First Capstone Project
Held at CUSSW

The process was extensive, and the case was complex. From January 22 to 25, graduating students of CUSSW’s 2008 class participated in the School’s inaugural Capstone Integrative Project. The week-long competition was created to provide students with the opportunity to integrate the skills they have learned at CUSSW, build community, and solidify their professional preparation as soon-to-be bona fide social workers.

(continued on page 3)
First Capstone Project
Held at CUSSW

(continued from cover)

The Council on Social Work Education, CUSSW’s accrediting body, now requires that master of social work programs encourage students to integrate knowledge gained in the first and second years as well as across method areas. The Capstone Project—an innovative, interactive, group competition—met and exceeded this aim.

Groups of 20 second-year students from all method areas convened to discuss, dissect, and formulate recommendations for a complex case that was constructed specifically for the project. The groups were required to develop recommendations addressing the clinical, programmatic, administrative, and policy issues facing a fictional agency. Throughout the week there were group and subgroup meetings, and “consultation” sessions with faculty experts.

The week culminated in competitive presentations by the groups based on the final papers they had submitted. Three groups were selected as finalists by the Capstone Committee to present to an audience of more than 300 persons at Columbia University’s Havemeyer Hall. The judges included Irwin Garfinkel, Mitchell I. Ginsberg Professor of Contemporary Urban Problems; Clment Monier, associate director of field education; and Penny Schwartz, president of the CUSSW Alumni Association.

After presenting and responding to critical questions from the judges, the teams were
Richard Parsons Speaks at CUSSW

by Megan Verma

On March 6, CUSSW welcomed Richard Parsons, Chairman of Time Warner, Inc., to speak at its Wednesday Speaker Program as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar. His many positions in nonprofit and civic organizations, which include co-chairman of the Mayor’s Commission on Economic Opportunity in New York and chairman emeritus of the Partnership for New York City, as well as his earlier leadership roles in the private sector as managing partner of the New York law firm Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler, for example, make him one of the most highly regarded experts on corporate social responsibility.

A theme of Parsons’ talk was to suggest that CUSSW include in its studies content on corporate philanthropy. He noted that corporations support communities by providing jobs to residents. He also discussed the obligation of corporations to contribute to the health of the communities of which they are a part.

Citing his own experience as chairman and chief executive officer of Dime Bancorp Inc., he recalled his efforts to revitalize Coney Island in the 1980s. Because the Coney Island branch of the bank had a longstanding presence in the community, he sought to determine how Dime Bancorp could support the reinvention of the health of the community.

Parsons mentioned that the relatively recent ability of a significant number of individuals to gather vast amounts of personal wealth “on the scale of nations” has led to a desire on the part of many of the new wealthy to utilize their resources to enable the achievement of social good in targeted areas. However, he stated that a conundrum for corporate philanthropists lies in attempting to determine the proper allocation of resources and assets, which can be thwarted by miscommunication and the different cultures of the business world and the organizations it attempts to aid. Corporations are not always tuned in to the real needs of nonprofit and government organizations, and the administrators of these organizations are unable to translate their needs to the business community in ways that can be understood. Parsons suggested that to gain credibility in the corporate world, social workers must demonstrate more measurable outcomes, measuring the results of interventions and paradigms applied to address social problems.

Parsons emphasized the need for trained professionals, such CUSSW’s graduates, who can skillfully mediate the interests and resources of government, corporate, and philanthropic organizations and effectively facilitate the development of collaborative solutions to societal problems.

awarded with first-, second-, and third-place honors. The Capstone Cup was presented to the team that won first place. During the year, the trophy will be on display in the CUSSW library.

“The Capstone Project is an exciting initiative, and is an example of the intellectual and training innovations that have distinguished our School,” said Marianne Yoshioka, assistant dean for academic affairs. “The project provides students an opportunity to integrate their learning across the curriculum, and expand their own potential to effect real change as social workers.”

The Capstone Project was a resounding success. “The three judges are so proud of our students, all of whom made exceptional presentations. Selecting one winner was a difficult task,” said Irwin Garfinkel. “The Capstone Project enabled students to consider critically the problem at hand and advise the agency on program implementation and management. We look forward to next year’s competition.”
In Columbia University’s environment, there are innumerable research centers. Thus, the establishment of another center might not seem particularly newsworthy. However, the Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC), which has CUSSW as its administrative home, is one of a few research centers that bridges the distance between the Morningside Heights and Medical Center campuses. Co-directed by Irwin Garfinkel, Mitchell I. Ginsberg Professor of Contemporary Urban Problems in the School of Social Work and principal investigator of the Center’s infrastructure proposal to NICHD, CPRC’s core mission is to advance population research in its four signature research areas: children, youth, and families; HIV/AIDS and reproductive health; immigration and migration; and urbanism. To realize its mission, the Center must grow its capacity as a resource and support that nurtures a vibrant multidisciplinary community of population researchers at Columbia University.

Constance A. Nathanson, professor of clinical sociomedical sciences and co-director of CPRC, notes that the scale of Columbia’s undertaking is ambitious: “The greatest challenge is to make our vision of a cross-campus, cross-disciplinary intellectual community of active researchers into a practical and lasting reality. While institutional inertia and old habits can present challenges, there is enormous enthusiasm and good will in the assembled group, and I am confident we will succeed.”

Currently, CPRC has an extensive roster of participating researchers, with 118 members from the School of Social Work; the Mailman School of Public Health; the Columbia Business School; the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; the School of International and Public Affairs; the School of Law; Teachers College; Barnard College; and from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the Departments of Economics, History, Political

In November 2007, the Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW) welcomed 20 health research scholars from the Republic of Kazakhstan. The scholars, who are all affiliated with the Kazakhstan Ministry of Health, participated in a five-week interdisciplinary health science and services training program at the School.

Coordinated by the Global Health Research Center of Central Asia and the CUSSW Office of Professional Excellence, the training focused on health service planning and delivery, with special attention to national and international trends, issues, and strategies. The goal of the training was to prepare the scholars to conduct health-related prevention and intervention research.

“The interdisciplinary curriculum that we designed with our colleagues from the schools and departments at Columbia University was targeted to scholars who are interested in the design of better social and health systems of care,” says Nabila El Bassel, D.S.W., professor and director of the Global Health Research Center of Central Asia. “This dynamic curriculum is a prototype for training public health scholars from Central Asia and other parts of the world.”

The five-week training focused on four interrelated modules—biostatistics, epidemiology, biostatistics, and health services research—taught by faculty from CUSSW, the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, the Columbia University Institutional Review Board, the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning, and SUNY Stony Brook. In addition, the course work was complemented with site visits to social and public health departments in New York City, scientific public health seminars, and meetings with the team of experts from the Global Health Research Center of Central Asia.
Science, Sociology, and Statistics, and the master’s degree program in quantitative methods in the social sciences. What binds and motivates this diverse group of scholars is the shared conviction that the complicated and interrelated problems they seek to understand and address are beyond the scope of any single discipline.

As Professor Garfinkel has observed: “If we succeed in building the dynamic intellectual community of our aspirations, there will be fine research offspring which we could never have imagined.”

Currently, CPRC is fostering existing and emerging cross-campus research networks and stimulating the development of new ones. Each of its four signature research areas has a large, multidisciplinary working group that meets twice annually to introduce researchers to each others’ work, to plan collaborative projects, and to host one-day mini-conferences. Working groups have been established around a number of issues, including fertility trends in the U.S. and population-level HIV trends in Africa. The CPRC seed grant program, funded by the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP), supports proposal development, pilot research, and other activities that incubate research projects for the competitive pursuit of external funding. CPRC is holding a workshop this summer to train researchers to use the Fragile Families dataset. Each month, CPRC disseminates a calendar of recommended on-campus population seminars. CPRC also sponsors videoconferences of select seminars to enable researchers to virtually attend from remote locations. Finally, CPRC’s mentoring program ensures that junior faculty receive ad hoc proposal reviews and are provided opportunities to collaborate on projects with senior CPRC faculty.

Jane Waldfogel, professor of social work and public affairs at CUSSW, noted that CPRC has the potential to invigorate its members’ research by exposing them to new work and ideas.

“What’s been so exciting is discovering colleagues around campus who share interests and knowledge. I’ve been at Columbia for more than 10 years and thought I knew the University very well. But through CPRC I’ve learned about researchers from across our two campuses I didn’t know of before. CPRC has also helped me forge stronger connections with researchers I already knew. The working group meetings, brown bag discussion groups, and mini-conferences have been terrific in that regard.”

