Columbia University
School of Social Work
Beginning Our Second Century of Excellence

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL WORK

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2001
www.columbia.edu/cu/ssw/alumni

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK TO BUILD ON 122nd STREET AND AMSTERDAM AVENUE

All New Structure Will House the Entire School

CUSSW IN THE 21st CENTURY

Almost three months after pausing construction on the School of Social Work's intended instructional facility on 113th Street, President George Rupp announced a major new plan for the School. Columbia University will help CUSSW construct a new $64 million building that will contain all School of Social Work teaching, research, social, and administrative functions. Since its inception in 1898, the School has been lodged in five locations, including the United Charities Building, the Russell Sage Building, the former Carnegie Mansion (now the Cooper Hewitt Museum), and, finally, the School's current McVickar Hall. This will be the first and only time in the School's entire 102-year history that it will be housed entirely in a single structure, designed expressly for social work education. It will be close to other University professional schools, many of which are associated with the School of Social Work through joint degree programs.

In addition to faculty, research, and administrative offices, the new building will contain flexible instructional spaces, electronic classrooms, seminar rooms, a multimedia center, computer labs, a new social work library, and retail at the ground level, which is an amenity much needed by area residents. The approximately 115,000 square foot building will be nine to ten stories high and will replace a parking lot currently on the Columbia-owned site. The architects who designed the 113th Street facility, Cooper, Robertson & Partners, a New York City firm whose work includes the new Stuyvesant High School, the Duke University Clinic, and the Battery Park City esplanade in Lower Manhattan, will also design the 122nd Street structure.

Although the University had authorized an October 18th groundbreaking on 113th Street, concerns voiced soon afterward by some members of the 113th Street community motivated an in-depth exploration for a solution that would accommodate CUSSW's neighbors and also satisfy the School's urgent needs. Representatives of the University and the School of Social Work consulted with a working group of

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Ronald A. Feldman, Dean of the School of Social Work, Steps Down

In July 2001, Ronald A. Feldman will step down as dean of the Columbia University School of Social Work and return to the faculty ranks as the Ruth Harris Ottman Centennial Professor for the Advancement of Social Work Education. Appointed in 1986, he will have served as dean for fifteen years, leading the School to new heights of achievement. Numerous independent studies now consistently rank CUSSW faculty first nationally in terms of scholarly productivity and influence. Evaluations of the quality of faculty teaching have attained an all-time high. The School has expanded and modernized its master's curriculum which now includes, among other developments, the introduction of new fields of practice in International Social Welfare and Services for Refugees and Immigrants, School-based and School-linked Social Work Services, and Contemporary Social Problems and, also, a new practice method in Social Policy. The doctoral program has introduced the Ph.D. degree.

In partnership with the Jewish Board of Family and Children's

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SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 10, 2001
4:30 p.m.
•
Alumni Reception and Reunion Dinner, Faculty House
•
SOCIAL WORK: A CELEBRATION OF THE PROFESSION

Students from the Former Soviet Union Enroll:
CUSSW Plays Key Role in Education

In a new initiative sponsored by the Soros Foundation's Open Society Institute (OSI), the Columbia University School of Social Work is now hosting six students from the republics of the former Soviet Union. This program will provide graduate social work education for individuals who are already professionals in their fields. They, in turn, will be a "cadre of future leaders" who will then help establish a social work profession that includes a wide range of social and health services in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

L. to r.: Ia Shekriladze, Leyla Ismayilova, Oyut-Erdene Namdaldagva, Dean Yam, Sofiya An, Andrei Nagorny, and Inna Andreva

The Soros Foundation, which is providing extensive funding for 14 social work students for each of two years, was to place several students in approximately eight schools of social work. After visiting with CUSSW, however, it was decided that almost half of the students will attend Columbia, allowing the School to assume a leadership role in establishing a social work profession and other important or improved health services that are needed in the former Soviet Union. OSI Program Coordinator Zinta Gulens-Grava states that "Columbia's participation in all stages of the program: preliminary selection of candidates, formulating interview questions, traveling overseas for interviews, selecting finalists, and suggesting placements, is invaluable."

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FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Greetings! This has been a very busy year. The alumni/ae and I have learned it takes more than bricks and mortar to build a new school of social work. As many of you know, CUSSW broke ground at our 113th Street site on October 18, 2000. Very shortly thereafter, Columbia University President George Rupp called for a moratorium to re-evaluate our building options in response to opposition from a few members of the community. The students and alumni/ae staged a protest on the steps of Low Library where the University Trustees were meeting. A number of us met with Trustees and University administration representatives. All of them assured us we would have a new building and that the University would not hold CUSSW responsible for increased costs due to the delay or transfer of the building to an alternative site. The undecided questions remained where and when. A group of community members convened by Assemblyman Ed Sullivan and Councilman Bill Perkins met to identify the community complaints and come up with a solution. Alumni Association President-Elect Mary Ellen Bigham and I attended along with CUSSW administrators. I am proud to say we are building our building as promised and that it will be great. Please read about the new building in this issue's lead article.

I thank our donors for their assistance and their patience in creating this facility. I look forward to our new building shepherding us into this new century with the resources we need to maintain our excellence in social work education.

There have been other challenges. The Office of Development and Alumni Relations has added new members to its staff. Under the leadership of Assistant Dean and Director Shelly Butler, John Matthews, Jennifer March, Kristen Abbas, Vanessa Alarid and Alvah Reed have joined together to provide a very efficient and friendly office. Laura Guiterman remains an important part of the team working on special events and the CUSSW archives. I would like to thank the staff for their commitment and support and I welcome you to come and meet them, both at our Website

Susan Nayowith '84
President

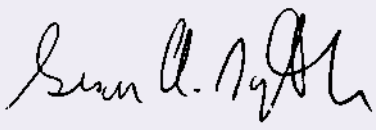
and in person on the fourth floor of McVickar.

The Alumni Association has been very busy. Our Nominating Committee, chaired by Phyllis Harewood '52, put forth a ballot which resulted in the election of fresh faces on the Executive Committee. Our president-elect has been putting in overtime and I would like to thank her for her efforts. The vice presidents, Eric Stamm and Alison Fogge, are very committed to the School. Our secretary, Norma Lopez-Eicher, is providing us with the much-needed minutes of our meetings. The entire Board and alumni/ae have been extraordinary and supportive in working with the dean, the University, and the Association in an effort to make our dream of a new building a reality.

The dean has always said, and I agree, what makes CUSSW special are the alumni/ae. CUSSW alumni/ae are in leadership positions all over the world, in all fields of practice, and in all social work settings. One way to learn about us is by participating in our activities. We have a wide range of ongoing committees including Hall of Fame, Conference, Newsletter, Nominating, Doctoral, Alumni/Student Relations, and School History. As alumni/ae, you are welcome to join in planning and participating in any or all of our activities, some of which include the Annual Alumni Conference, "Wine, Cheese, and Networking," computer and career development seminars, doctoral graduate receptions, pizza parties and brown bag lunches, and many others. See the article in this issue on alumni/ae committees. To find out more about any of the above, please also log onto our Web site at www.columbia.edu/cu/ssw/alumni and look through it. Committee chairs and how to contact them are listed.

We also have other opportunities for involvement. There are scholarship committees named for former faculty, administrators and alumni, including those for the Louard, Reed, and Ortiz-Gonzalez Scholarships. Each committee designs fundraising activities, which not only raise money for its scholarship, but also provide additional opportunities for alumni/ae to meet and network with others interested in promoting social work education at our School.

Please call the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (212) 854-7656 to find out the next meeting time for these activities or look on the Web. And, please contact the office or me with any questions or comments about our Association. I look forward to seeing you at these events!



FROM THE DEAN

Ronald A. Feldman

The Bible tells us that the children of Israel had to trek in the wilderness for 40 years before finally settling in the Promised Land. The CUSSW community may not be far behind. As you may know, after many years at the cherished Andrew Carnegie Mansion, in 1971 the School of Social Work moved into McVickar Hall for a "one-year transitional stay." The intention had been for CUSSW to relocate a year later to a permanent building of its own on the Columbia University campus. For numerous reasons, however, the "one-year stay" has stretched into 30 years.

During the last three decades numerous efforts were made to relocate the School of Social Work into a new building but they all were to no avail. Not the least challenge was the formidable task of raising the necessary funds to construct a new building. As recently as October 2000, plans were approved by the Columbia University Board of Trustees to construct a new educational facility for CUSSW on West 113th Street at an overall cost of $32 million. A gala groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 18th. However, the new building would have met only partially the physical needs of the School of Social Work. While it would offer new classrooms, a library and other resources, it still would have been necessary for CUSSW to retain McVickar Hall for faculty offices, administrative activities, and research projects.

Shortly after the groundbreaking ceremony in October, President Rupp requested a six-week pause in construction plans to consider the requests of some neighbors that the projected construction site be used for residential purposes rather than as an educational facility. He also wanted to explore situating the School of Social Work in a single new facility that might

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SAVE THE DATE

GOLDSON
MEMORIAL LECTURE

"Surviving the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997: What's Working and What's Not"

•

Tuesday, April 10, 2001
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Dag Hammarskjold Lounge

School for
International and Public Affairs

RSVP: (212) 854-5186

NEW ENDOWMENTS

Established at the School

Following a time-honored tradition, alumni/ae and friends of the Columbia University School of Social Work have established new endowments to honor friends and family, and to provide new sources of support for needy CUSSW students. Because of the nature of an endowment, once it has been established, it provides funds in perpetuity, continually growing in principal and income throughout the years. This is truly a wonderful means of creating a living tribute to someone dear.

