



2010-2011

Year in Review

- **HUGE TURNOUT FOR
ALUMNI SPRING REUNION**
- **START THE COUNTDOWN
TO THE CELEBRATION NOW
WE'RE TURNING 100 IN 2014**
- **WE'RE ASKING BIG QUESTIONS
ABOUT BIG ISSUES**



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

FACTOR-INWENTASH
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



CONTENTS

02

THE YEAR THAT WAS

04

A NATION-WIDE EFFORT IS HELPING TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

06

PUTTING HIV RESEARCH BACK ON THE RADAR

08

GIVING VOICE TO HOMELESS BLACK WOMEN

10

RETIREMENT TOOLS ON THE HORIZON

12

TRAINING TOMORROW’S LEADERS

14

WE’RE ASKING BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT BIG ISSUES

18

SOCIAL WORK: ONE PROFESSION, MANY OPPORTUNITIES



Harnessing the power of the butterfly effect

“Does the flap of a butterfly’s wings in Brazil set off a tornado in Texas?” MIT meteorologist Edward Lorenz once famously asked. That question, from the father of chaos theory, continues to resonate as the powerful and beguiling concept known as the butterfly effect.

Here at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, we understand how seemingly small changes can have large, widespread, cross-generational consequences. In these pages, you’ll read about some of the professors, students, alumni and friends of the Faculty who are dedicated to producing that kind of effect. The stories you will find here focus on people who are generating positive change.

You’ll meet faculty members who are investigating in their research some of the world’s most crucial issues. Their passion and commitment are reflected in the phenomenal year it’s been for grants with 75 per cent of the Faculty holding either a CIHR or SSHRC grant.

These stories are examples of what’s going on now at the Faculty. Some of them demonstrate the power of research being done by our professors – people like assistant professor Barbara Fallon whose work on child abuse is helping generations of Canadian children and associate professor Charmaine Williams whose research is allowing us to hear the voices of homeless black women for the first time. Research by our faculty members is being felt around the globe. In the world’s most marginalized communities, professor Peter Newman is preparing the way for HIV prevention and professor Lynn McDonald is ensuring that information on aging is getting out to people all over the world.

Our students, as well, are passionately committed to generating positive change. Upcoming PhD research by Jennifer Ma will explore the experience of immigrant families in the social welfare system. PhD student Shira Hadas Moalem’s research will open our eyes to the concerns of a long-ignored group, LGBT caregivers. Recent PhD grad Carmen Logie’s innovative idea to train women living in Haitian displacement camps in HIV prevention has the potential to create changes across generations.

Friends and supporters of the Faculty who are generously providing financial aid and their time and experience as volunteers are also having a cross-generational effect. They’re helping with important initiatives and enabling our students to become the best possible social workers they can be.

Our newest specialization, Social Service Administration, has just finished a highly successful first year. This program, which is training social workers to become future leaders of community agencies, is turning out graduates who will administer through a social work lens.

There are many other exciting programs at the Faculty generating profound change. The JD/MSW combined law and social work degree program has celebrated its twentieth anniversary. Graduates from this challenging interdisciplinary program – one of the first of its kind in Canada – are bringing a highly valued and unique perspective to a vast range of diverse careers in which law and social work intersect, like child welfare and social policy. The podcast series – “Profiles in Social Work” in which alumni discuss their experiences as social workers – has marked its first successful year. We’ve included excerpts from some of those interviews. This series is having a huge effect, not only by disseminating information on our profession to people around the world but also by demonstrating the endless opportunities offered by a career in social work.

One of the most gratifying things about this past year has been the strong involvement of our alumni. It has been a great pleasure to see so many former students participating in the Faculty once more. Programs like the podcast series and a buddy system matching alumni in a mentoring role with recent grads are just some of the many important contributions alumni are making. We invite you to read these pages and discover what a truly exciting time it is right now at the Faculty.

Best wishes,

Faye Mishna
Dean, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work
Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Chair in
Child and Family
University of Toronto

A GREAT YEAR FOR GRANTS

The Year That Was

Wallace McCain

When Wallace McCain died on May 13, 2011 after a 14-month battle with pancreatic cancer, the Faculty lost a great friend. Wallace, the big-hearted son of a New Brunswick potato farmer, was one of Canada's most notable entrepreneurs and generous philanthropists. He was dedicated to that basic social work mission of making lives better – he once said, "I liked making money, but I love giving it away even more." He shared with his wife, the Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain, a strong devotion to improving the lives of children. The Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Chair in Child and Family – which they established – is enabling dean Faye Mishna, who holds the Chair, to conduct research on cyber bullying, cyber counselling and school-based interventions for students. "Wallace," says Mishna, "was an inspiration to us all."

