THE DEAN RETIRES
Bridges is the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work magazine. We selected the name Bridges largely because of its symbolism. The term provides an important metaphor for both our profession and our school. Social work is a profession that has, as part of its mission, the goal of building and sustaining bridges among individuals, families, groups, neighborhoods, and communities, and we felt that the title Bridges captured this part of our professional mission. At the same time, the city of Pittsburgh has more than 450 bridges, and Allegheny County has almost 2,000, suggesting an uncompromising desire of the city’s inhabitants to remain connected with one another. In keeping with this heritage, it is the school’s goal to sustain and build bridges among those needing social work services; our students, alumni, faculty, and staff; the community; and corporate and governmental partners. We believe that the information in this magazine is an important way to achieve this goal.

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Bridges magazine is published biannually and is sent to alumni and friends of the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work.
Greetings, alumni and friends,

In this, the 100th year of the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, we have much to celebrate. It was an exciting year in that we brought back to the school many colleagues and friends who we had not seen for years. Our final event was held on April 20, when we were very fortunate to have George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor (at Washington University in St. Louis) Michael Sherraden here to give our centennial keynote address. He did an impressive job, as did the panelists who responded to his talk. I would like to thank and congratulate the entire centennial committee for all its planning and efforts throughout the year.

As the school enters its second century, we have much to be proud of. In many respects, it has been “the little school that could.” Few schools of social work of our size have obtained the level of excellence that we have managed to achieve. Despite having just 21 tenure-track faculty members, the caliber and productivity of our BSW, MSW, and PhD students, as well as that of our faculty and staff, have steadily improved. With notable input from the University, we have continued to enhance our community involvement. Chancellor Patrick Gallagher has identified enhancing diversity and empowering the University’s immediate communities as two of Pitt’s five strategic goals. Needless to say, the School of Social Work is eager to adopt and assist with achieving these strategic priorities.

As has been true in the past, the School of Social Work has done well this year. Our student enrollment is up, as are the diversity and caliber of this year’s class. We have more grant activity than ever, publications are up, and our faculty are engaged in a variety of new and innovative projects. The construction of a new physical/mental health center is about to start. This year, the child welfare training program reached a total of more than one million people trained under the Act 31 of 2014 mandate for recognizing and reporting child abuse.

The Center on Race and Social Problems enjoyed an impressive series of guest speakers, and just recently, we completed yet another successful study abroad trip to Cuba. Finally, this year, our journal, Race and Social Problems, received an impressive impact score. So, as the saying goes, it was a very good year.

Yet for me, this year is bittersweet: As the cover of this magazine indicates, I stepped down as dean at the end of this academic year, though I will continue as director of the Center on Race and Social Problems for another year. It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as dean of this school for the past 17 years. You likely have heard me say that coming to Pitt was the best decision I have ever made. Under the leadership of Chancellor Emeritus Mark Nordenberg and now Chancellor Gallagher, the University has provided me with unwavering support and numerous opportunities. For example, there would be no Center on Race and Social Problems without the University’s stepping up to fund it. The University promoted our community outreach efforts and awarded additional financial aid for our students. In sum, much of the success our school has experienced is a direct outcome of Pitt’s commitment to the work of this school.

I want to thank all of the marvelous students, faculty, and staff who have filled our halls and shared their passion and their service, teaching, and research excellence, infusing their efforts into everything we do. I also extend my appreciation to the foundations and businesses that have generously supported so many of the school’s initiatives.

This will be my last issue as editor of Bridges. We began Bridges 16 years ago not just to be a publication about school news but also to serve as a platform to feature and examine compelling social problems and describe how the school was responding to them.

Finally, I want to thank the entire Pittsburgh community for making these last 17 years the best in my life. Together we have made tremendous progress, and I firmly believe that during this time of divisiveness and need, the University, the school, and the region are positioned now more than ever to do truly great things and that we are ready for the challenges of the next 100 years.

With best wishes for the future,

Larry E. Davis
Dean and Donald M. Henderson Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, and Director, Center on Race and Social Problems
2017-18 Speaker Series

PittSocialWork

September 18, 2017
“Place-based Engagement: The University of Pittsburgh’s Engagement Centers”
Lina D. Dostilio, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement Centers, University of Pittsburgh

October 30, 2017
“Another World Is Possible! A Radical Political Agenda for Social Work”
Carl Redwood Jr., Vice Chair, Board of Directors, Hill District Consensus Group

February 13, 2018
Raymond R. Webb Jr. Lecture
“Social Innovation and Social Work: Buzzword or Field Change?”
Stephanie Berzin, Associate Professor, Children, Youth, and Families; Assistant Dean, Doctoral Program; and Codirector, Center for Social Innovation, School of Social Work, Boston College

March 20, 2018
WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY
Sidney A. Teller Lecture
Julia Watkins, Former Executive Director, Council on Social Work Education

WELCOME NEW STAFF

**Rachelle Haynik** is a research and evaluation coordinator working with Assistant Professor James Huguley.

**Gwen Melnick** is the new MSW Program director.
Program Highlights

BASW PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

2018 Browne Fellows Selected

The Browne Leadership Fellows Program is an interdisciplinary fellowship aimed at preparing students to be engaged civic leaders working for economic and social justice. The fellows program in social work reflects the School of Social Work’s mission: to advocate for social policies and resources to meet basic human needs; to create accessible, responsible, and accountable human service programs; and to deliver quality services to those in need of support. Selected from a pool of strong candidates from across the University of Pittsburgh community, the 2018 fellows are from a variety of academic disciplines, including biological sciences, engineering, computer science, and economics.

“I chose to attend the University of Pittsburgh because of its promotion and encouragement of civic engagement, something I did not experience growing up in a suburban environment. The Browne Leadership Fellows Program offers a way to engage in the Pittsburgh community and contribute to making a positive change a relevant and significant social issue. As a premedical student, I plan to use these experiences to improve my understanding of this community and advocate for the patients I hope to treat in the future.

—Breanne McDermott, 2018 Browne fellow

To learn more about the Browne Leadership Fellows Program, please visit socialwork.pitt.edu/academics/bachelor-arts-social-work-basw/browne-leadership-fellows-program.

International Activities Are Growing: Willkommen!

The School of Social Work continues to grow its international offerings each year, including study abroad programs and student exchanges. In partnership with the School of Education, we welcomed 20 undergraduate social work students from the Catholic University of Applied Sciences in Germany to Pittsburgh this past fall. During their two-week visit, they met with our BASW students at their field placements, joined in service projects, and toured the city.

MSW PROGRAM

by Emma Lucas-Darby, Interim Program Director

The School of Social Work’s numbers grew with 223 new Master of Social Work (MSW) students enrolled at the Pittsburgh campus. This number includes 194 Direct Practice and 29 Community, Organization, and Social Action (COSA) students. Our students hail from across the continental United States, China, and South Korea. Our campuses in Bradford and Johnstown are currently recruiting and will admit new cohorts in fall 2018. In an effort to provide students with relevant competencies for professional practice, several newly approved courses are currently among the spring offerings. These are a generalist course, Poverty and Income Inequality: Social Justice Responses; an advanced skills elective for Direct Practice students, Social Work and Spirituality; an advanced COSA skills course, Resource Management/Supervision; and Financial Management. This spring, a new general elective special topic course—Social Work with Service Members, Veterans, and their Families—is being offered. This course supports the provision of social services to the high number of active military members and veterans in Western Pennsylvania as well as provides an overview of our current military conflicts.

In December, the Pittsburgh campus graduated 53 students, while the Bradford and Johnstown campuses had four and 17 graduates, respectively. Among the Pittsburgh campus graduates, five graduated with a focus in gerontology and 10 with a focus in integrated health. Our graduates enter a variety of fields providing needed social support services and enter leadership roles in agencies and organizations.

Our students are applying the skills and knowledge they obtain through their course work at their field placements. Results from a recent survey of field instructors that rated practice behaviors and competencies of our students on nine Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) competencies show that they exceeded the

School of Social Work Memories

Yiwe Zhang (MSW ’13)

“My best memory of the School of Social Work is Tracy Soska.

“The School of Social Work inspired me to become a social work student advisor.”
Watkins served nine years as executive director of the Council on Social Work Education in the United States and retired from that position in 2012. Prior to assuming the national leadership position in social work education, she served 10 years as president of the American University in Bulgaria. Watkins received an MSW and a PhD in educational psychology from the University of Utah. Before her tenure at the American University in Bulgaria, she was a professor of social work, dean of the college of social and behavioral sciences, and interim vice president for academic affairs at the University of Maine in Orono. She was a fellow of the American Council on Education (ACE) Leadership Program and completed a three-year term as an international scholar with the Open Society Foundations Fellowship program in 2015, working on organizational and curriculum development with the Department of Social Work at the University of Sarajevo. Currently, she is codirector of the Southeast Europe Academic Women’s Leadership Initiative.

