Five MSW students from Mizzou were part of a study abroad program to South Africa during summer 2009. See story on page 12.
Social Work Notes, 2009

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listed above or e-mail giftplanning@missouri.edu.
About the photo: Students and faculty from two continents started out as strangers but became friends before the farewell luncheon (below) of the study abroad program to South Africa this summer. (Photo by Margie Sable)
Greetings from Mizzou School of Social Work!
Budget cuts have forced us to reduce the number of times we can produce Social Work Notes to once annually instead of twice, but we hope that you enjoy reading about the activities of our faculty and students in this big issue.

It has been a busy year with more students than ever! Our PhD program, begun in 2002, had 10 graduates this year (see page 18). We have 201 MSW students this fall, including 108 in our off-campus program (Southeast, Northwest and North Central) and 139 BSW students.

Two faculty left Mizzou this past year, and we have hired two new assistant professors and two new clinical instructors (see page 15)—the latter on the Title IV-E training grant. We have a new Professional Advisory Committee, and I have formed a new Director's Development Council to help with fundraising.

For the second year, we have conducted a Poverty Simulation for our incoming BSW and MSW students (see page 16), in collaboration with the Community Action Center.

We hope to develop more training for our students and alumni in financial literacy so that they can work with their clients to help them better manage their finances. We are collaborating with the Department of Personal Financial Planning on coursework for our Social Work students and hope to develop a graduate certificate, as well as training for social workers.

This past summer, a group of Social Work students visited Cape Town, South Africa, and attended classes at the University of the Western Cape’s School of Social Work. We are hoping to increase the international opportunities for our students.

The economic downturn has taken its toll on the university and the School as we had spending cuts and freezes. Your financial support is more important than ever. Even a small gift means a lot to us. Please consider joining the $25 Campaign to help us meet some of our goals for faculty and student travel, video conferencing, events to give us visibility and other needs of the School. It costs money to raise money, so your support will help me seek additional funding from potential donors.

We want to hear from you! Please write, call, or email 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 at ssw.missouri.edu and consider adding your picture to the ribbon of alums and students.

Marjorie R. Sable
Director

An invitation to join the
School of Social Work
$25 Campaign!

School of Social Work alumni can make a difference during these economic times.

Your support will allow us to address the greatest needs of our students and faculty. In addition, funding is needed to maintain and improve existing programs and develop new programs.

In the upcoming months, we plan to offer continuing education seminars and receptions at several locations around the state. Staying connected with our alumni is important to us.

Please consider a minimum gift of $25 for the MU School of Social Work. A gift of just $25 from all alumni would generate $62,500 for the school. Of course, we welcome larger gifts, but we appreciate whatever level of gift you can make.

With your support we will be in a better position to achieve our goals. And, you will feel GOOD about your investment in our future.

Please use the enclosed business reply envelope to send your contribution for the $25 Campaign. Questions or comments may be addressed to Nancy Schultz, Director of Development, schultzn@missouri.edu or 573-882-5142.
John Sullivan, MSW ’71, has had his first book, *Terror Heart*, published by New Century Publishing in Indianapolis. He has been an adjunct professor of Sociology at the University of Indianapolis since 1987. He has been a psychotherapist since 1969, beginning at the Mid-Missouri Community Mental Health Center in Columbia. He also worked at the Malcolm Bliss Community Mental Health Center in downtown St. Louis and worked 10 years for the Missouri State Dept. of Mental Health before moving to Indiana in 1978.

Cheryl Daggett Buddinton, MSW ’76, has a new address in Englewood, Colo.

Robin R. Wingo, MSW ’89, is an associate professor in the Department of Social Work at Minnesota State University in Mankato, where she also does field education. She “vividly recalls interactions with (Mizzou) faculty, and just as those interactions impacted my direct practice in previous years, they continue to impact my work as a field education director.”

Shana J. Singer, BSW ’92, recently received the 2008 David N. and Roselin Grosberg Young Leadership Award from the Jewish Federation of St. Louis.

Laura M. Parker, MSW ’94, is a PhD student in the School of Social Work, where she is a research assistant for the School’s Title IV-E training grant. She received a travel stipend last summer (2008) from the European Union Center to travel in three countries (Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands). While there, she worked on a dissertation pilot study; her research will compare the attitudes and opinions of social work students as they relate to poverty and affordable housing in the U.S. and the Netherlands.

Shreya Bhandari, PhD ’09, married Mayuresh Gaikwad on Dec. 20, 2008, in India. (See photo.) While a doctoral student, Shreya presented at the November 2008 CSWE in Philadelphia with the topic, “Coping among pregnant, rural, low-income women facing intimate partner violence.” Since graduation in May 2009, Shreya has been working as a post-doctoral fellow Dr. Linda Bullock on a domestic violence grant at the Sinclair School of Nursing, University of Missouri.

Monta (Spivey) Breeden, MSW ’95, works at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., as a Warrior Transition Unit LCSW for the U.S. Army. Before this assignment, she worked with Immigration in Tacoma, Wash., and prior to that she was a medical/surgical/mental health LCSW with the Bureau of Prisons for 13 years. She is looking for reassignment to Ft. Campbell, Kent., as an adult behavioral health therapist. She lives in Plato, Mo.

Tony (Brunk) Rahman, MSW ’04, LCSW, is now a self-employed counselor/parent educator. Her private practice is located in Columbia, Mo. Rahman can be reached at toniarahman@hotmail.com. For more information, visit http://therapists.psychologytoday.com/45993.

Ann Abrams, MSW ’94, died Aug. 25, 2008, in Quincy, Ill. She was also known as Ann Rosenmeyer. She was one of the first Marianna Paull Johns scholars in graduate school. After graduation, she worked as a hospice director in Quincy. When severe health problems affected her mobility, she moved to Ashland, Mo., to be near her brother and cousins. She is survived by a daughter, Katy Abrams, of Banner Elk, N.C.

