From Service to Empowerment:
Community Organizing
Past, Present and Future

As UC Berkeley celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Free Speech Movement, the campus’ most famous act of student activism, Berkeley Social Welfare reflects on the history of community organizing and social action.
This fall the campus is celebrating our history with multiple events tied to the 50th anniversary of the Free Speech Movement (FSM). While the FSM only lasted one semester, many students are drawn to Berkeley because of our history of social change. The Berkeley campus and surrounding communities were fertile ground for social movements long before the FSM and have continued to be at the center of global innovation and social change. While the FSM was a protest against the University administration, we now celebrate it as a constructive part of our social development.

I am entering my third year as dean, and we also have a lot to celebrate in the School of Social Welfare. Most visible is the new generation of scholars and practitioners who have joined us as senate faculty or field consultant colleagues in recent years. We introduce you to two of our newest faculty in the pages of this magazine. This issue also features our newly renovated library. This historic John Galen Howard-designed space is one of the most beautiful reading rooms on campus. It is now refreshed with new seating (no more squeaky chairs), audio-visual and back-office space. The newly renamed Haviland Social Research Library will greatly expand our book collection to include volumes on education, psychology and public policy as well as have an increase in the resident library staff and hours of operation. Another innovation is the replacement of our computer lab with six new library workstations and 20 fully loaded laptops that students are able to borrow.

Our new faculty, staff and facilities are supporting major changes in our curricula. We are upgrading training for our doctoral students in the latest research methods, new faculty are available as mentors, many new graduate student researcher (GSR) positions are available, and we are working to leverage the knowledge of our colleagues from throughout the University and at the University of California, San Francisco to support doctoral studies.

We are also implementing major changes to our MSW curriculum this fall with a completely revised skill-building start for new students, a focus on multi-level practice and leadership skills, much greater coordination among courses and greater flexibility in course requirements. This last point is important because successful social work practice now requires working across professional boundaries. With greater flexibility we hope our MSW students will be able to design more “crosswalks” in their coursework that draw on courses in other concentrations and from other professional schools.

We can’t forget our undergraduates! I am a proud graduate of our Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare program, which USA Today recently ranked as the country’s top bachelors program in social work. To improve it further, we are instituting an admission process for the first time, we’ve moved more senate faculty into teaching undergraduate courses, we are offering more electives, we’ve strengthened our new student orientation and senior honors programs and added annual awards. An exciting development is our participation in the new Berkeley Connect program starting next fall, made possible through a generous gift from the Hutto-Patterson Charitable Foundation. A Berkeley Connect Fellow doctoral student will mentor groups of undergraduates on navigating the larger University and enriching their coursework with fieldtrips and interaction with social workers in the field. We will be one of only 10 units on campus to offer Berkeley Connect to our students.

All of this is just a start. In the years to come we will have a laser focus on supporting the most important social welfare scholarship among our faculty and students, providing the best social work education available and building the human assets and physical infrastructure to do so. Stay tuned!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Edleson, PhD
Dean and Professor
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HONOR ROLL OF DONORS
Assistant Professor

Joining the Berkeley Social Welfare faculty this fall as assistant professor is Anu Manchikanti Gómez, a population scientist whose scholarship examines reproductive and sexual health, HIV prevention, gender norms and violence against women. In addition to expanding the School of Social Welfare’s health focus, she brings a reproductive justice lens from her work in both international and domestic settings to Haviland Hall.

Dr. Gómez shared details about her background, professional experiences and research as well as her goals for the new academic year.

What do you look most forward to in coming to Berkeley?
I couldn’t be more thrilled to be joining the faculty at the School of Social Welfare and to have the opportunity to be a scholar and a teacher at a world-class institution. I am really looking forward to expanding my program of research in the Bay Area as well as working with an engaged and thoughtful student body.

What interested you about the assistant professor position?
I have been working in the field of public health since 2001, and it’s always been my hope to be a faculty member at a university where I could balance meaningful research, teaching and mentoring. I was also really attracted to the opportunity to have a health focus in a social welfare setting, given the field’s commitment to social justice and interdisciplinary nature. I’ve spent the past four years developing a program of research centered in the Bay Area, and I’m very grateful to be able to continue this at the School.

Please share a little about your personal and educational background.
I grew up in a small city in Western Kentucky. My parents emigrated from India in the ’70s and were willing to go anywhere to fulfill the proverbial American dream. They were the first of their families to immigrate, so we spent a considerable amount of time visiting India. Bearing witness to abject poverty and gender inequality at such a young age inspired me to want to pursue a career that would allow me to make social change.

At age 18, I moved to New York City to pursue a degree in newspaper journalism. Though I had fascinating experiences working at newspapers across the country, I ultimately felt really disillusioned by the ideal of journalistic objectivity and the lack of critical analysis of social issues. During my journalism career, I spent a summer working as a public health reporter at the San Jose Mercury News. That experience sparked my interest in pursuing a career as a researcher, and I went on to graduate school at the London School of Economics and ultimately earned my PhD in maternal and child health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

What are some of your top priorities for your first year at UC Berkeley?
I’ll be teaching several new-to-me MSW courses. I am excited to incorporate social justice content into the introductory course this fall and teach human sexuality in the spring. In terms of research, I will be launching a three-year study focused on young Latino couples and unintended pregnancy. I am also planning to do a study with contraceptive healthcare providers to explore their attitudes about race/ethnicity, class and reproductive autonomy. I am looking forward to collaborating with students on a number of papers using qualitative data about young women of color’s contraceptive decision-making processes.
In her new role as assistant professor in the School of Social Welfare, native Chicagoan Tina Sacks brings her in-depth research and thinking around issues of racial disparities in health and the social determinants of health, poverty and inequality to the Berkeley Social Welfare community.

Dr. Sacks discussed her professional experiences in social work and public health settings, the trajectory of her scholarly focus on the social environment and health, her first-year priorities at UC Berkeley as well as her strong competitive streak.

What do you look most forward to in coming to Berkeley?
I’m looking forward to being part of the intellectual community and having the opportunity to thrive with the high-caliber colleagues whom I am joining. The position is also a great opportunity to see a different part of the country, to learn something new and to meet new people.

What are some of your top priorities for your first year at UC Berkeley?
My main priority will be to get to know my colleagues and students. Learning more about the students’ needs is very important, particularly how my experience and work as a qualitative researcher can help them. In my line of thinking, I see social structure as incredibly important in determining most life outcomes, and I feel very strongly about bringing that lens to my interactions with students and cultivating their interest in that perspective. I also plan to resume my research and start thinking about how my areas of interest are the same and/or different in the Bay Area as compared to the Midwest.

Please share a little about your professional and personal background.
I’ve always been very interested in healthcare and public health. One of my earliest positions was as a social worker in a group home for young girls who were pregnant or parenting. In that setting, I saw several social determinants – girls who were wards of the state, who had very difficult childhood circumstances and who were embarking on parenthood very early on in life. They also had many mental health and social needs that turned out to have enormous implications for their pregnancies and their future children. That really was the earliest crystallization of my thinking about how social and structural arrangements affect health. I also worked at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for many years and had the opportunity to see how social determinants play out in terms of public health outcomes.