Watkins has given numerous presentations; and authored various works, including a book on social policy; and received several research and training grants in the fields of gerontology, social policy, and interdisciplinary training for health care professionals. Her most recent written contributions are on international social work. She has an extensive record of university service and has been a member of the boards of many nonprofit organizations, both domestically and internationally. Watkins previously served as president of the Association of American International Colleges and Universities, president of the Alliance of Universities for Democracy, a founding member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Bulgaria, and treasurer of the International...
University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work MSW students once again participated in the annual Allegheny County Department of Human Services’ (DHS) Local Government Case Competition in November. This case competition is open to graduate students from universities across the county, and the School of Social Work has consistently fielded a large number of students for this event. At the 2017 case competition, 13 students competed for cash prizes and the opportunity to offer important human service program ideas from a young emerging professional perspective. The school typically has one or more of its students among the winning teams.

This year’s case was especially innovative and challenging. Cross-university teams of three to four students presented their ideas on the topic of Rethinking Human Service Delivery: Money to the People. Over three intensive days, student teams were challenged to come up with innovative approaches for redirecting a portion of the DHS budget to directly provide cash assistance to working poor individuals or families facing crises in making ends meet for a range of reasons. DHS is the largest public service agency in Allegheny County, with a budget of more than $800 million. Students worked to develop and then present financial assistance programs to help one of four struggling groups:

- seniors age 60 and older who are trying to maintain a decent life on a fixed income
- families in the child welfare system or in family support in need of supplemental help to support their family’s self-sufficiency
- individuals in emergency shelters or unstable housing who need additional help to transition to permanent housing
- those in re-entry from incarceration who are trying to transition back into community life

Judges came from the region’s educational, nonprofit, and philanthropic sectors. A number of our school’s faculty and alumni were among the judges, who, in addition to selecting the four winning teams, were there to help students build their professional networks. The case competition also helps DHS to identify and recruit potential talent for its coveted internship as well as future employment.

One Pitt MSW student, Ashley Pesi, finished on a winning team. We would like to recognize the following students for completing this challenging competition: Alexandra Abboud, Edooukou Akazoua, James Burgess, Brooks Carroll, Zachary Michaels, Taylor Nichols, Wendy Paddock, Ashley Pesi, Aisha Pier, Andrea Thieman, John Cordier, Alyssie Littleberry, and Omar Rahman. Thank you for taking advantage of this important learning experience and for your great ideas.

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services posts the winning presentations on its case competition Web site at: alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/News-Events/Events/Local-Government-Case-Competition.aspx.
PhD PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program has had an eventful year. Our students continue to be productive, and we have an excellent group of emerging scholars.

**Eric Kyere** (PhD ’17) defended his dissertation over the summer and started as an assistant professor at the Indiana University School of Social Work, Indianapolis campus.

**Lewis Lee** defended his dissertation in December and is currently in the midst of his job search.

**Andrea Joseph** has accepted a position as an assistant professor at the University of Tennessee at Nashville, and will be defending her dissertation this term. Many of our other students are making excellent progress and will be defending their dissertations and entering the job market in the next year.

Our students continue to publish, present at national conferences, and receive competitive funding awards.

**Jessica Wojtalik** recently received a National Institutes of Health National Research Service Award for her study, Functional Significance of Structural Brain Change during Cognitive Remediation in Early Schizophrenia.

**Daniel Jacobson** has received a Council on Social Work Education doctoral Minority Fellowship and a Pittsburgh Schweitzer Fellowship.

As our students continue to progress through the program, we are focused on recruiting new students. Our focus on recruitment has resulted in a substantial increase in applications this year as our program has continued to gain national prominence.

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School of Social Work Memories
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**Evan Aravich (MSW ’17)**

“My best memory of the School of Social Work is my second-year concentration field placement at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC; it was the most memorable experience I have had.

“The School of Social Work inspired me to continue to broaden my social work practice in order to be an effective social worker.”

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FROM THE VANKIRK CAREER CENTER

On March 29, 2018, the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work hosted its fourth annual job fair in the School of Social Work Conference Center. Fifteen agencies participated in the fair, one of the many events and services offered by the VanKirk Career Center. Since the center opened in October 2015, more than 500 students have benefited from its services and the more than 45 workshops it has offered. Assistance with licensure exam preparation is the leading request from students, while resume and cover letter review is a close second. Students are encouraged to take ownership of their career development immediately after they enter the School of Social Work. The VanKirk Career Center’s motto is “It’s your career. Make it happen.” Helping students to engage early on in their career development and maintain that engagement throughout their education is critical to securing employment when they graduate.

Our 2017 alumni survey data indicate that 92 percent of graduates are employed in a social work-related position. Also, the School of Social Work licensure exam pass rate from 2011 to 2015 was 88 percent; the national pass rate was 82 percent. The latest social work employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show that social work jobs are expected to grow by 16 percent through 2026. The projected growth rate for all other jobs in the United States is 7 percent for the same time period. This is undoubtedly good news for social workers. There are 245 graduate schools of social work and many more undergraduate social work programs in the United States. All are preparing their students for the social work job market.

The need for social services is substantial in the United States and throughout the world. Our students have the knowledge and skills necessary to meet society’s challenges and the career development tools to obtain opportunities to use them.

Hail to Pitt!

Bobby Simmons
Director of Career Services
A Year of Policy Practice

By Tracy Soska, COSA Chair and Continuing Education Director

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the organization responsible for accrediting schools of social work in the United States, recently adopted new educational policies and accreditation standards. One of its new competencies is that “social workers engage in policy practice.” In light of the new standards, and in the wake of the 2016 presidential election and rising concerns among students and faculty at the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, a small group of faculty members used grant support from CSWE’s new Policy Practice Grant Initiative to launch the Year of Policy Practice at the school in 2017. This effort sought to enhance student civic engagement and provide students with experiences and career pathways in policy practice.

In winter and spring 2017, the school hosted a series of teach-ins, bringing together students with faculty and field experts to examine three critical issues over the first 100 days of the new presidential administration. Of particular interest were emerging policies and actions related to timely health, housing, and women and gender issues. These teach-ins provided effective forums for student and faculty engagement with the practice community, and several more occurred during the fall 2017 term. One especially salient teach-in was an exciting dialogue with visiting German faculty and students about the rise of alternative right politics in both countries that occurred the day after the German elections and addressing the success of ult-right candidates there.

The overall climate of engagement at the school heightened throughout the year. Several classes and certificate programs held policy forums with field experts, engaging students in timely discussions on emerging policy challenges and opportunities around local affordable housing issues, labor and living wage concerns, and impacts on aging populations. One class conducted a term-long social justice film festival. The VanKirk Career Center also hosted a career panel featuring alumni working in key political and advocacy settings in the region, and the Contining Education Program hosted training workshops for students and field instruction on advocacy and lobbying for nonprofits.

Students embraced civic engagement, and this was particularly visible at a teach-in they organized around proposed federal and state budget cuts and the impact on the nonprofit sector that would ensue. Working with the National Association of Social Workers Pennsylvania Chapter Southwest Division, a judicial candidates forum was held before the fall elections to underscore the importance of the judiciary at all levels to social work practice. Students also published a policy newsletter on proposed and pending actions, and a cadre of students organized and formalized a new student policy group to continue this work in the school and the University community.

The Year of Policy Practice concluded with a student-facilitated dialogue that engaged faculty, students, administrators, field instructors, and alumni in exploring how to define social action in the school and to discuss how to sustain and enhance policy practice in the school’s explicit and implicit curricula.

All in all, it was an exciting and productive year, and the school was excited to share its efforts at a poster session among the Policy Practice Grant recipients at CSWE’s Annual Program Meeting in Dallas, Texas, in October 2017.
Celebrating 100 Years of People, Policy, and Practice: Highlights from the School’s History

For the past century, the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work has been a leader in the fields of social work and social justice dedicated to advancing knowledge and to applying that knowledge to the fulfillment of human potential through the prevention and amelioration of social problems.
1900s

1909
First Social Work Courses Offered
Twelve courses are offered, including Problems of Sociology, Race Development, Ethnology and Anthropology, Social Economy, and Race Problems in the United States.

1915
First Child Welfare Course Offered
Problems of Child Welfare is the very first child welfare course offered at Pitt. Today, the school’s child welfare program is the second largest in the country.

1918
Inaugural Year of the Division of Social Work
The division employs 15 faculty members and offers 24 courses. The social work program is housed in the School of Economics until 1922 when a redesign of the School of Economics into a School of Business Administration prompts the University to voluntarily withdraw from the Association of Schools of Social Work. Social work courses disappear from the curriculum until 1924.

1919
First Social Work Accreditation
Pitt receives its first social work accreditation from the newly established Association of Training Schools for Professional Social Workers—later the American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW). This also is the very first accreditation in social work awarded to any school and is awarded simultaneously to Pitt and 11 other schools.

1926
Program Moves to the Department of Sociology
Manuel Conrad Elmer is recruited by the University of Pittsburgh to serve as chair of the Department of Sociology and immediately installs social work in the department.
1930s

1933

Marion Hathway Joins the Faculty
Hathway’s charge is to get the social work program reaccredited and to strive to have it established as a separate accredited school.

