

SSA / CHICAGO News & Notes

NOVEMBER 2002

SSA Welcomes Outstanding New Students

Fall in Chicago brings shorter, crisper days, a changing palette on the Midway, and a new group of eager students to SSA. This year is no exception — the School welcomed 206 new students in the master's program and seven new doctoral students for the start of classes on September 30.

The class of 2004 brings a wide range of experiences and backgrounds to SSA. For example, undergraduate majors range from anthropology to zoology, in addition to the expected cluster of psychology and sociology degrees.

"SSA students bring tremendous diversity in academic backgrounds and experience," said Penny Johnson, Dean of Students. "Our multidisciplinary program and faculty draws students with a range of interests and talents."

This year there is an increase both in the number of international students and in students seeking a joint degree with other programs on campus.

"People are thinking more broadly about how to use a degree in social work and the University of Chicago offers many attractive combinations," said Johnson. SSA now offers joint degrees with the Divinity School, the Graduate School of Business, the Harris School of Public Policy, and several seminaries, and is developing a joint degree program with the Law School.

This year marks the first time SSA has been able to offer full-tuition scholarships through the McCormick Tribune Program on Urban and Community Leadership. Fifteen master's students, both first- and second-year, have been named McCormick Tribune Fellows for the 2002-2003 year. As McCormick Tribune Fellows, they will participate in special workshops and field placements, exposing them to various aspects of community development.

And although a new school year is just beginning, efforts to recruit next year's incoming students are already in high gear. Keep reading this issue of *News & Notes* to learn more about informational open house programs for potential students and ways alumni can support SSA's mission to educate tomorrow's leaders.

Annual "Aims of SSA" Lecture Given by SSA Alumnae

As SSA welcomed 206 new students into its family, Professor Tina L. Rzepnicki, A.M. '78, Ph.D. '82, delivered the annual Aims of SSA address during New Student Orientation on September 23, 2002.

Her address, "Panning for Gold: Critical Thinking in Your Education and Practice," emphasized the role that critical thinking plays in the lives of students and faculty at SSA, as well as the role it should continue to play in practice.

To read Professor Rzepnicki's address, please visit the SSA website: www.ssa.uchicago.edu/news/stories.shtml

Professor Sharon Berlin Awarded the 2002 Richard Lodge Prize

In early November, Helen Ross Professor Sharon Berlin will be awarded the 2002 Richard Lodge Prize from Adelphi University School of Social Work. Honoring individuals who have made significant contributions to social work theory, this award is named for the late Dr. Richard Lodge. A professor at Adelphi University, his career included positions as the Dean of the School of Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University, Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and Executive Director of the Council on Social Work Education.

Professor Berlin joined SSA's faculty in 1985. She teaches courses in direct practice, specifically in cognitive approaches to direct practice and in comparative theories in social work. Her areas of expertise include women and depression, psychotherapy research, cognitive models of social work and social work clinical practice.

This award is not the first recognition of Professor Berlin's commitment to the field of social work. In 1996 she received the SSA Excellence in Teaching Award and in 1992 she received the distinguished alumni award from the University of Washington. Professor Berlin is widely published. Her most recent work includes *Clinical Social Work Practice: A Cognitive-Integrative Perspective* (2002), which is reviewed in the current issue of *Social Service Review*.

"Use of critical thinking skills will increase the likelihood that you'll stay current with the developing knowledge base and be able to avoid the pitfalls and faulty practices already mentioned. This is precisely why obtaining an education that will provide you with a handy toolbox is not good enough for a professional lifetime of use."

— Excerpted from "Panning for Gold: Critical Thinking in Your Education and Practice" by Tina L. Rzepnicki. Address delivered during New Student Orientation, The School of Social Service Administration, September 23, 2002.

Events & Activities

Save the Date

Reunion 2003

SSA will welcome graduates and friends for Reunion 2003 on Friday, June 6, and Saturday, June 7. If your SSA graduation year is one of the following, it's a milestone year: 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, or 1998. Plan to attend! More details to follow in the January issue.

