

Fall 2019

# Connections

A Magazine for Alumni & Friends of the School of Social Work

Dean Richard Barth, PhD  
**An Era of Impact**



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

**STRENGTHENING SOCIETY**



## **The Senator Barbara Mikulski Scholarship Fund**

**Established in 2019, the Senator Barbara Mikulski Scholarship for Management and Community Organizing will provide annual and endowed scholarship support to University of Maryland School of Social Work students who have a stated interest in the study of management and community organizing.**

*The former U.S. Senator and Presidential Medal of Freedom awardee is a 1965 graduate of the UMSSW.*

**To support this important scholarship and help her work continue in future generations, please visit [www.ssw.umaryland.edu/mikulski](http://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/mikulski)**

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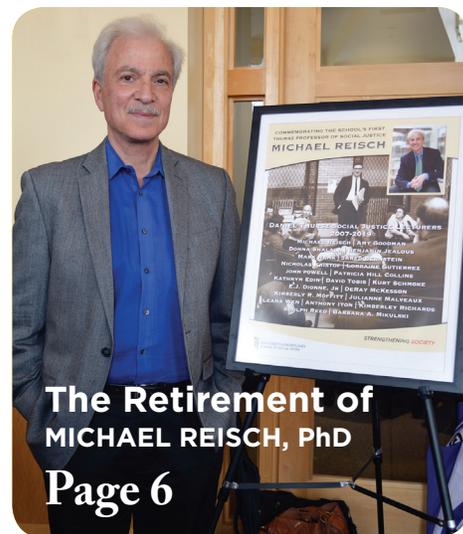
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### The Class of 2015

PRESENTS THEIR CLASS GIFT TO THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

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Photo by Noah Scialom

# New Grant Focuses on Research to Tackle Problem Gambling

By Mary T. Phelan



University of Maryland School of Social Work's Financial Social Work Initiative and Maryland-based non-profit Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Maryland and Delaware, Inc. (CCCSMD) have received a grant from the National Center for Responsible Gaming for their study, "Developing and Testing a Brief Intervention for Problem Gambling in Credit Counseling."

The research will use a randomized control trial to test the effectiveness of a unique brief intervention for at-risk gambling among CCCSMD clients. The intervention is designed to reduce problem gambling that can otherwise lead to sometimes catastrophic outcomes, including bankruptcy and financial ruin, but also severe psychological problems, depression and even suicide. Pathological and problem gambling are addictive behaviors that often destroy the lives of affected individuals and their families.

This is the first study of its kind to incorporate universal screening for problem gambling among credit counseling clients, coupled with a targeted brief intervention designed to reduce gambling behavior and ultimately support financial goals.

"As a social scientist focused on behavioral health and financial capability, it just made sense to incorporate screening and intervention for problem gambling into credit counseling programs," said Jodi Jacobson Frey, PhD, LCSW-C, associate professor and chair of the Financial Social

Work Initiative at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) "Waiting for someone to reach out for help with the gambling is too late - we need to help people see how their problem gambling is affecting not only their financial wellbeing, but also the overall quality of life for themselves and often their families. We can provide immediate access to resources that help to reduce gambling and help those who are struggling get on a path to recovery."

This research study provides a significant opportunity for the brief intervention, which combines motivational interviewing techniques and text messaging for credit and housing counselors to use with clients who are battling not only problem gambling, but also financial distress. Results from this innovative research will inform best practices for gambling screening and brief intervention. If researchers find that the brief intervention is effective and feasible, it can be implemented at credit counseling organizations nationwide.

"We are thrilled to partner with the University of Maryland School of Social Work's Financial Social Work Initiative on this project. Financial issues are often the first indicator of a gambling problem, but traditional credit counseling does not address the root cause of the problem. This partnership will allow our counselors to address the financial behavior while also providing resources designed to tackle the underlying addiction," says Helene Raynaud, CCCSMD President and CEO. ♦



# NWIA Biennial Event

**“Wraparound serves to connect lives, to build support, and to help young people and their families stay together and thrive. But Wraparound is not a static process. This Academy is essential in helping those with the drive and dedication to do this work to evolve their practice and tailor their approach while maintaining quality in meeting the needs of families.” —Michelle Zabel, Assistant Dean & Director, UMSSW’s Institute for Innovation & Implementation**

More than 700 professionals from child-serving systems across the nation gathered at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront on September 9, 2019, for the intensive three-day National Wraparound Implementation Academy. A biennial event, the Academy is hosted by the National Wraparound Implementation Center (NWIC).

Centered on the idea that children do best with their families in their communities, and not in restrictive institutional settings, Wraparound is a team-based care planning process designed to support youth with the most complex behavioral health needs and their families. Furthermore, when Wraparound is implemented across child-serving systems within a state, that state must ensure they support non-traditional services, evidence-based practices, and peer supports as well as undertake quality workforce initiatives and outcomes evaluation. These

practices reduce costs and also ensure families have access to the most appropriate quality care aligning with the individual needs of youth.

Together with Portland State University and the University of Washington School of Medicine, the School of Social Work’s Institute for Innovation and Implementation co-leads NWIC, which supports states, communities, and organizations to implement Wraparound as part of broader health reform strategies. NWIC uses innovative approaches grounded in implementation science, and span policy, financing, evaluation, and workforce development, to support and build sustainable local capacity to provide high-quality Wraparound.