1938

Social Work Program Reaccredited
On January 7, 1938, the Division of Social Work (in the Department of Sociology) is accredited by AASSW retroactively to 1934. In August 1938, local Pittsburgh newspapers report that the University trustees have approved the creation of a new school. The School of Applied Social Sciences is described as the University’s 18th separate school.

1940s

1938–49

Famous Scholars Flock to Social Work Faculty
During this period, faculty members include William and Karl Menninger, Gertrude Wilson, Gladys Ryland, Erik Erikson, Benjamin Spock, Eleanor Cockerill, Ruth Smalley, and Ruth Gartland.
1940
Foundation Funding Helps to Transform the Program
The Buhl Foundation’s grant of $150,000 (equivalent to approximately $2.63 million in 2017) is used to support a program in social administration; a social work library; the creation of specialized training facilities; the development of an advanced program; and the development of interdisciplinary programs with law, medicine, business, political science, economics, psychology, sociology, and other disciplines at Pitt to focus on social welfare. This is just one in a series of grants made to the University for social work by the Buhl Foundation beginning in 1931.

1945
Doctoral Program Founded
The doctoral program is approved by the University trustees and appears in the Bulletin for the first time. Hathway heads the program.

1949
The “Great Schism” of ’49
The national controversy over diagnostic and functional casework comes to a head. Ruth Smalley (far right) completes one of the first social work doctorates at Pitt and then leads an exodus of functional casework faculty.
1950s

1950–51
McCarthy Hearings
Hit Close to Home
U.S. Senator Joseph R. McCarthy attacks Hathway. Allegheny County judge Blair Gunther accuses Hathway of teaching "young folks that there is something wrong with this country." He also charges that "she teaches in her classes that there are poor people in America." Gunther demands that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania cut off all aid to the University of Pittsburgh if Hathway is not fired. By unanimous student and faculty support, Hathway retains her position as Pitt professor of social work.

1958
Community Organizing Program Formalized
Dean Wilbur Newstetter and the faculty formalize the school’s long-established national leadership in community organization to create a two-year concentration at the Master of Social Work level parallel in academic structure to the social casework and social group work concentrations.

Joint Doctorate and Master’s Degree Program Established
The School of Social Work and The Graduate School of Public Health create the nation’s first continuously federally funded maternal and child health program in public health and social work.

1960s

1962
**Eaton Becomes Chair**
Joseph Eaton becomes chair of the doctoral program and initiates major additions of research methodology and theory.

1962-63
**William McCullough Becomes Dean**
Dean Newstetter retires and William McCullough becomes acting dean and later dean.

1967
**First Joint Program Established**
The joint Master of Social Work/Master of Divinity degree program is established in cooperation with the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The program is the first of its kind in the country. Today, the school offers 11 joint/dual degree programs, including the new Master of Social Work/Master of Business Administration.

1964
**A Class Anomaly**
This is the first (and perhaps only) MSW class with more men than women.
1970s

1972-2001

David E. Epperson Takes the Reins

At the time of his retirement in 2001, David Epperson was the longest-serving dean at Pitt. He left a legacy of academic and administrative success as well as participation in education and social welfare missions all around the globe.

Epperson’s 29-year tenure as dean of the School of Social Work is credited with building the school into a nationally recognized program. Under his leadership, the School of Social Work gained national attention. Its enrollment more than tripled, and its ranking soared to the top 10 percent of accredited graduate social work programs in the country. The school became noted for its research, teaching, and practice in the areas of children, youth, and families; mental health; and community organization and administration. With a federal grant from the National Institute of Mental Health, Epperson helped to create Pitt’s Center for Mental Health Services Research, one of only seven centers of its type in the United States. He also developed the Child Welfare Education for Leadership Program, which provides educational opportunities for public child welfare personnel.

Larry E. Davis, who succeeded Epperson as dean of the School of Social Work, said, “Because of Dave’s efforts, our school has the best reputation in the country as a school that is responsive to the needs of its community.”

In addition, Epperson’s commitment to diversity in the school was strong, and when he retired, 22 percent of the school’s students and 25 percent of its faculty were from underrepresented populations.

In 2008, Pitt established the David E. Epperson Endowed Chair in the School of Social Work.

“Dave Epperson is a great man,” says Morton Coleman, professor emeritus in the School of Social Work. “His commitment to education, the community, social concerns, and his family make him one of the most respected individuals within the University and the Pittsburgh community, as well as nationally and internationally. He is intelligent, thoughtful, and caring, and it is my honor to help establish an endowed fund that will honor an outstanding human being.”

1973–74

BASW Program Founded

Pitt’s undergraduate social work degree program is accredited by CSWE. Pitt names its bachelor’s social work degree a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work to emphasize the heavy liberal arts component of the required course work. Most other schools, and CSWE, refer to the degree as a BSW or Bachelor of Social Work.
1980s

More Diversity
The school undertakes a major, successful effort to increase the number of underrepresented students and faculty.

The Doctoral Program continued its major expansion of funding, research, and enrollment; 88 doctorates are awarded.

1982

Founding of GADE
Barbara K. Shore plays a major role in the founding of a national organization called the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE).

1990s

HIV/AIDS Training
In the early 1990s, the school undertook the training of thousands of professionals in HIV/AIDS in public schools throughout western Pennsylvania with the support of the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The goal was to educate, train, and prepare school teachers and administrators to understand the issues and to be prepared to address them in school and in the community. As a result, extensive misinformation was dispelled, attitudes were changed, and the groundwork was laid for far better public health responses to the needs during an era of official denial of the problems, especially at the national level.

1995

Child Welfare Education and Research Programs Created
Eventually, the comprehensive Child Welfare Education and Research Programs come to include the Child Welfare Education for Leadership program, the Child Welfare Education for Baccalaureates program, and the Child Welfare Resource Center. Pitt’s is the second-largest child welfare education, research, and training program in the nation and one of the largest externally funded projects (if not the largest) at the University.

Professor Emeritus Edward Sites developed the child welfare training program now used in every Pennsylvania county—one of the nation’s largest child welfare training systems and a model program for other states.
2000s

2001
Larry E. Davis Becomes Dean

Larry E. Davis arrives from Washington University in St. Louis, where he was the first African American in any discipline to be awarded tenure. He was a professor of social work and psychology and held the E. Desmond Lee Chair in Ethnic and Racial Diversity.

2002
Center on Race and Social Problems Created

Founded by Dean Davis, the Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) conducts applied social science research on race, ethnicity, and color. CRSP focuses its research, publications, education, service, and events agenda on seven areas of focus: criminal justice; economic disparities; educational disparities; families, youth, and the elderly; health; mental health; and interracial group relations. It is the first such center to be created in any American school of social work.

2009
Publication founded

The Center on Race and Social Problems publishes its first edition of the journal Race and Social Problems. The multiracial, multidisciplinary journal publishes works by both well-established and emerging scholars in an effort to provide a wide array of ideas on one of the most important social issues of our time.

2010
Race in America Conference

The School of Social Work and the Center on Race and Social Problems host the largest conference on race ever held in the country. Race in America was a three-day event with 40 national speakers. It was attended by 1,200 educators and social workers from across the nation.

60th Anniversary

The School of Social Work doctoral program celebrates its 60th anniversary of bridging research with relevance. Doctoral graduates from all over the country attended the celebration. To date, more than 300 doctoral alumni have become leaders in social work research, education, administration, and planning.
2011
Community Organization Program Anniversary
The school’s community organization program marks its 55th year at Pitt, making it the first and oldest program of its kind in the nation.

2016
School Ranked in the Top 10
In the newly released U.S. News & World Report rankings of graduate schools of social work, the University of Pittsburgh is ranked 10th among the 245 graduate social work programs in the country.

2017
Child Welfare Reaches 1 Million Users
In response to Pennsylvania’s Act 31—which requires all professionals in the state who regularly come into contact with children to receive training in the recognition and reporting of child abuse—the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work offers a comprehensive online training program free of charge. The program also is available to any member of the general public. The three-hour training program is available by visiting www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu.
With the click of a mouse, Larry E. Davis signaled the beginning of the end of an era by formally announcing that he would retire as dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work at the end of the 2017–18 academic year.

It was October 16, 2017, and responses to his e-mail began arriving immediately—including job offers from two major universities within 24 hours, which Davis politely declined. He was serious about retirement, as in no teaching, no full-time work, no sitting on boards, more volunteer community service, and more time savoring life with his wife.

“I’ve been cranking at 150 percent for 17 years,” he says, “and now it’s time to step back.”
f the law of the harvest is sure, then the school’s bounteous yield under Davis’ leadership is no surprise. When he arrived at Pitt in July 2001, the school already had a strong reputation, boasting the first community organizing program on any college campus in the nation and the second-largest child welfare program in higher education.

Davis shored up those assets and introduced new initiatives, from founding *Bridges* magazine to creating a trailblazing study abroad course in Cuba for graduate social work students through the school’s Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP).