Bringing together and fostering collaboration among Columbia’s rich assortment of researchers in the population sciences is at the heart of CPRC’s mission.

“We are proud to host our first cohort of global health research scholars at CUSSW,” says Marianne Yoshioka, Ph.D., assistant dean for academic affairs. “Social development is a focal research area at CUSSW; its faculty and associates. Addressing global, national, and local health concerns is important in progressing toward positive social change.”

Based in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the Columbia University Global Health Research Center is the first research center on global health established by a university in Central Asia. The center serves the countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan in an effort to develop effective solutions to pressing health problems and to reduce health disparities in Central Asia.
Researchers Explore Below-the-Radar Racism
by Jessica Troiano

Carl Bell was waiting his turn to check in at his hotel. A well-regarded psychiatrist and academic, he was traveling for a television appearance. The TV station had flown him first class and sent a chauffeur-driven car to pick him up at the airport. But just before he stepped up to speak with the hotel clerk, a white man marched in and cut him off. Bell, who is black, was indignant.

"Do you think I'm waiting for a bus?" he demanded. "I'm standing right here!"

The man claimed he simply hadn't seen him.

To many, this would seem to be an ambiguous encounter. Perhaps the man simply had not seen Bell waiting in line. But to Bell, it was part of a pattern—one he says he sees virtually every single day. The sheer number of negative interactions like these has convinced him, and many others, that they are more than merely innocent oversights.

Indeed, social scientists have coined a term for them: racial microaggression. The phrase describes the subtle indignities and insults directed at minorities during everyday exchanges. Their ambiguity is what makes them so vexing—the recipient doesn't know for certain whether it is a deliberate slight, making it difficult to know how to react.

Racism, both overt and subtle, has been a feature of human interaction for centuries. But now that blatant public displays of prejudice are frowned upon—and even criminalized—the more subtle manifestations are receiving increased attention from researchers. By giving this phenomenon a name, social scientists hope to draw attention to how damaging such slights can be when multiplied by the thousands of times they may occur over the course of a lifetime.

"I see a huge irony," said Derald Wing Sue, professor of education at Columbia University's Teachers College. "While hate crimes receive the most attention, the greatest damage to the life experiences of people of color is from racial microaggression."

While the term "microaggression" is relatively new, the concept is familiar enough that it has become a staple of contemporary comedy. Take Steve Carell’s character, Michael Scott, on NBC’s popular situation comedy The Office. As the boss of the branch office for a paper company in Scranton, PA, Scott unwittingly offends his employers at every turn. In one typical episode, Scott rejects the need for student caucuses, we co-host alumni events and panels including CUSSW Alumni of Color Networking, Social Work Careers in ... , and What to Expect After You Graduate. We also offer workshops tailored to the needs of international students. Additionally, in partnership with the Columbia Center of Career Education and the consortium of New York Graduate Schools of Social Work, we co-host the Not-For-Profit and Public Service Career Fair and the Master’s Level Social Work Job Fair.

Last year, the Office launched a new Web-based recruitment site that allows employers to post jobs and internships exclusively for CUSSW students. Each student is provided with a unique password and can peruse the site to apply for jobs and internships. The Office provides...
diversity training, claiming the office is a "color-free zone." He then turns to the only black employee and says, "Stanley, I don’t look at you as another race."

Or Larry David, whose eponymous character on HBO’s *Curb Your Enthusiasm* is always offending someone with his colossal insensitivity. In the current season, the premise that David and his wife have taken in an African-American family left homeless by a hurricane is grist for scores of uncomfortable racial encounters.

"It is funny," said Bell of this genre of humor. "But that’s what humor is, that fine line between funny and tragic."

"Microaggression" was coined in 1970 by Harvard psychiatrist Chester Pierce to explain the indignities heaped on black people, sometimes unknowingly, by whites. It has since been broadened to include all minority groups and women.

Columbia’s Sue, who has become a leading scholar on the topic, compared these insults to carbon monoxide—"invisible, but potentially lethal." Because the comments or gestures are easily overlooked, the experts say, their effect may not be immediately apparent. But constant negative interactions can be a sort of death by a thousand cuts for the victim.

Sue outlined the various types of microaggression perpetrated on different races. Asian-Americans may find themselves answering the question "Where were you born?" over and over again, when in fact they were born in the United States. Sue, who is Asian-American, said people regularly compliment him on how well he speaks English.

"I hope so," he replies. "I was born here."

The resulting stress and depression caused by such indignities can literally be fatal, according to William Smith, a professor of education and ethnic studies at the University of Utah. Smith analyzed Michigan’s census data, controlling for age, income, education, and homicides, and found that the lifespan of black males is still years shorter than their white counterparts.

"The difference is daily microaggression," Smith said. "If you’re constantly stressed, that wears your heart out and wears your organs out."

Those who study microaggression agree that eliminating it is an uphill battle. Some are trying to use the university environment as a laboratory for discovering ways to combat it. Hiring a diverse faculty and educating professors about cultural sensitivity are some of the steps they recommend.

Bell said that while human behavior is complex and "multidetermined," the vast majority of bias has the same roots. "Ninety-eight percent of racial stereotyping," he said, "is learned behavior."

employees the ability to post jobs and summer internships, conduct on-campus information sessions, and attend career fairs. CUSSW has an innovative curriculum that is aimed at preparing multitalented, professional social workers; we want to make certain that employers are knowledgeable about the range of transferable skills and competencies that enable CUSSW students to thrive in any organization. Our goal is to cultivate long-term, results-oriented partnerships with organizations that will generate rich, wide-ranging career opportunities for CUSSW students.

This past February, in partnership with Alumni Relations, we also launched a resource Web site for alumni career development. This site is linked to the student resource, which is convenient for employers, our office, and students who are soon to be alumni. The site allows alumni the ability to post jobs, directly access job opportunities, create personal career portfolios with their resumes and interests, and research careers. The resource offers alumni the ability to connect and network with each other and is ideal for those looking to make a career shift, enter the workplace after an absence, or make a job change. In the coming months, we plan to enhance the student-alumni mentoring capabilities that these linked sites offer, as alumni are a wonderful resource for students. We also plan to invest time building relationships with employers in the international and social enterprise arenas, as these are burgeoning and significant areas in the domain.

Equipped with an outstanding education and well-integrated professional experiences, CUSSW students are well prepared to venture into a variety of vital sectors. Our charge is to make sure that CUSSW students and alumni are offered reliable support and imparted with the proper knowledge and resources for employment in desirable positions that make a difference in their areas of interest.
HOW DID THE WALK THE WALK, STOP THE TALK PROGRAM GET STARTED?
The event began in the 2004–2005 school year, which was also the inaugural year of the Harlem Connect Caucus (then known as the Harlem Task Force). A student in the class of 2005 had begun the caucus to encourage student involvement in the Harlem community right outside the doors of the new School of Social Work. She organized the first service day, held in January 2005, as a seminal event for the caucus.

WHAT IS THE PROJECT'S PURPOSE?
The project was designed to foster students’ knowledge about the community while using their energy and availability to provide needed services to local organizations. The objectives were to maintain a focus on local organizations and the Harlem community; the media was not invited to cover the event, students were asked not to wear Columbia attire to their work sites, and food was purchased from local businesses. This year’s event will be the fourth, and we hope to keep the tradition going for years to come.

WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?
We hope to continue our work with organizations with which we have worked in the past, including the Harlem YMCA, $195 Beacon, Harlem Live, and First Corinthian Church Food Pantry. We are also reaching out to new organizations, and we would like to assist community members with the revitalization of a community garden. We are reaching out to more faculty and staff and encouraging the entire CUSSW community to participate. We are delighted to have volunteers from Teachers College who participated last year join us once again.

Walk the Walk, Stop the Talk
On Saturday, March 29, CUSSW students held the annual Day of Service in Harlem. The event, Walk the Walk, Stop the Talk, enables students to take part in projects with community-based and service organizations in Harlem. Alexandra Knorr, one of the organizers who is part of the CUSSW Student Union and Harlem Connect Caucus, shares more below.

