



SSWR NEWS

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Society for Social Work and Research

From the President SSWR Past and Present: Thoughts on Our Tenth Anniversary

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In The Beginning...

In this, our tenth year, it is difficult to avoid superlatives when writing about SSWR's history and growth. Founded by Janet Williams in 1994, the Society had many charter members present at its birth, including the newly founded Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research (IASWR) and the National Institute of Mental Health, with Kenneth Lutterman taking a leading role. Those of us present at SSWR's first conference in Crystal City, VA had no certainty that it would survive, much less thrive. Janet functioned as SSWR's first President and managed to run SSWR's membership operations, while maintaining an enviable level of productivity as an active researcher. Helped by Program Chair Lee Badger and a few other hardy souls, SSWR was clearly an idea whose time had come when it first convened in April, 1995.

From a Shaky Start to Remarkable Growth

The inaugural meeting left SSWR's volunteer organizers exhilarated but concerned about whether an annual meeting could be held given the enormous effort involved. Membership dues were deliberately kept low to make SSWR accessible, but its meager budget offered no fiscal cushion if the next meeting failed to draw sufficient attendance. It wasn't pessimism, just realistic concern about the viability of this nascent organization.

And so SSWR endured a shaky few years while its second President, Tony Tripodi, and the SSWR Board worked to keep it going. With the dedicated contributions of Miriam Potocky-Tripodi and her home institution, Florida International University, SSWR held its second conference in North Miami in January 1998. It was well-attended, with a full program featuring our first presentation of awards. Momentum picked up the following year when our third President, Allen Rubin, and the University of Texas School of Social Work, hosted a successful conference (with outstanding barbeque). We were still a volunteer effort with one important exception: the hiring of Ralph Louis to assist SSWR with conference preparations. In subsequent years, Ralph came to personify SSWR for many members, as he handled our membership renewals and abstract submission process.

The excitement generated in Austin carried forward to Charleston, SC in January, 2000, despite snow and ice storms that plagued many trying to attend the meeting. Program Chair Angelica Thevos (who was also the student representative on the SSWR Board and juggling her dissertation at the same time!) deserves much credit for ensuring that the show went on. Perhaps not surprisingly, the winter timing of SSWR was reconsidered not long afterward, but alternate dates in the fall or spring conflicted with the meetings of other social work organizations. So we stayed with mid-January but resolved to choose southern locales to avoid future weather problems as best we could.

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From the President

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Dean Bonnie Yegidis, Bruce Thyer, and the University of Georgia stepped up to host SSWR in Atlanta in 2001 under the leadership of our fourth President, Nancy Hooyman. Jeanne Werner (a program planner working at UGA) became our first professional conference planner that year, working closely with Ralph Louis, Nancy, and the SSWR Board. Jeanne worked for SSWR until her retirement in 2002, at which time we transitioned to the capable services of Travelink, Inc. Travelink co-owner Bill Haire, and staff members Patty Couch and Anne Healy, have brought their collective talents to benefit SSWR in many ways, including cost-saving hotel contracts and attention to the innumerable details of conference organizing and event planning.

From an unprecedented high turnout in Atlanta, we moved west to sunny San Diego in January 2002. Despite the tragedy of September 11 and understandable fears of traveling, we again exceeded expectations with over 1,000 in attendance. It was also the first year of the Aaron Rosen Lecture, which features aspects of practice-relevant research presented by leaders in the profession. Along the way, SSWR's membership was growing by several hundred each year (at last count we approached 1400). Holding our conference the following year in Washington D.C. offered an important opportunity to partner with NASW in lobbying Congress on behalf of social work research, and the Board agreed to return to the nation's capitol on a regular basis. By this time, our fifth President, Paula Allen-Meares, was leading a burgeoning organization that was simply too large to manage without more infrastructure.

Securing a Home and Staff for SSWR

As SSWR entered its ninth year, it needed a "home" and administrative support to sustain it. We started by hiring an experienced company (CONFEX) to customize and maintain a user-friendly, on-line, abstract submission and program planning system. Since our budget did not allow a complete start-up (a full-time administrative director and office, and equipment costs), we sought to partner with another professional society with space and available staff-time.

After numerous inquiries, the Society for Prevention Research (SPR) emerged as the best choice in late 2003. SPR was smaller in membership than SSWR, but had a fully equipped office and a two-person staff experienced in the administration of an established scientific association. The cost effectiveness of our partnership was beneficial to both organizations, and having the well-honed expertise of Jennifer Lewis and Irina Holmes was an asset as SSWR moved toward enhanced membership services, maintenance of an attractive new Website, and conference planning. These significant steps forward required our first increase in membership dues and conference registration fees in 2003. Even so, SSWR dues and fees remain low compared to other professional organizations.

Friendships and Partnerships

Due to space limitations or unwitting oversight, I apologize in

advance for neglecting to mention the names of so many persons who have given generously of their time and expertise. Our long-time partner, IASWR, must be specifically recognized, for it has been there each year to provide a day of preconference activities that is invariably well-attended. During those preconference days and independently of them, the National Institutes of Health (especially NIMH and NIDA) have provided staff support and direct funding to schools and individuals to support social work research at a critical time.

We plan to use our Tenth Anniversary program in Miami this January to acknowledge the many individuals who have served on SSWR Boards and helped us along the way. Importantly, former President Nancy Hooyman is spearheading a SSWR archives project to retrieve and organize documents and other memorabilia so that we can keep a record of our history and SSWR's many contributors.

Thoughts on SSWR's Future

As we look to SSWR's future, there is much to be thankful for and more work to be done. We want to encourage scientific rigor even as we embrace the use of multiple methods—quantitative, qualitative and mixed—to address the complex social problems we seek to understand and ameliorate. Each year, we offer a widening array of workshops and institutes designed to address the latest in research methods. We seek expanding partnerships with public and private entities that can help SSWR members in grant-writing, post-doctoral fellowship development, and other strategies for research support.

We want to be on the leading edge of fostering and disseminating intervention and evaluation research and the theory development that guides these efforts. Our members are leaders in knowledge-building in all fields of social work practice and in social and community well-being. Thus, it behooves us to actively support their efforts to evaluate what we do and how it works (or doesn't). To this end, we have an active partnership with the Campbell Collaboration to encourage systematic reviews of social welfare interventions. We are also alert to the need for funding and resources to support intervention studies testing the effectiveness of social work interventions with individuals, families, groups, and communities.

Spanning all of our efforts is a desire to maintain and build our programs for students and junior scholars. The preconference day, with its workshops, doctoral panel discussion, and special reception for students, is dedicated to this end and will continue and expand.

