. A segment of the play will feature Dr. Rosenberg and Marc Cipra as two patients with a terminal illness, each facing death from a different perspective. Following the dramatic presentation, Dr. Rosenberg will share a discussion with Allyson Robichaud, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy at Cleveland State University, on the ethical issues portrayed in the film. The video will include instructions for classroom use.

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FACULTY NEWS

Merl C. "Terry" Hokenstad, Ph.D., and Rob Hilton, President of the McGregor Foundation, presented a paper in June entitled "Incorporating International Innovations Into Gerontological Education" in Malta to the International Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. Dr. Hokenstad was consulting expert to the United Nations which has released its Economic and Social Survey for 2007 that includes his chapter entitled "Older Persons in a Changing Society."

Mark L. Joseph, Ph.D., presented "Early Resident Experiences at a New Mixed-Income Development in Chicago" at the Urban Affairs Association annual conference in Seattle, Washington in April, 2007.

Lenore Kola, Ph.D. won a 2007 Mather Spotlight Series Award for Women Scholars. Dr. Kola is the co-director of the Center for Evidence-Based Practices, the umbrella organization for the Substance Abuse/Mental Illness and Supported Employment Coordinating Centers of Excellence. The Center recently received a \$500,000 grant from the Tobacco Prevention Foundation with a second year performance-based renewal. Dr. Kola's research focuses on substance abuse and the elderly, and more recently in the area of dual disorders and supported employment.

Sharon E. Milligan, Ph.D., was appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Chair, Masters Program effective July 1. Dr. Milligan made several presentations on behalf of the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development: "Why is Cleveland #1 in Poverty?" at a meeting of The Community, a group representing Presbyterian Churches from 35 major cities in the U.S. in May; in July, The McGregor Foundation heard "The Elderly in Cleveland: The Role of Foundations," a discussion of challenges and strategies to alleviate poverty among older persons in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

Aloen Townsend, Ph.D., has been granted tenure by the Board of Trustees of Case Western Reserve University as of July 1, 2007. Dr. Townsend's teaching, scholarship and research are focused on adult development and aging, research methods and statistics, physical and mental health, and families and formal service systems. Dean Gilmore, in his announcement of her appointment, said "MSASS has benefited from Dr. Townsend's unwavering devotion to the highest ideals in social work."

Kathleen Usaj, M.S.S.A. '95, adjunct faculty at MSASS, was named winner of The Ohio School Social Work Association 2007 Social Worker of the Year award. She will be recognized at the 40th Annual Midwest School Social Work Council Conference in October 2007 in Cleveland.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND STUDY SEMINARS

El Salvador - Travel and Study Tour

December 8 – 16, 2007

Cost: Approx. \$1,700 - 30 CEU's (plus \$400 for CEUs)

MSASS and International Partners in Mission are joining together to offer a study/travel program to El Salvador. Participants will experience the Salvadoran culture and history visiting Mejicanos, San Salvador, and Zaragoza. By visiting the martyr sites of the civil war and spending time with the children, women, and youth of IPM's Project Partners, this experience provides a profound understanding of this beautiful country, its political, economic, and religious history. Activities include lectures at the University of Central America; visits to the convent and cancer hospice where Bishop Oscar Romero lived and IPM Project schools and health centers in Mejicanos, El Zaite and Zaragoza; and a trip to explore the Pacific Coast in the beautiful city of La Libertad. Space is limited. Contact Soad Mansour, soad.mansour@case.edu.

India - Innovative Approaches to Social Development in India

December 27, 2007 to January 11, 2008

Cost: Approx. \$3,900 - 30 CEU's (plus \$400 for CEUs)

MSASS and Southern Illinois Carbondale School of Social Work are joining together to offer a study/travel program to India. It is a unique opportunity for educational and recreational excursions to New Delhi and Mumbai (Bombay) and Jaipur, and to see local and regional NGOs. Participants will learn about projects involving education, international funding, government initiatives and use of information technology for social development. The course will explore innovative approaches to social development in India and draw a parallel to the United States. Participants will become familiar with Indian social development and social policy issues in regards to poverty alleviation, non-formal education, prostitution, HIV-AIDS, multicultural aspects of health care, aging issues, and international adoption. The trip will include guided tours to neighborhoods, field-action project sites, social and educational institutions and government establishments. Daily lectures by practicing social workers, policy advocates, field workers, health care professionals, government officials and eminent Indian scholars and researchers associated with Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Delhi School of Social Work and the National Institute of Information Technology. Participants will also visit the majestic Taj Mahal and usher in the New Year among exotic palaces of Jaipur. There is a limit of 27 for this trip. Deposits must be in by September 7. Contact Debby Jacobson at: dxj@case.edu.

Kenya: Women and Community Development

March 7 – 16, 2008 (Spring Break)

Cost: Approx. \$3,500 - 30 CEU's (plus \$400 for CEUs)

This program will provide an opportunity to understand the historical and socio-political factors that shape the lives of women, youth and children in Kenya. The field experience will develop skills in working on the global struggle to alleviate poverty, HIV/AIDS, sex trafficking, and homelessness. The trip will include guided tours of neighborhoods, social institutions and lectures by practitioners. The role of the nongovernmental sector will be explored through visits to projects that provide community building opportunities for women, children and youth. Contact Sharon Milligan, sem@case.edu or Andrea Porter, andrea.g.porter@case.edu

Guatemala: Child Welfare

March 7-16, 2008 (Spring Break)

Cost: Approx. \$1,700 - 30 CEU's (plus \$400 for CEUs)

This program is designed to familiarize participants with child welfare issues, social services, and indigenous community development, particularly women cooperatives. Each morning participants will learn Spanish, followed by guided tours of programs. The experience will challenge participants to compare Guatemala with the United States, and understand the strengths and weaknesses of social policies and human services in both countries. The program is an intense small group experience in living, learning, traveling and studying. Contact Victor Groza, victor.groza@case.edu

Visit <http://msass.case.edu/international/index.html> for programs in Sweden and Denmark Summer 2008!

