



FACTOR-INWENTASH  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

# Master of Social Work

Fall 2021 Welcome and Orientation Materials



# Table of Contents

03	Message from the Dean
04	Message from the Associate Dean, Academic
05	Message from the MSW Program Director
06	Message from the Assistant Dean, Student Services and Registrar
07	Agendas: Orientation & Conference
10	Annual Lecture: Daniyal Zuberi
11	Orientation Closing Performance: Randell Adjei
12	Conference Keynote: Notisha Massaquoi
13	Meet Your Faculty
14	FIFSW in the Media
15	Student Services
16	Accessibility Services
17	Graduate Student Association
18	Practicum Office
19	FIFSW News & Events
20	Student Resources
21	Student Contacts



# Message from the Dean



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto.

You have come to FIFSW and the social work profession at a time when the world is deeply troubled and continuing to struggle with a global COVID-19 pandemic. It is also a time of great expectation, fueled by the unembellished recognition that all of our lives and futures are tightly woven together.

Across the globe, there is an increased interest in and awareness of the important role that social work can play in realizing sustainable change. An FIFSW degree in social work will enable you to advocate for clients, improve client systems, and enact social change. Building the capacity of our students and faculty to play leadership roles in society is also among our key goals.

To truly prepare you to be an effective social worker in the 21st century, we will also challenge you to courageously confront and address the myriad ways in which this profession has helped but also hurt marginalized communities. There are now growing calls from communities across Canada and North America to remedy policing, criminal justice, child welfare, and mental health systems. Many of our faculty are working at the intersection of these systems while addressing how immigration and migrant status, race/ethnicity, life course development, sexual orientation, and the larger social determinants of health impact successful outcomes for clients and communities.

During your time as an FIFSW student, I strongly encourage you to get to know our internationally recognized faculty and alumni, to discover and get involved in their projects, and to simply reach out and make connections — both remotely and in person. Your learning will also extend beyond the classroom through opportunities to join student groups and associations, attend public lectures organized by our active alumni association, participate in mentorship programs, and join workshops and events organized by your fellow students as well as groups across U of T.

Throughout history, social workers have been at the foreground of social and societal change. Together we can make a difference, and we are delighted that you have joined us in this mission.

**Dexter R. Voisin, PhD**

**Dean & Professor**

**Sandra Rotman Chair in Social Work**

# Message from the Associate Dean, Academic



Welcome to the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. FIFSW is ranked the top school of social work in Canada and second worldwide. Our MSW programs are highly recognized locally, nationally, and internationally.

As an alumni of FIFSW myself, I am extremely proud to be a part of this academic community. Our aim is to graduate students with both foundational social work knowledge and competencies and skills in specialized fields of study to navigate increasingly complex service systems. Students are taught by internationally recognized social work educators and researchers who bring cutting-edge scholarship to the learning experience.

Our faculty has developed innovative and applied teaching methods, including simulation-based learning, to help students develop social work practice competence. Students are trained to understand and appraise research toward developing an evidenced-based practice approach while integrating a critical social justice lens to work with diverse populations in both community and institutional settings.

Social work is an incredibly rewarding and challenging profession with a broad range of potential roles, including direct practice, policy-making, and community organizing.

We are excited about the responsibility to help students become competent social workers, and we welcome you into the program.

**David Burnes, PhD**  
**Associate Dean, Academic**  
**Associate Professor**

# Message from the MSW Program Director



Welcome to the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work and the University of Toronto. I am pleased that you have decided to join us and to become a part of our learning community.

FIFSW provides a rich research, learning, and training environment for MSW students that are seeking to gain the knowledge and competencies for effective, ethical, and equitable social work practice in a wide range of social work practice settings and roles. With a strong complement of faculty, sessional, and course instructors leading our classes, you will gain first-hand knowledge from internationally recognized thought leaders and local practitioners that are engaged in social change on the front lines.