A Place to Call Home
by Laura Guiterman
When Laura Guiterman joined the Department of Development and Alumni Relations in 1964, as the assistant director, the School had just changed its name from the New York School of Social Work to the Columbia University School of Social Work and completed its merger as a full member of the Columbia University Corporation. In celebration of the School’s 110th anniversary, Guiterman remembers several of CUSSW’s “homes.”

Then known as the New York School of Philanthropy, CUSSW was located at the Sage House, formerly known as the Russell Sage Foundation building at East 22nd Street. The building served as the School’s home from 1931 to 1949.

Alumni, faculty, and staff who were at the School from 1949 to 1969 count among their fondest memories life at the Carnegie Mansion, marked by gracious surroundings that included a beautiful garden as well as nearby Central Park. Leased by the Carnegie Foundation for 20 years, this unique setting was unmatched as a place for the School to realize its potential and leadership role as the first graduate social work school in the nation and abroad. In the 1960s, the promises of the “Great Society” and new projects involved the School in the broader policy-making areas of the day. CUSSW was a participant in many emerging programs, including Head Start, the Peace Corps, Mobilization for Youth, homeless shelters, housing, teenage addiction, and prison reform.

In 1969 the School was relocated temporarily to the Miles Cooper Building at 110th Street, once home to the well-known Woman’s Hospital. The School stayed at the Cooper site for a year until McVickar Hall at 113th Street and Broadway was vacated by the School of International Affairs. During this time, classes were held on campus and the holdings of the social work library were transferred to Butler.

CUSSW settled in McVickar during 1970, remaining there until 2004. With Mitchell Goldsberg appointed as the new dean, the School was off to an exciting start. Classrooms could barely contain the influx of students. The Austin Lectures became an anticipated annual event in Low Library, the Polier Lecture with Marion Wright Edelman drew hundreds of alumni and friends, and annual alumni conferences brought more and more alumni back for reunions each year.

The CUSSW building at 1255 Amsterdam Avenue
The CUSSW building at 1255 Amsterdam Avenue
The CUSSW building at 1255 Amsterdam Avenue

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH WITH THE DAY OF SERVICE?

Similar to years past, we hope to partner with Harlem YMCA to assist with promotion, membership, and volunteer placement at IS 195 Beacon to tutor and play with children. We plan to work again with HarlemLive, a nonprofit Web magazine staffed by teenagers and designed to serve Harlem by educating the public about, and getting it involved in, its community and other issues. In previous years, student volunteers have helped to clean and pack for an office move. This year we will be cleaning up a site in Harlem, and we will be working with community members to restore and enhance the Garden of Love, a neighborhood garden. The IS 195 program in Manhattanville is one of the Beacon after-school programs held throughout the city on Saturdays. Last year, volunteers tutored children and accompanied them to and from school activities.

HOW IS THIS PROJECT UNIQUE AMONG OTHER STUDENT INITIATIVES?

The event provides the CUSSW community another opportunity to step outside the walls of the School and give back to the community in which we reside—Harlem. It is a way for students, faculty, and friends to appreciate its beauty and vibrancy.

School was expanding its programs with an educational site at SUNY Purchase, and dual degree programs were developed with the School of Public Health, Business School, and Union Theological Seminary. Representatives, both student and faculty, were appointed to the University Senate, and there was increasing involvement in community action areas.

After holding the 100th anniversary celebration for CUSSW in 1998, a fundraising campaign was launched by former Dean Ronald Feldman for a new building to support the growth and vision of the School. The extraordinary support of donors from all sectors culminated in the construction of the first permanent home for CUSSW at 1255 Amsterdam Avenue. Officially opened in 2004, the impressive 11-story building is wireless enabled with spacious classrooms and conference rooms, a 54-seat computer lab, and its own 7,000-square-foot library. The building is the symbol of those early graduates’ dedication and passion, which still form the core of the profession today. As the School celebrates its 110th anniversary this year under the leadership of Dean Jeanette Takamura, CUSSW continues to forge ahead with pride in its accomplishments and confidence in its reputation as the first and finest graduate school of social work in the world. To support CUSSW now and in the future, the School is participating in the University’s Capital Campaign and has a goal of $35 million, the largest such campaign in the School’s history.
In the Media

MARIA BRAVE HEART was interviewed by KFYR-TV in Bismarck ND on historical trauma.

KATHRYN CONROY was interviewed by Norsay on lessons learned by child welfare agencies from child deaths.

VINCENT GUILAMO-RAMOS was interviewed by Spanish weeklies Hora Hispana and La Voz on the practitioner guide concerning parent-adolescent communication about sex for Latino families.

RONALD MINCY was interviewed by The Washington Post on the economic mobility report released by the Pew Charitable Trusts. He was also interviewed by CNN: Special Investigations Unit for a documentary series entitled Black in America, to air in July.

FRED SSEWEMALA was interviewed by the Daily Monitor, the largest independent daily in Uganda, about the SUUBI program.

JANE WALDFOGEL was interviewed by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer about the stress of parents in choosing the perfect kindergarten for their children.

Grants

FANG-PEI CHEN received a grant from the New York State Office of Mental Health for her study “Discharge from Assertive Community Treatment Services.” She also received a grant from the Columbia Center for Homelessness Prevention Studies for a study entitled “Establishing a Practice Theory of Critical Time Intervention.”

VICKY RIZZO received a grant from the Social Work Leadership Institute of the New York Academy of Medicine for a study entitled “The Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education” (with OVITA WILLIAMS).

International

ROGÉRIO PINTO presented preliminary results for his study on a community-focused model of disease prevention in Brazil at the Dissemination Conference in Mesquita, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

FRED SSEWAMALA participated in a workshop at an international conference entitled “Household Livelihoods in Crisis Situations: What Do We know and Need to Learn About Economic Interventions for Child Protection and Well-being?” The four-day conference in Kampala, Uganda, was sponsored by the Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health, USAID’s Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF), and the Academy for Educational Development (AED).

Conferences & Presentations

MARIA BRAVE HEART presented “Models for Healing Indigenous Survivors of Historical Trauma” at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck ND. She also moderated the Native/Indigenous Studies Conference at Columbia University in New York NY.


ANDRÉ IVANOFF presented “The Impact of an Expanded View of Vulnerability on Social, Behavioral and Educational Research” at the Annual Meeting on Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research in Boston MA. She also chaired a workshop entitled “The IRB Chair: Roles and Responsibility” at the conference.

ROGÉRIO PINTO presented “Using a 5-Step Framework for International HIV Prevention Research Collaboration in Brazil” at the 12th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research in Washington DC. His symposium presentation was entitled “HIV Prevention Research in Different Contexts: From Relationship-Building to Adapting and Testing Interventions in Brazil, Mongolia and Kazakhstan.”

Awards

BARBARA BERKMAN received the President’s Medal of Honor from the Society for Bachelor Program Directors in recognition of her efforts to increase the gerontological research capacity of Ph.D. social work faculty in undergraduate programs.
VICKY RIZZO presented “Non-Adherence as a Psychosocial Problem Among Patients in Neighborhood Health Centers” at the 12th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research in Washington DC. She also presented “Sex and Mental Wellness in Old Age: A Best Practices Presentation in Geriatric Mental Health” for the Geriatric Mental Health Alliance Education Program at Hunter College in New York NY.

FRED SSEWAMALA presented “Exploring Mentorship as a Supplement Component to Interventions Targeting Orphans and Vulnerable Children” (with STACEY ALICEA and PROSCOVIA NABUNYA); “The Role of Family Relations in Sexual Risk Taking among Orphans and Vulnerable Adolescents in Rural Uganda, Integrating Savings into Care and Support of Orphaned” (with Leyla Ismayilova); and “Vulnerable Children in Uganda: Lessons from the SEED/SUUBI Research Program” (with LEYLA ISMAYILOVA and STACEY ALICEA) at the 12th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research in Washington DC.

Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW) alumni Jamie Favaro ’04, Raysa S. Rodriguez ’05, Kimberly A. Steinhagen ’04, and Lisa White ’99 were named the 2007 Emerging Social Work Leaders by the National Association of Social Workers–New York Chapter. The annual award identifies individuals who demonstrate a unique commitment and dedication to the social work profession and to the improvement of social and human conditions at the local levels through practice, teaching, writing, research, program development, administration, and advocacy.