In terms of my outside interests, tennis is a very big part of my life. I received a full athletic scholarship to attend college and was a Division I tennis player. I am also the third generation in my family to compete at a high level. I absolutely make time to still play. I really enjoy the exercise, the competition and the challenge. To me, tennis is a metaphor for life – you’re out there alone, you have to figure things out yourself and there is no time clock. You gotta win.
Rodger Lum
Executive Director, CalSWEC

Rodger Lum, PhD, who has been serving as the interim executive director of the statewide social work consortium CalSWEC since January, was recently confirmed as executive director. Dr. Lum’s extensive experience includes more than seven years of service as director of Bay Area Academy as well as 16 years in county government. Among his priorities these past several months have been launching and overseeing the process for CalSWEC’s five-year strategic plan as well as the development of a sustainable resource function within the agency and its academic and county partners.

“One of the most rewarding aspects of my job has been to get to know the staff better at CalSWEC and our partners at the universities and counties,” Dr. Lum noted. “We have some of the brightest and most creative minds in social services and social welfare among our staff, universities and counties. I am excited about bringing these minds together to develop a long-range strategic plan for workforce development and research to tackle complex problems facing individuals, families and communities.”

Sandhya Rao Hermón
Director of Research and Evaluation, CalSWEC

As CalSWEC’s director of research and evaluation, Sandhya Rao Hermón, PhD, works with the organization’s university, county and Regional Training Academy (RTA) partners to evaluate the effectiveness of the Title IV-E stipend program and California’s core training for newly hired social workers. Prior to joining CalSWEC, Dr. Rao Hermón’s professional experiences included an examination of the effectiveness of learning and development initiatives for a corporate university as well as the evaluation of substance abuse treatment, with a particular focus on the role of psychosocial functioning in predicting treatment outcomes.

David Fullmer
Director of Information Technology

David Fullmer brings two decades of experience in the field of information system management to his role as Berkeley Social Welfare’s new IT director. Prior to joining the School, he served as IT manager with Centered Networks in support of the Asia Foundation’s San Francisco office as well as a site manager in Sierra Leone, where he deployed internet via satellite for the mining industry and local community. Fullmer’s current position marks his professional return to UC Berkeley, having previously spent 15 years as the manager of information systems for the Associated Students.
Dean Jeffrey Edleson often lightheartedly remarks on the incredibly squeaky chairs that have been a mainstay at Haviland Hall’s Social Welfare Library for decades. “They are probably the same exact chairs that were here when I was an undergraduate in the ’70s,” he says.

Starting this fall, those well-worn seats finally will be put to rest. As part of a campuswide overhaul of the campus’ library system, the refreshed and renamed Social Research Library will eventually represent a combination of Tolman Hall’s Education Psychology Library, which is currently open but will be closed when Tolman is decommissioned in 2017, and the Social Welfare Library. The new space will offer students and the community not only new furniture, but access to updated technologies and books, with a contemporary collection of mid- to high-use volumes focused on applied social research in the fields of education, psychology, social work and public policy.

According to Head Librarian Susan Edwards, among the perks now available in the new space are 20 lending laptops outfitted with full productivity suites – and will soon include statistical software (STATA and SPSS) – that can be checked out by students for one-day use, free scanning and – because of the concentration of staff in one library instead of two – more opportunities for research assistance through individual appointments. In addition, Edwards is aiming to increase the number of faculty talks and research trainings in the library.

Physical improvements large and small are also evident in the refurbished space. An adjacent seminar room is now connected to the main library by glass doors. The seminar room is soundproofed and outfitted with configurable tables, which lends the area easily to group study and instruction. Students and visitors also will be able to find more electrical outlets for their laptops, and the new chairs are both comfortable and quiet – much to Dean Edleson’s delight.
DEVELOPMENTS
IN RESEARCH

Risk-Resilience Research Lab
Jennifer Skeem

Professor Jennifer Skeem is the principal investigator of the Risk-Resilience Research (RRR) Lab, the latest research enterprise to become a part of Berkeley Social Welfare. Dr. Skeem and her team – comprised of staff, graduate students and undergraduates – focus on understanding why some people with emotional problems become involved in self-harm, violence and/or criminal behavior.

“Our studies typically involve fieldwork – in detention/jail/prison, probation/parole offices, hospitals and neighborhoods – and lab work with longitudinal data collected in the field,” explains Dr. Skeem. “To develop more effective prevention and treatment strategies for people at high risk for repeated involvement in the justice system, we must first understand how individual and environmental factors interact to increase – and decrease – their risk of harmful behavior. This understanding can also be used to inform effective legal decision-making.”

Active RRR projects currently include Evaluating and Managing High Risk Juvenile Offenders, Improving Outcomes for Probationers with Mental Illness and Self Perceptions of Risk. Among the important questions the lab seeks to address are “How can psychiatric patients who are likely to hurt themselves or others in the near future be efficiently identified?”; “Why are individuals with serious mental illness over-represented in the criminal justice system and what works’ to help them safely re-enter the community?”; “What is psychopathy and how can treatment reduce risk of violence for psychopathic offenders who have disturbed rather than deficient emotions?”; and “How can we prevent high-risk youth from becoming adult offenders?”

Trained as a clinical psychologist, Dr. Skeem notes that she shifted her focus as she came to realize “the power of research for advancing understanding and informing large-scale solutions that improve public health and safety.” As part of her efforts to achieve this end, she and her RRR team, along with collaborators and community partners, are dedicated to generating “methodologically rigorous research that can inform policy and promote positive outcomes for high-risk people.”
Outcomes and Experiences of Children in Family-Based Care Settings

Jill Duerr Berrick

Professor Jill Duerr Berrick recently received two prestigious awards to further support her research and work to improve child welfare policy and practice. Funding from the Zellerbach Family Foundation is supporting the 18-month research project, “Outcomes and Experiences of Children in Family-Based Care Settings,” which began this past summer. The project aims to “shed light on the circumstances of vulnerable children living in kinship and foster family homes in California.” The study focuses on caregiving environments and the financial subsidies that partially shape these settings in conjunction with indicators of child well-being. Project findings will help to inform whether and how the policy contexts that offer caregivers access to financial and service supports act to enhance or impair vulnerable children’s well-being.

Additionally, a grant from the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute (NCCWI) is supporting Dr. Berrick’s work on the Cal-Child Welfare Leadership Training (Cal-CWLT) initiative. Cal-CWLT will fund five MSW and one PhD student per year for five years. Berkeley Social Welfare Director of Field Education Greg Merrill and the School’s field consultants will be closely involved in the project. Four of the initiative’s key goals are to train the student participants in evidence-based, trauma-informed child welfare direct and administrative practice; coach them to develop engaged leadership skills; support them in conducting practice and program-relevant research projects that address agency priorities for systems change; and guide them in research projects by a specially selected research liaison at the University and the public and private agencies.