Social policy advocate joins the Faculty

We are very pleased to announce that Daniyal (Dan) Zuberi has been appointed to a joint position as associate professor in the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work and the School of Public Policy and Governance, effective July 1, 2012. Zuberi's award-winning 2006 book, "Differences That Matter: Social Policy and the Working Poor in the United States and Canada" makes clear that social policy matters enormously when it comes to reducing working poverty. The book ends with a call for grassroots organizing. Zuberi obtained his doctorate at

Harvard University in Sociology and Social Policy with an award-winning dissertation. Since 2005 he has been an assistant professor at the University of British Columbia in Sociology. He will be on a one year William Lyon Mackenzie King Research Fellowship at Harvard University from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Social workers make good leaders

Cheryl Regehr, the vice-provost academic programs at U of T and former dean of the Faculty, received the Beverley Antle Leadership Award at the Ontario Association of Social Workers' AGM. The award recognizes the pivotal leadership roles played by social workers in non-traditional positions. Beverley Antle (who taught at the Faculty and was president of the association at her death) was a visionary force behind many social work initiatives.

New practicum coordinator brings experience and expertise

Mindy Coplevitch started on July 18th as the Practicum Office's new Coordinator. Mindy, who most recently was Director of Registration at the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, brings a wealth of experience and sound knowledge of the social work profession and the issues facing Ontario's social work graduates. We welcome her to the Faculty and wish her great success.

Shine On, Bright Star

Last year, Grand Challenges Canada put out a challenge. They asked for solutions to the most difficult problems in global health. Carmen Logie's idea was one of the solutions chosen. Logie, who just received her PhD at the Faculty, was selected as a Canadian Rising Star in Global Health for her project in Haiti. Grand Challenges Canada is providing \$100,000 over the next 18 months. If the project proves feasible, Logie can then apply for an additional \$1 million.

Haiti has the highest incidence of HIV in the western hemisphere. Infection rates in the internment camps are increasing and women are particularly vulnerable. Currently there is no HIV prevention program in Leogane (the recent earthquake's epicentre). Logie will train women in Leogane as healthcare workers who can educate other women about HIV prevention. Her innovative and unique approach will build skills among women in the camps. Logie was recently hired as an assistant professor at the University of Calgary.

16 thought-provoking new theses on subjects that matter

This past year, 3 MSW students and 13 PhD students successfully defended their theses and then graduated at the Fall and Spring Convocations. Their topics were as wide-ranging and challenging as the men and women who delved into them.

MSW

Brenda Polar Aliaga's thesis followed non-English speaking elderly Hispanic immigrants through the service system.

Cindy Del Villar considered the bullying experiences of immigrant adolescents.

Alexandra Mandelis examined reproductive health education and services in Canada.

PhD

Kristen Berg examined health management in the age of the internet.

Rose Ella Cameron provided an Anishinabe perspective on child welfare issues.

Terry Tien Cheng examined the experience of Chinese women with breast cancer.

Katharine Anne Dill considered kinship and foster care in Ontario.

David Yaw Firang's thesis focused on the situation of Ghanaian immigrants in Toronto.

Angelique Jenney's thesis honed in on child protection work in domestic violence cases.

Carmen Logie examined stigma and mental health outcomes among men who have sex with men in South India.

Magnus Mfofo-M'Carthy's thesis considered community treatment orders among Toronto's ethno-racial minority communities.

Ann Fudge Schormans examined social work, photography and people with intellectual disabilities.

Maurice Kwong-Lai Poon examined gay male partner abuse.

Kennedy Saldanha looked at special education support for street youth.

Tracy Smith-Carrier looked at welfare dependency in Ontario.

Jeanine Anne Webber examined co-occurring emotional disorders in young girls.

A BANNER YEAR FOR AWARDS

Five graduating MSW students were honoured by U of T for the outstanding contribution they have made through extra-curricular activities. **The Gordon Cressy Leadership Awards** acknowledge graduates who are committed to making a difference both across the University and the wider community.

Jaylin Bradbury, Jessica Barnes, Stacey Ivits, Rukshan Mehta, Sandy Rao

"MY PARTICIPATION IN STUDENT COUNCIL AND VARIOUS COMMITTEES REALLY ENRICHED MY LEARNING. IT GAVE ME PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE THAT SUPPORTED THE CONCEPTS TAUGHT IN COURSE WORK."

Stacey Ivits

PhD student **Paul Issahaku** was awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Grant from the Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation in New York.

PhD student **Deborah Sinclair** won a CIHR innovative research training fellowship through the Intersections of Mental Health Perspectives in the Addictions Research Training Program at the BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health.

PhD student **Lea Tufford** received the 2011 Society for Social Work and Research Doctoral Fellows Award for her dissertation proposal.

PhD student **Samantha Yee** was awarded the Best Psychosocial Paper at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society.

That's up from 67 per cent in the previous year. Our faculty are investigating profound issues that are affecting generations to come. They're doing this because of funding from Canada's most prestigious granting agencies.

Our Faculty is a leader in contributing to supporting and strengthening Canadian children and families in their homes, communities and in society. Graduates work in a variety of roles, including children’s mental health clinicians, couple and family therapists, child welfare practitioners and child and family policymakers.