Tom Hayden to Speak at SSA on Democracy

3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2002

"Defending Democracy in the War on Terrorism: will be the topic for a post-election lecture by **Tom Hayden**, former California state senator and long-time civil rights and environmental activist.



Hayden was a co-founder of Students for a Democratic Society and a member of the "Chicago Seven" convicted (later reversed) of disrupting the 1968 Democratic National Convention.

The lecture will be held at SSA on Friday, November 8, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., followed by a reception in the lobby. There is no charge for this event, which is co-sponsored by SSA and the Center for Family Health. For more information, please contact the Center for Family Health at 773.702.1007.

Master's Program Open House

10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2002

A prospective student open house will take place in the SSA lobby. The morning program will include information

about admissions, curriculum, financial aid and the School. Potential students will have an opportunity to discuss the program and speak with faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Please contact Madeleine Metzler, Director of Admissions, for more information, 773.702.1492 or mmetzler@uchicago.edu.

SSA Alumni/Student Happy Hour

5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2002

The SSA Alumni Association Social Committee invites all to the SSA Alumni/Student Happy Hour. See your SSA friends, network with colleagues and meet current SSA students. The Alumni Association Social Committee includes Harley Grant, '96, Ruth DeLeon, '98 and Molly Baltman, '99. We're putting the "Social" into Social Work.

This event will take place on Tuesday, November 12 at Fado Irish Pub. The Pub is located at 100 West Grand Avenue at Clark Street. For more information, please contact Molly Baltman at mollybaltman@juno.com.

Meaningful Careers in a Changing World

9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2002

SSA and the Harris School will sponsor a day-long symposium, "Meaningful Careers in a Changing World." The morning session will feature Don Asher, author of several professional development books and seminars, discussing job search strategies and resources. Keynote speaker will be Hamid Abdeljaber from the United Nations who has carried out missions and assignments in Libya, Iraq,

Kuwait, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, among other places. Throughout the afternoon there will be several concurrent information sessions featuring alumni and others speaking about their organizations and careers.

The symposium will take place on Friday, November 15, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., in SSA building. There is no charge for the event. For more information, please contact Michael Jogerst at 773.702.1173.

Doctoral Program Open House

9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2002

A prospective student open house will take place in the SSA lobby. The program will include information about admissions, curriculum, research opportunities, and the School. Please contact Madeleine Metzler, Director of Admissions, for more information, 773.702.1492 or mmetzler@uchicago.edu.

SSA is asking alumni to get involved in the School's recruiting efforts. One of the most effective ways for SSA to recruit students is to provide prospective students with a personal connection to the School. Students or recent alumni are wonderful sources of information to let prospective students know what to consider when planning for graduate school, what to expect from SSA, and how to make the most of the program. However, for those students who cannot visit the School, making that personal connection is more difficult. This is where alumni can help.

SSA is organizing information sessions for prospective students in several cities to be hosted by local alumni. Alumni will give a brief presentation about SSA and answer questions about the

Notes *from the Field*

NASW Opposes Unilateral, Pre-emptive Action Against Iraq

On October 7, 2002, the National Association of Social Workers sent a letter to President George W. Bush opposing unilateral pre-emptive military action in Iraq.

To read the full text, go to http://www.socialworkers.org/pressroom/2002/Iraq_letter_final_10-07-02.pdf

If you wish to take action and send a letter to your representatives, go to <http://63.66.87.48/cweb4/index.cfm?orgcode=NASW>

School, the field of social work, and graduate education. This is a way for prospective students to learn more about SSA from dynamic advocates of the program.

The first alumni information session is scheduled in New York City for Tuesday, December 3, at the offices of Children's Aid Society. Additional recruitment programs will be organized in Washington D.C. and Los Angeles; we hope to expand to other cities in the future. If you are interested in participating in these information sessions or know a prospective student, please contact Madeleine Metzler, Director of Admissions, at mmetzler@uchicago.edu or 773.702.1492.

