

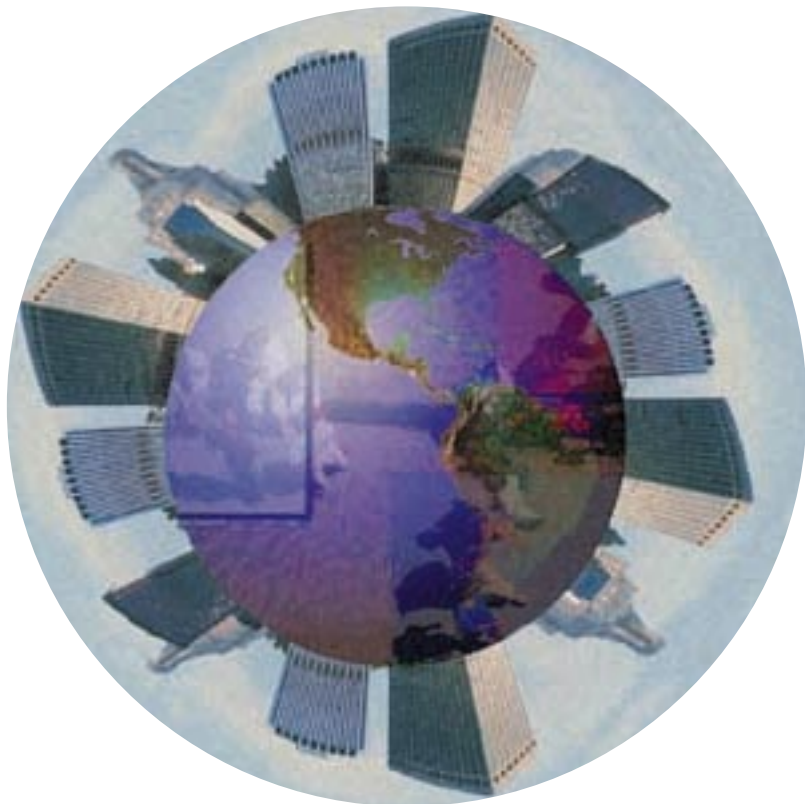
PRACTICE & RESEARCH



A CELEBRATION:

Ten Years of Researchers and Practitioners Working Together at the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice

In 1998, the Centennial year of the Columbia University School of Social Work, the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice celebrates its tenth anniversary. The Center's mission of bridging the gap between practice and research has been tested, refined, and elaborated as both knowledge and needs have grown. This issue of Practice & Research charts the Center's progress by illustrating its achievements, its projects, and its plans.



THE EVOLUTION OF THE CENTER

Beginnings

In 1988, the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice was created as a partnership between the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services (JBFCS) and the Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW). By bringing together the nation's largest voluntary mental health social service organization and the nation's oldest school of social work, its founders created a unique research center.

From its beginnings, the primary mission has been to consider and support what Shirley Jenkins, its first director, termed the bottom line for social work research: research findings must have utility for practice. To fulfill this mission, the Center has facilitated research in various aspects of social work practice, promoted research training and education, and disseminated research findings through conferences and publications.

The Center has carefully nurtured a powerful collaboration between the university's faculty, with its distinguished research capabilities, and the agency's practitioners, with their rich practice experience. This impressive "town and gown" partnership, including a full-time CUSSW faculty of over 40 and a professional JBFCS staff of over 1,000, encourages intellectually rigorous research grounded firmly in the realities of practice. *continued on page 2*



Gathering at the Center's Opening Reception: (l-r) Dean Ronald A. Feldman; Dr. Jerome M. Goldsmith; Saul Z. (Bud) Cohen; Dr. Shirley Jenkins; David S. Lindau.



THE EVOLUTION OF THE CENTER

Shirley Jenkins, Ph.D.
founding director

Shirley Jenkins worked tirelessly with Dr. Jerome M. Goldsmith and Dr. Alan B. Siskind of JBFCS (then Executive Vice President and Associate Executive Vice President of JBFCS, respectively) to establish the Center. Long committed to giving social work research a scientific base and concerned with the divisions between practice and research in the profession, she believed that forging a stable, on-going link between a university and a social work agency would bridge the gap more effectively than ad hoc arrangements. Dr. Jenkins provided inspired leadership from her acceptance of the Directorship in 1987 until her death in December of 1991.

The Cohen's Contribution

The Center owes its beginnings, continuity, and stability to the remarkable vision and generosity of Bud Cohen, former JBFCS president, and his wife, now Amy Cohen Arkin. Saul Z. "Bud" Cohen's unwavering dedication to the community and to people in need was evident in his active involvement in many philanthropic endeavors. He was the second president of JBFCS and remained committed to advancing education and research in the social work field. With his wife, Amy, he founded the Saul Z. and Amy S. Cohen Family Foundation. Their financial generosity and visionary dedication to social welfare was instrumental in stimulating the creation of the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice when the Foundation contributed half a million dollars to the original endowment. Their commitment continues with Amy Cohen Arkin's membership on the Center's Development Council.