This fourth Academy brought together professionals from 40 states and territories as well as from Canada and New Zealand. Seventy available sessions ranged in topics from actionable approaches for



system and organization leaders to hands-on skill enhancements for care coordinators. Whether their interests were in financing Wraparound in their state or in addressing a crisis in a family, attendees were united in their dedication to achieving brighter futures for youth through this pioneering work. ♦

**For more information on the National Wraparound Implementation Center, visit [nwic.org](http://nwic.org).**



**“SOME FACULTY ARE SUPERB IN THE CLASSROOM AND SOME ARE GREAT AND PROLIFIC WRITERS—MICHAEL IS BOTH.”**

**— DEAN RICHARD BARTH**

# The Retirement of MICHAEL REISCH, PhD



*Reisch with Amanda Lehning, PhD and Jodi Frey, PhD.*



*Sam Little, PhD speaking at Reischs' retirement.*

After 18 years of dedicated service and commitment to the School of Social Work, Michael Reisch, PhD, the SSW’s first Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, has retired. Professor Reisch retires as arguably the leading and most respected social work scholar and educator on social justice issues.

During his tenure at the School, Reisch shared his knowledge and insights with hundreds of students, won numerous teaching awards, including UMB’s Teacher of the Year and Maryland’s Educator of the Year awards, was recognized as a Fellow by the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, and was presented

a lifetime achievement award by the Council for Social Work Education. In addition, Reisch was a prolific scholar during his eleven years as Thursz Professor with nine books and edited volumes, 33 book chapters, 30 peer-reviewed articles, 12 book review essays, one research monograph, 148 invitational papers and presentations, and 28 peer-reviewed conference papers and presentations.

A former Woodrow Wilson Fellow and Fulbright Senior Scholar, his most recent books include *Social Policy and Social Justice* (3rd ed), *Macro Social Work Practice: Working for Change in a Multicultural Society*,



*Debbie Gioia, PhD*



*Michael Reisch with Jody K. Olsen, PhD, Director of the Peace Corps.*



*Professor Emeritus Howard Palley, PhD*

*The Routledge International Handbook of Social Justice, The Handbook of Community Practice (2nd ed), and Social Work Practice and Social Justice: Concepts, Challenges, and Strategies.* His work has been translated into 10 languages and he has lectured widely in Asia, Australia, Europe, and Latin America.

Reisch has held faculty and administrative positions at the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, San Francisco State University, and SUNY Stony Brook, and has been a visiting professor at the University of California, Berkeley (3 times), the New Bulgarian University in Sofia, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.

“Michael has been one of the finest faculty in the history of this school,” says Dean Richard Barth. He adds, “Some faculty are superb in the classroom and some are great and prolific writers—Michael is both. In addition, he shouldered a huge responsibility for the recruitment, promotion, and tenure of our junior faculty through his multiple stints as Chair of our Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure Committee and our search committees. One of the very best

days in the school’s history was when Michael agreed to come back to Maryland as the Thursz Professor.”

UMSSW Professor Corey Shdaimah, PhD, was named to succeed Michael and serve as the second Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice. She began in her new role on July 1, 2019. ♦



*Professor Corey Shdaimah, PhD*



# UMSSW Welcomes *the first* Alison Richman Professor Brenda Jones-Harden, PhD, MSW



*Brenda Jones-Harden, PhD and Richard P. Barth, PhD, dean of the University of Maryland School of Social Work.*

**T**he University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW) welcomes Brenda Jones-Harden, PhD, MSW, as the school’s first Alison Richman Professor.

Jones-Harden earned her MSW from New York University and her PhD in Developmental and Clinical Psychology from Yale University.

Prior to her arrival at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), she worked at the University of Maryland, College Park as a professor with many years of leadership in child welfare and early childhood mental health research.

“I am thrilled that the Alison Richman Professorship has given us the opportunity to add Brenda Jones-Harden to our faculty,” said Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, dean of the School of Social Work. “Brenda is

one of the nation’s leading scholars on early childhood services and child welfare services. Her background as a social worker and her training as a developmentalist create a deep pool of talent that we will richly enjoy.”

The Alison Richman Professor for Children and Families, named after Alison L. Richman, MSW ’84, offers the UMSSW the opportunity to continue to attract and support great faculty in what has, historically, been the school’s strongest area of research, Barth said. The professorship was endowed in honor of Richman by her family in recognition of her dedication to excellence in children and family services. The Alison Richman Professorship will provide the named professor with additional resources to support the appointee’s research, scholarship, and travel for the dissemination of scholarship.



*Brenda Jones-Harden, PhD, MSW and UMB President Jay Perman, MD.*

“We are currently engaged in children’s services research and training in every Maryland county and nearly every state. We have a history of creating interventions and bringing those — and other evidence-based practices — to scale,” Barth continued. “We are continuously engaged in improving this work and showing its impact. To optimize our ambition to translate research into genuine, transformative benefits for children, families, and their communities is a huge job. The resources from this professorship will bring critically important additional expertise to our school. For that, the UMSSW and all of UMB should be profoundly grateful.”

An investiture ceremony was held for Jones-Harden on Sept. 11th in the Gladhill Boardroom of the Health Sciences and Human Services Library.