James Fiorito has founded the **EUNICE FIORITO MEMORIAL ADVOCACY SCHOLARSHIP** in memory of his late wife and CUSSW alumna, Eunice Fiorito '66. The Scholarship is to be awarded to a needy student who is dedicated to a career in effective advocacy or as an ombudsman on behalf of persons with disabilities, older adults, the very poor, or other at-risk or seriously disadvantaged populations. Preference is to be given first to a student with a severe disability, including those who are totally blind, profoundly deaf, or wheelchair-users. The Eunice Fiorito Scholarship honors the life of an exceptional individual, one who, while possessing a severe disability herself—total blindness—set a standard for activism and advocacy in helping others.

Eunice Fiorito

A 1953 graduate of the School of Social Work, Richard Kohnstamm, has established a new scholarship at the School. Through this generous gift, the **RICHARD KOHNSTAMM SCHOLARSHIP** will provide tuition assistance to needy CUSSW students and help future generations of social work students complete graduate studies in their chosen field.

Richard Kohnstamm

Dr. Norton Kolomeyer has created the **JESUSA ORTIZ KOLOMEYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** in memory of his late wife, Jesusa Ortiz Kolomeyer '52. The Kolomeyer Scholarship is to be used for a needy female student at the School of Social Work. Preference is to be given first to a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico, Jesusa Kolomeyer's undergraduate alma mater, next to a student of Puerto Rican or other Hispanic origin, and finally to a student from New York City. CUSSW has notified the University of Puerto Rico of the new Kolomeyer Scholarship so that prospective students can be alerted. In establishing the Kolomeyer Fund, Dr. Kolomeyer said "[Sue] could never pass someone in need without offering to help. Her greatest joy was in helping others… A scholarship was never discussed. It is simply the right thing to do." A published poet, Dr. Kolomeyer has shared his memorial poem to his wife; it can be found in "In Memoriam" in this issue. Sadly, as of this writing, Nort and Sue's daughter Karen just passed away. She earned her B.F.A. in environmental design from the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. In spite of suffering from multiple sclerosis for over 20 years, Karen served her community well. From her bed, she operated an MS suicide hotline and placed homeless cats. She also produced an earthquake video for people with disabilities that is being used around the world. In 1998, for all her efforts to help others, she was named the Northern California Disabled Person of the Year.

Jesusa Ortiz Kolomeyer with daughter Karen

In a unique landmark step, 1957 CUSSW alumna Jo Ellen Gibson Montei has established two endowments simultaneously—one in her own name, and one in the name of her mentor at the School, former CUSSW Professor Isabel Stamm. The **ISABEL STAMM SCHOLARSHIP** will provide partial tuition assistance to needy CUSSW students, while also paying tribute to the knowledge and teaching of Professor Stamm, and serving as a symbol to others of the important bond forged at the School between student and teacher. The **JO ELLEN GIBSON MONTEI SCHOLARSHIP** will provide partial tuition assistance to needy CUSSW students committed to pursuing careers in public child welfare.

JoEllen Gibson Montei

Alumna Irma Stein '43 has left a large bequest to the School of Social Work that formed the basis for a vital new fund, the CUSSW **DOCTORAL PROGRAM ENDOWMENT**. This fund will set in motion a greatly increased program of support for students working to complete their Ph.D. degrees.

Isabel Stamm

Thanks to all of these visionary alumni/ae and friends, these new scholarships will assure future generations of CUSSW master's and doctoral students that much-needed financial aid will be available for their professional studies.

RONALD A. FELDMAN STEPS DOWN *(Continued from front page)*

Services, CUSSW has established the nation's only endowed research center for the study of social work practice. Extramural research funding is eleven times what is was before the dean's tenure, and the CUSSW endowment has grown sixfold. Ten newly endowed professorships, the highest by far of any school of social work in the nation, have been established, and over 30 newly endowed scholarships and prizes have been created for CUSSW students.

Under the dean's leadership, the School has introduced or greatly expanded programs and services in Computing and Information Technology, Field Instruction, and Career Development. Alumni/ae are participating in many new programs and services, and two years ago, the CUSSW community successfully celebrated the School's landmark Centennial Anniversary with a memorable three-day celebration attended by over 900 alumni and friends. Perhaps most important of all, the dean has led the School of Social Work in its successful campaign to construct a new educational facility—the first building in the School's history to be designed expressly for state-of-the-art social work education.

On April 4, a gala reception will be held at the Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse in Lincoln Center. All CUSSW alumni/ae, friends, faculty, and administration are invited to honor Dean Feldman at this historic juncture and to celebrate a happy and memorable occasion with colleagues and friends.

NEWS OF THE ALUMNI/AE

FROM THE 40s

Helen Brown '48 celebrated her 94th birthday this past year in Honolulu, where she has lived for nineteen years. As a student at the New York School of Social Work, Helen was especially interested in casework and remembers Marion Kenworthy, Florence Hollis, and Eduard Lindeman. Throughout her life, Helen has traveled extensively, taking her first airplane ride in 1927 from Paris to London, just four years after the Hindenburg burned. She attended the 1998 CUSSW Centennial in New York and, last October, she took a trip to Churchill, Manitoba, near Hudson Bay, for a week of polar bear viewing. She keeps her social work skills active, providing assistance to others living in her retirement community.

Murray Meld

Murray B. Meld '49 assumed the chair of the Advisory Council for Seattle-King County Aging and Disability Services this past June. He and his wife **Sofie Meld** '45 reside in Seattle where they take an active role in social and political affairs.

Seymour S. Weisman '47 recounts the perils and experiences of a World War II combat infantry officer in his memoirs, *Dodging The Last Bullet*. Upon returning to civilian life, Dr. Weisman worked in government, academia, the corporate world, and communal service.

Seymour S. Weisman

FROM THE 50s

Ken Carpenter '50 participated in a roundtable discussion at NASW's annual conference this past November. The discussion, "Pioneer Roundtable: Social Issues and Social Work Leadership," focused on identifying specific social problems of the past, analyzing approaches used to confront the problems, and examining the results of the interventions.

Ken Carpenter

Zelda Foster '57 is co-editor of *The Hospice Heritage: Celebrating our Future*, published by Haworth Press in November 1999. Ms. Foster, now retired from the VA Hospital, is an active member of the CUSSW Goldson Lecture Committee.

Dr. **Virginia Lee Laurence** '52 '71DSW was appointed by California Governor Gray Davis to the Board of Behavioral Science Examiners in California's Department of Consumer Affairs. The California State Senate ratified her appointment unanimously. Dr. Laurence is an active participant in state and national politics, and a well-known voice in social welfare issues.

In September, Dr. **Rosa Perla Resnick** '51 presented papers on "Multi-generational Relations" and "Social Work Education in the Field of Aging" at the Fifth Global Conference on Ageing sponsored by the International Federation on Ageing in Mar Del Plata, Argentina. Dr. Resnick also conducted seminars at local universities on topics related to aging issues in the new millennium.

FROM THE 60s

M.C. "Terry" Hokenstad '62 has recently been appointed to the Technical Committee, a 14-member international committee that will assist the secretary-general of the United Nations in preparing for the second World Assembly on Aging in Spain in April, 2002. He is the Ralph S. and Dorothy P. Schmitt Professor and former dean at Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences in Cleveland, Ohio. Professor Hokenstad has published extensively in the fields of comparative social welfare, care of the elderly, and social work practice and education, and has been a member of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Aging since the 1990s. He is the only American appointed to this committee.

Susan Matorin '66 presented a workshop on Behavioral Health Update at the national meeting of the Society for Social Work Leaders in Health Care in Orlando, Florida, in June. She also participated as a panel member, discussing multidisciplinary partnerships, at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association on July 7. Ms. Matorin has also been invited to join the People to People Ambassador Programs Women in Society Delegation to Cuba in January 2001.

Congratulations to **Terry Mizrahi** '66 who is the president-elect of NASW and the recipient of the Chapter Service Award from NASW. She is a professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work and director of the Education Center for Community Organizing.

Alexander Rudolph '65 entered the Columbia University School of Social Work in 1963 on a scholarship from the New York City Department of Welfare where he was employed as a social worker. In 1981, he started his private practice as a social work counselor for the elderly ill and their caring relatives. He has since retired to Aventura, Florida.

Alexander Rudolph

Dr. **Alan B. Siskind** '66 was one of five honorees awarded with commemorative plaques at the Annual Awards Luncheon for the Queensboro Council for Social Welfare. Dr. Siskind is currently the executive vice president for the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services.

Dr. **Betsy Vourlekis** '66 was one of the panelists in "Pioneer Roundtable: Social Issues and Social Work Leadership" at the NASW annual conference. Social work pioneers focused on past social problems and the approaches that had been employed to confront them while others described current conditions and approaches by present-day social workers.

FROM THE 70s

Rosemary A. Bova '71 was elected president of the National Association of Women Business Owners NYC Chapter for the 2000-2001 year. She also incorporated her business, Bova Enterprises, Inc., which specializes in managerial leadership and accountability, work systems design, and individual team development.

Lois Carey '74 published *Sandplay Therapy with Children and Families* in 1999.

PACE Co-Chair Dr. **Miriam Dinerman** '72DSW recently wrote an article entitled "Your Stakes in the Coming Election" for the *NASW Newsletter*. Political Action for Candidate Election (PACE) is an NASW committee.

Rose Dobrof '76 recently received the ASA Senior Award at the national meeting of the American Association on Aging (ASA). The award is given annually to an older person who has made significant contributions to the lives of older people. She is professor of gerontology at Hunter College.

International Management Consultant **Brian Foster** '79 led the roundtable discussion on "Competencies that Social Workers Need to Enter the Field of International Social Welfare" at *An International Social Welfare Symposium* held in November. Noted experts in international social welfare across professional disciplines participated in the lively exchange.

