Greetings from Mizzou and the School of Social Work!
It has been a busy year for us, and we hope you enjoy reading about the activities of our faculty and students.

In 2010 we began a new initiative in Military Social Work. Mizzou is now among the 25 (and growing) Schools of Social Work that are educating students to address the needs of veterans and military families. The Council of Social Work Education now has a track on Military Social Work.

No matter what our feelings about the wars, we must be committed to fully supporting our returning veterans and their families. As expressed so well in the HBO documentary, *Wartorn*, “It’s not just the soldier who comes down with PTSD. Sometimes it’s the whole family.”

I highly recommend both *Wartorn* as well as another documentary, *Restrepo*, for greater insight into mental health issues among soldiers, veterans and family members.

This fall we held two major events related to this endeavor. On Nov. 11, 2010, we held a fundraiser (Helmet Heroes, page 10) to raise money to endow a scholarship in military social work, and on Nov. 12 we held the first summit on Meeting the Needs of Veterans and Military Families: A Summit for Health and Human Services Professionals (page 11). I am thrilled to inform you that both events were a great success!

The Summit was also very successful. Three national speakers, the Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard, and two panels addressed an audience of 170 people. The Summit raised awareness of the behavioral health, mental health, physical and other identified needs of veterans and military families. We hope to have a second annual summit that addresses similar needs next year and are looking at November 2011. Watch our Website for more information.

Building on the annual Poverty Simulation that we conduct for our incoming BSW and MSW students in collaboration with the Community Action Center, we have developed a new undergraduate minor in Financial Literacy for Helping Professions (see page 7) in collaboration with the Department of Personal Financial Planning. We hope to add a non-academic certificate for social work professionals in the future.

We want to hear from you! Please write, call, or e-mail and tell us what you are doing. We’ll put your news in the next issue of *Social Work Notes*, and on our Website (with your consent). Please visit our Website, ssw.missouri.edu, and consider adding your picture to the ribbon of alums and students.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy new year!

Marjorie Sable
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Social Work Notes is published annually by the MU School of Social Work in the College of Human Environmental Sciences. Social Work Notes’ main purpose is to inform alumni and friends about the research, activities and events at the School of Social Work and to publish news about alumni. All rights to reproduction of any material printed in Social Work Notes are reserved for the magazine.

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Alumni Spotlights

Stanley Remer, MSW ’68, is a semi-retired Army colonel who remains active in the Army Reserves, as an adjunct instructor and as a member of various professional organizations.

Stanley Remer, MSW ’68, has been a Midwesterner and a social worker for most of his life. “I’m from western Iowa (Sioux City) and went to the University of South Dakota for my undergraduate degree in sociology and social work. My father had an MSW, so I thought about a career in social work early on. Mizzou had an experimental MSW program in Kansas City in the late ’60s that I could have attended, but I decided I would be more comfortable pursuing my graduate work on MU’s campus in the two-year program. I graduated with my MSW in 1968.”

Remer’s education led to a career in the military and in social work. “The majority of my social work career has been with Zeller's military duty during the farm crisis in the mid-1980s. Mermelstein, with whom he worked on farm crisis litigation, had a major influence on his career. Origen Zeller has fond memories of his experiences in Korea and the Vietnam War, where he witnessed violence, prostitution and psychiatric casualties of war. As a medic, one of his tasks when he returned stateside was to inform families when a soldier died.

“I met the planes and assisted families in making funeral arrangements. I was only 22 years old, and it had quite an impact on my life. Being on a college campus as a former soldier during the anti-war demonstrations was difficult, and I quickly learned it was best not to share my military experience,” said Zeller.

Simon Zeller graduated from the MU SSW with his master’s degree in 1971 and has practiced in the mental health arena ever since. Originally stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, he started his career in the Army, and he came to Columbia for his social work degree when he was discharged.

Zeller’s military duty during the Viet Nam War, he witnessed violence, prostitution and psychiatric casualties of war. As a medic, one of his tasks when he returned stateside was to inform families when a soldier died.

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Karen and Simon Zeller, MSW ’71

Upon graduation in 1971, the Zellers left Missouri and moved to Mitchell, S.D., where Simon became the director of the Dakota Mental Health Center. In 1998, they opened Cedar House, an outpatient, community-based mental health program in Faribault, Minn. The staff there provides an array of services for the chronically mentally ill.

“Karen (his wife) and I have worked elbow to elbow, developing the business. My business and social work education and Karen’s administrative talents have been a good match in creating our clinics,” Zeller says. “Our entire staff embraces the Social Work code of ethics. Treating clients with respect and kindness are core elements in our philosophy and policies.”

Now that the Zellers have sold the business to their four children, “we have more time to spend with our grandchildren and pursuing our interests, like travel and motorcycling. I am also very interested in alternative energy projects. My next goal in life is to grow a tomato in January in Minnesota with no fossil fuel.”

Karen and Simon Zeller, MSW ’71
In Memoriam

Marilyn Maddux, MSW and professor emeritus, died Nov. 12, 2010 at age 81. She joined the School in 1966 and retired in 1991. She served for 15 years as coordinator of field instruction. During her 26 years at MU she held a variety of positions, including director of graduate studies for the School, and served on many university committees and vice president of the Faculty Council. She was deeply committed to women’s issues.

Following her retirement from the School, Marilyn worked at Ellis Fishel Cancer Hospital until 1994. Marilyn earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and psychology. She received her masters in social work from Washington University and worked in a child guidance clinic and at Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, as well as in pediatrics at the University of Missouri Hospital and Clinics.

Marilyn’s family has established a fund in her name to be used for scholarships, lectureships and other School needs. Those wishing to remember Marilyn with a gift may send a check made out to the University of Missouri, noting “Marilyn Maddux Enhancement Fund” on the memo line.