Understanding Mental Disorder Diagnosis, Prison Involvement and Stigmatization

Leah Jacobs (PhD ’16)

Through her dissertation research, Berkeley Social Welfare doctoral student Leah Jacobs (PhD ’16) is capturing the firsthand accounts and personal narratives of the dually stigmatized individuals with mental disorder diagnoses and histories of repeated incarceration. Starting with what she describes as the “basic level of their stories,” Jacobs’ qualitative study is seeking out the answers to such questions as “What are their life circumstances?”, “What are their pathways to incarceration?”, and “Why do they so frequently go back to jail or prison?”

From Cell Blocks to City Blocks: Experiences of Correctional Involvement Among Individuals with Mental Disorder Diagnosis involves in-depth interviews with 24 individuals, with recruitment and data collection conducted in collaboration with San Francisco’s Citywide Forensic Case Management. Jacobs’ careful undertaking of interview transcriptions and preliminary analyses has been aided through her UC Berkeley SMART Research Mentorship Award, which supports mentoring research opportunities for current undergraduates matched with doctoral candidates. Through the award funding, UC Berkeley sociology major Guadalupe Vargas assisted Jacobs with transcription as well as first-level coding and tabulating demographic data.

Through the remainder of her dissertation, which is being supervised by Professor Eileen Gambrill, Jacobs is looking to delve deeper into the environmental risks that emerge from the narrative histories of her interviewees. She also aims to combine existing administrative and census data sets to examine the contribution of neighborhood disadvantage to risk of recidivism and to begin the complex process of moving from her descriptive work to generating a theory of mental disorder diagnosis and repeat incarceration. Ultimately, she hopes to gain a better understanding of the affected population and developing interventions to help avoid the stigmatization and social exclusion that occurs.
Bringing a Social Justice Lens to Elected Office
Representative and Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums’ (MSW ’62) earliest service efforts concentrated on the mental health and employment needs of vulnerable populations in San Francisco’s Bayview and Hunters Point communities.

For all these elected officials, it was their direct practice in social service and MSW training that guided them into the political arena, and it is the values of the social work profession that continue to inform their decisions.

As Dr. Nancy Humphreys, the founder and director of the Institute for the Advancement of Political Social Work Practice at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, writes in Social Workers and Politics, social work practitioners “know about policy, how to do research, provide services to constituents, build coalitions, bargain and compromise. Most importantly we know how to learn what people need and how to get it for them. We can do all these things because we are trained to assess people, situations, communities and organizations.

“Empowering ourselves by becoming more active in electoral politics and empowering our clients by getting them involved in the political process are in the best tradition of social work and are what political social work practice is all about.”

In her 2011 book Renegade for Peace and Justice, Congresswoman Lee details how her upbringing influenced her to pursue a life in public service. “I saw poverty, lack of jobs and drug abuse in neighborhoods large and small... and I began to understand institutional racism as it was manifest in the ghettos and barrios of Southern California.” Her book recounts how she received public assistance as a young mother as well as her firsthand experiences with the fear and stress of not being able to meet her children’s basic needs of food and shelter.

Lee enrolled in the School of Social Welfare’s MSW program through a HUD fellowship, specializing in community mental health with a focus on clinical social work. Soon after graduating from the program, she took an internship in Dellums’ office, eventually ascending to the position of chief of staff and launching her own distinguished political career.

Lee became a member of the California state assembly and state senate and was elected to the US Congress in 1988 to represent California’s Ninth Precinct, which includes Berkeley and Oakland, and she continues to serve in that role to this day. She has said that throughout it all, her social work education has been at the forefront of the choices she makes and the actions she pursues.

When honored in 2001 by the School of Social Welfare Alumni Association, Lee described her apprehension about accepting Dellums’ invitation to work for him in Washington, DC. “I said, ‘Wait Ron, I want to be a social worker. I want to be the best psychotherapist in the world,’” she stated. “But I always say that what I was taught in training as a clinician and as a psychotherapist is to let your life evolve, understand what’s coming and don’t program yourself too much because otherwise you may miss opportunities... It has been with your help and guidance and with the foundation of this School that I’ve been able to move forward and fight the good fight.”

Dellums also served Oakland, Berkeley and surrounding communities during his time in office, holding the position of US House of Representatives Member for 28 years. He would eventually become the mayor of his native Oakland in 2006. But prior to his lifetime service in political office, he told Berkeley Social Welfare that he decided to pursue his MSW with an emphasis in psychiatry because he “wanted to become the black Sigmund Freud.” While that early dream did not end up as his calling, he says that his professional training has informed his worldview ever since.

“As a social worker, I learned how to be a better member of the human family, period,” Dellums explained. “As a black man, I understood fully that many of the obstacles that individuals face during their lives are social and structural — some especially arduous, such as racism — rather than personal... With my education and training providing a professional overlay to my childhood and adult experiences, I had come to believe that by listening, paying attention and appropriate intervention I could help people to better cope with the various factors that affected their lives.

“I believe, thanks in part to my education, that the extent to which you opt out of the process and become an armchair spectator, you allow your cynicism to deny your need to grapple with necessary change,” added Dellums. “Your engagement, your involvement and your participation, can change things. If there’s anything that this life is trying to tell you, it’s that you can go in, you can fight the good fight, maintain the fidelity of your ideas, be willing to step up to the fight and engage. And you never know — you may just change the world.”

Top left  Berkeley Social Welfare Alumni in Action: Congresswoman Barbara Lee (MSW ’75) and The Honorable Ron Dellums (MSW ’62)
On October 20, in concert with UC Berkeley’s campuswide celebration of the Free Speech Movement’s 50th Anniversary, the School of Social Welfare hosted its own special event that aimed to foster a dialogue about the legacy and evolution of social movement building, with a focus on the specific contexts of community activism in the Bay Area. The event was moderated by Sean Burns, PhD, who serves as the director of student programs at the Blum Center for Developing Economies and lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies. Dr. Burns is also a social movement scholar and author of the award-winning biography Archie Green: The Making of a Working Class Hero.

Serving on the community panel were David Solnit, a San Francisco Bay Area-based arts and direct action organizer who has collaborated with a wide range of communities and movements over the last three decades, East Bay Meditation Center Director Brenda Salgado, who has more than 13 years of experience in nonprofit leadership and management, facilitation, strategy and consulting, and East Point Peace Academy Founder Kazu Haga, a Kingian non-violence trainer who works with young people and community leaders throughout the Bay Area and beyond.
On October 6, Berkeley Social Welfare hosted a panel discussion organized by Assistant Professor Anu Gómez about the momentum around restorative justice as a means for creating healthier schools and social equity as well as the conditions necessary to scale-up and sustain restorative justice programs.