Data provides context and enables research

A NATION-WIDE EFFORT IS HELPING TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

Until 1998, we didn’t have any national data on child abuse in Canada. We didn’t know how many families were being investigated because of suspected abuse and we didn’t know what characteristics they had. Why does that matter? Because not having that information made it incredibly difficult to develop effective policies and programs to help abused children.

THIS STUDY HAS FAR-REACHING REPERCUSSIONS THAT CAN AFFECT GENERATIONS OF CANADIAN CHILDREN TO COME.

That year, a landmark nation-wide report called the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect changed all of that. It provided

that information for the very first time – and a comprehensive picture began to emerge. That picture is even stronger now with the release of the third study (data has been collected in five year cycles).

The study profiles children and families who are being investigated. “It gives us a picture over time. It makes it possible to see trends,” says assistant professor Barbara Fallon.

The task of collecting this kind of information was mammoth. The Faculty has been one of the major university research sites over the past fifteen years and Fallon was the director and co-investigator of this monumental study (with principal investigator Nico Trocmé of McGill University and co-investigators Bruce MacLaurin of the

University of Calgary and Vandna Sinha from McGill University). “Countless graduate students at the Faculty have contributed enormously,” she says.

This study has far-reaching repercussions that can affect generations of Canadian children to come. “One of the most important things that a study like this does is to focus attention on the tremendous needs that these children have. It shows us how the system is actually responding. Having this information means that we can determine the best possible services and supports to meet those needs,” says Fallon, who was also the principal investigator on the Ontario-wide study, The Ontario Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect.



Researching the immigrant experience

When Jennifer Ma – who is a child of refugees from Vietnam – was volunteering at the Children’s Aid Society of Toronto, she found herself identifying with the immigrant families she worked with. Ma, who just finished her MSW at the Faculty, felt inspired by the struggles they were undergoing and the resilience they demonstrated. And then she discovered just how little information we have about the experience of immigrant children in the child welfare system. We don’t know how many immigrant children and their families are in the system right now and we don’t know what kind of barriers they are encountering.

Starting in September, we’ll be a little closer to understanding what they are going through. Ma’s been accepted into the PhD program at the Faculty and that’s when she begins researching the experience of immigrant families in the child welfare system for her doctoral thesis. The plan is to tell their stories. “I have learned about the value and power of research through my MSW work. Research is a way to give people who feel they are not being heard an opportunity to communicate their concerns.”



One of the foundations of the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work is a strong sense of social justice for all and a belief in the value of diversity. Students in this specialization are committed to working with people who are marginalized and disenfranchised to enable them to become agents of change.

What if scientists found a cure for HIV and people didn't want to use it?



PUTTING HIV RESEARCH BACK ON THE RADAR

Professor Peter Newman is working all over the world to prepare people to accept a cure for HIV when it is found. In marginalized communities in Canada, India, Thailand and South Africa that are most vulnerable to this terrible disease, he is laying the foundation now, trying to understand exactly how people think about HIV and its prevention.

THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED THIRTY MILLION PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV RIGHT NOW.

Newman believes that we have become far too complacent. When it

comes to treatment, we have made enormous strides but HIV is still exacting a massive toll on a global scale. Thirty million people around the world are living with the disease right now, according to Newman. Ninety-five per cent of those people are in the developing world. "HIV has come off our radar in the developed world but it hasn't gone away. There are still alarming risks to young people," he warns. "The world's most marginalized communities are disproportionately affected."

Meanwhile, scientists are searching for new ways to prevent HIV. If and when a vaccine or some other

method is discovered, Newman says that it isn't necessarily the case that everyone will want to use it. That's where the work he is doing now comes in. He's finding out exactly what kinds of things could help or hinder the acceptance of a vaccine. "Someone might think that a vaccine contains HIV – which it won't – and reject it for that reason," he says.

"We have to prepare people now – so whenever a vaccine appears, it is both acceptable and accessible to the people who need it the most," says Newman, who is the Canada Research Chair in Health and Social Justice.

At the front lines with marginalized youth

Rukshan Mehta's second year practicum gave her a chance to do what she'd always wanted – to work with people who are on the margins of our society. Mehta, who just graduated with an MSW, worked at a community health centre for street youth called Shout. The work meant a lot to her. One of the Faculty's five winners of the Gordon Cressy Leadership award – which is given out across the university to students with a strong commitment to community – Mehta entered social work because she wants to provide healthcare for the people in our society who are marginalized. At Shout, Mehta got to do some supportive counselling. She also did some inter-agency liaison work with an arts-based agency for homeless youth.

"I liked working at Shout," Mehta says, "because I saw the amount of potential underprivileged youth have in helping to change their circumstances and strive for a better life." She found it exciting to be part of an interdisciplinary team. "Medical staff, counsellors, housing workers, lawyers, child and youth workers all worked together to provide the best service possible for clients. Their holistic approach was impressive and allowed for many learning opportunities."