As you embark on your social work education and subsequent career, one thing that I think is important to always remember, is that social work is a discipline that is rooted in a contradictory history. On the one hand it has been a source of oppression and marginalization for individuals, diverse social groups, and communities. It has done so by upholding oppressive societal and institutional norms, whether in direct engagement with individuals and groups, or in spaces related to organizational management and community development.

On the other hand, it has been instrumental in supporting social welfare development nationally and locally throughout Canada, has helped to achieve improvements to group based social rights through policy advocacy and social movements, and it has contributed to social innovation through the development of new nonprofit organizations and adaptations to existing programs and services to better meet peoples' needs. As a part of your MSW journey I hope you reflect on this, and how it relates to your professional identity as a social worker and leader in the field.

I often ask my students: What is social justice? While a wide range of answers typically follow, very few have stated the simplest response, which is: social justice is your job.

I look forward to learning more about each of you and am hopeful that you will continue to develop professionally to be a leader of social change.

**Micheal Shier, PhD**  
**MSW Program Director**  
**Associate Professor**

# Message from the Assistant Dean, Student Services & Registrar



Welcome to the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. You have worked very hard to be here, and we are excited that you will be joining a group of distinguished peers in your cohort.

As we start the new academic year, we are rethinking and reshaping student services and student support through your feedback and engagement. Creating a connected student network also involves your dedication and commitment in building our community together.

Many of you participated in our community building initiative that was held on August 11. Through this and other upcoming community building and engagement gatherings, we will form and continue to recalibrate our approach to supporting you with flexibility, accountability, and inclusivity.

We will strengthen existing programming and build new virtual and in-person spaces where you can easily meet and create meaningful relationships with your peers to support each other throughout the program. We are committed to continuously developing the space and means through which the student community at FIFSW can be informed by your values, your desired co-curricular programming, and student groups that are enabling change and success through support for each other.

Our commitment is that your student experience here will be welcoming, engaging, and inclusive. I look forward to many opportunities to connect and build community over the next academic year and beyond.

**Milad Tabataba**  
**Assistant Dean, Student Services & Registrar**



Tuesday, August 31

# Agenda: MSW Orientation

Please register in advance for the MSW Orientation by [clicking here](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the meeting link for this event.

9:00AM – 9:10AM	OPENING ADDRESS - IEHNHOTONKWAS BONNIE JANE MARACLE
9:10AM – 9:30AM	WELCOMING REMARKS
9:30AM – 10:00AM	ANNUAL LECTURE: THE HEART, MIND, AND SCIENCE OF SOCIAL WORK — DANIYAL ZUBERI
10:00AM – 10:20AM	BREAKOUT ROOMS: REFLECTING ON ANNUAL LECTURE
10:20AM – 10:40AM	U OF T HEALTH & WELLNESS - PRATIK NAIR
10:40AM – 10:50AM	WELLNESS BREAK
10:50AM – 11:20PM	DEVELOPING A PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK STUDENT IDENTITY - MICHEAL SHIER
11:20AM – 11:45AM	BREAKOUT ROOMS: REFLECTING ON DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK STUDENT IDENTITIES
11:45AM - 12:05PM	STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, SUCCESS, AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING - MILAD TABATABA AND USRA LEEDHAM
12:05PM - 12:15PM	WELLNESS BREAK
12:15PM - 12:45PM	SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION & SUPPORT CENTRE - JIA YAO
12:45PM - 1:00PM	CLOSING PERFORMANCE - RANDELL ADJEI

Day 1: Wednesday, September 1

# Agenda:

## Introduction to Social Work Conference

Please register in advance for the Introduction to Social Work Conference by [clicking HERE](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the meeting link. Please use this link to access both days of the conference.

