

THE STILLMAN

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK / SPRING 2015

CONFRONTING IT

The College of Social Work is leading a new national center to battle alcohol and drug abuse on college campuses



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

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A note from the dean...

I am excited to introduce you to our first publication of *The Stillman*, a magazine written for the alumni and friends of The Ohio State University College of Social Work. Appropriately named for Charles Stillman, the visionary former director of our college, and our building's namesake, this publication brings you the latest news about our faculty, staff, students and alumni and the difference all are making globally.

It's an exciting time to be a member of this community and we all look forward to sharing that with you. From innovative research initiatives to the re-establishment of the national Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery (HECAOD), our faculty members are conducting immediately relevant research that supports change in our community, nation and the world.

The Stillman also tells the story of transforming the student and the client experience through our use of technology in the classroom, course design and practice. We are leaders at our university in the creative use of mobile technology in the classroom and field. This issue also highlights research on the use of social media with teens who are experiencing emotional crises.

We'll also introduce you to our most recent inductees into the college's Alumni Hall of Fame so you can learn about the work of our alumni around the country. Social work at Ohio State is rich with history and tradition as well as vision and innovation



for what social work education can be. We are eager to share our accomplishments with you and invite you to explore the story of social work at The Ohio State University.

Tom Gregoire

Dr. Tom Gregoire
Dean, The Ohio State University College of Social Work

Why “THE STILLMAN?”

Social work education has a long tradition at The Ohio State University, and while it did not begin in Stillman Hall, this venerable old building has been a landmark and the home of social work education at Ohio State for close to 80 years. Over 13,000 social work graduates have launched their professional careers from the classrooms and hallways of Stillman Hall.

Constructed by the Works Progress Administration in 1937 (quite fitting for a social work building), our academic home was renamed Stillman Hall in 1952 in honor of Charles Stillman. A longtime director of what was once known as the School of Social Administration, Mr. Stillman was a pioneer in developing community organization curriculum and served our country in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration. His vision, commitment to social justice and innovative spirit are a foundation of our college.

As we reach out to alumni and friends, we honor our professional roots through the naming of the magazine, *The Stillman*. Stillman Hall continues as the hub for all things social work at Ohio State. The faces have changed and the curriculum has evolved. A digital union and technology classroom have replaced some traditional classrooms. Our scholarship is more interdisciplinary and our interventions evidence-based. Yet, that same commitment to social justice and positive change echoes through the classrooms where Charles Stillman once taught.

Bridging the gap between the past and the present, *The Stillman* is a comprehensive look at what's happening in The Ohio State University College of Social Work. Here you will find the latest news from our college and share the great work of our faculty, staff, alumni and students who make a difference in our society on a daily basis.



New inspiration



Alicia Bunger, assistant professor **Collaborating amid the red tape**

Drawing from prior experience as a community health services planner, Dr. Bunger investigates strategies for promoting coordinated, high-quality care. Her research focuses on collaboration and competition among human service organizations, and implementation of evidence-based practices. Bunger is currently studying the implementation, cost and impact of a federally funded local demonstration project to enhance behavioral health screening, assessment, referral and service contracting practices within child welfare agencies. She came to Ohio State because of the university's infrastructure for high-impact research.



Michelle Kaiser, assistant professor **What does hunger look like in America?**

One in five children in the United States is at risk of hunger. Through her research, Dr. Kaiser peels back the complicated layers of hunger and food insecurity in communities. As a Buckeye, she leads a community-university food mapping research team, partnering with the Mid-Ohio Foodbank, Local Matters, Columbus Public Health, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, Center for Urban and Regional Analysis, and Franklinton Gardens. Kaiser focuses on how communities can ensure safe, affordable healthy food for all residents. She chose the College of Social Work because of the land grant mission and the supportive environment for collaborative, creative endeavors.