We want to maintain and expand our partnerships with other social work organizations, and to cooperate with other professional societies in advocating for independent inquiry and socially and ethically responsible research. And we want to encourage our international colleagues to feel welcome in

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Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

Conference Update

Dan Herman, Vice-President Program Chair, 2005 Conference

Planning for the 2005 Conference, "Celebrating a Decade of SSWR", is well underway, and you have already received the pre-conference program. Demonstrating that the annual conference continues to attract growing interest as the pre-eminent research conference in the field, a total of 841 abstracts were submitted, reflecting an increase of ten percent over last year's previous all-time high. From these, the program planning committee, with the outstanding efforts of over 100 abstract reviewers who are acknowledged elsewhere in this Newsletter, has completed the difficult task of selecting a diverse and exciting group of presentations. As always, the limited number of time slots available at the conference means that, unfortunately, many excellent abstracts could not be accepted.

This year we inaugurated the use of a new online submission process that we hope was simpler and more efficient for submitters. In addition to handling abstract submissions, the new system also facilitates more efficient management of the review, author notification, and program scheduling. So far we have received excellent feedback on the system, but we urge all members who have suggestions about how the process could be improved to let us know.

Program Highlights

This year's Presidential Plenary speaker will be Dr. Alan Leshner, CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Executive Publisher of *Science*. As a vocal advocate for the need to protect scientific research from political interference, Dr. Leshner is ideally suited to address the key issues facing the academic research community during these turbulent times.

The Rosen Lecture this year will be given by Dr. J. David Hawkins of the University of Washington, a leading prevention researcher. And as a special feature of the program dedicated to marking SSWR's first ten years, there will be a special plenary session honoring the late Kenneth Lutterman, an NIMH official who was a tireless advocate for increased federal funding of social work research, and who was instrumental in the founding of SSWR. Featured speakers at the Lutterman tribute will be Dr. Janet Williams, SSWR founder, and Dr. Nabila El-Bassel, Director of the Social Intervention Group at the Columbia University School of Social Work.

The general conference format will remain similar to that of previous years, with papers, workshops, symposia, and poster sessions covering the broad array of social work research domains. The profession's major research awards will be presented, including the Outstanding Dissertation and Outstanding Published Research Awards, and the Distinguished Achievement Award. We will also announce the first recipients of the SSWR Doctoral Fellows Awards, a new SSWR initiative designed to support doctoral students in their dissertation

research.

As in previous years, we will offer a panel discussion for doctoral students followed by a reception. There will also be an opportunity for research interest groups to meet informally during the Friday and Saturday lunch breaks. The membership breakfast meeting is scheduled for Sunday morning, January 16th; we urge all members to attend as, among other things, a slate of candidates for election will be announced.

Building on our successful experience last year, we will again offer SSWR-sponsored pre-conference methodology workshops on Thursday, January 13. In response to members' interests, the following three workshops are scheduled:

- ◆ Mixed Methods —John W. Creswell, University of Nebraska
- ◆ Qualitative Data Analysis with NVIVO — Sarah Morgan, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- ◆ Conducting Systematic Reviews — Julia Littell, Bryn Mawr College; Betsey J. Becker, Michigan State University; Teresa Piggott, Loyola University

These workshops require separate registration as well as a modest fee to cover their costs. Please be sure to register early, since demand is expected to be high and enrollment will be limited.

Once again, IASWR will be sponsoring a pre-conference institute, entitled "Federal Opportunities for Social Work Research." The institute includes sessions with representatives of key federal funding agencies and established social work researchers. There is no additional cost for attending this institute, which will take place on January 13, but you must register for it when you register for the conference.

Finally, we plan to celebrate our Tenth Anniversary with a gala reception and a few surprises for attendees. Special thanks to our Conference Planning Committee members: James Barber, Rick Barth, Stacey Freedenthal, Sarah Gehlert, Jeanne Marsh, Deborah Padgett, Barbara Thomlison, and Joan Zlotnik. We look forward to an outstanding conference and to seeing you in Miami!

Attendance at our Annual Conference increased from 300 in 1998 to 500 in 1999. It has since more than doubled to 1200!



Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

The Program Committee Gratefully Acknowledges the Contributions of the Following Individuals Who Served as Peer Reviewers of Abstracts Submitted for Presentation at the 2005 Conference

Neil Abell	Leslie Alexander	Paula Allen-Meares	Jeane Anastas
Judith Baer	Richard P. Barth	Kia J. Bentley	Cathy S. Berkman
Jill Berrick	David E. Biegel	Beverly Black	Gary L. Bowen
Suzanne Boyd	John S. Brekke	John C. Bricout	Brian Bride
Devon Brooks	Denise Burnette	Fred Buttell	Bonnie E. Carlson
Letha Chadiha	Namkee G. Choi	Julian Chow	Ram Cnann
Paul W. Colson	Terri Combs-Orme	Kevin Corcoran	Mark Courtney
Sherry Cummings	Martha Dore	Jeffrey Draine	James Drisko
Catherine N. Dulmus	Ruth E. Dunkle	Tonya Edmond	Nabila El-Bassel
Diane Elze	Malitta Engstrom	Kathy Farkas	Joyce Everett
Antoinette Farmer	G. Lawrence Farmer	Trudy Festinger	Jerry Floersch
Rowena Fong	Anne E. Fortune	Stacey Freedenthal	Sarah Gehlert
Zvi Gellis	Andrés G. Gil	Wallace J. Gingerich	Deborah Gioia
Lew Gilchrist	Daniel B. Herman	Shenyang Guo	Wen-Jui Han
Jim Hinterlong	Jan Steven Greenberg	Eric R. Hardiman	Lani V. Jones
Mark C. Holter	Nancy Hooyman	Roberta R. Iversen	Daniel Herman
Mansoor A. F. Kazi	Michael LaSala	Ellen P. Lukens	James Martin
Ruth G. McRoy	William Meezan	Ferol E. Mennen	Daniel Meyer
Faye Mishna	Nancy Morrow-Howell	Carol Mowbray	Ann Nichols-Casebolt
Julianne S. Oktay	John Orme	Martha N. Ozawa	Deborah K. Padgett
Ruth Paris	Sue Pearlmutter	Wilma Peebles-Wilkins	Ron Pitner
David E. Pollio	Kathleen J. Pottick	Karen Randolph	Cheryl Regehr
Cynthia J. Rocha	William S. Rowe	Allen Rubin	Mary C. Ruffolo
Joseph P. Ryan	Tina L. Rzepnicki	Andrew Safyer	Roberta G. Sands
Kristine Siefert	Mark I. Singer	Carolyn Smith	Sharon Smith
Phyllis Solomon	Barbara Solt	Karen M. Sowers	Michael Spencer
Renee Spencer	David W. Springer	Karen Staller	Barbara Thomlison
Sanna Thompson	Helle Thorning	Lynn Videka	Elizabeth M. Tracy
Lynn A. Warner	Dina Wilke	James Herbert Williams	Yin-Ling Irene Wong

