

# Year in Review

2016-2017



**FACTOR-INWENTASH**  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



It's been another dynamic year at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work – a year in which our Faculty continues to move forward at an accelerated pace on so many fronts at once. Through innovations in teaching, research and practice, we are working to change lives and communities across the globe.

We were deeply honoured when our innovations in teaching were recognized this past year and the FIFSW Simulation Program received one of the University's most prestigious awards, the Northrop Frye Award. The FIFSW Simulation Program is ensuring that our students graduate with the complex and nuanced skills they will need as social work professionals. This program is having a significant impact internationally on social work schools and educators.

This past year marked an important and meaningful moment for our Faculty as we launched the groundbreaking MSW field, Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency (ITR). Students from the first cohort report that the curriculum is already having a strong impact on their work in communities. You can read a few of their comments in the pages to follow.

We added to our talented group of faculty members and staff and you can learn more about our new faculty and staff in these pages. You can read here about the exciting initiatives our two new Canada Research Chairs are pursuing. And the wide-ranging research list at the centre of this issue seems to grow longer with every year

as faculty members continue to tackle some of today's biggest challenges.

Our Faculty's relationship with our network of field instructors and community partners continues to deepen. Events like the Distinguished Speaker Series speech, the RBC Conference and the wide array of talks and public forums we offered are resonating across communities. These events provide a wonderful opportunity to connect with all of you, our alumni, friends and supporters.

One of the year's highlights was the annual Appreciation Event when we had the chance to say thank you in person to the extraordinary people who donate to this Faculty. We are enormously grateful to all of you for your generosity and your belief in what the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work can accomplish. You can read in this issue about one of our most loyal alumni supporters, The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain. As always, we'd love to hear from all of our alumni, friends and supporters and we invite you to participate in our Faculty.

With best wishes,

Faye Mishna  
Dean, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work  
University of Toronto

# Remembering Rose Wolfe

When University of Toronto Chancellor Emerita Rose Wolfe died at the age of 100 on Friday, December 30, 2016, our Faculty lost a distinguished alumna and – most importantly – a valued friend and trusted advisor who will be greatly missed. Known as U of T's "most prominent volunteer," Rose has left an extraordinary legacy of service to social justice, our Faculty and the University. Remembered for her strong leadership and passionate commitment, University of Toronto president Meric Gertler echoed the sentiments of many in saying that the University had "lost a beloved champion."



Like all champions, Rose was a force to be reckoned with. In 1999, when she was inducted into the Order of Canada, the citation read: "She is a defender of social justice, whose extensive and tireless involvement with many boards and committees has made her a dynamic contributor to society." Rose was a staunch advocate on behalf of social work and our Faculty. An Honorary Chair of the FIFSW Boundless Campaign – she was a poised and elegant addition to our Faculty's 100th anniversary celebrations at the Royal Ontario Museum – and a member of the FIFSW Dean's Advisory Circle, Rose was an essential part of the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work family. A strong proponent of female leadership in academia, she served two terms as U of T's chancellor (becoming chancellor at the age of 75 in 1991) and was a longstanding member of the University's Governing Council.

Rose graduated with a diploma in Social Work in 1939 and later said that working at Jewish Family and Child Services

in the 1940s was the job that changed her life. Helping to resettle Jewish refugee children from displaced persons camps in Poland, Belgium and France led to a lifelong commitment to Holocaust education and social welfare. She started fighting on behalf of the causes she believed in so ardently and never stopped, serving as president of the Toronto Jewish Congress, president of Jewish Family and Child Services and chair of the Women's Division of the United Jewish Appeal.



"We owe it to our predecessors, to ourselves, to future generations to understand what happened during that terrible time in human history," Rose stated in establishing the Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Chair in Holocaust Studies. "I know it's a

cliché," she once said, "but I believe one person can make a difference." Rose established a scholarship at our Faculty because she believed that all qualified students, despite financial circumstances, should have the opportunity to get an education. We were extremely honoured when Rose's family made the decision that donations in her memory would go to a fund at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. That decision reflects Rose's commitment to social work and her passion for the Faculty and social justice.

## Contents

01	Rose Wolfe	10	Research	17	Distinguished Speaker Series
02	Convocation	12	New Faculty & Staff Appointments	18	The Buzz
04	The Year That Was	15	ITR: One Year In	20	Appreciation Event
06	Honours & Achievements	16	Margaret McCain	21	Numbers That Count
08	New Canada Research Chairs				

# Congratulations to Our Newest Alumni

SPRING CONVOCATION JUNE 14, 2017



01 Brian Van-Du

02 Anne Tong, Emily Zrini, Kevin Haynes, Asha Marie Aggarwal and Karleigh Darnay

03 Bradyn Ko and Melody Ka Wai Liang

04 Kerri MacDougall and Marie-Eve Ayotte

05 Brooke MacDonald

06 Monika Arent

07 Kristina Falk

08 Emmaline Houston and Sarah Allan-Wiseman

09 Samantha Timla

# 2017 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AGM & SPRING REUNION

It was a chance to strengthen bonds and connect with fellow alumni and the Faculty on a warm and summery May 24, 2017. The evening – which began with the Alumni Association AGM where Outstanding Alumni Mentors were honoured – saw more than sixty alumni turn out for a lively 2017 Spring Reunion reception. Newly elected FIFSW Alumni Association President **Judy Newman** (whose own mother was an alumna – see REACH Spring 2015) did the honours (with the help of outgoing Alumni President **Sara Abura**), calling out the winners’ names in the ever-popular yearly draw. Congratulations to Judy and a big thank you to Sara.



## PUBLISHED THIS PAST YEAR BY FACULTY AND ALUMNI

JOHN R. GRAHAM, MICHEAL L. SHIER AND ROGER DELANEY, “CANADIAN SOCIAL POLICY: A NEW INTRODUCTION.” 5TH EDITION. (PEARSON CANADA).