Martha K. Selig, Establishing the Center's Foundations

Martha K. Selig was instrumental in the creation of the Center both by fostering the growth of the endowment and the linkage with JBFCS's education, research, and training programs. In her 50-year career Mrs. Selig contributed to shaping a network of Jewish social services and served as a consultant to JBFCS for over 20 years. As an expression of her commitment to education Mrs. Selig helped create the Hunter and Wurtzweiler Schools of Social Work. She now serves on the Center's Development Council.

Center's Fifth Year Celebrated at UN Gala

In recognition of her leadership and commitment to social work education JBFCS recently named their educational program the Martha K. Selig Educational Institute, and honored Mrs. Selig with a reception held at the United Nations. This occasion celebrated the Center's fifth anniversary and the dedication of the Saul Z. Cohen Chair in Family and Child Mental Health at JBFCS. The Center's funding, the Institute's expansion, and the establishment of the chair were supported by generous grants to JBFCS from the Saul Z. Cohen and Amy S. Cohen Family Foundation.



left: Shirley Jenkins, Ph.D., Founding Director of the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice.

center: Martha K. Selig.

right: Gathering at the UN Gala (l-r) Dr. Alan B. Siskind; Martha K. Selig; Amy Cohen Arkin; Frederic W. Yerman.



Building the Bridge and Expanding Partnerships

For the past ten years, the Center has refined and elaborated its original mission, as it has actively sought to bring practitioners and researchers together. To bridge the practice and research gap the Center has established inter-organizational and personal linkages, sponsored studies with other organizations, and fostered the development of new investigators. To disseminate its research findings, the Center has sponsored three successful conferences and published two related books. Through these conferences, the Center has established important linkages with hundreds of researchers, practitioners, and education and service organizations—public and private—across the nation as well as internationally. Through its research programs, the Center has partnered with others including Columbia University groups, JBFCS programs, New York City and State agencies, national and international agencies, organizations, and research groups.

International Development



Through its conferences, the Center has developed international linkages with social work researchers and practitioners. In 1997, the Center participated in an international conference in Stockholm, hosted by the Swedish Socialstyrelsen's Center for Evaluation of Social Work. The Center has joined with European social work research organizations to form an international network. In addition to the Center this network includes: the Centre for Evaluation of Social Services, Stockholm Sweden; the Social Work Research Centre, University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland; the Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York, England; the Verwey-Jonker Instituut, Utrecht, The Netherlands; STAKES, the National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health, Helsinki, Finland. This network will sponsor a first workshop to be held in October, 1998 on the campus of York University in England. The workshop will examine formulation of research problems in practitioner-researcher relationships. The Center looks forward to future collaborative partnerships with researchers and practitioners at the local, national, and international levels as it continues its evolution.

Center Structure

The Center's research and conference programs draw from the talent of CUSSW faculty and JBFCS staff who serve as Center affiliates. The core administrative office is composed of the Center Director, an Assistant Director, and a Research Scientist. These professionals work closely with the Center affiliates to plan and implement the Center's robust research activities. The Director oversees and maintains scholarly standards for individual projects in consultation with the Professional Advisory Committee, composed of CUSSW faculty and JBFCS staff. A Development Council of friends of CUSSW and JBFCS assists with the development of Center resources.

Center Studies

The Center through its affiliates has conducted a wide range of studies. Selected studies are listed below.

Full descriptions and research affiliates are listed at the Center's Web site:

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/csswp/>

- n Barriers to Mental Health Services for Older Adults
- n Childhood Bereavement Study
- n Cross Cultural Validation of the Geriatric Depression Scale
- n Cult Membership Study
- n Defining Grief in Childhood: Test-Retest Reliability of the W.T. Grant Consortium Grief Inventory
- n Delay of Treatment for Severe Mental Illness among Brooklyn Hasidic Communities
- n Domestic Violence Among Families with Allegations of Child Abuse or Neglect
- n Doubled-Up Homeless Study
- n From Research to Practice: The CDISC (Diagnostic Interview Schedule for Children) in Clinical Services
- n Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: A Group Intervention
- n Hawthorne Patient Profile Study
- n HIV-positive Battered Latina Women
- n Hyperactivity in Children: Differentiating the Etiology of Trauma from ADHD
- n Jewish Grandparenting Project
- n Mental Health Status of Japanese American Elders
- n Multicultural Training Project
- n The Odyssey Project: A Descriptive and Prospective Study of Children and Youth in Residential Treatment Group Homes and Therapeutic Foster Care
- n Partner Abuse among East Asian Immigrant Women
- n Patient Profile Study
- n Pre-Adolescent Suicide Study
- n Services for the Homeless
- n Short- and Long-Term Treatment Study
- n Therapeutic Nursery Study
- n Treatment Issues of Young Adults Aged 18-25 with Serious Mental Illness
- n Zone C Pilot Study: Identification of Woman Abuse in Families with Allegations of Child Abuse or Neglect

Perspectives

Perspectives on Mission



The Center is a work in progress that will evolve over time. One of the remarkable things about it, however, is how closely it approximates its original goals. It actually is doing what it was set up to do.