Greetings from SSWR'S New Administrative Staff

Jennifer Lewis, Administrative Director and Irina Homes, Administrative Coordinator

We are very pleased to be part of the SSWR administrative team, which is responsible for all membership services including website and listserv maintenance, financial management, and general administrative support to the SSWR officers, Board of Directors, and committees. Our attention during our first six months with SSWR has focused on the development of the membership database, so that it can be an accurate and valuable resource to the organization, and can accommodate the requirements of a growing membership organization. The first phase of this project involved converting the old database to new one which has fields that reflect the newly designed membership application and renewal form. With this conversion, the Board will have the data to make well-informed decisions regarding the membership. And as new and renewing members complete their membership forms, the data is being uploaded to the new, searchable di-

rectory on the members' only page of the SSWR website.

The next phase of the database development is to transition the organization from an anniversary- to a calendar-year membership renewal. This transition will take more than a full-year to complete, and we appreciate your patience as we implement this change. Once this phase is completed, the membership dues cycle will be in sync with the Society's calendar financial year, and will align with the annual conference held each January. This will enable greater administrative efficiencies and enhanced financial management of the organization's resources.

Please don't hesitate to contact the administrative staff with any questions or concerns at info@sswr.org or at (703) 893-2400. We look forward to meeting you in Miami!



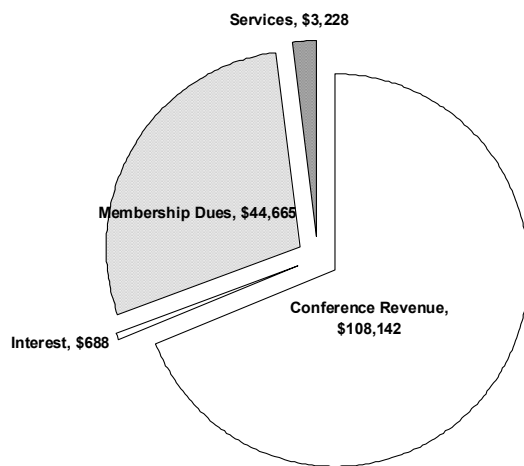
Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

By the Numbers...

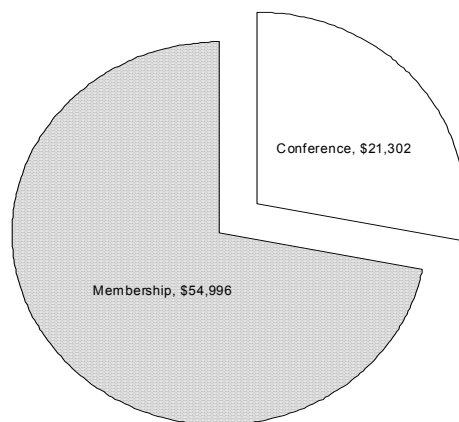
Sue Pearlmutter, Treasurer

In its tenth year of operation, SSWR is enjoying excellent financial health. For the seven months ended July 31, 2004, the Society had revenues of \$156,723 and expenses of \$76,297. Most of the revenue (\$108,142 or 69%) was income from the January, 2004 conference. Conference revenue reported below is actual revenue after all expenses incurred have been paid. Twenty-eight percent of this year's revenue (\$44,665) came from membership dues, and an additional three percent (\$3,916) was produced through job postings and the sale of mailing labels. Conference expenses not incurred or paid by the consultants, associated with the 2004 and 2005 conferences, totaled \$21,302, or 28% of the expenses. Membership expenses of \$54,996 constituted 72% of the total expenses for the period. Our net income for the period was \$80,426.

SSWR Revenue-Jan-July 2004



SSWR Expenses-Jan-July 2004



This year has seen significant changes in patterns of spending for the organization. In March, the Society contracted with Jennifer Lewis and her colleagues for the provision of management services. Jennifer's efforts have resulted in a professional approach and expertise not previously available to the membership. SSWR's website and materials have been updated to reflect the Society's growing membership, new initiatives, and research focus. Conference planning and preparation continue to be streamlined with the addition this year of a computerized abstract management service. These costs accounted for \$32,325 of the expenses. Other ongoing costs included \$18,909 for the provision of *Research on Social Work Practice* to our membership, and \$7,889 for transportation and meeting expenses for a spring meeting of the SSWR Board of Directors.

During the past several years, the Society has managed its finances quite well. SSWR has sufficient funds to assure that it can continue to contract for administrative services, use conference consultants, and operate in a fiscally sound manner.

Monitoring of revenues and expenses will be essential as SSWR considers its future. It also will assure that the Board is able to determine the organization's needs and plan for the use of its resources accurately.

SSWR Announces Doctoral Fellows Award

Rowena Fong, Member-at-Large

The Society for Social Work and Research announces the creation of two awards of \$3000 each for doctoral students whose proposed dissertation research reflects innovative ideas and rigorous methodologies related to social work policy and/or practice. Those chosen as Fellows may use the funds awarded for any expenses related to the completion of their dissertations. Applicants using quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, or other appropriate methodologies are eligible for these awards.

Applications to become a Doctoral Fellow must have been submitted by September 30, 2004. Applicants must be members of the Society for Social Work Research and must

have an approved dissertation proposal. If their study is part of a larger project or a secondary analysis of data gathered by others, the relationship between the proposed study and the larger study must have been addressed in a cover letter.

The Doctoral Fellows Committee will review the 45 applications that have been received, and make recommendations regarding the final awards to the SSWR Board, who will select the two Fellows. The Committee is chaired by Dr. Rowena Fong and includes Board members Paula Allen-Meares, Rick Barth, Jeanne Marsh and Deborah Padgett. Applicants will be notified about funding decisions on or about December 15, 2004, and a formal announcement of the awards will be made at the SSWR Conference.

Update for Student Members

Stacey Freedenthal, Student Member-at-Large

Money, jobs, and skills development rank among the top concerns of doctoral students. SSWR has several mechanisms dedicated to each of these important topics.

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

SSWR started a new doctoral fellowship program this year to reward students working on outstanding dissertations. As reflected in Rowena Fong's description above, dissertation proposals will be judged according to how well the proposed dissertation research reflects innovative ideas and rigorous methodologies related to social work research, policy, or practice.