**51 STUDENTS**  
AUTHORED OR  
CO-AUTHORED ARTICLES  
PUBLISHED IN 2016-2017.

## SIX New PhD Theses and ONE New MSW Thesis Examining Critical Issues

### PhD

**Jessica Carriere** examined neighbourhood policymaking and political discourses of exclusion, risk and effect in an interpretive policy analysis of the evolution of place-based programs in the UK and Canada.

**Valarie Hackett** explored how African Caribbean immigrants (re)construct family in the context of immigration and oppression in Canada.

**Shely Polak** conducted a phenomenological study on the practice of reintegration therapy used by mental health professionals in parent-child contact disputes post-separation.

**Kaitlin Schwan** focused on the societal problematization of homelessness and the relationship between discursive framing and social change.

**Carrie Smith** examined how role specialization and service integration influence decisions for vulnerable children in child welfare organizations.

**Anita Vaillancourt** focused on understanding social assistance in Northern Ontario from 1997 to 2010.

### MSW

**Jessica Furtado** explored children’s experiences and understanding of potentially traumatic medical events occurring during hospitalization and rehabilitation.

## THE INSTITUTE FOR LIFE COURSE AND AGING MOVES TO THE FACULTY

The Institute for Life Course and Aging is now pursuing its mandate to carry out research from a life course perspective from its new home at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work.

Two highly valued members of the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work community, Professor and Dean Emeritus **Wes Shera** and Associate Professor **Andrea Litvack**, retired this past year. Both played important roles at our Faculty and will be greatly missed.



Shera played a significant leadership role at our Faculty, serving as dean from 1995 to 2002. It was a time of great transition at the University and the Faculty, and he launched a highly successful fundraising campaign. He had an important impact on future Toronto leaders through the City Leaders program (an innovative leadership development program that promotes civic engagement by youth in Toronto’s priority neighbourhoods). He was also the driving force in developing the Faculty’s Social Service Administration program. That program has now transitioned into the MSW field “Human Services Management and Leadership” and the Continuing Ed certificate program “Human Services & Social Work” now offered through the School of Continuing Studies.



Litvack made an essential contribution to the FIFSW community over twenty-seven years by taking on a number of important leadership positions at the Faculty. She served as Director of the MSW Program, Acting Associate Dean and Associate Practicum Coordinator. As Director of the MSW Program, she made a crucial contribution through her work in admissions, bringing in students eager to learn what our Faculty teaches. She also promoted innovative practices in field education and in the academic curriculum.

# Honours & Achievements

Professor **David Brennan** and Professor **Carmen Logie** were named Fellows of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR). Fellows have advanced, with distinction, the Society's mission to promote a just society and social work research on practice and policy.

**Chi Delta**, the new FIFSW chapter of the Phi Alpha Honor Society for Social Work, was launched, with founding board members Carla Barbe, Sarah McMillan, Farah Riaz, Johanna Sullivan and Faculty Advisor Professor Shelley Craig. Phi Alpha is dedicated to fostering bonds and building community between social workers and recognizing the achievements of social work students.

**Clara Ho** (MSW 2017) received the Hilary M. Weston Medal at the Faculty Club on November 7, 2016. The medal is awarded annually to the graduating MSW student with the highest academic standing. It was established by U of T President

Emeritus J. Robert S. Prichard and Ann E. Wilson to recognize the Honourable Hilary M. Weston's commitment to social justice as Ontario's Lieutenant Governor.



Vice-President and Provost **Cheryl Regehr** received the 2017 Angela Hildyard Recognition Award from the Senior Women's Academic Administrators of Canada.

The award recognizes rich, meaningful and innovative contributions as a strong academic leader, exemplary support for colleagues and the promotion of equity, diversity and inclusion. The award's namesake, Angela Hildyard, said, "Cheryl's support of senior and junior colleagues at the University is legendary. Her door is always open."



## SIMULATION PROGRAM AWARDED FOR INNOVATION

The Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work's **Simulation Program** was named the 2017 winner of the prestigious **Northrop Frye Award** at U of T, in the Departmental/Divisional Category. The award – named in honour of one of the University's most innovative thinkers -- recognizes outstanding success in integrating teaching and research and demonstrating innovation and best practices to peer educators around the world. Our Faculty is at the forefront in developing a Simulation Program to enhance the educational experience of social work students and develop and assess holistic competence. Simulation has deepened our students' learning experience. It is also having a significant impact across the social work profession, attracting international attention from educators and social work schools, eager to explore using it as a model.

The Northrop Frye Award is part of the U of T Alumni Association Awards of Excellence. These awards celebrate University community members who have contributed to its "vision of becoming a leader among the world's best public

teaching and research universities – in discovery, preservation and sharing of knowledge through its teaching and research and in commitment to excellence and equity."

The ceremony was held on Thursday, April 27, 2017. Accepting the award on behalf of the entire Faculty (who have embraced simulation as the signature pedagogy of the FIFSW) were Dean Faye Mishna and Professor Marion Bogo. Mishna thanked "our amazing benefactor" Larry Enkin whose generosity and vision have made the FIFSW Simulation Program possible. "Larry Enkin got it immediately. Because of him, we have been able to develop the program and discover so many new ways to unleash simulation's extraordinary possibilities," Mishna told the audience and a resounding cheer rang out from FIFSW faculty members, staff and students, including Simulation Program Coordinator and Professor Toula Kourgiantakis, all of whom have helped to make the Simulation Program such a success (see photo).

### 2017 GORDON CRESSY STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

These FIFSW students were recognized for making outstanding contributions to our Faculty and the University this past year. This cross-university annual award was established in honour of FIFSW alumnus Gordon Cressy, a former vice-president of development and university affairs, to promote leadership and community engagement.