“I will be honest, this fanfare pushes me a little outside of my comfort zone. As my parents will attest, I have hated photos and being the center of a groups’ attention since I was an infant,” Jones-Harden said.

“In some ways, I still am the social worker I was when I first started this work more years ago than I care to mention. I remember being humbled by the families whom I met on my daily home visits (before home visitation reached the national



*Arnie and Alison Richman speaking at the Investiture Ceremony.*

policy agenda) on the lower east side of Manhattan, in the south Bronx, in Brownsville and East New York in Brooklyn. Parenthetically, I also remember my mother saying she did not raise her child to be climbing the stairs in tenements and high-rise apartment projects in NYC.”

Jones-Harden said she wanted to make a difference in the world but was clear she was “but a cog in the wheel.”

“I am satisfied, no gratified, to remain a cog in the wheel that is pushing for better lives for children, particularly young children, who grow up in poverty,” she said.

Although the data shows that poverty is decreasing in the United States, the poverty rates for young children are still astronomically high, said Jones-Harden. National data suggest that 45 percent of infants live in low-income families and 23 percent live in poor families, she said, noting that 69 percent of black infants and toddlers and 63 percent of Latino infants and toddlers live in low-income families.

One of her favorite colleagues, Greg Duncan, underscores that poverty has a pernicious impact on very young children – worse outcomes overall and more long-term effects. In one of his papers, he emphasizes the role of “omitted variables” – the concomitants of poverty that lead to the poor child

outcomes that are commonly known – for example, parental mental health and substance use challenges, intimate partner violence, compromised parenting and maltreatment.

“I am particularly interested in the parenting and maltreatment ‘omitted variables’ from a practice and research perspective,” she said. “That young children are disproportionate victims of maltreatment (30 percent of maltreated children are under 3 years of age) makes me particularly invested in this arena. So, I am happy to be a cog in the wheel of promoting the development of parents who are at risk of maltreating their children and enhancing the well-being of children who are at risk of maltreatment.”

Jones-Harden said while most of her current projects focus on evaluating primary and secondary interventions during early childhood, she is beginning to study perinatal risks and their implications for parenting during infancy and for infant outcomes, particularly for African American women who have been found to be particularly vulnerable to perinatal mortality and morbidity, and the associated high rates of infant mortality and morbidity.

In her closing remarks at the investiture ceremony, she thanked her family “who implicitly taught me and supported me to live by the principle that to whom much is given much is expected.

“I thank my husband who quietly supports me to do all the million things that I do. I thank my own little girls who I hope are learning that they can be moms and professionals at the same time, though they may not get an A grade in either,” she continued. ♦

# RICHARD P. BARTH PROFESSORSHIP

To honor Dean Barth and mark his impact on the School and Profession, lead donors and Dean Barth and his brothers have created the **Richard P. Barth Professorship in Children's Services Research.**

**To date, over \$400,000 has been raised.**

**We hope to secure 500 gifts to achieve our \$1M goal.**

The UMB Foundation Board of Directors has pledged to match all gifts to this Professorship through February 29, 2020, dollar for dollar, up to gifts of \$10,000.

Additional donors will match \$.50 on the dollar for all gifts above \$10,000.

Gifts can be made at [www.ssw.umaryland.edu/Barth](http://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/Barth)  
or sent to "**UMBF/SSW/Barth Professorship**"  
care of **Isabelle Garcia** at:

**UM SSW, 525 West Redwood St., Baltimore, MD 21201.**



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# Dean's Welcome



I have always been pleased to welcome readers to *Connections*, although this time I am a little chagrined because much of it is about my deanship and my transition back to the faculty. This issue tells many tales of growth and change in the School since I penned my first Dean's Welcome in 2006. We emphasize the successes, of course, and this issue should be seen as a bookend to our fall 2018 issue which was a core story about the partnerships that make all of our work possible. With these partnerships, the UMSSW has grown in size and impact, complexity and scope. Even more critical to this is the superb faculty and staff that welcomed me to the School and those who have joined in the School's passionate commitment to strengthening society.

Since I began my social work career as an MSW student in 1977, I have dedicated myself and my work to understanding how to deliver effective interventions that reduce suffering. As it was when I began here, and for all the distinguished deans who came before me here, a new set of challenges and opportunities now stand before the School and the social work profession. I am proud of the position I leave the School in as it continues to move forward to find new ways to improve life in Baltimore, Maryland, and around the country. I am gratified to see much success in translating our interventions into important advances for individuals, families, and communities. I will do everything I can to advance that position in the months ahead. I look forward to working with all of the readers of *Connections* in the remainder of my term and in my future role as a professor of social work.

I thank all of you who I have worked with and who have been the engines behind the School's success. I ask understanding from those who I have not engaged in ways that were as genuine and helpful as each of you deserve. I often wish I had done better. I will endeavor to complete the remaining years of my career, here, by being of great service to the success of the School and to continue to work to advance the profession—especially through work on children's services and the Grand Challenges for Social Work.