It is CRSP, in fact, that has become Davis’ signature achievement. Now in its 16th year, it is a pioneer and a national rarity in its focus on researching the role of race in social issues and promoting serious dialogue about one of the nation’s most persistent problems.

In a school already known for its emphasis on community service, Davis recognized a need for more emphasis on research. Compared to when he arrived, faculty members are now winning more grants, conducting more research, and publishing more articles.

As the school celebrates its centennial this year, it finds itself in an enviable position, having climbed from 14th place into the top 10 among graduate social work programs as ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*—and doing so with a significantly smaller faculty than those ranked higher.

In enhancing the program and building an impressive team of faculty and staff, Davis at one point was working seven days a week and traveling 100,000 miles a year. He has written dozens of reports and media commentaries, authored scores of articles and papers, delivered numerous lectures and presentations, penned more than a half a dozen books, and traveled to 60 countries.

He has received prestigious recognition along the way, from Pitt’s Chancellor’s Affirmative Action Award in 2007 to the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh’s Community Leadership Award in 2011 to the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Michigan School of Social Work in 2014.

Davis credits constant support from faculty, staff, foundations and University leaders for the school’s advance during his tenure.

“I got lucky,” says Davis. “I happened to be in the right place at the right time. I came to a school that needed the talent I have, and Pitt allowed me to use all of my skills. They backed the Center on Race and Social Problems and never looked back, and they never wavered in their support. It’s one thing to have an idea, and it’s another to have a backer. Pitt backed me all the way.”

Helping to recruit Davis to Pitt, supporting him when he arrived, and watching the school of social work reach new heights were highlights of Mark A. Nordenberg’s 19 years as chancellor.

Davis “really is a person who has made a difference,” says Nordenberg, now chancellor emeritus. “He has been determined in his efforts to elevate our school of social work within the ranks of the top American schools. He was always focused on how to keep the momentum going. He crafted a personal record of excellence, and his determination to do the same thing with the school really was a powerful factor in the enviable record that he forged as dean.”

Davis’ approach to social work in theory and practice is unapologetically informed by race. He is as much a race scholar as a social work scholar, though he describes himself as “a social psychologist for social work.” He suggests that if you delve deeply enough into any intractable social issue, you will find race at its heart.

In the United States, race influences the lives of minorities from childhood, and Davis was no exception. In his semi-autobiographical 2015 book, *Why Are They Angry with Us? Essays on Race*, Davis discusses his family’s struggle with racism in the South, where his light-skinned mother—the child of a Black woman and a White man—frequently was mistaken as White.

Growing up in a tough neighborhood in Saginaw, Mich., and vacationing in the South in the 1950s, Davis watched racial dynamics play out through the unseasoned eyes of a child. But even at the age of 6

—Mark A. Nordenberg, Chancellor Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh
or 7, his mind sought clarity. One morning as he walked to church, a thought occurred to him: If Black people were the slaves of White people, then why were White people angry with Black people? In the book, he writes:

*I think it was this question that began my lifelong curiosity about race and how it worked. I wanted to know why things were as they were for me and other black people, but also why race dynamics worked for white people as well as they did. Ultimately, my curiosity resulted in my becoming a scholar of race. It has been my academic and personal focus virtually all of my life.*

When Davis was 12, he and a friend were hanging out in their neighborhood when a White police officer drove up and ordered them into his cruiser. Instead of telling them why they were being detained, the officer called the police station about bringing them in. When he was told there was no room, he drove them around for about two hours before finally releasing them.

Nearly 60 years later, sitting in a handsomely appointed corner office high in the Cathedral of Learning, nattily attired and clearly comfortable in his own skin, Davis believes that a different outcome that day could have been disastrous for him.

“I often think about that: What would have happened had I gone to the station and gotten a record? My life could have taken a completely different trajectory.”

After a reflective pause, he continues.

“Over the years, I’ve had some White people say to me, ‘You made it,’ and proceed to question why so many other Black males have not. My answer is, ‘I hit the lottery.’ I’m the only one of my friends who graduated from high school. But why is it that Black people have to be exceptional to live a normal life?”

By the time Davis graduated from high school, he knew he wanted to study and write about race. As an undergraduate at Delta College in Bay City, Mich., he found the vocabulary that fit his passion: social psychology.

Davis transferred to Michigan State University after two years, receiving a bachelor’s degree in psychology in 1968. Then it was on to the University of Michigan later that year to earn a master’s degree in social work.

After his first year of graduate school, Davis decided to participate in the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program for one year in New York, N.Y. Enthralled by the fast-paced, multicultural metropolis, he ended up staying three years.

It was, Davis recollects, one of the most formative experiences of his life. He met and interacted with Black luminaries and civil rights voices such as writer James Baldwin and singer Mahalia Jackson, returning to his studies “more sophisticated and with a more cosmopolitan worldview.”

Back at Michigan, he resumed his studies and graduated in 1973. He earned a second master’s degree in 1975—this one in psychology—and two years later was the first Black
student in the school’s history to receive a PhD in social work and psychology.

Doctorate in hand, Davis accepted a job as an assistant professor of social work and psychology at Washington University in St. Louis. He was promoted to associate professor in 1983—becoming the first Black faculty member to be granted tenure at Washington University—and then full professor in 1996. Two years later, he was named the E. Desmond Lee Professor of Racial and Ethnic Diversity.

Three years later, Pitt called.

Robert Pack, who at the time was vice provost and chairing Pitt’s search committee for a new School of Social Work dean, says that the committee’s preliminary research put Davis on its radar.

“The more I talked to people,” recalls Pack, “the more his name came up. He had exactly the kind of credentials we needed. He seemed like a perfect fit.”

Davis wasn’t interested. He was happy at Washington University, where he held an endowed professorship at one of the nation’s premier schools of social work.

But Pack persisted, and after about a month Davis agreed to visit.

“I had been to China,” says Davis, “but I had never been to Pittsburgh.”

Nordenberg, who met privately with Davis during the visit, says Davis was “an exceptional candidate in terms of the things he had already accomplished. As we talked, I believed the same levels of professional ambition that fueled his record of individual accomplishment and impact could be applied to the school as dean.”

After a meet-and-greet dinner at the chancellor’s residence, where Davis and key individuals from the University and wider community “connected enthusiastically,” Nordenberg felt that Pitt had found the right candidate.

Davis was offered the position and accepted, leaving behind 24 years at Washington University and coming to Pittsburgh “kicking and screaming,” he says jokingly.

“I never planned to be a dean,” he says. “I am really an academic posing as a dean. But I was impressed with their desire to have me although I had never been an administrator. They told me later that I had been in good schools, so they assumed I knew what one looked like. The confidence in me is what sold me the most.”

Pack, now vice provost emeritus, praises the results of what turned out to be a great fit.

“We thought he would do a wonderful job and take the school to the next level, and there’s no question he did. He’s been an exceptional dean, an incredible success. He’s become even more a national figure, and as a result, he’s greatly enhanced the reputation of the school and the reputation of the University.”

Davis counts participating in VISTA and climbing Mount Kilimanjaro among his most monumental decisions. But “coming to Pittsburgh,” he says, “was the best decision I ever made in my life.”

One of the first initiatives Davis began working on was his vision that would materialize the following year as the Center on Race and Social Problems. Based in the social work school and funded by the University—and gaining financial support over the years from outside the University—the center routinely presents lectures and teach-ins that attract students, faculty, community leaders, researchers, and race scholars from across the nation and abroad. The center engages across disciplines and intersects with public health, criminal justice, and numerous other fields. CRSP hosted a national academic conference on race in 2010 that...
was believed to be the largest such event ever held in America. The center also maintains an online database of hundreds of publications and videos of lectures by race experts and publishes a national academic journal titled *Race and Social Problems*.

Ralph Bangs, who coedited a book with Davis titled *Race and Social Problems: Restructuring Inequality* and was CRSP’s associate director until 2014, lauds the nationally respected center’s “major impact” on the school, the University, and the region.

“The center benefited the University by giving faculty, staff, and students a place to share and discuss research, publications, and other information on race,” says Bangs, a Pitt study abroad professor currently teaching in Prague, Czech Republic. “In addition, the center provided seed money for new lines of research on race by faculty each year. Further, center projects provided research assistantships to many students. The center benefited the community through its reports on racial conditions, public lectures at the center by national and local race experts, and the online database. Today, the University and local community are much more focused on racial issues and much more willing to discuss race in a rational manner than before Dean Davis came to Pitt.”

Cross-cultural dialogue about race tends to be difficult, particularly in the Pittsburgh region, where racial disparities and tension are relatively high.

Nancy Bolden, a racial justice advocate, routinely attends CRSP events and notes Davis’ positive impact on the discussion. The center, she says, “has been a real addition to the conversation about race. I think it’s institutionalized at this point.”

Part of the reason for CRSP’s success is the tone Davis sets in race dialogue.