I am delighted to join the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Center. The Center represents a unique and exciting model of collaboration between a school of social work and a social work services provider agency. There is no question that this collaboration has increased the sophistication of JBFCS practice. Since the Center began its work, we have been using the results of research to affect changes in various aspects of our practice. Important work, for instance, has been done and continues in the area of outcomes measurement. We expect to incorporate this work into our practice in a way that benefits both practitioners and clients.

The Center is a work in progress that will evolve over time. One of the remarkable things about it, however, is how closely it approximates its original goals. It actually is doing what it was set up to do. In terms of the original goals of our collaboration, it is worth remembering that the Center was intended not just to contribute to JBFCS practice, but to contribute to the field of social work as a whole. We are pleased that it has been successful in this regard as well.

I look forward to the next ten years of research from the Center positively affecting agency practice and increasing the sophistication of social work practice and mental health care in general. We salute our CUSSW partners and the donors who have made and will continue to make this enormous contribution to the field possible. It is with a deep sense of gratitude, as well, that I thank Amy Cohen Arkin and remember Bud Cohen, original architects and benefactors to the Center and to JBFCS's extensive training effort.





Alan B. Siskind, Ph.D.
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, JBFCS



Ronald A. Feldman, Ph.D.
RUTH HARRIS OTTMAN CENTENNIAL PROFESSOR
DEAN, CUSSW



Edward J. Millen, D.S.W.
WILLMA AND ALBERT MUSHER PROFESSOR, CUSSW
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR THE STUDY
OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

The Center is now celebrating its tenth birthday. In human life, age ten nearly qualifies one for entry into early adolescence. But, in the life of institutions, a tenth birthday hardly denotes the neonatal period. Nevertheless, despite its relative youth, the Center already has achieved national and international prominence on many fronts.

The Center is unique because it represents a bona fide joint partnership between two leading organizations whose goals and objectives complement, strengthen and synergize one another, namely, CUSSW and JBFCS. The Center's research programs represent an unusual blend of the missions of these two venerable institutions. Its programs are grounded in science but readily applied to the real world of social work practice. They are innovative and at the cutting edge while they also honor the traditional strengths and values of the Center's institutional partners. Unlike all other institutions of its kind, the Center is well endowed financially as well as intellectually. Hence, its research programs do not have to follow fads or the passing fancies of distant funding sources.

In the brief period of a single decade, the Center has sponsored scores of research initiatives. The findings of many of its projects have had a significant impact upon contemporary social work services. The Center has quickly assumed a premier leadership role in bringing together social work researchers and research administrators from around the world, promoting in-depth discussions aimed at bridging the gap between research and practice, and promoting the dissemination of scientifically-based research findings in order to improve social work practice.

Today the Center is held in great esteem locally, nationally, and internationally. In a period of only ten years the Center has demonstrated its capacity to strengthen the educational programs of CUSSW, the social work programs of JBFCS, and the provision of social services around the world. The Center's accomplishments throughout the past and the present have been manifold. Its potential for the future is unparalleled. We look forward eagerly and with great enthusiasm to the Center's next ten years.

As I reflect on the Center's first decade I am mindful of the significant contributions of the many individuals who have expressed their commitment to the welfare of others through their support of the Center's work. These individuals have shared a common purpose. They have been focused on improving other's lives, individually and collectively. They have shared a common belief in the importance of research and knowledge development as a means to that end. These individuals have sought to strengthen social services by developing the soundness of its knowledge foundation. Most striking has been their realization that such research requires a new structural arrangement between the previously separate worlds of practice and academia. Their vision has resulted in the idea of a center, a center where these two worlds can join together in the common pursuit of practice relevant knowledge development, dissemination, and use. As I look back over these ten years I am convinced of the soundness of their vision. This issue of the journal recognizes those individuals and celebrates their accomplishments through their work at the Center.

This decade of growth and success has provided a firm foundation for the Center's movement forward, not only into the next decade but also into the next millennium. Because the Center seeks to contribute to knowledge that will be relevant to practice, it is essential that its leadership anticipate future practice needs. Practice research should both shape and be responsive to future needs. Few of us need to be reminded of the rapid and unpredictable changes occurring in these times of increased complexity and technological advancement. While it is impossible to predict the specific nature of future needs and contexts, it is safe to assume that research focused on today's context risks irrelevance in the years ahead. Accordingly, charting the Center's future direction presents a formidable challenge.