Dr. **Lisa L. Gasstrom** '77 is currently employed as clerk of the Metropolitan Regional Office of the American Friends Service Committee and is serving as a member of the nation's AFSC Board. AFSC is a Quaker social justice organization and a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Sr. **Mary Paul Janchill** '75DSW, director of the Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, is proud to announce that the Center was the recipient of a presidential "Points of Light" award for "excellence in community services directed at solving community problems" in August. Sr. Mary Paul was one of the first recipients of the CUSSW Hall of Fame Award.

Sister Mary Paul

Gail Sullivan Nagel, '72 is currently president of the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work. The Board's mission is to establish and promote uniform national standards for advanced clinical social work practice.

Talat Allah Yari '79 has established the first Down Syndrome Association in Iran. The Association is a private, non-profit organization that benefits children with Down Syndrome. She is also teaching master's students in social work at Allameh University.

Dr. **Nancy Boyd Webb** '79DSW, Distinguished Professor of Social Work at Fordham University, was a panelist in a teleconference sponsored by the Hospice Foundation of America. The conference, "Living with Grief: Children, Adolescents and Loss," was hosted by Cokie Roberts and shared live with 2100 sites in the United States and Canada. In addition, Dr. Webb has been presenting workshops on working with grieving children, and implementing content on children into practice courses. In June, she gave a keynote presentation, "The Versatile Play Therapist for the 21st Century," at the annual conference of the Association of Play Therapy.

FROM THE 80s

Sondra J. Fogel '83 has joined the social work faculty of the University of South Florida as an associate professor. She specializes in neighborhood development and community building, and also does research on homelessness, social work field education, and sexual harassment.

Ken Grossinger '82, an AFL-CIO field operations coordinator, was recently sworn in by Washington DC Mayor Anthony Williams to serve on the Board of Commissioners of the Washington DC Housing Authority.

Dr. **Sritaptim Panitpan** '80DSW is currently the chairperson for the Standing Committee on Women, which is one of the nine standing committees of the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB). Formed in 1992, the Standing Committee on Women has several objectives including uplifting the status of women in society, promoting and strengthening the roles of women in Buddhism, and ensuring equal opportunities for education for children.

Danylle Rudin '87 is an independent consultant and writes for the Center for Medicare Education. Ms. Rudin holds a master's degree in social work administration and gerontology.

Amy Zachary '84 presented a talk in October at the 92nd Street YMHA entitled "When Do You Use An Intervention?" Ms. Zachary also spoke at a January conference sponsored by the Texas Psychological Association. Her topic was "Postmodern Supervision: A Challenge to Tradition."

FROM THE 90s

Jennifer Baity Carlin '94 is a licensed clinical social worker in California. She works as a dual diagnosis specialist for the San Francisco Mental Health Rehabilitation Facility on the campus of San Francisco General Hospital.

Diane DiSanto '90 was appointed in 1997 as special assistant to the Commissioner of Health and Social Services in Alaska. She currently works with communities in coalition building.

Laurie Gehen '99 specializes in women's self-esteem issues. She is currently conducting a research study at the Upper Manhattan Mental Health Center on the efficacy of a new treatment for women with self-esteem problems. She has recently written an article for *O: The Oprah Magazine* entitled "Get Over Your Beauty Guilt." She also wrote a feature article for the *Los Angeles Times* in 1995 entitled "Outside Looking Back In: It's Only Human To Wonder."

Cherie Golant '96 and **Ron Gutierrez** '96 purchased a home last October in San Francisco. They have passed written and oral exams to become licensed clinical social workers in California and have recently returned from vacationing in Peru.

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The Center for Social Policy and Practice in the Workplace

Prof. Sheila Akabas

When anyone in social work or a related human service profession has a question about social welfare issues in the workplace, he or she is likely to think of, or be referred to, the School's Center for Social Policy and Practice in the Workplace. That reputation is the product of the Workplace Center's 32-year history. In that time, it has served as the think tank for developing labor and management's interest and concerns in arenas as diverse as: understanding the contribution of Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs); the productivity of an organization's labor force; the application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and the management of disability in the workplace.

Founded in 1969 at the behest of the Social and Rehabilitation Services of the then US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and originally called the Industrial Social Welfare Center, the mission was to involve trade unions and employers in social welfare concerns, an agenda that had not previously received attention. After a successful decade establishing the Center and delineating the roles of labor and management in relation to social welfare issues, the Center provided leadership to the establishment of the world of work as a field of practice at Columbia. Field sites where the Center carried out its research and/or developed programs included the Health and Security Plan of District Council 37, AFSCME, International Ladies Garment Workers Union health center, District 65 of the United Auto Workers retirees program, Chase Manhattan, AT&T, Hoffman La Roche, and the Center itself.

Today, the Workplace Center stands alone as the country's only school of social work institute devoted to research, training, program development, and consultation regarding social welfare in the workplace. CUSSW Professor Sheila H. Akabas, who earned her doctorate in economics, heads the interdisciplinary team. She also initially served as the research director and has been the Center's director since 1973. Dr. Lauren B. Gates, who has a doctorate in urban planning, has served as the research director for more than a decade. The team also includes several social workers, two or three second year master's students and several doctoral candidates fulfilling their research practicum by working on Center projects. With the help of the Center, Columbia University is seen as the preeminent place to study social work in the workplace.

The Center, continuously funded for thirty-two years, has enjoyed a mixed base of support from government, private foundations, and through contract work with corporations and trade unions. Its present projects include a study of how domestic violence affects women's ability to maintain employment, funded by the Philip Morris Foundation, a quality assurance monitoring contract of the Union Assistance Programs for transit workers paid for by the MTA, a training and consultation program for agencies whose staff provide services to persons with serious and persistent mental illness funded by the New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services, and a research evaluation of a pilot study in competitive employment initiatives funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health. Intermittently throughout the year, the Center provides paid consultation to corporations and trade unions around a series of social welfare issues ranging from family policy to disability management.

This year, for the first time, a seven-week course that grows directly from the Center's research will be offered to graduating students. In separate sections for clinical and AGPP students, the issue of work as treatment and work as outcome will be explored with particular reference to the concerns of disclosure and accommodation for those having difficulty entering, or sustaining a connection to, competitive employment. This population includes immigrants, persons with physical disabilities or mental health conditions, women returning to work after child care responsibilities, welfare to work clients, persons with AIDS, and numerous other groups. The partnership of social workers with community resources, labor, and management to achieve employment will be a major focus of the AGPP section. The assessment of work readiness and interdisciplinary collaboration within the work setting will be the special focus for clinical students.

With the constant changes taking place in globalization of the world of work, and in the demographics of the work force, the agenda for the Workplace Center can grow in many directions, and its future seems assured.

You are invited to a

Tribute to Ronald A. Feldman

In celebration of his 15 years as
Dean of the Columbia University School of Social Work

Welcome

Donna Rosenthal '67, Chair, CUSSW Advisory Council

Speakers
George Rupp, President, Columbia University
Jonathan R. Cole, Provost, Columbia University
Peg Hess, Professor and Associate Dean, School of Social Work
Maureen A. Cogan '77, Trustee Emerita, Columbia University

April 4, 2001 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Champagne and hors d'oeuvres will be served

Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts
165 West 65th Street, between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10023

This event is underwritten by the CUSSW Development Committee.
All gifts will contribute directly to the campaign for CUSSW's new building.
All tickets will be held at the door.

LOOK FOR YOUR INVITATION IN THE MAIL.

Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women Gives Grant

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women has approved a grant of $120,000 distributed over three years to the Columbia University School of Social Work. The purpose of the grant is to provide two doctoral dissertation fellowships per year in the amount of $20,000 each for women in the final year of work on their dissertation. These six fellowships will bear the name of the Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women. Adding to the previous grants it has made to the School, the Foundation looks forward to expanding and strengthening its partnership with CUSSW in the years ahead. In discussing the importance of the grant, Dean Ronald A. Feldman stated "that the future of the profession depends upon the quality of its doctoral graduates and upon their ability to advance the knowledge base of social work through rigorous applied research curriculums. The School of Social Work and the profession are deeply indebted to the Foundation."

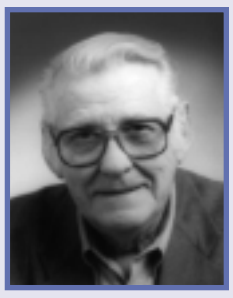
Mary Richmond Society Members Gather

Members of the Columbia University School of Social Work's Mary Richmond Society gathered on November 3 at the Columbia Club for the Society's annual High Tea hosted by Dean Feldman. They came to greet one another, hear about the latest School activities, and to listen to CUSSW Professor Steven Schinke. He spoke about his recent research on the design and testing of programs to help children and adolescents in the prevention of serious health problems. At the conclusion of his talk, he answered questions and presented CDs of his alcohol program to Society members. The Mary Richmond Society is comprised of alumni/ae and friends who support the School of Social Work at an annual level of $500 and above.

NEWS OF THE FACULTY

Professor **Sheila Akabas** gave the keynote address at a conference in June sponsored by the Howie T. Harp Advocacy Center. Professor Akabas directs the CUSSW Center for Social Welfare Practice in the Workplace. (See article on the Center in this issue.)

Professor **Barbara Berkman** has been awarded a $5.8 million five-year grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation to strengthen geriatric social work through faculty development and network building. This grant will enhance the effectiveness of faculty scholars throughout the US and improve their capacity to become academic leaders, role models, and mentors for future generations of social work professionals who work in gerontology. Professor Berkman, the Rehr-Fizdale Professor of Health/Mental Health, is also an associate editor of the newly published *Encyclopedia of Elder Care*.