Jamie Favaro is the founder and executive director of the Washington Heights CORNER (Community Outreach, Resources, Needle Exchange, and (H)arm Reduction) project. CORNER is the first licensed needle exchange in Washington Heights and the only organization north of Harlem designed specifically to address drug user health. Lisa created this organization through client-driven practice, sound research methods, establishing partnerships with community, governmental, and health organizations, tireless advocacy, and her dedication to the principles of the social work profession.

Raysa S. Rodriguez serves as senior advisor on children’s issues to the deputy mayor for health and human services, Linda Gibbs, and to the family services coordinator of the City of New York, Jennifer Jones Austin. In this capacity, she has served as a catalyst for macro-level change, and has played an instrumental role in strengthening the City of New York’s Early Care and Education policy agenda.

Kimberly A. Steinhagen, LMSW, is the director of the Geriatric Mental Health Alliance of New York, an advocacy and education organization with over 2,800 members committed to improvements in geriatric mental health policy and practice. The Alliance, which she had an active role in developing, was formed in January 2004 by the Center for Policy and Advocacy of the Mental Health Associations of New York City and Westchester. Kimberly is also member of a number of advisory and planning groups, including New York City’s Adult Protective Services Advisory Council, the Community Advisory Committee of the Cornell Institute for Translational Research in Aging (CITRA), and the New York Southern Area Aging Network (NY-SAAN).

Lisa White, LMSW, has spent her 18-year career promoting the well-being, self-determination, and interests of vulnerable children and their families within New York City. Affiliated with Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center for eight years, she was the catalyst for obtaining the initial grant funding for launching that institution’s Healthy Families initiative. She serves as director of that program, which provides support and education services to expectant and parenting families. In addition, Lisa is a clinician at Northside Center for Child Development and an adjunct professor at Mercy College. She also serves as a private consultant to various organizations.

All four—who represented half of the number of awardees—were recognized at a fundraising dinner hosted by Dominic Carter, political anchor of NY1 News, on November 29, 2007. Congratulations to all!
What an exciting year this has been! As you’ve been reading from AlumniNotes and Spectrum, CUSSW is moving forward at a rapid pace. I’m so proud to be a part of it.

Recently, I had the opportunity to take part in one of the School’s latest initiatives: the Capstone Project. As you have read in this issue of Spectrum, Capstone is an integrative program that spans all methods and fields of practice. I was graciously invited to serve as a judge of presentations at the competition, in which the top three student groups were asked to present their interventions and respond to questions from the judges.

I knew that the presentations were going to be superb. After all, it is CUSSW! However I was not prepared for the truly remarkable level of professionalism and the degree of conceptualization and integration of knowledge/theory and practice that was exhibited by every student in the competition. Listening to them, I felt so proud that these students were only months away from being future colleagues and alumni of CUSSW. Please take a moment to read the summary of Capstone on pages 1 and 2.

As your time permits, I’d like to encourage you to become involved in the Alumni Association. There are several opportunities available to alumni:

• Networking Events: Annually, the Association hosts several networking events a year. RSVP, come down to the School, and meet our students face to face. I promise you will be impressed with the caliber, motivation, and accomplishments of our students.

• Alumni Contacts: The Office of Development and Alumni Relations keeps an ongoing list of alumni who have volunteered to be contacts for students and alumni. Making yourself available to your current and future colleagues is a great way to stay connected to the School as well as increase your visibility in the field.

• Alumni Outreach: As you may have noticed, we’re organizing more regional and local events every year. Even if the School is not scheduled to visit your area this year, the Alumni Office would be more than happy to help you reach out to other alumni in your area for a happy hour, lunch, or other such event.

• Recruitment/Retention: Many prospective applicants want the opportunity to speak with alumni about their student experience at CUSSW, life in NYC, etc. The Office of Admissions can always use alumni to speak to applicants and accepted students, and even sit on panels for admitted student events.

Remember, all of our events can be viewed online. If you would like to receive AlumniNotes or other information electronically, update your contact information by logging into AlumniConnect (www.alumniconnections.com/cussw) or call the Alumni Office at 212-851-2375. They are more than happy to assist you!

Sincerely,
Penny Schwartz ’78
President
Three Generations of Inspiration at CUSSW
by Sherry Saturno

The Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW) has historically drawn the most talented and promising students to its ranks. For the Linn family, attending CUSSW has become a tradition. Rebecca Linn-Walton (’09 MSW), her late grandmother Miriam Wechsler Linn (’41 MSW), and aunt Judith Stemerman (’67 MSW) all pursued social work education at CUSSW. We spoke with Rebecca and her grandfather, Louis Linn, M.D., the husband of the late Miriam Wechsler Linn and currently clinical professor emeritus at the Department of Psychiatry of Mount Sinai School of Medicine, about their connections to the School and its impact upon their lives.

Sherry Saturno: Your late grandmother Miriam and aunt Judith were both social workers. Did you feel this was a natural field for you to go into as well?

Rebecca Linn-Walton: Originally, I had considered becoming an English teacher. But my grandmother Miriam and aunt Judy, both of whom attended CUSSW, played influential roles in my life. CUSSW is a great place of learning and intellect, and my grandmother and aunt embodied this learning. I also think social work is a broader field of study than psychology, because it deals with everything.

SS: Dr. Linn, you have had an esteemed career as an author and psychiatrist. At the young age of 95, you continue to see patients and students.

Louis Linn: I am just a busy guy in many directions. My life has been a service to others. Many of my current colleagues are also former students of mine.

SS: How did you meet Miriam, your late wife?

LL: In January of 1941, I began my residency at the Psychiatric Institute and was assigned a student social worker, a Ms. Wechsler. I was told that she was home with the chicken pox for all of January, and didn’t meet her until February first. That day, I went up to the board to look for a patient’s chart. There was a prominent sign stating that it was not allowed for anyone to remove a chart from the station. I couldn’t find my chart, and was informed that Ms. Wechsler had taken it. I was indignant and called the Student Center. Miriam was terrified and thought that I must be in a rage. When we finally met, she was wearing a beautiful purple dress and gold necklace. I asked her, “Whose idea was it to accessorize with the gold necklace?” When she replied it was her idea, I responded, “Inspired.” That was our first conversation. I asked her to have lunch with me, and I fell in love. We were married for 65 years.

SS: Your late daughter, Judith, followed in the footsteps of her mother. What were some of her influences?

LL: Judith worked as a psychiatric social worker at Weill Cornell Medical College in White Plains, New York. I think my work in psychiatry and Miriam’s work in social welfare influenced her to integrate both fields. I most treasured our Sunday conference calls to discuss and share thoughts on various case studies.

SS: Rebecca, as a first-year student in the Clinical/Mental Health track, what do you seek to accomplish as a career goal?

RLW: At CUSSW, you are encouraged to stretch your mind. On my first day, professors told us to think about getting our Ph.D.s because we are needed in the field. My goal is to become a therapist and work in schools with young people and their families. I love working with teenagers and feel connected to the community and the world through my work.

SS: Philanthropy and service dedication truly extends throughout your family.

RLW: Yes. My dad, Robert, is an attorney who has been involved in a lot of public service work.

LL: My son served as commissioner of labor affairs for New York City and worked with Mayor Koch. When Mayor Koch retired, Robert developed a group to renegotiate labor contracts. Robert also became involved with Columbia University in renegotiating contracts at the bequest of the president of Barnard, Judith Shapiro. After he had successfully assisted with the renegotiations, the president asked him how she could best thank him.

SS: What was Robert’s response?

LL: He asked President Shapiro to express her gratitude by calling his mother, Miriam, and telling her, “Your son is very smart.”
class notes

‘50s, and ‘60s


ROBERT FISHMAN ‘58 and his wife, Barbara, have published a book entitled The Common Good Corporation: The Experiment Has Worked! A Book of Essays by Robert A. Fishman and Barbara Fishman. The book was released in August 2008. It is available through Amazon.com.

CAROLINE RAMSAY REMMIA ‘62 is founder of the CradsT Center, launched in 1986 to serve low-income artisans all over the world. Caroline has written several books on crafts development and marketing. She also runs a family foundation, making grants to local community and international development organizations. Her husband was in the Foreign Service and later a vice president of the World Bank. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

MIMI ABRAMOVITZ ‘67, ‘81 DSW, currently a faculty member at the Temple Veterans Health Program after 32 years. She is recently retired from the Veteran Affairs’ Women’s Health Program. Her book, “History of Low-Income Women’s Activism Since 1900,” at the Academics and Faculty Development. Mindy is currently the director of field education and faculty member of the School of Social Work, Georgia State University. She runs a family foundation, making grants to nonprofits on board governance issues and serves on CSWE’s Council on Conferences and Faculty Development.