9:00AM - 9:10AM	WELCOME AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
9:10AM - 9:50AM	KEYNOTE: TRANSFORMATIVE SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN THE AGE OF RACIAL RECKONING - NOTISHA MASSAQUOI
9:50AM - 10:00AM	WELLNESS BREAK
10:00AM - 10:30AM	BIGGER - TANYA SHARPE
10:30AM - 10:40AM	WELLNESS BREAK
10:40AM - 11:10AM	ADDRESSING ANTI-INDIGENOUS RACISM - ASHLEY QUINN
11:10AM - 11:45AM	BREAKOUT ROOMS: REFLECTING ON KEYNOTE AND PRESENTATIONS
11:45AM - 12:00PM	MINDFULNESS - DYLAN ZAMBRANO



## Day 2: Thursday, September 2

# Agenda:

Introduction  
to Social Work  
Conference

Please rejoin us for the second day of the conference using the same Zoom link for Day 1.

9:00AM - 9:05AM	WELCOME AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
9:05AM - 9:35AM	I CAN'T EVEN SEE STRAIGHT: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK IN ADDRESSING HETEROSEXISM - GEORGI GEORGIEVSKI
9:35AM - 9:45AM	WELLNESS BREAK
9:45AM - 10:45AM	ADDRESSING ANTISEMITISM AND ISLAMOPHOBIA - RABBI ARIELLA ROSEN AND PUNITA LUMB
10:45AM - 10:50AM	WELLNESS BREAK
10:50AM - 11:00AM	MINDFULNESS - DYLAN ZAMBRANO
11:00AM - 12:00PM	FIFSW ALUMNI: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
12:00PM - 12:30PM	BREAKOUT ROOMS: Q&A WITH FIFSW ALUMNI
12:30 PM- 1:00PM	BREAKOUT ROOMS: MEET YOUR FACULTY
1:00PM - 1:10PM	CLOSING ADDRESS - IEHNHOTONK WAS BONNIE JANE MARACLE

# The Heart, Mind, and Science of Social Work Lecture

## Daniyal Zuberi



Daniyal Zuberi is RBC Chair and Professor of Social Policy at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, with a joint appointment at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto. Prior to his appointment at the University of Toronto in 2012, he was the William Lyon Mackenzie King Research Fellow at Harvard University and a faculty member in the Department of Sociology at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

His research examines the causes and consequences of urban poverty in Canadian cities, with a focus on the role of social policy in shaping the quality of life, hardships, and opportunities of immigrant workers and their families in the health and service sector.

He is currently investigating:

1. Social policy, inequality, and poverty in Canada in a comparative context;
2. How barriers, hardships, and resources shape the experiences of immigrants and refugees in Canadian cities; and
3. Policies, programs, and reforms to reduce hardships, inequality and outcomes including urban investment, changes to social welfare, labour, education, housing and healthcare policy, mentoring programs, and child and family policy.

This research has significant implications for shaping important social and economic trends, including equality, opportunity, prosperity, and health.

Professor Zuberi is the author of four books and is currently Principal Investigator (PI) of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Grant: “Social Policy and Urban Poverty in Canada” (2017-2022).

He received his PhD in Sociology and Social Policy from Harvard University in 2004, was a Fulbright Scholar in 2000-2001, and previously completed his M.Sc. from the Oxford University and B.A. from the Johns Hopkins University. In 2015, he was elected a member of the Royal Society of Canada’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. In 2020, he became the Director of the Master of Public Policy (MPP) program at the Munk School.

# Orientation Closing Performance

## Randell Adjei



Ontario's first Poet Laureate, Scarborough native Randell Adjei is a spoken word artist, speaker, arts practitioner, and cultural curator.

He discovered his gift and love for poetry thanks to the support and inspiration from one of his Grade 8 teachers who introduced him to writing as a means for self-expression to deal with challenges he was facing. This unleashed his inner spirit and led him towards a path of personal enlightenment as a budding writer.