Richard A. Cloward

Professor **Richard A. Cloward** was awarded the 2000 ASA Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology at the American Sociological Association's 2000 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Professor Cloward is also the recipient of the Council on Social Work Education's 2001 Significant Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Education Award and will be presented this award at the Annual Program Meeting for CSWE in March, 2001. Professor Cloward will be the guest of honor at the alumni/ae reception given by Dean Feldman at the CSWE Conference in Dallas.

Dean **Ronald A. Feldman** gave the keynote address at a Covenant House Conference on adolescent mental health in New York City. Dean Feldman, Ottman Centennial Professor for the Advancement of Social Work Education, is a recognized authority in the field.

Professor **Irwin Garfinkel**, Mitchell I. Ginsberg Professor of Contemporary Urban Problems, is the recipient of a $200,000 grant from the Ford Foundation. The funds will be used to conduct a survey that measures the consequences of welfare reform and devolution on individuals and families in New York City. Professor Garfinkel has also been awarded a $1 million grant from the Ford Foundation to study fragile families and child well being and to promote the professional development of minority scholars. He received a five-year grant from the Mott Foundation in order to study fatherhood and incarceration in fragile families, as well.

The Policy and Practice Group have chosen Professor Emeritus **Alfred J. Kahn** to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Texas at Arlington. This award recognizes a social worker who has made extensive, outstanding, and original contributions to social policy over a substantial period of time. Professor Kahn's social work contributions have spanned six decades.

Professor **Sheila B. Kamerman,** the Compton Foundation Centennial Professor for the Prevention of Children's and Youth Problems, has received a major grant from the Ford Foundation to conduct a conference on social exclusion and children. The conference aims to help reshape the current policy debate about child poverty. Dr. Kamerman has also received a grant from the Foundation for Child Development to support the development of a research agenda on universal pre-kindergarten programs. She is the co-chair of the International Social Welfare Advisory Committee and led a panel discussion on "Different Professional Perspectives on the Role of Social Work in International Social Welfare" in November. Dr. Kamerman's article "From Maternity to Parenting Policies: Women's Health, Employment, and Child and Family Well-Being" was published in the *Journal of American Women's Medical Association* in June 2000.

Professor **Sheila Kamerman** convened a Consultative Meeting on International Developments in Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC). The purpose was to inform and educate funders and policy scholars about these developments. There were forty-five invited participants and about half were executives and staff of foundations. Five papers were commissioned and Dr. Kamerman wrote the overall report of the meeting. That report and the five papers are on the web site of the Columbia University Institute for Child and Family Policy (www.columbia.edu/cu/childpolicy.org or www.childpolicy.org).

In September**, Dr. Kamerman** and Professor Emeritus **Alfred J. Kahn** participated in the European Union's annual meeting of the National Observatory on Family Matters. Drs. Kahn and Kamerman are also directing a Web-based databank containing cross-national, comparative information on policies, programs, benefits and services. The site is designed to serve the news media, public officials, public and private agency administrators, scholars and students, who can access policy information in other nations when developing or gauging their own initiatives. The site, the Clearinghouse on International Developments in Child, Youth and Family Policies, is funded by the W.T. Grant Foundation and open to the public.

Associate Professor **Denise Burnette** has been promoted to tenure. (See separate article in this issue.)

Associate Professor **Nabila El-Bassel** has been promoted to tenure. (See separate article in this issue.)

Associate Professor **Grace Christ** has been promoted to tenure. (See separate article in this issue.)

Associate Professor **Neil Guterman's** new book, *Stopping Child Maltreatment Before It Starts: Emerging Horizons in Early Home Visitation Services,* was released in October from Sage Publications. Professor Guterman recently received funding from the Vincent Fontana Center on Child Protection for testing an enriched home visitation model to prevent child maltreatment. He has also recently received funding from the Bronfman Foundation to initiate a cross-national study of community violence exposure among children and adolescents living in Israel, the Palestinian Authority, and the US.

Associate Professor **André Ivanoff** has been appointed as chairperson of Columbia University's Institutional Review Board. The Board reviews research proposals in order to assure proper protection for human subjects.

In recognition of one of her publications on single black mothers on welfare and their children, Associate Professor **Aurora Jackson** has been awarded a Distinguished Research Award at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research. Professor Jackson will be continuing her career at the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work as an associate professor with tenure.

Associate Professor **Lawrence Martin** has delivered speeches on "The Future of Social Welfare" to Columbia University Alumni Clubs in Washington DC, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Sarasota. He was also an invited plenary speaker at a conference in La Grande-Motte, France, where he spoke on "Persons with Disabilities in The United States: Models and Theories." Professor Martin has recently released his new book, *Financial Management for Human Service Administrators*, on comprehensive financial management with text written specifically for social workers and other human service professionals. His article entitled "Performance Contracting in the Human Services: An Analysis of Selected State Practices" has appeared in *Administration in Social Work* 24(2):29-44.

Associate Professor **Mary McKay** has been awarded a $3 million five-year grant from the National Institute of Mental Health in order to study community partnerships to prevent HIV risks among urban youths.

Associate Professor **Ada Mui** has received a Fulbright Lecturer Award to Lignan University in Hong Kong. She will be in Hong Kong for the spring 2001 semester lecturing and conducting research in gerontology.

Associate Professors **Ada Mui** and **Marianne Yoshioka** have received a grant to develop "Quality of Life Measurements" in conjunction with research funded by the National Institute of Health at St. Luke's Hospital.

Associate Professor **Marianne Yoshioka** presented papers at the NIMH Conference on the Role of Families in Preventing and Adapting to HIV/AIDS and at the Fifth International Conference on Family Violence. In September, Professor Yoshioka appeared before the President's Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and testified about the need to develop practice-research partnerships to address family violence in Asian communities.

Associate Professor **Jeanne Rivard** has been awarded a large three-year grant from the National Institute of Mental Health in order to study trauma-focused interventions targeting risks for violence.

Associate Professor **Jane Waldfogel** has been promoted to tenure. (See separate article in this issue.)

Associate Professor **Karina Walters** will be taking a position as associate professor at the University of Washington School of Social Work.

FOUR CUSSW ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS TENURED

CUSSW is proud to announce that Associate Professors **Denise Burnette, Grace Christ, Nabila El-Bassel,** and **Jane Waldfogel** have been promoted to tenure. It is unusual at Columbia University to have so many faculty members at one school achieve this high honor in a single year.

Denise Burnette

Associate Professor **Denise Burnette** has ten years of practice experience in psychiatric and medical settings particularly in relation to older adults and their families. Professor Burnette is completing two books that will be available from Columbia University Press: *Latino Grandparent Caregivers: Preserving Family and Heritage;* and *Life History Narratives of Influential Women In Late Twentieth Century Social Work*; as well as an article for the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work* on "Latino Grandparents Rearing Grandchildren With Special Needs: Effects On Depressive Symptomatology." She is one of only ten nationwide to be named a Hartford Foundation Scholar in gerontology.

Grace Christ

Associate Professor **Grace Christ** is currently a senior faculty scholar with the Soros Foundation's Project on Death in America and is a recipient of the National American Cancer Society's Distinguished Service Award. Professor Christ was the director of social work at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City and conducts research with the Soros Foundation Social Work Leadership Development Program in Care of the Dying and the Bereaved. She has researched interventions in childhood bereavement, and has recently published *Healing Children's Grief: Surviving A Parent's Death From Cancer* (Oxford University Press, 2000), a book that has been received with acclaim. Professor Christ is presently co-editor of the *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology.*

Nabila El-Bassel

Associate Professor **Nabila El-Bassel** concentrates her work on domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, and substance abuse and prevention. Her most recent publications include "Stages Of Change Among Incarcerated Drug Using Women" in *Addictive Behaviors* and "Partner Abuse and Sexual Risk Behavior Among Women Receiving Care From Emergency Departments" in *Violence and Victims*. Professor El-Bassel's current research includes "HIV Prevention with Minority Women and Male Sex Partners" and "Understanding Partner Abuse among South Asian Immigrant Women." She is director of the Social Intervention Group, a combination research and practice institute, at the School of Social Work. Professor El-Bassel has received a $2 million three-year research grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for a study of "Partner Abuse and HIV Among Women Receiving Emergency Care."

Jane Waldfogel

Associate Professor **Jane Waldfogel** focuses her professional interests on social policy, particularly women's and children's issues. Her current investigations include "Human Asset Development" and "Parental Leave, Child Care, and Child Well-Being." This past year Professor Waldfogel co-edited *Securing The Future: Investing In Children From Birth To Adulthood*, wrote several articles concerning family policy, and contributed book chapters including "Finding Jobs: Work and Welfare Reform" and "The Handbook of Social Policy."

DOCTORAL GRADS GATHER

The Alumni Association's Doctoral Graduates Committee held a small reception for all CUSSW Doctoral Graduates on Thursday, December 7, 2000. After much discussion, the group decided that the Committee should pursue social and professional networking opportunities for CUSSW doctoral graduates and current doctoral students, and identify ways in which graduates can best serve the School. Several sub-committees will be formed to follow through on these ideas. One sub-committee, the Doctoral Directory Committee, has already met and is in the beginning stages of planning a directory of CUSSW doctoral graduates. Committee Co-Chairs Steven Taylor '84DSW and Myrna Lewis '65 '00PhD look forward to hearing from you.

If you are a doctoral graduate from CUSSW and are interested in being part of the Doctoral Graduates Committee, or any of the smaller sub-committees, please call the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (212) 854-7656 for more information and meeting dates/times.

IMPORTANT

If you are a doctoral graduate and ***did not receive*** any information about the doctoral reception, please be in touch with Alumni Relations Officer Jennifer March at (212) 854-5181 or at jm1401@columbia.edu.