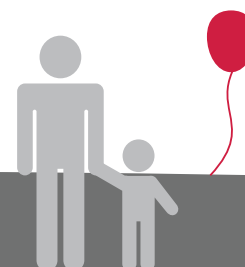
Katie Maguire Jack, assistant professor **Neighborhoods matter**

Dr. Maguire Jack's research focuses on the unique role neighborhoods can play in supporting families and preventing child maltreatment. Through a \$20,000 seed grant from the College of Social Work, she conducted surveys with 1,400 Franklin County parents to understand how availability and accessibility of community services can serve as protective factors for families. The results suggest that proximity to supportive services may decrease maltreatment. This work is among a growing body of research that focuses on positive aspects of neighborhoods to inform interventions intended to build supportive communities for parenting.



Jamie Yoder, assistant professor **Changing perceptions**

Dr. Yoder's research focuses on youth who commit sexual crimes and their families. She studies etiology, prevention initiatives and promising systemic and strength-based intervention strategies. Her research has implications for informing practice and policy directives. Yoder has been supported by the College of Social Work seed grant and the Criminal Justice Research Center to collaborate with national scholars, and she has developed research partnerships with several Ohio organizations. It is her hope to reduce stigma, prevent sexual offending and build safer communities and families.



Alleviating the struggle

For **Amy Mendenhall**, helping the system help young people is all in a day's work

By Jenny Grabmeier

For Amy Mendenhall, MSW ('04), PhD ('07), growing up with mental health issues in her family led to a passion for social work—a fact that puts her in good company.

"I think everyone comes to social work because of some personal experience that's made them want to help others," she says. "I tell my students that experience will make them good social workers—the fact they can say to the people they're working with, 'I understand where you're coming from.'"

The Virginia native came to Ohio State in 2002 to get her master's and doctorate after earning her BA in sociology and psychology from the University of Virginia.

Now an assistant professor at the University of Kansas School of Social Welfare, Mendenhall divides her time among teaching, research and overseeing the Center for Children & Families. As head of the center, Mendenhall is involved with a wide range of projects in addition to her own research.

One project that she leads is a pilot program with Kansas' mental health authority. Based at a community mental health center, the multiyear project is adapting the strengths-based case management approach normally used with adults into one for use with youth. The work stemmed from focus groups with families and social workers that found case management too often resembled crisis management.

The partners in the project, including Mendenhall, saw an opportunity to make a change in the system.

"Ordinarily, the focus in mental health is, 'You have all these bad things happening in your life or you are dealing with these awful



symptoms, and we need to fix them,'" she says. "We flip this and say, 'What would make your life more fulfilling? What are the positive things you have going for you that will help you meet your goals?'"

Despite skepticism by some that a strengths-oriented approach can work with youth, it is leading to the kind of outcomes everyone wants.

"When you start with the affirmation that they have strengths and they can set goals, it changes a person's life," Mendenhall says.

It is that change that draws Mendenhall to work with young people.

"It's always seemed like children are where we can make the most impact. To me there's the possibility—the hope—that you can help them early so they don't struggle their whole lives."

Mendenhall believes her experiences at Ohio State helped pave the way to where she is today. In addition to studying abroad in Poland, she participated in research projects as a master's student and developed relationships with faculty mentors and did post-doctoral work in the Department of Psychiatry at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

"I was able to do interdisciplinary work with faculty in social work and in psychiatry," she says. "With all of those opportunities put together, when I entered the job market I felt like I was really well positioned to get the great job I have now."

Today, living 700 miles away from Ohio State, Mendenhall still feels a strong connection with the university, thanks in part to emails from the college and periodic visits to campus.

"Even beyond the College of Social Work, I just love Ohio State and Columbus," she says. "It's a great community to be part of, even when I'm not there."

STRENGTHS+GOALS=CHANGE

A NEW SOLUTION TO AN OLD PROBLEM

By Dave Ghose / Photo by Doral Chenoweth III


John Clapp couldn't save the organization he led for nearly four years. In 2012, the U.S. Department of Education cut funding for the Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Violence Prevention. For six months afterward, Clapp, the director of the center, rallied allies, lobbied public officials and gathered letters of support detailing the critical need his group addressed—the impact of drug and alcohol misuse on college campuses.