E. Lucile (Spear) Tihen, MSW ’68, died Feb. 5, 2009, in Laramie, Wyo., at the age of 100. She was born on Leap Day, Feb. 29, 1908, in Okla., where her parents were homesteaders. She and her husband, Samuel Sisson Tihen, also lived in Kansas, Maryland and Missouri. She had been director of staff development at Wyoming Division of Public Assistance and Social Services (DPASS) and retired on Jan. 1, 1974. Lucile and Samuel had four children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.
2009 scholarship recipients

At the 2009 HES Scholarship Convocation in September, a number of Social Work students and donors were recognized at the ceremony in Memorial Union, as follows.

Rintha Mary Carter Social Work Scholarship
- Lindsay C. Bunch
- Magan D. Driskill
- Mellissa K. Fritts
- Danielle T. Washington

Jennifer Davenport Undergraduate Scholarship in Social Work
- Jemese L. Edmonson

Dr. Judith A. Davenport Millennium Scholarship in the School of Social Work
- Caitlyn R. Lisk
- Jackie L. Wilmes

Judith and Joseph Davenport Scholarship in Rural Social Work
- Hannah E. Oligschlaeger

Anita Hoffman Graduate Fellowship in Social Work
- Heather Saenz

Mariana Paull Johns Fellowship in Social Work
- Kristina M. Rowe

William Bryan Myers II Memorial Scholarship in Social Work
- Patricia E. Makaya
- Magen R. Mann

Joanne Mermelstein Scholarship in Social Work
- Angela J. Sieben

Bettyann Dubansky Memorial Scholarship
- Holly C. White

Ena Lee Killingsworth Award
- Erica D. Dismang
- Sherri D. Fitts
- Amarachi Opara

Dr. Colleen Galambos Scholarship
- Angela J. Sieben

Francis Johnson Memorial Scholarship
- Angela J. Sieben

Stanley G. and Sondra S. Remer Scholarship
- Arica Henderson

Jane Bierdeman-Fike Doctoral Fellowship in Social Work
- Michelle L. Kaiser

Your-name-here Scholarship
For information on endowing a scholarship, see page 4 or contact Nancy Schultz, Director of Development, schultzn@missouri.edu or 573-882-5142.

Spring Forum, Fall Conference wrap-up

The 2008 Fall Conference featured Dr. Kim Strom-Gottfried of the University of North Carolina (pictured below), who presented “Moral Courage: Ethical Action in Challenging Times.” Participants learned about eight tools that can assist change agents in standing up for ethical principles.

At the 2009 Spring Forum, Reeta Wolfsohn’s presentation on Financial Social Work sparked an initiative for a new partnership between the School of Social Work, the Department of Personal Financial Planning, University Extension and Grass Roots Organizing (GRO) of Mexico, Mo. Stay tuned for more information as we develop curriculum for academic and nonacademic certificates and coursework in our BSW and MSW programs.


Kim Strom-Gottfried, MSW, PhD, was the presenter for the 2008 Fall Conference in Columbia. (Photo by Margie Sable)
Alumnus named director of Johnson County Emergency Management

Nick Crossley, MSW ’98, interim director of the Johnson County Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security for the past nine months, has been named director of the department where he has worked for nine years.

His promotion was announced in September 2008 by Deputy Johnson County Manager Hannes Zacharias.

“His expertise and knowledge in emergency management and homeland security have served both Johnson County and county taxpayers well in helping our community prevent, prepare, respond and recover from all man-made and natural disasters,” Zacharias said.

“Nick is passionate about the mission of Emergency Management and will be a valuable member of the county’s management team. As interim director, he has earned his stripes and has done an outstanding job.”

Crossley has served as interim director of Emergency Management since the November 2007 retirement of Mike Selves, who was the director for 12 years. Aside from his stint as interim director, he has previously served as the project impact coordinator and assistant director of planning.

Citing the four pillars of emergency management—preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation—Crossley plans to remain at the forefront of ensuring that Johnson County is ready for emergencies and disasters.

“It’s an honor and privilege to be asked to continue to serve Johnson County,” Crossley said. “It is my goal to continue to improve the preparedness of Johnson County for all types of emergencies and disasters.”

Crossley has nine years of experience serving the field of emergency management at the local, regional, state and federal levels.

Crossley holds many leadership positions, including serving as a vice chairman of the Homeland Security & Emergency Management Subcommittee of the Justice & Public Safety Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties. He is also secretary of the Board of Directors of the Kansas Emergency Management Association and a member of the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee with the Mid America Regional Council.

He is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) and an Associate Business Continuity Professional (ABCP).

Connie Gourley merges family with social work and real estate interests

Springfield native Connie (Mann) Gourley, MSW ’71, gives high credit to her social work education. “My social work skills have been the basis for everything I’ve done,” said Gourley, who has done a lot: owned and operated several businesses (commercial laundry, antique ship, print shop); been co-owner and vice-president of a nursing home management company, which managed 52 nursing homes in six different states; achieved multiple real estate licenses and designations; been a public speaker and a social work field instructor; psychiatric social worker and director of social work.

“For the last 15 years, I have been in real estate and have written articles about real estate, but my writing skills came from Social Work” at Mizzou, she says. Gourley currently works as a real estate broker/sales associate at Re/Max House of Brokers in Springfield, where she’s received honors into the Re/Max Hall of Fame and has been featured in Springfield! magazine.

In that article, her childhood family was described as influential in her life’s direction and value formation. “There was a very strong thread of character in our family that placed a heavy value on honesty, dedication, sincerity, committing oneself to a task and doing the very best you can do with it,” Gourley said.

“I can remember as a child that my father would buy property and sell it for profit.... That probably influenced a little bit my love and interest in real estate,” including buying her first duplex in Springfield at the age of 19 and selling it within a couple of years.