With appreciation for this great opportunity to lead,

Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW  
Dean and Professor



# Dean Richard Barth, PhD

University of Maryland School of Social Work

## An Era of Impact

Dean 2006 – 2020

By Wanda Haskel

Richard Barth, Dean of the School of Social Work, has announced that he will step down from his position at the end of the 2019-2020 academic year, after successfully leading the School for 14 years. A leader on our campus and nationally, Dean Barth has had a significant positive impact on many people and endeavors in the social work profession, at UMB, and beyond. Barth's unflagging commitment to strengthening society drove major growth at the School during his tenure, in areas including research, infrastructure and community outreach.

"Dean Barth's leadership has been transformational," says Assistant Dean for Communications Matt Conn. "He has worked tirelessly to lift up the School, the University and the profession of social work."

"During Dean Barth's time at the helm, the SSW's research infrastructure expanded enormously," says former Associate Dean for Research Bethany Lee, noting the striking increase in staff at the Sponsored Projects Office over the past decade. "...He has supported faculty research in many ways: from funding pilot studies to connecting faculty with potential funders, community partners, and external mentors, to facilitating access to any necessary software or technology, and to even providing feedback on papers and presentations."

That support helped the School's grants and contracts portfolio grow from \$6 million to \$40 million a year.

Meanwhile, on Barth's watch, the SSW's annual development campaign increased from \$460,000 to \$4 million a year, and total annual aid to students has soared to more than \$3 million.



*Bethany Lee, PhD*



*David Flinchbaugh*



*Nancy Dickinson, PhD*

"Dean Barth and his wife Clinical Professor Nancy Dickinson have been visionary philanthropists," says David Flinchbaugh, Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations, "contributing over \$250,000, via more than 230 gifts to 35 various funds at UMB. Their personal commitment has led many supporters to join our efforts and become significant donors to our School. Several of these donors have now united to lead the campaign to fund a Barth Professorship in Children's Services Research."

Barth also invigorated the School's activities to increase alumni engagement. The alumni association had not been operating for many years.



**"It's very exciting what we've been able to do and it's really because of his vision and leadership."**

*- Promise Heights Executive Director  
Bronwyn Mayden, MSW*

"When Dean Barth first came to the School of Social Work, the alumni association had been dormant for many years. He breathed new life into it by creating the Alumni Board of Directors," says Alumni Board President Marci Kennai, MSW 83. "He also established our Annual Homecoming Event, increased the number of alumni awards from one, to the six that are currently presented, and expanded the Alumni Scholarship program to include six scholarships for deserving students."

The School's academic framework grew, too. Barth oversaw an expansion of training, research and stipend support in behavioral health, and actively recruited experts in this critical area to join the faculty. He also championed adding programs at the Universities at Shady Grove campus, strengthening the PhD program and developing a post-doctoral program.

"Rick Barth has been an unwavering, inexhaustible source of support for the PhD program," reflects Associate Dean for Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Education Charlotte Bright. "In addition to his obvious contributions – named awards, stipends, and public statements – Rick has been an invaluable source of support behind the scenes. He is never too busy to think about how the School and the program can address the needs of a student facing a personal, scholarly, or financial challenge."

Dedicated to seeing rigorous scholarly work translate to positive outcomes on the ground, Barth also has nurtured a culture of research-informed community outreach at the

School. Building on the success of signature programs, including Family Connections, Title IV-E, the Family Welfare Research and Training Group, and the Social Work Community Outreach Service (SWCOS), Barth led the charge to establish significant new efforts to improve lives in underprivileged communities in Baltimore city and beyond. Promise Heights, which partners with community-based non-profits and faith-based organizations to improve the educational, social, health, and economic opportunities of children from birth to young adulthood in Baltimore's Upton/Druid Heights neighborhood has been the most successful of these efforts.

Bronwyn Mayden, Promise Heights Executive Director, recalls Barth's role in the development of the initiative and his support in empowering faculty and staff with the know-how to successfully pursue funding. "Before we began bringing in grant money, the SSW funded a lot of activities for us to get started and for us to learn skills, like how to write winning grants," says Mayden, who is proud that in 2018, Promise Heights won highly competitive federal Promise Neighborhood funding. "It's very exciting what we've been able to do," she adds, "and it's really because of his vision and leadership."

Another notable effort, begun with decanal support from Barth, is the Financial Social Work Initiative, now a national leader in partnering with education and service professionals to help address the pressing financial needs of individuals and families. The growth of the School's Institute for Innovation and Implementation—which provides training, technical assistance, facilitation, analysis, consulting, implementation support, and translational research and evaluation for and with federal, state, and local governments, community organizations, and providers—has also been part of his legacy.

A born collaborator, much of Barth's success came from putting his head together with others to make progress, exemplified by his espousal of the School's shared governance model.



**"Rick Barth has been an unwavering, inexhaustible source of support for the PhD program."**

*- Associate Dean for Doctoral  
and Post-Doctoral Education  
Charlotte Bright, PhD*



Jodi Frey, PhD



Karen Hopkins, PhD



Donald Tobin, JD

“As Chairs of the UMSSW Faculty Executive Committee,” agree Associate Professor Jodi Jacobson Frey (current chair) and Associate Professor Karen Hopkins (former chair), “we had an opportunity to work closely with Rick to discuss all school matters pertaining to and potentially affecting the faculty and broader SSW community. He always met with an open-mind, respecting our roles as chair and staying open-minded about the potential for more collaborative work on behalf of the faculty and administration.”