TERRIE WILLIAMS ‘77 has launched a national campaign entitled “Healing Starts With Us.” The campaign is a powerful movement to provide a support network that encourages open dialogue about emotional distress within the African American community. On the heels of her latest book, Black Pain: It Just Looks Like We’re Not Hurting, the overwhelming response to her book from people relieved to talk about their pain for the first time revealed an urgency to educate and raise awareness in a way that transforms lives. The event was hosted by Susan L. Taylor, founder of the National CARES Mentoring Movement and editor emeritus of Essence magazine, and Geoffrey Canada, educator and founder of the Harlem Children’s Zone.

JOY SOREL GOLDSTEIN ‘79 is executive director of Forever Families Through Adoption, Inc., a New York State-licensed, not-for-profit adoption placement agency. For more information, visit www.foreverfamiliesthroughadoption.org.

GEOFFREY GRIFF ‘81, ‘83 DSW, is a professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. He was named 2007 Educator of the Year by the Maryland Chapter of NASW and has a forthcoming book entitled Buddy System: Men and Their Male Friends (Oxford University Press).

ROBERT COLLIN ‘83 published a two-volume reference book set titled BattleGround Environment (Greenwood Press). This follows another book with Greenwood titled The EPA: Cleaning Up America’s Act (2006). Both of these references are the first publication of their kind. Forthcoming in 2008 is a three-volume reference on sustainability entitled Frameworks for the Future that is co-authored with his spouse, Robin Morris Collin. This reference series will include a volume each on equity and fairness, economy and business, and ecology and environment.

‘70s and ’80s

CLAUDIA (MARAVIGLIA) DEWANE ‘75 recently retired from the Veteran Affairs Women Veterans Health Program after 32 years. She is currently a faculty member at the Temple University School of Social Administration.

SUSAN HUGHES ’76, ’81 DSW received an R18 award from CDC to translate and diffuse Fit and Strong’s evidence-based exercise/behavior change program for older adults with osteoarthritis. Fit and Strong has also just won the American Society on Aging Pfizer Award for Excellence in Innovation and Programming. The award will be presented at their national meeting in March 2008 in Washington DC.

DAVID WAGNER ’76 has a new book out entitled Ordinary People: In and Out of Poverty in the Gilded Age (Paradigm Press). Dave is a professor of social work and sociology and MSW coordinator at the University of Southern Maine School of Social Work.

DR. MINDY R. WERTHEIMER ’76 is the author of The Board Chair Handbook (2nd ed., BoardSource). The completely revised book focuses on the roles and responsibilities of the nonprofit board chair, the partnership with the organization’s chief executive, and the practical knowledge and skills for effective board leadership. Mindy is currently the director of field education and faculty member of the School of Social Work, Georgia State University in Atlanta. She is a consultant to nonprofits on board governance issues and serves on CSWE’s Council on Conferences and Faculty Development.

MARY REBECCA (BECKY) GARRISON ’92 has published her new book, New Atheist Crusaders and Their Unholy Grail. For more information, visit www.beckygarrison.com.

RICHARD DICKENS ‘94 was elected to the Social Work Academy of the National Academies of Practice as a distinguished practitioner-member of the NAP for his program development work in the field of oncology and his ongoing commitment to volunteer work in the U.S. and abroad. He was installed at a banquet on November 5, 2007, in Arlington VA. In November 2007 Richard was invited by Oncology Social Work Australia (OSWA) to present “Mindful Techniques for Creative Communication in Illness and End of Life” at their conference in Adelaide. He subsequently went on to present workshops to multidisciplinary groups in Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne.

MANDY BLAKE-GERMAN ‘97 was recently hired as the executive director of the nonprofit Tri-County Community Network (TCN), a consortium of 75 community agencies dedi-
cated to addressing issues relating to teens, eldercare, the environment, and society. Serving Montgomery, Berks, and Chester—TCN works to educate community residents through collaborative efforts on the part of community agencies and nonprofits.

RANDI J. RABINOWITZ ’99 has joined the law firm of Spector, Gadon and Rosen, P.C., as an associate in the banking and financial services and real estate practice areas. Randi is also a volunteer attorney for the Support Center for Child Advocates, merging her knowledge of social work and law. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

SHERRY SATURNO ’00 is co-authoring a book entitled Senior Care Services: Laws and Respons. This edition of the Select Practice Series focuses on ethical and operational concerns associated with delivering health care services to the senior population. Sherry’s chapter will address ethical dilemmas social workers face as they provide services to community-based elders. The book will be published by the National Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care in early 2009.

Sherry has also had a literature review accepted for publication this year in The New Social Worker magazine, and has recently been named an editor at Identity Theory magazine, where she will concentrate on social justice-related issues. She currently is the director of social work for Elant at Brandynwinc in Westchester.

MEREDITH SHERMAN ’02 has been honored by the Partnership for After School Education (http://www.passnet.org) for her work with Groove With Me, Inc. The award ceremony was held at Chelsea Piers on Tuesday April 8, 2008.

NATHAN SMITH ’02 (below, center) was named the Educator of the Year. He currently works as a teacher in New York City (KIPP STAR) and was honored at the Junior Achievement’s annual gala.

HOLLEE MCGINNIS ’03 wrote the article “Blood Ties and Acts of Love” published in The New York Times on December 4, 2007. In the article, Holler, an adult adoptee, prepares to give birth and considers family ties formed by both blood ties and adoption.

MICHELLE MULDROW ’03 began working as a clinician at Bellevue’s Forensic Psychiatry Clinic after graduation. While there, she administered psychiatric evaluations to defendants and provided social services and referrals. Currently, Michelle is a third-year medical student at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine.

MATT LUNDQUIST ’04 was recently featured for a Time Out New York cover story on finding a therapist (“Get Sane!” January 24–30, 2009). He was among a panel of therapists who fielded a variety of typical session questions. Matt is director of the Social Therapy Group, a group practice in the Flatiron District that works with the East Side Institute for Group and Short-Term Psychotherapy training social therapists.

MATTHEA MARQUART ’05 is director of training for BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life), a nonprofit running organization with the following mission: to enhance the educational achievements, self-esteem, and life opportunities of elementary school children living in low-income urban communities. Matthea also serves as the 2008 vice president of marketing for ASTENY, the NY Metro chapter of the American Society for Training and Development. Her training-related articles have been published in T+D Magazine and LEARN.

SONALI DESAI ’07 is a prevention social worker at New Alternatives for Children. Sonali was mentioned in an article in The New York Times entitled “Hopes Diminish, but She Still Pursues an American Dream,” by Ericka W. Mitchell. The article profiled a single mother and Jamaican immigrant as she struggles to make ends meet while raising her three children, one of whom is autistic. Sonali contacted the New York Times Neediest Cases Fund to pay the family’s electric bill. The executive director of New Alternatives for Children is ARLENE GOLDSMITH ’61, PH.D.

In Memoriam

We acknowledge with great sadness the passing of the following alumni and faculty. They will be missed for the pride that they brought to the School for their work.

Jean Giny Abel ’49
Mary G. Arnold ’43
Mary Blair ’59
Herbert J. Booth ’56 GS, ’58
Betty P. Bredaheur ’71 DBW
Rose Locker Darion ’49
Philippe Eggleston H ’41
Edith L. Epstein ’43
Emer Fedem ’51
Elizabeth T. Fernald ’46
James A. Gibson ’73
Robert Handman ’59
Ruth S. Hardy ’47
Sarah Katherine Herrlinger ’58
Edith M. Hunt ’41
Barbara Homer Randall Joseph ’61, ’74, ’80 DBW
Daryl R. Klonsky ’73
Magarette Kowert ’43
Jean Duncan Lange ’86
Shirley M. Libowitz ’55
Francois M. Loughlen
Gertrude Tonkin Mclean ’60
Natalie Gavrin Nixon ’43
Peter Bryant Read ’90
Nathan Rosenberg ’43
Margarette Kowett ’43
Joan Dunjac Lange ’86
Diane C. Schwartz ’89
Gordon L. Smith ’61
Carol B. Stanford ’47
Florence S. Suzuki ’50
Abram D. Taylor ’62
Suzanne Thornton ’91
Leah U. Telpin ’59
Beth Wacker ’66, ’74, ’80 DBW
Eloise O. Williams ’45, ’77
NATHAN SMITH ’02

MATT LUNDQUIST ’04

SONALI DESAI ’07

In Memoriam

We acknowledge with great sadness the passing of the following alumni and faculty. They will be missed for the pride that they brought to the School for their work.