The Springfield! article explained that she chose graduate work in social work because “it coincided very nicely with what I perceived as a value and an attitude I have in regard to service to humans. I’m rather a service-oriented person.” In addition to her career and family, Gourley gives back to the community as a member of many state and local boards: Springfield Symphony, Springfield Little Theater, Children’s Trust Fund, Community Foundation, St. Paul School of Theology, Head Start, Tri-County Counseling Center and the MU SSW’s Director’s Development Council.
Richards puts MSW to work in the hospice field

Paula Richards, MSW ‘82, LCSW, has been in the hospice field for 19 years and currently works in Columbia as a bereavement social worker for Missouri River Hospice, a Walgreens Company.

She became interested in social work after earning her bachelor's degree in psychology/sociology and while she worked in foster care, adoption and protective services for eight years. After earning her MSW, she wanted to get into health care. Margie Sable (now director of the School of Social Work) was her field instructor at the University of Missouri Hospital. In turn, Richards has worked with students completing field programs, too.

Richards grew up in a “three-generation funeral home in Rolla”, and both parents (Paul and Mary Null) were always “social work-like” with “big hearts,” Richards said. “They set a wonderful example, as they were always so community-minded and willing to help others in need.

“I had a comfort level with people who were grieving,” so the transition to social work and hospice was natural, Richards said. “Once I was in hospice, I felt like, oh, this is my niche.”

“Hospice started in the U.S. in the ’70s but wasn't well developed,” Richards said. After Medicare developed a certification program for hospice, it became more commonplace. Hospice programs have evolved toward having more qualified social workers, who are important members of the hospice interdisciplinary team. Social work services for patients and their families focus on psychosocial and practical needs. Bereavement services are also required as part of Medicare hospice, and minimum requirements for these services have become more mandated.

For hospice families and others in the community, Missouri River Hospice offers grief support groups, candle-lighting ceremonies, etc., to help grieving families. “Our hospice program always offers bereavement services following our patients’ deaths,” she said. They begin by sending a condolence note and then follow up two weeks later with a letter explaining bereavement services. After 4-6 weeks, there’s a phone call and the offer of assistance. Follow-up—including mailings of grief literature, visits, phone calls, a survey and activities—continue as desired for 13 months to get past the anniversary of the family member's death.

“People pick and choose what they want. We try to provide a wide variety of opportunities for bereavement education and support for people experiencing normal, healthy grieving.” Richards said. “I love working with kids, too—children and grandchildren. We have a grief board game that really helps to get kids talking about their feelings.”

If there are unusual circumstances such as serious depression in adults or children, referrals to mental health professionals in their community are encouraged.

“THIS is my niche! We’re in this because we like helping others.”
—Paula Richards, MSW ’82

When Richards made the ‘Would you like a visit?’ phone call to Sally Silvers, one of her clients, she “was very open to the offer.” Silvers said, “Paula left a message and I called her back, and she was so sincerely happy that I called her back!” Somewhat skeptical of surveys, Silvers said, “The survey was so important because it wasn’t your typical survey. It’s like each question was about what I was feeling, which made me feel so normal.”

When Richards came to visit, Silvers was very impressed because she’d actually “read my answers and remembered them! She told me I was doing really well, which was very, very reassuring. Paula let me be me, before I knew who ‘me’ was. She not only listened and didn’t pass judgment, but she gave me permission to behave how
“We’re sold on social workers.”
—Sally Silvers, Columbia

I was behaving.”

Silvers’ advice to others who are grieving is to “Go with your gut and your comfort level; don’t do anything you’re not ready for. My meetings were so important in helping me be me. (I told Paula that) my next goal is trying to figure out what to do with the rest of my life, and Paula said, ‘It’s early; you don’t have to rush it.’

“People are (often) embarrassed to say they get help, but I’m proud of my bereavement counselor (Paula). The experience was so heartfelt. The first day, Paula helped me feel at total ease because there’s no wrong way to react” to a loved one’s death. “It’s a healthy thing to set boundaries and to tell people ‘no’ if their offers don’t help. Some family members are seeing social workers, too. We’re sold on social workers. A friend of mine lost her mother, and I encouraged her to follow up with Paula. I’m a big fan and advocate.”

Richards recently moved into the bereavement program after providing social work services to hospice patients and their families for many years. She also switched from working full-time to three days a week and finds it “a nice balance between work and family.”

In professional activities, Richards is proud of her achievements in the hospice field, such as serving on the Missouri Hospice and Palliative Care Association Board of Directors for three years (1997-2000) and the Education Committee for 10 years (1994-2004). Richards also started the Subcommittee on Social Work Education, which created a core curriculum workshop for social workers who are new to hospice and often have no professional social work supervision. This curriculum is now offered yearly, and some attendees have even come from states other than Missouri. Richards has also been involved in the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, serving on various committees.

Regarding her master’s work at Mizzou, Richards said, “I have really positive feelings about my graduate school experience, and that’s why I’ve stayed connected. There are so many ways you can give back, and I really like helping educate other social workers. We’re in this because we like helping others.” Richards also enjoyed giving back to the School by spending 10 years on the School of Social Work Alumni Organization Board (1996-2006) and serving as President of this Board for two years (2002-04).