**YOLAM ANDERSON-GOLHAR**

launched the Fast Break Youth incubator to promote entrepreneurship in priority neighbourhoods.

**JEHLISA VERONICA BRIDGEMAN**

was coordinator of the FIFSW Summer Mentorship Program and an active member of the FIFSW Black History Month Committee.

**CLARA CHING-MEI HO**

was co-president of the FIFSW Graduate Students Association and Vice-Chair of the Faculty Council.

**ERIN LEIGH RELYEA**

developed Wisdom, a photo project on aging, as part of U of T's Canada 150 celebration.

## PURSuing WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH TWO NEW CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS

“Science needs women. Science needs diversity,” said Federal Science Minister Kirsty Duncan at a national news conference at our Faculty on December 2, 2016. She was announcing 25 Canada Research Chairs (CRC) at U of T, including Professor **Shelley Craig**, the Canada Research Chair in Sexual and Gender Minority Youth and Professor **Barbara Fallon**, the Canada Research Chair in Child Welfare. U of T President Meric Gertler called the CRC Program “a crucial asset in our country’s ability to attract and retain the world’s best and most promising researchers.”

## FOSTERING RESILIENCE IN SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY YOUTH



Professor **Shelley Craig**, the **Canada Research Chair in Sexual and Gender Minority Youth**, says the Chair provides an exciting opportunity to develop her research with a population she has worked with for years by focusing on two key areas. “I will explore the role of information and communication technologies (ICTs)

in fostering the resilience of sexual and gender minority youth (SGMY) and expand the community-based interventions I’ve developed designed to foster resilience with LGBTQ youth. It’s both research and practice, both offline and online.”

“Previous research has shown that ICTs play a significant role for these youth in fostering resilience and creating a sense of self. They use ICTs to feel safe and feel safer online than off – maybe they can’t access services offline or find the services judgmental. Instead they’re getting their needs met online in a clear act of resilience,” says Craig.

“It’s important to understand more fully ICTs’ role with this population. That knowledge enables us to use specific elements in interventions and clinical social work. For

example, we can’t ask only about social support offline. We need to ask about online friends and connections – as these are often the people they feel closest to.”

Craig hopes to bridge research, practice and education to improve this population’s well-being by building upon two axes: From the community to the smartphone by digitizing and pilot testing affirmative coping skills training on smartphones; and from the smartphone to the classroom by developing practice competence among MSW students to work with LGBTQ populations.

Craig works with a large national network of researchers and plans to expand this network internationally. “I want to build partnerships internationally, to create a global network of researchers interested in understanding more about the crucial role of ICTs for LGBTQ youth in developing resilience and negotiating their identities and place in the world.”

“The youth are ahead of us in the use of ICTs to improve their well-being. Social work practice has to keep up. In a few years time, social work practice will integrate online and offline interventions. We have to make sure we are utilizing all the resources we have to support the resilience of SGMY,” she says.

## TRANSFORMING OUR KNOWLEDGE OF CHILD WELFARE



“Data can help us understand how the system serves children and families,” says Professor **Barbara Fallon**, whose influential body of research has dramatically transformed our knowledge of child abuse and neglect in Canada. As the **Canada Research Chair in Child Welfare**, Fallon will focus on

understanding and documenting when and how children are identified to the child welfare system and their trajectories.

She will also examine the influence of organizations on service delivery and decisions. “What factors affect decision-making? It’s hard to measure organizational functioning, capacity and culture and how they contribute to outcomes. There’s very little research. If we understand it better, there’s potential for big impact,” she says.

“The Chair has three elements. First, connecting the child welfare sector to reliable and valid national and provincial representative data as a foundation for practice and policy initiatives. Second, advancing a theoretically robust understanding of a child welfare organization’s contributions to decision-making. Third, engaging research users in an overall strategy to mobilize child welfare knowledge. The Chair presents rich opportunities to train the next generation of child welfare scholars,” she says.

Fallon has been the lead investigator on the Ontario Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect. “The goal is to provide fundamental data to better document clinical and service needs in the Ontario child welfare system to aid policymakers to make decisions for children in the system based on evidence, not perception. We want to develop more effective responses to child abuse and enhance services and supports for children in need,” she says.

As one of the lead investigators of the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect, she helped

to produce dramatic evidence of the over-representation of Aboriginal children in the child welfare system. “These data demand a much closer look. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued clear calls to action to collect data about the trajectories of Indigenous children through the system. Having the data makes us accountable to Indigenous people,” she says.

Fallon often thinks of a question she was asked by the first client she visited as a young and inexperienced social worker. “She looked me over and said, ‘This is who they sent? What do you know about my life?’ I hold my research accountable to her fundamental question.”

## WHAT IS A CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR?

Canada Research Chairs conduct globally important research with the possibility of profoundly changing lives. Canadian universities nominate researchers for senior professorships in areas that will further the institution’s research priorities. Craig and Fallon are Tier 2 Chairs: exceptional emerging researchers pursuing innovative and original research programs of high quality with the potential to become world-class leaders.

# BIG questions about big issues

**How can we advance HIV prevention for refugees?**

Developing a community-based, interdisciplinary research agenda to advance HIV prevention and care cascades in refugee settlements in Uganda; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about families and caregiving?**

United we stand, divided we falter: Advancing a family-centred agenda for caregiving research; Charmaine Williams, principal investigator.

**How are we working to transform the child welfare system?**

Canada Research Chair in Child Welfare; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**How can we change the increasing trend of neighbourhood inequality in our cities?**

Neighbourhood inequality, diversity and change: Trends, processes, consequences and policy options for Canada's large metropolitan areas; David Hulchanski, principal investigator.