These awards will be made annually, so check the SSWR web page this spring for the deadline and other relevant information for 2005. To be eligible for the fellowship, doctoral students must have successfully defended their dissertation proposal. They also must have enough work remaining that they will not graduate before the May immediately following receipt of the award in January.

The dissertation fellowship reflects SSWR's ongoing commitment to doctoral students. Credit goes especially to T. Chedzsey Smith-McKeever, Ph.D., who in the Spring of 2004 ended four years of service as the student Member-at-Large on the SSWR Board of Directors. Dr. Smith-McKeever passionately advocated for doctoral students in general, and for the dissertation fellowship specifically, even after she joined the social work faculty at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Job Seekers Registry

SSWR will continue to organize several books of one-page curriculum vitae for deans, search committee members, and other potential employers, to peruse at the annual conference. This job seekers registry has proved very useful in facilitating introductions and interviews among employers and applicants at past conferences, and it consistently receives praise in the conference evaluation forms.

If you want to have your one-page vita included, it needs to be received by Jan. 2, 2005. Please e-mail it as an attachment to sfreedenthal@wustl.edu. Since your submission can only be one page long, consider this a synopsis of key qualifications and achievements. Also, please include a local phone number where you can be reached at the conference.

Conference Activities

The annual conference represents an excellent opportunity for students to learn more about social work research, network with both students and established investigators, learn more about issues especially relevant to doctoral students, and further develop research skills. Once again, conference activities will begin with pre-conference workshops of special interest to students. One workshop, sponsored by IASWR, will emphasize various aspects of applying for research funding.

Student events continue with a panel discussion on topics relevant to professional development, the job search, the transition from student to faculty, and mentoring relationships for social work students and new investigators. A new development this year is the planned involvement of the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education (GADE) in setting the direction of the panel. As in years past, the panel will be followed by a reception for doctoral students, during which students can meet and chat with members of the SSWR and GADE Boards, as well as with each other.

To make the conference more accessible to doctoral students, SSWR invites them to volunteer eight hours during the conference in exchange for a waiver of the registration fee. Volunteers attend an orientation on Thursday morning, Jan. 13, and perform tasks such as registering participants, monitoring sessions, and assisting presenters with audiovisual equipment needs. Check out the SSWR website at www.sswr.org for more information.

Dissertation Award

The Outstanding Social Work Doctoral Dissertation Award rewards the fruits of one's ultimate labor as a student. The
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Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

Nominations and Elections Update

James Herbert Williams, Member-at-Large Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee

Preparations for the upcoming elections for new members of the Board of Directors are currently underway. The committee members have been recruited and are ready to review potential candidates as nominations are received. Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are James Herbert Williams (Chair), Washington University in St. Louis; Lee Badger, Fordham University; Audrey Begun, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; David Pollio, Washington University in St. Louis; Allen Rubin, University of Texas-Austin; and Lynn Videka, University at Albany.

Over the next three months, the committee will recruit and vet nominees for President-elect, Vice-President-elect, Secretary, and Member-at-Large. All members have received the call for nominations via the SSWR Listserv. The call for nominations has also been posted on the SSWR website and the IASWR Listserv. Two reminders will be sent to all members of SSWR

prior to closing the call.

As required by the Bylaws, the Nominations and Elections Committee will submit a double slate of candidates to the Board for their final approval at their January, 2005 meeting. The approved slate of candidates will be announced at the annual conference membership meeting in January, and on-line elections will be held during February. The president will announce the elections results to the membership through the SSWR listserv on the first business day of March, and new Board members will take office on April 1, 2005.

To be considered for the vacant board positions, the nominations and elections committee must receive a letter of nomination and two letters of endorsement from SSWR members, as well as the nominee's Curriculum Vitae. These materials should be submitted electronically to James Herbert Williams at jherbert@gwbmail.wustl.edu no later than November 30, 2004. All nominees must have been members of SSWR for at least one year prior to their nomination for office. Self-nominations are welcome.

News from the Membership

Prepared by Bill Meezan, Secretary

Sandra Altshuler of the School of Social Work at Eastern Washington University is the principal evaluator of a project entitled "A Collaborative Community Response to Drug Endangered Children." This project is a collaborative effort among agencies, including law enforcement, prosecution, and social services who have joined forces to meet the needs of children affected by methamphetamine and other inhalants. The research is supported by a grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Audrey Begun of the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has received a three year grant from NIAAA for her "Social Work Educator Alcohol Curriculum Training Project." The project is designed to improve the capacity of the nation's social work educators to train their MSW students for practice with clients who have alcohol-related problems, and includes an evaluation component.

Rupaleem Bhuyan, a PhD Candidate at the University of Washington School of Social Work, has been awarded dissertation funding from the National Science Foundation, Law and Social Science Program. Her study, entitled "Assessing the Impact of Violence Against Women Policy on the Safety and Welfare of Battered Immigrant Women," is designed to examine changes in federal legislation intended to deter intimate partner violence against immigrant women.

Sara K. Bressi, a doctoral student at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work, was awarded a National Research Service Award from NIMH to sponsor her pre-doctoral training in health and mental health services research.

Fred Brooks of the Georgia State University School of Social Work has been awarded a grant from the Marguerite Casey Foundation to evaluate ACORN's (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) pilot project, which hopes to increase the number of working poor families claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Leopoldo J. Cabassa, a Doctoral Candidate at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, has received dissertation funding from NIMH for his project titled "Hispanic Immigrants' Intentions to Seek Depression Care." The purpose of this study is to investigate how Hispanic immigrants make decisions to seek care for depression.

Holly Dabelkol, College of Social Work at The Ohio State University, has been named a Hartford Geriatric Faculty Scholar and will receive funding over the next two years to research the association between services and outcomes in adult day health care programs.

Sandra K. Danziger and **Anthony J. Mallon** of the University of Michigan School of Social Work have received a two year grant from the Joyce Foundation to evaluate the New Start Employment Project, an employment support

program operated by Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit, Inc. that serves individuals on parole or probation.

Diane DePanfilis of the University of Maryland has received a five year grant from the USDHHS, Children's Bureau, to replicate the Family Connections program with intergenerational families. A 10% match for this grant is being provided by from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Family Connections, a family focused child neglect prevention program developed by the Dr. DePanfilis, is also being replicated in seven other sites in the US.

Ellarwee Gadsden of the Social Work Program at Morgan State University received a Post Doctorate Research Fellowship which allowed her to study community health concerns in Baltimore communities. Dr. Gadsden is using secondary data to complete a study that will explore the environmental and health factors that contribute to residents' perceptions of their community's needs and problems.