Randell attended high school in Scarborough, graduating as an Ontario Scholar and valedictorian for his class. Shortly after his graduation, Randell was heading home one night when he was brutally attacked and robbed. The experience left him at an extreme low

point in his life, but he slowly struggled back, refusing to let his battles defeat him. He turned this time of his life around, allowing it to help him build his personal mantra of resilience.

In 2012, out of inspiration for what he had gone through, Randell formed R.I.S.E. Edutainment (Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere) to provide youth with inclusive and safe platforms across the GTA to creatively express themselves through the performance arts. It became an important outlet for many who had endured negative situations in their lives.

The popularity of R.I.S.E. led to significant notoriety for Randell, leading to accolades that have included **CBC's** *Torontonian*

of the year in 2015, **NOW Magazine's** May 2017 Local Hero, and The Black Canadians Awards Best Spoken Word Award winner in 2014. In 2018, R.I.S.E. was also awarded the Mayor's Youth Award by Toronto Arts Foundation, Toronto's city-wide charity for the arts.

Randell has performed across the globe and in support of high profile figures such as President Barack Obama, Terry Crews, Paul Mooney, Kardinal Offishall, and Toronto Mayor John Tory.

# Introduction to Social Work Conference

## Keynote

### Notisha Massaquoi



Dr. Notisha Massaquoi is an Assistant Professor in Health Education and Promotion with the Department of Health and Society at the University of Toronto, Scarborough (UTSC), with a graduate-level appointment to the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. She holds a BA in Psychology from Western University, an MSW from FIFSW, and a PhD from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in Social Justice Education.

In 2020, Dr. Massaquoi was a Provost Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at FIFSW, where her research focused on violence as a determinant of health in Black communities, emphasizing health services for survivors of homicide victims in Canada.

Dr. Massaquoi has consulted globally for the United Nations Social Development Council on racism and its impact on workforces and is considered one of Canada's leading experts in developing equity responsive organizations. She has served on numerous committees to address systemic Anti-Black racism in Canada. She most recently co-chaired the Anti-Racism Advisory Panel of the Toronto Police Services Board and was responsible for producing the first mandatory race-based data collection policy for a police service in Canada. She has served as a Board trustee for many organizations ensuring that equity is at the forefront of governance in Canadian institutions such as the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

In her early social work career, Dr. Massaquoi initiated several organizations serving Black communities in Canada — including Africans in Partnership Against AIDS, the African Resource and Communications Centre, and TAIBU Community Health Centre. She also established and served for two decades as the Executive Director of Women's Health in Women's Hands Community Health Centre — the only Community Health Centre in North America to provide specialized primary healthcare for Black and racialized women.



# Meet Your Faculty



[FIFSW faculty members](#) are passionate about teaching, research, and continued learning in collaboration with students. In joining the MSW Program, you will have the opportunity to learn from internationally recognized faculty and researchers who bring diverse community experience to the classroom. We have innovative teaching methods, including simulation-based learning, classes in community settings, and courses co-designed and co-taught by community members. As a student, you will learn to apply a critical social justice lens to work with diverse populations in both community and institutional settings.

FIFSW faculty ask hard questions about big issues, with an eye to improving service and care for the communities we partner with to support sustained social change. Here are some research highlights from the 2020-2021 academic year:

- **Professors Peter Newman** and **Charmaine Williams** and **Assistant Professor Notisha Massaquoi** are leading #SafeHandsSafeHearts, a university-community partnership that aims to reduce the risk of COVID-19 for racialized LGBTQIA+ populations by developing and evaluating a novel, peer counseling eHealth (online) intervention.
- **Associate Professor Carmen Logie** has been investigating COVID-19's outsized impact on people in low-income countries, including adolescents and young refugees in Uganda's capital, Kampala.
- **Assistant Professors Bryn King** and **Stephanie Begun** launched the Youth Wellness Lab, which engages youth from marginalized communities to work alongside researchers and community-based organizations who focus on the well-being of youth.
- **Assistant Professor Rachelle Ashcroft** is investigating patients' experiences with virtual care and how mental health services could be strengthened.