While the internal workings of the School of Social Work have been Barth’s top priority as Dean, he also has been steadfast in advancing the University through partnerships and service across campus.

Barth was instrumental in garnering foundational funding and providing administrative support to get the UMB Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) off the ground in 2018. ICTR is UMB’s first University-wide interdisciplinary hub for clinical translational research and training, serving all campus professional schools and the community. Barth is currently Deputy Director and looks forward to continued work with ICTR in the years to come.

“Dean Barth has been a tireless advocate and supporter

“He has a real interest and curiosity about ways in which our schools could work cooperatively.”  
— Donald Tobin, Maryland Carey Law Dean

of interprofessional clinical research at UMB,” says School of Medicine Department of Medicine Chair and ICTR Director Stephen Davis. “His vision, wisdom and enthusiasm were critical for the establishment of the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. We cannot thank him enough for his extraordinary leadership during UMB’s journey securing the incredibly important NIH Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) ... He is a wonderful colleague and a dear friend.”

Maryland Carey Law Dean Donald Tobin remembers the early days of his own deanship, just after the 2014 unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, when Barth reached out to organize joint Ferguson related programming for law and social work students.

“He has a real interest and curiosity about ways in which our schools could work cooperatively,” says Tobin.

Barth also has extended himself personally, as senior dean, to welcome incoming administrators and show them the ropes. “He was a tremendous asset for me when I joined the law school,” Tobin adds. “I valued his wise counsel. When you start as a dean, you’re learning the culture of a whole new place and navigating a whole new system. He was always willing to lend an ear and help me navigate the systems and processes of UMB.”



“Dean Barth is not only an incredible scholar and leader, he is also a GREAT human being who passionately cares about addressing the challenges facing vulnerable children and families. I always found Rick to be available, tremendously helpful, and quite astute on matters pertaining to research, career trajectory, and, generally, life. Rick leaves a legacy at Maryland’s School of Social Work to be reckoned with—that’s for sure. His impact on the profession of social work is bold and clear.”

—Michael A. Lindsey, PhD, MSW, MPH



Dean Marilyn Flynn



Dean Eddie Uehara

Barth is a social scientist striving to improve lives on a large scale, which is why he has emerged as a social work trailblazer at the national level.

“Dean Barth has been an extraordinary leader at a critical time in social work education,” says Darla Spence Coffey, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Social Work Education.

“While being the dean at one of the top-ranked schools of social work could certainly have occupied all of his time, he made space to provide leadership for the Grand Challenges for Social Work initiative, an effort that will continue to elevate and advance the profession for years to come.”

The Grand Challenges for Social Work was the first major initiative of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, a national honorific society now numbering around 100 distinguished scholars and practitioners, for which Barth was the founding President from 2009 to 2015.

Hosted at the UMSSW, Grand Challenges is a plan to tackle some of the nation’s most urgent social problems. It was Barth who, at the 2016 annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, gave the keynote address officially presenting the Grand Challenges to an assembly of the most important social work organizations in the country. Since then, the initiative has gained national momentum as social researchers, teachers and practitioners across the country join consortia to find solutions. With Barth’s participation, the UMSSW has contributed significantly to the challenges around homelessness, stopping family violence and building financial capability for all.

Marilyn Flynn, former Dean at the USC School of Social Work, calls Barth’s leadership in the establishment of the Academy “probably the difference between success and failure for that very young and new organization that has proved so important to the profession.”

University of Washington School of Social Work Dean Eddie Uehara agrees with Flynn.

“I can think of none who has contributed more to contemporary social work than has Rick,” — Dean Eddie Uehara



“I can think of none who has contributed more to contemporary social work than has Rick,” says Uehara.

“His strong and steadfast leadership of both the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare and the Grand Challenges for Social Work—two major advancements in our field—was precisely what both needed, in the earliest stages of their existence. Rick’s capacity to work so beautifully with a wide range of organizations and individuals—to help strike the right balance between the visionary and the practical, between blue sky vision and small ‘next steps’—was absolutely key to success.”

Barth was recently identified as one of the top two most cited social workers but recognizes that he will need to take some time before resuming a high level of scholarship. He will return to teaching once he passes the administrative torch to a new Dean, and hopes to carry on his research on children’s services, remain active in Grand Challenges work, and continue serving the campus as UMB ICTR Deputy Director.

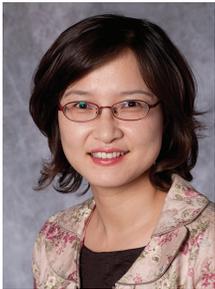
“I am proud of what we’ve been able to achieve during my time as Dean,” says Barth, “and I look forward to continued service to the School, this great University and the profession.”

Barth will enjoy a sabbatical and then return to a standard faculty role as a professor. “I am working to be the best transition dean I can possibly be, leaving every aspect of the school in sparkling condition for the next dean.”



“Dean Barth has been instrumental in sustaining and expanding social work research into the next generation through his generous mentorship of students and new investigators. His impact is further demonstrated by the transformation of the University of Maryland School of Social Work (SSW) into a more research-intensive culture supporting a diversity of social work scholarship. I will be forever grateful for his guidance and support as a mentee and former SSW faculty member.” — *Geetha Gopalan, LCSW, PhD*

GRANTS, HONORS & PUBLICATIONS



**Haksoon Ahn, PhD**, associate professor, and **Paul Sacco, PhD**, associate dean for research, are members of the 2019 class of Fellows of the

Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR). SSWR Fellows are members who have served with distinction to advance the mission of the Society — to advance, disseminate, and translate research that addresses issues of social work practice and policy and promotes a diverse, equitable and just society.