**What is the relationship between foster care and early childbearing?**

Foster care and early childbearing; Bryn King, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about promoting well-being for sexual and gender minority youth?**

Canada Research Chair in Sexual and Gender Minority Youth (SGMY); Shelley Craig, principal investigator.

**How can we support female immigrant and refugee health care workers?**

Addressing employment barriers and advancing gender equity in Canada's health care system; Dan Zuberi, principal investigator.

**How are we working to promote global development, health and prosperity?**

Global development, health and prosperity cluster-Chair in social justice, equity and diversity; Peter Newman, principal investigator.

**How do youth living with HIV support each other?**

CONNEXIONS+: Youth living with HIV since childhood supporting each other; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How can we improve mental health care in Ontario?**

Patient perspectives of the incentives and disincentives for quality mental health care in Ontario family health teams; Rachelle Ashcroft, principal investigator.

**What factors promote well-being for childhood abuse survivors?**

From surviving to flourishing: Factors associated with optimal well-being among childhood physical and sexual abuse survivors; Esme-Fuller Thomson, principal investigator.

**How can we promote resilience with SGMY?**

Soft like Silk, Pliable like Bamboo: Practicing Resilience-in-Context: A multi-method study of resilience with SGMY in Thailand; Peter Newman, principal investigator.

**How can we create pathways to family justice?**

Pathways to Family Justice; Michael Saini, principal investigator.

**How are we helping young expectant mothers in the child welfare system?**

Young expectant mothers involved in the child welfare system; Bryn King, principal investigator.

**How can we help youth experiencing housing loss?**

Supporting social innovation to improve social outcomes for youth experiencing housing loss; Micheal Shier, principal investigator.

**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.

**What are we learning about visual and performance art for HIV prevention?**

Visual and performance art for HIV prevention with Indigenous youth in the Northwest Territories (NWT) and Nunavut: A mixed-methods multiple case study; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How do ICTs influence SGMY?**

Clicking to Cope? The influence of ICTs on the resilience, social support and school engagement of Canada's SGMY; Shelley Craig, principal investigator.

**How are we promoting knowledge exchange on aging?**

2017 Annual NICE Knowledge Exchange; Lynn McDonald, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about substantive citizenship?**

Substantive citizenship in an era of crimmigration: Constructing the deportable subject in the shadow of the state; Rupaleem Bhuyan, principal investigator.

**What are the effects of wealth centralization on urban life?**

The effects of wealth centralization on urban planning and urban life; David Hulchanski, principal investigator.

**What is the experience of Mainland Chinese immigrants in Canada?**

Intra-group dynamics and social exclusion: Experience of Mainland Chinese immigrants to Canada; A. Ka Tat Tsang, principal investigator.

**How are we exploring social and structural contexts of health among SGMY?**

Pride, stigma, resilience and community: Exploring social and structural contexts of health among SGMY in the NWT; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How are we connecting child welfare research to policy and practice?**

Connecting child welfare research to policy and practice; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about resilience and violence among NWT youth?**

Social ecologies of resilience and teen dating violence among Aboriginal and Northern youth in the NWT; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How do organizations influence child welfare service delivery?**

Understanding the influence of organizations on child welfare service delivery; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about children exposed to intimate partner violence?**

Children exposed to intimate partner violence: Expanding our understanding of vulnerabilities and resiliencies; Ramona Alaggia, principal investigator.

**What are the sex- and health-seeking online practices of gay and bisexual men?**

Exploring the sex- and health-seeking practices within evolving online environments of gay and bisexual men; David Brennan, principal investigator.

**How are we promoting rights for children and youth?**

Rights for Children and Youth Partnership: Strengthening Collaboration in the Americas; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about child sexual abuse?**

Uncovering pathways and processes of child sexual abuse disclosures; Ramona Alaggia, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about the structural drivers of HIV/STI?**

Towards an understanding of structural drivers of HIV/STI and protective factors; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How can we prevent elder abuse?**

Enhancing service utilization in elder abuse interventions through client-centered practice; David Burnes, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about inter-generational trauma among Japanese Canadians?**

Many faces of Japanese Canadians: Remembering inter-generational trauma and renewing cultural identity through activism, art practice and community-building in the "disappearing" ethnic group; Izumi Sakamoto, principal investigator.

**How can we mobilize knowledge for older adults?**

Engaged scholarship: evaluation of knowledge mobilization for older adults in the community; Lynn McDonald, principal investigator.

**What factors support social innovation in non-profits?**

Creating conditions for social innovation: Factors that support cross- and intra-sector partnerships with direct social service non-profits; Micheal Shier, principal investigator.

**How can we identify promising practices?**

In search of promising practices; Ramona Alaggia, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about social policy and urban poverty?**

Social policy and urban poverty in Canada; Dan Zuberi, principal investigator.

**What are we discovering about elder financial fraud?**

Elder financial fraud and scams: What do we know? David Burnes, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about adolescents in child welfare?**

Developmental disruptions: Adolescents involved in child welfare in Ontario; Bryn King, principal investigator.

**How can we measure a non-profit's civic footprint?**

Non-profits and civic engagement: An exploratory model for measuring a non-profit's civic footprint; Micheal Shier, principal investigator.

**How can simulation promote empathy for the elderly?**

Frail aging simulation suits: An innovative strategy to promote empathy and understanding among students; Esme Fuller-Thomson, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about photovoice research?**

Photovoice scoping review; Lin Fang, principal investigator.

**How are we investigating HIV/STI vulnerability among NWT youth?**

Understanding syndemics and HIV/STI vulnerability among Indigenous and Northern youth in the NWT; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How are we developing child welfare tools?**

Child welfare tool; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**How can emerging technology promote wellness for marginalized gay and bisexual men?**

OHTN Applied HIV Research Chair – Examining emerging technology to promote optimal wellness for marginalized gay and bisexual men; David Brennan, principal investigator.