As we look ahead to the next decade, we see the need for practice research that will be responsive to rapidly increasing cultural diversity within a global context. We anticipate the need to develop and adapt technology so that social work practice can benefit from efficient forms of knowledge and information use. And, we expect that research on outcomes, effectiveness, and performance will be increasingly needed. This need will be fueled by cost-containment and quality assurance requirements resulting from increased demand for more expensive, high quality social, health, and mental health services. Because of the breadth of these future requirements the Center will continue to create partnerships with other groups, public and private, national and international, so that its resources can be joined with those of others toward the common purpose of developing a firm foundation for social work practice in the next millennium.

The Center is unique because it represents a bona fide joint partnership between two leading organizations whose goals and objectives complement, strengthen and synergize one another, namely, CUSSW and JBFCS.

VIRGINIA AND LEONARD MARX CONFERENCES & PUBLICATIONS

The Center for the Study of Social Work Practice has long benefited from the visionary support and dedication of the Marx family. In thanks and recognition of their generous support, the Center's conference and publication program has been named in honor of Virginia and Leonard Marx. Virginia Marx's vision and dedication has furthered both the reputation and the work of the Center, allowing it to become an internationally recognized center of social work research.

The Center seeks to develop and disseminate knowledge. A key vehicle for dissemination of practice knowledge has been sponsorship of conferences which have brought together representatives from the field's many domains, including direct practice, research, administration, and education. These gatherings have demonstrated the need for an ongoing dialogue within the profession and have clarified the issues the profession needs to address to strengthen itself.

RESEARCH AND PRACTICE: BRIDGING THE GAP, held in March 1991, offered opportunities to both researchers and practitioners to consider the obstacles to bringing practitioners and researchers together and how to begin a process of bridging the gaps.

Juliet Cheetham, M.A.,
DIRECTOR OF THE SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH CENTRE
AT STIRLING UNIVERSITY, SCOTLAND

At this point in history, when good intentions, altruism and devotion to the disadvantaged are not accepted as sufficient justifications for social work's existence, its professional and public reputation and, most important of all, the standards of its services will be enhanced by good effectiveness research.

David Austin, Ph.D.
CHAIR, NIMH TASK FORCE ON SOCIAL WORK
RESEARCH AND PROFESSOR,
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

As a result of the lack of really concentrated research development in any one area of social work practice, there is very limited participation by social work researchers in establishing research priorities in national research funding bodies.

Carol H. Meyer, D.S.W.
FORMER NORMAN PROFESSOR OF FAMILY AND CHILD
WELFARE, CUSSW

Rigorous assessment is not a hit or miss affair; it is scientific in its methodology, and it rests upon a knowledge base, but it is also seasoned with the practitioner's intuition and experience... and biases, and the clients willingness and capacity to participate. Thus assessment is both an objective and subjective process, and unapologetically, it will remain so as long as people practice with people.



top left: Juliet Cheetham
top right: Dr. David Austin
right: Dr. Carol H. Meyer, D.S.W.
Former Norman Professor of Family
and Child Welfare, CUSSW.



The Center's second conference KNOWLEDGE FOR PRACTICE: PRACTITIONERS AND RESEARCHERS AS PARTNERS was held in March 1993 and built on the major theme that emerged from the 1991 conference: The need for the profession to identify mechanisms which promote practitioner-researcher partnerships in generating knowledge.

Selected comments from Hess, P., & Mullen, E. (Eds.). (1995). Practitioner-Researcher Partnerships: Building Knowledge from, in, and for Practice. Washington, D.C.: NASW Press.

Donald A. Sch n, Ph.D.
FORD PROFESSOR EMERITUS AND SENIOR
LECTURER, URBAN STUDIES AND EDUCATION,
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Involvement in partnership with practitioners need not require that academic researchers give up intellectual independence. For academic researchers, such a partnership promises a more vital, substantive, and ultimately more useful research career. For practitioners, it holds the promise of fostering appreciation of their roles as generators of usable knowledge and of fully developing their capability for lively, rigorous reflection on their own practice. p. 54

Claudia J. Coulton, Ph.D.
PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR
URBAN POVERTY AND SOCIAL CHANGE, MANDEL
SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES, CASE
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Schools of social work are well positioned to take the lead in linking universities with efforts to address the most pressing social problems of urban poverty. Yet faculty will be unwelcome if they approach the community as a laboratory to test their preconceived hypotheses. Indeed, community-faculty partnerships require that the questions posed be important to all parties and that the answers forthcoming from the research have practical as well as scientific significance. p. 120

Conferences and Publications

John R. Schuerman, Ph.D.
 PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
 ADMINISTRATION, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, AND
 FACULTY ASSOCIATE, CHAPIN HALL CENTER FOR
 CHILDREN