Marguerite Bowers, MSW ’65, passed away July 6, 2009, at age 77. She worked for many years as a psychiatric social worker at St. Joseph (Mo.) State Hospital, as well as the Buchanan County corrections department. She was a Korean war veteran, lifelong member of the American Legion in St. Joseph and was active in the creation of the Korean War Memorial in Sophia, W.V.

Marguerite was a generous supporter of Mizzou and was an organ donor. She is survived by her brothers and sisters in Florida, Virginia, Oregon and W. Virginia, as well as 11 nieces and nephews.

Helen Burnham, BSW ’76, passed away Dec. 13, 2010, at age 57. She was the mother of Katie Burnham Wilkins, MSW ’08. Most recently, Helen worked as a bereavement counselor for Missouri River Hospice in Columbia.

She had also worked as a social worker with the Boone County Health Department, Visiting Nurses and Ronald McDonald House. Helen’s twin daughters, Katie Wilkins, MSW ’08, and Emily Burnham, ’05, are both social workers. She is also survived by sons, Morgan and Spencer, and husband, Bill.

Lynda Marye Quan, MSW ’75, LCSW, died Nov. 6, 2009, at age 64. She lived in the St. Louis area for 40-plus years and was a dedicated social worker there in community outreach and clinical psychiatric work. She had been a Peace Corps volunteer and was included in several “Who’s Who” publications. She served in the Delegate Assembly and was appointed to the Missouri State Committee for Social Workers.

Arthur “Art” Robins, PhD, former director of the MU School of Social Work in the 1950s, died Sept. 3, 2010, at age 89. He had also been a faculty member in the MU Honors College until spring 2010. Memorials can be sent to the Columbia Art League.

Joan King Upshaw, MSW, died June 7, 2010, in Kansas City at age 81. She was an active member of the School of Social Work’s Professional Advisory Committee and the Director’s Development Council. The company she founded in 1988, Social Work p.r.n., had recently received a contract with the state of Mississippi to do a hotline for child abuse and vulnerable adult calls.

Joan began her long career in the U.S. Navy. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Oda “Sam” Upshaw, six children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.
Mable Rumburg-Meites, ’42, earned her bachelor’s in Social Sciences and Social Work from the University of Missouri and a masters degree in Medical Social Work from Washington University in 1946.

She has written her memoirs and we are very pleased that she has allowed us to share them on our Website (http://ssw.missouri.edu/spot_meites.shtml). The memoirs provide a glimpse into not only her life, but the early years of medical social work as well.

Mrs. Meites was raised on a farm in southeast Missouri. Reflecting on her 95-plus years, she said, “It’s amazing what you can do in life with a college education!” She attributes many of her accomplishments to her education at Mizzou. She also met her late husband, Dr. Joseph Meites, at the University of Missouri.

Mrs. Meites lives in Okemos, Mich., and retired as director of medical social work at E.W. Sparrow Hospital.

George Taylor, MSW ’71, is in his 11th year as an instructor in the School of Social Work at California State University, San Bernardino, Calif. He is retired from the Veterans Administration Health Care System, where he served as chief or assistant chief for 17 years of his 26-year career there. He lives in Pasadena, Calif., and his e-mail address is GTBubbie@aol.com.

Harrow Price, MSW ’73, is currently providing contract staff training, supervision, psychotherapy and substance abuse treatment for the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma Substance Abuse Treatment Program in Miami, Okla. He retired from community mental health administration in 2008 and lives in Miami, Okla.

Tina Moore, BSW ’95, is currently a school social worker in a middle school in Chapel Hill, NC. She was a McNair Scholar at Mizzou and received her MSW at the University of North Carolina.

Kimberly (Miller) Kirklin, BSW ’09, is a community support specialist with Options Unlimited/Arthur Center in Mexico, Mo. She began working there the day after graduation. “I thoroughly enjoy touching people’s lives every day,” she says. “I could have never prepared myself for the joy I would have helping others who have a mental illness. I did not have much experience with mental health, but I have been learning from a wonderful supervisor (another MU SSW alumni)! The job can be very trying, but it is very fulfilling. I believe most days I learn more about life from my clients than my clients learn things from me.

“The experiences I have had in the past year have led me to look into attending graduate school (at MU, of course). And to think, in high school, I did not want to go to college! (Thank you, Mom and Dad, for making me). I just wanted to send a big THANK YOU to everyone at the School of Social Work for being a part of my education and inspiring me to help others.”

“My time in Brighton, England, has been life-altering. Brighton is at the forefront of fair-trade food and clothing, environmental issues, and gay and lesbian rights—all vital issues in the social work field. Being immersed in a city that promoted and encouraged diversity was truly an amazing experience. I also had the opportunity to volunteer in Brighton by helping with soup runs for the homeless and leading health walks to promote healthier lifestyle choices.

“I have formed friendships with people from all over the world, which has increased my knowledge and understanding of other countries’ history and culture. Next, I am going to take some time away from school before embarking on my master’s degree in Social Work. I am going to focus on working, volunteering and learning a foreign language. Being surrounded by my European friends who each spoke three to six languages inspired me to take language courses.”
**New Programs**

**Undergraduate minor**

**Financial Literacy for Helping Professionals**

Social work clients include families who have low incomes and struggle to meet their financial needs. These families may have problems with their credit history or lack of experience with mainstream financial institutions and the language they speak. It is easy for anyone to struggle with financial decisions and stability, but for someone who lives in or near poverty, there are numerous unscrupulous lenders who take advantage of unstable situations. Awareness of this vulnerability is key to avoidance.

The School of Social Work has collaborated with the Personal Financial Planning Department within the College of Human Environmental Sciences to develop a minor in Financial Literacy for Helping Professionals. As front-line helping professionals encounter clients who face challenging economic situations, skills in addressing those challenges and knowledge of foundational personal-finance information will aid in helping clients. Knowledge of predatory lending practices, social welfare policy designed to help the working and non-working poor, and tax strategies to enhance financial situations will be addressed. This minor hopes to embrace the imperative need to educate our graduates on the role of financial literacy for those professionals who will serve others.