Panelists at the event included Arnoldo Garcia, the restorative justice coordinator for United for Success Academy, a public school in Oakland’s Fruitvale District; CamishaFatimah Gentry, who serves as the Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY) school coordinator at West Oakland Middle School and is responsible for implementing restorative processes at the school site; and Rekia Jibrin, a doctoral student in the Graduate School of Education. Her work specifically looks at issues of violence and justice in US public schools.
Big Data Issues and Data Mining Techniques
Jack McArdle, PhD
Senior Professor of Psychology
University of Southern California

John J. (Jack) McArdle, PhD was the featured guest speaker for Berkeley Social Welfare’s second annual Tony Tripodi Lecture on Research Methodology on October 16.

Dr. McArdle highlighted controversies and recent advances in exploratory data mining for the analysis of social science data. In contrast to traditional hypothesis-driven approaches to analysis, these techniques enable investigators to assess the predictive value of all possible combinations of variables in a data set. The techniques are often a natural follow-up to standard analyses in cases in which investigators have obtained significant results and want to identify other important patterns in the data; obtained no notable results and wonder whether there are any important patterns to be found; or developed questions that are too general or imprecisely formulated to be addressed through traditional hypothesis testing.

SPRING 2014

Grand Challenges in Social Work:
Chronic Versus Transient Poverty

As part of Berkeley Social Welfare’s ongoing Grand Challenges in Social Work presentation series, the School focused on the topic of Chronic Versus Transient Poverty: Redefining the Issues to Clarify Approaches in Policy and Practice. Panelists discussed the contrasts and potential policy implications between chronic poverty, defined as “poor for more than half of the years examined,” and transient poverty, which is “poor in at least one year but not more than half of the years,” and is fairly typical, affecting nearly 20 percent of the population.

The discussion was led by Sara Kimberlin (MSW ’08, PhD ’13), who currently serves as an affiliate at the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, with introductory remarks from United Way of the Bay Area CEO Anne Wilson (MSW ’79). Panelists included Catholic Charities: San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin Executive Director Jeff Bialik; Sonoma County Human Service Agency Assistant Director Oscar Chavez; and American Canyon Family Resource Center Executive Director Sherry Tennyson.
Berkeley Social Welfare
UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE

RECOGNIZES
our Field Instructors for 2013-14

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Sarah Cohen
Nancy Compton
Evelyn Crespo
Francesca Cuervo
Jim Carrillo
Kimberly Darlaides
Daniele Davidson
Florence Davis
Sarah De la Cerra
Paula Delaplaya
Parker Dockray
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Jane Zimmerman

Funded by Berkeley Social Welfare’s Field Instructor Recognition Fund, established by Shaaron L. Gilson.
For the first time in several years, Berkeley Social Welfare held its long-standing tradition of honoring the School’s most generous and committed donors at the Dean’s Circle Dinner.

The spring event provided an opportunity for School supporters, comprised of alumni, individuals and families who have established memorial fellowships as well as many current and retired faculty, to hear updates from Dean Jeffrey Edleson on the School of Social Welfare’s latest news and future developments. The guests also heard from current undergraduate and graduate social welfare students who spoke about their internships, research and the contributions they plan to make to the field as frontline service providers, scholars and teachers. Also in attendance and intermingling with the group was UK House of Lords Member and Chief Executive of the UK National Health Service Sir Nigel Crisp, who delivered the 2014 Friedlander Lecture in International Social Welfare just prior to the dinner.
The Dean’s Circle Dinner took place in the new space known as Haviland Commons, located on the main floor of Haviland Hall. The spacious and light-filled area was made possible due in great part to the generosity of S. Allan and Marguerite Johnson, who participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the dean and were honored with the Berkeley Social Welfare Builders Award.

Additionally, a number of the School’s other dedicated donors were honored during the evening ceremony, including Catherine Hutto Gordon, who received the Champion Supporter Award (see profile story, page 18), and the couples Peter and Diana Dea Crook and Christopher and Lynn Crook, who received the Loyal Supporters Award for establishing the Minna B. Crook Fellowship.

For more information on becoming a member of the Dean’s Circle, please contact Dean Jeffrey Edleson at swdean@berkeley.edu or 510.642.4408.
Longtime Berkeley Social Welfare donor and UC Berkeley alumna Catherine Hutto Gordon’s (BA ’73) generosity to the School and the campus stems from her long-standing dedication to the principles and promise of access that have been historically a part of the University of California system.

“I am a strong supporter of public education and Berkeley’s Schools of Social Welfare and Education embody the essence of my beliefs in these areas,” she explains. “When so much state support has now been withdrawn from California’s institutions of higher education, this need for financial support has to be filled from outside the traditional publicly funded channels. Since I am in a position to direct my family foundation, I have chosen to direct much of our philanthropic giving in the direction of public education.”

Among the many initiatives that have been launched due to the direct financial support of Gordon, her sister Eileen and the trustees of the Hutto Patterson Charitable Trust, are a scholarship program for social welfare undergraduates; two faculty chairs in the School of Social Welfare, including the Catherine Mary and Eileen Clare Hutto Chair for Social Services in Public Education, currently held by Dr. Susan Stone; and Berkeley Social Welfare’s participation in the Berkeley Connect program, which links doctoral student mentors to undergraduates pursuing degrees in social welfare. Gordon has also helped fund summer philanthropy internships for students and participated in Berkeley Social Welfare’s Intercambio summer immersion program (see page 29).

Gordon, whose philanthropic spirit was honored last spring at the Berkeley Social Welfare Dean’s Circle Dinner with the inaugural Champion Supporter Award, recently shared details about her volunteer activities as well as her reasons for giving.
Please tell us about how you first became interested in supporting school social work in public education.

Catherine Hutto Gordon: When I was growing up, my father taught junior-high English in Wisconsin in addition to spending his summers at Cal working on his PhD in elementary education. The whole family traveled with him to Cal each summer, and when he was close to completing his dissertation we moved to Berkeley full time. We moved houses a lot, always renting, and I attended four or five different elementary schools. My parents were very busy. My mom typed and retyped my dad's dissertation herself. A social worker at school would have been helpful for me in coping back then and making adjustments. When I became a social worker much later myself, I understood from my own experiences as well as from my clinical education just how many unmet needs kids in school have to manage on their own in crowded classrooms led by stressed teachers.

Describe your own trajectory in social work and why you chose the profession.

Gordon: As a college freshman, I started out really enjoying my sociology classes. The volunteer work requirements really stimulated my curiosity as to what motivates people in general, be it culture, nature, nurture and so on. As I started to worry about supporting myself, I looked around for a profession that would be both fulfilling to my interests as well as a practical career for earning a living. Social work seemed like the exact answer to my needs.

You also are an active volunteer. What have been some of your recent philanthropic activities?

Gordon: My big passion now is my work with an all-volunteer group of like-minded people dedicating a lot of their free time and energy in traveling to less developed countries to bring specialized pediatric wheelchairs to disabled children. Often this is the first properly fitted chair the children have been able to obtain. Many of them have been carried on their parents' or older siblings' backs before this or have had to do with an inadequate adult chair that can actually harm them. We include a removable desk with each chair, thus allowing these kids to participate in a classroom setting for the first time. My hard-won Spanish skills have often been put to use in many of the places we have been able to reach. I've learned so much from these kids and families as to how the chairs bring new freedoms to each of the family members while bringing dignity and esteem to each of the children we serve.

financial support

Berkeley Social Welfare is dedicated to serving the needs and advocating on behalf of our society's most vulnerable members. Support our uncompromising commitment to this critical mission and help us remain at the forefront of producing the future leaders, educators and researchers of the social work profession.