Practice is a matter of figuring out what to do and then doing it. The distinction between decision—selecting an action—and action itself is implicit in much research, particularly in evaluations of practice activities. The decision about what to do is often assumed to be a cognitive matter, one on which knowledge can be brought to bear, while performing the action is often identified with skill.... Our expert systems advise workers on what to do but do not tell them how to do it. Thus, the systems do not attempt to incorporate skill in doing things, except the skill of decision making. Our systems advise on whether to take custody of a child but do not advise on how to go about removing a child from his or her home. p. 254



above left: David S. Lindau; Dr. Claudia J. Coulton; and Dr. Donald A. Schön.
 above right: Dr. Edward J. Mullen, Center Director; Frances L. Beatman, Development Council member and a conference sponsor; David S. Lindau, Development Council chair and a conference sponsor; Dr. Alan B. Siskind, Executive Vice President, JBFCS; Virginia W. Marx, Development Conference member and a conference sponsor; and Dean Ronald A. Feldman, CUSSW.
 left: Dr. John A. Schuerman; and Dean Ronald A. Feldman, CUSSW.



top left: Keynote speakers, Dr. Peter H. Rossi, Dr. Ronald W. Manderscheid and Dr. Heather E. Weiss.
 above left: Dr. John E. Ware, Jr.
 above right: Dr. Harry P. Hatry

The Center held its third conference, A NATIONAL INVITATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT IN THE HUMAN SERVICES, in November 1995. It brought together 300 practitioners, administrators, policy analysts and researchers from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Israel to examine outcomes measurement in the human services.

Selected comments from Mullen, E. & Magnabosco, J. (Eds.). (1997). *Outcomes Measurement in the Human Services: Cross-Cutting Issues and Methods*. Washington, D.C.: NASW Press.

Peter H. Rossi, Ph.D.
 STUART A. RICE PROFESSOR EMERITUS, DIRECTOR EMERITUS, SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST

The identification and specification of the desired outcomes of a program are critical features of program design. Failure to identify desired outcomes makes evaluation and accountability virtually impossible. Imprecise outcomes lead to contentious evaluations and uncertain accountability. Overly ambitious outcomes are an invitation to failure.

John E. Ware, Jr., Ph.D.
 THE HEALTH INSTITUTE, NEW ENGLAND MEDICAL CENTER

How are health care decisions currently being made? Essentially, the three elements in a health care database are death, disease, and dollars. Yet, there is more to life than how long one lives, there is more to health than the absence or the seriousness of disease, and there is more to health care than how much it costs. p. 45

Harry P. Hatry, Ph.D.
 DIRECTOR OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, THE URBAN INSTITUTE

Public and private agencies need to

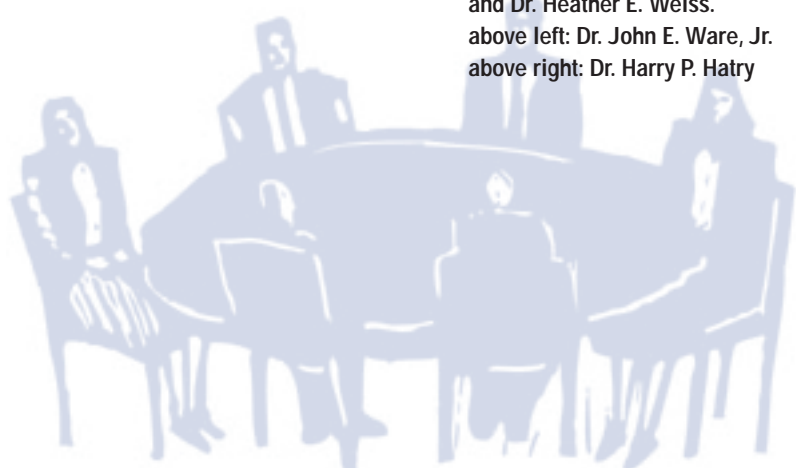
know whether, and the extent to which, improvements are occurring, even if these are only rough estimates. Otherwise, they are shooting in the dark on the need for improvements and actions and on the consequences of actions that the agencies have taken. p. 19

Ronald W. Manderscheid, Ph.D.
 BRANCH CHIEF, SURVEY AND ANALYSIS BRANCH, DIVISION OF STATE AND COMMUNITY SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT, CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, SAMHSA

Managed care has changed the context of mental health care dramatically and irreversibly. The mental health field can adapt to these changes, but protocols must be defined clearly.... The opportunity exists to be creative, but changes must be implemented quickly. p. 122

Heather B. Weiss, Ph.D.
 DIRECTOR, HARVARD FAMILY RESEARCH CENTER, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

People...are just beginning to change the way they are thinking about services and to focus on outcomes. The challenge is to maintain a political momentum to keep the efforts moving forward so that they actually begin to translate into some behavioral changes and ultimately improve services for children and families. p. 180



the Development Council

The Center was originally established by and for the benefit of CUSSW and JBFCS. The objective of this joint venture was to make agency programs available for research, and to provide opportunities for faculty, graduate students, and agency to participate in collaborative research. It was expected that this collaborative research would be meaningful, informing both agency practice and the social work profession. These objectives have been and continue to be achieved; the two organizations have become cooperative partners and research performed under the aegis of the Center has proved to be of immense practical benefit. But there is more.