# FIFSW

## In the Media

Since June 2020, FIFSW has been featured over 90 times in the media advocating for social change and justice. Below are a few examples

- **Dean Dexter Voisin** spoke to WGN's *NewsNation Prime* about rising rates of gun violence in the U.S.
- **Associate Professor Lin Fang** and MSW student **Nikisha Browne** were featured in a *CBC News* article on FIFSW's new online counselling clinic, Talk it Out. CBC Radio also shared news about the clinic.
- *The Globe and Mail* spoke to **Associate Professor Izumi Sakamoto** about challenges that women of colour face in the workplace.
- *The Toronto Star* interviewed **Assistant Professor Kyle Ganson** about why the pandemic is a trigger for eating disorders.
- **Professor Esme Fuller-Thomson's** research on ADHD and suicide rates was covered by *Forbes*, *PhillyVoice*, *Fox 26*, and *U.S. News & World Report*.
- **Associate Professor Micheal Shier** spoke to *Global News* about paid sick leave in Ontario.



**Associate Professor Carmen Logie's** podcast, *Everybody Hates Me: Let's Talk About Stigma*, released its 50th episode last May. Each episode includes an interview with a different expert whose research touches on stigma, why it matters — and what we can do about it. [Click here](#) to listen to the podcast.



**Associate Professor Tanya Sharpe**, Founder & Director of [The Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims \(The CRIB\)](#), is the host of a series of Instagram Live talks, titled *30@8:30*, which investigate COVID-19's impact on vulnerable populations throughout the global community. To rewatch past seasons of *30@8:30*, [click here](#).

[Visit the news section of our website to read more!](#)

# Student Services



**Angela Umbrello**  
Administrative Coordinator, Admissions & Programs

## Registration Deadlines

August 27, 2021 is the recommended tuition fee payment deadline to ensure payment is received at the University. This is to avoid cancellation of registration and course enrolment. International students must make a payment by this date to ensure they are covered by UHIP at the beginning of September.

September 10, 2021 is the registration deadline for the Fall session; after this date, a late registration fee will be assessed. Minimum required payment due is 100% of current Fall tuition fee charges.

See the full list of significant [Dates & Deadlines](#) on the FIFSW website.

## Financial Support & Funding Opportunities

The University of Toronto is working to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including providing emergency financial support and work-study opportunities for students. The new [Funding Opportunity Directory](#) is a great resource for you.

## Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work Scholarships/Bursaries

The [Internal Social Work Awards System](#) will open in late September. To be considered, the applicant must be a full-time student, either in the MSW or PhD programs. Award values will range from \$1,000-\$4,000.

## General Information

COVID-19 updates are available on our Faculty website [here](#). In addition to recent updates, this section of the website includes answers to frequently asked questions, mental health and wellness resources, information on accessibility services, absence declaration forms and more.

You will be receiving the Gradschool e-news from [sgs.communications@utoronto.ca](mailto:sgs.communications@utoronto.ca), which will keep you informed and connected.

There is a network of support services on campus under [Student Life](#) available to you to help you get connected.

For Health and Dental Plans, visit <https://utgsu.ca/health-and-dental/>.

To obtain your TCARD and set up your UTmail account, please visit <https://tcard.utoronto.ca/>. Note that after **September 13**, all correspondence from Social Work and the University will be through your UTmail account.

For more information on Getting Started as a New Student, please visit <https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/admissions/getting-started-as-a-new-student/>.

All conditions of admission should be met by **September 10**. If you have any questions related to your conditions of admission, contact Angela Umbrello at: [angela.umbrello@utoronto.ca](mailto:angela.umbrello@utoronto.ca).

# Accessibility Services

Accessibility Services remains open and committed to providing students with disabilities access to academic accommodations, programs, and services that may be helpful as they work to achieve their academic goals.