Graduates of this specialization are helping people meet the challenges of physical and mental illness and contributing to healthier communities.

Imagine that no one hears you



GIVING VOICE TO HOMELESS BLACK WOMEN

For women who are black and homeless, getting any kind of help from the healthcare system can be a daunting and frustrating process. Charmaine Williams, an associate professor at the Faculty and associate dean academic, was the researcher on a groundbreaking report called “Every

Woman Matters.” She and her team spoke to over 200 women across Toronto about their experiences trying to get some answers as they moved through the system. “Many of them came back again and again without success,” she says. “Every Woman Matters” is significant because these women’s voices have never been heard before. Cumulatively, Williams believes, they carry a tremendous force. “That’s what makes it so exciting. No one has ever done this, talked to this particular population,” she says. “Some of them will feel heard for the very first time in their lives. It’s the story combined with the number of women we talked to that makes this so powerful.”

The report is already being used to advocate more effectively on behalf of these women. “Getting these voices

out there means that they can now be put on the agenda,” Williams says. “Every Woman Matters” is filled with innovative suggestions – like a proposal to institute the use of navigators to help people move more effectively through the healthcare system. Ideas like a navigator, she says, would help anyone who is trying to receive comprehensive and effective healthcare. “The real question is how we can make the system more accessible for everyone.” Williams is the Factor-Inwentash Chair in Health and Mental Health.



Sometimes it all just falls into place

Stacey Ivits, who graduated from this year’s MSW program, recently got some good news. Her second year practicum led to a full time one year position. Now she’s providing workshops and counselling for people who want to quit smoking at the Nicotine Dependence Clinic in Toronto’s Centre for Addiction & Mental Health. “I entered social work because I wanted to help people with chronic illnesses find strategies to have the best quality of life and that is exactly what I’m doing here. It’s inspiring work,” says Ivits.

“I’m so thankful I attended the Faculty because of its strong clinical focus and practicum opportunities. The most important thing I learned is that you get as much out of the learning experience as you put into it. That’s a lesson I will carry with me throughout my entire career.” Ivits is one of the recipients of the Gordon Cressy Leadership Award.

Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work graduates of this specialization in gerontology are in increasingly high demand, helping people across Canada and around the world deal with the challenges of aging.

Mobilizing knowledge just in time



RETIREMENT TOOLS ON THE HORIZON

We are one of only two university social work faculties across Canada offering a specialization in gerontology. We understand how strong the demand will be in the coming years for social workers who are trained to deal with the elderly. We also know how crucial it is to get information on aging out to the people – both here and abroad – who really need it.

a new series of pocket guides on retirement which will delve into these issues from a social work perspective. This ambitious project is happening because the Faculty received a bequest from an alumna that was specifically targeted towards research on retirement. That bequest will help people all over the world.

The guides will be pocket-size and user-friendly information sheets prepared by a team of researchers from the National Institute for the Care of the Elderly (NICE). NICE, which was founded by Lynn McDonald, a professor at the Faculty and director of U of T's Institute for Life Course and Aging, is a massive international network of people involved in

researching and working in aging. Its interdisciplinary teams – whose members range from linguists and the police to journalists and medical practitioners – review information and create pocket tools on a wide variety of topics in gerontology.

Remarkably successful, they're now averaging 12,000 requests a month for over 100 guides. NICE's Economic Security and Financial Literacy Team will develop the upcoming social work series. "These pocket guides are really working," says McDonald. "We are putting knowledge into the hands of people all over the world."



More comfort for caregivers

Caring for a partner with dementia is extremely isolating. That isolation can be much more intense for caregivers who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transsexual (LGBT). LGBT caregivers frequently describe how uncomfortable they feel using available support services. "They have been doubly stigmatized," says PhD student Shira Hadas Moalem. She just got a groundbreaking grant from the Alzheimer's Society of Canada to conduct her dissertation research on the caregiving experience of this community. It's the first time the Society has funded research in this area.

"We haven't been paying attention to this community. They have remained in the shadows far too long," she says. "Caregivers are the unsung heroes of the medical system and they are not all the same – there is a great deal of diversity among them. We need to raise awareness, particularly among service providers, of the particular needs of this group so that we're offering services that work for them."

Social Service Administration provides students with a rigorous and comprehensive grounding in the key values, skills and knowledge required by leaders of social service organizations.

“We developed this program because we need people in leadership positions who will make decisions through a social work lens.”

Wes Shera

TRAINING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

The first year of our newest specialization in Social Service Administration just ended and the results are resoundingly positive. Students are relishing the opportunity to learn cutting-edge administrative and management skills within a social work perspective. “Right now leadership and administration are hot topics,” says program head and former dean of the Faculty Wes Shera. “Positions are opening up as baby boomers retire. Some are being taken by MBAs who don’t necessarily understand the context and realities of practice and that’s why there is such a pressing need for what we are offering.”