Calendar of Events

- Nov. 8 PDP: Clinical Supervision: Tending the Professional Self
- Nov. 8 PDP: Organizational Performance Measurement
- Nov. 8 Tom Hayden lecture & reception on "Defending Democracy in the War on Terrorism"
- Nov. 9 Master's Program Open House
- Nov. 12 SSA Alumni/Student Happy Hour
- Nov. 15 Career Symposium: Meaningful Careers in a Changing World
- Nov. 16 Doctoral Program Open House
- Dec. 3 Information Session for Prospective Students — NYC
- Dec. 13 Autumn Convocation & Convocation Reception

For more information on the Professional Development Program and Clinical and Management Training please call 773-702-1166, or e-mail pdp@ssa.uchicago.edu or visit the website at <http://www.ssa.uchicago.edu/programs/pdp.shtml>.

Positions Available

Director of Community School Social Work

The School of Social Service Administration is recruiting leadership for its new approach to school social work and community schools educational program. A senior lecturer will be appointed at the School to direct the traditional school social work program; to develop new program initiatives, especially with Chicago Public Schools; to teach in the master's curriculum; and collaborate with faculty and staff in the larger University of Chicago education and schools activities. We are seeking an individual who is a master social worker in the school context and is capable of building new models of community-school services in collaboration with school and community partners.

Outstanding social work experience, demonstrated teaching skills, knowledge of schools, and capacity to develop new approaches to school social work are required. A master's degree in social work is required. Type 73 certification is recommended, but not required. A Ph.D. is desirable. Salary depends on experience and credentials.

Please send a cover letter and curriculum vitae outlining your qualifications for this position to Karen Teigiser, Deputy Dean for the Master's Program.

Director of Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving

SSA seeks a director of alumni affairs and annual giving. This is an opportunity to build understanding and overall awareness of the School among many audiences and to increase the financial resources for SSA's important work. The director will work creatively to promote and support the involvement of alumni in a variety of ways, e.g. career services, admissions, fund raising, or reunion.

Working in the office of external affairs, the director should have four to six years of relevant experience working with volunteers. Familiarity with an educational or social service environment should be complemented by excellent interpersonal skills, strong organizational and writing skills, and the ability to work with, lead, and inspire volunteer leadership. Please send a cover letter and resume to Recruiter, The University of Chicago, Employment Office, 956 E. 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

SSA is an equal opportunity employer. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Alumni Association News

Alumni!

Watch your U.S. Mail and your e-mail in January 2003! You will be receiving a survey from the Alumni Association Board. The survey will ask your opinion on several important topics such as:

- How you feel about SSA now,
- Your continuing education needs,
- Your thoughts on the best field education for social work students in the years ahead
- What you want from your alumni board.

As alumni of SSA, you are the experts on these topics and the Alumni Board looks forward to hearing from all of you!

Regional Visits Planned

SSA faculty and staff are planning visits to New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and San Francisco this academic year.

New York area alumni gathered for an informal planning meeting in October at the offices of Lighthouse International. Hosted by Barbara Silverstone, A.M. '54, Cynthia Stuen, A.M. '73, and Wil Weder, A.M. '70, the group met with staff to lay plans for a spring event. A Los Angeles planning meeting is in the works for November and a Washington meeting is scheduled for early 2003. If you are interested in hosting or participating, please contact the SSA Office of External Affairs at 773.702.1172 or mkeitel@uchicago.edu. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Class of 1939

Phyllis Chow Chun, A.M. '39, died on July 5, 1999. She spoke fondly and proudly of her years as a graduate student at SSA. She accomplished much in her career as a social worker and retired from the Hawaii Department of Social Services and Housing in December 1973.