**How can we reduce health care-generated infection?**

Reducing health care associated infection in the Vancouver Metropolitan region; Dan Zuberi, principal investigator.

**How can we measure outcome in elder abuse?**

Introducing individualized outcome measurement in elder abuse interventions; David Burnes, principal investigator.

**How can we advance the prevention of sexually transmitted infections and HIV among young women?**

Advancing sexually transmitted infections and HIV prevention among young women; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How can we help to promote mental health among Aboriginal Canadians?**

Mental health and flourishing among Aboriginal Canadians; Esme Fuller-Thomson, principal investigator.

**How are we mobilizing knowledge in child welfare?**

Knowledge mobilization in the Ontario child welfare field regarding findings of the Ontario Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2013; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**How can we establish an effective periodic health monitoring survey?**

Establishing an effective periodic health monitoring survey; David Brennan, principal investigator.

**What is the impact of the Ridgeway Community Court?**

Understanding the impact of the Ridgeway Community Court; Lin Fang, principal investigator.

**How can we help adolescent gamblers?**

Developing and promoting a prevention guide for parents on adolescent problem gambling; Toula Kourgiantakis, principal investigator.

**How can we promote social innovation?**

Creating conditions for social innovation: Organizational factors that support cross- and intra-sector partnerships; Micheal Shier, principal investigator.

**How are data helping to transform the child welfare system?**

OCANDS: Performance Indicator Results Project; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**How are we working with Highland Shore's Children's Aid Society?**

Highland Shore's Children's Aid Society; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about Signs of Safety practice?**

Signs of Safety Provincial Project; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**How are we exploring performance ethnography?**

Exploring performance ethnography as an innovative approach; Carmen Logie, principal investigator.

**How can we measure success in adult protective services?**

A client-centered measure of success in elder mistreatment adult protective services; David Burnes, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about social work and ICT?**

Information Communication Technology (ICT); Faye Mishna, principal investigator.

**How are we developing cyber related initiatives?**

Cyber Related Initiatives; Faye Mishna, principal investigator.

**How can we use the arts to support homeless youth?**

Arts and Minds Program: Utilizing the arts to support homeless youth; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about informal ICT use as an adjunct to face-to-face social work practice?**

#SocialWork: Informal ICT use as adjunct to traditional face-to-face practice; Faye Mishna, principal investigator.

**How do organizations influence child welfare service delivery?**

Understanding the influence of organizations on child welfare service delivery and outcomes for children and families; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about Family Health Teams?**

Incentives and disincentives for treating depression and anxiety in Ontario Family Health Teams; Rachelle Ashcroft, principal investigator.

**How are we developing HIV preventive interventions?**

The "Phi-Nong" Project: Development and pilot testing of a culturally adapted, high-impact HIV preventive intervention with young men who have sex with men and transgender women in Chonburi province, Thailand; Peter Newman, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about motivations of cyber bullying?**

Motivations underlying cyber bullying; Faye Mishna, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about elder abuse?**

Addressing the challenges of client retention and service utilization in elder abuse interventions; David Burnes, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about the effectiveness of ACT and Pathways 2?**

The effectiveness of ACT and Pathways 2 in Ontario; Barbara Fallon, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about adolescent involvement in the child welfare system?**

Developmental disruptions: Adolescent involvement in the child welfare system in Ontario; Bryn King, principal investigator.

**How can we promote social innovation?**

Creating conditions for social innovation: Organizational factors that support cross- and intra-sector partnerships; Micheal Shier, principal investigator.

**What are we learning about responding to mental health needs of children and adolescents?**

e-Talk: Responding to the mental health needs of children and adolescents – Pilot Study; Faye Mishna, principal investigator.



## KEITH ADAMSON BRINGS A SYSTEMS-WIDE LENS

**Keith Adamson** has been appointed an Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream, at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, effective July 1, 2017. He received his BSW and MSW from the University of Montreal's School of Social Work and his PhD in Psychology from Wilfrid Laurier University. He joins the Faculty from Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital (Holland Bloorview) where he has been the Senior Director, Collaborative Practice, since February 2011. Previously Adamson was the Director of Health Disciplines and Quality at Women's College Hospital and the Manager of Interprofessional Practice at St. Joseph's Health Centre.

At Holland Bloorview, Adamson was responsible for the leadership and evolution of all health disciplines' professional practice at the hospital. Those responsibilities included interprofessional practice, implementation of electronic technologies to support practice, professionalism, regulatory standards and evidence-based informed practice. Providing leadership for professional practice, he worked to ensure that a vision existed for professional practice and that legislative requirements and research evidence were integrated into practice.

His experience has taught him the importance of teaching MSW students interdependence. "We need to teach students that they may not have all the answers, but if they work interdependently, they will have some of the answers and others will have some. We are a team and we need each other to solve the issues we face in healthcare," he says.

Since 2014, he has been the President of the Ontario Association of Social Workers (OASW). The role (which lasts until 2018) has given him an interesting perspective that he hopes to impart to MSW students. "My work at the OASW has been pivotal in helping me to see how government policies impact people's lives. It's helped me to understand the factors affecting the role of social work. I've had a wide systems lens on the healthcare system and on practice within that system. I will bring my perspective about how the system works, what are the inherent problems and how you mitigate them. I hope that perspective will benefit students," he says.

Social work, he suggests, needs to develop new ways to demonstrate its value to the healthcare system. "Social work skills will be in strong demand in the future. Its expertise in psychosocial and mental health services will be needed. But we need to become better at articulating roles and functions so people understand the significant contributions social workers make," he says.