Sally Silvers, left, and Paula Richards discuss bereavement issues resulting from the death of Sally’s husband, Robert. (Photo by Diane Davis)
At the conclusion of the Spring Forum on April 23, 2009, Brenda Sites, MSW ’98 and president of the SSWAO Alumni Board, and Vicki Keller, co-chair of the SSWAO Awards Committee, made presentations to alumni and special friends of the School of Social Work. This year’s winners are:

- Outstanding BSW Student - Nia Manning, BSW ’09
- Outstanding MSW Student - Ryan Black, MSW ’09
- Outstanding PhD Student - Seema Sehrawat, MSW
- Outstanding Faculty - ManSoo Yu, PhD, MSW, MA
- Outstanding Social Service Agency - Family Guidance Center for Behavioral Healthcare, St. Joseph, Mo.
- Outstanding Alumni - Malinda Lamb, PhD ’05, LISW, CCJP

2009 Outstanding BSW Student: Nia Manning, BSW ’09
Nia Manning has not only excelled academically in the BSW program, but she also made an impact with her positive outlook and attitude. Nia has a gift to see the best in every person and situation. She successfully completed her practicum at the MU Adult Day Care Connection, where she embraced the opportunity to learn more about the profession and the aging population. Both her field instructor and her clients raved about her skills and her personality. After graduation in May, Nia will pursue an MSW at Mizzou’s School of Social Work as an advanced standing student. She plans to continue her social work education and would like to work with older adults.

2009 Outstanding MSW Student: Ryan Black, MSW ’09
Ryan Black entered the MSW program after four years as a community support worker for adults with chronic mental illness. Since becoming a graduate student, Ryan has used his experience to excel as a student and provide leadership among his classmates. He is a member of the Chi Delta Chapter of the Phi Alpha Honor Society, serves as an Ambassador for the School of Social Work and has been the MSW representative for the Field Education Committee. Ryan also excelled in his work as coordinator of the MU LGBTQ Resource Center. Ryan has been instrumental in developing intergroup relations within the LGBT student community and helped implement a mediation program to ensure cooperation between organizations. Ryan’s commitment to serving marginalized students has helped create a safe and welcoming environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and allied students on the MU campus.

2009 Outstanding PhD Student: Seema Sehrawat, MSW
Seema Sehrawat is a proven leader among her fellow students and educators. Her commitment to scholarship and service are apparent in her integrity and modeling of social work values. As a teaching assistant, Seema was described as fair, helpful, consistent and encouraging. As a doctoral candidate, Seema has conducted thoughtful, important research on the effects of environmental factors on engagement in later life. Seema has had the opportunity to share her knowledge with other faculty, students and researchers throughout the country and has represented herself and the School of Social Work with professionalism and character. Her colleagues have lauded her talent in teaching, technology, building relationships and managing pressure. In addition to her studies and research, Seema served as the PhD student representative on the School of Social Work Alumni Organization Board of Directors.

2009 Outstanding Faculty: ManSoo Yu, PhD, MSW, MA
ManSoo Yu recently joined the School of Social Work faculty and has quickly made a lasting impression on his students. Yu earned his PhD and a certificate in Women and Gender Studies from Washington University and then became an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska. In 2008, he joined our faculty at the University of Missouri as an assistant professor in both the School of Social Work and the Public Health Program. He has taught research methodology to graduate and doctoral students, along with classes on equality and disparities in health and principles of epidemiology. Yu’s students recognize his many professional and academic achievements, but his abilities to teach and advise are among the most notable. Through his class instruction and discussion, Dr. Yu has given his students the confidence to further develop their own research and the
motivation to continue the pursuit of higher education.

2009 Outstanding Social Service Agency:
Family Guidance Center for Behavioral Healthcare,
St. Joseph, Mo.; President & CEO Garry Hammond
accepting the award on behalf of the agency

Family Guidance Center is a not-for-profit organization that provides the community with services in the areas of crisis intervention, adult mental health, children and youth, family planning, and chemical dependency. The center serves a large portion of rural northwest Missouri and is the only agency in the area to provide many of these crucial services. The mission of the Family Guidance Center is to help individuals and families lead healthier, more productive lives. The Family Guidance Center is committed to enhancing the education of social workers by providing practicum settings for students.

The center provides opportunities for students to work with skilled professionals, who model how to use social work skills and values to obtain social and economic justice for their clients. The Family Guidance Center also promotes the profession by employing numerous trained social workers. To encourage continued education and training, the agency has implemented a tuition reimbursement program for employees pursuing a master’s degree in social work. For 27 years, Family Guidance Center has provided vital social services for communities in northwest Missouri and continues to promote the profession through the education and employment of social workers.

2009 Outstanding Alumni:
Malinda Lamb, PhD ’05, LISW, CCJP

Malinda Lamb earned her BSW, MSW and PhD from the University of Missouri School of Social Work. She was the first graduate of the doctoral program in 2005. Since then, she has served as the jail alternatives and mobile crisis coordinator and as a member of the Crisis Negotiation Team in Iowa City, Iowa. She is now the clinical services manager for the 6th Judicial District Department of Correctional Services in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She is actively involved in the development, implementation and administration of treatment programming within the district. Since assuming her role, several new programs have been developed and implemented specifically for clients with mental health and substance abuse disorders. She is a Licensed Independent Social Worker, Certified Criminal Justice Professional, and a Certified Co-Occurring Disorders Professional. In addition to her professional work, Dr. Lamb has contributed to the social work knowledge base by presenting her research findings at local, national and international conferences and gatherings. She has been honored with several professional awards, including the Innovation Award from the Iowa State Association of Counties and the Forty Under 40 Award from the Corridor Business Journal. Above and beyond her career and activities, Lamb is described as a good colleague and good friend who is consistent in her dedication to the social work profession.