Despite his best efforts, he failed to persuade federal officials to restore funding. "People were outraged when it was cut, but it was just one of those things," Clapp says. "Trying to get the federal government to move is not an easy task."

At the center's last public event in Washington, D.C., in October 2012, Clapp announced he was leaving San Diego State University, his employer for 16 years, to return to The Ohio State University, where he received his doctorate in social work in 1995. The news excited several Ohio State people in attendance. They approached Clapp afterward and congratulated him on his new job. Then they made a suggestion: Why not revive the center in Columbus?

Clapp had resigned himself to the loss of the center. "I never expected to see this come back," he says. But he couldn't help get excited by their idea. By leveraging Ohio State's unique resources and cross-disciplinary expertise—from prescription drug addiction to collegiate recovery communities to his own work in alcohol misuse on college campuses—Clapp and his new colleagues could create a more dynamic, innovative and collaborative version of the old center.

In July 2014, that vision became a reality thanks to a \$2 million gift from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. The new center—called The Ohio State University Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery (HECAOD)—builds off Clapp's previous work while also incorporating new



We partner with
college campuses
across the nation
to prevent alcohol
and drug misuse
among students
and help advocate
for recovery.

From left: Kristin Dahlquist, Connie Boehm, John Clapp, Kenneth Hale

44% OF ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS NATIONWIDE HAVE BEEN INTOXICATED IN THE LAST 2 WEEKS.

ideas, services and partnerships. “It’s not only an opportunity to re-create the center, but to do it better,” says Kenneth Hale, professor of pharmacy and an associate director of the new center.

A HUGE CHALLENGE

HECAOD fills a major national void. Like its predecessor, it serves as a guiding light for colleges and universities struggling with alcohol and drug misuse on their campuses. Higher education officials from across the country can turn to the new Ohio State initiative—a collaboration among the Colleges of Social Work and Pharmacy and the Office of Student Life—to learn about innovative prevention and recovery programs.

The need is great. Heavy alcohol consumption is the most serious public health problem among U.S. college students. It leads to more than 1,800 deaths each year and 700,000 injuries, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. College students

also are at the age in which the misuse of prescription drugs—a growing health concern—often starts. Since the early 1990s, public health leaders have recognized the impact of substance misuse on college campuses—from poor academic performance to sexual assaults. They’ve implemented educational programs and shut down anything-goes bar districts, but they’ve failed to reverse the trend. Binge-drinking rates remain around 40 percent, as they have for more than two decades.

When college administrators attempt to limit drinking on their campuses, they’re often challenging deep-seated traditions. Clapp notes that several colleges have drinking songs that trace to the 1920s or before, while the first college riot occurred in Oxford, England, in the 1300s over the price of beer. “Alcohol has been part of the culture for so long,” says Connie Boehm, director of the Ohio State Student Wellness Center in the Office of Student Life and an associate director of HECAOD. “We are making some headway, but it’s slow, and we must keep working at it.”

INNOVATIVE IDEAS

Ohio State is the ideal setting to tackle such a complex problem, says Clapp, HECAOD’s director and associate dean for research and faculty development for the College of Social Work. Clapp, who’s done groundbreaking research into alcohol misuse on college campuses, is assisted by two associate directors who also are experts in their fields—Hale, the founder of the nationally recognized Generation Rx prescription drug educational program, and Boehm, one of the most experienced university wellness leaders in the country. Sarah Nerad, program manager of Ohio State’s Collegiate Recovery Community and a national leader in furthering recovery programs on college campuses, also will direct recovery services for the new center. Kristin Dahlquist serves as the center’s program manager. “You probably wouldn’t find anywhere else that has as much expertise around this one issue,” Clapp says.

No longer part of the federal bureaucracy, the new center is more nimble and creative than its predecessor. The idea is to offer a wide variety of practical and proven tools and programs, including webinars, iTunes U courses, mobile apps, an annual national conference and a portfolio of consultant services ranging from cost-effective Skype sessions to full-blown on-site campus assessments. Researchers from the College of Engineering are helping with some of the more technical projects. “This is as good an example of really different units on campus collaborating around an important social issue as I’ve seen since I’ve been here,” says Hale, who’s been at Ohio State for nearly 40 years.