There are two streams to this program. MSW students can choose it as a specialization – the first six graduated this June – while experienced professionals can take courses toward a post-master’s advanced diploma and still work full time. Shera says that many social workers, who have been in the field for a number of years, feel the need to learn new skills that will enable them to obtain more senior leadership positions and are therefore choosing this program. “They want to retrofit their education. For some, it is ongoing professional development. They need to be more effective at advocacy, policy and management,” he says.

Students are directly applying classroom lessons to the organizations they work in. “That’s one of our major themes,” Shera says. “These are not just theoretical exercises. That would never work. Ultimately, all of the courses are embedded in the concept of empowerment. We developed this program because we need people in leadership positions who will make decisions through a social work lens.”

Forging strong community bonds

Elizabeth Wolfe sees on a daily basis the challenges faced by social service agencies as they seek out new leaders. Wolfe is the Chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (her mother, Rose Wolfe, graduated from the Faculty with an MSW, was formerly U of T’s Chancellor and now sits on the Faculty’s Dean’s Advisory Circle). After discussions with other community leaders, Elizabeth Wolfe brought the idea for the new Social Service Administration specialization to the Faculty.

“There is a strong need for this program. There aren’t enough trained and qualified social service professionals to assume the leadership of all our agencies,” she says. “You can’t just expect experienced professionals to step into management positions and succeed without giving them the tools.” What’s really important, Wolfe says, is that the program combines necessary business skills with a strong awareness of the needs of the community, while at the same time creating a diverse network of professionals who have all taken the course together. That bond will be invaluable to them, she explains, when it comes to problem solving.

Just what she was looking for

“This is exactly what I was looking for,” says Genevieve Martins who attends the Social Service Administration post-masters diploma program part-time. After fifteen years at Peel Children’s Health Centre where she works in a professional development and mentoring role, Martins knew that she needed to upgrade her education if she wanted to move into management. After much searching she found just what she was looking for in the first year of the new diploma program. Now she’s learning hard business skills while still maintaining core social work values. Courses are invigorating and she’s enjoying being back at the Faculty where she received her MSW.

“As professionals, we want to stay connected and continue learning. Doing that with colleagues who are in the same zone makes for incredibly rich discussions because everyone is thinking about direct applications to their work. The courses I’m taking are having a direct effect in my job, as well. It’s been such a rewarding experience.”



“How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment; we can start now, start slowly changing the world!”

Anne Frank

We're asking big questions about big issues

What happens when women with precarious immigration status seek help after experiencing domestic violence?
Negotiating Citizenship and Social Rights from the Margins: A Study of Migrant Women seeking Violence Against Women Services in Canada; Rupaleem Bhuyan, principal investigator

What are we learning about the increasing trend of education migration and the experience of South Korean education migrant children in our school system?
An Analysis of Public and Private Discourses of Education Migration in Canadian Schools: A Case Study of South Korean Families; Eunjung Lee, principal investigator

What causes cyber bullying among youths in grades 4, 7 and 10?
Motivations for Cyber Bullying: A Longitudinal and Multi-Perspective Inquiry; Faye Mishna, principal investigator

How do we assess suicide risk as social workers?
The Relative Influence of Training and Experience on Social Workers' Professional Judgement; Cheryl Regehr, principal investigator; Deborah Goodman & Marion Bogo, co-investigators

What strategies promote positive parenting in families after separation?
Understanding Positive Parenting After Separation; Michael Saini, principal investigator

How can we implement a research mobilization strategy in child welfare that addresses service and policy decisions?
Increasing Research Capacity in Ontario Child Welfare Authorities; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator

What kind of employment challenges do skilled immigrants face?
Do skilled immigrants need Canadian (work) experience? Public engagement and conversations through new media and reader's theatre; Izumi Sakamoto; principal investigator; Lin Fang, co-applicant

What is the experience of migrant women and their children when they use social services?
Migrant Mothers Negotiating Citizenship & Social Rights: A Study of Social Service use among Migrant Women and their Children in Toronto; Rupaleem Bhuyan, principal investigator

How is social research helping to advance new prevention technologies for HIV?
Advancing New Prevention Technologies for HIV: Rectal Microbicide Acceptability among Men who have Sex with Men and Transgenders in India and Thailand; Peter Newman, principal investigator

What is the risk of divorce for parents of children with autistic spectrum disorder?
The risk of divorce for parents of children with autistic spectrum disorder: A scoping review on marital relationships; Michael Saini, principal investigator; Kevin Stoddart and Barbara Muskat, co-investigators

How are we working with higher risk communities in Canada, India and South Africa to advance HIV vaccine acceptance?
Social, Behavioural and Ethical Challenges of HIV Vaccine Development; Peter Newman, principal investigator; Shelley Craig, co-investigator

How can we promote resilience among men who have sex with men?
Resiliencies and Risks: Addressing HIV and Other Health Disparities among Marginalized Men Who Have Sex with Men; David Brennan, principal investigator