Associate Professor **Caroline Long Burry, PhD**, has been named a UMB GLOBALtimore Fellow for 2019-2020. She will be developing and co-teaching a new

class, “Interdisciplinary HIV Services: Learning from Differentiated Care Models in Botswana and Baltimore.”



Associate Professor **John Cagle, PhD**, is a co-investigator of a new National Institute on Aging grant. Dr. Jennifer Wolff, from Johns

Hopkins School of Public Health, was awarded the R01 from the National Institute on Aging. The 5-year grant will test out an intervention to improve advance care planning among early-stage dementia patients in primary care.



*Christine Callahan, PhD*



*Jodi Frey, PhD*



*Paul Sacco, PhD*



*Amanda Mosby, MA*

A team at the School of Social Work, **Drs. Christine Callahan, PhD, Jodi Frey, PhD, Paul Sacco, PhD, and Ms. Amanda Mosby**, in collaboration with the UMSSW’s Financial Social Work Initiative partner, Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Maryland, has received over \$172,000 in funding from the National Center for Responsible Gaming for their study, “Developing and Testing a Brief Intervention for Problem Gambling in Credit Counseling.”



Assistant Professor **Jaih Craddock, MSW, MA** has been selected to be a scholar in the HIV Intervention Science Training Program (HISTP). This 3-year

NIMH-funded training program is for underrepresented new investigators and housed at Columbia University. HISTP provides support with grant writing and training regarding new HIV intervention technologies and provides mentorship from leaders in the HIV and technology fields.



Assistant Professor **Laurie Graham, PhD**, has been named to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Family Violence*. Graham is also lead author of new

research “Evaluations of prevention programs for sexual, dating, and intimate partner violence for boys and men: A systematic review” that has been published in *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*.



UMSSW postdoctoral fellow **Allison Hepworth, PhD**, was the first-place winner in the Nutrition Translation topical area at the American Society

for Nutrition’s Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition. This event recognizes the highest scoring research abstracts submitted by students and young investigators at Nutrition 2019, the flagship meeting of the American Society for Nutrition.



Associate Professor **Karen Hopkins, PhD**, was honored in October with the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work’s 2019 Distinguished

Alumni Award for Social Work Education.



Associate Professor **Nalini Negi, PhD, (above left)** Dr. Jennifer Swanberg, (Providence College) along with UMSSW Doctoral Student, **Caroline Harmon Darrow (above right)** and Jessica Clouser (University of Kentucky) have a new paper published in *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology* that is the first to examine individual, social and work-related correlates of depression among Latina/o horse workers. The paper is titled “Working under conditions of social vulnerability: Depression among Latina/o immigrant horse workers.”



**Dr. Wendy Shaia, EdD** has a new paper, “SHARP: A Framework for Addressing the Contexts of Poverty and oppression During Service Provision

in the United States,” published in the *Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics* that puts forth a framework for addressing the contexts poverty and oppression during service provision in the United States.



Assistant Professor **Melissa Edmondson Smith, PhD** is the lead author of new research titled “A quick scoping review of psychosocial

treatment recommendations for African Americans with schizophrenia spectrum disorders.” The work appears in a recent issue of *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*.



The National Institute of Justice has awarded the School of Social Work’s **Institute for Innovation and Implementation** \$770,657 through 2021 to help

conduct a long-term follow-up of a randomized controlled trial of Functional Family Therapy, an evidence-based delinquency intervention program, that was specifically accommodated to serve gang at-risk and gang-involved youth. Research Assistant Professor **Brook Kearley, PhD**, is the Principal Investigator on the project.



A recent analysis in the *Journal of Social Service Research* analyzed data on faculty citation rates at Schools of Social Work nationwide. Among our faculty, **Dean Richard Barth, PhD**, was ranked ninth and Associate Professor **Lisa Berlin, PhD**, was ranked eightieth. These rankings are based on the H-Index, a measure of research productivity and impact.

**The Institute for Innovation & Implementation** at the University of Maryland School of Social Work is the recipient of a new, 5-year, \$2.7 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. Known as B’More SUCCEEDS (SUccess through Community-based Coordination, Empowerment, Evidence-based interventions, and Direct Supports), this initiative will provide coordinated, comprehensive treatment and recovery support services for youth and young adults using substances and experiencing homelessness or housing instability in Baltimore City, with a particular focus on those who may be pregnant or parenting.

The Open Society Institute awarded the SSW’s **Social Work Community Outreach Services (SWCOS)** \$225,000 to help support SWCOS’ Positive Schools Initiative. The purpose of the grant is to enable the Positive Schools Center, a SWCOS initiative, to train educators and students in Baltimore City public schools to use restorative and complementary practices to improve school climates.



The Baltimore City Health Department has awarded the school over \$132,000 to help build capacity for its Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma

Program. Assistant Clinical Professor **Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD**, is the Principal Investigator.