Have you considered remembering Berkeley Social Welfare in your estate plan?
As UC Berkeley celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Free Speech Movement – the world-famous student protest led by Mario Savio, Bettina Aptheker and Jackie Goldberg, among many others – the School of Social Welfare similarly will be honoring the activist spirit that is part of the fabric of the campus’ history. For the School, the milestone is also an opportunity to refocus on what is arguably the most impactful aspect on the continuum of movement building – community organizing.

Like the FSM and the social activism it represents, community organization is rooted in the drive of a collective to reform the wrongs suffered by a community. Organizing, however, in its goal to create durable power – a form of changemaking that entails grassroots efforts, conflict and social struggle – lies in the direct and strategic work of organizers, from neighborhood canvassing to facilitating coalitions to launching campaigns, in turn creating the tangible outcomes and desired social advancements of a community’s shared interests.

Berkeley Social Welfare Professor Michael Austin, who oversees the School’s Management and Planning concentration – first introduced in 1963 by Professor Ralph Kramer as Community Organizing and Administration – notes that during the 1960s, the tenets of community organizing were being articulated by various social work programs in the country, including Berkeley, Michigan and Columbia, as a way to frame the specialization and curricula in the professional schools.

“There were three lenses,” he explains. “Locality development, social action and social planning. Locality development was akin to what Peace Corps volunteers were doing in developing countries. It was developing localities in a way that empowered local folks to take ownership of their own issues. In this country, it was about neighborhood services and neighborhood organizing.”
“Social action was about how to mobilize a group of people to advocate on their own behalf around an issue. Saul Alinsky’s *Reveille for Radicals* was the early influence on thinking about taking collective action to influence the public awareness or public policy.

“Social planning was organizing communities to collectively address a social problem by getting organizations to come together to develop one-stop services for people or to integrate their efforts so they’re not competing,” adds Dr. Austin. “That appealed to me because it was evidence-informed practice in its earliest form. We started considering the data on delinquency or whatever social issue we wanted to address and looked at the ways to study it in order to raise awareness, get foundations to contribute and get the government to develop new policies.”

Longtime Berkeley Social Welfare Lecturer Claudia Albano defines community organizing as “a spectrum of groups that go from service to empowerment, with community organizing being the most empowering.” She believes that its effectiveness is “based on the empowerment of the individual and the group to make change, which involves skill- and relationship-building.”

Albano, who has taught a social welfare course on community organizing in Haviland Hall for the past 17 years, adds that while many people think of the concept as being simply about social change, there are in fact “degrees of that when it comes to community organizing.” Identifying the two dominant forms of community organization as the advocacy-focused ideological model, which took shape during the Civil Rights Movement, and a traditional model based on the work of Saul Alinsky, Albano underscores a distinct difference between the two approaches.
“Community organizing groups and advocacy groups both want to win on the issues, and they both want institutional change,” she explains. “But true community organizations are concerned with the development of skills and leaders. Their means to achieve change is through the empowerment of a broad-based community.”

UC Berkeley alumna and Bay Area organizer Katt Hoban (BA ’06), who took Albano’s influential class, sees an organizer as “someone who brings together a team of community members and engages them around a social issue that they want to work toward changing.” She, too, emphasizes the importance of relationship-building in traditional organizing, noting that “community organizers support community members through guidance and strategy and through networks, partnerships, coalitions and relationships that have been ongoing with local and statewide politicians in order to push their agenda and gain concrete wins for the community.”

One of the enduring results of UC Berkeley’s historic moment in 1964 has been – and continues to be – generations of students coming to the campus intent on making social change, aiming to do so in a variety of majors and, eventually, professional fields. Some have wondered, though, if their expectations are being met by the campus and the curricula, and, importantly, if these students are graduating with the skillset needed to succeed as changemakers.

“There should be a fundamental set of skills that social workers have, one of which is grassroots community organizing – how to run a meeting, how to mobilize a community, how to do media relations,” says Albano. “Organizing is a philosophy and a skill. We really have to learn the practice side of it.”

Both Albano and Hoban acknowledge that in their own personal experiences, the space for learning community organizing was on the streets and not necessarily within the classroom. Albano remarks that her “political education really happened in Fruitvale and in Oakland,” and Hoban, whose most recent organizing activities include home defending with individuals and families facing foreclosures as well as the Occupy Movement, observes, “Community organizers don’t actually care if you have a master’s degree. They care if you have what it takes – and that’s a certain tenacity.”

Hoban, however, is not dismissive of her social welfare education in preparing her for the demands of organizing. She says that her training has proven incredibly useful in her efforts. “I came to understand the distinction between a clinician and an organizer is very constructed,” she notes. “A good organizer has clinical skills because people who are struggling the most have clinical needs that have to be addressed in order to be able to organize. When people working in campaigns have their individual needs met, they are able to get engaged in bigger, more change-driven organizing. One of my suggestions is that social workers understand how important their clinical skills will be as organizers.”

As for the future of community organizing, Hoban and Albano believe that while in many ways the direct-service focus of social workers, oftentimes as employees of county or other government agencies, can seemingly run counter to the goals of direct-action organizing, those in the profession still have the means to affect the change they seek.

“When you’re working in government and your hands are tied, the most important thing in order to have any sort of social change efficacy is to form partnerships with people who are autonomous from the government,” says Hoban. “Your role is to provide access, resources and insights to people who are changemakers.”

“In social welfare we traditionally tend to stress the service side,” says Albano. “But there is a heritage in understanding the need to do institutional change. That’s what empowerment work is about.

“Is the social work profession going to be relegated to only helping people navigate a broken system?” she asks. “If the answer is yes, then we will work in the system the best we can, even though essentially it’s broken and perpetuates the divisions we have in society.

“But if the answer is no, if it’s more than that, if it is about trying to reform and to make changes, then it’s time to develop a new system based on what people truly need. That’s why we have to teach the empowerment side of the spectrum.”

FACULTY NOTES

Assistant Professor Adrian Aguilera received a significant grant from the University of California, San Francisco’s Department of Psychiatry that will support his work in integrating digital health technologies into mental health services for low-income adults at San Francisco General Hospital. Dr. Aguilera’s research is now in the clinical trials phase to test whether it is a significant improvement over standard care. The award is for a three-year period and involves a 25 percent appointment at UCSF in addition to his 75 percent time at UC Berkeley.

Dr. Aguilera also participated in the New Connections panel, “Social Work Practice in Light of America’s Changing Demographics,” at the 18th Annual SSWR Conference.