Due primarily to the superb leadership of the Center's directors, first the late Dr. Shirley Jenkins and then her successor, Dr. Edward J. Mullen, and to the enthusiastic support of Dean Ronald A. Feldman and Executive Vice President Alan B. Siskind, the horizons of the Center have broadened greatly. Three successful conferences have brought the Center to the attention of the social work profession, and the Center's Web site affords the world access to the Center's activities and papers. In addition, the Center has participated in research involving institutions other than JBFCS, and increasingly it is becoming a role model for "town and gown" cooperation.

Accordingly, my vision of the Center is that it will become increasingly prominent and will exert ever-growing influence upon the social work field—both research and practice. I see this occurring already as the Center is called upon to inform others about how they might form similar partnerships; as its conferences are increasingly recognized as important contributions to the development of innovative, workable approaches to resolving major societal problems; and as the scope of its research continues to expand. Eventually, I expect the Center may be asked by nations that lack experience with a non-governmental social work system to help them address the multiple problems associated with filling that void.

David S. Lirdau
CHAIR, DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Spot Light



left: David S. Lindau.
center: Virginia W. Marx.
right: Center Development Council Members (l-r) Francis L. Beatman, Dr. Helen Rehr and Doris L. Rosenberg.



FACILITATING CENTER'S GROWTH

The Development Council, composed of friends of CUSSW and JBFCS, assists in the development of Center resources. It meets at least once a year for a report on the Center's projects, given by the Director and his staff, and a discussion of the Center's contributions and position in the world of social work research and practice. The original members of the Development Council included the following: from JBFCS — David S. Lindau (Chairman), Frances L. Beatman, Amy Cohen Arkin, Pauline B. Falk, William Heller, Virginia W. Marx, Doris L. Rosenberg, Martha K. Selig, Fredric W. Yerman; from CUSSW — Bernard C. Fisher, Mitchell I. Ginsberg, Joanne Jennings, Helen Rehr, and Ann S. Sand.

David S. Lindau, Chair

Due to the outstanding leadership of David S. Lindau, chair of the Development Council since the Center's beginnings, the Council has provided consistent and strong support to the Center's programs. In spite of his commitments as an attorney and law partner of Holtzman, Wise & Shepard, Mr. Lindau was generous with his attention to Development Council affairs. Since his retirement he has continued to represent clients and to devote an increasing amount of time to not-for-profit organizations, including JBFCS, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and Educational Committee, and the Court Appointed Special Advocates. The Center continues to benefit immeasurably from his leadership as chair of the Development Council.

Mitchell I. Ginsberg

The Center is proud to have numbered Mitchell I. Ginsberg amongst the founding members of its Development Council. A CUSSW Dean Emeritus, former Commissioner of the New York City Department of Human Services, and contributor to the founding of the Headstart Program, amongst many other achievements and contributions, "Mitch" was an active participant in the development of social policy at the national, city, and even University level. To have this leader in the field of social work contribute his energy and ideas to the Center was both a privilege and a pleasure.

Helen Rehr

Dr. Rehr, who received both her M.S. and D.S.W. degrees from CUSSW, has been a member of the Development Council since its founding. The Helen Rehr and Ruth Fisdale Professorship in Health and Mental Health was recently established at CUSSW, endowed with funds from Dr. Helen Rehr and the estate of Ms. Ruth Fisdale. Dr. Rehr has generously provided funds to encourage practitioner initiated research and use of research findings. She was director of Social Work Services at the Mount Sinai Medical School, where she was the Edith J. Baerwald Professor of Community Medicine. Additionally, she has taught at universities in Israel and at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work, has received numerous grants, and has authored more than one hundred professional publications. For her many accomplishments and contributions, Dr. Rehr has been honored by the National Association of Social Workers and the National Academies of Practice in Social Work.

CURRENT MEMBERS

The Center's remarkable success and continuing vitality are a tribute to the dedication and support of the illustrious members of the Development Council, past and present. Current members include David S. Lindau (Chair), Virginia W. Marx, Helen Rehr, and Martha K. Selig in addition to the following outstanding individuals.