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The following pages recognize the pledges and gifts of alumni, parents, friends, foundations, and organizations that supported the people and programs of the University of Maryland School of Social Work with new pledges and gifts received between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

Every gift is important, very much appreciated, and makes a difference. The entire School of Social Work family extends its thanks to its donors for their beneficence, confidence, and support of the School's mission of excellence in education, research, and service.

Unrestricted gifts help provide current operating support for the School's budget, help close the gap between tuition and the actual cost of a student's education, and offer support for research, education, and community outreach.

Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, we apologize in advance for any errors or omissions. To report a discrepancy or for more information, please contact the Office of Development at 410-706-0006 or at [alumni@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:alumni@ssw.umaryland.edu).

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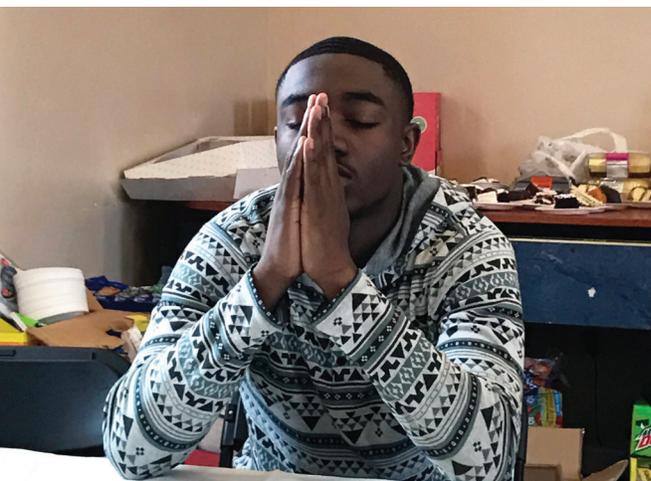


# The Class of 2015 PRESENTS THEIR CLASS GIFT TO THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

The UMSSW Class of 2015 presented their Class Gift, a series of photos representing six pillars of social work to the School on September 12th. The photos are from the collection of the late Baltimore photographer, Noah Scialom. Miriam Bennett, MSW '15 gave some moving remarks on behalf of her graduating class and in honor of Noah.

**THE SIX PILLARS OF SOCIAL WORK**  
**COMPETENCE | INTEGRITY | DIGNITY**  
**HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS | SERVICE | SOCIAL JUSTICE**





class of **1968**

**Stanley Weinstein, MSW**



*Stanley E. Weinstein, executive director of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners, receives the Glenda McDonald Board Administrator Award from Denise Capaci, board chair for the Association of Social Work Boards. Photo credit: ASWB.*

The Association of Social Work Boards recognized NASW Social Work Pioneer® Stanley E. Weinstein for outstanding service to the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners during its Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. Weinstein, executive director of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners, received the Glenda McDonald Board Administrator Award for Outstanding Commitment to Social Work Regulatory Board Service. He was honored for his work promoting ethical, responsible, and effective functioning of the regulatory board he leads and for his role in educating the public and the profession. In addition, Weinstein was recognized for ensuring that social work practitioners and consumers of social work services are provided with detailed information about social work regulations and changes in the state. He also was recognized for shepherding new legislation through the Maryland Assembly and educating new social work graduates about licensure and regulation by working directly with graduating classes.

class of **1987**

**Jill Levenson, PhD, MSW**



Dr. Jill Levenson, PhD, LCSW, is a Professor of Social Work at Barry University in Miami, FL. She has been named in

the *Journal of Social Service Research* (Thyer, Smith, Osteen, & Carter, 2019) as being among the top 100 most influential contemporary social work faculty as measured by the H-Index. According to the journal, “the top 100 most influential contemporary social work faculty were identified, resulting in a listing of individuals who have published relatively large numbers of scholarly works, which themselves have been subsequently highly cited.”

Levenson is a SAMHSA-trained internationally recognized expert in trauma-informed care. She has published over 100 articles about policies and clinical interventions designed to prevent sexual violence, including projects funded by the National Institutes of Justice and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. Her groundbreaking research on the link between adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and sexually abusive behavior has paved the way for innovations in treatment programs for people who sexually offend.

class of **1988**

**Alison Malkin, MSW**

Alison Malkie, MSW, is starting her 30th year as a clinical social worker at Newton North High School in Massachusetts. She has recently co-authored *The High School Years: A Parent's Guide* with her colleague, Barbara Gibson. This practical guide for parents can be purchased on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com and best found by searching on the sites with Alison's name.

Last year she was presented with the Elicker Award for excellence from her colleagues, students, and parents.

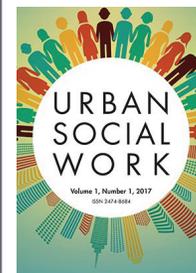
class of **1993**

**Mary Beth Stapleton, MSW**



Named Manager of Family and Community Partnerships, Harford County Public Schools in Maryland.

## Alumni Join Forces to Publish New Research



Jannette Meriweather Gregory, MSW '95, Gillian Gregory, MSW '04, and Maisha Davis, MSW '02, along with

several others, are co-authors of new research that appears in the journal *Urban Social Work*. The work is titled “Black Family Resilience: An Introduction to Enriched Structural Family Therapy.”

The work can be found in Volume 3, Number 1, 2019 issue.