This program will prepare social workers to help clients avoid predatory lending practices, as well as access programs designed to supplement income for the impoverished. Education on available resources, in addition to engaging in dialogue and identifying accessibility with families, will be emphasized.

Coursework includes courses in personal and family finance, financial counseling, community agencies, and exploration in social and economic justice. Students registered for the minor will be able to participate in the tax-assistance workshop hosted by Personal Financial Planning in the spring. This provides necessary assistance to low-income families and individuals who file their taxes, ensuring that taxes are done correctly and provide the most financial gain and least liability. Successful completion of coursework would allow students to sit for the Accredited Financial Counselor Exam.

The minor reflects the School’s mission of “Leadership for Social and Economic Justice” and complements the existing minor in Social Justice. In a further demonstration to provide leadership in social and economic justice, the School of Social Work partners with Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA) to conduct a Poverty Simulation each fall. Incoming students in both the graduate and undergraduate programs are expected to attend. CMCA has resource volunteers, community members who are or have been in need of financial services, portray the roles of community resources available to low-income families. Following the simulation, the resource volunteers share their experiences with students to provide insight and empathy. The School implemented the simulation as a tool to sensitize students to the complex issues related to living at or below the poverty line and to create a broader awareness and understanding of the lives of families living in poverty.

**New Graduate Certificate in Military Social Work**

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education has approved a new graduate certificate in Military Social Work. The first coursework will be offered in fall 2011.

The goal is to tailor a training program for MSW students and civilian practitioners to better serve active service members, veterans and their families who face myriad health and mental health problems. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, mood disorder and family stress leading to substance abuse, child abuse, domestic violence, divorce and homelessness have been identified as consequences of deployment and combat.

This training program will emphasize coursework related to the mental and physical health needs of soldiers, veterans and their families, as well as a course in military culture to orient students to the context in which services are delivered. Emphasis will be on diversity issues in the military and ethical issues related to social work practice with military clients.

The school is seeking funding for scholarships, curriculum development and the conduct of pilot research studies in identified critical areas.

"By furthering the education of social workers to serve veterans and military families, we can increase the number of prepared social workers to staff the clinics and hospitals that serve these populations," says Margie Sable, SSW director.
Association honors students and alumni

At the annual Social Work Alumni Organization Awards in April 2010, four individuals and one agency were recognized for their outstanding work. The honorees are:

- **Outstanding BSW Student**
  Claire Schillinger
- **Outstanding MSW Student**
  Sarah Longlett
- **Outstanding PhD Student**
  Kirsten Havig, MSW, LCSW
- **Outstanding Social Service Agency**
  Missouri Alliance for Children and Families
- **Outstanding Alumna**
  Norma Jean Knowles, MSW, LCSW

**2010 Outstanding BSW Student: Claire Schillinger**

Claire graduated in May 2010 with her BSW and a minor in Italian. She completed an internship last semester at Ellis Fischel Cancer Center in Columbia. Since November 2009, she worked as a social service assistant at The Bluff Skilled Nursing Facility in Columbia.

Claire’s special interests include adult and aging populations, oncology social work and mental health. Claire's roots run deep on the Mizzou campus, as she is the daughter of another alumna, April Schillinger, BSW ‘80. Claire is a member of the Mortarboard honor society, Phi Alpha social work honor society and Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity.

**2010 Outstanding MSW Student: Sarah Longlett**

Sarah has spent six years immersing herself in the Mizzou experience. Before receiving her MSW in May 2010, she graduated magna cum laude with a BA in Psychology and a BA in Sociology in 2007. During her time at MU, Sarah has not only earned many honors, but also the praise of her instructors who say she has “excellent natural instincts.” Sarah performed a practicum at Hannibal Regional Hospital’s Cancer Center and is now a social worker at Hannibal Regional Hospital.

She is an active member of Phi Alpha Honor Society and a member of the Mizzou Alumni Association. Sarah was the 2008 recipient of the Judith and Joseph Davenport Scholarship in Rural Social Work and a study abroad participant in Cape Town, South Africa, during summer 2009. Sarah’s instructors believe her dedication and well-developed skills will make her an asset to the profession.

**2010 Outstanding PhD Student: Kirsten Havig**

Kirsten is an intellectually curious person and a true scholar. She is an excellent student and teacher. Her passion for social justice comes across in how she lives her life and in the work that she does.

Kirsten completed her PhD in May 2010. Her dissertation was “Empowerment for Social Justice: A Grounded Theory Study of Social Work Field Instruction Strategies.” Kirsten’s research will make an important contribution to social work education. Almost every school of social work includes the term “social justice” in their mission statement, but rarely is it defined or operationalized. Kirsten’s study will help to inform field education at our own School of Social Work and by extension, to better prepare future social workers to meet the needs of Missouri citizens.

After working at the School for two years as a clinical instructor, Kirsten has accepted a position as as-
2010 Outstanding Social Service Agency: Missouri Alliance for Children and Families

The Missouri Alliance was created in 1997 as a partnership of non-profit agencies to provide children and youth with a comprehensive care system utilizing the expertise and resources of each agency. The Alliance and its partners work with referred children and families, striving to achieve permanency for the children referred. The Alliance’s purpose is to provide family-oriented and creative strength-based services that encourage families to no longer rely on the system, but rather to develop and use their personal abilities and gifts so they can do what is necessary for their family to be safe and secure. By using a different approach and an advanced system of care, Missouri Alliance for Children and Families give families, community members and providers the power to work together to create a better future for themselves and fellow community members.