“Among the many things that distinguish Larry is his ability to raise difficult issues in ways that invite further conversation, even from people who might be uncomfortable and might turn way if the issues were raised by someone else and in a different fashion,” says Nordenberg. “He has a unique touch in raising difficult issues in ways that has everybody thinking, ‘We ought to be talking about this and we ought to be doing something about it.’ ”

James Maher, who was provost at the time Davis came to Pitt, says that this ability became evident in the search process,

“Davis’ name kept coming up not just as a very good researcher . . . but one who also had a marvelous skill at taking extremely sensitive issues and studying them so carefully that his results couldn’t be assailed. He had one issue after another connected with race. You just look at the issues and you want to run for cover. But his work was so careful, when he produced results, people didn’t know how to attack him.”

Mary McKay, dean of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University, lauded Davis’ impact on the race discussion.

“Davis has demonstrated great leadership throughout his career by raising racial equity as a central focus for the social work profession,” she says. “His commitment to addressing how structural racism is embedded in a range of systems has resulted in programs and policies that have improved the lives of children and families of color.”

While building CRSP, Davis acted to reinforce the school’s strengths. Faculty members with wide-ranging specialties were recruited, becoming part of an all-star cast of scholars who moved the school from 40th to fourth place nationally in terms of publications—despite being one of the smallest faculties among the top schools.

The School of Social Work had long enjoyed a reputation for educating students who would become social work practitioners and even activists. At the same time, there was a desire to make the doctoral program more rigorous and to forge ahead as a leader in applied research.

Once on campus, Davis began to lead decisively in that direction, and the results have been impressive, Maher says.

Davis “has built a very strong PhD program, and he has recruited faculty that are doing exciting work in applied social science research in the areas that are of interest to social workers,” he notes. “It’s a marvelous faculty and a marvelous set of graduate students working there. People are being hired by good universities that want...
good professors. We’re having an impact on the way social work is being done around the country. The Center on Race and Social Problems is, of course, at the very center of that research program. It has attracted to it not just faculty in social work but faculty in other part[s] of [the] University for multidisciplinary discussions about social work problems. That enriches student education. It excites faculty about things they can be working on. It’s influencing the attitude of faculty in other professions toward social problems. And so I think it’s been a marvelous success.”

As the school moved forward, raising the bar for tenure and making research a priority, results began to appear rather quickly. And they attracted people like Shaun M. Eack, who entered the doctoral program in 2004.

“I had people there I wanted to do research with as a graduate student, and I wanted a department that would be supportive of that,” says Eack.

His primary research interest was in mental health, and he hoped to land a job in a school of social work that would support such research and allow him to build a strong social work research portfolio. He found the environment in Davis’ school so favorable that, after graduating, he turned down job offers from Harvard University and Pitt’s psychiatry department to join the social work faculty in 2009.

Today, Eack is the David E. Epperson Professor in the School of Social Work, a professor of psychiatry, and a social worker specializing in research on new treatments for autism and schizophrenia. He teaches doctoral students about research methods and since 2011 has served on the mental health research advisory panel at CRSP.

In March, he traveled to Washington, D.C., for the second consecutive year as the first social worker on a selection panel that reviews research proposals for $20 million in U.S. Department of Defense grants.

“If Larry was not at our school, I would not have gone there,” says Eack. “I would not have gone to graduate school there, and I would not have joined the faculty.

“I’m so glad I stayed,” he adds, laughing. “He’s transformed the school. In no other words can you say it. It’s not only a great school that strives for social justice and wants to be part of the community but one that wants to and can compete in research.”

It was Davis’ efforts to maintain a strong faculty—and a lot of persistence—that brought Jerry Cochran on board in 2013. Cochran rejected Davis’ first job offer. Later, when Cochran was doing postdoctoral work in psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University, Davis reached out again. This time, Cochran said yes.

“It was a good fit,” says Cochran, who sits on CRSP’s board and manages health-related research and training collaborations across the campus and city. He compares Davis to a quarterback.

“He helps to make the connections that you need. He helps you see the vision of what he wants to accomplish in the school. He helps you be successful.”

Cochran recalls there being about a dozen active research grants when he arrived at the school; today, that number has more than tripled. He says that Davis supports faculty efforts to secure research dollars, one of the things that has created “very eager junior faculty.”

“Making that top-10 ranking—I really believe that was Dean Davis,” says Cochran. “He had the vision that he wanted to break that precipice. He built a team and kept beating the drum. I really believe this: We all could have been doing the great work we were doing, and without Dean Davis, nobody would ever have known about it.”

Exceptional organizational leadership and exemplary achievements in research and scholarship are among the key factors evaluated by the Council on Social Work Education in bestowing its Significant Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Education Award. In 2016, the selection panel chose Davis.
“Dean Davis distinguished himself above the others through his scholarship and research on diversity and racism—a very wide reach, with high impact,” says Darla Spence Coffey, the organization’s president and CEO. “One reviewer noted that Dean Davis ‘exemplifies an exceptional and long-term commitment to social work research, pedagogy, and service that warrants such an honor.’ A nominator said, ‘Dr. Davis is a leading thinker, activist, and academic on the subject of race in America and its role in social justice.’ I couldn’t agree more.”

Coffey has observed, as have many others, Davis’ gift for fostering productive conversations about tough subjects.

“Dean Davis has distinguished himself as a leader in areas that are sometimes uncomfortable for people to enter—even for a profession that ‘prides’ itself on commitments to openness, transparency, and social justice,” she says. “In every circle that I share with Larry, he is willing to ask the hard questions and challenge his peers to examine assumptions, think deeper, and bring our professional values to our actions. He has mentored scores of scholars, particularly scholars of color, and I admire this in him very much.”

In January, Davis was honored with the Distinguished Career Achievement Award from the international Society for Social Work and Research, making him the first person to receive career awards from both professional organizations.

“If I had been someplace else,” declares Davis, “I never would have won both of those awards.”

Thanks to opportunity and support at Pitt, he says, he was able to think large and long term and do something he enjoyed so much that he never considered it to be work.

“My goal in life was to address injustice of any sort—foremost, racial injustice of any sort,” he says. “I got paid to do that. It wasn’t heavy. It’s what I wanted to do.”

Davis isn’t the only one who finds his retirement to be a time of reflection. Maher’s thoughts turn to a big difference he has seen Davis make in the Pittsburgh community.

“Often, people like to say the world was ready for something, and if this person didn’t do it, somebody would have. But in a place like Pittsburgh, if you want to make some progress and somebody really good comes to town and throws in his lot with you, and you look back after 17 years and see that a lot of good things came about, you have to give credit to that person. I’m just so glad that Larry Davis came and decided to throw in his lot in Pittsburgh.”

Lynn Videka, dean of the University of Michigan School of Social Work, met Davis in 1989, when he coauthored the book *Race, Gender & Class: Guidelines for Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups.*

“The original edition of the book was a first for social work—an evidence-based review of the effects of practitioner-client diversities and social work intervention outcomes,” says Videka. “I got to know Larry personally over the years, especially as fellow deans. I have always admired Larry for his commitment to a better humanity; for his dedication to understanding race; and for his commitment to . . . deep, social science-based inquiry for the purpose of better contemporary solutions for social inequality in the United States.”

Davis, who turned 72 in May, will give commencement addresses that month at Boston College and Case Western Reserve University—and at Pitt for the School of Social Work.

After that, he will continue as director of CRSP for a year, helping to identify his successor. He departs with many hopes: that CRSP’s success expands along with the school’s; that CRSP remains within the school; that the social work faculty grows; that the school climbs even higher in national rankings; and that the University redoubles efforts to continue its legacy as a leader in diversity hiring, particularly of African Americans as faculty members, department chairs, and administrators.

“I’m a little nostalgic,” Davis acknowledges. “I’ve loved being the dean. It’s been a wonderful run.”
The University of Pittsburgh Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) has begun its 16th year of operation and, like the prior 15 years, continues to be a busy place. This is a good thing, as now more than ever our country is in need of attention to race matters. When we established CRSP in 2002, there was speculation about America’s possibly being in a postracial phase of its history. Few would make such assertions today. Perhaps more so than at any other time since the Civil War, our country is divided on a variety of social, economic, and political issues—and among these, race relations is one of the most divisive and problematic. Tragically, our current president has given largesse to those who, it seems, love to hate. Since his election, the number of hate crimes and groups has dramatically increased. Those of us who have been in the trenches fighting for greater racial and social justice find this disheartening. Not surprisingly, it has caused many to ask the questions, “Have race relations gotten worse, and have all of our efforts to bring about greater racial justice failed?” Unfortunately, it does appear that race relations have, in fact, gotten worse. But, at the same time, it also is true that considerable racial progress has been made. It is very likely the case that we are experiencing a conservative racial backlash because so much racial progress has been made.

But we should not come to the conclusion that we have failed in our efforts to bring about a more just society. It is instead the case that we have most certainly underestimated the enormity of the problem we were facing and the amount of time and effort it would take to eradicate it. So let us not be disillusioned by the present troubled state of race relations but continue in the struggle to make America a more perfect union.