Sarah Gehlert, School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, has received funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the National Cancer Institute to develop the University of Chicago Center for Interdisciplinary Health Disparities Research (CIHDR). CIHDR is one of eight centers in the US funded as part of the Population Health and Health Disparities Initiative of the NIH, which is one of the first initiatives of the NIH Roadmap for the

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Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

2004 Awards Process Underway — Awards To Be Presented in Miami in January

**Jeanne C. Marsh, Member-at-Large
Chair, Awards Committee**

This year there were 29 nominations for the Outstanding Research Award and 24 nominations for the Outstanding Social Work Dissertation Award. This is an increase in the number of nominations in both categories since last year. Jeanne Marsh, chair of the Awards Committee and a Member-at-Large of the Board, will present these awards following the Presidential Plenary. The Awards Committee consists of Dr. Marsh, Dr. Waldo E. Johnson, Jr., University of Chicago, and Dr. Rowena Fong, University of Texas-Austin. They would like to thank Ms. Kathy Dippel of the University of Chicago for so ably organizing the review process. They also thank the following members of the Society who reviewed manuscripts, so that a true peer review process could determine the award recipients.

2004 SSWR Dissertation Reviewers

Catherine Alter	University of Denver
Bill Borden	University of Chicago
Gary Bowen	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
John Brekke	University of Southern California
Amy Butler	University of Iowa
Robert Chaskin	University of Chicago
Kevin Corcoran	Portland State University
Martha Dore	Casey Family Programs
Ruth Dunkle	University of Michigan
Abbie Frost	Simmons College
Vincent Guilamo-Ramos	Columbia University
Susan Lambert	University of Chicago
John Orme	University of Tennessee
Kathleen Pottick	Rutgers University
Miriam Potocky-Tripodi	Florida International University
Mary Ruffolo	University of Michigan
Joan Rycraft	University of Texas at Arlington
Andre Safyer	Adelphi University
Brenda Smith	University at Albany
David Springer	University of Texas at Austin
Susan Stone	University of California, Berkeley
Paul Stuart	University of Alabama
Barbara Thomlison	Florida International University
Richard Tolman	University of Michigan
Terry Wolfer	University of South Carolina

2004 SSWR Article Reviewers

Leslie Alexander	Bryn Mawr College
Anne Fortune	University at Albany
Maria Vidal de Haymes	Loyola University
Sadhna Diwan	University of Chicago
Antoinette Farmer	Rutgers University
Marian Harris	University of Washington
Siri Jayaratne	University of Michigan
Sean Joe	University of Michigan
Michael Lindsey	University of Maryland
Kimberly Mann	Chicago State University
Brenda McGadney-Douglass	University of Toledo
Jean Quam	University of Minnesota
Allen Rubin	University of Texas at Austin
Joseph Ryan	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Sherill Sellers	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Kris Siefert	University of Michigan
Carolyn Smith	University at Albany
Phyllis Solomon	University of Pennsylvania
Joyce West Stevens	Loyola University
William Stewart	Southern University at New Orleans
Dexter Voisin	University of Chicago
Betsy Vourlekis	University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Earlie Washington	Western Michigan University
James Herbert Williams	Washington University at St. Louis

Awards For 2003 Presented in New Orleans

The following awards were announced at the Eighth Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research in New Orleans, LA, January 2004:

2003 Distinguished Achievement Award

Dr. David Fanshel, Professor Emeritus
School of Social Work, Columbia University

2003 Outstanding Research Award

Jane Waldfogel
School of Social Work, Columbia University

Wen-Jui Han
School of Social Work, Columbia University

Jeanne Brooks-Gunn
Teachers College, Columbia University

2003 Outstanding Social Work Dissertation Award

First Place

Rogério Pinto
School of Social Work
Columbia University

Honorable Mentions

Subadra Panchanadeswaran
School of Social Work
University of Maryland

Brian Lam
School of Social Work
Columbia University

Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

News from IASWR

Joan Levy Zlotnik

The Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research (IASWR) celebrated its Tenth Anniversary with initiatives aimed at expanding our service to the social work community and our presence in national research circles. We have convened meetings to present social work research findings, to create networks among researchers, and to enhance research-to-practice connections. We continued to provide training in research methods, and expanded our contacts with federal research-supporting agencies. We also have expanded our web-based information-dissemination venues, while continuing to provide information and technical assistance through conference presentations and exhibits, our newsletter, and our e-alert service within our weekly IASWR listserv announcements. Here are just a few highlights from the past year.

- ◆ The Tenth Anniversary Poster Session on Capitol Hill in March, co-sponsored by SSWR, was attended by more than 100 persons including representatives from both the legislative and executive branches. Twelve poster presentations were selected to feature the range and relatedness of current social work research findings to national policy priorities.
- ◆ At the 2004 SSWR conference, a day-long symposium called *Drug Abuse: HIV/AIDS and Social Consequences*, funded by NIDA, attracted almost 100 attendees. More than 300 attended the IASWR pre-conference technical assistance workshops, where NIH and CDC staff discussed their research priorities and funding mechanisms, and experienced researchers providing guidance on developing research questions.
- ◆ IASWR hosted another well-received summer 2004 workshop featuring meta-analysis and HLM software, attended by 40 participants.
- ◆ Through support from NASW, IASWR developed a monthly series of presentations on social work research which can be found on the NASW website (<http://www.socialworkers.org/research/default.asp>). The research page includes an introduction to social work research aimed at the practitioner and general public. Monthly features include introductions to an issue area, practice and policy implications, and a sample of published social work research on the issue.
- ◆ IASWR has continued to convene researchers around specific themes. In January and August 2004, national groups gathered to address research on child welfare workforce issues. A grant from AHRQ will support a fall gathering on "Nursing Home Social Work and Quality Psychosocial Care."
- ◆ During this year, two developing social workers served as interns with us: MSW student Mandy McHugh from the University of Oklahoma under the auspices of the University of Alabama Washington Semester, and new BSW graduate Julie Ferris of the University of Nebraska who was this summer's BPD Policy Fellow.
- ◆ IASWR is working with Danya, Inc. and CSWE to develop curricula related to mental health research under an NIMH-funded SBIR contract.
- ◆ The IASWR listserv announcements weekly alert service has expanded both in content and numbers of subscribers, now more than 1600. More than 1000 newsletters have been distributed at the SSWR and CSWE conferences, as well as at workshops. These announcements are posted on the IASWR website (www.iaswresearch.org).
- ◆ IASWR has actively worked with the Campbell Collaboration's (C2) Social Welfare Coordinating Committee to encourage systematic reviews and expanded visibility for C2 within federal and social welfare venues.
- ◆ With support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, IASWR is undertaking a systematic review of research and outcome studies related to recruitment and retention of child welfare staff.
- ◆ We continue to participate in advocacy efforts for increased social work research support through the ANSWER coalition, the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science (CAHT BSSR), and the new Coalition to Preserve Research (CPR) which grew from the Congressional challenge to NIH research related to sexuality. IASWR was among the first national organizations to issue a statement regarding research integrity, and provided regular information to inform our constituency about opportunities for advocacy