To turn the tide, innovative ideas are needed, Clapp says. “It’s going to take new partners and new ways of looking at it. It’s not going to be something that’s simple to solve.”

EACH YEAR, THERE ARE MORE THAN 1,800 DEATHS AND 700,000 INJURIES AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS DUE TO ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION.

TO BECOME A PARTNER OR TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HECAOD, VISIT HECAOD.OSU.EDU

SCARLET, GRAY AND SOBER

By Dave Ghose / Photo by Doral Chenoweth III



Sarah Nerad sits in a student lounge on the 12th floor of Lincoln Tower. Since January, the lounge—outfitted with comfy chairs, a kitchenette and a prayer and meditation room—has served as the front porch for The Ohio State University Collegiate Recovery Community, or CRC. “We want it to be a safe place for students to drop in,” says Nerad, program manager of the CRC. “For some, this might be the first time they see what recovery is about.”

For the past two years, Nerad has made Ohio State a more welcoming place for students with drug and alcohol addictions. A graduate student in public administration, Nerad founded the CRC, a program of the Student Wellness Center in the Office of Student Life. Its purpose is to help those in recovery stay clean and sober amid all the temptations of college life. “I hope this program allows us to really help change the overall campus culture,” Nerad says.

Just 24, Nerad is already considered a national leader in building recovery communities. Under her leadership, Ohio State’s organization has grown to include a 28-bed residence hall and a wide variety of programming, such as wellness workshops, weekly group support meetings and tailgate parties. Nerad also serves as the director of recovery services for The Ohio State University Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery, which was established in 2014 to reduce the impact of substance misuse on college campuses. How does she manage the dual role while also pursuing a master’s degree? “I really like what I do” she says with a laugh.

Personal experience motivates Nerad. After battling drug and alcohol addictions during high school, she credits welcoming recovery communities in her hometown of Houston and at Texas

The Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) enables students to have an authentic college experience while maintaining their recovery.

Tech University in Lubbock for helping her maintain her sobriety. Today, her goal is to provide the same kinds of resources and support for the estimated 950 students in recovery at Ohio State, as well as those at other college campuses across the country.

She’s already making a difference. On this day in January, Marty Lewis, a 23-year-old Ohio State senior, drops by the new student lounge. Wearing a hoodie emblazoned with the CRC slogan “Scarlet, Gray and Sober,” Lewis says the organization helped him rebuild his life at Ohio State after going through treatment for alcohol abuse. “I was glad that the CRC was able to form when it did,” he says. “It was really important.”

In the News

Texts, Tweets Reveal Depression

Texting and tweeting—they're the primary way teens and young adults communicate. With suicide ranked as the third leading cause of death among 10-24 year olds, Dr. Scottye Cash is researching ways to use technology to find young people who are struggling. Cash found that this age group often makes their pain known via mobile technology and social media sites, finding it easier to post or text than talk. While they'd rarely call a traditional hotline, they're much more likely to text a 24-hour text line—just one idea emerging from her research. Cash is an expert on the role social media plays in adolescent suicide, an issue also recently addressed by Facebook.



Confronting binge drinking

As director of Ohio State's new Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery (HECAOD), Dr. John Clapp served as a source for *The Chronicle of Higher Education's* article "Why Colleges Haven't Stopped Binge Drinking: Decades of Attention without Much Difference." The center, funded by a \$2 million gift from The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, will serve as the premier national alcohol and drug misuse prevention and recovery resource for colleges and universities across the country. Clapp also serves as the associate dean for research and faculty development at Ohio State's College of Social Work. See page 6.