Speaker Series

Our speaker series has continued to flourish. We kicked off our 2018 series with a special presentation by the Criminal Justice Task Force led by Pitt Chancellor Emeritus Mark Nordenberg with his colleagues Frederick Thieman of the Buhl Foundation, the former U.S. attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and Edward Mulvey of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, who commissioned the task force, introduced the panel. The panelists reported the findings from a yearlong study on the insidious effects of high rates of incarceration. The panel

By Larry E. Davis

CRSP Update
also made clear the negative effects high incarceration rates are having on people of color.

Our second lecture, “No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty,” was presented by Waverly Duck from Pitt’s sociology department. His presentation offered informative insights into the difficult living conditions that those living in poor communities face daily. Our third lecture, “Race and Compounded Adversity,” by Kathryn Neckerman, had to be canceled due to inclement weather. Our final lecture, “The Real Record on Racial Attitudes,” given by Camille Zubrinsky Charles, provided a longitudinal look at racial attitudinal change in America.

Pilot Studies

CRSP has been awarding pilot grants since 2004. Typically, we have awarded one to three grants per year. These grants, most of which are in the amount of $10,000, are given to faculty members across the University who have race as their topic area of interest. We have awarded more than $200,000 since 2004. We have been pleasantly surprised to learn that many of our awardees have been successfully using their pilot funding to obtain larger grants, resulting in a $6 return on every dollar awarded by CRSP. This fact was only recently brought to our attention by Daniel Rosen, a CRSP associate, who is currently preparing a report on the success of our pilot grant recipients. We hope to distribute this report later in 2018.

Summer Institutes

The first of our 2018 Summer Institutes, on child welfare, was held on June 6. It focused on the effects of the opioid crisis on children and families. Our second institute was a panel presentation by five Black local politicians on July 11. They presented a report on the city’s Black poverty and unemployment rates as well as possible interventions to ameliorate these conditions. Our third and final institute was held on July 25 and was called Police and Community.

CRSP Fellows

Each year, CRSP provides stipends for eight Master of Social Work students to enable them to fulfill their internships. These students provide emotional, scholastic, and practical support to students in two local elementary schools with high proportions of needy students. CRSP fellows have been found to be a tremendous resource to the schools in which they are placed. In addition, the placements provide the fellows with unique practicum opportunities to serve low-income and underrepresented communities.
Annual Cuba Trip

The Cuban Social Policy course has been part of the CRSP’s international study abroad program for more than 10 years. Each year, we take a group of 10 students to Cuba over spring break. They are required to attend four seminars before we leave for Cuba and write a short paper upon our return. These seminars involve a combination of films and lectures about the history and present-day status of Cuba. Students visit facilities such as schools, orphanages, and homes for the elderly and are provided with wonderful lectures by University of Havana faculty. Of course, a major focus of this course is how race and income operate in Cuba. Students are presented with both the similarities and differences between America and Cuba on these topics. It is one of the most eye-opening experiences that many of our students have with Cuban history and America’s involvement with it.
The Future

As many of you are perhaps aware, I stepped down as dean of the School of Social Work at the end of this term. However, I will stay on as director of CRSP for another year. It is my hope during this next year to continue to improve CRSP. This will involve providing greater support to the Research Advisory Panels, promoting more research, providing greater academic rigor to the Cuba program, and finding ways to include greater numbers of our students in the work of the center. More than ever, I want to acknowledge and thank the supporters of CRSP. First and foremost, I owe a great deal of thanks to the University of Pittsburgh, which steadfastly supported the center from the beginning. Without Pitt’s unwavering and sustained support, there would be no Center on Race and Social Problems. Pitt is to be given immense credit for supporting a center focused on race when many other schools avoided addressing the topic of race altogether. I also want to thank the supporters of our lecture series, the law firms of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and Reed Smith LLP. Both of these firms have been with us since the beginning and we cannot thank them enough.

As always, we invite you to attend the center’s activities. America needs your attention to be on racial justice issues now more than ever.
With Gratitude

Field Agencies

A for the People Insurance Training Institute
A Second Chance, Inc.
A Wellness Place LLC.
A. Philip Randolph Institute
A+ Schools
AAP Pennsylvania
ABC Associates
ACHIEVA Family Trust
Achievement Center
ACLU of PA, Western Region Office
Action Housing, Inc.
Adaptive Behavioral Services, Inc.
Adelphi Village
Administrative Office of Juvenile Court - Cambria County
American American Chamber of Commerce of Western PA
AgeWell Pittsburgh
AHEAD, Inc.
Aliquippa Alliance for Unity Development
Aliquippa School District
Allegheny Correctional Health Services, Inc.
Allegheny County Adult Probation Office
Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
Allegheny County Jail Chaplains’ Office
Allegheny County Office of Conflict Counsel
Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender
Allegheny Health Network
Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3
Allegheny Valley Hospital
Alle-Kiski Area Hope Center, Inc.
Aliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education
Alliance Health
Allies for Health + Wellbeing
ALS Association, Western PA Chapter
Alternative Community Resources Program, Inc.
Alternative Energy Youth Farm
Altoona Hospital Behavioral Health Services
Alzheimer Disease Research Center
Amachi Pittsburgh
Ambridge Area School District
American Liver Foundation
American Red Cross – Southwestern Pennsylvania Chapter
An Ounce of Prevention, Inc.
Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry
Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8
ARC Manor
ARIN IU 28
Armstrong County Children, Youth, and Family Services
Armstrong County Community Action Agency
Armstrong County Memorial Hospital
AseraCare Hospice
Ask for a Safer Pennsylvania, a project of the Urban Affairs Coalition
Auberle
Bair Foundation
Baldwin Health Center
Baldwin School District
Baldwin-Whitehall School District
Barbko Foundation
Bedford-Somerset MH/MR
Beginning with Books
Beginnings, Incorporated
Bethany Christian Services
Bethany Hospice Services
Bethlehem Haven
Bible Center Church
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh
Black Political Empowerment Project (B-Pep)
Blackburn Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh
Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation
BNY Mellon Corporation
Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania
Bradley Center
Brookline Teen Outreach
Brooktree Health Services
Butler City Police Department
Butler County Children and Youth Agency
Butler County Human Services
Butler Memorial Hospital
Canonsburg General Hospital
The Care Center
Carnegie Mellon University
Carnegie Community Development Corporation
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Carnegie Mellon University
Casa San Jose
Catholic Charities
Catholic Charities - Diocese of Greensburg
Catholic Hospice
Center for Community Resources
Center for Family Excellence
Center for Victims
Center for Women
Center of Life
Centerville Clinics, Inc.
CHARGE Center
Chartier’s Community Mental Health & Retardation Center
Chatham University Counseling Services
Chestnut Ridge Counseling Services, Inc.
Children’s Home of Pittsburgh
Children’s Advocacy Center
Children’s Advocacy Center of Lawrence County
Children’s Aid Society in Clearfield County
Children’s Center of Pittsburgh
Children’s Institute
Children’s Sickle Cell Foundation
Chiswika United Methodist Church
Christian Life Skills
Circle Camps for Grieving Children
Citizens to Abolish Domestic Apartheid, Inc.
City of Pittsburgh
City Planning - City of Pittsburgh
Clairton City School District
Clairton Education Center
Clarion County Mental Health
Clarion Psychiatric Center
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
CLASS - Community Living and Support Services
Clean Air Council
Clearfield County Children Youth & Family Services
Coalition to Affirm Real Estate Ownership (CARE Ownership)
Cognitive Behavior Institute
Communities in Schools of Pittsburgh - Allegheny County
Community Alternatives, Inc.
Community Behavioral Healthcare Services of Pennsylvania (CBHNP)
Community Builders
Community Care Behavioral Health
Community College of Allegheny County
Community College of Beaver County
Community Counseling Center
Community Education Centers
Community Empowerment Association, Inc.
Community Guidance Center
Community Human Services Corporation
Community Life
Community Liver Alliance
Compassion Connection, Inc.
Concordia Lutheran Ministries
Conemaugh Memorial Health System
Congressman Mike Doyle District Office
Consulate Health Care of Cheswick
Consumer Health Coalition
Coro Pittsburgh
Country Meadows Nursing Center
Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County
Cove Forge/White Deer Run Behavioral Health System
Crawford County Human Services
Cray Youth and Family Services
Crisis Center North
Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County
Crittinan Services, Inc.
Crossroads Foundation
Deer Lakes School District
Dennis M. Kashurba, Licensed Psychologist
Department of Public Welfare
Dickinson Mental Health Center
Diocese of Greensburg
Discovery House Pennsylvania
Domestic Abuse Counseling Center
DuBois Regional Medical Center
Duquesne City School District
Duquesne University School of Law – Tribune Center for Clinical Legal Education