P·R·O·F·I·L·E

Myrna Lewis '65 '00 PhD

by Alison Fogge '97

In the 35 years between receiving her Master's Degree in 1965 from the Columbia University School of Social Work and the day last May when she was awarded her PhD, Myrna Lewis has developed a many-sided career. The recent PhD recipient is not only a social worker, but also a gerontologist, author, psychotherapist, lecturer, consultant, and member of a number of editorial, corporate, and professional boards (including the CUSSW Alumni Board)—all part of an effort to explore the compelling issues that involve women as they age.

Dr. Lewis is an assistant clinical professor at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine's Department of Community and Preventive Medicine, where her focus has been the health and social issues of women in mid- and later life. She co-authored, with Robert N. Butler, M.D. and Trey Sunderland, M.D., a book titled *Aging and Mental Health*, (1997, 5th Edition), the first comprehensive American textbook on the subject, and with Butler, *Love and Sex After Sixty*, (1993), a best-selling book for the general public. She has lectured and consulted on the subject of women's aging in universities, foundations, government and private agencies, and community groups throughout the U.S. and many foreign countries.

Lewis's doctoral dissertation assessed the impact of family eldercare on the careers of women in managerial and executive positions—a relatively recent and rapidly growing phenomenon in the American workforce that will require major workplace accommodations. She is also involved in assessing longevity and its implications for older women. "Since the U.S. has not developed national health insurance protection for long-term care, and because women typically outlive men by seven years, the tragic result is that after widowhood, 30% of women live below the poverty line. For African-American older women, it's 60%. Even the women's movement has not yet seriously concerned itself with these startling facts of life." Dr. Lewis is currently co-authoring a book on *The Longevity Revolution*, which will offer an analysis and ideas for redesigning later life in the U.S.

Lewis's other interests include running in the NYC Marathon and keeping up with her large family, including a college-age daughter, three stepdaughters, six grandchildren, a 95-year old father, and a huge extended rural Minnesota family. She has also recently completed a training course to become a volunteer NYC Citizen Tree Pruner, an endeavor that feeds her farm-girl love of nature by certifying her to help care for trees in Manhattan's parks and sidewalk tree-pits.

NEWSLETTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Frances M. Curtis
Lisa Flom
Alison Fogge
Donna Hamilton
Susan Matorin, Chair
Patricia Mulvey
Doris Nash
Susan Nayowith, *ex officio*
Patricia O'Brien
William O'Reilly
Lilly Reiser
Richard A. Siegel
Ethel James Williams*
Washington, DC
*Corresponding Members

NEWS OF THE ALUMNI/AE *(Continued from page 4)*

Oscar J. Lewis, Jr.

Oscar J. Lewis, Jr. '94 is currently enrolled at Berne University where he is pursuing his DSW. He also is associate director for Central Harlem Meals on Wheels.

Claudia J. Olave-Guillermo '99 recently spoke at a symposium entitled "Home-Based Early Intervention - New Opportunities in Early Childhood Psychology" at the APA Convention in Washington, DC. Her presentation focused on culturally competent practices with Latino families in home-based early intervention.

Caren Potaker '97 is now working at the Center for Independence for the Disabled of New York (CIDNY) as an intake coordinator. Caren, who was featured in the Summer 2000 edition of the *Alumni Newsletter*, can be reached by email at HYPERLINK mail to: carenpot@juno.com or by phone at (718) 435-0295.

Lynn Saltiel-Jacobson '95 has been elected to the board of directors of NASW's New Jersey Chapter, and is the chairperson of the Hudson County unit. She is currently employed as a clinical social worker/behavioral consultant for the Jersey City, New Jersey public schools.

FROM THE 00s

Last year, Hedge Funds Care, an organization of hedge fund leaders, founded by Banc of America's Rob Davis and CUSSW graduate and Advisory Council member **Kathalynn Davis** '00, instituted a new program with funds raised through the organization's efforts. This initiative provided over $750,000 for four settlement houses and their umbrella federation, United Neighborhood Houses, for use in establishing or improving programs dealing with child abuse and neglect.

CUSSW Welcomes New Alumni Association Board Members

Officers:

President Elect:
MaryEllen Bigham '95

Vice President:
Alison Fogge '97

Vice President:
Eric Stamm '84

Secretary:
Norma Lopez-Eicher '96

Area I: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
Janet S. Brown '47
Beverly Kidder '99

Area II: DE, NJ, NY State, PA
Linda Dunlap-Miller '81
Bob Langer '54

Area III: Long Island, Westchester, NY
John J. Allen '57
Angel Campos '71 '74DSW
Danna Wood-Webb '67

Area IV: Manhattan, Bronx, Staten Island, Queens, Brooklyn, NY
Monica Bernheim '72
Jean Charles '72
Margaret A. Kane '72, Esq.
Myrna Lewis '65, '00PhD
Elizabeth Naylor '68
Caren Potoker '97

Area V: DC, KY, PR, NC, WV, VI, VA, MD
E. Aracelis Francis '79DSW
Ellen H. Langford '73

Area VI: AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, TN, TX, SC
Brenda Gallagher '97
Sandra San Miguel '70

Area VIII: AR, NE, IL, ND, IA, SD, KS, NM, MN, OK, MO
Susan L. Hughes '81DSW

Area IX: AK, AZ, NV, CO, OR, HI, WA, ID, WY, MT, UT
Rita King '68

Nominating Committee:
Carmen Cerio Belle '87
Alison Catherine Baker Leeds '96
Frances M. Curtis '75
Jennifer Goralski '00
Liesl Browne Hancock '99
Susan L. Neibacher '69

A CALL FOR MEMBERS

Please join us!

The Columbia University School of Social Work's Alumni Association invites all alumni/ae to participate in one of its committees. Members enjoy working with their colleagues while also helping their alma mater. Please take a look below and see what committees interest you, then complete the form and return it to Alumni Relations Officer Jennifer March at the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 622 West 113th Street, Room 417, New York, NY 10025 or email her at jm1404@columbia.edu.

Alumni/Student Relations Committee: Develop a relationship with your now and future colleagues. The Alumni/Student Relations Committee plans brown bag lunches, pizza parties, the popular "Wine, Cheese, and Networking," and many more activities to help second-year students and recent graduates adjust from an academic to a work environment. One of its most important sub-committees is the Mentoring Committee that pairs new graduates with experienced alumni/ae.
Co-Chairs: MaryEllen Bigham '95, Maura Kilduff '97

Conference Planning Committee: The Alumni Association Conference is held every spring in conjunction with the annual Board Meeting. As a member of this committee, you can help decide what type of event it will be, where to have it, and who the guest speaker(s) will be.
Co-chairs: Florentina Flamm '92, Chuck Katze '58

Doctoral Graduates Committee: All CUSSW doctoral graduates are invited to participate in the Doctoral Graduates Committee. The Committee's projects in progress include a doctoral directory, a mentoring program for current doctoral students, and social and networking opportunities for CUSSW doctoral graduates.
Co-Chairs: Myrna Lewis '65 '00PhD, Steven Taylor '84DSW

Hall of Fame Committee: Pioneer and Hall of Fame Awards are awarded every spring at the Alumni Association Conference. Committee members consider the many nominations proposed by alumni/ae, decide which nominees meet the criteria, and make a final determination of those to be honored at the Conference.
Chair: Carmen Cerio Belle '87

Newsletter Advisory Committee: Members assist in designing and planning the *Alumni Newsletter,* gather and share ideas for articles, and help write them. The *Newsletter* provides vital information to over 14,000 readers about CUSSW alumni/ae, faculty, committees, and the School.
Committee Chair: Sue Matorin '66

School History Committee: This committee has helped produce Oral History Days, publish historical and biographical monographs, and plan videotape interviews with eminent CUSSW professors, both current and emeriti. Currently, committee members are planning additional interviews with distinguished faculty and alumni/ae in order to provide an enduring record of their voices and contributions.
Committee Chair: Eric Stamm '84

Scholarship Committees, including those for the V. Benjamin and Agnes Louard, the Rita Ortiz-Agustin Gonzalez, and the Muriel C. Reed Scholarships: These committees assist in raising funds for some of the many scholarships that CUSSW offers to students. Members take an active role in planning and carrying out events, mailings, and other activities designed to help grow the scholarships.
Chair: Louard Scholarship Committee: Agnes Louard '48
Ortiz-Gonzalez Committee: Betty Cheyne Jones '55
Muriel C. Reed Committee: Bill Madison '88 and Daisy Rivera '90, Co-Chairs

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN ONE OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES!

Name: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Address: _____

_____

Home Telephone No.: _____

Work Telephone No.: _____

Email Address: _____

Please call me with the next meeting date and time for the (check all that apply):

___ Alumni/Student Relations Committee
___ Mentoring Committee
___ Alumni Conference Planning Committee
___ Newsletter Advisory Committee
___ Doctoral Graduates Committee
___ Oral History Committee
___ Hall of Fame Committee
___ Scholarship Committees (Louard, Ortiz-Gonzalez, Reed)

Advisory Council News

Donna Rosenthal '67

Donna Rosenthal is the new chair of the Columbia University School of Social Work Advisory Council. Succeeding Dr. Charles Gershenson, Ms. Rosenthal previously served the Council as second vice president and secretary. She has held many offices in the CUSSW Alumni Association, including the presidency, and in 1991, Columbia University recognized her accomplishments with the University's Alumni Medal.

When the School of Social Work celebrated its Centennial in 1998, Donna Rosenthal served as co-chair of the Planning Committee. In addition to her CUSSW volunteer activities, she also holds the position of vice president of the University's umbrella alumni group, the Alumni Federation. Formerly the first executive director of the National Down Syndrome Society, she now leads CLAL—The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, as its executive vice chair. Her letter to CUSSW alumni/ae appears at right.