(Photos by Diane Davis)

Alumni involvement continues at Mizzou

Several SSW alumni were part of an end-of-life issues panel for students in the Introduction to Community and Organization Processes class on campus March 31. Pictured from the left are Sally Silvers, Columbia resident and social work client; Paula Richards, MSW ’82, LCSW; Denise Swenson, PhD ’09, MSW ’01, LCSW; and Laura Neal, BSW ’97, MSW/MPH. Silvers lost her husband of 32 years in 2008. (See related story on page 9.) Richards is a cancer survivor, as well as a bereavement counselor. (See related story on page 8.) The most important part of her work is remembering that there are no rules in grief; everyone’s situation is very individualized, and there are no typical timelines for working through the stages of grief. Swenson’s work in hospice care involves emphasizing quality of life, not quantity of life; hospice workers frequently go to the patient’s home. She said that emotional and spiritual pain often create more disruption than physical pain. She also said that hospice care is 100% covered by Medicare/Medicaid. Neal, who works at the Ellis Fischel Cancer Hospital, explained that palliative treatment involves providing comfort measures only (for terminal patients) and that they emphasize PIE (person in environment). She said that our health care system is usually so focused on the cure that workers often forget that ultimately, we all die, and that “finding the new normal” is the critical part of palliative care.

(Photos by Diane Davis)
This summer, 11 graduate students traveled to Cape Town, South Africa, to participate in a two-week study-abroad program in collaboration with the School of Social Work at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). The trip was led by Dr. Marjorie Sable, director of MU School of Social Work, and Dr. Lois Pierce, director of the UM-St. Louis School of Social Work. Both have extensive experience in conducting research, teaching and working with colleagues at the University of the Western Cape. Dr. Marcel Londt, UWC School of Social Work faculty member, coordinated the visit from the South African side.

Six of the students were from Mizzou (five from the MSW program and one from the MPH program). The other five students were MSW students from Washington University in St. Louis (2), Virginia Commonwealth University (2), and University of California at Berkeley (1).

Students spent the first week visiting social services agencies, a township school, a youth prison program at Pollsmoor Prison and historical sites (e.g., Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela and other political activists were imprisoned by the Apartheid government). The group also spent a day in Wellington at Hugenot College, where Dr. Cudore Snell, Dean of the Howard University School of Social Work and native of Wellington, and his colleagues spoke about an NIH-funded research study on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) in the Western Cape. FAS is a problem in the wine-country area because of a former practice known as the “dop” system, where farmworkers were paid, in part, with alcohol—which has led to high rates of alcoholism and FAS. The weekend between our site visits and classroom study was spent touring the area. Seven of the students climbed up (and down) Table Mountain, and the group spent a day visiting the Cape Point and Cape of Good Hope area. Despite being winter in the southern hemisphere, the weather was unseasonably warm and sunny!

The second week was spent taking classes at the UWC School of Social Work. UWC students were enrolled in a one-week intensive class and chose three of the following modules: South African Families and Households, Child Protection, Poverty and Children’s Rights.

The U.S. students also participated in the class lectures and assignments, but they all agreed that the best part about the week was interacting with South African Social Work students and finding out how much they have in common. During tea-

ABOVE: Study abroad students at the District Six Museum with tour guide, Noor. RIGHT: Face-painting participants at the Africa Cafe included Mizzou students Lauren Grana, Alicia Firman, Faith Wemhoff, Sarah Longlett and Tina Rowe. (Photos by Margie Sable)
time (10 a.m. daily), many of the students and Social Work faculty shared stories that reflected the discrimination that they (or their parents) faced growing up.

The University of the Western Cape was established during Apartheid as a “colored” (e.g., mixed race) institution of higher learning. It was one of the centers of political activity against the Apartheid government. In 1986, the University of Missouri established a formal partnership with the University of the Western Cape for faculty exchanges, and, more recently, student exchanges. This summer’s study abroad is an outgrowth of that partnership.

The trip was deemed a great success, and Sable and Pierce are hoping to lead future study abroad trips to UWC.

“I went on this trip not knowing what to expect and not really knowing the people I was traveling with, but I left with great memories and many new friends (in the U.S. and South Africa)! In just three short weeks and 60+ hours of traveling, it is amazing how much you can learn about your travel mates and the memories that you can create! I honestly do not think I have ever laughed so much in my life…. I highly recommend traveling abroad and experiencing another culture first hand—just remember to go with the flow and take it one day at a time!”

—Alicia Firman, MSW student


Welcome, new faculty members

Dale Fitch, PhD
Returning to Columbia is Dr. Dale Fitch, who will join the SSW faculty as an assistant professor. Fitch was an adjunct professor and field instructor for the SSW, 1992-1998, and was also associate director of the Child Protection Program at the University of Missouri Hospital & Clinics, 1991-98. He earned his Social Work PhD (2001) and MSSW (1984) at the University of Texas at Arlington. Since 2001, Fitch has been at the University of Michigan’s School of Social Work as an assistant professor. He is on several journal editorial boards and is widely published.

Fitch has been the primary investigator (PI) for seven research projects since 2003. His funded research projects include studies in Head Start, abusive head trauma, portfolio approaches, ePortfolios and XML, genetic beliefs, virtual workforce database management and court improvement.

Clark Peters, JD, PhD
Before receiving his PhD from the University of Chicago, Peters was a teaching fellow at the University of Chicago, coordinating a year-long workshop addressing issues of social work teaching and professional development.

Several of his grant awards were for legal issues, such as juvenile and civil rights legal advocacy. He earned his JD degree from Cornell Law School in 1992 and was co-founder and articles editor of the Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy.

He was a researcher at the Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago for a number of years, conducting policy research in juvenile justice, child welfare, community development and child maltreatment.

Peters’ professional affiliations include membership in the National Association of Social Workers since 2002 and Law and Society since 2007.

New Title IV-E clinical instructors

Kirsten Havig, MSW, PhD-c
A familiar face on campus, Havig is a PhD candidate and has experience at MU as an adjunct instructor, teaching assistant and field instructor. She has completed several graduate research assistantships with MU faculty members since 2006.

Havig has also worked as a social worker at Boone Hospital Center and Jefferson Junior High School; she was clinical coordinator at Rainbow House Child Advocacy Center, 2004-06, as well as a clinical social worker for Missouri Girls Town.