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Eastern Ohio Correction Center
Economic Development South
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Emmaus Community of Pittsburgh
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Evolve Coaching
Excella Health
Families United Network, Inc.
Family ACTS
(Families of Eden, Inc.)
Family Behavioral Resources
Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County
Family Hospice & Palliative Care
Family Links
Family Pathways
Family Psychological Associates, Ltd.
Family Resources
Family Services of Northwestern Pennsylvania
Family Services of Western PA
Fayette County Community Action Agency, Inc.
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First Step Recovery Homes, Inc.
FISA Foundation
Focus on Renewal Sto-Rox Neighborhood Corporation
FOCUS Pittsburgh
Forbes Funds
Forbes Hospice
Forbes Road Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
Foundation of Hope
Franciscan University of Steubenville
Freedom Healthcare Services
Fresenius Medical Care
Friendship Circle of Pittsburgh
Friendship Development Associates
Friendship Ridge
Fund for Advancement of Minorities Through Education (FAME)
Gaiser Addiction Center
Garfield Jubilee Association, Inc.
Gateway Health Plan
Gateway Hospice
Gateway Rehabilitation Centers
Gateway School District
Gaudenzia Erie INC
George Junior Republic
Gilda’s Club Western PA
Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania
Girl’s Hope of Pittsburgh, Inc.
Glade Run Lutheran Services
Glenshaw Gardens
Global Pittsburgh
Global Solutions Pittsburgh
Golden Living Center
Good Samaritan Hospice-Camp Erin
Goodwill Industries of SWPA
Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley, Inc.
Grace Community Church
Grane Hospice Care, Inc.
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Greenbriar Treatment Center
Greenery Specialty Care Center
Grow Pittsburgh
GTECH Strategies (Growth Through Energy & Community Health)
Gwen’s Girls
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Pittsburgh
Harman Village Care Center
Hazelwood Initiative/COPC
HCR Manor Care
Health Care for All Pennsylvania
HealthSouth Harmanville Rehabilitation Hospital
Healthy Start, Inc.
Heartland Hospice
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Horses with Hope
Hosanna House, Inc.
Housing Alliance of PA
Housing Authority of Beaver County
Housing Opportunities Unlimited
HSAO Human Services
Human Services Center -Advancing Academics
Human Services Center Corporation
Indiana County Children and Youth Services
Indiana County Guidance Center
Indiana Regional Medical Center
InVision Human Services (Sharp Villages, Inc.)
Irene Stacy MH/MD
Islamic Center of Pittsburgh
J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital
Jackson/Clark Partners
JADE Wellness Center
Jameson Memorial Hospital
Jefferson Regional Foundation
Jewish Association on Aging
Jewish Community Center
Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Pittsburgh
Jewish Healthcare Foundation
Jewish Residential Services, Inc.
Joshua Development Corporation
Just Harvest
JusticeWorks YouthCare
Kane Regional Center
Keystone Training and Consulting
Kids Count II
Kids Count, Inc.
Kids Voice
Kingsley Association
Kittanning Care Center
L.I.V.I.N.G. Ministry
La Roche College
Larimer Consensus Group
Latrobe Area Hospital
Laurelbrooke Landing
Lawrenceville Corporation
Lawrenceville United
LIFE Beaver County
LIFE Pittsburgh
Light of Life Rescue Mission
Lincoln Park Community Center
Living in Liberty
Lupus Foundation of Pennsylvania
Lutheran Service Society of Western Pennsylvania
Macdonald Family and Community Enrichment Center (FACE)
Manchester Academic Charter School
Manchester Bidwell Corporation
Mars Home for Youth
McAuley Ministries
McKee’s Rocks Community Development Corporation
Medical Center
Men Against Destruction
Defending Against Drugs and Social Disorder
Mental Health America
Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern Pennsylvania
Mercy Behavioral Health
Methodist Union of Social Agencies (MUSA)
Michael’s Place
Midwife Center for Birth and Women’s Health
Milestone
Mon Valley Initiative
Mon Yough Community Services, Inc.
Monongahela Valley Hospital, Inc.
Mt. Lebanon Village
Mt. Oliver Borough
NAMI of Southwestern Pennsylvania
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Neighborhood Academy

**FACULTY PROFILES**

**Helen Cahalane, PhD**, stepped in when Edward Sites, founding principal investigator of the School of Social Work’s Child Welfare Education and Research Programs, retired. She is a clinical associate professor and principal investigator of the Child Welfare Education and Research Programs. She received her BS in social welfare from Shepherd College and her MSW and PhD from Pitt.

**Valire Carr Copeland, PhD**, served as chair of the doctoral program from 2007 to 2014 and has been serving as associate dean of academic affairs since 2014. Copeland received her BSW in 1977 from Livingstone College and her MSW and PhD from Pitt. Copeland also serves as associate director of the Public Health Social Work Training Program.

**James V. Cunningham, PhD**, served on the faculty for more than 40 years. Cunningham spent his career working on neighborhood development, community organizing, and social justice issues. Born in Chicago, Ill., Cunningham earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in economics at the University of Notre Dame. Cunningham was active in the community, specializing in neighborhood organization and engaging in local political activity. Cunningham was at the forefront of involving the School of Social Work and the University of Pittsburgh in helping ailing local communities as the steel industry was declining. During the 1980s, he helped to lead the River Communities Studies Project, which spurred new initiatives such as the Aliquippa Alliance for Unity and Development.
FACULTY PROFILES

Charlotte Dunmore, PhD, chaired and was a dissertation committee member for the school as well as for other doctoral programs across the University during her tenure at Pitt. In addition to her role as MSW program director, she served on many Council on Social Work Education reaffirmation teams and helped to facilitate the accreditation of many BSW and MSW programs across the country. She was recognized as a poverty scholar and an advocate for women and children and was well respected for her encyclopedic knowledge.

Shaun M. Eack, PhD, David E. Epperson Professor of Social Work and professor of psychiatry, earned his PhD in Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh. Eack’s primary interests include the development, implementation, and evaluation of psychosocial treatment methodologies to improve the care of people with schizophrenia and related disorders. He also is interested in the biopsychosocial factors that contribute to recovery and psychosocial outcomes among people with schizophrenia and related disorders and how the elucidation of these factors can serve to aid novel treatment development efforts. In addition, Eack has a broad interest in social work education and workforce development as they relate to the provision of care for people with schizophrenia and other severe mental illnesses.

Neighborhood Allies
Neighborhood Learning Alliance
Neighborhood Legal Services Association
New Brighton Area School District
New Day Ministry
New Kensington School District
New Story
New Visions for Lawrence County
NHS Human Services
NISAR Health & Human Services
North Allegheny School District
North Hills Community Outreach
North Hills School District
North Shore Community Alliance
North Shore Family Health
Northern Area Multi-Service Center
Northside Christian Health Center
Nulton Diagnostic and Treatment Center, P.C.
Oakland Planning and Development
Odyssey Healthcare, Inc.
Office of City Councilman
Dan Gilman
Office of Councilwoman
Natala Rudlak
Office of State Representative
Ed Gainey
Office of State Representative
Jake Wheatley Jr.
Ohio Valley Hospital
Onala Recovery Center
Open Door
Operation Better Block, Inc.
Our Clubhouse
Outside In
Parenting Institute
Parents League for Emotional Adjustment (PLEA)
Parkside Psychological Associates
Passavant Memorial Homes
Pediatric Care Specialists - Behavioral Health Services
Peer Support and Advocacy Network (PSAN)
Penn Hills School District
Penn State Fayette,
The Eberly Campus
Pennsylvania Innocence Project
Peoples Oakland
Persad Center, Inc.
Perseus House
PERSONA, PC
Pilgrimage Hospice
Pine-Richland School District
Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR)
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group
Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc.
Pittsburgh Family Development, Inc.
Pittsburgh Foundation
Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation
Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation
Pittsburgh Mennonite Church
Pittsburgh Mercy Health System
Pittsburgh Mercy
Pittsburgh Partnership
Reset Program
Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute
Pittsburgh Project
Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Center
Pittsburgh Public Schools
Pittsburgh UNITED
Pittsburgh Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Center (PVSEC)
Planned Parenthood of Western PA
POISE Foundation
Post Acute Recovery, LLC
POWER
Presbyterian Senior Care
Pressley Ridge
Prevention Network
Prevention Point Pittsburgh
Primary Care Health Services, Inc.
Prudigio Dialysis
Professional Family Care Services Program for Offenders, Inc.
Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise (PACE)
Project Point of Light Providence Family Support Center
PULSE
Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.
Quigley Family
Rankin Christian Center
Reach Up, Inc.
Reading is Fundamental
Pittsburgh
Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh
Recovery Concepts
Reformed Presbyterian Home
Regional Housing Legal Services Renewal, Inc.
Repair the World: Pittsburgh
Residential Care Services, Inc.
Resolve West
Ruth’s Way, Inc.
Salvation Army
Sarah Care Adult Day Services
Sarah Heinz House
SCI-Albion
Senior Care Network
Senior Life - Johnstown
Shaler Area School District
Sharon Regional Health System
Shuman Juvenile Detention Center
Sisters Place
Skills of Central PA, Inc.
Small Seeds Development, Inc.
South Allegheny School District
South Hills Interfaith Movement
South Side Local Development Company
Southwest Behavioral Care
Southwest Behavioral Care
Southwest Behavioral Care
Southwest Behavioral Care
Southwest Behavioral Care
Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services, Inc.
Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services, Inc.
Southwestern Pennsylvania Partnership for Aging
Southwestern Pennsylvania Youth Court Initiative
Southwestern Veterans Center
Southwood Psychiatric Hospital
Spectrum Family Services
Squirrel Hill Health Center
Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition
St. Clair Memorial Hospital
Staunton Clinic
Staunton Farm Foundation
Step By Step, Incorporated
Sto-Rox School District
Student Conservation Association
Sudden Infant Death Services of Pennsylvania
Summerbridge Pittsburgh - Sewickley Academy
Summit Medical Services/Pinnacle Treatment Centers
Supportive Solutions, Inc.
T.R.A.I.L.S. Ministries Incorporated
Tadisco Inc.
TEIS, Inc. (Therapeutic Early Intervention Services)
Thomas Merton Center, Inc.
Three Rivers Adoption Council
Three Rivers Center for Independent Living
Three Rivers Community Foundation
Three Rivers Hospice
Three Rivers Youth TRIVE of Southwest PA
Tides
Torrance State Hospital
Total Family Services
Townview Health and Rehabilitation Center
Trade Institute of Pittsburgh
Trek Development Group
Trinity Cathedral
Turning Point
Turtle Creek Valley MH/MR, Inc.
Twin Lakes Center
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Uniontown Hospital
UNITE HERE Local 25
United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
United States Probation and Pretrial Service
United Way of Allegheny County
University of Pittsburgh
UPMC
UPMC - Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh
UPMC - WPIC
UPMC - WPIC - Cambria LTRS
UPMC Community Provider Services (Living-at-home/ Staying-at-home/Senior Living)
UPMC Mercy Hospital
Urban Academy Charter School of Greater Pittsburgh
Urban League of Pittsburgh
Urban League of Shenango Valley
FACULTY PROFILES