Kathalynn Turner Davis '00

Kathalynn Davis '00 with husband Rob Davis, CUSSW Friend

Kathalynn Turner Davis has concentrated in the field of health, mental health, and disabilities. Davis currently works full time for the town of Greenwich's Department of Social Services and is placed as a social worker at Nathaniel Witherell Nursing Home. She is also doing parent education training for divorcing parents for Catholic Family Services. She has diverse experience in direct care and in a broad range of clinical issues in individual and group settings. She focuses on the identification of health factors and social stressors that affect clients, program development, and assessment of system entry points for client care and advocacy. She is a founding member of Hedge Funds Care, an organization devoted to the prevention of child abuse and treatment of those who have been victimized.

Brenda Johnson Gallagher '97

Brenda Gallagher has worked in a variety of medical and social service organizations and foundations, and currently serves as a member of the Advisory Council at the University of Houston School of Social Work. A dedicated social worker, she also advances the profession as Trustee and Secretary for the Greater Houston Women's Foundation. In this capacity she manages the grants and educational programs designed to encourage prevention and early intervention for problems affecting women and girls. An active CUSSW alumna, Gallagher serves on the School of Social Work's Alumni Association Board as a representative for Area VI, which includes eight southern states. She has extensive training in Board development, foundation projects, and conference planning.

Dear Friends,

As the School of Social Work moves into the year 2001, many changes are taking place which will position the School for the next decades of the 21st century. First and foremost is the very exciting announcement by President George Rupp and the Columbia University Board of Trustees that the School will be housed in a stunning new building on Amsterdam Avenue and 122nd Street. It will provide state-of-the-art classrooms, greatly needed research facilities, faculty and administrative offices, study and meeting spaces, up-to-date technology, and space to allow for the continued growth of our renowned institution. Although the process was postponed for several months, the outcome is thrilling and puts us on the course to even greater achievements in the coming years. We are deeply appreciative of all the efforts of President Rupp and the University which have resulted in such a wonderful facility where all the components of the School will be together under one roof.

As we move forward with this momentous project, Dean Ronald A. Feldman, who has so successfully led the challenging campaign to make the new building a reality and has been our Dean for more than fifteen years, is stepping down from that position at the close of the academic year in June. He has made so many outstanding contributions to CUSSW during his tenure. In addition to insuring that CUSSW will have suitable physical facilities, he has recruited talented faculty, fostered new and important research, encouraged and supported alumni involvement, and acquired the funding for ten new academic chairs. He brought international recognition to the School by organizing the memorable Centennial Celebration, and during his tenure, the School has grown enormously in enrollment and in reputation. We are very well positioned as the millennium unfolds. To honor Dean Feldman and his remarkable achievements, a special event will be held on April 4th at Lincoln Center. I hope you will all be able to attend. Please look for more information about this upcoming tribute elsewhere in this issue.

During my term of office, the CUSSW Advisory Council will focus its efforts on insuring a smooth and meaningful transition to our new home. We will look at curriculum, community relations, development, technology, and student life in relation to the new building. I hope that you will feel free to share your ideas and thoughts with members of the Council and me.

All my best wishes for a wonderful year ahead.

Donna Rosenthal

Donna M. Rosenthal
Chair, CUSSW Advisory Council

Field Instruction Notes

Assistant Dean and Director of Field Instruction **Kathryn Conroy** and Assistant Professor **Ellen DeVoe** co-authored a final report for the 1999-2000 Hedge Funds Care initial project. Last year, the organization of hedge funds, led by Banc of America's Rob Davis and CUSSW graduate **Kathalynn Davis** '00, instituted a new program with funds raised through the hedge funds' efforts. This initiative provided over $750,000 to four settlement houses and their umbrella federation, United Neighborhood Houses, for use in setting up or improving programs dealing with child abuse and neglect. Dean Conroy and Professor Devoe's report provided much-needed data evaluating the program's effectiveness and cost efficiency.

Cheryl L. Franks, associate director of field instruction and co-chair of the International Social Welfare Advisory Committee, was one of the featured speakers at the International Social Welfare Symposium in November. Dr. Franks has just been awarded the PhD in social work.

NEWS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

Director of Career Development **Madeleine L. Dale** presented at the 8th National Conference of the Directors of Career Development in Social Work in July at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western University in Cleveland Ohio. Her presentations included "First Timers' Overview" and "The Internet and Social Work Career Search."

Welcome **Joanne Lupetin**, who has been recently appointed as the new CUSSW Assistant Dean for Financial and Administrative Services. She comes to CUSSW after eleven years as administrator of the department of otolaryngology at Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital. Her financial and operations expertise will serve the School of Social Work well in its plans for future growth and development.

SCHOOL TO BUILD ON 122ND ST. *(Continued from front page)*

community leaders convened by Assemblyman Ed Sullivan and Councilman Bill Perkins, as well as alumni and other supporters of the School, while developing the current plan to create an entirely new space on the Amsterdam Avenue site.

The new location, situated on Amsterdam Avenue and 122nd Street (Morningside Drive), is commonly known as "the Pharmacy site," as the now-defunct School of Pharmacy had once planned a building there. The University had looked at the Pharmacy site for CUSSW early in the process but had rejected it initially as too large and costly. In addition, other schools were considering it for their use. Later in the process, however, the site became available, and very quickly the School of Social Work found itself with a viable location for its longstanding vision—a single structure for all its purposes with its own identity. The Law School will build its own housing nearby.

Although the new building may not be ready for occupancy until fall of 2004, two years later than the original 113th Street facility, the predominant view at the School is that a completely new state-of-the-art facility that will house all of the School's educational needs will make the wait worthwhile. Currently, the School of Social Work's 1,000 students contribute more than 250,000 hours of community service each year through more than 400 social service agencies in the greater Metropolitan area. Beginning in September 2001, the School will add neighboring School District 5 to the list of public schools that receive weekly counseling and referral services.

The vision and hard work of President Rupp, Provost Jonathan Cole, Executive Vice President for Administration Emily Lloyd, Board of Trustees Chair Stephen Friedman, and many other persons made it possible for the oldest and most distinguished school of social work in the nation to have its long-awaited home. Local elected representatives, too, proved deeply committed to a solution that would work well for all parties. CUSSW alumni, students, and faculty were integrally involved in the discussions from the very beginning and played a vital role in the final decision.

Dean Ronald A. Feldman, who will be stepping down from the deanship at the end of June, has led the School's unwavering efforts to attain a new home. He will be honored at a gala reception for the entire CUSSW and Columbia University community at Lincoln Center's Kaplan Penthouse. The event, to which all alumni, faculty, students, and friends are invited, will take place on April 4, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Further details are available elsewhere in this issue and at the School of Social Work's alumni Website: www.columbia.edu/cu/ssw/alumni.

In Memoriam

We sadly note the death of **Lucille E. Ashby** '62 who passed away on February 11, 2000.

Marjorie C. Baker '37 died in September 2000. Mrs. Baker devoted her career to family services and received Columbia University's Alumni Federation Medal, its highest alumni honor, in 1987.

Leonard H. Bernheim, Jr died this past September. A CUSSW benefactor and humanitarian noted for his generous philanthropic contributions and leadership in the Jewish community, he was a vice president of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. His mother, the late Elinor Kridel Bernheim, attended CUSSW and served for more than ten years on the School's Advisory Council. Often referred to as "The Queen of Volunteers" in New York City, she was awarded the Bi-Centennial Medal by Columbia University in l956 for her dedication and commitment to the community.

Ann Fraser Brewer, former chair and member emerita of the School's Advisory Council, died on October 13, 2000. During her long life of more than 95 years, she was a pioneer lay leader in keeping with the highest standards of social work. She always retained her interest in the School and its welfare, and never lost her concern for human problems. She served in a leadership role with numerous community organizations including the American Red Cross Home Service program and the Westchester County Council of Social Agencies. Mrs. Brewer always held the strong conviction that professional training is essential in learning how to help others. She will be remembered as a staunch supporter and friend of the School for more than 40 years and as one of New York's most respected community benefactors.

Dr. **Maurice F. Connery** '48 '60DSW passed away in December 1999 from cancer. Dr. Connery joined the faculty of UCLA's School of Social Welfare in 1962, retiring in 1986 as dean. He received his MS and doctorate from the School of Social Work after serving in the military during the Second World War. In addition to his work as dean and educator, he was involved professionally in many aspects of social work including child welfare and substance abuse programs.

We are saddened to announce the death of **William Wallace Daniel** '98 who passed away in September 2000. Mr. Daniel, a talented young member of the profession, was a psychiatric social worker at the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

The members of the CUSSW Advisory Council and her many friends at the School mourn the passing of **Edith K. Ehrman** on November 21, 2000. One of the School's most generous supporters, she established the Maurice V. Russell Professorship in Social Policy and Social Work Practice, the first of its kind created to honor an African-American social worker in the history of the University. The late Dr. Russell '50 was a leader in the field of medical social work, a longtime member of the School's Advisory Council and Trustee Emeritus of Columbia. Mrs. Ehrman, who also served on the Advisory Council, participated in and supported many philanthropic programs. She was a founder of the Edith K. Ehrman East Harlem Health Education Center, a Life Trustee of Mt. Sinai at NYU Medical Center and a pioneer in the founding of Playwrights Horizons.

Pauline Baerwald Falk '33, who died on November 21, 2000, attended CUSSW after graduating from Smith College. A former president of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, she was a founding member of the New York Association for New Americans, the National Council for Jewish Women, the Jewish Social Service Association, and the New Lincoln School. Mrs. Falk worked with Jewish refugees and other displaced people before and during World War II. An outstanding leader in the social work profession for seven decades, she was a valued member of the Development Council of the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice, a joint program of JBFCS and the School.