We continue to register new students and offer intake appointments via phone or video. Limited in-person appointments will also be available.

[Information about how to register with our Services is available on our website.](#) We recommend applying as early as possible to request course and/or practicum accommodations.

If you need to provide documentation to Accessibility Services, many health-care providers are offering virtual appointments, including Health & Wellness on the St. George campus. If you are unable to provide complete documentation at this time, please communicate with the intake/triage team at: [jennifer.stewart@utoronto.ca](mailto:jennifer.stewart@utoronto.ca).

There is also helpful, [important information available on our website regarding remote/online learning](#) that we invite students, faculty, and staff to review. Also available on this page is information on Mental Health Strategies and Resources that may be helpful to students.

Learning Strategist appointments are available to support registered students with academic skill-building and reinforcement related to challenges with motivation, time management, procrastination, perfectionism, and the transition to online learning among other issues.

In addition, we have an Adaptive Technologist on staff who can provide information on and assessments for adaptive technologies. We ask that students first speak to their Advisor to discuss whether a meeting with the Adaptive Technologist may be helpful.

[Our office also offers many programs](#) for registered students including Virtual Accountability Check-in Groups, Learning Skills Workshops, Accessibility Dialogues, Accessibility Grad Chats, and various peer support programs.

Drop-in hours are not currently available due to COVID-19 measures.; however, registered students can book phone or video appointments with their Accessibility Services Advisor, a Learning Strategist, or our Adaptive Technologist by phone or email.

## Contact Information:

416-978-8060

[accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca).

We remain available to meet with students who need to connect with our office to discuss their accommodation plan, ongoing access to disability-related services, or other related issues. We encourage any student who requires support from their Accessibility Advisor to reach out to book an appointment – we are happy to help.



Hannah Jackson  
MSW, RSW



# Graduate Student Association



**Ezra Blaque (they/them)** (pictured above)

**Co-President**

Mental Health & Health, Addiction Studies (CoPas), Year 2

**Sarah Anderson (she/her)**

**Treasurer**

Children & Their Families, Advanced Standing

**Monique Simon-Tucker (she/her)**

**Secretary**

Social Justice & Diversity, Advanced Standing

**Mikayla Kendrick (she/her)**

**Social Coordinator**

Children & Their Families, Year 2

**Kayla Robertson (she/her)**

**Social Coordinator**

Gerontology, Advanced Standing

**Follow us on social media!**

[@gsa.fifsw](#)

[FIFSW Graduate Student Association](#)

Welcome to FIFSW! Members of the GSA are excited for your journey to begin into the Master of Social Work program. Your time here can go by quickly, so it's best to make the most of it while you can. One way to do that is by becoming involved in the Graduate Student Association. Being involved in the GSA can be rewarding, as it gives students the opportunity to give back to the student community and offers a platform to network with other students and faculty. There are many other benefits such as being involved in events, advocating for students, and more.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions!

**What the role of the GSA includes:**

- Cultivating a community among students, faculty, staff and the social work field
- Representing social work students in University matters
- Advocating for students' needs
- Listening to and addressing students' concerns, questions, and/or suggestions
- Attending meetings within the University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union (UTGSU)
- Promoting linkages with local social service agencies
- Monitoring and evaluating social work education
- Planning extra-curricular activities and events throughout the year

**Upcoming Event:**

Elections for many positions within the GSA are happening in mid-September so stay tuned for updates soon! You can check out the different roles that you can self-nominate for in our website, under "Governance".

**GSA website:**

<https://sites.google.com/view/fifsw-gsa/home>

**Email:**

[fsw.gsa@utoronto.ca](mailto:fsw.gsa@utoronto.ca)

**Office:**

Third Floor – Student Lounge , 246 Bloor Street West

# Practicum Office

There is no question that the COVID-19 pandemic has created a new set of rapidly evolving conditions for professional education, the network of practicum partners, and for students entering field education. The delivery of professional education is changing, is evolving, and is uncertain. This is especially true of field education, as we are dependent on the pool of agencies available to provide field instruction. We are mindful that these agencies are also impacted by the pandemic.