The **OSU COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**
had
28 PRESENTERS
&
35 PRESENTATIONS
@ the
2015 SSWR

New LBGTQQ Research Impacts Campus

Dr. Tamara Davis and Dr. Susan Saltzburg, along with Angie Wellman and Dr. Tayo Clyburn, conducted the most robust study of its kind at a single university to learn what LGBTQ and Questioning students need to be successful. The study, "Exploring Wellbeing to Support Success of LBGTQQ Students at The Ohio State University," engaged nearly 750 students and over 130 personnel across campuses to ask what students need to ensure their well-being and academic achievement. The report was presented to university officials, and working groups are being formed to address key recommendations. To learn more, visit go.osu.edu/lgbtqqstudy.

In the Community

LiFE Sports: A unique camp

Each summer more than 600 youths, ages 9–18, participate in the LiFE Sports Initiative, a unique partnership among Ohio State's College of Social Work, Department of Athletics, and Department of Recreational Sports. LiFE Sports (Learning in Fitness and Education through Sports) targets at-risk, underserved youths and provides sport, fitness and educational activities to develop social skills, increase interest in higher education and form life-long relationships. The LiFE Sports initiative prepares students and conducts research to advance the practice of youth development nationally and internationally.

Nearly 85% of LiFE Sports campers indicated that because of the program, they are interested in going to college.

Dishing out love for homeless

College of Social Work students joined forces at Blackburn Community Recreation Center in Columbus this winter. As part of the annual HUD-required Point in Time Count, coordinated through the Community Shelter Board, the center's doors opened at 8 a.m. on January 29 to serve the homeless in a variety of ways. Students helped serve meals, distribute clothing, set up and tear down, greet, guide and distribute donations. Other services provided: haircuts, employment services and health screenings—just to name a few.



Addressing implicit bias

In January, the college hosted the event, "Continuing the Conversation" to explore how the events in Ferguson, Mo., and other communities are impacting our society and to discuss how we move forward. Panelists included Professor Amna Akbar, OSU Moritz College of Law, Professor Hasan Jeffries, OSU Department of History, and Commander Christopher Bowling, Columbus Division of Police. Nearly 100 students, faculty, staff and community members attended, setting the stage for continuing discussions on the role of the social work profession in responding to challenges of implicit bias.



Social Work at Home &



MARION



NEWARK



MANSFIELD



LIMA

New regional program addresses communities' need for social workers

By Jenny Grabmeier

Many Ohio communities like Marion and Newark suffer from a shortage of social workers, while their brightest young people often leave for college and make a life for themselves far from home.

The College of Social Work's regional program promises to change that.

This May the first cohort of BSSW students graduated, having completed their degrees entirely at the university's Marion, Newark, Mansfield and Lima campuses.

The program is the result of collaboration between the college in Columbus and the regional campuses, where students previously could complete their general requirements but then had to travel to Columbus for their major course work.

"Suddenly gas prices and weather play major factors, not to mention the time spent just traveling," says Undergraduate Program Director Jennie Babcock. "We started looking at how we could help these students complete their degrees instead of worrying about 'I can't afford this' or 'I have to miss class because of weather.'"

Now students at the regional campuses are able to utilize the same mix of in-class

instruction, online work and field placements as Columbus students.

"It's been a huge endeavor," Babcock says. And hugely successful, judging by the growth. In 2012-13, the academic year prior to starting the regional campus program, there were 540 social work pre-major and major students; in the first year of the program, 2013-14, there were 637; and now during the second year, 2014-15, there are 710.

"Since beginning the regional campus programming, we have added 170 students," says Babcock. "It's just exciting and clearly the interest is there."

Of the graduating class this spring, Babcock expects many will enter the MSW program, for which they will need to do some work on the Columbus campus.

Before then, however, the college and its regional counterparts celebrated the first class of regional social work graduates in May.

"This is a way for us to serve our agencies and communities," Babcock says. "It's exciting to be able to say we can license these social workers and help meet the needs of these communities."

Far Away



Global thinking among faculty, staff and students creates personal connections

By Jenny Grabmeier

Social challenges require understanding to solve, and the College of Social Work is integrating new global elements into its curriculum to help students connect with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds.