Sara Goodkind, PhD, earned her doctoral degree in social work and sociology, her MSW in community organization, and a graduate certificate in women’s studies at the University of Michigan. She also received a BA in sociology from Amherst College. Goodkind received the 2017 Iris Marion Young Award for Political Engagement from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and the Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh and the 2018 Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award. She is the principal investigator on a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for Redefining Resilience and Reframing Resistance: Evaluation of a Violence Prevention and Health Promotion Empowerment Program for Black Girls. With Jeffrey Shook and Rafael Engel, she also is coinvestigator of the Pittsburgh Wage Study, funded by The Heinz Endowments.

Mabel T. Hawkins, PhD, developed the school’s Home and School Visitor Program. Hawkins’ passion was helping young people, going back to her days as an Allegheny County juvenile court probation officer and supervisor at what is now known as Wesley Family Services of Western Pennsylvania. While teaching at Pitt, Hawkins oversaw the children and youth master’s concentration for a time. She was named Pennsylvania Social Worker of the Year in the early 1980s and later elected first vice president of the National Association of Social Workers. She retired in the early 1990s. Hawkins grew up in Pittsburgh’s Hill District but was born in Atlanta, Ga., where she later returned to earn her bachelor’s degree at Spelman College.

Anne R. Jones, PhD, came to the school in 1970 to develop and implement the new undergraduate program in social work. As a result of her efforts, it is one of the most highly acclaimed undergraduate programs in the country. She also served as director of field education and was responsible for all internships and related community education within the school. Jones served as vice president of the University Senate. She also was acting chairperson of what was then called the Black studies department from 1973 to 1975.

Mary H. Page, PhD, served as the MSW program coordinator and led the family therapy program. In 1983, she was recognized by the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh as Woman of the Year in Education. Page is a specialist in interpersonal skills and social group work. She also developed and implemented the Extended Master of Social Work Program, which received high praise from many sectors of the community.

Grady H. Roberts Jr., PhD, spent 35 years as a faculty member in the School of Social Work. Roberts served as associate dean for admissions and student affairs. He also was a professor in the health/mental health concentration. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Central State University in Ohio. Roberts also completed the Stanford University Management Development Program and the Leadership Pittsburgh program. A retired colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps, Roberts also is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. He retired as one of the highest-ranking social work officers in the Army’s history.

Daniel Rosen, PhD, David E. Epperson Professor of Social Work, received his BA in political science, MSW, and PhD in social work and sociology, all from the University of Michigan. He completed a National Institute on Drug Abuse postdoctoral fellowship in the Substance Abuse Interdisciplinary Training Program at the University of Michigan. He is currently the recipient of a K08 grant from the National Institutes of Health. Rosen has an extensive background in surveys related to organizational capacity. His current research focuses on the health and mental health service needs of vulnerable older adults, the impact of legalized gambling on service provision, and the treatment of depression in later life for substance-abusing populations.
100 YEARS OF ADMINISTRATORS, FACULTY, AND STAFF

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William H. McCullough, dean
Morton Coleman, Interim dean
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Larry E. Davis, dean
Meyer Schwartz, associate dean
Marcene Gabell, associate dean
George Plutchok, associate dean
Michael Patchner, associate dean
Tony Tripodi, associate dean
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Lambert Maguire, associate dean
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Goldie Carter
John Chornyak
Maria Chryssoverghi
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E.N. Clopper
Cochran Gerald
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Lynn Coghill
Rosalie Cohen
Morton Coleman
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Mary Condon
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Merrill Conover
Charles C. Cooper
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Joyce Crawford-Mitchell
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Shana Stein
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Rachel Winters
Judith Zakaria
Michele Zorich
FACULTY PROFILES

John M. Wallace Jr., PhD, earned his PhD and master’s degree in sociology at the University of Michigan and his BA in sociology at the University of Chicago. He is the principal investigator on the University of Pittsburgh Center on Race and Social Problems’ Community-City of Pittsburgh Project, an integrated program of research, teaching, and service designed to investigate and ameliorate social problems that disproportionately impact economically disadvantaged children, families, and communities. This program includes the Homewood Children’s Village. Wallace also is a coinvestigator on the National Institute on Drug Abuse’s ongoing national study of drug use among American young people, Monitoring the Future. His recent research examines comprehensive community revitalization initiatives, racial and ethnic disparities in social and economic well-being; the impact of crime on clergy and congregations; and adolescent problem behaviors, including violence and substance abuse.

Hidenori Yamatani, PhD, earned his PhD, MSW, and MBA at the University of Pittsburgh. Yamatani is a professor and chair of the school’s Promotion and Tenure Committee, coordinator of the upcoming MSW/MBA joint degree program, and chair of the Center on Race and Social Problems’ community and evaluation research. His record of school and University-wide administrative responsibilities include serving as director of strategic planning and quality assurance, associate dean for research, director of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship Program in Policy and Evaluation, and advisory member of the University’s Institutional Review Board. His research has included assessments of community issues and problems, organizational development, and program evaluation.

STAFF PROFILE

Mary Pat Elhattab celebrated her 36th anniversary at the school on June 7, 2018. Elhattab is a student services specialist working with the BASW, MSW, and PhD program directors. She began her employment at the school on June 7, 1982.

Marcia Piel celebrated her 40th anniversary at the University of Pittsburgh in May 2017. Piel is a registrar/academic administrator in the school. She began her employment at the University on May 16, 1977, and is in her 31st year of service in the School of Social Work.

Rosemary “Rosie” Rinella is marking her 50th year at the School of Social Work, where she has held executive assistant positions with the past four deans: William H. McCullough, Morton Coleman, David E. Epperson, and Larry E. Davis. She began her employment at the school on May 6, 1968.

CHILD WELFARE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS

FACULTY AND STAFF

FACULTY

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Laura Borish
Cynthia Bradley-King
Michael Byers
Helen Cahalane
Jennifer Caruso
Marlo Perry
Mary E. Rauktis
Elizabeth Winter
Maryann Marchi
Felicia Matriccino
Traci McAllen
Michael McClure
Jenna Meister
Andrea Merovich
Alessandr Miklush
Curtis Miller
Melanie Miller
Melissa Moore
Elizabeth Neal
Meghan O’Hare
Adina Papinchak
Emily Patterson
Katie Pomeroy
Jodi Price
Yvonne Pyne
Archana Rajagopal
Andrea Randolph
Frank Revesz
Isabella Rivera
Lynda Rose
Andrea Rudek
Michael Schrecengost
Carol Schrub
Mackensie Seiler
Rit Shanafelter
Gretchen Shea
Amber Snyder
Christine Spencer
Jessica Stevens
Jessie Stockwell
Kathleen Swain
Health Taylor
Monica Teles-Carr
Jayme Toczylnosky
Carolyn Truchon
Crystal Turner
Tricia Underwood
Wendy Unger
David Vactor
Stephanie Walker
Bonnie Watson
Eliza White
Kathy Williams
Maricar Nuesa Williams
Sharon Williams
Rachel Winters
Joan Wirick
Jessica Wittman
Melissa Yoho
Jennifer Zajac
David Zilka
BRIDGES: TAKING ON TOUGH SOCIAL ISSUES, ONE MAGAZINE AT A TIME