Jean Giny Abel ’49
Mary G. Arnold ’43
Mary Blair ’59
Herbert J. Booth ’56 GS, ’58
Betty P. Bredaheur ’71 DBW
Rose Locker Darion ’49
Philippe Eggleston H ’41
Edith L. Epstein ’43
Emer Fedem ’51
Elizabeth T. Fernald ’46
James A. Gibson ’73
Robert Handman ’59
Ruth S. Hardy ’47
Sarah Katherine Herrlinger ’58
Edith M. Hunt ’41
Barbara Homer Randall Joseph ’61, ’74, ’80 DBW
Daryl R. Klonsky ’73
Magarette Kowert ’43
Jean Duncan Lange ’86
Shirley M. Libowitz ’55
Francois M. Loughlen
Gertrude Tonkin Mclean ’60
Natalie Gavrin Nixon ’43
Peter Bryant Read ’90
Nathan Rosenberg ’43
Margarette Kowett ’43
Joan Dunjac Lange ’86
Diane C. Schwartz ’89
Gordon L. Smith ’61
Carol B. Stanford ’47
Florence S. Suzuki ’50
Abram D. Taylor ’62
Suzanne Thornton ’91
Leah U. Telpin ’59
Beth Wacker ’66, ’74, ’80 DBW
Eloise O. Williams ’45, ’77
Barbara Hunter Randall Joseph, Ph.D., of Shinnecock and Manhattan died on Sunday, December 2, at her home in Manhattan after a seven-month battle with stage IV uterine sarcoma. She was 71.

A devoted advocate for her tribe, the Shinnecock Indian Nation, Dr. Joseph was also a tireless champion of the unjustly accused and the oppressed.

A professor of social welfare at Columbia University, where she earned her doctorate, Dr. Joseph was the director of numerous programs during a career that spanned 45 years, including the Institute of Applied Social Sciences at Hofstra University/District 65 and Environmental Studies at the College of New Rochelle. She served on the faculty of SUNY at Old Westbury, on the board of the American Indian Community House, and was board chair of Elden Share the Arts. She also developed strategies for the National Association of Social Work's "Undoing Racism" project.

Among the honors earned by Dr. Joseph are the Social Work Action for Welfare Rights Social Worker of the Year Award and the Michael Schwerner Award, named for the young social activist murdered in Mississippi. She devoted her life to teaching and social activism.

Acting on these principles, Dr. Joseph was instrumental in creating the Shinnecock Shellfish Hatchery and Environmental Center on the Shinnecock Reservation, a coastal ecology project intended to revivify Shinnecock Bay with oysters and simultaneously teach young Shinnecocks about the environment and their cultural heritage:

"Mom was one of a kind and is irreplaceable," said her daughter, Allison. "Her brilliant spirit and tireless efforts to improve the world one person at a time will never be forgotten."

In addition to her daughter, Allison, she is survived by a brother, Herbert, of Shinnecock; a sister, Kim Randall of Manhattan; a sister-in-law, Rosalind Randall of Shinnecock; former husband and friend Stephen Joseph of Manhattan; and hundreds of cousins, friends, and colleagues. She was also a grandmother-to-be.

After a private family ceremony in Riverhead, interment of ashes will be near the grave of her mother, Jane Hunter.

B
Establishing a Legacy Through Scholarships

Since its beginnings in 1898, CUSSW has attracted the brightest, most motivated students to the complex, challenging, and ever-dynamic field of social work. In recent years our students have come to the School from a wide array of backgrounds. They share a noble desire to make the world a better place. They work in 450 agencies throughout the tri-state area and contribute 450,000 hours of service to our communities annually. They are prepared, while they are with us, to become leaders and innovators in practice, policy, education, administration, and research.

Our students are highly motivated to make a positive impact on the world. It is not uncommon for them to make enormous financial sacrifices to attend the School. Yet the profession typically provides modest financial benefits, making their debt burden seem insurmountable.

Scholarship support enabled thousands of our alumni to attend CUSSW. We thank the many donors for their generosity in establishing the following scholarship endowments, and those who support student financial aid in a variety of ways. Thank you for supporting the education of current and future social work leaders. Through your support, you enable a better world for all.

ENDOWED STUDENT AID FUNDS

Virginia Bellsmith Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1986 by a gift from Mollie Brown Parkes ’51 in memory of Professor Virginia Bellsmith ’46, and later augmented by her niece, Ruth Eller

Elinor Kridel Bernheim Fellowship
Established in 1986 by a gift from Elinor Kridel Bernheim, a former CUSSW Advisory Council member, via the Bernheim Foundation

Edith Abraams Scholarship Fund
Established in 2001 by a bequest of Edith Abraams ’44

Edith Adler Memorial Fund
Established in 2001 by a bequest of Edith Adler ’38

Alumni Association Commemorative Scholarship
Established in 1964 by commemorative gifts and bequests. Ongoing gifts from CUSSW alumni and friends

Anonymous Scholarship and Fellowship Funds
Established in 1964 and in 1993 by anonymous gifts

Sandra H. Bakalar Fund
Established in 1987 by a gift from David and Sandra Bakalar ’57

Virginia Bellsmith Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1986 by a gift from Mollie Brown Parkes ’51 in memory of Professor Virginia Bellsmith ’46, and later augmented by her niece, Ruth Eller

Elinor Kridel Bernheim Fellowship
Established in 1986 by a gift from Elinor Kridel Bernheim, a former CUSSW Advisory Council member, via the Bernheim Foundation

Edith Abraams Scholarship Fund
Established in 2001 by a bequest of Edith Abraams ’44

Edith Adler Memorial Fund
Established in 2001 by a bequest of Edith Adler ’38

Alumni Association Commemorative Scholarship
Established in 1964 by commemorative gifts and bequests. Ongoing gifts from CUSSW alumni and friends

Anonymous Scholarship and Fellowship Funds
Established in 1964 and in 1993 by anonymous gifts

Sandra H. Bakalar Fund
Established in 1987 by a gift from David and Sandra Bakalar ’57

Eveline M. Burns Memorial Scholarship
Established in 1987 by a bequest of Professor Emeritus Dr. Eveline M. Burns ’69 HON and Arthur R. Burns ’25 CC, ’54 GF, ’79 HON

Helen Lehman Buttenwieser Scholarship Fund
Established in 1983 by a bequest from former Trustee Benjamin J. Buttenwieser ’19 CC, ’77 HON in memory of his wife, Helen Lehman Buttenwieser, and augmented by their son, Dr. Paul A. Buttenwieser, as an interschool scholarship

Mary Antoinette Cannon Fellowship
Established in 1963 by a gift from Janet Thornton

Phyllis and Joseph Caroff Centennial Fellowship Fund in Health and Mental Health
Established in 1998 by a gift from Phyllis ’47, ’69 DSW and Joseph Caroff
Myrna I. Lewis

A consummate CUSSW alumna, Dr. Myrna I. Lewis was a renowned psychotherapist, gerontologist, professor, and author. Her work centered on women entering the professions, men and women executives, and the issues of midlife and older women. She obtained several degrees from the Columbia University School of Social Work, including a master’s in 1965 and Ph.M. and Ph.D. in 2000. For many years she was an assistant clinical professor at Mount Sinai Medical Center’s Department of Community Medicine.

Her untimely death in 2005 inspired her husband, Dr. Robert N. Butler, to create the Myrna I. Lewis Endowed Scholarship Fund. Butler, a leading medical expert on aging, has established several charitable gift annuities, the future proceeds of which will benefit the scholarship fund. “It would mean a lot to Myrna to know that a fund to assist disadvantaged students had been established in her name,” said Butler. “Through her work she knew firsthand the challenges of poverty. And she loved Columbia.”

A charitable gift annuity provides the donor with an income stream for life, while ensuring a gift to important priorities such as student aid. “I plan to create new charitable gift annuities on a regular basis,” says Butler, “ensuring that Myrna’s legacy will benefit deserving students in perpetuity.”