Last fall marked the start of an international track for students that includes a foreign language requirement and a concentration on electives with globally relevant topics. For their field placement, students in the track can work with a social service agency that serves international populations such as immigrants and refugees. The college is even experimenting with placement abroad, with a student traveling to Mexico for field work this summer as a sort of test case.

“We need to be competent in other cultures,” says Associate Professor Theresa Early. “It’s more than just an acceptance of other cultures. It’s an understanding that our own culture is the reason we do almost everything we do.”

In addition to directing the college’s doctoral program, Early leads a two-week trip for students to Nicaragua. The experience allows students to learn about social work in other cultures first-hand.

Often they learn about themselves, too.

“Until they go someplace with a very different culture, people don’t really understand that culture affects everything we do,” Early says.

“Some of the learning happens when they get back and things seem strange here. They start to see things and realize, ‘Oh, we do it this way because we’ve grown up like that, but there are other valid ways to live and make decisions.’”

Beyond preparing its own students, the College of Social Work is helping to internationalize social work in other countries as well.

Dean Tom Gregoire, Associate Professor Jacquelyn Meshelemiah and Associate Director of Field Education Elon Simms traveled to Ethiopia last year to help the University of Gondar implement a new MSW curriculum—only the second of its kind in a country of 96 million people, where social work is still a new field.

In addition to reviewing curriculum and consulting on field and community education, the three toured agencies and talked with faculty and students in social work, nursing and medicine about the role of the social worker, which is not widely understood by other professions. Doubling the country’s MSW programs will help immensely with establishing social workers as a resource.

Through its ongoing partnership with Gondar and its international emphasis back home, the College of Social Work is finding new ways to help people connect with each other and make a difference.



Our diverse faculty has collaborations or research projects on five continents.

Leading the way

College embraces technology

By Nicole Kraft / Photos by Doral Chenoweth III

When Tom Gregoire took over in 2010 as dean of the College of Social Work, he could see the challenges that have long plagued the field.

Many clients struggled to find time to work with a social worker amid life's activities. Transportation and easy-access locations also proved difficult to find. Resources were getting tighter and tighter all the time.

But Gregoire saw more than just challenges. He also saw a solution, and it looked a lot like the small, hand-held device that had appeared on the technology front the same year he took over his new post.

Five years after its introduction, the iPad is ubiquitous in the college learning environment, joining an ever-growing list of technological advancements that have connected social work with the world.

For Gregoire, the need to offer more effective modes of teaching and receiving services drove his interest in technology.

"We have been teaching and learning the same way in the academy for a really long time," he says. "Technology allows for the possibility that there are other ways to learn, better ways for some people to access information.

"Most of our engagement with people is one individual and one client. Technology has the capacity to make more services available faster, and that is important when someone is in crisis."

Gregoire's first leap into the tech foray came in 2011 after he visited the headquarters of Apple Computers in Cupertino, Calif., and decided to purchase iPads for all social work faculty and staff. But it was not a policy of "come by and pick up an iPad," it was, he says, aimed at developing the technology as a teaching and learning skill.

"I didn't say, 'This is the path we will go on.' I wanted them to discover the paths that worked for them. We provided resources in the iPads and wanted to see what was created when we removed the barriers."

The move resulted in the nation's first three social work courses on the Apple content management system, iTunes U, as well as a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on human trafficking, taught by Associate Professor Jacquelyn Meshelemiah.

The course was split into two tracks over four weeks: one served social workers, the other was for the general public, which Meshelemiah says allowed people from around the world to engage in serious discussions related to human trafficking. The result: more than 30,000 students from 187 nations, with between 5,000 and 14,000 active students in any given week.

"This is a progressive profession," she says. "We have to know what people want and how to give it to them. A lot of people don't have the access to attend universities full time. We have to bring the access to people."

Gregoire says he recognizes that massive projects like MOOCs often get the most attention, but he seeks also to inspire faculty and staff to concentrate on small changes that can make a big difference to students or clients. He cites examples like using an iPad to bring in a guest speaker via



Dr. Jacquelyn Meshelemiah



FaceTime or Skype, or to collect data in the field.

“We celebrated any use, not just being a superstar,” he says.