Continued from page 1

BRODY CHAIR DEDICATION

professor emerita. Establishing this professorship fulfills her long time dream.

Reflecting his interests in adoption and child welfare, Dr. Groza serves as a consultant to public and private child welfare agencies in the Northeast Ohio community and has conducted research, training or technical assistance in other countries including Romania, India, Belize and Ukraine. He serves on the editorial boards of several child welfare journals. Books by Dr. Groza include *Clinical and Practice Issues in Adoption*; *A Peacock or a Crow?* and *Successful Adoptive Families*.

CLASS NOTES

30's

Fern Chamberlain, M.S.S.A. '35, writes from Sioux Falls, South Dakota that although she retired in 1991 after a 29-year career at the Department of Public Welfare, followed by 17 years at United Way of Sioux Falls, she maintains her interest in social welfare and public policy and advocacy for families and children. In February 2007, she was named a Social Work Pioneer by the National Association of Social Workers at a luncheon hosted by the South Dakota NASW. She spoke on the origins of the state welfare agency during the Great Depression.

50's

Although **Leonard N. Brown, D.S.W., M.S.S.A. '53**, retired as professor of social work at the Rutgers School of Social Work in 1991, he continues to teach at the school. He was honored at the annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups in June 2007. **Ralph A. Gregory, M.S.S.A. '69**, will retire at the end of the year after 26 years as CEO of United Way of Westchester and Putnam (New York). Under his leadership, the agency developed a research component to identify areas of need and communicate with community leaders. The studies led to creation of an assistance line and various programs to serve children, families, and the elderly. **Tom McGovern, M.S.S.A. '63**, sends the sad news of the death of his good friend **Vince Graser, M.S.S.A. '63**, following a courageous struggle with cancer. Vince was an accomplished and skilled social worker, family man, and community citizen.

60's

Tom and Vince were roommates at SASS and continued their friendship for many years. **Myrtle I. Muntz, M.S.S.A. '64**, was presented with the Mandel School Distinguished Service Award at the 2007 commencement ceremony in May. She led Recovery Resources for 10 years as president and CEO after its merger with Alcohol Services of Cleveland, where she was Executive Director for 18 years. She has devoted nearly her entire career to the leadership of agencies that assess, treat and support clients suffering from alcohol and other drug abuse. **Norman M. Sohn, Ph.D., M.S.S.A. '68**, will present a Continuing Education Program on a cognitive, rational psychodynamic theory known as Control Mastery Theory to alumni and other professionals here at MSASS on October 12. Dr. Sohn has a private practice in San Francisco and has lectured at the University of California, Berkeley and at several psychotherapy organizations on the west coast. **Gary Stone, M.S.S.A. '69**, retired in July 2007. Gary was founding executive director of several organizations including the Valley Youth House for troubled youth and their families and the Lehigh Valley (Pennsylvania) Hospice. The latter part of his career has been in direct service with the Lehigh Valley Hospital Department of Psychiatry. **Machiko Kondo, M.S.S.A. '75**, is currently the Chief of Mission of



Myrtle I. Muntz



Norman M. Sohn

70's

the Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Sweden. She will be retiring this year after 24 years of service and is looking forward to some travel with her husband. She will then be dividing her time between the United States and Japan. **Mary Sanders, M.S.S.A. '76**, has found a second career after her retirement from University Settlement. In addition to the usual travel and family activities, Mary is a Nursing Home Visitor under a program sponsored by Lake County Probate Court and Catholic Charities and represents the Lake County Church Network on the County's Family and Children First Council. **Michael Sterley, M.S.S.A. '71**, passed away in Indiana, Pennsylvania. He retired in 1999 after 33 years of service in the Pennsylvania state hospital system, the last 20 as assistant superintendent at Torrance Hospital. During his career, Michael was credited for revitalizing several state facilities to improve patient care and administrative morale and performance. **Joel Fox, M.S.S.A. '80**, has been appointed Executive Vice President of the Mandel Foundation following nearly 30 years at the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland. He looks forward to being "able to build upon my work at the Federation and 30 years of relationships locally, nationally and internationally." **Darlene Grant, Ph.D., M.S.S.A. '84**, was awarded the Rosa Parks Award for Affirmative Action from the American Association for Affirmative Action in April 2007 Austin, Texas. Darlene is associate professor of social work and associate dean of graduate studies at The University of Texas at Austin. The award recognizes an individual who is committed to civil rights and social issues and who serves as a role model and leader. Her research focuses on incarcerated women and their children, family systems, and adolescent psychiatric issues. **Richard L. Jones, Ph.D. '81, M.S.S.A. '75**, has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Insurance Trust of The National Association of Social Workers. He also leads the Board for the Alliance for Children and Families in Chicago where he is President and CEO of Metropolitan Family Services. His agency won the Bank of America's Neighborhood Builder Award in 2006. **Lisa Young Page, M.S.S.A. '85**, would enjoy hearing from her Mandel School friends. She can be emailed at lypage@sbcglobal.net. Lisa is a PRN Social Worker at Hospice of the Western Reserve, one of the five largest hospices in the country. She is working out of the Mentor office in the Homecare and Alternative Care programs. **Sarah Parran, M.S.S.A. '84**, founded Senior Care Connections LLC in 2003. As a care manager, she assists seniors and disabled adults in determining what services they need and helps to coordinate their care needs with community agencies and services. Many of her clients have adult children living in other parts of the country so she will cover the range of her clients needs, from responding to medical emergencies to arranging for the services of a plumber. **Marlene Axe Petta, M.S.S.A. '83**, has recently moved to Martinez, Georgia from Farmington Hills, Michigan where she was in private practice doing clinical and EAP work. She also provides expert witness testimony and consultation in cases involving clinical issues. She plans to continue in social