What are we learning about using virtual visits in divorce proceedings?
An Exploration of Virtual Visitation as an Option in Divorce Proceedings; Michael Saini, principal investigator; Faye Mishna, co-investigator

How are we working to improve Ontario's child welfare risk assessment tools?
Prospective Validation Study of the Ontario Family Risk Assessment Tools: Phase IV; Aron Shlonsky, principal investigator

What are we doing now to address the upcoming shortage of health care practitioners who specialize in care for the aging?
Improving Health Human Resources for Canada's Aging Population: Recruiting Students to the Field of Aging; Lynn McDonald, principal investigator

THANK
You

EVERY YEAR STUDENTS GET THE IN PERSON THE EXTRAORDINARY THEM TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS

ON MARCH 29TH AT OUR ANNUAL APPRECIATION EVENT,
EXPRESSING THEIR GRATITUDE TO CONTRIBUTORS FOR

CHANCE TO MEET AND THANK PEOPLE WHO ARE HELPING BY PROVIDING FINANCIAL AID.

STUDENTS TOOK GREAT PLEASURE IN
THEIR THOUGHTFULNESS AND GENEROSITY.



Thank you to Lynn Factor and Sheldon Inwentash, whose incredible generosity, ongoing support and vision, have made so much possible for this Faculty.



In a program generously funded by the **Buddha's Light International Association of Toronto**, a second year of students graduated from Continuing Education's Certificate Program in Settlement Training. There's been an incredible response to this program which is directed at front line workers in settlement agencies. As the first of its kind in Ontario, it is serving a huge need.



You can't imagine how much your generosity means. On behalf of the students, the University and the Faculty – we appreciate your kindness.

Mary Elizabeth Hamilton was an alumna who left a bequest in her will to set up a scholarship. MSW student Daniel C.J. Hinch received that scholarship this past year.

"Without this donation, life would have been significantly more difficult and I would have struggled to achieve the success I experienced these past two semesters. I was able to focus completely on my studies and my placement with the Children's Aid Society of Toronto, without the additional stress of working part time. I cannot quantify what this donation means to me; however my friends and family can attest to the joy, happiness and pleasure I am experiencing in the MSW program. The kindness of donors has an incredible impact on recipients now and for the rest of our lives."

Daniel C.J. Hinch, recipient of the Mary Elizabeth Hamilton scholarship

Have this kind of an impact on someone's life. Think about the legacy you want to leave.

Many alumni, like Gene Dufty Odell and Eva Eileen MacLeod, have generously chosen to leave a bequest to the Faculty in their wills. The Gene Dufty Odell Memorial Bursary Fund and the Eva Eileen MacLeod Scholarship are legacies that will affect generations to come. Bequests can take many forms. Alumna Pauline Baxter Moore left a bequest to the Faculty designated to research that will help people all over the world deal with aging. Find out more about leaving a lasting legacy by contacting Judy Scheininger in the Advancement Office at 416-978-5042 or judy.scheininger@utoronto.ca.

New scholarship in Aboriginal studies highlights the **importance of giving back**

Ridgewood Capital Asset Management has established a new **Aboriginal scholarship** at the Faculty and we are profoundly grateful to them. John H. Simpson, one of Ridgewood's founders, says that providing the **Ridgewood Scholarship** is his way of giving back after years of working with First Nations groups. The scholarship will be awarded to either an Aboriginal student or a student who is working with the Aboriginal community. This is the second Aboriginal scholarship that Simpson has initiated at the Faculty.

Ridgewood, which specializes in investing for the long term, is investing in generations of social workers to come. "Scholarships like this play an important role in creating a positive future for the Aboriginal community," says Charmaine Williams, associate dean academic. "They recognize the enormous contribution that the Aboriginal community can make both to social work and social services."

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our students, faculty, staff, community partners, alumni, field instructors and all our friends and supporters. You make the faculty the dynamic and caring place it is.

Thank you

Come and join The Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work Alumni Association for an evening of fashion, camaraderie and fun. This Alumni Fashion Event will take place at Club Monaco's flagship store at Bloor St. and Avenue Rd. in Toronto.

Applaud your fellow alumni as they take to the catwalk to strut Club Monaco's latest fashions. Alumni, faculty, students and guests will have a chance to shop for themselves and receive a 20% discount on all purchases made the night of this event!

Social Work Alumni on the catwalk!

CLUB MONACO

Monday, September 12, 2011 • 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. • Club Monaco Store, 157 Bloor St. West

RSVP by September 6, 2011 to (416) 978-8405 email: daniel.downey@utoronto.ca



FACTOR-INWENTASH
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK

What are we talking about

Social Work: One Profession, Many Opportunities.

The podcast series “Profiles in Social Work” presents information about the field of social work through the diverse experiences of alumni. Their stories – excerpted here – highlight the numerous ways graduates are promoting positive change.