Field education is credited by graduates, employers, and educators as one of the most important elements of social work education programs, and is critical to the learning experience of students in the MSW Program at FIFSW. Field instructors have responded in creative ways in these unprecedented times. The Practicum Office works with our field partners to obtain the opportunities for you to integrate theory into practice. We encourage you to be familiar with [the Practicum section of FIFSW's website](#) for relevant resources, schedules, and supports.

To the Advanced Standing students who are starting SWK 4702H Practicum II in September, the Practicum team, including your Field Instructor and your Faculty-Field Liaison, are here to support you as you are provided the opportunity to integrate social work ethic, values, and theory into practice.

In October, Year I students will be invited to an online information session regarding the protocol used to match you with a practicum for the winter semester. Because of the unforeseen circumstances, as well as the challenges in the field to support practicums, deferring practicums from the winter semester will only be supported in extreme cases.

In these challenging times, FIFSW and our field partners remain committed to your development as a future MSW practitioner. We look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Sincerely,

**Eileen McKee, MSW, RSW, MBA**  
**Assistant Dean, Field Education**  
**Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work**  
**University of Toronto**  
**416-978-4338**

# FIFSW News & Events



Assistant Professor Notisha Massaquoi was a panelist at the event “How the social work profession has promoted racism without racists”



Assistant Professor Jane Middleton-Moz provided welcome remarks at the event “Decolonizing Pathways Towards Integrative Healing in Social Work”

## FIFSW News

FIFSW’s website and social media platforms are regularly updated with news highlighting the accomplishments and experiences of our faculty, students, and alumni. Here are some examples from the past academic year:

- [Introducing: Talk it Out](#) — a new online clinic supporting marginalized communities hit hard by COVID-19
- Engaging youth as researchers: [The Youth Wellness Lab flips the script](#)
- How Factor-Inwentash Faculty students harnessed their counselling and leadership skills to help develop [a new Peer Support Service at U of T](#)
- Q & A: [Meet Assistant Professor Ashley Quinn](#)

## Public lectures

FIFSW and its active Alumni Association host numerous public events throughout the year, providing many opportunities for learning outside the classroom.

Last year’s events included:

[How the social work profession has promoted racism without racists](#) — a panel of educators, researchers, and practitioners discussed how anti-Black racism has been long manifested across the continuum of the social work profession, their experiences of anti-Black racism, and how it could be addressed and eradicated.

[Decolonizing Pathways Towards Integrative Healing in Social Work](#) — a two-hour workshop inspired by Michael Yellow Bird and Kris Clarke’s book of the same name, which featured a dialogue with the authors and a panel discussion with grassroots community leaders.

[Leading Social Change: Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship in Social Work](#) — a public lecture by Associate Professor Micheal Shier on Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship in Social Work.

Watch for upcoming events in FIFSW’s weekly Student Digest (sent every Monday). Videos of past events can be found on [FIFSW’s YouTube channel](#).

- Practicum during a pandemic: [MSW student Rahma Ismail and her Field Instructor Sara Rahmani-Azad share their experience](#)

If you have news you’d like to share, contact FIFSW’s Senior Communications Strategist **Dale Duncan** at [dale.duncan@utoronto.ca](mailto:dale.duncan@utoronto.ca) — she would love to hear from you!