80's

the Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Sweden. She will be retiring this year after 24 years of service and is looking forward to some travel with her husband. She will then be dividing her time between the United States and Japan. **Mary Sanders, M.S.S.A. '76**, has found a second career after her retirement from University Settlement. In addition to the usual travel and family activities, Mary is a Nursing Home Visitor under a program sponsored by Lake County Probate Court and Catholic Charities and represents the Lake County Church Network on the County's Family and Children First Council. **Michael Sterley, M.S.S.A. '71**, passed away in Indiana, Pennsylvania. He retired in 1999 after 33 years of service in the Pennsylvania state hospital system, the last 20 as assistant superintendent at Torrance Hospital. During his career, Michael was credited for revitalizing several state facilities to improve patient care and administrative morale and performance. **Joel Fox, M.S.S.A. '80**, has been appointed Executive Vice President of the Mandel Foundation following nearly 30 years at the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland. He looks forward to being "able to build upon my work at the Federation and 30 years of relationships locally, nationally and internationally." **Darlene Grant, Ph.D., M.S.S.A. '84**, was awarded the Rosa Parks Award for Affirmative Action from the American Association for Affirmative Action in April 2007 Austin, Texas. Darlene is associate professor of social work and associate dean of graduate studies at The University of Texas at Austin. The award recognizes an individual who is committed to civil rights and social issues and who serves as a role model and leader. Her research focuses on incarcerated women and their children, family systems, and adolescent psychiatric issues. **Richard L. Jones, Ph.D. '81, M.S.S.A. '75**, has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Insurance Trust of The National Association of Social Workers. He also leads the Board for the Alliance for Children and Families in Chicago where he is President and CEO of Metropolitan Family Services. His agency won the Bank of America's Neighborhood Builder Award in 2006. **Lisa Young Page, M.S.S.A. '85**, would enjoy hearing from her Mandel School friends. She can be emailed at lypage@sbcglobal.net. Lisa is a PRN Social Worker at Hospice of the Western Reserve, one of the five largest hospices in the country. She is working out of the Mentor office in the Homecare and Alternative Care programs. **Sarah Parran, M.S.S.A. '84**, founded Senior Care Connections LLC in 2003. As a care manager, she assists seniors and disabled adults in determining what services they need and helps to coordinate their care needs with community agencies and services. Many of her clients have adult children living in other parts of the country so she will cover the range of her clients needs, from responding to medical emergencies to arranging for the services of a plumber. **Marlene Axe Petta, M.S.S.A. '83**, has recently moved to Martinez, Georgia from Farmington Hills, Michigan where she was in private practice doing clinical and EAP work. She also provides expert witness testimony and consultation in cases involving clinical issues. She plans to continue in social



Darlene Grant

DR. MILLIGAN TAKES ON NEW ROLE AT MSASS

for Academic Affairs, effective July 1, 2007. She will remain a part of the Poverty Center as Associate Director of Outreach and Training.

Dr. Milligan, an associate professor at MSASS, earned her Ph.D. in social work from the University of Pittsburgh in 1982 and holds masters' degrees in public health and in community development from the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Louisville, respectively. She has been involved in the social work and public health fields as a program developer, researcher, teacher and consultant to government and voluntary social agencies for women, children and the elderly. Her interests revolve around the intersection of community development, health care delivery and social policy for women, African-Americans and the poor. At MSASS, Dr. Milligan administers the Louis Stokes Fellowship Program in Community Development. In recent years she has strengthened the Mandel School's international educational opportunities by organizing and co-leading trips to Africa. She became the Center's co-director in 1994. Since then, she helped to cement the Center's reputation as the resource for community development data and research.

Sharon E. Milligan, Ph.D., who helped lead the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development (formerly the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change) through its work with community-building efforts across Cleveland and the region and through its ongoing expansion in community data and community development outreach, education and training, stepped down as the Center's co-director this summer. Dean Gilmore appointed Dr. Milligan Associate Dean

“Sharon brings a set of skills that are entirely unique, and they happen to be skills we feel will serve MSASS particularly well,” says Dean Gilmore. “Her strengths—in community development, in looking at the big picture, in strategic thought about the direction of the school and its curriculum—are key assets. I’m happy she is willing to take on a new challenge.”

Robert L. Fischer, Ph.D., the Center's associate director for policy and evaluation and an MSASS faculty member, will step in as co-director. Fischer, who joined the Center in 2001, has led the Center's program evaluation efforts, which have included a comprehensive examination of Cuyahoga County's Community-wide “Invest in Children Program.” Claudia J. Coulton, Ph.D., the Center's founding director, will continue to co-lead the Center with Fischer. “Sharon was extremely effective in building the Center's capacity in community development and outreach. I know that she will play an outstanding role in the leadership of the Mandel School, but I am grateful that she also

will remain connected to the Poverty Center as Associate Director,” says Dr. Coulton, who serves as the Mandel School's associate dean for research as well as center co-director. “And with Rob stepping in as co-director, I feel like we're still in good hands.”