Adamson, who has taught at the Faculty as a Sessional Instructor and Assistant Professor (Status Appointment), asserts that teaching does not happen only in the classroom. "There are teachable moments in every experience in life. I try to optimize being taught and teaching. I am always learning – from students, my colleagues and the clinicians."



## STEPHANIE BEGUN IS COMMITTED TO HELPING HOMELESS YOUTH LEAD HEALTHIER LIVES

**Stephanie Begun** has been appointed an Assistant Professor at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, effective July 1, 2017. She joins the Faculty from the University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work, where she successfully defended her PhD in June 2017 (and received her MSW in 2012).

Committed to engaging vulnerable youth in teen pregnancy prevention and education efforts, Begun's passion is working in the area of reproductive and sexual health with marginalized youth and young adults. "I seek to create the healthiest possible outcomes for young people, related to pregnancy, HIV, family planning, contraceptives and abortion decision-making. I hope my research results in more effective and culturally responsive approaches to pregnancy and family planning interventions that meet the specific contexts of youth's lives," she says.

Begun's work is inspired by years of community-based participatory research with marginalized youth, organizing among homeless youth and promoting reproductive and sexual health. Her practice experience includes serving as a community organizer and policy analyst for Planned Parenthood in Colorado and working with an organization called Girls, Inc., which provides after-school programming and positive youth development for adolescent girls.

"I want to develop new approaches to pregnancy protection for vulnerable youth (particularly homeless youth), keeping in mind their unique cultural and social contexts. I want to help this often-overlooked population

make self-determined health decisions and lead healthier reproductive and sexual lives, to offer them new ways to access medically accurate information and services that are more patient-focused and empowering. The goal is to transfer decision-making about health to them so they are in charge," she says.

Currently Begun is collaborating with a nurse and a social media expert on an innovative interdisciplinary project she hopes will offer vulnerable youth a real alternative. The plan is to develop mobile contraceptive clinics paired with interactive, online scheduling and contraceptive counselling services. Similar to food trucks (they have spoken to food truck operators as part of their research), these clinics would go to places marginalized youth already are, while providing online opportunities for them to ask questions, build rapport with healthcare professionals and become more comfortable with the clinical experience before appointments.

"We've gone to the youth to learn what they want, asking what's broken with the present system and the changes they want to see, and problem-solved to create a rapid intervention. Now we're developing interactive software. We need to develop a system that is confidential, quick and easy to use, and that makes youth feel more at ease and self-efficacious in seeking services, so they are more likely to engage in the healthcare system and don't feel as if they are being judged while doing so," she says.



## HARVEY MANNING BRINGS A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO PROMOTING ABORIGINAL HEALTH

**Harvey Manning**, who has his BSW from Ryerson University and MSW from Wilfrid Laurier University, has been appointed the Field Coordinator for the new MSW field, Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency (ITR).

An Ojibway originally from Kettle Point, Manning brings to the position a lifelong commitment to promoting Aboriginal health, extensive experience and long-established bonds across Toronto's Aboriginal community. Manning has been the Manager of the Aboriginal Mental Health and Addictions Program at Anishnawbe Health Toronto (AHT) since 2012 (a position he continues to hold). AHT provides addiction and mental health services to Aboriginal people from across Canada. He was the Executive Director of Toronto's Native Men's Residence (Na-Me-Res) from 2002 to 2011. He also taught urban Aboriginal issues at George Brown College.

"I've been working in the community for most of my life," says Manning. "I started as a volunteer in 1990 and just kept staying on, working with the people on the streets of Toronto. When I first came to Toronto, I lived on the streets and in different shelters. As a very young man, I stayed at Na-Me-Res, among other shelters, and eventually I went from being a resident at a homeless shelter to becoming the Executive Director. It gave me a lot of insight into what was working in the organization

and what wasn't. It was an enormous honour to be able to do that and to become part of the rebuilding of the organization and of people's lives."

Manning credits his sister with helping him to get his BSW and MSW. "I thank my sister for that," he says. "She pushed me and pushed me. I think she filled out the applications and sent them in. And the reason I probably wouldn't have done it on my own, is the way I was brought up. I had no confidence to do a lot of things. My grandparents were residential school survivors, which affected their parenting and my mother's parenting."

Manning notes that the ITR is generating a lot of interest. "It's an exciting moment. Many people know me in the city of Toronto and I'm getting a lot of questions about the ITR. So many Aboriginal people are interested and a few Aboriginal men have also expressed interest – which is fantastic since we do not have enough Aboriginal men with graduate degrees. For a lot of Aboriginal people, the ITR is the kind of program they want. They want to learn the best knowledge and education in order to heal our communities. The ITR is a wonderful opportunity for people in the Aboriginal community to receive this kind of education," he says.



## ONE YEAR IN AND WHAT'S THE IMPACT?

Last September, our Faculty launched an important new two-year MSW field. The first of its kind in North America, **Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency (ITR)** was developed with the Middleton-Moz Institute and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC). Its goal is to prepare advanced social work professionals to work with individuals, families and communities affected by historical and generational trauma. The very first cohort (pictured here) has completed its initial year. We asked three students about the impact the ITR is having on their work.