We note with regret the passing of **Ruth Kate Peyser Goodman** '39 last August. A respected social worker and alumna who contributed much to the profession during her long career, she spent many years as a psychiatric case supervisor and director in the Social Service Department of the Payne-Whitney Psychiatric Clinic in New York City.

We are saddened to announce the death of **Eulene Hawkins** '43 who died in June 2000. During her career, Ms. Hawkins directed a county child welfare department and a home service program for families of military personnel with the American Red Cross. She also served as a human resources specialist with the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Ms. Hawkins was the first executive director of the NASW Alabama Chapter and was a delegate to the White House Council on Aging.

Reverend Dr. **Melvyn Francis Hester** '69 passed away on July 4 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He served as deputy commissioner and executive deputy administrator of New York Human Resources Administration (HRA) and as general manager of the United Federation of Teachers (UFT). He had been a member of the adjunct faculty at Fordham University and Columbia University and a field supervisor for New York University, Fordham and Columbia. Rev. Hester was a member of the CUSSW Advisory Council from 1980-1983 and was a speaker at the 1991 Annual Alumni Conference. Before his death, he was serving as a senior pastor at the Bronx-Westchester Community Church.

We sadly note the death of **Rudolf P. Hormuth** '47, a retired specialist in services for mentally retarded children at the Department of Health and Human Services. Mr. Hormuth also served in the Army Air Force during World War II and assisted in the development of screening programs to determine metabolic and genetic disorders in newborns.

We note with regret the passing of **Irving Harris Kaplan** '42 on March 5, 2000 after a battle with Parkinson's Disease. Dr. Kaplan was Professor Emeritus at the University of Denver School of Social Work, where he taught for more than thirty years. A scholarship has been established there in his name.

In memory of his late wife, **Jesus Ortiz Kolomeyer** '52, Dr. Norton Kolomeyer has submitted this poem:

Something is Missing

The sun is shining, but there is no warmth.
The birdsong is too distant to hear.
We shared so much, but not enough.
The drudgery of marriage oft overcomes its joys—
Sweet murmurings can turn to nagging bites—
But the void that you left—when you left
Is as vast as the heaven you now finally grace.

— Your loving mate.

We are sad to note the death of **Anna B. Mayer** '68DSW. Ms. Mayer, a social work policy planner and retired professor at Rutgers University, was chosen to head the Governor's Committee on Children's Services Planning for New Jersey in 1983 and she co-authored a monograph, "Day Care as a Social Instrument," which was written for the Ford Foundation in the early 1960s.

William R. Pickett '54 passed away in September after a brief illness. As a reserve officer Mr. Pickett served as a pilot in World War II and the Korean War, and then as a psychiatric social worker during the Vietnam War. After retiring from the US Air Force in 1970, he worked for the Veteran's Administration as a social worker and then at the VA Hospital in Oklahoma City.

It is with regret that we note the passing of **Marie Richardson-Santos** '37 in September. Mrs. Santos spent much of her career devoted to child welfare as district supervisor for the New Jersey Board of Child Welfare. Later she worked as a casework supervisor and student training instructor for Inter-Church Child Care Society.

We sadly note the death of **Rose S. Sack** '39, assistant professor emeritus at Albright College. Considered a pioneer in early childhood education in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Sack was past vice president and president of the local branches of the National Association of Social Workers.

Sylvia M. Sanchez '80 passed away in August after a courageous battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

It is with regret that we note the passing of **Terri Lynn Estep Smith** '80 in February of this past year.

We are sad to announce the death of **Charmion Kerr Stein**, a noted psychotherapist. Her husband, Dr. Herman Stein '53, was a faculty member at CUSSW for sixteen years and is currently dean emeritus at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, University professor emeritus, and provost emeritus at Case Western University.

We are sad to note the death of Dr. **Celia B. Weisman** '70. Dr. Weisman chaired the Annual Social Work Day at the United Nations for almost 10 years. This event brought together 200 New York City social workers at the United Nations each year.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS IRVING MILLER DIES

Memoral Service Scheduled

The CUSSW community is deeply saddened at the death of Professor Emeritus Irving Miller. An esteemed member of the faculty for 38 years, he received both his MS degree and his DSW from the School of Social Work, the former in 1947 and the latter in 1961. Scholar, educator, and social worker, Dr. Miller was a leader in the field of group work practice and was highly regarded for his contributions to the visually handicapped, the aging, industrial social welfare, and organizational theory. He will be greatly missed by his many colleagues and friends, and long remembered for his warmth, wit, wisdom, and breadth of knowledge. A memorial service for family, colleagues, and the Columbia community will be held on Thursday, May 3rd, 2001, at 4:30 p.m. at Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway and 122nd Street, Alperin Lobby. A reception will follow.

STUDENTS FROM FORMER SOVIET UNION (Continued from front page)

Says Dean Feldman, "the timing of this opportunity fits very well with the School of Social Work's recent establishment of a new field of practice in International Social Welfare and of a new practice method in Social Policy. Participation in the Soros Foundation Initiative will enrich the School at the same time that it yields a significant and permanent impact upon one of the world's largest and most important nations." The students began their studies this semester and hail from varied backgrounds and areas of practice.

Sofiya An will be studying gerontology. Ms. An is from Kazakhstan and has an M.D. from Almaty State Medical Institute. She currently works as an assistant lecturer in the Hospital Therapy Department at Kazakh State Medical University and as an assistant to the medical programs coordinator at the Soros Foundation Kazakhstan.

Inna Andreva of Kyrgystan is primarily interested in child abuse, prevention and related social and legal policies. After receiving her diploma in pediatrics from Kyrgyz State Medical Institute, Ms. Andreva had additional training in psychiatry. She currently works as a child psychiatrist and volunteers at Mensa International performing IQ tests for children.

Leyla Ismayilova is from Azerbaijan and will be concentrating her studies on mental health. She is interested in starting a school of social work in the future. She has both a bachelor's and master's degree in psychology from Baku State University and hopes to focus on applied psychology while at Columbia. Ms. Ismayilova teaches psychology at the International Open Educational Complex of Russian State Universities and works as a higher and secondary childhood education program coordinator.

Andrei Nagorny of Uzbekistan will be receiving his diploma this year as a doctor of general practice from Samarkand State Medical Institute - Adult Faculty, and will be studying substance abuse at CUSSW. Mr. Nagorny works as a nurse in the anesthesia and reanimation department at Samarkand Republican Hospital and as a doctor's assistant at Zarafshon-kalifornia Hospital.

Oyut-Erdene Namdaldagva of Mongolia will also be studying gerontology. Currently, Ms. Namdaldagva is working on her master's thesis on Women and Aging at the State Pedagogical University in Ulaanbaatar. She holds the position of lecturer in the only department of social work in Mongolia and would like to establish a school of social work in the future.

Ia Shekriladze of Georgia has already completed graduate studies in psychology and psycholinguistics and was the only student in her year permitted to advance to PhD. She currently works as a psychologist and teacher of psychology, and will be studying social administration at Columbia. Ms. Shekriladze is interested in developing social work courses at Tbilisi State University, where she teaches.

FROM THE DEAN (Continued from page 2)

accommodate all of its needs better than two separate buildings would. It seemed likely that a single structure could more effectively combine teaching and administrative activities, increase interaction between students and faculty, and reduce operating costs. Fortuitously, after considerable discussion and constructive negotiations among neighbors, the central administration and the CUSSW community, the Board of Trustees approved revised construction plans for a new building on March 3rd. The plans, which call for occupancy by September 2004, will result in a much better permanent facility for the School of Social Work. After 33 transitional years in Morningside Heights, the entire CUSSW community will have completed its lengthy and arduous journey to a new Promised Land—a state-of-the-art physical facility designed expressly for professional social work education. Not quite as long as the early Israelites but nonetheless well worth the wait.

The central administration is providing much-needed assistance on every front in order to bring the plans for the new building to fruition. The projected new building will be a $65 million structure that will house the educational, research, and administrative programs of the School of Social Work in a single stand-alone facility on Amsterdam Avenue between 121st and 122nd Streets containing 115,000 square feet of space. CUSSW will retain Cooper Robertson & Partners, the same outstanding architectural firm that worked so creatively and effectively on plans for the West 113th Street building.

In a separate nearby building, the School of Law will construct a residential facility that provides approximately 190 studio-type apartments for students and visiting faculty.

Our projected new facility is certain to yield immense benefits not only for the School of Social Work, but also for all of Columbia University, the residents of Morningside Heights, and adjacent communities. This landmark development could not have occurred without the leadership, energy, teamwork, and dedication to the School that has been demonstrated by our alumnae/i. In particular, the current president of the Alumni Association, Susan Nayowith '84, the incoming president of the Alumni Association, Mary Ellen Bigham '95, and the chair of CUSSW's Advisory Council, Donna Rosenthal '67, as well as many other members of the Alumni Association and of the Advisory Council, have played an integral role and have exercised great leadership in helping to bring about this welcome outcome. To all these individuals, congratulations and sincere thanks for exemplifying social work at its best and for enabling the CUSSW community to realize its collective dream for the future.

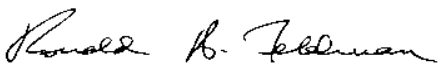
As exciting and historically significant as this development may be, however, it is hardly the only new and important development in recent months. This year the Soros Foundation and the Open Society Institute invited CUSSW to become one of only two US schools of social work to educate future leaders of the social work profession from key republics of the former Soviet Union. With substantial funding from these sources, six students from republics as diverse as Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Kyrgystan now are enrolled in MS studies at CUSSW. They are outstanding individuals who already have earned advanced degrees in such fields as medicine, psychology, and public health. Selected from among more than 300 applicants, and with support from the well-developed organizational infrastructure established in Eastern Europe by the Open Society Institute, there is every likelihood that these persons will become the premier educational, policy and administrative leaders of the first generation of professional social workers in the former Soviet Union. We look forward to tracking the careers of these students after graduation, as well as those of others who will follow in their footsteps, and apprising you of the progress that is made.