We would like to add a special word of thanks to those 38 individuals who made financial contributions in recognition of our Tenth Anniversary, and to the 50 social work education programs that provided direct financial support for our work. We look forward to the 2005 SSWR conference where we will present an expanded set of offerings for the pre-conference workshops. This year representatives from AHRQ, CDC, and SAMHSA will join NIH staff in discussing grant mechanisms and research priorities in the morning. Lunchtime roundtables and panels will discuss K (career) awards and allow for networking. Afternoon issue-focused workshops will be followed by consultation from NIH staff on concept papers that have been received in advance. Also, an afternoon-long workshop will focus on social work research related to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. This workshop has been developed in response to the Congressional challenge to such research as noted above.

IASWR's tenth anniversary year was indeed a lively celebration. We look forward to celebrating SSWR's ten years at the conference and throughout 2005.

Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

News from the Campbell Collaboration

Julia Littell, SSWR Representative

The evidence-based practice movement has increased the demand for empirical information on the effects of psychosocial interventions and social policies. Careful reviews and syntheses of results of multiple studies can produce more reliable information on intervention effects—and conditions under which effects may vary—than any single study. However, different review methods can lead to very different conclusions. Even so-called “systematic reviews” vary in their approach and rigor. For example, many “systematic” reviews rely solely on published reports despite well-documented publication biases, and many use outdated methods of research synthesis.

Building on the work of the Cochrane Collaboration in health care, and on rapid advances in review methods and meta-analysis, the Campbell Collaboration is leading an important new international effort to review, critique, and synthesize the best available evidence on effects of psychosocial, behavioral, and educational interventions.

What Is the Campbell Collaboration?

The Campbell Collaboration (C2) is an international, nonprofit organization that sets standards for, and prepares, maintains, and disseminates, high-quality systematic reviews of studies of interventions in social welfare, education, and crime and justice. C2 aims to help people make well-informed decisions about the effects of interventions.

C2 is modeled on, and closely connected to, the Cochrane Collaboration, which produces systematic reviews of research on health care outcomes (<http://www.cochrane.org>). Both organizations are supported by international, interdisciplinary networks of scholars, policy makers, funders, and individuals who are interested in careful synthesis and use of the best available research in practice and policy.

C2 guidelines and standards for systematic reviews are based on careful analysis by international experts in review methods and meta-analysis. C2 offers training in systematic review methods, support for review teams, a peer-review process, and web-based access to C2 systematic reviews. In addition, C2 maintains a unique, electronic register of studies of the effects of psychosocial, behavioral, and educational interventions.

What Is a Campbell Collaboration Systematic Review?

A C2 systematic review synthesizes results of the best available studies on the impact of a social program, policy, or practice. C2 reviews use methods and criteria that are well-documented, transparent, replicable, and open to criticism. A C2 review includes:

- ◆ Explicit study inclusion and exclusion criteria, related to study design, intervention, sample, and measurement characteristics;
- ◆ A search strategy that specifies keyword searches of

identified databases, procedures for locating relevant unpublished reports, and clear boundaries (e.g., dates, journals, databases, languages included);

- ◆ Procedures for reliable coding and analysis of included studies’ methods, intervention and comparison conditions, sample characteristics, outcome measures, and results; and
- ◆ Meta-analysis when possible, to estimate pooled effect sizes and moderators of effect size.

C2 reviews are *not* necessarily limited to evidence from randomized controlled trials.

How Are C2 Reviews Developed?

C2 reviews are usually initiated by prospective reviewers. C2 Coordinating groups often put prospective reviewers in touch with others who have similar interests to form small review teams; many of these teams are international and interdisciplinary.

The first formal step in the C2 review process is the registration of a Title for the review with the relevant C2 Coordinating Group. A Title for a C2 review specifies the intervention, population, and outcomes of interest, and identifies members of the review team. This process enables Coordinating Groups to identify and limit unnecessary duplication of effort and provide review teams with guidance and support.

Next, the reviewers develop a Protocol for the systematic review. The Protocol is evaluated and edited by experts in the substantive area Coordinating Group (e.g., Social Welfare, Education, or Crime & Justice) and by the Methods Coordinating Group. When accepted, the protocol is posted on the C2 website. Completed reviews are also evaluated and edited by the substantive area and Methods Coordinating Groups. Once accepted, reviews are published on the C2 website. This does not preclude publication elsewhere. Refereed comments and criticisms of completed reviews are also posted by C2.

Training

Since February 2000, C2 has held an annual colloquium and pre-colloquium workshops on the design and conduct of systematic reviews. Additional training sessions are offered at other conferences as well. Training topics include: information retrieval, data abstraction and coding (e.g., evaluating study design and implementation), methods of research synthesis (including meta-analysis), and the use of qualitative research in systematic reviews. Training materials and software for systematic reviews (RevMan 4.2) are available at no cost from the Cochrane Collaboration.

The C2 Library

The C2 Library consists of two unique databases:

- ◆ C2 Social, Psychological, Education, and Criminological Trials Registry (C2-SPECTR) contains over 11,700 entries on randomized and possibly randomized tri-

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Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

News from the Campbell Collaboration

(Continued from Page 10)

als. C2-SPECTR is updated regularly and its entries are potential ingredients for C2 systematic reviews.

- ◆ The C2 Reviews of Interventions and Policy Evaluations (C2-RIPE) database contains approved titles, protocols, reviews, and abstracts. In addition, it contains refereed comments and critiques if they were submitted. As these documents are approved within the C2 Coordinating Groups, they are published in the C2-RIPE database.

The Social Welfare Coordinating Group

Of the five C2 Coordinating Groups, three cover substantive areas and two deal with cross-cutting issues. Of particular interest to SSWR members, the C2 Social Welfare Coordinating Group (SWCG) covers a wide range of topics in social work and social welfare (e.g., poverty, housing, child welfare, child

and family well-being, mental health, substance abuse, employment, aging, and behavioral health). The Social Welfare Coordinating Group (SWCG) is co-chaired by Arild Bjorndal and Julia Littell. Therese Kristine (Tess) Dalsbo is the group coordinator. For more information, see <http://www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/campbell>.