Candace Iveson, MSW
Since earning an MSW from Washington University, Iveson has been a consultant for Policy Works in Columbia since 2005, focusing on public policies and nonprofits. She has also been a field instructor for the SSW. Before 2005, she was the director of strategic initiatives for Citizens for Missouri’s Children; as senior policy analyst, she wrote the annual Kids Count for six years. In 1995-1997, Iveson worked as the client services director at Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. She has published articles and reports.

New grant funding

Kim Anderson
A grant proposal to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHHS), written by Kim Anderson, David Schramm (Human Development and Family Studies) and Kim Allen (HDFS), was recently funded. The group will be developing a training curriculum for Child Welfare. Congratulations!

Faculty member achieves tenure

Dong Pil Yoon
Dong Pil Yoon has been promoted to associate professor with tenure. He originally joined the SSW faculty in August 2003. Yoon’s research interests include religiousness/spirituality, human diversity, gerontology, rural social work, and welfare reform. His teaching interests center around policy analysis, evaluative research methods and advanced quantitative research methods.

Retiring faculty

Larry Kreuger, PhD
After 26 years of teaching here, Dr. Larry Kreuger has retired from MU. Instead of taking it easy, during summer 2009 he made his second trip to Ethiopia, where he taught research in the newly established doctoral program in the Addis Ababa University. After that, Kreuger became the director of the Department of Social Work at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville.
The School of Social Work held its second annual poverty simulation on Sept. 1, 2009. Students from both the BSW and MSW programs were required to attend as part of the collaborative seminar integrating social work curriculum.

The collaborative seminar is designed to help students understand the triangulation between social work research, policy and practice. Through the poverty simulation, students are assigned a family role and then experience a typical week in the life of a family living in a low-income situation.

Utilizing a community partnership with Central Missouri Community Action, the poverty simulation provides examples of real families living in central Missouri whom students then personify through navigating government programs, employment, food resources, education, transportation and the susceptibility to utilizing high-interest cash advance programs in order to survive the week.

Student responses were varied, but all agree the experience is enlightening. “The simulation made me realize how people can get to the point where they have no other resources other than people as poor as themselves,” stated Caitlyn Lisk. Senior Keisha Williams agreed, adding that “even with help from the government, low-income people live in an unprogressive cycle.”

Some students found the experience frustrating trying to survive the week; others found it stressful. Ally Norman commented, “I never realized how much your mentality and thinking process changes when you are living on so little and focused on what will happen to your family if you can’t pay your bills.”

Student learning was enhanced by resource volunteers who took time to attend the simulation to show students the reality of poverty. Resource volunteers are recruited through Central Missouri Community Action and are people who are or have been impoverished. Students appreciated hearing their situations and found they were able to relate and empathize more due to the simulation.

The School is planning to continue offering the simulation every fall as the collaborative seminar, allowing both MSW and BSW students an opportunity to gain knowledge in a non-classroom setting.
MSWs: Making a difference at Mizzou, even after graduation

A number of MSW graduates and current MSW students contribute in a special way to the Mizzou community by working on campus, and a large percentage of those interviewed work in Residential Life.

MSW student Barbara “Barbie” Banks is entering her fifth year as the Residence Hall Coordinator for Lathrop Hall. “I am concentrating on PP&A in the MSW program. I have served as the student representative for the MSW program board for two years. I do not have my exact professional career narrowed down yet, but I am interested in the politics around reproduction and fertility and working at the local government level to create change.”

Ryan Black, MSW ’09, is now coordinator of the LGBTQ Resource Center in the Memorial Union. “My studies within the PP&A concentration were essential in my smooth transition from graduate assistant to coordinator. I’ve been able to tackle the majority of my new responsibilities from a confident and knowledgeable perspective” because of my Social Work preparation.

Tiffany Bowman, MSW ’07, works as a coordinator at the Wellness Resource Center in Student Life. Since tobacco policy is part of her job, “my graduate studies in planning, policy, and administration definitely dovetail nicely with the work I am doing now. My work is focused on creating safer places of employment for employees who are working while exposed to second-hand smoke. So there is very much a social justice component.” Tiffany also gives back to MU by serving on the SSW Alumni Board.

James Hunter, MSW ’90, is director of the MU Employee Assistance Program. He also serves as a graduate field instructor and teaches policy, planning and administration courses in the School of Social Work. James has additional graduate education in industrial/organizational psychology completed in 2004 from Kansas State University.

According to James, “Graduate education in social work has been a key ingredient for success in my role as EAP director. The knowledge, skills and abilities derived from the MU Social Work program has served to enhance my effectiveness as an administrator and clinician.”

Danielle Neuman, MSW ’09, works in Residential Life as a residence hall coordinator. She uses her clinical education frequently as she works with students to help them transition to the college environment, resolve conflicts with one another, understand the consequences of their choices, and locate resources and supports for personal and mental health issues. “I use the skills gained in the classroom every day. Applying what I’ve learned in Social Work classes to my full-time position here at the University also really prepared me for my practicum experiences.”

Danica Pape, BSW ’09, was the undergraduate hall coordinator in Stafford Hall for Residential Life from 2008-09. She is currently in the MSW Policy, Planning and Administration (PP&A) program and works as a co-coordinator in the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center.

Nathan Stephens, MSW ’05, is the director/senior coordinator of the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center (GOBCC), which is part of the Department of Student Life. He says, “The PP&A program prepared me to examine budgets, evaluate programs, develop and design programmatic features and research educational policies that would impact the GOBCC.”
Congratulations, 2009 Graduates!

The MU School of Social Work awarded 10 PhD degrees in 2009. Read on for a little news about each graduate, as well as information about MSW and BSW graduates.

**Un-Jun Bang**
Bang’s dissertation topic was titled, “The Effects of Gender, Academic Concerns and Social Support on Stress among International Students.” Bang has accepted a position as assistant professor of social work at Northeastern State University in Oklahoma, which has the largest BSW program in the state. He began work there in August 2009.