Wallace J. Gingerich, Ph.D., was associate dean for academic affairs from 1990-1992 and again in 2002 to this year. He recently visited Alaska and will be on sabbatical during the fall semester. Upon his return in 2008, he will resume his classroom role as professor. Dr. Gingerich served Mandel School as interim dean from 1992 to 1994. *Watch for further news from Alaska in the next issue of MSASS Action.*



Milligan literally passes the torch to Fischer as Curtis O'Neal, Poverty Center administrative coordinator, looks on.

Continued from page 3

MANDEL BROTHERS HONORED BY MSASS

the Mandel Center, the country's first program dedicated to the education of nonprofit management leaders. The cooperative venture of the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Weatherhead School of Management, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Law continues to rank among the leading nonprofit programs in the country. The Mandel Center's new building on Bellflower Road is being constructed through a generous gift from the Mandel family.

Also at a time in 1988 when few social work schools were named, the Mandel family's support of the social work initiatives at Case Western Reserve University prompted the naming of the school in their honor. “The fact that Jack, Joe and Mort Mandel, and all of the Mandel family would support programs committed to nonprofit leadership and the quality of social service programs in our community and across the world, speaks volumes about their priorities,” said Dean Gilmore.

--- Susan Griffith, Case Office of Marketing and Communications

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CLASS NOTES

work when she receives her Georgia license. **Brenda Smedley-Welch, M.S.S.A. '85**, passed away in Cleveland in March 2007. During her career, she served as director of the Hitchcock Center for women and coordinator of drug abuse prevention programs for children and treatment programs for adults for the City of Cleveland Health Department. More recently Brenda was a social work instructor at Cuyahoga Community College. **Vickie Todd, M.S.S.A. '87**, has completed training in child psychoanalysis at Hanna Perkins Center for Research in Child Development. Now a certified child psychoanalyst, she is in private practice in Westlake, Ohio. She will begin teaching at MSASS in the fall and conducting workshops through the Continuing Education Department. **Gautam N. Yadama, Ph.D. '90**,

90's **M.S.S.A. '85**, associate professor of social work at George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis, helps select and advise eight new social work students from Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Mongolia each year. The School of Social Work partners with Columbia University and the Open Society Institute to educate students from Central Asia, so they can help build the policy and social service infrastructure their homelands need. **Lew Brazil, M.S.S.A. '93**, is leaving Arizona and moving to Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame University, Indiana to begin a new position as director of social services for its independent living, assisted living and care center. He says, "I stepped up to the plate because I feel I can really utilize all my skills thanks to Case....it has really opened doors for me." **Michael R. Sering, M.S.S.A. '93**, is director of shelter and housing with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry which opened a men's shelter in 2005. The 2100 Lakeside Men's Shelter initiated a garden project with residents and volunteers to provide fresh produce for resident meals. **Lemuel E. Steward III, M.S.S.A. '95**, is a donor relations officer at The Cleveland Foundation. Lem was an American Marshall Memorial Fellow and a graduate of Leadership Cleveland. He is currently pursuing a doctorate degree at Southern California University for Professional Studies. **Kim Strom-Gottfried, Ph.D. '93**, professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work, has been appointed the first Smith P. Theimann, Jr. Distinguished Professor for Ethics and Professional Practice.

The Professorship is the first in the nation that is focused on ethics and professional issues in a social work program. **Ken Bielecki, M.S.S.A. '05**, recently passed the LISW exam and is working at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio as a social worker in the emergency room and in the medical intensive care unit. He and **Jennifer Harrison '05** will be married on November 10. Congratulations to both! **Mary Ann Clute, Ph.D., '07**, published her dissertation research on "The bereavement experience for adults with cognitive disabilities following the death of a parent or loved one." **Amber McLaughlin, M.S.S.A. '02**, is working with Family Services of Northwestern Pennsylvania on the Ophelia Project to promote awareness of self-injurious behavior etiology and

treatment. **Laura Norman, M.S.S.A., '04**, reports she has submitted a chapter on her work as an ombudsman for "The Days in the Lives of Gerontological Social Workers," being published this year. The book deals with the varying social work positions within gerontology. Laura is a quality assurance specialist in the Medicaid Waiver Unit of the Maryland Department of Aging. **Martha Roditti, Ph.D. '03**, assistant professor at New Mexico State University, received a three year Domestic Violence Grant from ACYF for preparing social work students to work in domestic violence. In conjunction with the grant, she is also examining social networks and resiliency of Mexican American domestic violence survivors in New Mexico and Texas shelters. **Angel Rodriguez, M.S.S.A. '01**, is supervising social worker for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services and is serving as adjunct faculty in the social work department at Whittier College in Whittier, California.

OOPS!!! Our apologies to **Berney Hull Graham, M.S.S.A. '75**, for referring to her as "he" in the Winter issue of MSASS Action alumni notes when she is clearly a "she." Berney has retired from social work. During her career, she worked as an inpatient psychiatric therapist, an adoption agency birth parent counselor, a hospice bereavement counselor, and an interdisciplinary team member at Massachusetts General Hospital with families in medical crises.