The Missouri Alliance supports community-based alternatives for seriously emotionally disturbed children who are at risk of being placed in or are already in structured residential settings. Through this program, children are given the opportunity to live with families or independently in a permanent setting. The Alliance and its partnering agencies are currently serving more than 1,600 children and youth.

The team at the Missouri Alliance takes on challenging and demanding cases, and their dedication to such rewarding work is evident. Each staff member clearly believes that every child deserves a chance. Yet even with very full caseloads, the staff takes on SSW practicum students, and some of them have served as adjunct faculty. They also employ numerous Mizzou alumni. The school is fortunate that this outstanding agency works with students and shares its unique expertise and vision.

2010 Outstanding Alumna: Norma Jean Knowles

Norma is a 1993 MSW Alumna and has spent the past 11 years employed as a nephrology social worker at Dialysis Clinics, Inc. She is an extraordinary licensed clinical social worker on both personal and professional levels. Her daily caseload consists of managing the psychosocial needs and concerns of her chronically ill kidney patients and families in Columbia, Boonville and Jefferson City. She routinely supervises BSW and MSW students and LCSW candidates. And it is her extracurricular work that brought about her nomination for Outstanding Alumni.

Norma voluntarily goes above and beyond to enhance the nephrology social work profession on the local, state and national levels. Locally, Norma is the secretary of the Central Missouri Chapter of Council of Nephrology Social Workers. She also coordinates several fundraising events to benefit the Central Missouri Kidney Association. Statewide, Norma served on the 2008 Missouri Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force committee. She also participates in annual lobbying events in Jefferson City. Norma serves on the national level with the National Kidney Foundation’s Council of Nephrology Social Work as a regional representative for seven Midwest states and was recently elected to a second term. For the past three years, Norma has been an executive committee member of the National Kidney Foundation’s Patient and Family Council.

Prior to this, Norma was publication chair and coeditor of the Journal of Nephrology Social Work, and she has coauthored articles for the same publication. Norma has been instrumental in creating professional tools and resources, including the new Certification for Nephrology Social Workers.

Perhaps the most impressive of Norma’s accomplishments is that she herself has had kidney disease since age 18 and had a kidney transplant nine years ago. She has made invaluable professional advances while personally undergoing dialysis the last four years. Because of her unique position as a patient and a professional, she provides empathic support and a positive example of how to live a “full life” on dialysis. Because Norma is both a powerful CKD patient advocate and professional social work representative, she has been named the MU School of Social Work Outstanding Alumna for 2010.

Leanne Peace accepted the Outstanding Alumni Award on behalf of Norma Jean Knowles, MSW, LCSW.
Helmet Heroes event jump-starts fundraising efforts for scholarship

More than 170 people attended the School’s first major fundraiser on Nov. 11, 2010, in Columbia at Orr Street Studios. The purpose of the fundraiser, a helmet art auction and wine reception, was to raise money for the school’s first graduate scholarship in Military Social Work.

Proceeds from the event went toward the establishment of the scholarship. In addition to raising more than $20,000 for the scholarship, the event also generated interest, awareness and visibility of the School in the community and on campus.

Fifteen local and regional artists embraced the idea of creating art using Army helmets. Helmets were chosen as the art medium because they symbolically represent all branches of military service and visually reflect the protection they provide for military personnel, who in turn protect our country. Each helmet was unique and provided the artists an opportunity to showcase their creativity and talent.

Paint, fabric, metal and Swarovski crystals are a few of the mediums artists chose to turn helmets into artistic creations. All helmets were auctioned at the event.

Because there is a tremendous need for social workers to be better prepared to meet the needs of active military, veterans and their families, the School is starting a graduate certificate in Military Social Work. The Graduate School at MU recently approved the new graduate certificate that will begin in Fall 2011. Coursework will include Military Culture, Social Work Practice in Military Settings, Trauma Therapy and other courses in substance abuse, interpersonal violence, family therapy, disability, etc., that are pertinent to Military Social Work.

The fundraising event was followed the next day by the Summit for Health and Human Service Professionals (see page 11). Both events were successful and received positive feedback.
Responding to needs of veterans and families
School holds Summit on November 12

As military efforts continue across the globe, recognition of the effects of deployment on veterans, as well as their families and loved ones, continues to grow. Awareness of physical needs, mental health needs and family member needs led to the School of Social Work hosting the first Summit for Health and Human Service Professionals: Meeting the Needs of Veterans and Military Families.

The Summit was designed to appeal to all helping professionals, including those in education, medicine, social work and professionals already working specifically with military personnel and their families.

The event was facilitated by the School of Social Work and planned by a multidisciplinary committee of various academic units on campus, mid-Missouri organizations, and state and federal agencies such as the local Veterans’ Hospital, Missouri Veterans Commission and the Department of Health and Senior Services.

Primary goals of the event included raising awareness of the behavioral health, mental health, physical and other identified needs of veterans and military families who are dealing with deployment, combat, reentry and reintegration issues. Current research trends and clinical intervention techniques were featured.

Colonel Elspeth Ritchie, MD, MPH, and recently retired Army psychiatrist, spoke of the unique challenges that veterans face. With the Improvised Explosive Device (IED) as the hallmark weapon in both Iraq and Afghanistan, many soldiers are facing wounds that we may not be able to treat immediately. IEDs often result in traumatic brain injuries, which can be life altering. Brain trauma can result in poor decision making, outbursts of anger and other changes in personality. What is unknown is the amount of trauma needed to cause changes in brain functioning.

A second issue addressed was the rising rate of suicide among active military personnel and veterans. Dr. Ritchie indicated that this rate is now close to the civilian rate, while in the past, it had been below the civilian rate.

Dr. Anthony Hassan, LCSW, retired Air Force, is the director for the Center for Research and Innovation on Veterans and Military Families at University of Southern California.