Richard Guilford, A.M. '39, Ph.D. '59, died of prostate cancer on July 15, 2001, in his Minneapolis home. Prior to attending SSA, he graduated from Carleton College in Northfield, Minn. and began working at the Chicago County Welfare Department. He was appointed the county's welfare director in 1934. Before joining the Navy in 1942, he worked at the Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society in Evanston, Ill. and as a field representative in Minnesota's Department of Welfare. During World War II, he served as a gunnery officer in the South Pacific, then as an executive officer at the naval prison in San Pedro, Calif. Leaving the Navy in 1946, he returned to Minnesota a lieutenant commander. Guilford then began

a long academic career. Beginning at the University of Minnesota in 1946, he worked as a social work professor. In 1955, he became the director of the University of Nebraska's graduate school of social work and later returned to the University of Minnesota in 1971. He remained there as a social work professor until his retirement in 1977. At both schools, Guilford was named professor emeritus. Throughout his career, he served on several boards, including the National Association of Social Workers, the Council on Social Work Education, and the American Public Welfare Association. Additionally, he was an active community member, involved in his church and church board. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dorothy Guilford of Minneapolis, four children and their spouses, two sisters, and seven grandchildren.

Class of 1956

Mary Buss Krueger, A.M. '56, died on September 2, 2002 at Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center, Providence, Rhode

Island. She was a 1934 graduate of Colby College Waterville, Maine and later received a Master's degree from SSA. She served as Acting Base Field Director for the American Red Cross in the South Pacific area in World War II. She worked for many years for the Rhode Island Child Welfare Department. In 1956, she was appointed Director of Child Welfare for the state of Maine. She leaves several nieces and nephews.

Class of 1994

Lisa Lovett Mann, A.M. '94, died in August 2002, of cancer. She had survived cancer as a child and was active in supporting people with cancer and other disabilities. After earning her degree from SSA, she moved to California, where she was a psychiatric social worker in the California Department of Corrections. She was very involved in the theater and performed together with other people with disabilities. She also pursued an acting career. She is survived by her husband, her father, a brother, and many friends. ■



The University of Chicago
The School of Social Service Administration

THE EDITH ABBOTT ALUMNI AWARD

The Awards Committee of the SSA Board of Directors is currently soliciting nominees for this year's Edith Abbott Alumni Award. This is the most prestigious award given by SSA. The award is presented to one individual every other year.

The Abbott Award was established to recognize alumni for distinguished service to society and for outstanding professional contributions at the local, national, or international levels. This significant award honors: exceptional leadership in an agency or within a community; meaningful contributions through research or publications; or creativity demonstrated by traditional, non-traditional, or innovative approaches to practice.

Nominees for the award may be practitioners, supervisors, administrators, teachers, or volunteers. Eligible individuals will hold a degree from SSA, or certificate from the School of Civics and Philanthropy, or have at least nine major credits from SSA. Students and faculty are not eligible.

Please forward any nominations to the School, c/o The Edith Abbott Awards Committee, Attn: Helen May, by January 15, 2003.

Thank you for your assistance.

call for
nominations

call for nominations

2003 EDITH ABBOTT AWARD

NOMINEE

YEAR DEGREE EARNED

POSITION

EMPLOYER

ADDRESS

DAYTIME PHONE

HOME PHONE

FAX

E-MAIL

The criteria for the Edith Abbott Award recognizes alumni for exceptional leadership in an agency or to a community, or meaningful contributions demonstrated by traditional, non-traditional, or innovative approaches to practice.

- Briefly list principal activity that merits the award:

- Please attach a letter describing your knowledge of the nominee and his or her work.

SUBMITTED BY

PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP TO NOMINEE

YEAR DEGREE EARNED

EMPLOYER

POSITION

DAYTIME PHONE

HOME

FAX

E-MAIL

Please return nomination form and correspondence by January 15, 2003

Office of Alumni Affairs
The School of Social Service Administration
969 East 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 702-1172
alumni@ssa.uchicago.edu

Alumni Update

William Lawrence Pollard, Ph.D. '76, has been named President of the University of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C. Prior to accepting the position of President of the University of the District of Columbia, Pollard was the Dean and Founder of the Syracuse University College of Human Services and Health Professions.