MSASS Hosts INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences hosted the 27th Council of International Fellowship (CIF) Conference which was organized by the Council of International Programs, here in Cleveland and held July 23-27 in the Mandel School. The conference, entitled "Training Builds Bridges for a Changing World: Transforming Lives, Transforming Communities, Transforming Yourself," complements the fresh international focus the Mandel School has been making in the last decade or so, with numerous travel-abroad opportunities for students and alumni and an increased emphasis on international scholarship. MSASS is glad to support the Council of International Fellowship Conference, and Cleveland's Council of International Programs.



Professor Elizabeth Tracy

NEWS FROM THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM

DOCTORAL PROGRAM CHANGES ANNOUNCED

The doctoral faculty has decided to initiate a part-time format for doctoral study which does not involve a six week summer/one week January residency. This decision was based on a thorough review of national level data, data on applicants to our program over the past 5 years and information on our current student composition.

The new part-time format will require a minimum of three courses per year and has the advantage of being less intense than the summer format. Applicants who cannot commit to being away from work for six weeks in the summer will be able to apply to the program. We also have built in an opportunity for a research practicum,

which was not always possible in the original summer format. In all other respects the curriculum for both part-time and full-time students is identical, with the same courses, instructors and sequencing of courses.

Over the past several years, the Mandel School's support for doctoral students has increased. Full-time doctoral students receive a research fellowship and full tuition waivers for two years. Summer residency students receive half tuition waivers. Our applicant pool overall remains diverse, drawing from many states and countries. The curriculum is solid preparation for social work careers in research, teaching, and policy and will not change as a result of this restructuring of the program. MSASS doctoral students are prominent in national professional conferences and in professional journal publications;

last year about half of our students had articles in print or accepted for publication. There is also no question that we are pleased with the quality of work and productivity of current students in our summer residency program. Those students currently enrolled in the program will be able to complete the program they entered; we will keep our commitments to all current summer residency students.

We have revised our recruitment materials to reflect the format change and at this time, as always, we ask that you refer strong potential applicants to us. We also want to continue communication with graduates of our doctoral program and would appreciate having news and email addresses from as many as you as possible. You can send your news via email to swphd@case.edu <<mailto:swphd@case.edu>>.

Arol Shack 1940 - 2007

The faculty and staff at MSASS were deeply saddened by the sudden death of Arol Shack on February 18, 2007. She was a mainstay at the School and had a profound influence on the lives of countless doctoral students who stood in her doorway on the 3rd floor at MSASS, seeking information, friendship or help to resolve a problem. Arol, in her best mother-like tone, always had the answer to the problem, some sage advice, or at least the right comforting words. At the close of her funeral service at Fairmount Temple in Cleveland, we all heard her favorite song, "It's a Wonderful World." That's how Arol saw her life and the people around her.

We will be celebrating the life that Arol Shack shared with all of us for more than 20 years during the MSASS alumni reception at CSWE in San Francisco this fall.* If all goes as planned, her husband David and sons Greg and Howard will be joining us. It will be our opportunity in a very informal setting to talk about her and what she meant to us. Arol would not want us to be melancholy. She would want us to remember her and the good things that she brought into our lives and at the same time, remember the joy that she felt in return for having us in her life. Please think about the stories you would like to share, particularly with her family.

If you are unable to make the reception and would like to send your memories, we will put them together in a book for Arol's family. We would also like to include the memories shared at the reception, so if you wish, bring a written copy of your remarks that night. Please send memories by email to pamela.carson@case.edu or mail to Pamela Carson, Director of Alumni Relations, MSASS/CWRU, 10900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44106-7164. If you have any questions or suggestions contact her at the above addresses or call (216) 368-2281.

*The Mandel SASS alumni reception will be held on Sunday evening, October 28, at the Hilton San Francisco, between 6 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.



ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE

In the Fall Issue of MSASS ACTION, it was announced that Gigi Nordquist, Ph.D., MSASS '02, had issued a challenge to match \$10,000 raised to endow the Arol Shack Dissertation Fund. Gigi planned this well before Arol's untimely death. Those matching funds were raised this spring. Our deepest thanks go Gigi for leading this initiative, and to all who supported the fund. It was especially meaningful that David Shack, Arol's husband, made the gift that pushed us over the finish line. The first award will be made in the Fall 2007.

OVER THE SUMMER ...

We are at the midpoint of the summer doctoral courses, and our students have persevered. Mandy Fauble and Ken Stoltzfus took and passed the June qualifying exam. Four students successfully defended their dissertations this month. Their names, topic and committee members are listed below:

Valerie Radu studied the effect of the GerorRich project on aging knowledge and perceptions of older adults. Terry Hokenstad (chair), David Biegel, Cleve Gilmore and Diana Morris (Nursing).

Yan Yang's research was on medicare supplemental insurance purchasing decisions. Terry Hokenstad (chair), Aloen Townsend, David Miller and Bo Carlson (Weatherhead).

Sylvia Leibbrandt's dissertation was on factors associated with self-neglect in older adults. Kathleen Farkas (chair), Elizabeth Tracy, Terry Hokenstad, and Diana Morris (Nursing).

Yih-Tsu Hahn studied the relationship of government and non-profits during welfare reform. Sue Perlmutter (original chair), Claudia Coulton (current chair), Elizabeth Tracy, Mark Singer, and Susan Egan (Mandel Center).

In addition to these achievements, Amy Krentzman was selected as the 2007-2008 Jane B. Aron Doctoral Fellowship recipient by the NASW Foundation for dissertation research in health care policy and practice. Only one of these awards is made nationally each year.