Amy Cohen Arkin

After graduating from Sarah Lawrence College, Mrs. Arkin continued her studies in the area of mental health. She is now a therapist in Westchester and a member of the Associates of the Yale Child Study Center. With her late husband, she founded the Saul Z. and Amy S. Cohen Family Foundation. Their financial generosity and visionary dedication to social welfare was instrumental in stimulating the creation of the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice. Amy Arkin is currently President of the Cohen Family Foundation and has continued to make substantial contributions to various mental health and welfare programs. Her breadth of interests are demonstrated by the many positions she has held. She was formerly on the Board of the Freud Museum, the 92nd Street Y, the Board of Trustees of Hampshire College, Barnard College, Sarah Lawrence College, and Vermont Law School.

Frances L. Beatman

Mrs. Beatman received her M.S.W. from the University of Pennsylvania. For more than 35 years she served as Executive Director of the Jewish Family Service (a JBFCS predecessor agency), during which time she greatly influenced the field of social work. In addition to her enormous impact as a professional, Mrs. Beatman has been a great philanthropic leader, establishing JBFCS's J.W. Beatman clinic in Riverdale. Mrs. Beatman has been a consistent contributor to the Center's progress through annual gifts from the Beatman Foundation.

Maureen A. Cogan

Ms. Cogan joined the Development Council in 1996. She graduated from Smith College and earned an M.S.W. from CUSSW. As a Certified Social Worker she has worked at JBFCS, Payne-Whitney Psychiatric Clinic at New York Hospital, and Goddard-Riverside Day Care Center. In 1984, Ms. Cogan purchased *Art & Auction*, a monthly magazine covering the news of the international fine arts markets, of which she remains the chairman. Ms. Cogan is on the Board of Trustees of Columbia University, is Vice-Chairman of the Board of The Children's Defense Fund, is Chairman of the Board of the American Friends of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, Chairman of the Israel Museum's International Council, and is on the Board of the Child Study Center at New York University Hospital.

Pauline B. Falk

Mrs. Falk's distinguished career in communal service began in 1934 when she served as a Board member to the predecessor agency to the New York Association for New Americans (NYANA) which had been established to help in the resettlement of refugees from Nazi Germany. From 1959 to 1962, she was president of Jewish Family Service and became a board member of JBFCS when it was created out of the merger of JFS and the Jewish Board of Guardians. Long a champion of professional training and education, Mrs. Falk served for many years as President of JBFCS's Martha K. Selig Educational Institute.

Bernard C. Fisher

A graduate of Cornell University and CUSSW (1942), Mr. Fisher also completed graduate work at Columbia in sociology and social psychology. For almost 20 years beginning in 1956, he was a prominent part of the Community Service Society, directing a program of social policy and program studies and social action before becoming part of its central administration. He also served as director for the New York City region of the State Board of Social Welfare and as Executive Director of the Citizens' Committee for Children. Mr. Fisher served on the Board of CUSSW, as a Board member of the Alumni Association, and a member of the Task Force to Reorganize the school's curriculum. He has held numerous national and New York City positions with the National Association of Social Workers and has served as a charter member and chair of the New York State Board of Social Work. He was a Board Member of Mobilization for Youth, a Board President, Chairman, and foundation member of the Louise Wise Services for Families and Children.

Joseph S. Kaplan

As President of JBFCS, Joseph S. Kaplan serves as an ex officio member of the Development Council. A graduate of Yeshiva University and Harvard Law School, Mr. Kaplan has been a partner in the Manhattan office of the Chicago-based law firm of Ross & Hardies since 1985. Mr. Kaplan has a long and very distinguished record of public service. He began his service with the agency as a trustee of Jewish Family Service, a JBFCS predecessor.

Alice P. Lin

Dr. Alice Lin joined the Development Council in 1996. She received an M.S.W. from the University of Michigan and a D.S.W. from CUSSW. She currently teaches social policy and managed care at the Sanford Institute of Public Policy and the Fuqua School of Business, Duke University, and is a senior fellow at the Duke University Center for Health Policy Research and Education. As a health and behavioral health consultant, she focuses on public sector restructuring, public/private partnership, alliances among healthcare providers, and new managed care approaches and has had affiliations with KPMG Peat Marwick, Tucker Alan (Peterson Consulting), Technical Assistance Collaborative, and Johnson, Bass, and Shaw. Before joining Duke University, she was with the State of New York as Chief Policy Analyst for Long-term Care in the Governor's Office and Senior Deputy Commissioner for Operations in the State Office of Mental Health. In addition to her academic, consultant, and administrative achievements, Dr. Lin is active in international exchange, having led U.S. Delegations to China, Taiwan, Japan, Russia and the Baltic States.

Elinor G. Mannucci

Dr. Elinor Mannucci joined the Development Council in 1997. She received her Ph.D. in psychology from the City University of New York, where she specialized in the study of the ethical aspects of psychological experimentation with human subjects. Dr. Mannucci worked as a Research Associate for a N.I.H. sponsored study on heart disease and stress and has taught at Hunter College, Fordham University, and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She has served as a board member of Citizens' Committee for Children, where for several years, she chaired the Juvenile Justice Committee.