Diane Mirabito, A.M. '77, has co-authored *Generalist Social Work Practice in the Wake of Disaster: September 11 and Beyond*. In the preface, Mirabito and her co-author note that they wrote not only from the perspective of social work educators and practitioners, but also as residents of New York City, and as social workers who provided some service to victims and survivors. She recently received her D.S.W. from Hunter College School of Social Work-CUNY, and is Assistant Professor at the Shirley M. Ehrenkranz School of Social Work at New York University.

Sonja Vegdahl, A.M. '81, completed requirements for a Ph.D. in Social Work and Social Research at Portland State University. The title of her dissertation was "Leaving Welfare: Stories of Struggle and Strength." She defended her dissertation in April 2002 and received her degree in June 2002. She is Associate Professor of Social Work at Concordia University in Portland, Ore.

Brenda McGadney-Douglass, Ph.D. '92, recently returned from a position as a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Social Work at the University of Ghana, Legon. She lived in Accra, Ghana with her husband, Richard Douglass, Fulbright Scholar and Professor at Eastern Michigan University, and her 13-year-old son Jelani. While there, she was involved in two field studies. In one, she worked with adolescents diagnosed with childhood Kwashiorkor (severe protein malnutrition), and assessment of indigenous approaches to intervention and management of local ethnic and cultural conflicts in the north. Dr. McGadney-Douglass also developed curriculum materials and taught a philosophy course focusing on identification of barriers and conflicts related to Western and Ghanaian perspectives on ethics and values in social work practice. Most of the in-class debate on indigenous vs. Western social work problem-resolution strategies was related to traditional practices toward women and children (including female circumcision, child slavery and labor, HIV/AIDS, leprosy, rape and incest, polygamy, etc.). Students conducted comprehensive cultural assessments, including interviews with Chiefs, Queen Mothers, priests of slave girls, slave girls, opinion leaders, educators, researchers, and officials from government and non-governmental organiza-

tions, among others. Dr. McGadney-Douglass has begun to write a casebook and web site chronicling these experiences. Currently she is a consultant for the World College at Eastern Michigan University. She can be contacted via email and would love to hear from former classmates: McGadney_Douglass@yahoo.com.

Sheri Lee, A.M. '94, and her husband are the proud parents of Felix Irving Brodsky, born September 20, 2002, and weighing in at 6 lbs., 3 oz. Lee reports that both she and her son are doing well and adjusting to a newborn's erratic sleep schedule. She plans to return to work in March, at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Reggie Lewis, A.M. '99, was recently named Special Assistant for External Affairs to the commissioner of human services for the state of New Jersey.

Anna-Marie DiPasquale, A.M. '02, and her husband have relocated to New Hampshire, where she has started a "very exciting" job working with a community mental health organization. Editor's note: DiPasquale was one of two students who received the 2002 Evelyn Harris Ginsburg Memorial Prize from SSA, for outstanding work and promise of future achievement in the field of services to children. ■

Tracing causes. Seeking solutions. Guiding change.

Make sure that the most talented and committed practitioners are up to the challenge.
Support the Fund for SSA.

(A postage-paid envelope is included with this mailing, for your convenience.)





The 2002-2003 Alumni Association Board of Directors. Pictured left to right: (Back row) Sarah Lickey Diwan, Harley Grant, Patricia MacClarence, Denice Murray, Jim Britton, Ruth DeLeon, Wil Weder, Joe Loundy; (front row) Yolanda Hernandez, Charlotte Mallon-Wenzel, Molly Baltman, Freda Hardaway, Mary Rich. Not pictured: Lisa Cashion, Ron Huberman, Sara Olsen, Sarah Gehlert.

News & Notes is published five times a year for alumni of The School of Social Service Administration at The University of Chicago.

To submit items for the newsletter, please email alumni@ssa.uchicago.edu, or send information to:

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