# PhD Class of 1982 Iris Carlton-LaNey, PhD Earns CSWE's Significant Lifetime Achievement Award



In October, the Council on Social Work Education's 2019 Significant Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Iris Carlton-LaNey, PhD '82. Dr. Carlton-LaNey is the Berg-Beach Distinguished Professor of Community Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received her bachelor's degree in social work from North Carolina A&T State

University, where the complex themes of inclusivity and social justice were nurtured. She received her AM in social work from the University of Chicago and her PhD from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Her research interests

include aging issues and African American social welfare history. Dr. Carlton-LaNey has several books to her credit, including *Preserving and Strengthening Small Towns and Rural Communities* (with Edwards & Reid) and, *African American Leadership: An Empowerment Tradition in Social Welfare History*.

In 2003, Dr. Carlton-LaNey was the recipient of the Council on Social Work Education's Distinguished Recent Contributions in Social Work Education Award. In 2010 she received the National Association of Black Social Workers' Distinguished Achievement in Social Work Education Award. In 2011 the CSWE Council on the Role and Status of Women in Social Work Education named her the Feminist Scholarship Honoree, and the Sisters of the Academy (SOTA) presented her with their inaugural Legacy Award.

In 2012, the University of Maryland School of Social Work identified Dr. Carlton-LaNey as one of its 50 Heroes for Justice, and in 2015 the National Association of Social Workers named her a Social Work Pioneer.





# In Memoriam

## David Hardcastle

David A. Hardcastle, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland, School of Social Work died on January 25 2019, 3 months short of his 80th birthday.

A highly respected scholar, author, educator and administrator, Hardcastle's last book, "Community Practice" (published by Oxford University Press) went into three editions and is still revered as definitive for the field (it is also translated into Chinese). Moreover, he was loved and admired by all who had the good fortune of knowing him.

After completing high school, he started his higher education at Community College of the Sequoias; then switched to Fresno State where he received his Bachelor's degree. After this, he went off to UC Berkeley. Hardcastle received his MSW degree with a strong focus on organizations and communities. David's PhD is from Case Western Reserve.

He joined the faculty at the University of Kansas in Lawrence and by 1974 became interim dean, by 1977 David assumed the deanship for five years.

Hardcastle's own scholarship was quite prolific and wide-ranging with articles published in many of the major social welfare journals such as "Social Service Review" in 1971, A Welfare Transfer for the Poor; "Arete" in 1978, Negative Label Attribution: A Community Study with Donald Chambers; "Encyclopedia of Social Work" in 1990, Legal Regulation of Social Work. The first edition of "Community Practice" was published in 1997 by Oxford University Press, his Maryland colleagues Stanley Wenocur and Patricia Powers were co-authors. The second edition was released in 2004 and also translated into Chinese, while Hardcastle was the primary author for the third edition of 2011. It is still considered a seminal book in the United States and parts of Europe.

Hardcastle spent his longest years, 22, as a professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work and retired in 2005. He chaired the doctoral program from 1985-1988, worked on policy and labor studies, continued his writing about employment issues in social work, and continual clarification of the professions' values and mission. According to Dean Richard Barth, Hardcastle's reputation was one of having "high standards and being a principled colleague who always tried to be fair."

### Quotes from former students and colleagues of David Hardcastle:

*"I will remember his kindness. He held us to high standards that I now have passed on to my own students."*

*"Professor Hardcastle was one of my first professors when I came to the University to earn my MSW. He was one of my most challenging professors and I deeply enjoyed his class and learned a lot from it."*

*"He made important and lasting contributions to the field, I so appreciated reading his books knowing he was my teacher. I am grateful for all I learned from him. So brilliant."*



# In Memoriam

## Carrie A. Harper, MSW '99

Carrie A. Harper, MSW '99 of Cambridge, Md., passed away on Monday, March 11th at her home.



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Tell Us What's Happening in Your Life!

The School of Social Work wants you to share your news, not only with us, but with your fellow alumni. This news could include a new job or promotion, a birth or marriage announcement, new grandchildren to brag about, or almost any other news you care to share. Please fill out the form and return it to us, and it will be published in a "Class Notes" section of a future edition of Connections. We also encourage you to send pictures!\*

If you have moved, changed jobs, or changed your name, help us keep our records up to date. Please fill out the form with your new information and send it to us. You may send the form to:

University of Maryland School of Social Work
Office of Development & Alumni Relations
525 West Redwood Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-1777

You can also e-mail your "Class Note" to us at alumni@ssw.umaryland.edu or submit it online at ssw.umaryland.edu/alumni\_and\_development.

\*Photos may be sent to the address above or if sending by E-mail, we prefer photos be saved in a tif format at 300 dpi. Images sent below that resolution may not be printed. Please include your name and mailing address on all photos sent. All photos will be returned.

Name \_\_\_\_\_
Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_
Class Year \_\_\_\_\_
Concentration/Specialization \_\_\_\_\_
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_
Employer \_\_\_\_\_
Title \_\_\_\_\_
Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_
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# Join Us at Homecoming 2020

*Social Work in the Workplace:  
Turning the Tables on Critical Conversations*

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN EMPLOYEE  
ASSISTANCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

**Friday, March 13, 2020**

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**5 CEUs: \$60 Alumni, \$70 Friends, \$25 Students**

(Includes Alumni Association Awards Luncheon)

More details to come