Doris L. Rosenberg

Mrs. Rosenberg is a former President of JBFCS and chair of its Out-patient Mental Health Divisional Committee. A fervent advocate for clients and quality programs, she currently chairs the agency's Board Legislature Committee. Her dedication to education and training is reflected in her membership on the Board of the Martha K. Selig Educational Institute. Mrs. Rosenberg is also President of the New York City Citizen's Committee on Aging and is active in Planned Parenthood.

Ann S. Sand

After earning a B.A. at the University of North Carolina, and an M.S. from CUSSW, Mrs. Sand went on to a distinguished career dedicated to social welfare, particularly the needs of children in public education. After five years as a coordinator of the Alternatives to Welfare and the Single-Room Occupancy Programs at the Westside Community Alliance, Inc., she consulted for a number of educational programs for youth and was the Director of the New York City School Volunteer Secondary School Programs. She has served in a number of positions at Columbia University, having been a Trustee of the University and of the Columbia University Press, and serving on the Advisory Council of CUSSW. She is currently a Board member on the Lavanburg Foundation, the Citizens' Committee for Children, and Child Care, Inc.



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<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/csswp/>

The Professional Advisory Committee



I-r: Dr. Bruce A. Grellong; Dr. Steven P. Schinke; Dr. Robert H. Abramovitz.

The Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) serves as the scientific review, policy, and planning advisory body for the Center. Members, including CUSSW faculty and JBFCS executives, meet regularly with the Center's Director to provide guidance pertaining to new research studies.

In its deliberations, PAC proposes practice research initiatives, evaluates research proposals submitted by professionals from both sponsoring organizations (CUSSW and JBFCS), and strategizes future directions for the allocation of Center research resources. In addition, it considers the substantive and methodological areas in which the Center will claim expertise and will direct the larger fields of social welfare, mental health, and services to children and families.

Professor Steven P. Schinke
CHAIR, PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FACILITATING CENTER RESEARCH

The Committee is dedicated to ensuring the quality of sponsored research, maintaining opportunities for practitioners and researchers to work closely together, and maximizing the potential of pilot projects sponsored by the Center to be continued with outside funding. By frequent review of the Center's research funding mechanisms, PAC provides a responsive, built-in flexibility to the Center.

Original PAC members were Steven P. Schinke, Ph.D. (Chair), Linda N. Freeman, M.D., Bruce A. Grellong, Ph.D., and Alan B. Siskind, Ph.D.

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Center Research Associates

The Center through its affiliates has conducted a wide range of studies. Biographical information for affiliates is listed at the Center's Web site: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/csswp/>

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Gretchen Borges, M.S., Assistant Director
Bruce A. Grellong, Ph.D., Chief Psychologist, JBFCS, Research Coordinator
William Bacon, Ph.D., Research Scientist

PRACTICE & RESEARCH

Spring 1998

Practice & Research is published by the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice,

Columbia University School of Social Work,

622 West 113th Street, New York, NY 10025

Phone 212.854.7615

Fax 212.854.2327

email ejm3@columbia.edu.

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/csswp/>

editor: gretchen borges, assistant director
center for the study of social work practice

conference photo graphs: jane offer

graphic design: binzen & binzen

Why bridge the gap between practice & research?



“Elegance of design, sophistication of statistics, and soundness of theory are all beside the point if the problem which is addressed has little relevance to client needs or service delivery. This does not mean that theoretical research is not essential for knowledge development, but rather that theoretical studies are often too abstract for application, or executed in highly selective ungeneralizable sites. The complaint of researchers that practitioners are research shy is often answered by practitioners who say, ‘Show me a finding relevant to my practice, and I will use it.’

There are several factors in social work which interfere with the desired continuum from problem formulation to research utilization. Some of the difficulties relate to the dualities in the profession: one foot firmly planted in service and one toe in knowledge building; the duality in training, with the student doubly committed to academic study on the one hand and agency placement on the other; and the competing demands of social action, and program accountability.”

Shirley Jenkins
the center concept 1989

“The key to bridging the gap is to develop a common focus between research and practice. The current communication difficulties may be a consequence of each endeavor operating out of separate domains, and the more enhanced the independent domains, the more difficult it is to attain productive interaction between them.”

Carol Meyer
practice and research, spring 1991

“We are optimistic that the current knowledge crisis will begin to recede if the profession moves toward greater acceptance of practice knowledge development as the business of all social workers and greater acceptance of the variety of ways in which knowledge can be developed. This will be made possible when teams of practitioners and researchers, practitioner-researchers in multiple sites, and social agencies and universities establish collaborative partnerships designed to share resources for knowledge development and application.”

Edward Mullen and Peg Hess
practitioner-researcher partnerships:
building knowledge from, in, and for practice, 1995