He shared his research in discussing emotional and behavioral needs with active duty personnel and innovative technology, in which social work students use computerized simulations to gain competency in engaging and effectively intervening with military personnel.

The unique needs of family members were also addressed. Major General Stephen Danner, Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard, spoke of increased percentages of the National Guard serving in both Afghanistan and Iraq, making these two military efforts unique from the past, where the Guard had primary assignments at home, rather than abroad.

MG Danner indicated that approximately 40 percent of military personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are National Guardsmen. Since these men and women are considered reservists, preparing for deployment can be even more difficult than for active duty members. Transitioning back to civilian life can be equally challenging. Reintegration into a job or into family relations may become more difficult.

Agencies such as the Missouri Association of Veterans’ Organization, the Missouri Veterans Commission and the Joint Family Support Assistance Programs were all present for a panel discussion on current efforts in transitioning Missouri veterans.

Dr. Gary Bowen from the University of North Carolina’s School of Social Work also presented research on formal and informal systems of support for veterans across the nation.

The Summit was well received with approximately 175 participants. Due to favorable comments, the Mizzou School of Social Work is considering a second Summit in the Fall of 2011. Please e-mail Deborah Simmons at simmonsd@missouri.edu if you are interested in being added to a mailing list. See additional photos on page 13.

Elizabeth Wilson, PhD ’09; Deanna Harper, MSW ’76; Suzanne Cary, MSW ’93; Simon Zeller, MSW ’71; Terri Hoskins, MSW ’83; Kalea Benner, PhD ’09 Photo by Margie Sable. See page 4 for an alumni spotlight on Simon Zeller.


Books


Presentations


Faculty Presentations, Summit


Yu, Mansoo, Nebbit, Von E., & Lombe, Margaret (November 2010). Tobacco use amongst African American youth living in urban public housing. American Public Health Association (APHA), Denver, CO.

Summit on veterans and families (continued from page 11)

Summit on veterans and families (continued from page 11)

Suzanne Cary, SSW director of field education, visits with Rita McElhany from the Department of Mental Health. Photo by Diane Davis.

Joanne Mermelstein, Nonnie Flavell, MSW '86, Sallee Purcell, MSW '78, and Linda Hillemann, MSW '81. Photo by Margie Sable.

At the Summit luncheon, participants had an opportunity to network with others about various topics, such as community mental health. From left: MSW student Bobbi Hendrix, Margie Sable, Col. Elspeth Richie, Rumi Price, Monica Matthieu, Beth Fisher. Photo by Diane Davis.

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Retirees

When Joanne Mermelstein retired as associate professor emerita several years ago, she received a gift of Dr. Seuss’ book, Oh, the Places You’ll Go!

Joanne writes, “That delightful notion has proven true—even though my travel is mostly up and down I-70 to visit granddaughters in Kansas City and lots of friends and family in St. Louis. The ‘places I go’ are through the experiences of refugees as I volunteer with Refugee and Immigration Services, and Habitat for Humanity. I’ve met families from Russia, Uzbekistan, Liberia, Sudan, Burundi, Somalia, Eritrea and Congo.

“Helping with resettlement is a many-sided adventure, full of hospital and clinic visits, housing searches, school registrations and acculturation help, shopping at Goodwill and Salvation Army stores, accessing scarce resources for special needs, enjoying new friendships with other volunteers and interpreters—and studying and reading about Africa. Africa is a huge continent, with recent histories in many countries of unimaginable poverty, sickness, wars, genocides, ruthless dictators and displacement of millions of people who can never ‘go home’ again.

“Making Columbia ‘home’ for these awed and warmly appreciative families not only challenges them, but also local institutions, unprepared here in the central Midwest, to handle the many languages, customs, old inter-tribal and inter-country relationships among the peoples of African nations and the indescribable personal traumas many refugees have experienced en route to America. I would not want to physically go to some of the places they have been but I am fortunate to know them and to be inspired by their strength and resilience.”

Anderson publishes book


“The hope is that this book will assist practitioners in developing their practice with survivors of family violence in a manner that supports and enhances their resilience,” said Anderson. “Empirical findings, conceptual insights, assessments and interventions are presented as a way for practitioners to gather information that is unique to the abilities of each client and further delineate the available repertoire of strengths one might possess. Such information may then be used to develop an intervention plan that builds on clients’ abilities to manage traumatic experiences.”

In fall 2010, Anderson was one of four invited international scholars to be key speakers at the “Recovery and Strengths Perspective International Conference” hosted by the School of Social Work at National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan. She presented on the application of the strengths perspective in working with domestic violence survivors.

Additionally, she presented her resilience research in the area of family violence to a graduate level social work class who had been assigned the chapter, “Assessing Strengths: Identifying Acts of Resistance to Violence and Oppression” (Anderson, Cowger & Snively, 2009) from the text, The Strengths Perspective in Social Work Practice (Saleebey, 2009).

The social work faculty who organized the conference, Drs. Li-yu Song and Chawi-yi Shih, have diligently worked to bring the strengths perspective to Taiwan and beyond. They have met with administrators and practitioners throughout Taiwan to provide training, implementation, supervision and evaluation of the strengths perspective. Anderson met with two of the agencies they have worked with, including a center for domestic violence survivors and a psychosocial clubhouse for adults with mental illness.

As a result of the international conference and her research interests, Anderson was asked to write the foreword for Drs. Song and Shih’s book entitled The Strengths Perspective: Social Work Intervention Theory and Practice.

Anderson teaches clinical practice and evaluation courses at the graduate level.
Amber Moodie-Dyer, MSW, is one of just five doctoral students in the country, and the only social work doctoral student, who received a Child Care Research Scholars grant in September. This grant provides support to doctoral dissertation work and is issued through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

Amber is studying child care decision-making among economically disadvantaged parents, including the working poor. Dr. Colleen Galambos, SSW professor, chairs Amber’s dissertation committee and serves as the principal investigator on the grant. Amber plans to graduate in May 2011 with her doctorate and begin working as assistant professor of Social Work at The Ohio State University beginning September 2011.