*"It's been very profound. The number one thing is that I'm learning by working with Aboriginal people from across North America who bring their own lived experiences and world views. Another important piece is that we're training community leaders to understand trauma, helping them see they already have the tools to build resiliency through Indigenous learning and practices."*

Brianna Olson, Member of the Wikwemikong First Nation, MSW-ITR Candidate

*"There's been an immediate impact on my work managing an Indigenous community mental health program. I share with my team what I learn about neuroscience, the impact of trauma, and how it affects decision-making. This new knowledge makes us more effective. I've learned the importance of regular debriefings for a healthy workforce and have instituted these. I believe the ITR is creating a network of trained professionals who will have a lasting impact across North America."*

Germaine Elliott, Member of the Serpent River First Nation, MSW-ITR Candidate

*"Understanding the neurological and physiological impact of private, historical and intergenerational trauma has changed how I work. I have so much more information in my toolbox that I can communicate and use. There's a core concept that Jane Middleton-Moz tells us that has been transformative for me: Connection is the correction."*

Brooke Stewart, MSW-ITR Candidate

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF APPOINTMENTS



# INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

## Margaret McCain Decides Today To Invest in Tomorrow

We are proud and honoured to call **The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain** (BSW 1955, Hon. LLD 1996) a distinguished member of the FIFSW alumni family. The first female Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, a dedicated advocate on behalf of children and the co-author with the late Dr. Fraser Mustard of the landmark report, “The Early Years Study: Reversing the Real Brain Drain,” she is one of Canada’s most prominent philanthropists.

A loyal alumna, McCain’s commitment to social work and the Faculty is evident through her continued support and advice. She is a trusted member of the FIFSW Dean’s Advisory Circle and an Honorary Chair of the FIFSW Boundless Campaign. Taking that commitment one step further, she has created a bequest to the Faculty in her will for which we are extremely grateful to her.

“I plan to live for another fifteen years,” McCain says with a laugh. “I wanted to leave this bequest to the Faculty in my will because I believe so strongly in its mission of teaching evidence-based practice. Everything they do is rooted in sound research and sound evidence and I am promoting that.”

“I’m supporting excellence,” she says. “They are ranked as the best social work faculty in Canada and in the top five in the world. Their teaching and research are cutting-edge and I’m investing in that. I am confident they will do something exciting with it.”

The Faculty has benefited from bequests at various levels. Each one has a powerful effect, creating a legacy and connecting the contributor’s name to the Faculty in perpetuity. “Many U of T alumni and friends leave bequests in their wills,” says Michelle Osborne, Executive Director of

Gift Planning at the University. “You can leave a bequest of any amount and it will have an important impact. What I hear from alumni who’ve decided to do this is that they see it as a good long-term investment, a way to create a legacy, because they have confidence that the institution – the University or a specific Faculty like the FIFSW – will be there in the future which enables them to have a significant impact.”

Leaving a bequest appealed to McCain because her contribution will be used to meet future challenges. That’s why she chose not to designate the funds to a particular area of research. “I knew that would be too restrictive. We live in a rapidly changing world. We have no idea what the challenges will be in fifteen years time. Designating it would only make it harder to respond to the area of greatest need. The idea of a bequest means that I feel confident that the money will go to the most important challenge of the time. I trust the dean and the Faculty to use it in the best possible way. It’s an investment in the future,” she says.

The Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work is extremely grateful to The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain for her generous contribution. If you too are thinking about your long-term impact, then making a bequest is something you may want to consider. All bequests of any size, large or small, are important to us. As social workers we understand the significance of every action. Each bequest has an impact because it is an investment in future generations. To discuss making a bequest or any other kind of donation, please contact the Advancement Office at [fund.fsw@utoronto.ca](mailto:fund.fsw@utoronto.ca) or 416-978-4437.



FIFSW 2017 Distinguished Speaker  
Dr. Marie Wilson  
Tuesday, January 27, 2017  
Innis College Town Hall

## TRUTH, RECONCILIATION AND CANADA’S 150TH BIRTHDAY: CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION?

Dr. Marie Wilson delivered an impassioned and timely speech at Innis Town Hall for the third annual Distinguished Speaker Series talk. The series, which is open to the public, was created by the FIFSW Alumni Association as an opportunity to hear cutting-edge speakers discuss today’s major challenges. Wilson, an award-winning journalist, described her work as one of three Commissioners chosen to lead the historic Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC).

For over six years, the commissioners spoke to survivors of the residential school system, travelling to more than 300 communities across Canada, with the goal of revealing the history and impact of more than a century

of forced residential schooling on 150,000 First Nations, Inuit and Metis children. The TRC released its final report, “Honouring the Truth; Recording for the Future” in December 2015, documenting thousands of hours of testimonies from over 6,000 Indigenous men and women.

Wilson told each audience member to read the commission’s 94 “calls to action,” which urge all levels of government to work together to change policies and programs to repair the harm done by residential schools and move forward with reconciliation. In one of the evening’s many powerful moments, Wilson explained that she always asked herself one very important question: “Who are we serving?”

## HERE'S A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS THAT GENERATED A BUZZ THIS PAST YEAR.

### 2017 RBC CONFERENCE PROVIDES TIMELY FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The **2017 RBC Conference** on May 2, 2017 at U of T's George Ignatieff Theatre remained true to its reputation as a forum that provides insight into major trends affecting our communities. The annual conference's timely subject, "**The Inclusive and Sustainable City of the 21st Century: Challenges and Possibilities Facing Urban Policymakers and Institutions,**" attracted people from communities across the city. The event was co-hosted by our Faculty and U of T's Faculty of Arts and Science. Professor **Dan Zuberi**, RBC Chair in Applied Social Work Research, got the conference off to a strong start – in a day of compelling speakers – with a thoughtful discussion of urban inequality in North American cities. Zuberi, who is jointly appointed to the FIFSW and the School of Public Policy and Governance, posed what he called the fundamental question: "What are the effects of living in high poverty neighbourhoods and how can we bring about sustainable change?"