Phyllis and Joseph Caroff Doctoral Fellowship
Established in 2002 by a gift from Phyllis ’47, ’69 DSW and Joseph Caroff

Jennifer Corn Carter Fellowship
Established in 2000 by a gift from Jennifer Corn Carter

Maureen A. Cogan Fellowship
Established in 2000 by a gift from Maureen A. Cogan ’77, Trustee

Dorothy D. Compton Fellowship
Established in 1975 by a bequest of Dorothy Dufoirth Compton and the Compton Foundation

Paige F. Cook Jr. Fellowship
Established in 1995 by gifts from friends and colleagues to honor Paige F. Cook Jr. ’74

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. De Forest Fund
Established in 1954 by an anonymous gift

Alice White and Georgia White Dunmore Family Fund
Established in 1999 by Dr. Charlotte J. Dunmore ’54

Charlotte S. Entemann Scholarship
Established in 1985 by a bequest of Charlotte S. Entemann ’44

Esther Kalls Finkel, Class of 1949, Memorial Scholarship
Established in 2001 by Ted V. Finkel in memory of his mother, Esther Kalls Finkel ’49

Eunice K. Fiorito Advocacy Scholarship
Established in 2008 by a bequest of Eunice K. ‘66 and James Fiorito, in memory of Eunice

Sylvia D. and Mose J. Firestone Centennial Fellowship
Established in 1999 by the Leonstine L. Sassell ’23 bequest fund in honor of Sylvia ’39 and Mose Firestone

Ruth Fizdale Doctoral Dissertation Support Fund
Established in 2000 by Helen Rehr ’45, DSW ’70 from the residuum of the Ruth Fizdale Estate and from commemorative gifts

James A. Gibson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Established in 2008 by a gift from Patricia Brusninsky in loving memory of her eternal beloved soulmate, James A. Gibson ’73 MSW

Ida and Mitchell I. Ginsberg Social Policy Fund
Established in 1994 by a gift from Ida R. and Dean Emeritus Mitchell Ginsberg ’41

Judith J. Ginsberg Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1984 by family and friends in memory of Judith Ginsberg ’68

The Lilian Kitt Golden Scholarship Award
Established in 2003 by a bequest of Lilian Kitt Golden

Agustin Gonzalez and Rita Ortiz Memorial Scholarship
Established in 1988 by Rita Ortiz ’47 in memory of her brother, Agustin Gonzalez ’56

Good Neighbor Federation Fellowship
Established in 1954 by a gift from the Good Neighbor Federation, Inc.

Bernice Wolf Gordon Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1985 by a bequest of Bernice Wolf Gordon ’43
Hyman Grossbard Fellowship
Established in 1987 by an anonymous gift in honor of Professor Emeritus Hyman Grossbard '37

Dorothy Lieberman Grosskin Scholarship
Established in 2004 by a bequest of Samuel Grosskin '34 DDS in memory of his wife, Dorothy '41

John F. Heimerdinger Centennial Fellowship
Established in 1997 by a gift from John P. Rosenthal in honor of John F. Heimerdinger '56

Melvin Herman Memorial Scholarship
Established in 1983 by a gift from the Coach Leatherware Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Communal Fund of New York and Mr. and Mrs. Miles Cahn, in memory of Dr. Melvin Herman '47, '59 DSW

Esther M. Hilton Memorial Fund
Established in 1959 by an anonymous gift in memory of Esther M. Hilton

Eugenie Hochfeld Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1982 by a gift from Henry Hochfeld in memory of his wife, Eugenie Hochfeld '45

Henry Hochfeld Fellowship Fund for the Brookdale Institute
Established in 1991 by a bequest of Henry Hochfeld

Linda and Peter Hoffman Endowment Fund
Established in 2006 by a gift from Linda '68 and Peter Hoffman '63 BU

Dorothy Hutchinson Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1985 by a gift from Ruth Harris Ortmann '45 in memory of Professor Dorothy Hutchinson '51 NRS

Ruth and Herbert Insel Scholarship
Established in 1997 by a gift from Ruth Insel '46

Lucile M. Jirikow Scholarship
Established in 1994 by a bequest of Lucile M. Jirikow '46

James A. Jones Fellowship
Established in 1988 by a gift from Thelma L. Jones in memory of her husband, Dr. James A. Jones '55 GF

Alfred J. Kahn Doctoral Fellowship Fund
Established in 2002 in honor of Professor Emeritus Alfred J. Kahn '46, '52 DSW

Mirza Karagheusian Memorial Scholarship
Established in 1964 by a gift from Leila Karagheusian in memory of her father

Zabelle Karagheusian Fellowship
Established in 1987 by a bequest from Selma M. Nechamkin '43 in memory of her husband

D'Elbert Keenan Fellowship
Established in 1965 by a gift of Leila Karagheusian '44 in memory of her mother

Richard Kohnstamm Scholarship
Established in 2008 by a gift of Richard L. Kohnstamm '53

Herbert J. Booth

Herbert J. Booth provided generous support to the Columbia University School of Social Work by creating five charitable gift annuities in his lifetime. These gifts will now benefit the general scholarship fund at CUSSW.

Herbert was a Columbia graduate, earning a bachelor's degree in 1936 from the School of General Studies and a master's degree in 1938 from the School of Social Work. He also attended Brooklyn Law School while earning his master's in social work. His impressive career included the directorship of the Flint MI State Child Guidance Clinic and serving as administrative assistant to the director of the Michigan Department of Mental Health.

Herbert was licensed to practice law both in New York and Michigan, and was a member of the Michigan Bar Association for over 50 years. His law practice in Michigan centered largely on trusts, wills, divorces, and child custody cases, and included a pivotal case argued before the Michigan Supreme Court.

Herbert was also an active community volunteer and served on numerous boards, among them the Community Education and Substance Abuse Commission; NCAA (as board chairman); and the Flint Community Foundation. He was as well a counselor for the Mental Hygiene Society for local agencies. Herbert and his wife, Nancy, were active patrons of the arts, supporting the Flint Institute of the Arts and the Flint Institute of Music.

CUSSW is honored by the accomplishments of our alumnae, Herbert J. Booth, and most grateful for his foresight in providing critical scholarship support for many future generations of gifted students.
James A. Gibson

"Life is too important to be taken seriously." This Oscar Wilde quote was one of James Gibson’s favorite mantras. Although Jim was not one to take himself too seriously, he took his commitment to providing therapy, teaching, and writing with great resolve. The James A. Gibson Memorial Scholarship Fund was created by Jim’s life partner, Patricia Brzezinsky, to honor him personally as well as his career as both a psychotherapist and professor.

Jim received his master’s degree from CUSSW in 1973. He held a private practice in psychotherapy and was also a graduate school professor at SUNY Stony Brook, where he taught human behavior and the social environment. As a sought-after speaker, he presented many workshops on human behavior. Jim’s unique gift of humor was an integral part of his life. He had an amazing sense of timing and delivery. And his legacy of intellect, caring, and humor continues to help people cope with life.

"Jim was proud of his master’s degree from CUSSW," said Brzezinsky. "Jim’s work was his lifeblood, and now his memory can be honored through supporting the financial needs of students to help them help others."

Jesusa Ortiz Kolomeyer Scholarship
Established in 2000 by a gift from Dr. Norton Kolomeyer ’51 CC, ’55 P&S in memory of his wife, Jesusa Ortiz Kolomeyer ’52

Dr. Virginia Lee Laurence Fund
Established in 2003 by a bequest of Dr. Virginia Lee Laurence ’52, ’71 DSW

Luna B. Leach Student Loan Fund
Established in 1985 by a gift from Luna Bowdoin Leach ’57

Porter R. Lee Fellowship Award
Established in 1958 by the Porter R. Lee Fund and Alumni Association Student Loan Fund

Myrna I. Lewis Endowed Scholarship Fund
Established in 2006 by Dr. Robert N. Butler ’49 CC, ’53 P&S, family, and friends in memory of Myrna I. Lewis ’65, ’00 DSW

Benjamin and Agnes Louard Fellowship
Established in 1991 by a gift from Professor Agnes Louard ’48

V. Theodore Low Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1985 by a gift from the Low Foundation in memory of Dr. Theodore L. Low ’47 GF

EtheL Lucas Mathiasen Memorial Scholarship
Established in 1999 by a gift from Charlotte M. Hamill ’58 in memory of former associate and friend Ethel Lucas Mathiasen

Jo Ellen Gibson Mounte Scholarship
Established in 2000 by a gift from Jo Ellen Gibson Mounte ’57