In October 2010, Amber presented a research poster about the project at the Child Care Policy Research Consortium annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Cynthia Speckman, MSW student, presented a paper at a seminar in Indonesia in October 2010. The paper she co-authored with Steven D. Barton of the International Federations of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, University of Missouri, “Incremental progress toward a durable solution,” was part of the seminar, “Lessons learned from West Sumatra recovery” (from the 2009 earthquake).

Kathy Payne (far right) was chosen as the 2010 MSW Field Instructor of the Year in May. A social worker at University Hospital, Kathy was nominated by her student, Lauren Grana (second from the right). Also pictured are Dr. Carol Snively (far left), Director of the MSW Program, and Suzanne Cary (second from the left), Director of the Field Education program. Photo by Diane Davis.

Ann Baker, MSW (right) was named BSW Field Instructor of the Year in December 2010. Baker, a social worker with Gentry Middle School in Columbia, was nominated by her student, Lindsay deGonial. Photo by Diane Davis.

The 2009 BSW Field Instructor of the Year was Nancy Higgins, BSW, who works at Columbia Manor Nursing Home in Columbia. She is pictured between her two BSW field students, Holly White, left, and Arlene O’Malley. Photo by Dianne Orton.
Graduations, 2009 and 2010

BSW graduates
In the following list BSW graduates, the outstanding seniors are indicated in bold text, and honors students (3.5 GPA and higher) are shown with an asterisk (*).

Aronson, Elizabeth
Bearden, Caroline
Bennett, Megan
Bitzer, Rebecca*
Boersma, Adriane
Cagle, Elyse*
Colloton, Cassandra
Cox, Kay
Craig, Melissa
Davenport, Amanda*
DeBerge, Sara
DeGonia, Lindsay
Edmonson, Jemese
Engler, Jenna*
Finn, Allison
Furey, Ann Catherine*
Gilligan, Molly*
Handly, Tallie
Hanover, Holly
Heller, Theresa
Johnson, Britton
Johnson, Jessica*
Joyce, Adam
Lahiri, Naomi
Lappe, Kathleen*
Lisk, Caitlyn*
Loftus, Kathleen
Loring, Mary Katherine
Manson, Lauren
Mayenkar, Prachi*
McMillon, Michael
Miller, Megan Lea*
Norman, Allison*
O’Malley, Patricia “Arlene”**
Oligschlaeger, Hannah*
Osburn, Megan
Osgood, Rachel
Ostercamp, Daniel
Painter, Benjamin
Petrek, Jordan*
Pickett, Katie*
Powell, Katie
Primmer, Kellie
Richardson, Kendra
Russell, Brittany
Ruth, Alysssa
Schillinger, Claire*

MSW graduates
Aderton, Andrea
Anstead, Jennifer
Arnold, Rachael
Bagnall, Melissa
Banks, Cortney
Beggs, Ashley
Bess, Jennifer
Billings, Amanda
Blumburg, Heather
Bolin, Kimberly
Bolten, Michael
Bradley, Erin
Brady, Marjorie


Seifert, Abigail
Smith, Laurin
Sturm, Amanda
Sykes, Aharon
Tesfamikael, Hanna
Thiele, Britney
Thurman, Janessa*
Tiemann, Rachel*
Trammell, Tina
Twenter, Nicole*
Washington, Danielle
Weger, Bethany

Western, Kaylee
Wielert-Lewis, Samantha*
White, Holly
Wilmes, Jackie*
Williams, Keisha
Wilson, Rachel*
Wisemore, Maggie

(Left) Sara DeBerg, BSW ’10, and family at the graduation dessert reception. (Above, top) Aharon Sykes, BSW ’10, and his father. (Above, bottom) BSW Program Director Kalea Benner, Jordan Petrek, BSW ’10, and Student Services Coordinator Tammy Freelin.
Graduations, 2009 and 2010

Brown, Kelsey
Brown, Michelle
Buie, Charity
Bundy, Susan
Burger, Shawna
Burmaster, Rachel
Burtchett, Derrick
Burton, Gloria
Campbell, Erica
Carson, Raymon
Cearlock, Kim
Christmas, Lisa
Conner, Kimberely
Corderman, Christine
Dickerson, Deanna
Dowdy, Robert
Esquivel, Eduardo
Fancher, Holly
Firman, Alicia
Forsberg, Daniel
Ganaway, Jennifer
Garrett, Lori
Gassen, Mindy
Grana, Lauren
Grandberry, Sharaye
Gray, Brenda
Groce, Julie
Hardin, Sarah
Harris, Micah
Heckman, Emily
Helm, Amy
Herzog, Pamela
Hillis, Melissa
Hummer, Fiona
Hunolt, Jessica
Hutchings, Leah
Hutton, Laura
Jackson, Carrie
Jones, Heather
Jones, Megan
Kayser, Misty
Keenen, Bridget
Keller, Christopher
Kelley, Emily
Kissick, Stefanie
Knapp, Amy
Koch, Catherine
Koelliker, Amy
Kopping, Laura
Landis, Jessica
Longlett, Sarah
Manning, Nia
Maretoli, Amanda
Martin, Stacy
Martin, Melissa
McClellan, Valyn
McCutecheon, Jennifer
McDowell, Jennifer
Mercer, Carrie
Meredith, Janelle
Merideth, Melissa
Meyer, Latisha
Nacke, Lauren
Nigh, Jamie
Nordwald, Jamie
Opara, Amarachi
Osborn, Jennifer
Owens, Jennifer
Pape, Danica
Parks, Lindsey
Pate, Stephanie
Patrick, Mary
Payne, Erica
Petry, Melissa
Pierson, Danetta
Pirog, Karen
Powers, Michelle
Prevallet, Joy
Proctor, Jody
Prue, Debra
Rector, Dawn
Rogers, Tasha
Rouse, Melissa
Rowe, Kristina
Rowe, Phyllis
Sandoval, Natalie
Schwarz, Elizabith
Sims, Catherine
Sisson, Valerie
Smith, Alyssa
Smith, Richard “Rick”
Smith, Richard D.
Smith, Heather
Smith, Jenna
Stacy, Ana
Stewart, Timothy
Swartz, Amadi
Thomas, Linda
Thompson, Joey