**Black History Month** was celebrated this past February at the Faculty. Activities were organized by the FIFSW Black History Month Committee (composed of MSW, PhD students, faculty and staff). The goal was to honour the legacy of Black Canadians and heighten awareness of Black history. An interactive installation was set up on the third floor art wall where students, faculty and staff were invited to share their knowledge of Black history. "Journey to Justice," a film documenting

Dr. **Shauna Brail**, Director and Professor, Urban Studies Program, described the initiatives U of T is pursuing to collaborate with communities. Professor **David Hulchanski**, Professor of Housing and Community Development and the Dr. Chow Yei Ching Chair in Housing, provided further insight with a discussion of his research documenting the trend of growing inequality in our cities, its impact and policy options to reverse the trend. The conference closed with a dynamic keynote luncheon address, "The Just City, Then and Now," by Professor **Mark Kingwell**, Professor of Philosophy. Kingwell made an impassioned argument (amidst many popular culture references) in favour of his underlying message: "A just city demands that all development be in the service of everyone."

six unsung heroes in the fight for Black civil rights in Canada, was screened at the Faculty on February 6, 2017, and a Caribbean lunch was provided. During the lively post-screening discussion facilitated by Professor Charmaine Williams and PhD student Moses Okumu, Terry Gardiner Student Life, Outreach and Equity Advisor told the crowd, "This is not just Black history. This is Canadian history."

Professor **Gail Steketee**, School of Social Work at Boston University, discussed "Overflowing and Overwhelming: Understanding and Treating Hoarding Disorder" on November 18, 2016 at the Faculty. Steketee has published over 180 articles and eight books on anxiety, OCD and related disorders. Her most recent books include "Compulsive Hoarding and Acquiring Therapist Guide and Client Manual" and "Buried in Treasures: Help for Compulsive Hoarding."

**Lisa Cirillo**, Executive Director, U of T Legal Aid Clinic, Downtown Legal Services, provided insight into her work and the role of social work at the clinic (where FIFSW MSW students have practicum placements) in "Poverty and the Law: It's a Law-Thick World" on November 21, 2016 at the Faculty.

On March 27, 2017, "**Community Dialogues: Linking Systemic Inequality to Social Work Practice**" provided a forum to explore strategies for social change.

On May 24, 2017, **Rebecca Dennehy**, PhD student in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College Cork, Ireland, presented "Cyber bullying in Young People: Behaviours, Experiences and Resolution."

On May 26, 2017, a panel discussion took place at the Faculty, "**Tracing the Impact of Islamophobia on Muslim women in Canada.**" The aim of this panel was to trace the impact on Muslim women's integration and access to social services in Canada.

On March 3, 2017, **Dr. Tanya L. Sharpe**, University of Maryland School of Social Work, discussed "Understanding the Sociocultural Content of Coping for African American Survivors of Homicide Victims." Sharpe's research examines the sociocultural factors that influence the coping strategies of African American family members of homicide victims for the purpose of developing culturally appropriate interventions that can best assist them in their management of grief and bereavement.

"**Aging 101**" was held at the Faculty, sponsored by NICE and the Institute for Life Course and Aging (ILCA) on March 28, 2017. The goal was to increase awareness about research, policy, practice and industry trends in gerontology. The event featured a visual demonstration of ILCA's new Aging Simulation suit.

# YOUR DONATIONS HAVE A POWERFUL IMPACT

It's always wonderful when we can say thank you in person and on Monday, April 3, 2017 at the Faculty's annual Appreciation Event, students had the chance to meet and thank directly the people who have donated to the Faculty through scholarships, bequests or by funding research. Speaking on behalf of her fellow students to the lively crowd of donors, students, faculty and staff, Elise Millett (MSW 2017) described the impact of this generosity and the dedication of her classmates.



"We invest ourselves wholeheartedly in our practicum placements three times a week and many of us go even further by volunteering our time to causes near and dear to our heart. Amidst school, practicum and volunteering, many of my classmates also hold down part-time jobs.



"I've heard countless stories about what your help means. We have all felt the impact of financial stress throughout our degrees. For some the money helped them pay rent; for others, without this help, they wouldn't have been able to continue their studies.



"Being selected as a recipient of a financial award is a moment that feels like our hard work and our efforts to balance everything are being recognized. It feels so good to know that we have this community of people behind us who know how difficult it can be to be a grad student, rooting for us, wanting us to be successful and validating how hard we have all been working.



"On behalf of all the students here, I wish to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Know that your contributions make an immense and positive difference for us."



If you would like to discuss how you can have an impact by creating a scholarship, leaving a bequest or by funding research, please contact the Advancement Office at [fund.fsw@utoronto.ca](mailto:fund.fsw@utoronto.ca) or 416-978-4437.



For their continued support, commitment and advice, we extend a warm thanks to **Lynn Factor and Sheldon Inwentash.**

# NUMBERS THAT COUNT

## 421

### MSW STUDENTS

were enrolled in the Master of Social Work program.

## 181

Partner organizations provided practicum opportunities in 2016-2017.

## 54

PhD students worked towards their Doctor of Philosophy.

## 980

### PRACTICUM HOURS IN THE 2-YEAR MSW PROGRAM

To graduate, each MSW student in the 2-year program accumulated 462 practicum hours in Year 1 and 518 practicum hours in Year 2.

## 583

FIELD INSTRUCTORS worked with MSW students in 2016-2017.

## 73 ALUMNI MENTORS mentored 64 MSW STUDENTS in the FIFSW Alumni Mentor Program.

## 19 Administrative Staff

## 181

Adjunct Lecturers

## 31 Faculty

## 20

Status Only Professors

# 469 VIEWS

of The Sophie Lucyk Virtual Library collection.

# 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](http://www.socialwork.utoronto.ca)

## **CALL US**

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

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We want to keep you informed about all the activities that are taking place at the Faculty. Please be sure to update your alumni profile on the Faculty website by going to Alumni and clicking on "Update Your Information Form." If you would like to receive e-Reach or Reach magazine or if you have any comments on any of the stories you have read here, please e-mail us at [fund.fsw@utoronto.ca](mailto:fund.fsw@utoronto.ca) or phone 416-978-4437.

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