At present, the C2 Social Welfare group has one formal review group, the Developmental, Psychosocial, and Learning Problems (DPLP) Group, which is co-registered with the Cochrane Collaboration and chaired by Geraldine Macdonald. (<http://www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/CochraneBehav/>). Reviews on social welfare topics that are outside of the scope of the DPLP group are handled by the SWCG Coordinator, Co-chairs, and editors.

Plans are underway to provide a full-day SSWR/IASWR preconference workshop on C2 systematic reviews on January 13.

News from the ANSWER Coalition

The ANSWER strategy for program year 2003-2004 focused primarily on extending the group's Republican congressional contacts in both the House and Senate to secure additional Republican sponsors for legislation that would establish a national center for social work research. The coalition's other goals included: 1) keeping the various educator groups (BPD, NADD, GADE, and SSWR) involved and informed about ANSWER activities; 2) making the ANSWER Web site more informative and easier to use; 3) identifying all of the options as to where a social work research center might be housed within the federal government; and 4) supporting the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in its efforts to continue its research studies that involve social work. As this report reflects, there was a great deal of activity in all these major areas but with mixed results.

Federal Legislation

Due to the make-up of the U.S. Congress, it is important for bills to have bipartisan support. Therefore, the Coalition has worked to increase contacts with members of both the Republican and Democratic parties. These contacts were made through lobby days, attendance at congressional fundraisers, party donor council meetings, and targeted members of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension (HELP) and Finance Committees in the Senate, and the Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees in the House.

We have been successful during the past year in obtaining bipartisan support for both the Senate and House versions of the National Center for Social Work Research Act. The Senate bill (S.73) currently has one Republican and two Democratic cosponsors. The situation in the House is different because two different versions of the bill were introduced. The first version (H.R. 844), which placed the research center within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), had 43 total cosponsors (both Republicans and Democrats). In the spring of 2004, Rep. Rodriguez, the lead sponsor in the House, decided to

reintroduce the bill with language that placed the research center in the Department of Health and Human Services instead of a specific agency within the Department. The final placement of the center would then be left to the Secretary of HHS' discretion. This change was made in response to the concern of some members of congress that there might be places other than NIH, such as the Centers for Disease Control, that would also be a good option for housing the research center.

Another key issue regarding federal legislation and the promotion of social work research is the submission of committee report language. Among other things, committee reports are an opportunity for Congress to make certain requests of federal agencies. The FY04 Senate Labor, HHS, and Education Committee Report commended the NIH for drafting a social work research plan and encouraged them to follow-through on it. This year, ANSWER has requested that language be included in the FY05 report that directs the NIH to host a trans-NIH conference that showcases social work research results relevant to health/mental health and the advancement of social work's research agenda.

Possible Other Directions for ANSWER

At its March 2004 Steering Committee meeting, a discussion ensued about ANSWER's legislative priorities. The discussion focused on the fact that securing legislation to establish a social work research center has been the primary, and almost exclusive, focus of ANSWER for the past several years. While this legislation is relevant to all social workers due to its focus on research, there are several other issues that the individual member organizations have noted that they would like ANSWER to help address, including loan forgiveness and Title IV-E training monies. The Steering Committee members agreed to confer with their constituent groups about the potential for expanding the coalition's focus to these other topics in the 2004-2005 program year.

Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

From the President

(Continued From Page 2)

SSWR as we grow and expand beyond our humble beginnings. This preliminary to-do list does not represent the sum of our future existence. Indeed, the SSWR Board will be meeting this year to embark upon strategic planning to ensure that our future does not unfold without forethought.

The “Spirit” of SSWR

The Board remains mindful of the need to keep the “spirit” of SSWR alive as we enter our initial phase of institutionalization. This spirit—on display each year at our conference—refers to a self-conscious attempt to remain accessible and responsive to our membership. It also means that we want to celebrate and reward excellence among our leaders and nurture the next generation of researchers. Our fears that bureaucratization might erode this spirit lead us to keep administrative costs as low as possible and to survey members for their opinions. This delicate balancing act of ensuring organizational integrity without sacrificing agility and responsiveness constitutes an ongoing challenge for present and future SSWR Boards.

In short, there have been a few abiding traits of SSWR that we cherish and hope to maintain no matter how large we become:

- ◆ SSWR is dedicated to presenting a high-quality scientific conference each year that features the best in social work research. This is essential to our organizational identity.
- ◆ SSWR welcomes the ‘next generation’ of researchers—doctoral students in particular—and seeks to address their needs in a variety of ways.
- ◆ Our dues and administrative costs are kept as low as possible to maximize SSWR’s accessibility. Fiscal prudence does not have to mean added expense for our members.
- ◆ While SSWR is largely U.S.-based, we welcome international members and try to remain mindful of cross-national as well as cross-cultural perspectives.
- ◆ Through member surveys and other forms of communication, SSWR seeks to remain “on its toes” and responsive to criticism, suggestions and (when deserved) praise.
- ◆ SSWR had been and remains committed to working with a variety of other organizations, including our sister social work organizations as well as government and private entities (e.g., the National Institutes of Health, the John A. Hartford Foundation, and other professional societies). We welcome partnerships on a number of levels and see this as essential to promoting our basic goals and objectives.

Looking “outward,” the landscape of social research is populated by many impressive players from the social and behavioral sciences. They are our peers and colleagues—

collaboration in this inter-disciplinary world has become a fact of life. We are a young Society. Our members come from a variety of backgrounds and bring both breadth and depth of experience in the most sophisticated forms of research and scholarly inquiry. We carry out our work with varied funding support (sometimes none at all) and in real-world circumstances that would sorely challenge anyone accustomed to randomized controlled trials. Could SSWR do better? Without a doubt. Will our continued growth threaten our tradition of flexibility and member responsiveness? We sincerely hope not. Our vision is meant to reflect what you, the members, want this organization to be and become. Our destiny is yours.

Acknowledgements: A special thank you to Nancy Hooyman, Bill Meezan and Janet Williams for their helpful comments. The opinions expressed are my own.

Update for Student Members

(Continued from Page 6)

2005 award winner, as well as a number of runner-ups, will be announced at the conference.

Student Board Member-at-Large

Finally, I want to speak to SSWR's most immediate show of support for students, and that is the seat on the organization's Board of Directors reserved for a student Member-at-Large. In an organization of established, highly successful researchers from all over the US and from other countries worldwide, neophytes can all too easily feel lost in the crowd. I am committed to helping ensure that SSWR strongly conveys its commitment to and appreciation of our field's future leaders. So far, my job has been made easier by the organization's tradition of such support.