HOW THEY ARE FARING....News from Current Students

"I am in the second year of the program and have thus far submitted two articles for publication and am preparing a third. The program has really supported my writing efforts by designing several course assignments to teach the skills needed for both quality content and professional format of articles. These assignments have been helpful, but the faculty that I have worked with in my writing have truly made the difference. They have been tremendous advocates for my work and excellent mentors. I am looking forward to my dissertation process and the many more opportunities I hope to have during my time at MSASS..."
Mandy Fauble

"I am in the second year of the program and so far I have worked with Dr. Chatterjee teaching four courses in both the MSSA and MNO programs. The most meaningful part of teaching has been learning how to adapt to the differences between each group of students within a particular course. Also I have been improving my communication skills to ensure student comprehension of the necessary information from the course....." Lauren Stevenson

"I have finished my second year of the summer study program. I will take my qualifying exam in June 2007. While in the program I have been fortunate enough to have both a teaching and research mentorship. The teaching mentorship allowed me

NEW LOOK FOR THE DOCTORAL LOUNGE



Room 311 has undergone a much-needed makeover. The Doctoral Lounge was re-modeled last fall to better accommodate the learning needs of our students and now all new furniture has been installed. Students appreciate the updated furniture that is more user friendly for laptop computers. Several students have told us they feel even more inspired to study in the newly remodeled space!

Doctoral Student Conference Presentations

Karen Ishler and Angela Curl presented their dissertation research in the new investigators' poster session at the New Methods for the Analysis of Family and Dyadic Processes Conference. This conference was held at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in October 2006.

MSASS doctoral students and doctoral program graduates were well represented at the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors 24th Annual Conference (BPD), Los Angeles, California October 2006:

Gary Behrman and Sadhna Diwan: "Gero-d Institute: Bridging the Border and Building Ties Between Aging and Cultural Diversity"

Amy Krentzman: "Bridging Borders Between University and the Community: Innovations in Field Instructor Training"

J. Camille Hall and Stacey L. Barker: "Using Technology to Prepare Students to Conduct Bio-psychosocial Assessments"

Mary Rawlings, Katy Tangenberg, Kim Battle-Walters: "Rubrics: Praises and Pitfalls for use in Program Assessment and Evaluations"

Barbara Pierce and Michael R. Daley: "Social Work Response to Disaster: Lessons from Katrina, Rita and Ivan"

Stacey L. Barker, Kerry L. Beldin and Amy R. Krentzman: "Ties that Bind: The Transformative Experience of a Summer-Study Doctoral Program"

Barbara W. Shank, Barbara Pierce-Cruise: "Using the Logic Model to Assess Program Objectives"

Aloha Van Camp, Brent Angell and Karen Waters: "Cross-Border Projects: Building International Social Work Partnerships Through the Social Welfare Policy Course"

Raymond M Belicose, Constance M. Ostis and Stacey Barker: "A Three-Way Partnership Connecting Classroom Learning with Real Community Collaboration"

Nancy A. Amos: "Issues in Teaching Traditional and Non-traditional Students Together"

The following doctoral faculty and students presented research findings at the January 2007 meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) held in San Francisco, California:

Aloen Townsend, Angela Curl, and Karen Ishler "Predictors of Depressive Symptomatology in Older Female Cancer Survivors and their Spouses: A Multilevel Dyadic Model"

Molly Irwin and Claudia Coulton "Effects of Community Involvement and Neighborhood Safety on Participation in Out of School Activities"

David Biegel and Shiri Katz "Depressive Symptomatology in Family Caregivers of Women with Substance Use Disorders or Co-occurring Substance Use and Mental Disorders"

Toby Martin and Elizabeth Tracy "Women Using Cocaine During Pregnancy: Dual Disorders and Barriers to Treatment Service"

Jerry Floersch, Lisa Townsend and Michelle Munson "Adolescent Experience of Psychotropic Treatment"

Lisa Townsend, Jerry Floersch and Michelle Munson "Understanding Parents' Experience of Adolescent Psychotropic Treatment Medication Management and Reasons for Non-adherence"

Barbara Wieder, Debra Hrouda and Patrick Boyle "Finding the Right Clinicians to Implement an Evidence Based Practice: The Who and How of Selection"

Kathleen Farkas and Debra Hrouda "Addressing Co-occurring Disorders Among Women: Opportunities for Expanded Collaborations"

Kathryn Betts Adams and Sylvia Leibbrandt "Activity Participation and Well-being in Later Life: A Critical Review"



2007 Cohort

*Back l-r Sue Brown, Susan Smalling, OkMi Baik
Front l-r Seok Joo Kim, Jewel Woods*

THE COLORED COACH

The Journey of a Black Buffalo Soldier During WWII

By Joseph Pyles, SASS '52 as told to Roy Schlachter, SASS '59

One has to be impressed by Joe's story. Truly a journey on the "colored coach" of hardship mixed with laughter. It tells us about a dimension of what a person, an American soldier of color experienced during WWII. Have we learned much? I really am not so sure. Has change lulled us into comfort and complacency regarding the future for our children, all of our children? Let's hope that Joe's story reminds us, through his memories, of an America belonging to all of us, an America continuing to be an aspiring work in progress. Roy Schlachter

We, my 'Buffalo' buddies and I were in Del Rio, Texas. We were hungry so we stopped for a bite to eat at a local restaurant. Seated at the counter were a number of Nazi POWs in uniform. As I and the other soldiers approached the counter, we were told that we would have to go around to the back door of the restaurant to receive our food. I felt like the air was taken right out of my lungs. Whenever I think of Del Rio this memory comes back to haunt me. Joseph Pyles

Our story begins when Joe is drafted and joins 15,000 Black colleagues for his basic training. The latter figure refers to the "Buffalo Soldiers" of the 92nd Division. Of the 800 officers in the 92nd, none held rank higher than "captain. Joe spent most of his time in the States at Ft. Hauchucha, Arizona as a member of G-1, Divisional Headquarters. Eventually he became a staff member for the Provost Marshall's (PM) Office. Essentially, the PM's office represented the Military Police. He was a clerk who assigned soldiers (MPs) to retrieve those who were "Absent Without Leave" (AWOL) as well as other clerical duties.