A boxer teaches survivors of violence an alternative model of trauma therapy

“I work for a recreational boxing project for women and trans survivors of violence. We explore healthy aggression in a safe space as a way to heal ourselves from violence and trauma and build self-confidence. We have classes twice a week in an eight week course. Many people who have experienced violence think they are not resilient or strong and that is not the case. A lot of people call up and say they have been looking for this kind of program for a long time. This is a way for people to engage in an alternative model of trauma therapy. We box out of a women's boxing club here in Toronto which is the first women's boxing club in North America. A lot of research shows that physical activity helps us to heal from violence. For me, boxing and being a part of this project has meant that I feel like I have a community of strong, tough people who have my back.”

Jen Plyler-Danch (MSW 2005) coordinates a recreational boxing program for survivors of violence (episode 10).

A hope merchant runs a program to support Aboriginal children and families

“I’m a Mohawk, abandoned at birth, don’t know who my father was, raised on the reserve in a variety of different families, not abused but neglected, although all of the caregivers I had were doing the best they could with what they knew. This is an important point especially for social workers in their initial contacts with those they are trying to assist. I supervise a social work program among Toronto’s Aboriginal community, for about 60,000 people. It’s a challenge to get people to believe in themselves again. I call myself a hope merchant but hope has to be based in reality. We can’t change huge systems but we can help a person or family get out of the system. As a social worker, don’t be discouraged if things don’t happen at the

pace you think they should. The people you are trying to help should set the pace; they’re the experts on their lives and must be part of the process. When I wake up, my glass is full and I just spend the day trying not to spill too much.”

Peter Martyn (MSW 2007) supervises social workers supporting Aboriginal families (episode 6).

A bioethicist helps people mediate conflict in life or death situations

“Social work provides a wonderful foundation for so many other careers. We have strong interviewing and assessment skills and we are good at mediating. I did the Master’s of Health Science and Bioethics after my MSW. Bioethicists are frequently called in to situations of conflict. In bioethics, the first question we ask is what is the “good” that we can do and then we ask what could we do versus what should we do. We come into situations where people have to make difficult decisions

and try to mediate the conflict, say when a family wants to prolong life and the medical team wants to move in a palliative care direction. Sometimes the outcome is not going to be good in these situations, in spite of our best efforts. When that happens, people often develop a nagging feeling in their gut – that’s moral distress. I’d like to see social work take on a major role in helping to resolve the moral distress experienced by people in caring professions.”

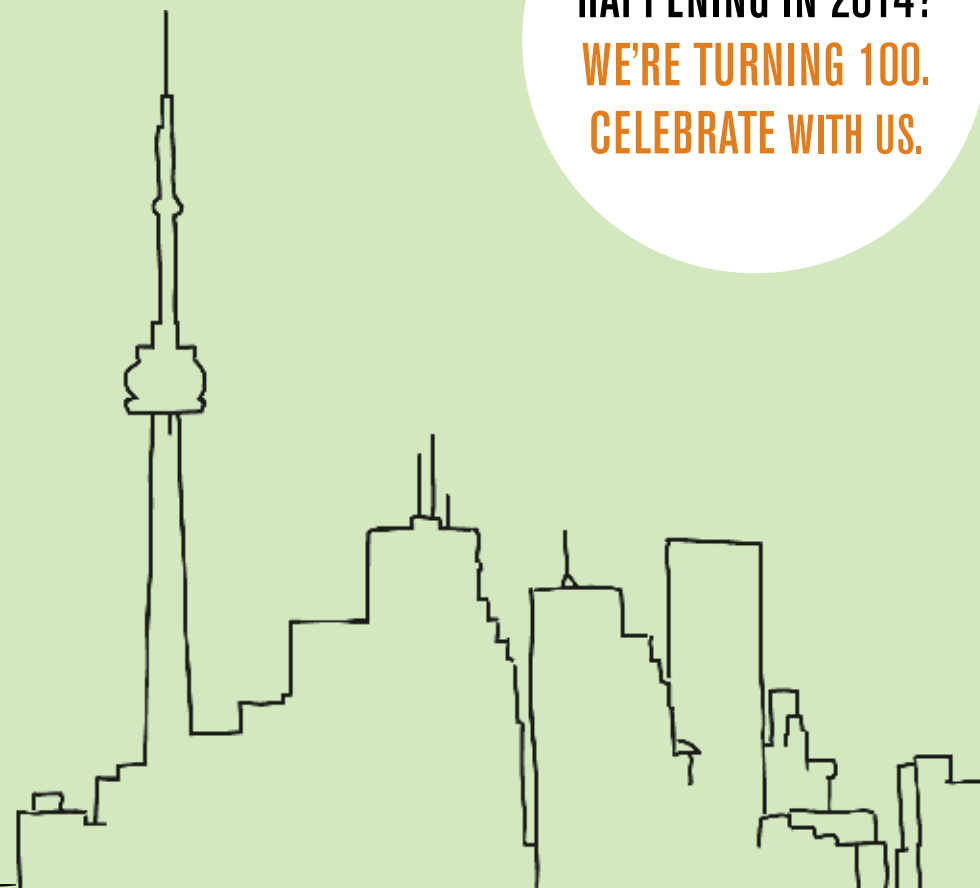
Bob Parke (MSW 1997) is a bioethicist at an urban hospital (episode 4).