Professor Michael Austin is the co-author of several recently published articles, including “Leadership Succession Planning: Implications for Nonprofit Human Service Organizations” and “Becoming a Manager in a Nonprofit Human Service Organization: Making the Transition from Specialist to Generalist,” which both appeared in Administration in Social Work; “Performance Measurement Challenges in Nonprofit Human Service Organizations” in Nonprofit & Voluntary Sector Quarterly; “The Organizational Context of Research-Minded Practitioners: Challenges and Opportunities” in Research in Social Work; and “Employer-Employee Relationships in Subsidized Employment Programs: The Role of Soft Skills” in Families in Society. He also edited Social Justice and Social Work: Rediscovering a Core Value of the Profession (Sage).

Additionally, Dr. Austin served as a plenary speaker at the Third International Conference on Practice Research in New York in June. He was also named editor of the journal Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership & Governance (formerly known as Administration in Social Work), where he has served as associate editor for several years.

The American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare (AASWSW) recently elected Professor Jill Duerr Berrick as a fellow. She also delivered the invited lecture, “The End of Foster Care As We Know It,” at the University of Missouri as part of its Population, Education, and Health Seminar Series.

Julian Chow, who joined Berkeley Social Welfare in 1999, was recently promoted to full professor. Additionally, Dr. Chow and doctoral students Carol Peng and Christine Lou presented the paper, “Perceived Discrimination, Depression, and Happiness in Social Service Use: Immigrant Wives in Hong Kong,” at the 55th Annual Conference of the American Association for Chinese Studies at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Dr. Chow also was at the CSWE APM in Dallas to present alumnus Richard Smith (PhD ’10) the 2013 Emerging Scholar Award from the Association for Community Organization and Social Administration. Dr. Chow served as Dr. Smith’s dissertation chair.

Dean Jeffrey Edleson continues as the co-principal investigator on a US Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women grant focused on providing technical assistance in international parental abduction cases involving domestic violence. He was also appointed to the national advisory board of Minnesota-Linking Information for Kids (Minn-Link), an NSF-funded “big data” project that integrates statewide child welfare, health, education and juvenile justice data in Minnesota.

Additionally, Dr. Edleson and colleagues published the article, “Global Efforts to Engage Men in Preventing Violence Against Women: An International Survey” in the international journal Violence Against Women, where he continues as associate editor. He is also serving as co-editor of the Oxford University Press book series on interpersonal violence and is co-editing the third edition of his textbook, Sourcebook on Violence Against Women.


Dr. Gambrill’s recent presentations include, “How Not to Be Bamboozled When Making Life Affecting Decisions,” at Psychiatry Grand Rounds on the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center-Herrick campus; the keynote address, “Critical Thinking and Applied Behavior Analysis” at the Annual Conference of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts in New Orleans last May; and “The Biomedical Industrial Complex as an Impediment to Social Change: What Can We Do?” with Dr. Jeff LaCasse at the SSWR Annual Conference.

Among Professor Neil Gilbert’s recent activities were his induction into the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare (AASWSW), his keynote address at the Southeast Asian Social Policy Association Conference in
Hawaii in July and his op-ed contribution, “The Denial of Middle-Class Prosperity,” to The Wall Street Journal last spring.

Assistant Professor Anu Manchikanti Gómez received a three-year award from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to conduct a mixed methods study of relationship dynamics, pregnancy intentions and contraceptive decision-making among young Latina women and their male partners. Findings will support the development of a contraceptive counseling intervention that focuses on individual, relational and social influences on contraceptive decision-making.

Several books by Professor Jim Midgley were published this past year, including Social Development: Theory and Practice (Sage), which focuses on international social welfare and social development around the world and summarizes recent thinking in the field; a Korean translation of Controversial Issues in Social Policy, co-edited with Howard Karger and originally published by Allyn and Bacon in 2008; a collaboration with colleagues James Lee and Yapeng Zhu that resulted in Social Policy and Change in East Asia (Lexington Books), and Social Protection, Economic Growth and Social Change (Edward Elgar), a collaboration with David Piachaud and a team of researchers from Brazil, China, India and South Africa.

Dr. Midgley co-edited with Howard Karger and contributed an article to a special issue of the Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare on Austerity Versus Stimulus: International Challenges for Social Welfare. He also wrote a chapter on social welfare systems for the Concise Encyclopaedia of Comparative Sociology (Brill). In addition, Dr. Midgley served as the guest speaker for doctoral students at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis.

Professor Kurt Organista was appointed as the first-ever special assistant for faculty mentoring at UC Berkeley. His role with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion and the Office of the Vice Provost for the Faculty helps support campus efforts to expand faculty mentoring.

Dr. Organista’s activities include presenting, “The Urgent Need for Structural Environmental Models of HIV Risk and Prevention in Latino Communities: The Case of Latino Migrant Workers;” for the UC Center for Latino Policy, participating in UC Berkeley’s RES Lunch and Learn Speaker Series; delivering the keynote talk at the campus’ 38th Annual EOP Achievement Award Ceremony; presenting, “The Urgent Need for Structural-Environmental Approaches to HIV Prevention in the Latino Community;” as the Fall 2014 Lecture for UCSF’s Center for Latino Studies in the Americas as well as at the Office of Health Equality, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention’s Turning Research Into Prevention event; and delivering the talk, “HIV Prevention with Latinos,” at the Latino Social Workers Organization (LSWO) Conference in Chicago. He will serve as an invited panelist at the Eighth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities in Long Beach, Calif., in November and at the 2014 Minority Health & Health Disparities Conference in National Harbor, Md., in December.

Professor Andy Scharlach is the recipient of the Gerontological Society of America’s 2014 Maxwell A. Pollack Award for Productive Aging, which recognizes research that directly improves policy and practice in the field of aging as well as distinction in bridging the worlds of research and practice. Additionally, Dr. Scharlach received continuation funding for his project, “A Multi-Site, External Evaluation of Village Model Development, Sustainability, and Effectiveness;” as well as a grant from the Archstone Foundation for “Creating Aging Friendly Communities through the Expansion of Villages.”

His activities this past year include joining the editorial board of Journal of Aging and Social Policy, convening the symposium Lessons from Lifespan Development for Conceptualizing and Designing Aging-Friendly Environments, presenting four papers at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in New Orleans and election into the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare (AASWSW).

Assistant Professor Valerie Shapiro has received two prestigious UC Berkeley awards, including an unrestricted grant from Prytanean. The highly competitive award recognizes outstanding female junior faculty with a “record as a distinguished teacher, demonstrated scholarly achievement and success as a role model for students at UC Berkeley.” Her second grant from the Hellman Family Faculty Fund will support her research, “Reducing Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Problems in Youth Through Prevention Services: Understanding the Growth of Protective Factors to Guide Service Delivery.” The award is given to assistant professors who have demonstrated promise for distinction in research.