PhD graduates
Jarod Giger, “Perspectives of Informal Caregivers on Using In-Home Technology to Monitor Activities of Persons with Serious Mental Illness”


Claire Schillinger, BSW ’10, enjoys the dessert reception with her mom/SSW alumna, April Schillinger, BSW ’80.
Donors & Social Justice Society

The Social Justice Society recognizes alumni and friends who have made a substantial commitment of philanthropy in support of the school.

**Distinguished Fellow**
- Jane Bierdeman-Fike
- William D. Johns & Carla Waal Johns

**Fellow**
- Judith A. Davenport & Joseph Davenport, III
- Nancy G. Griggs & David R. Griggs
- Marjorie R. Sable & George P. Smith
- Jennifer Davenport Schroeder & David Schroeder
- Curtis E. Thomesen

**Sustaining Member**
- Leigh Collier Huesgen
- David W. Johns
- J. Wilson Watt

**Annual Member**
- Charles D. Cowger & Janice Hartman
- Anna Conn Forder
- Colleen M. Galambos
- Michael J. Kelly & Kaitlin Ayn Post
- Mable Emilie Meites
- Dianne J. Ortin
- Stanley G. Remer & Sondra S. Remer
- Stephen L. Roling & Judith M. Roling
- Sally K. Silvers
- Connie Smith Steammons
- Paul Anthony Sundet & Jean Ann Sundet
- Vic P. Werber
- Ann Ruhl Woody & Donald E. Woody

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Cynthia & Truman Allen  
Peter Anger & Leandra Spangler  
Douglas & Helen Anthony  
Kenneth & Melissa Applegate  
Freddie & Timple Avant  
Suzette Bacon  
Velma Bacon  
Janet & William Beckett  
Jane Bierdeman-Fike  
Patricia Blair  
Joseph Bock & Susan Lyke  
Diane Booth & Jeanne Sebaugh  
David Boxerman  
Michael & Sharon Bukstein  
Cindy Burks  
Tootic & Richard Burns  
Kathleen Cain & Donald Lewis  
Kay Callison  
Mary Carnahan  
Lynn Carter & Edwin Goon  
M. Jenise Comer  
Charles Cowger & Janice Hartman  
Karren Crouch  
Lisa Daly  
Judith & Joseph Davenport  
Anne & Brady Deaton  
Robert Dieckhoff  
Harlan Dubansky  
Randy Eaton  
Charles & Barbara Everitt  
Rebecca & Edward Fahrendorf  
Albert & Betty Feuchtwanger  
Marcus & Wendy Fischer  
Anna Forder  
Carolyn Freiburg  
Sarah Froese  
Joanne Fulton  
Barry & Pamela Gainor  
Colleen Galambos  
Jacqueline & Andrew Gingrich  
Sharon & Don Ginsburg  
Marlese & Robert Gourley  
Martha & Roger Grant  
Kate Gray  
David & Nancy Griggs  
Gayle Guess  
Marta Halter  
Deanna & Milt Harper  
Dorothy Haynes  
John Heller  

Tamara & Jason Herman  
Scott Hofferber  
Sarah Hoffmeier  
Robert Hom  
Deanna Hudson  
Diane Huneke  
Wesley Jenkins  
Dale Jirik  
Darlene Johnson  
Patricia & Donald Johnson  
Peggy Johnson  
Amy Jones  
Stephen Jorgensen  
Charlene Kearney  
Kenneth Kilmer  
Ila Irwin & Karl Kruse  
Alex & Robin LaBrumer  
Morty & Barbara Lebedun  
Carmella & Jeffrey Leonard  
Sara & Thomas Leonz  
Robert Lowe  
Daniel Ludwig  
Marla & Robert Luke  
Martha MacCracken  
Terry Mackey  
Jerome & Christine Mank  
Robert & Susan Mansfield  
Amy Martin  
Betty Marver  
Cheryl & James McCullagh  
Janis McGillick  
Sheryl & Steven Mitchler  
Susan & Jay Mogerman  
Caroline Morgan  
Karen Moss  
Dennis Murphy  
Mary S. Muscato  
Marvin & Cynthia Mustard  
Lacy Nunally  
Jacqueline & Stephen O'Rourke  
Dianne Orton & Gordon Howard  
Sallee Purcell & John Murray  
William Parks & Sheila Greenberg  
Frederick & Melody Parry  
Marianne & Arthur Pearl  
Susan Perkins  
Holly Hoeller Pertmer  
& Gary A. Pertzmer  
Kaitlin Post & Michael Kelly  
John R. and Marilyn Parker