Associate Professor Holly Dabelko-Schoeny has incorporated technology to meet educational objectives in her courses on large and small scales. To that end she has:

- Developed an online course on family caregiving, which allows students to interact beyond standard discussion boards through Adobe Connect video conferencing
- Utilized the college’s iPad-equipped classroom space to let students record each other and practice interpersonal skills—non-verbal, as well as reflection
- Used FaceTime to bring in practitioners to help classes see real-world applications
- Used the app Poll Everywhere to survey students in real class time

“I want our social work students to be leaders in the utilization of technology and practice,” she says. “There are a lot of poor folks with access to mobile technology. They may not have access to wi-fi, but they have a cell phone and have smart phones and access to smart technology through cellular networks. This could be a way to reach some of the populations with which we are interested in serving. That’s kind of exciting, and I want students to think about that.

“They have benefits supporting people with disabilities—the iPad can turn on voice activation and have it read to you. There are a lot of possibilities there. It’s important to me that students are exposed.”

As much as Gregoire appreciates the work that has been done, he knows it is just the beginning.

His next steps are to engage even more faculty in the creation and utilization of technology-driven content, and to help them see devices as tools that can break down boundaries.

“I want to see technology find its way more into the classroom, not because it’s novel or cute, but because it engages people in a broader way around their learning,” he says. “Technology and social media can change relationships that happen in teaching.

“We need to make higher education more accessible and provide the tools and the encouragement to see what people can create. These devices did not exist five years ago. Who knows what we will be working with in five years?”

The dynamic duo

Kelley Cupp and Byron Roush are the technological wizards behind the college’s digital initiatives, as they intertwine their expertise in course development and education technology with the vision of faculty and staff.

“We help faculty think about different ways to approach teaching and learning,” says Roush, the college’s director of educational technology. “We work on planning where long-term technology fits into the college’s courses and the mission.”

Cupp and Roush may both direct the social work road of the future when it comes to course development and educational technology, but they serve different roles in the process.

Cupp, the college’s instructional designer, works with faculty to develop online courses and technology-rich materials to enhance classroom courses. Working with Cupp ensures that faculty can focus on their expertise as teachers while she ensures an interactive, high quality experience for students.

Roush’s role is to provide support to the college’s educational technology projects, and he works with college leadership and faculty to plan and assess online courses and programs in the college.

Both said they came to social work because of the opportunity to work under such a progressive dean and build a program from scratch.

“It’s a rare thing for a college to have its own personal instructional designer,” says Cupp. “It’s a unique way of knowing that the connection of technology and education is extremely important and is just going to become more so. Dean Gregoire has the vision to see where we need to be online and with technology in class, and to do that well, the college needed to have a team in place.”

Roush says the social work team is also unique in that it sees technology as an opportunity, not a mandate.

“One of our approaches is to look at what is working least well and how technology might be able to improve it,” he says. “It’s not a nuts-and-bolts replacement, or a one-size-fits-all. It can enhance existing practices. We try to accomplish what we would not be able to do without technology.”





“My gift pays forward that which I cannot pay back.”

Preston V. McMurry Jr. becomes college’s first \$1 million individual donor

The simple act of making his bed while a guest at Coach Woody Hayes’ home during a recruiting visit to Ohio State forever changed the life of Preston V. McMurry Jr. And it has led to the College of Social Work’s first ever \$1 million individual contribution.

McMurry’s high school exploits as a hard-nosed running back from Pittsburgh impressed Hayes enough to grant him a scholarship and a spot in the Buckeye lineup. His conscientiousness as a house guest won him a place in the heart of Woody’s wife, Anne.

When Anne looked the young business major in the eye, she saw something of herself and told McMurry he was better suited for a major in social work. He embraced her suggestion and never looked back.

The transformation that took place helped McMurry create one of the largest privately owned marketing firms in the nation. McMurry, Inc. is the only company in the United States to be selected eight years in a row as one of the 10 best places to work, as determined by the Great Place to Work Institute of San Francisco.