If you have other student-related concerns or causes that you want to see SSWR pursue, I want to hear about them. I hope to meet you all in Miami!

In December 1994, the newly-formed SSWR had 200 members. Two years later, the membership had increased to 450. Similar increases of several hundred each year have led to our current membership of 1350 and counting!



Celebrating a Decade of SSWR

News from the Membership

(Continued from Page 6)

21st Century. In its first five years, the center will investigate racial disparities in breast cancer at the molecular, behavioral, and social levels.

Michal Grinstein-Weiss of Washington University received two dissertation grants, one from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the other from the Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation, for her study "IDAs for Housing Policy: Analysis of Saving Outcomes and Racial Differences."

Nancy Hooyman of the University of Washington School of Social Work, and Julia Watkins of CSWE, have received funding from the John A. Hartford Foundation for the CSWE National Center for Gerontological Social Work Education. The project will be housed at CSWE with a subcontract to UW.

Kim Kotrla at the School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Austin received a dissertation grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for her dissertation entitled "Prenatal Alcohol Use: A Risk-Protective Model". Using 2001 and 2002 National Survey on Drug Use and Health data on pregnant women, the study tests a risk-protective model to identify those factors that appear to promote or inhibit alcohol use during pregnancy.

Cathleen Lewandowski of Wichita State University's School of Social Work has received an RO3 grant from NIDA for a two year study entitled "Timing of Social Service Events on Women's Drug Recovery." This study will help to develop an understanding of the impact of a multiple agency service delivery environment on women's drug treatment outcomes.

Vivia McCutcheon, a doctoral student at Washington University, St. Louis, has received a dissertation award from NIMH for her work which will examine the joint contributions of family background factors, traumatic events, and genetic effects to the development of depression, panic attacks, and panic disorders.

Deborah Padgett of the New York University School of Social Work had an RO1 funded by NIMH. She will conduct a four-year, all-qualitative study, entitled "A Qualitative Study of Dual-Diagnosed Homeless." This is an intensive study of the service delivery system from the consumer's perspective.

Judy L. Postmus and **Margaret E. Severson** of the School of Social Welfare at the University of Kansas were awarded a two year grant from the National Institute of Justice entitled "Violence and Victimization: Exploring Women's Histories of Survival." The research

will explore the differential risk and protective factors related to histories of physical and sexual victimization reported by incarcerated and non-incarcerated women, and will attempt to understand the coping and resilience patterns women activate at various points in their lifespan.

Robert J. Reid at the School of Social Work at Rutgers University was awarded a five year grant from the SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. He will serve as PI for the Rutgers University-Paterson (NJ) Minority Substance Abuse/HIV Prevention Initiative, which seeks to develop and coordinate comprehensive community-based substance abuse and HIV prevention services targeting underserved racial and ethnic minority youth in the City of Paterson, NJ.

Christina Risley-Curtiss of the Arizona State University School of Social Work has received a grant from the William and Charlotte Parks Foundation for Animal Welfare to do a national survey of social work practitioners regarding their level of knowledge, education, and training regarding the human-animal bond, and the ways in which social workers include animals in their practice.

Elizabeth A. R. Robinson of the Department of Psychiatry's Addiction Research Center at the University of Michigan has received a five year grant from NIAAA, NIH, entitled "Long-Term Spiritual Changes in Recovery from Alcoholism." She has also received a grant from the Metanexus Institute for her study "Spiritual Transformation in Recovery from Alcoholism."

Beth Spenciner Rosenthal of York College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York has received a grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. Her research will test for the combined and interactive effects of several psychosocial stressors on mental health and the impact of protective factors on these relationships.

William Rowe of the University of South Florida has been awarded a grant from the Florida Dept of Juvenile Justice to evaluate best practices and outcomes of community-based cultural arts programs for at-risk youth.

Daniel Saunders and **Richard Tolman** of the University of Michigan School of Social Work have received funding for two grants from the DOJ, Office of Justice Programs, Office on Violence Against Women. The first, entitled "National Coordination of Evaluation of SAFE HAVEN," is a three year project to help identify promising practices for safe visitation and exchange in cases of domestic violence and

child abuse. The second, entitled "Report to Congress for the SAFE HAVENS: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program," will allow the investigators to prepare a report to the U.S. Congress on the current nature of supervised visitation and safe exchange programs in the United States.

Ian Shaw and **Margaret Bell** of the University of York, England, have received a two year grant to evaluate The Integrated Children's System. The aims of the evaluation are to support and coordinate the introduction of the Integrated Children's System in two English and two Welsh local authorities; assess its impact on core processes from referral to closure from the perspective of service providers and the children and families concerned; and evaluate the services provided to specific groups of children and families.

Marlys Staudt of the College of Social Work at the University of Tennessee has received a five year Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (KO1) from NIMH entitled "Service Participation by Families of Maltreated Children." The purpose of this award is to learn more about the factors that affect caregiver service use and participation in families referred to mental health and adjunct services because of maltreatment or its risk.

Gail Steketee (Boston University) and her collaborators Randy Frost (Smith College), Timothy Brown (Boston University), and David Tolin (Hartford Institute of Living), have received a three year, R21 Grant from NIMH for a study of the "Treatment of Compulsive Hoarding." The proposed project aims to develop and test a multi-component psychosocial treatment based on identified psychopathology features of compulsive hoarding and on a cognitive behavioral model of this syndrome. It also aims to pilot test a manualized therapy to determine its effects.

Rev. E. Gwyn Stetler of the Ohio State University College of Social Work has received funding to complete her doctoral studies and dissertation through a social justice fellowship from the General Board of Higher Education of the United Methodist Church. Her dissertation is entitled "Leader Influence on the Implementation of Best Practice in Social and Emotional Learning."

Carole A. Winston received a Faculty Research Grant from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte to fund a pilot study to explore the concerns of a sample of over 65-year-old parenting grandparents as they contemplate how their grandchildren will be cared for when they become too fragile to provide care and when they die.

Celebrating a Decade of SSWR



Phone: 703-893-2400

Society for Social Work and Research

The Society for Social Work and Research is a professional membership society for social workers committed to high quality research. Founded in 1994 as a free-standing membership organization committed to fostering high quality social work research, it works with other organizations committed to improving the quality of and support for social work research. With over 1200 members, the society strives

To foster a support network among social workers interested in or conducting research

To encourage more social workers to become engaged in research activities

To provide formal recognition of significant contributions to research by social workers

To advocate for increased research funding and research training programs, including legislation to establish a federally-funded National Center for Social Work Research

To promote advances in the knowledge base of the social work profession

To promote the application of culturally-sensitive and culturally-relevant research

To promote evidence-based social work practice

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