**Kalea Benner, PhD ’09**
Benner presented “Legalized Orphans: Parental Relinquishment to Child Welfare” as her dissertation. Benner has been a clinical instructor at the School of Social Work since June 2001 and became the BSW program director in January 2009.

**Shreya Bhandari, PhD ’09**
Bhandari successfully defended her dissertation entitled “Coping Among Pregnant, Rural, Low-income Women Facing Intimate Partner Violence” in March 2009. Her qualitative study of 20 rural Missouri women was done in concert with a large national study funded by the National Institute of Health (National Institute of Nursing Research, R01NR009093-01A2). See page 5 of this issue for her wedding photo and latest employment news.

**Geraldine Dickey, PhD ’09**
Dickey successfully defended her dissertation, “Perspectives of Certified Nurse Assistants on Sexual Orientation.” She accepted a faculty position with Western Missouri State University in St. Joseph as assistant professor in the Social Work Department.

**Dean Marth**
Marth’s dissertation was titled, “Differences in Staff Assaults by Responses to Residents in a Forensic Hospital.” He continues to work at Fulton State Hospital.

**Seema Sehrawat, PhD ’09**
Sehrawat was selected as the Outstanding PhD Student by the Social Work Alumni Association. She began work as an assistant professor of social work at California State University–Chico.

**Denise Swenson, PhD ’09, MSW ’01, LCSW**
Swenson’s dissertation topic was “Designated Hospice Rooms in Nursing Homes: A New Model of End-of-Life Care.” She has lobbied and testified in the Missouri House and Senate in support of HR 182, “Outside the Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Act,” which became law on 9/1/09. Her future plans include establishing a freestanding hospice house in the Columbia community.

**Karla T. Washington, PhD ’09**
Washington received MU’s Superior Graduate Achievement Award, which recognizes one outstanding graduate student from each department. Awardees are selected from among their peers based on teaching, research, service, advising, activism, community service, mentoring, departmental contributions or any other dimension of graduate student work. Her dissertation was titled, “Psychosocial Influences on Total Pain Management by Informal Hospice Caregivers.”

Washington has accepted a position at the University of Louisville as an assistant professor beginning Aug. 1, 2009. She will be working in the Kent School of Social Work.

**Elizabeth Wilson, PhD ’09**
Karen “Kari” Wilson-Cave, PhD ‘09, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation titled, “A Survey of Employee Engagement.” Kari developed her own survey instrument and measurement scale, pilot tested it and ran another survey using her revised scale on a sample of 308 employees of a public rehab agency.

After graduation, she continues to work as a district supervisor for Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation.

**MSW Graduates**

Tresa Allen
Lydia Allison
Jennifer Atterberry
Cara Bailey
Ryan Black
Dennis Blust
Erin Broocke
Angela Carter
Megan Cline
Laura Eastin
Terry Edwards
Courtney Engel
Karen Enyard
Julie Evans
Julie Feeney
Craig Felton
Robia Fields
Laura Frick
Lauren Gage
Claycie Gerlt
Dianna Green
Anna Harrison
Arica Henderson
Jessica Holdinghaus
Heather Horne
Kristen Jeffries
Stephanie Jones
Hannah Klingner
Beth Kullman
Caitlin Kutenkuler
Kristina Lundry
Kaisey Martin
Tiffany Martin
Shannon McAllister
Amanda McLeod
Jessica McDaniel
Emily Montgomery

Joyous MSW graduates at spring 2009 graduation are, from left, Erin Mooney, Elizabeth “Abby” Shaw, Ryan Black, Hannah Klingner, Laura Frick, and Katherine Rudstrom. (Photo by Angela Curl)

**BSW Graduates**

Nicole M. Avery
Kelsey Marie Brown
Rachel Elaine Burmaster*
Katherine Ann Cooper
Anne Colleen Cotter
Robin E. Dieken
Andrew Grant Ellis
Ashlee Dana Henry*
Megan Marie Jones
Catherine Marie Koch**
Nia Sherika Manning*
Lauren Elyse Manson
Melissa Louise Martin*
Kimberly Mae Miller**
Lauren Therese Nacke*
Danica S. Pape*
Andrea Buchtel Parfet
Stephanie Nicole Pate*
Megan Renee Pfeil
Heather Saenz-Smith
Kristen R. Saunders
Kassandra Nicole Sitzes
Mark Edward Stover
Krista Michelle Talken
Sarah Elizabeth Stover
Jessica Marie Wakeford

Associate Professor Kim Anderson and Dianna Green (MSW ’09). (Photo by Carol Snively)
On April 14, 2009, six students in the MSW Policy, Planning and Administration concentration spent the day in Jefferson City with their instructor, Dr. Angela Curl. They met a number of state employees, including Margaret Donnelly (director of the Department of Health and Senior Services) and Nancie McAnaugh (deputy department director of DHSS). While at the Capitol, they heard how bills become laws, discovered social work employment opportunities in state government, observed a Senate debate, and learned about Missouri's disaster preparedness. They also toured the Capitol building, governor's mansion, and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

Cortney Banks, BSW ’08 and current MSW student, started her social work career even before she graduated. During her senior year, she started a nonprofit organization called Agency Exchange so that organizations would have an easier way to communicate and exchange information with one another, maximizing the effectiveness of current nonprofits through support and partnerships.

At www.AgencyExchange.org, agencies can post news stories, activities and volunteer opportunities. The site also features a directory page, which lists nonprofits in the Columbia area, a brief description of what the organization does, contact information, website address and a map of its location.

Agency Exchange (AE) also has its own blog with helpful information on topics such as fundraising and grant writing. Most recently, the nonprofit is sponsoring its own events, such as the upcoming Women to Work event, which helps women entering into the workforce.