I remember that all of us MPs carried a .45 side arm. What seemed strange to me was the fact that we were neither issued nor permitted to have live ammunition for our weapons as long as we were on U. S. soil. Was this the same for White soldiers? I never did get the answer to that question. Aside from whatever disciplinary action the AWOL soldier would face, he was held responsible for paying the fare for himself and for the M.P. sent to retrieve him. I remembered my own sense of sadness when I picked up a young man who had no money for both of our fares. Somehow we made it back to our base camp. The cost of the trip was probably taken from the next check the man received.

Rather than assigning another MP, Joe occasionally would go himself, particularly when he could stop and visit at his family's home in Kentucky. One incident remembered was his being directed by the PM to leave immediately to pick up an AWOL soldier somewhere in Louisiana.

I had been on maneuvers with his my unit when notified of this assignment. I was unable to clean up and dress as I would under normal circumstances. When I disembarked from the train in Texarkana, two White MPs confronted me about my dress and appearance. Despite showing them my orders, they continued to threaten me with arrest. Keeping my head, despite mounting anxiety, I asked to see their commanding officer. When the CO appeared and reviewed my special orders, I successfully made my case and, to my relief, was sent on my way.

Joe became aware of the increasing numbers of older, Black men who were being drafted. These men were over the age of 40. They were men who, among their personal struggles, had serious problems with reading.

Many of these men were assigned to what was referred to by the Army as the "Illiterate School". Joe became one of the teachers in this school. His goal was to help these illiterate soldiers develop stronger reading abilities. While at Ft. Hauchucha, a number of incidents occurred which Joe thoughtfully recalls.

One had to do with a rumor circulating amongst the 92nd troops. It appeared as if Black soldiers were not going to be used in combat and just remain at their bases, the story going around in Ft. Hauchucha was that these soldiers were going to be assigned to 'pick cotton'. Fortunately, there was no truth to these suspicions.

I walked into a drugstore in Nogales, Arizona with my two Army buddies. We were, all of us, Black. The owner of the establishment refused us service based upon our skin color. 'Not again', I thought. I kept painfully silent. One buddy did not. On our way out of the store, he leveled the display of bath soap and stormed out.

The Commanding General of the 92nd was a two star general from Virginia. He was White and had the responsibility for directing the activities of the all-Black Divisions. We had heard he was strict, but fair. He did have interesting expectations of us. One was that he required all soldiers salute his personal car whenever he drove through camp or town. If he observed one of us failing to salute, he would personally get out of the car and dress down the offender.

Before the incident which Rosa Parks made famous in Birmingham, Alabama, two buddies and I, all in uniform, seated ourselves in the front seats of a trolley. The driver informed us that we would have to go to the

Continued on page 14

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THE COLORED COACH

back of the trolley. All of us, silently, refused to move. The driver stated that he would not move the trolley until we complied with his directions. Not a one of us moved. As the standoff deepened, the driver finally caved in and took the trolley on its scheduled route.

Several friends and I expressed interest in attending Officers Candidate School (OCS) at Ft. Benning, Georgia. We were flatly refused. Chagrined and angry, we felt there wasn't very much we could do to challenge the Army's decision. Later on, during the Allies offensive in Italy, I recognized how the Army's ruling inadvertently ended up protecting me and my buddies. Officers who led troops into battle were often the first to be wounded or die.

Initially, the Buffalo Soldiers were kept from serving in combat areas. There seemed to be an underlying feeling on the part of the Army that Black troops could not perform in combat. The latter view continued to influence decisions made by the leadership of these Divisions. When these men were placed in

battle, a peculiar tactic was employed by the Army. With the underlying feeling that Black men would panic and break ranks during pitched battle, the Army employed what Joe described as a “staggering line.” Essentially, this was a line of soldiers set up just behind the frontline troops to stop anyone who might break and run while under fire. Soldiers who did were stopped and forced to return to their frontline positions.

Joe, while stationed at Viareggio, was befriended by an Italian family. He brought them items in short supply. In their reaching out to this young soldier, they provided a semblance of a family for him. He recounted how meaningful it was to stroll down the Promenade, arm in arm with the husband, while the wife did the same with their two daughters. This experience in Italy may have set the tone for Joe's love of travel in later years. Our man took one of his return trips to Europe on the Concord, a highlight of his traveling days.

Joe's impressions of Italy convey the sense of how the Italian people dealt with their liberators, Black or White. A sense of fairness and welcome seemed to characterize how the people

of Italy communicated with members of the U. S. military. Many Buffalo soldiers made lasting friendships with families in Viareggio and surrounding Italian towns.



Joe Pyles began his career with the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Families and later worked at the Catholic Counseling Center of Cleveland and Metro-General Hospital. From 1990 to very recently, Joe was a field education advisor and adjunct faculty member at MSASS. In 2004, Joe received the School's Distinguishes Alumni Award.