Dr. Shapiro also presented, “The Role of Leader Support, Technical Assistance, and New Member Integration in Sustaining Coalition Functioning Over Time;” for the Society for Prevention Research and offered the workshop, “Promising Practices in Teaching as Applied to Prevention Science;” in Washington, DC.
Several articles co-authored by Dr. Shapiro were published, including “A Strengths-Based Approach to Supervised Visitation in Child Welfare” with lead author Gabriel Smith in Child Care in Practice, “Measuring Dimensions of Coalition Functioning for Effective and Participatory Community Practice” in the NASW journal Social Work Research; “Variations in the Effect of Communities That Care on Community Adoption of a Scientific Approach to Prevention” in the Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research; and “Prevention System Mediators of Communities That Care Effects on Youth Outcomes” in Prevention Science.

Professor Jennifer Skeem delivered several keynote talks, including “What Works for Justice-Involved People with Mental Illness” at the Utah Judicial Conference in Park City, Utah; “Risk Assessment in Sanctioning: Consensus and Controversies” for the International Community Corrections Association in Cleveland, Ohio; “Firm, Fair and Caring Relationships as the Foundation for Evidence-Based Practice” for the US Administrative Office of the Courts in Washington, DC; and “Promoting Real Re-Entry for Justice-Involved Probationers with Mental Illness” for the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency in Washington, DC.

Assistant Professor Paul Sterzing received a significant grant from the National Institute of Justice to support his project, “SpeakOut,” a three-year study “to identify the lifetime prevalence, past year incidence and ecological correlates of polyvictimization for sexual minority youth.” The long-term goal of SpeakOut is “to inform the design of future adolescent research and new policies and practices that endeavor to prevent polyvictimization for sexual minority youth.” The two-year grant runs until December 2016.

**EMERITI FACULTY NOTES**

Professor Emerita Mary Ann Mason’s latest book, Do Babies Matter? Gender and Family in the Ivory Tower (Rutgers), co-authored with Nicholas H. Wolfinger and Marc Goulden, is based on more than a decade of research examining the family sacrifices women often have to make to advance in academia as well as how gender and family interact to affect promotions, salaries and retirement.

Professor Emerita Jewelle Taylor Gibbs, along with several other retired faculty members and senior administrators from throughout the UC Berkeley campus, were honored in the spring for their participation in the African American Faculty and Senior Staff Oral History Project, which was featured at the Bancroft Library throughout the summer.

On August 27, as part of Berkeley Social Welfare’s annual Field Instructors Training Day — organized by Field Education Director Greg Merrill and Field Education Coordinator Sandra Alexander — the School recognized a few of its all-important field partners during a luncheon ceremony. Awardees included Kaiser Permanente’s Patrik Karlsson, LCSW, who was named the 2014 Field Instructor of the Year, and San Francisco Unified School District’s Student Intervention Team, who received the 2014 Field Agency of the Year honor.

Dr. Gibbs was one of a number of African American faculty who were interviewed as part of the project, which explored their experiences and provided an historic overview of affirmative action, diversity and access at UC Berkeley as well as the roles of social movements, including Civil Rights, Black Power and Third World Marxism, in shaping the curricula and culture of the campus.

Dr. Gibbs also published a new book entitled, Destiny’s Child: Memoirs of a Preacher’s Daughter (Create Space). Described as “part family history, part memoir,” the book “chronicles the 200-year journey of an African American family who overcame racial and social obstacles to succeed and contributed substantially to advancing civil rights in the US.”

**FIELD CONSULTANT NOTES**

Field Consultant and Lecturer Andrea DuBrow recently led efforts to secure a three-year grant from the HRSA that will support mental health training for MSW students. DuBrow was also appointed to the Alameda County Public Health Commission earlier this year.

Field Consultant and Lecturer Christina Feliciana joined Support Opportunities and Rapport (SOAR), an organization that works in partnership with UC Berkeley, Bay Area Child Support Services and community foster youth servicing organizations to help foster youth move through adolescence and into their adult lives with confidence and independence. In this role, Feliciana provides clinical support to the academic advocates who are paired with foster youth.

Field Consultant and Lecturer Cathy Ralph was elected as the new president of the NASW-CA chapter. She was also recently honored by the San Francisco State University Alumni Association with the Kenji Murase Distinguished Alumni Award.
Second-year MSW student Tonhu (Alyx) Dao has received several awards, including the Asian Pacific Island Queer Women and Transgender Community (APIQWTC) Scholarship as well as the Vietnamese Rainbows of Orange County (VROC) and Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) 2014 Awards.

Doctoral student Stephania Hayes received a 2014-15 UC Berkeley Mentored Research Award, which gives promising graduate students an opportunity to conduct pre-doctoral research while developing and strengthening relationships with faculty advisers.


Social welfare major Kuranda Morgan was selected as a recipient of the Institute of International Studies Undergraduate Merit Scholarship for her research that examines Bolsa Familia, a conditional cash transfer program in Brazil. She seeks to unveil the ways in which the program, which offers cash benefits to families in poverty in exchange for meeting health and education requirements, serves as a means of social investment.

Last spring, Nalleli Sandoval (MSW ’14) was honored at the UC Berkeley Chancellor’s Awards for Public Service, where she received the inaugural Robert J. and Mary Catherine Birgeneau Recognition Award for Service to Undocumented Students. Sandoval was nominated by Field Consultant and Lecturer Andrea DuBrow.

On April 23, MSW students – including event organizer Maggie Bishop and Isabel Arrastia, Tara Berry, Rachelle Bolton, Magie Chiang, Zara Drapkin, Gretchen Ellis, Alexandra Fillmore, Eve Fine, Tiffany Lozoya, Baldeep Pabla, Talya Silver and Tara Umemoto – came together to raise awareness about the erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual assault by participating in Denim Day. Students, faculty and staff donned student-made denim bracelets and distributed information in support of the event, which was taking place across the country. Additional poster boards and resources were available for viewing in Haviland Hall’s Haviland Commons.


To help demonstrate Berkeley Social Welfare’s commitment to the community, School staff participated in a service opportunity at the Alameda County Food Bank in the spring. Volunteers included CalSWEC’s Shifra Gaman and Nancy Nelson, CCWIP’s Markus Exel and Joe Magurder; CSSR’s Josh May and Mia Reiser; and Francesca Dinglasan, David Fullmer, Lorretta Morales, Emerald Templeton and Heidi Wagner from the Dean’s Office.

The California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) – the unique Berkeley Social Welfare-administered coalition of California schools and departments of social welfare/work, statewide human service agencies and other related professional organizations – continues to provide professional education opportunities, student support, in-service training as well as workforce evaluation and research. CalSWEC’s recent activities include the following:

On July 1, CalSWEC’s Mental Health Program (MHP) began operating under a new three-year contract from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). The contract from Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Workforce Education and Training includes funding for stipends to be distributed by California schools of social work and for partial operating costs. MHP Director Gwen Foster noted that the new contract has necessitated a downsizing of the program due to the reduction in stipends, which shrank from 196 to 138 annually, while program funding has been reduced by 73 percent.
INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Earlier this year, Field Consultant and Lecturer Robert Ayasse and Lecturer Emeritus Paul Terrell helped lead a group of 11 undergraduate and graduate students engaged in service activities in Cambodia as part of Social Welfare 197: Service Learning in Cambodia. The course consisted of several seminars during the Fall 2013 semester and an 11-day trip to Cambodia’s Siem Reap region.