The idea for Agency Exchange blossomed from work experience at the Columbia Housing Authority. “I was doing my Social Work practicum and had to keep looking up numbers and agencies in a huge paperback resource book. Many of the organizations no longer existed or their information was out of date. I saw the need for an online place where all nonprofit information could be found, as well as updated easily. Once I knew the direction I wanted to go in, I worked with Clearpage Interactive to design our site.”

The primary web developer for the site is Jeremiah Fish, ’06, a Mizzou alum with information technology and engineering degrees. Banks said, “Jeremiah also came up with the name and designed our logo.” To connect with nonprofits and get the word out about AE, Banks uses a multifaceted approach. “We sent out a mass e-mail to a bunch of listservs, and they’ve been great about forwarding to others they know, and our Board of Directors has been helpful in getting the word out, as well.”

Regarding achieving nonprofit status, Banks said, “It was difficult at the beginning to figure out what was needed, but there are a lot of great resources online, as well as books. We’re certified through the state as a nonprofit organization.”

“I’m hoping that once the Agency Exchange site is up, people will be able to use it as a community resource. I feel lucky to have great friends and family and support and help from the community,” Banks said. “I’m really excited about where this could go, but it all depends on user participation. The site can increase the communication that nonprofits have so they can better serve their clients and populations.”
MSW students, their field instructors, family and friends enjoyed perfect weather at the MSW Graduation and Field Instructor (FI) reception on May 14, 2009. **Top left:** James Hunter, FI; Margie Sable, director of the School of Social Work; and Carol Snively, MSW program director. **Middle row, left:** M.C. and director of field education, Suzanne Cary. **Middle row, center:** FI Reneé Knipfel and Alicia Firman. **Middle row, right:** 2009 MSW Field Instructor of the Year Award nominees included, from left, Nancie McAnaugh, Department of Health and Senior Services; Carmen Vroman and Lori Spry, Harry S Truman Memorial Veteran’s Hospital; Kathy Payne, University Hospital; and Julie Nance, Children’s Division. Also nominated and not pictured are Angie Azzanni, Shannon Einspahr, Candace Hawkes and Mary Kay Kreider. **Bottom row, left:** FI Vicky Riback Wilson, Erin Mooney, FI Pam Pearn. Erin completed two 20-hour/week internships this semester. **Bottom row, right:** Alumni Association President Brenda Sites led the Alumni Association representation and prize giveaway. (Photos by Diane Davis and Carol Snively)
The Social Justice Society recognizes those alumni and friends who have made a substantial commitment of philanthropy in support of the school.

Catherine A. Allen
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In Memoriam:
James G. Huesgen
Ena L. Killingsworth
Jean Alice Thomsen

Thank you, supporters of the School of Social Work!

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Keep in Touch
Help us and your former classmates keep track of where you are and what you’ve been up to since graduation. Send us updates on yourself, your work, your family and your honors. Send your Class Notes via e-mail to ssw@missouri.edu or postal service to Editor, Social Work Notes, 114 Gwynn Hall, Columbia, MO 65211-7700.

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Name (including maiden):______________________________________________________
Address:______________________________________________________________
Business address:_________________________________________________________
Phone:________________________Preferred e-mail:__________________________
Notes (please include personal or professional activities and achievements):
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As you’ll read in the pages of Social Work Notes, the School of Social Work Alumni Organization (SSWAO) was proud to recognize the outstanding achievements of our award recipients at the 2009 Spring Forum. If you know a student, faculty, alumni or agency who makes an important and outstanding contribution to the profession of social work, please consider submitting a nomination for an alumni award. Nominations not only pay tribute to the specific contributions of the individual, but also bring validation and recognition to the profession. Submission deadline for the 2010 award program is Dec. 1, 2009. Download forms from the school’s website at http://ssw.missouri.edu/awards.shtml.

In addition to the distinguished awardees, the Board of Directors would also like to acknowledge the entire SSWAO membership who contributed to another record-setting year for the organization. More new members joined the SSWAO during the 2008-2009 activity year than any other previous year. This trumps the record we just set last year! The Mizzou Alumni Association (MAA) honored our membership-building efforts with a prize of $250. The SSWAO board determined the best investment of those funds would be to award them to a social work student member of MAA. The SSWAO will draw the name of one lucky student to receive the $250 award on Friday, Sept. 25.

If you would like to join us in our efforts to honor, encourage and connect with alumni and students, please consider a membership in the SSWAO. A membership application is provided on the back cover, or you can join online at www.Mizzou.com/joinsocialworkalumni. This exclusive link not only ensures that a portion of your dues goes to the SSWAO, but you’ll also be included on our list of contacts for future events and outreach. For one price, you will be a member of the Mizzou Alumni Association, the SSWAO and your local chapter. Membership also provides you with special discounts, school updates and notices, the annual wall calendar and connection with 40,000 other Mizzou grads.

If you have any questions about the SSWAO or how you can be involved, please contact Deborah Simmons, SSW executive staff assistant, at 573-882-4447 or simmonsd@missouri.edu.

With pride and gratitude,

Brenda Sites, MSW ‘98
SSWAO President
Civil Rights History, Blues & BBQ Trip to Memphis, March 2010

The School of Social Work is looking into organizing a trip to Memphis for alumni and friends in celebration of Social Work Month. The tour would include visits to the National Civil Right Museum, Slavehaven, Sun Studio, Smithsonian’s Memphis Rock ‘n’ Soul Museum, Soulsville USA (STAX Records) and Graceland, with additional opportunity to visit Bountiful Blessings Temple of Deliverance and other interesting sites. If you would like more information about this trip, please e-mail Dianne Orton at orton@missouri.edu.

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.

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Student number: ___________________________ Degree(s) and years(s) received: ___________________________

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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.