Roy Schlachter is the recently retired Clinical Director of the Community Re-Entry Program at Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry in Cleveland. He interviewed Joe for this story last winter. He and his wife, Lillian, were honored with the Distinguished Service Award in 2003.

LECTURES

The benefit of your connection to the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences is the opportunity to take part in dynamic discussions associated with current events or thought provoking situations. The Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences is pleased to invite you to a continuation of our Distinguished Contributor Series. These events are free of charge with CEU's available for \$18 at the door.

Friday, September 7: *Assets, Social Policy, and Community Development*

The Herman Stein Lecture in International Social Welfare
2:00 to 4:00 p.m. **Peter B. Lewis Building**
Two hours of CEU credit

Professor Michael Sherraden is the creator of the widely-praised Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), a matched savings program designed to help the working poor save money and accumulate assets. IDA's have been adopted into federal legislation and exist in more than 40 states. Dr. Sherraden is the founder and director of the Center for Social Development at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University.

Friday, October 5: *Social Work Research and Use of Systems--or in layman's terms--"Beyond E-mail, A Primer on Putting the Internet to Work for You."*

2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mandel School
Two hours of CEU credit

Many of us still don't use the vast resource of websites or libraries on-line to problem solve social work issues. Whether you don't know how to use electronic resources beyond e-mail, or are clueless about what is available out there, this workshop is for you. The Mandel School's Harris Library staff will show you how to access various library systems and internet websites. For the more advanced, they may even suggest sites that are new to you. No matter your level of proficiency, bring your questions with you. Class size is limited so reserve soon.



Friday October 12: *Control Mastery Theory*

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mandel School
Three hours of CEU credit

Presented by our graduate, Norman M. Sohn, Ph.D., MSSA '68, LISW, this exciting theory has been developed over the last 35 years from case-based empirical research done by the San Francisco Psychotherapy Research Group where Dr. Sohn is on faculty. The workshop will teach clinicians to more readily understand how clients work in therapy and how to make hypotheses about the client's problems from the first several sessions. It will also inform how clinicians can use their own creative strengths to develop interventions which enable clients to feel safe to achieve their goals. This course is co-sponsored by the School's Continuing Education Program. Check your fall program book for more details.

Reception Invitations

October 28: *Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), San Francisco, California*

Mandel School is hosting an alumni reception on Sunday evening, October 28 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel San Francisco. If you are attending the CSWE Annual Program Meeting, or you are in the area, please join us.

November 1: *NASW Ohio Annual Conference, Columbus, Ohio*

If you are attending the NASW Ohio Annual Conference, you are invited to the MSASS alumni reception on Thursday, evening November 1 at 5:00 p.m. We look forward to greeting you there.

Reservations for events at Mandel School are required. Contact Pamela Carson at (216) 368-2281 or pamelacarson@case.edu. Parking remains our greatest challenge. The lot behind MSASS is not the property of the University and cars run the risk of being ticketed. Suggested lots are the University's Severance Parking Garage with entry from East Boulevard or University Hospitals Garage which can be entered off of Cornell or Mayfield Roads.

Continued from page 9

How are they faring....(continued)

to assist in an intensive-weekend course and to experience teaching in an innovative program in social work education. My research mentorship is with Associate Professor David Miller and we are looking at middle class fathers and their roles with their children.....” Malikah Marrus

“I am in the second year of the doctoral program. After enduring the grueling summer coursework, I was fortunate to have several opportunities open up to me at the beginning of the fall semester. I am involved in two research projects: one in adoption outcomes with Victor Groza and a former professor at Case, Sue Pearlmuter; the other in social networks of women substance abusers with Betsy Tracy and Michelle Munson. Through these projects I am gaining valuable experience in collecting and analyzing both quantitative and qualitative data. Additionally, I have been involved in a teaching mentorship with Victor Groza, which will result in my teaching the Family Interventions course in the fall 2007. Finally, because a faculty member generously offered her time to me, I was able to locate a data set for my dissertation, which will be on marital commitment. I have been extremely fortunate to have so many opportunities come to me through faculty who are concerned about my progression in the program.....” Lance Peterson

“I am in the 3rd year of the program and am working on a research mentorship with Dr. Tracy on the topic of the nature and types of evidence produced in school-based mental health research. We have discovered that there are many dimensions along which research occurs, such as a distinction between internalizing and externalizing emotional

disturbances in children, services as delivered by school personnel or community providers, and whether interventions are planned for all students (universal), at-risk students (selected), or seriously emotionally disturbed children. We have planned a conference presentation, journal publication, and several summary products for school districts.....”

Matt Meddenhall

“I am in my sixth year of the doctoral program at MSASS, currently completing my dissertation. This year I was awarded a creative teaching grant to develop and implement the use of an Observed Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) in the Social Work Practice I course. This exam directly assesses student skill performance by having the professor directly observe and assess the student’s skill level as they (the student) conduct a clinical interview with a standardized client (an actor, trained to enact a client scenario). This format is presently being widely implemented in medicine. The training and support I received at MSASS gave me the background I needed to be awarded this grant. As my dissertation also involves directly assessing student direct practice skills, my dissertation advisor, Dr. Wallace Gingerich provided the exposure and opportunity for me to meet with faculty at the University of Toronto in order to observe OSCE’s in their medical school and to discuss ideas for implementation in social work. This inter-university collaboration has been very exciting for me, made possible through MSASS.....” Mary Rawlings



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