John B. Montgomery Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1986 by a bequest of John B. Montgomery ’50

Eli M. Nathan Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1954 by a gift from the Good Neighbor Federation, Inc., in memory of Eli M. Nathan

Overbrook Fellowship for Advanced Study in Clinical Social Work
Established in 1988 by a gift from The Overbrook Foundation through the generous assistance of Arthur G. Altschul and Kathryn ’73 and Robin Graham

Walter E. and Willie Greene-Day Perry Grant Fund
Established in 1996 by a bequest of Willie Greene-Day Perry ’27

Anna Elizabeth Rapp Fellowship
Established in 1979 by a bequest of Paul L. ’10 CC, ’23 SW and Burnis Benson Rapp in memory of Mr. Rapp’s mother

Muriel C. Reed Scholarship
Established in 2000 by family, friends, and former students in memory of Dean Muriel C. Reed ’73

Helen Rehr Scholarship Fund
Established in 2004 by a gift from Helen Rehr ’45, ’70 DSW

Carolyn F. Reilly Fund for Scholarships for Medical Social Workers
Established in 2006 by a bequest of Carolyn F. Reilly

Blanca Rosenberg Scholarship
Established in 1999 by a bequest of Blanca Rosenberg ’55

The Sylvia Rosenberg Endowed Scholarship
Established in 2006 by a bequest of Sylvia Rosenberg ’58

20
Dr. Maurice V. Russell Fellowship
Established in 1986 by friends and colleagues in memory of past Trustee Dr. Maurice V. Russell ‘50

Ruth Levin Sagner Centennial Scholarship
Established in 1985 by a gift from Alan Sagner ’91 GS, in the name of his wife, Ruth Sagner ‘76, in honor of their 40th anniversary

Louise G. Scheinberg Fellowship
Established in 2000 by a gift from the late Labe Scheinberg ’56 RES, in memory of his wife, Louise G. Scheinberg.

Barbara Smith Scholarship
Established in 1984 by a bequest of Barbara Smith ’35

Isabel Stann Schola rschhip
Established in 2006 by a gift from Jo Ellen Gibson Montes ’57, in memory of Professor Isabel Stann.

Blanche S. and Joseph B. Thorman Fellowship
Established in 1974 by a bequest of Blanche S. Thorman

Hymn J. Weiner Memorial Fellowship
Established in 1984 by family, friends, and colleagues in memory of Professor Hymn J. Weiner ’51, ’64 DSW

Mas L. Wien Prize Fund in Family Planning, Counseling, and Population Control
Established in 1987 by Lawrence A. Wien ’25 CC, ’27 LAW, ’74 HON, family, and friends in memory of his wife, Mas L. Wien

Elma Kahn Wolf Centennial Scholarship in Clinical Social Work
Established in 1997 by a gift from Elma Kahn Wolf ’43

---

**ANNUAL STUDENT AID FUNDS**

**AARP Policy Student Scholarship**
Established in 2006 by a gift from the AARP

**Norma Chatoff Memorial Emergency Loan Gift**
Established in 1983 by a gift from the Norma Chatoff ’79 Fund

**The Doctoral Scholarship Fund**
Established in 2004 by various donors

**Louis Marino Favre Memorial Loan Fund**
Established in 1987 by various donors

**Beatrice R. Hahn Memorial Loan Fund**
Established in 1960 by various donors

**Esther M. Hilton Memorial Loan Fund**
Established in 1960 by an anonymous gift in honor of Esther M. Hilton

**Jane M. Hoey Student Loan Fund**
Established in 1968 by a gift from Jane M. Hoey ’66

**Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women Scholarship Gifts**
Established in 1999 by a gift from the Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women

**Charles H. Jordan Student Loan**
Established in 1984 by gifts from Robert Langer ’74 and various donors

**Charlotte and Jeremiah Kaplan Fellowship Program Gift**
Established in 1996 by a gift from the Jeremiah Kaplan Foundation

**Howard Karagheusian Student Loan Fund**
Established in 1966 by a gift from Dr. Howard Karagheusian ’44 in memory of his brother

**Marion E. Kenworthy Loan Fund**
Established in 1972 by various donors

**Naomi Lang Memorial Student Loan Fund**
Established in 1973 by a gift from Lena Gurin Five

**LCU Foundation Grant for Housing**
Established in 2004 by a gift from the LCU Foundation

**Lowenstein Loan Repayment Assistance Fellowship**
Established in 2000 by a gift from Helen ’78 and Louis Lowenstein BU ’47, LAW ’53

**L. Courtney McKee and L. McKee Memorial Loan Gift**
Established in 1989 by the family and friends of L. Courtney McKee

**Social Work General Loan Fund**
Established in 1969 by various donors

**Sophia M. Robinson Loan Fund**
Established in 1964 by various donors in honor of Dr. Sophia M. Robinson ’29, ’36 GF

**Henry Rosner Emergency Loan Gift**
Established in 1982 by various donors

**Roslyn Winograd Scholarship**
Established in 2000 by Carol Adelman ’68 in memory of her mother, Roslyn Winograd

**Victoria Foundation Loan Fund**
Established in 1957 by a gift from the Victoria Foundation, Inc.

---

Please join the above donors in providing critically important student aid. Gifts may be pledged and paid over multiple years.
For more information on how you can provide scholarship support, please call Elaine Yanis, CUSSW Director of Development, at 212-851-2370 or efy3@columbia.edu.
CUSSW Capital Campaign at a Glance

**GOAL:** $35 million

**TIME FRAME:** Through June 30, 2012
As part of the Campaign for Columbia University launched in fall 2006, the Campaign for the School of Social Work will enhance CUSSW’s core mission and provide support for students, faculty, academic programs, and the building fund.

Help us launch CUSSW’s 110th anniversary with a commemorative gift that creates a scholarship fund in perpetuity, or names a space in the CUSSW building. Your gift helps sustain our tradition of excellence and provides opportunities that faculty, students, and alumni expect. Help CUSSW continue to be the “first and finest” school of social work.

**KEY INITIATIVES**

**Student aid:** $18 million
Join the many donors who have established scholarship funds, enabling thousands of our alumni to attend CUSSW. Create a master's student scholarship or doctoral fellowship for our talented students, 90 percent of whom require financial assistance.

- Annual master’s scholar—$25,000 each year for two years
- Endowed scholarship—$50,000
- Endowed doctoral fellowship—$250,000
- Endowed full master’s or doctoral fellowship—$1,000,000
- CUSSW Alumni Association Commemorative Scholarship—gifts of any amount
Faculty Programs: $8 million

Enhance our academic and research initiatives by endowing a professorship.
  • Endowments—$1 million or more

Building Fund: $7 million

For the first time in its long history, CUSSW resides in a state-of-the-art building that was specifically designed with its academic needs in mind. A number of premier naming opportunities remain, including naming the building itself, main lobby, library stacks, and widely used seminar rooms and classrooms. Gifts will help complete financing for the CUSSW building and provide essential operating support for technology and other needs.
  • Naming opportunities—$50,000 or more
  • Named seat in our largest seminar room—$10,000
  • Gift for CUSSW Alumni Association Student Lounge—any amount

CUSSW Annual Fund: $2 million

Your gifts to the CUSSW Annual Fund are critical and powerful, as they allow the School to provide funding where it is most needed. Unrestricted funds can be immediately used to help bridge gaps and provide for flexibility in the operating budget, bolster services that enhance the quality and experience of student life, and provide for programs that foster relationships with alumni. Gifts of all amounts are welcome.
  • Mary Richmond Society—$500 or more
  • Dean’s Circle—$1,000 or more

Make a Gift, Make a Difference

Endowments and naming gifts to the building fund may be pledged and paid over up to five years. For more information, please contact Elaine Yaniv, Director of Development at 212-851-2370 or ely3@columbia.edu.

The Columbia University
School of Social Work

Jeanette C. Takamura

M.K. Babcock
Kim Barberich
Laura Guiterman Freund
Sherry Saturno
Jessica Troiano
Megan Verma

Eileen Barroso

Spectrum is published twice a year by the Columbia University School of Social Work. Articles may be reprinted with the permission of the Office of Communications.

Please send your comments and letters to:
Columbia University School of Social Work
Mail Code 4600
1255 Amsterdam Avenue, Room 630
New York, NY 10027
spectrum@columbia.edu