## Follow FIFSW on social media



Twitter [@UofT\\_FIFSW](#)  
Facebook [@UofTFIFSW](#)  
Instagram [@UofTFIFSW](#)

# Student Resources: University of Toronto

---

## Accessibility Services

For information about the supports available through Accessibility Services, visit:  
<https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/accessibility-services/>

For questions related to Accessibility Services and academic accommodations, contact our On Location Accessibility Advisor Hannah Jackson at: [hannah.jackson@utoronto.ca](mailto:hannah.jackson@utoronto.ca)

---

## First Nations House

For information about the supports offered through First Nations House, visit:  
<https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/fnh>

---

## Centre for Indigenous Studies

For information about the services provided by SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement), visit:  
<https://indigenoustudies.utoronto.ca/sage>

---

## Library Support

For library assistance outside of business hours, use the Ask Chat with a Librarian service at:  
<https://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/ask-librarian>

---

## Mental Health & Health

For services related to mental health and health, please see the following resources:

Anishnawbe Health Toronto  
<http://aht.ca/>

U of T My Student Support Program (MY SSP)  
<https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/cie/myssp>

U of T Health and Wellness Centre  
<https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc>

Visit <https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/gradhub/resources-supports/> for a full list of Resources and Supports available to graduate students at U of T!

---

## Writing Centre

Appointments in the Health Sciences Writing Centre are online this fall; they can be synchronous (with video/audio) or asynchronous. To book a free appointment, visit:  
<https://www.hswriting.ca/>

---

## Centre for International Experience (CIE)

CIE provides an array of services unique to international students and enables global learning for the U of T Community:  
<https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/centre-for-international-experience/>

---

## Family Care Office

For information about the supports available through the Family Care Office, visit:  
<https://familycare.utoronto.ca/students/>

---

## Sexual & Gender Diversity Office (SGDO)

For information about the supports available through the Sexual & Gender Diversity Office, visit:  
<https://sgdo.utoronto.ca/support/>

---

## Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office (ARCD O)

For information about the services provided by the Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office, visit:  
<https://antiracism.utoronto.ca/services/>

---

## Sexual Violence Prevention & Support Centre

For information about the supports offered through the Sexual Violence Prevention & Support Centre, visit:  
<https://www.svpscentre.utoronto.ca/>

---

## Multi-Faith Centre

For programs and services available at the Multi-Faith Centre, visit <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/multi-faith-centre-for-spiritual-study-practice/>



# Student Contacts: FIFSW

**Dean**

Dexter Voisin  
[dean.voisin@utoronto.ca](mailto:dean.voisin@utoronto.ca)

**Assistant Dean,  
Student Services & Registrar**  
Milad Tabataba  
[milad.tabataba@utoronto.ca](mailto:milad.tabataba@utoronto.ca)

**MSW Program Director**  
Micheal Shier  
[m.shier@utoronto.ca](mailto:m.shier@utoronto.ca)

**Associate Dean, Academic**

David Burnes  
[david.burnes@utoronto.ca](mailto:david.burnes@utoronto.ca)

**Associate Dean, Research**  
David Brennan  
[david.brennan@utoronto.ca](mailto:david.brennan@utoronto.ca)

**Assistant Dean, Field Education**  
Eileen McKee  
[e.mckee@utoronto.ca](mailto:e.mckee@utoronto.ca)

**Registration/Funding**

For questions related to course registration, program navigation, or funding, contact Ellen Sokoloff at [e.sokoloff@utoronto.ca](mailto:e.sokoloff@utoronto.ca)

**Practicum Office**

For questions related to practicum, contact the Practicum Office at [practicum.fsw@utoronto.ca](mailto:practicum.fsw@utoronto.ca)

**International Students**

For international students with questions related to immigration matters or student experience, please contact Megan Davies at [megancatherine.davies@utoronto.ca](mailto:megancatherine.davies@utoronto.ca)

**Library Support**

For questions related to using library resources or research consultations, contact Nalini Singh at [nalini.singh@utoronto.ca](mailto:nalini.singh@utoronto.ca)

**Writing Centre**

If you have difficulty with the Writing Centre website, please contact Roz Spafford, the Social Work Writing Instructor, at [roz.spafford@utoronto.ca](mailto:roz.spafford@utoronto.ca)