I am pleased also to note that applications to the School of Social Work remain strong even in a period of great political and economic flux in our nation. In a disturbing national trend, many of our peer schools report a decline in applications of as much as 20-30%. We have been able to sustain a strong applicant pool not only because of CUSSW's outstanding curriculum and distinguished faculty but, even more, because numerous applicants report that they were inspired to seek admission to CUSSW because of the accomplishments, stature and, very often, the direct recommendations and urgings of our alumnae/i. In this way as well as others, alumnae/i help sustain and strengthen the School of Social Work and ensure a cadre of talented future partners and colleagues who have benefited from a CUSSW education.

I am delighted, too, to note that in recent months four talented members of the CUSSW faculty have been promoted to tenure: Denise Burnette, Grace Christ, Nabila El-Bassel, and Jane Waldfogel. Congratulations are due as they now assume senior leadership roles at the School of Social Work. In the 2001-02 academic year, CUSSW will be strengthened even further by the appointment of three promising young faculty members: Marcia Carlson, Sarah Lewis and Susan Witte. Sadly, the CUSSW community also has been diminished in recent weeks by the deaths of two esteemed former faculty members, Nathan Cohen and Irving Miller. To their families, friends and colleagues we express sincerest condolences.

Last but not least, as you may know, in May 2000 I announced that I would be stepping down from the deanship after 15 years of service in this role. Effective July 1st, 2001, I will take a sabbatical leave and then return to the faculty ranks as the Ruth Harris Ottman Centennial Professor for the Advancement of Social Work Education and as Director of the Center for the Study of Social Work Practice, a joint program of CUSSW and the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. I look forward with enthusiasm to this exciting new challenge.

Together we have accomplished much during the last 15 years—we have strengthened the School's curriculum, research and faculty, diversified and improved the student body, increased the School's endowment and safeguarded its financial well-being, and provided CUSSW with a physical facility that befits the nation's premier school of social work. Certainly, some of the most welcome developments of these years are the expanded and improved services now available to CUSSW alumnae/i. And, I count among my most gratifying and cherished experiences the support, friendship and partnership that alumnae/i have unstintingly extended. Farewells are not needed because I will remain an active member of the CUSSW faculty and, therefore, will be in continuing contact with you in the coming years. Nevertheless, I wish to express to you here and now my sincere appreciation for all that you have done to advance the School of Social Work, improve the quality of social work education, and support the School's important new initiatives. You have made me proud and pleased to be your dean, and for this and your countless other gifts I thank you now and forever.



NATHAN COHEN DIES

Dr. Nathan E. Cohen, a member of the School's faculty from 1945 to 1958 and associate dean from 1955 to 1958, died early in February. He earned his BS, MS, and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University and for over four decades made major contributions to social work and related professions as practitioner, administrator, teacher, writer, and scholar. When seven professional organizations merged in 1955 and became the National Association of Social Workers, Dr. Cohen was named its first president. He was vice president of Case Western Reserve University and distinguished professor at the University of California at Los Angeles. He also served as president of the National Conference on Social Welfare. The CUSSW Class of 1954 honored his achievements at its Silver Anniversary in 1979 during the Alumni Conference. His colleagues and friends will remember him as one of the most distinguished social workers of the last century.

OBITUARIES

Lurene M. Albert '60
Laurie Andresen '82
Lucille E. Ashby '62
Marjorie C. Baker '37
Leonard H. Bernheim, Jr.
Lois D. Blieden '44
Ann Fraser Brewer
Rebecca T. Clark '41
Nathan E. Cohen
Maurice F. Connery '48
William Wallace Daniel '98
Edith K. Ehrman
Pauline Baerwald Falk '33
Sophis Z. Ford '51
Frances E. Forst '47
Miriam L. Gaertner '42
Ruth Gardner '43
Ruth Katz Peyser Goodman '39
Juanita K. Graham '42
Eulene Hawkins '43
Melvyn Francis Hester '69
Sara Hood '50
Rudolf P. Hormuth '47
Irving Harris Kaplan '42
Helen R. Kaufman '49
Max M. Kleinbaum
M. Mickey Lebowitz '51 '61DSW
William Lingelbach '90
Leon Lucas '38
Leonore Luftman '40
James R. Mann '48
Anna Mayer '68
Irving Miller '47 '61DSW
Michael S. Moncher '87 '90DSW
Margaret Moore '42
Ann McPhillips '52
Ruth R. Pettengill '31
William R. Pickett '54
Lorene D. Potter '34
Marie Richardson-Santos '37
Rose S. Sack '39
Sylvia M. Sanchez '80
Anita B. Schacht '44
Irvin B. Schwartz '38
Herbert H. Shore '52
George R. Simon '38
Terri Lynn Estep Smith '80
Charmion Kerr Stein
Emma E. Thomas '49
Celia B. Weisman '70

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Thursday, May 10, 2001 • Faculty House

Don't miss this year! Your presence *will* make a difference.

SOCIAL WORK: A CELEBRATION OF THE PROFESSION

By Florentina Flamm, Co-Chair, CUSSW Conference Planning Committee

The Alumni Association Annual Conference Committee is hard at work preparing what promises to be a joyous and uplifting event. Entitled "*Social Work: A Celebration of the Profession*," the Conference will take place on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at Columbia University's Faculty House.

This Conference will be a reunion/networking event providing an opportunity for us to recognize and rejoice in the value of our work, our significant contributions to a better world, and the ever-expanding roles and opportunities of the profession.

The event will begin with the **Association's Executive Board Meeting at 1:00 p.m**. The **reunion for all alumni/ae will begin with a reception at 4:30 p.m. and will be followed by dinner at 6 p.m.** The evening will also feature the **Golden and Silver Anniversary Classes of 1951 and 1976.** The event will provide a welcome opportunity for exchanging ideas, reconnecting with fellow social workers, and energizing our visions for the future.

The program will include a **keynote address by Sister Mary Paul Janchill '75, Clinical Director for the Center for Family Life**, followed by the **Hall of Fame and Pioneer Awards**. Special awards will be given to one or two individuals whose contribution to the profession has been enduring and unique in their particular fields.

Committed to the ideals of justice, the alleviation of human suffering, and advocacy on behalf of the disempowered, social workers have a long record of achievement in all sectors of society. Looking at what we do, how well we do it, and the difference we make, is sure to kindle the inner voice that first said to us, "I want to be a social worker."

Complete information and registration materials for all CUSSW alumni/ae and friends in the New York City Metropolitan area will follow by mail. **If you do not live in this area**, please call Alumni Relations Officer Jennifer March at (212) 854-7656 or email her at jm1404@columbia.edu for registration materials, or fill in the form at the CUSSW Website at www.columbia.edu/cu/ssw/alumni. For information about the Conference, you may also call Florentina Flamm '92 at (212) 876-4901 or Chuck Katze '58 at (914) 633-3790, co-chairs, Conference Planning Committee.

Louard Scholarship Auction Held at Lighthouse

The Louard Auction Committee hosted the second V. Benjamin and Agnes Louard Scholarship Holiday Auction on Wednesday, November 30, 2000, at Lighthouse International in New York City. Alumni/ae, faculty, administrators, and friends attended the holiday gala aimed at raising funds to benefit the Louard Scholarship. The Louards, their family, and friends established the Scholarship at the Columbia University School of Social Work in 1991; it is designated for African-American CUSSW students who demonstrate leadership and academic excellence.

Contributors provided over 160 items for bidding, including vintage jewelry pieces, china, paintings, and gift certificates for dinners, historic tours, and getaways at Martha's Vineyard. Auctioneer Larry Richmond led the live auction after browsers viewed and bid on hundreds of silent auction items. Attendees listened to pianist Eustace Johnson while enjoying champagne and hors d'oeuvres.

ALUMNI/AE FOCUS ON INTERNET AT COMPUTER WORKSHOP

CUSSW's Office of Instruction and Information Technology and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations co-sponsored an intermediate level computer workshop for CUSSW alumni/ae last fall. The workshop, comprised of 27 alumni/ae from the classes of 1941 to 2000, focused on the Internet and included lessons on how to use search engines and e-mail. Among those who provided invaluable expertise and assistance during the program were Ann McAnn Oakley, Sylvia Shultz, Michelle Barbara Lisse, Alan Trussell, Chris Ahlers, James Landrito, Piero DiPorzio, and Kelly Lau.

As a reminder, the computer lab is open to Alumni Association members on Saturday (12 pm - 5 pm), Sunday (12 pm - 5 pm) and Monday (8:30 am - 5 pm). To use the lab, alumni/ae need to visit the Office of Development and Alumni Relations and obtain a letter granting access to the computer lab during the above hours. Those who are not Association members can call (212) 854-7656 for a membership packet. Alumni/ae can also stop by the office to join the Association and use the computer lab immediately.

The Alumni Newsletter
is published by The Alumni Association of the Columbia University School of Social Work

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President
(1999-2001)

MaryEllen Bigham '95
President-Elect
(2000-2001)

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Vice-President
(2000-2002)

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Don't forget to send us your NEWS & PHOTOS, both professional and personal, for the next issue!

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Please send materials to: Alumni Newsletter, CUSSW, 622 W. 113th St., Room 417, New York, NY 10025. Fax to: (212) 854-5181 or send e-mail to: jm1404@columbia.edu

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