This past September, Professor Jill Duerr Berrick presented along with colleagues Marit Skivenes, Tarja Poso and Jonathan Dickens, “Decision Making in Child Protection Care Orders: A Cross-Country Analysis of Children’s Involvement” at the European Scientific Association on Residential and Family Care for Children and Adolescents conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. Dr. Berrick also attended the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse (ISPCAN) Conference in Dublin, Ireland, where she, Skivenes, Poso and Sue Peckover delivered the talk, “A Cross-Country Comparison of Decision Making in Child Welfare Services,” and she and Skivenes presented the poster, “Parenting Plus.” Dr. Berrick also assumed the role of co-editor, along with Stockholm University’s Ake Bergmark, of the International Journal of Social Welfare.

Professor Julian Chow and Berkeley Social Welfare alumna Amy Conley Wright (MSW ’04, PhD ’08) served as the keynote speakers at the International Conference on Developmental Social Work at the National Taiwan University in Taipei this past summer.

Dean Jeffrey Edleson visited Hong Kong in August as part of his three-year appointment as external examiner for the Masters in Social Sciences at Hong Kong University. In addition, this year, with the support of the Haruv Institute, he is hosting post-doctoral fellow Dr. Benny Bailey (Israel), who is studying children and youth exposed to violence.

Dr. Edleson, along with the Goldman School of Public Policy’s Sudha Shetty, also hosted a visiting delegation of Maori leaders from New Zealand’s Tauropaki Trust, who are building a learning exchange with Berkeley. A larger delegation will return to the campus in November, and the Trust has sent an emerging Maori leader to Berkeley for the fall semester.

This past summer, Professor of the Graduate School Eileen Gambrill served as a keynote speaker at the First International Meeting on Well-Being and Performance in Clinical Practice in Alexandroupolis, Greece, where she presented, “Ignorance, Ethics and Risk: A Popperian Approach.” She also was in Belfast, Ireland to participate in a workshop for practitioners on “Decisions Through the Lens of Avoidable Ignorance” and to serve as a keynote speaker at the DARE bi-annual conference on July 1.


This past spring, Professor Jim Midgley spoke at a symposium celebrating the 150th anniversary of Tokyo’s Meiji Gakuin University, which has the oldest school of social work in the country. The topic of his talk, “Social Work and Social Development: International Perspectives,” is based on the book he edited with Amy Conley Wright (MSW ’04, PhD ’08) in 2010 and translated into Japanese in 2012. Dr. Midgley also traveled to South Africa during the summer to participate in a symposium organized by the University of Johannesburg Center for Social Development in Africa, where he spoke with 11 of the country’s social work schools about their implementation of developmental social work practice innovations.
Professor **Andy Scharlach** made several international presentations, including “Housing Alternatives for an Aging Population” at the 23rd Annual John K. Friesen Conference at the Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, BC, Canada; “Emerging Roles of Older Adults in the Co-Production of Elder Care” at the International Association of Research Universities Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark; “The Village Model: A Social Innovation” at the International Conference on Age-Friendly Cities in Quebec, Canada; and talks at the Research in Social Work conference sponsored by Universidad Complutense de Madrid.


**Berkeley Social Welfare students travel to Oaxaca, Mexico for international social work immersion**

This past summer, Berkeley Social Welfare relaunched Intercambio, the School’s longtime immersion program that brings several students to a community in Mexico with the goal of helping them gain a better understanding of the cultural, social and linguistic contexts relevant to the population they aim to serve. The trip to Oaxaca, led by Field Consultant and Lecturer **Luna Calderon**, involved seven current MSW students and recently graduated social welfare undergrads as well as the participation of alumna **Catherine Hutto Gordon (BA ’73)**. The group also met up with alumnus **Gary Titus (MSW ’65)**, who retired to Oaxaca and co-founded a nonprofit agency.

According to Calderon, the students followed two activity tracks. Fluent Spanish-speakers spent two hours per week in a “technical” Spanish language class and another 16-20 hours performing service learning at a local organization, forming “strong partnerships in particular with two youth-serving agencies.” Those still developing their Spanish skills spent four hours a day attending language classes at Berkeley Social Welfare’s partner school, Becari Tonanzin, and engaged in service learning once a week. The entire group attended lectures presented by local scholars and professionals, with topics including “indigenous healing practices and beliefs, history and culture of the region as it related to health and psychology, gender roles, the structure of the mental health system, the health system and beliefs on health and wellness.” Additionally, the group visited a local university and “had a very fruitful exchange regarding immigration and mental health,” says Calderon.

While Calderon admits there were challenges with this year’s Intercambio program, including lessons learned about the need for “a longer orientation for team building and more thorough pre-immersion preparation,” she says that the positive outcomes of the trip in engaging the students’ interest in international social work were notable. “According to the Instituto de Mexicanos en el Exterior (Institute for Mexicans Abroad), in 2012 there were approximately 1.2 million Oaxacans in the US, with the majority of them residing in California.

“Millions of Oaxacans leave their homes because of their dire economic circumstances,” she explains. “Oaxaca is so rich in terms of food, culture, art, history and spirituality. Oaxacans are also incredibly hospitable. Students got to experience this wealth of resources and to understand firsthand how much people lose when they migrate to the US for economic reasons.”
The Dean’s Leadership Circle is comprised of distinguished alumni and friends who have made an annual leadership gift of $500 or more in support of the dean’s vision of access and excellence in social work education.

Anne-Therese Ageson, LCSW & John J. Hadreas
Jean M. Allgeyer, LCSW
Lafayette M. Aguine-Parmeley
Sarah E. Allphin
Kathleen Archbold
Michael A. Armijo
Sandra J. Auerback & Victor D. Scheinman
Michael J. Austin & Susan Austin
Suzanne J. Awalt & Roy W. Awalt
Bibi Babu
Jennifer H. Baha & Mohammad K. Baha
Elizabeth H. Barge
Anthony L. Barreiro
Erica B. Baum
Robert D. Beardsley & Catherine H. Beardsley
Audrey L. Begin
Anne E. Benker & George J. Benker
Henry J. Bennett & Shoshana Bennett
Elisabeth Berger
Jill D. Berrick & Kenneth Berrick
Lynn J. Besser
Evelyn L. Bhrucha & Behram H. Bhrucha
Cheyly B. Bibelheimer & Gerald H. Bibelheimer
Mary Catherine & Robert J. Birgeneau
Pamela M. Blum
Neil B. LCSW
Ellen I. Branco & Nelson Branco
Heather M. Brankman & Charles Brankman
Ruth T. Brennan
Katharine H. Brar-Lawson & Hal Lawson
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Doris Jackson Britt
Judith E. Brodsky & Stan Brodsky
Iris E. Brooks
John A. Brown
Jen F. Brown, Jr.
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