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Betty & James Posz  
Daniel Purcell & Heather Hanly  
Anuradha & Venkataraman Ramachandran  
Geraldine Rauch  
Suzanne Rein  
Sondra & Stanley Remer  
Paula & Francis Richards  
Stephen & Judith Roling  
Marion Rollans  
Lisa Rothstein & Matthew Goldberg  
Billy & Glenda Sapp  
Shawn & Janis Sapp  
Kristina Schmidt  
John & Susan Schoplin  
Susan Schott  
Jennifer & David Schroeder  
Nancy & Tom Schultz  
Terry Seboldt  
Karen & Terrance Sell  
Leah & Bernard Simon  
Karl & Mahree Skala  
Beatrice Smith  
Marjorie Sable & George Smith  
Randall & Rebecca Smith  
Sarah Sorem  
Owen & Carol Sperry  
Edwin & Nancy Spiegel  
Jean & Alvin Sternlieb  
Russell & Mary Still  
Jean & Paul Sundet  
Charlene & George Templeton  
Lee & Martha Trammell  
Paul Wallace & Robin Remington  
Karla Washington  
Margo & James Watson  
Pamela Norum & Robert Weagley  
Marcy Wedemeyer  
Elaine & Richard Wehnes  
Louise B. Weigel  
Kristine & Robert Weis  
Robert & Candace Whitett  
Richard & Sheila Wieman  
Andrew & Sandra Williams  
Anne Williams  
Karen & Mark Woodbury  
Dalton Wright  
Angela Yant  
Claranne & Francis Zielinski
The School of Social Work Alumni Organization (SSWAO) is pleased to make several exciting announcements. The alumni board has elected a new leadership team to begin the new year. Danica Wolf, BSW ’09, MSW ’10, will begin a two-year term as president. (See photo below.) Danica is a coordinator for the Mizzou Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center. Ashley Hall, MSW ’08, LCSW, will serve as president-elect. Ashley is a social worker at Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach. Andrea Shaw, BSW ’06, MSW, LCSW, was elected to the office of secretary/treasurer. Andrea is the child advocacy center clinical coordinator for the Rainbow House in Columbia.

The SSWAO reached another membership milestone in 2010. Our school’s alumni organization had more new members than any other year in its history. This achievement also made us the winner of the Mizzou Alumni Association (MAA) membership challenge for our category and earned the organization a $1,000 prize. A large motivating factor in our membership drive was the goal to reinvest the prize back into the students by giving cash awards to two student members of the SSWAO. Social work students Seth Showalter and Erica Nanney both received a $500 prize in their student accounts to show our appreciation for selecting the MU School of Work and for joining the alumni association.

The SSWAO is also the proud recipient of two Diversity Grants from the MAA in 2010. In July, the organization was awarded $625 to help with Poverty Simulation organized by the School of Social Work for incoming students. In December, we were awarded a $500 grant to host a Girls Town Day on Campus in January 2011. A group of residents from Missouri Girls Town residential facility will come to Mizzou for a tour of the campus, a networking dinner with social work students and alumni, and a women’s basketball game at Mizzou Arena.

If you are a member of the Mizzou Alumni Association and would like to be involved in the activities of the School of Social Work Alumni Organization, please contact our staff liaison, Deborah Simmons, at simmonsd@missouri.edu. The Awards Committee is currently reviewing nominations for the School’s Annual Alumni Awards, which will be presented at the School’s Spring Forum. Nominations for the alumni awards are accepted between October and January each year. For more information about the School of Social Work Alumni Awards, visit ssw.missouri.edu/awards. We look forward to seeing or hearing from you soon!

Brenda Sites, MSW ’98, SSWAO Past President

If you are not a member of the alumni organization and would like to help us achieve another record-setting year, please review the membership form on the back of this publication or visit www.mizzou.com/joinsocialworkalumni. The recruiting period ends June 1.

The SSWAO Board of Directors, 2009-2010

Alumni Board
President
Danica Wolf, BSW ’09, MSW ’10
President-Elect
Ashley Hall, MSW ’08
Secretary/Treasurer
Andrea Shaw, BSW ’06, MSW
Past President
Brenda Sites, MSW ’98

Board Members:
Tiffany Bowman, MSW ’07
Jim Brady, MSW ’78
Katie Burnham Wilkins, MSW ’08
Suzanne Cary, MSW ’93
Field Faculty Representative
Robert Dieckhoff, MSSW ’69
M. Dianne Drainer
Mizzou Alumni Association Liaison
Theresa Heller, BSW ’10
Stephen Hick, MSW ’04
Michelle Kaiser
PhD Student Representative
Vicki Keller, MSW ’99
Katy Klick, MSW ’04
Terri Marty, MSW ’88
Kathryn Oberg Roberts, MSW ’02
Jordan Petrek, BSW ’10
MSW Student Representative
Marjorie Sable, DrPH, MSW, MPH
Director, MU School of Social Work
Deborah Simmons
Staff Liaison
Amy Voiles, MSW ’09
J. Wilson Watt, PhD, MSW
Faculty Representative

Alumni Websites
ssw.missouri.edu/alumni
mizzou.com/joinsocialworkalumni

Left photo, from the left: Brenda Sites, MSW ’98, and Danica Wolf, MSW ’10. Photo by Diane Davis.
Join the MU School of Social Work Alumni Organization!

Send your registration to SSWAO Staff Liaison, 729 Clark Hall, MU School of Social Work, Columbia, MO 65211.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Annual Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Individual annual</td>
<td>$45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior annual, 65 or older</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>MU faculty/staff</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recent grad (1-3 years out)</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>True Tiger (current MU student)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dual annual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior dual, 65 or older</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dual faculty/staff spouse/partner</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent grad dual</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual MU student/spouse/partner</td>
<td>$35</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Full name:_________________________________________ Maiden/former name(s):________________________________
Student number:_________________________ Degree(s) and years(s) received:____________________________
Mailing address:_____________________________________________________________________________________
Preferred e-mail address:_________________________________________________________ Phone:__________________
Make checks payable to: Mizzou Alumni Association
Or charge: (circle one)    Visa    MasterCard    Discover
Card number:_________________________ Expiration:___________ Signature:__________________
Send us your alumni update:______________________________________________________________

Membership in the SSWAO also gives you full membership in the Mizzou Alumni Association, and a portion of the membership dues goes directly to the School of Social Work.