A fifty year career of working with people’s strengths

“I started working at 21 and retired at 72. For me, Social Work was a wonderful career. It’s a very useful degree to have, in that it opens many doors in terms of job opportunities.

When I began working in Social Work in 1951, after obtaining my BSW, it gave me

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HAPPENING IN 2014?
WE’RE TURNING 100.
CELEBRATE WITH US.**



my own sense of identity, where I wasn’t only someone’s daughter or sister, and later, wife and mother. I was me. I’ve always felt that what Social Work training has to offer is unique. In my clinical work, my personal philosophy was that my clients didn’t really want to be sitting in my office, because if they could have solved their problems, they wouldn’t be asking for help. So what I tried to do, was to help my clients verbalize what they were looking for, and then tried to help them see what their own strengths and abilities were to solve their problems. I always tried to work with clients’ strengths, regardless of their age or circumstances.”

Grace Safeer Goldberg (MSW 1964) has developed children’s mental health programs for schools, had a private practice in couples counselling and participated in seniors outreach (episode 11).

To access our ongoing Profiles in Social Work Podcasts visit
socialwork.utoronto.ca/alumni/profiles.htm

Huge Turnout as Alumni gathered for spring reunion

The FIFSW Alumni Association’s May 25th AGM and Book Expo was a smashing success. Record attendance numbers marked the first time the Association took part in U of T’s Spring Reunion, as momentum continues to build under President Doreen Winkler’s inspired leadership. Over eighty alumni participated in a Book Expo, organized by Vice-President Cheryl Mitri, featuring panelists Ramona Alaggia, Marion Bogo, Ivan Brown and Cheryl Regehr discussing recently published books. The best part of the night was seeing so many former students back at the Faculty, talking about what matters to them right now as social workers.

There has been a groundswell of support from alumni. It’s so important to students that alumni continue to be actively involved in the Faculty. We invite all alumni to stay in touch. It’s easy to do. Just update your contact information online at the Faculty website.



► **NEW ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP TAKES FLIGHT**
The response to our brand new FIFSW Alumni Association Scholarship has been phenomenal – we’ve raised \$15,000 so far – but there’s still time for you to be a part of this important initiative. Contact the Advancement Office and remember – your donation will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the provincial government.



Now It’s Their Time To Lead
Over two glorious June days during Spring Convocation, MSW and PhD students from the Faculty proudly received their degrees at Convocation Hall. Graduates were welcomed into our alumni family with a celebratory lunch hosted by the Alumni Association and the Advancement Office.

First in Canada

In 1914, U of T opened Canada’s first social work school. In the early 1950s, it became the first social work school in Canada to offer a doctorate program.

44 FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS

In the 2010-2011 academic session, there were 28 faculty members and 16 administrative staff.

343

MSW students

In the 2010-2011 school year, 343 students were enrolled in the Master of Social Work program.

55

PhD students

Fifty-five students were working toward their Doctor of Philosophy at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work.

411

field
instructors

15

students were enrolled in the first year of the Advanced Diploma in Social Service Administration.

9 collaborative programs

MSW students can integrate their graduate training with other Faculties in nine collaborative programs.

10 endowed chairs

These chairs help the Faculty to attract and retain internationally renowned scholars. In 2007, Lynn Factor and Sheldon Inwentash endowed five chairs in key academic areas.

1,001 practicum hours

To graduate, each MSW student must accumulate at least 469 hours of practical experience in the first year and 532 hours in the second year.

75%

75 per cent of faculty members hold a SSHRC or CIHR research grant. That’s up from 67 per cent in the previous year.

by the numbers

HERE'S HOW TO CONNECT WITH US

VISIT US

246 Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 1V4

The Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work is at the intersection of Bloor Street West and Bedford Road, just west of the Royal Ontario Museum and across from Varsity Stadium. The front door is a few steps from the St. George subway station's Bedford Road exit.

VISIT US ONLINE

www.socialwork.utoronto.ca

CALL US

Phone: 416 978-6314
Fax: 416 978-7072

KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH US

We've launched an e-newsletter, *e-Reach*. Along with *Reach Magazine*, it will keep you informed of the latest achievements of faculty members, students and alumni, as well as our new research activities. To receive *e-Reach* and *Reach Magazine*, email info.fifsw@utoronto.ca or phone 416 978-4437. Please keep us up-to-date with your current mailing and email address.

SUPPORT US

To further the work of the Faculty by making a donation, please contact Judy Scheininger, Director of Advancement
Phone: 416 978-5042
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