“If it hadn’t been for Anne Hayes, Woody Hayes, the College of Social Work and Ohio

State,” McMurry says, “I would not have the key you must have to be successful in your life—a college degree.”

Despite being a coveted football recruit, McMurry admits he was not “the world’s greatest student” when he showed up on Anne’s radar. The problem, now known as dyslexia, was severe and remains so, even at age 78. In McMurry’s day, very little was known about dyslexia and it frequently went undiagnosed. His dyslexia challenged every aspect of his life, but through hard work he became a success.

A proud graduate of Ohio State’s College of Social Work (’60), McMurry used his training as a social worker to see the business world differently than other executives. He combined his business success with philanthropic efforts to create Theresa’s Fund, a non-profit to combat family violence in Arizona that has raised more than \$49 million. Along the way, McMurry was named Arizona’s 2001 Philanthropist of the Year and was the recipient of The Ohio State University 2002 Alumni Association Citizenship Award.

In 2001, McMurry began his philanthropic relationship with Ohio State when he joined Ohio State quarterback legend Rex Kern to

help raise \$1.75 million to fund the Wayne Woodrow Hayes Chair in International Security Studies at the Mershon Center. The mission of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies is to advance



the understanding of national security in a global context, one of many areas McMurry has an interest in.

In 2007, McMurry rekindled his long-standing relationship with the College of Social Work and generously donated \$500,000, which at the time was the largest contribution in the college's history. This gift is being used to help social work students with financial need to complete their degree.

In 2008, McMurry established the Preston V. McMurry Scholar Athlete Citizenship Award. This award honors student-athletes with a minimum 3.0 GPA who best exemplify the idea of "Education for Citizenship" through significant volunteer service to the community.

That same year, McMurry also became the first chair of the dean's fundraising committee and helped it raise more money than it had in 65 years. Dean Tom Gregoire credits McMurry with "elevating our accomplishments in development" and notes that "Preston has been both a friend and mentor to me. Much of what I know about fundraising came from him."

In February 2015, McMurry became the college's first \$1 million individual donor in its nearly 100-year history. His continued generosity to the college will provide scholarship support for students who make a commitment to practice with victims of domestic violence. Additionally, a portion of his gift will support scholarships for the Anne Hayes Memorial Scholarship fund.

About his contribution, McMurry explains, "People contribute to people they like and admire. My planned gift represents my love and admiration for Dean Tom Gregoire, and of course," he continues, "is the result of a lifetime of accumulated campus experiences and influences that have guided me. I hope I have honored the college's exhortation to become 'a change agent.' Finally and ultimately, my gift pays forward that which I cannot pay back."



MEET THE 2014 COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Each year, the College of Social Work honors five alumni who have gone above and beyond to make a difference in the world. These leaders were nominated by our alumni—more than 13,000 social workers living in the United States and abroad.

Please join us in honoring these inspiring ambassadors.



Kelly Knight
MSW '07, BSSW '03

Winner of the Distinguished Recent Alum Award, Knight is associate director at Franklin County Children Services (FCCS). In her current role, Knight serves as administrator of the FCCS' 24-Hour Screening Department, where she oversees the daily operations of the child abuse and neglect hotline and the agency's response to crisis cases.



Dr. John Clapp
PhD '95

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Clapp is professor and associate dean for research and faculty development at Ohio State's College of Social Work. Clapp also serves as the director of Ohio State's Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery. Formerly, Clapp served as director and Distinguished Scholar for the U.S. Department of Education's Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Violence Prevention at the San Diego State University School of Social Work.



Alan Gill
MSW '77

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Gill is CEO of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). Gill has three decades of Jewish communal service and has forged partnerships on the local, national and international levels. During his 20 years with the JDC, he has played a central role in expanding humanitarian services to people in more than 70 countries, including Israel.



John Hamilton
MSW '79

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Hamilton has enjoyed an extensive career of more than 20 years with Big Brothers Big Sisters. His roles have included vice president of programs of Central Arizona, associate director of programs, assistant agency director and program director, and director of the Mentoring Center of Central Ohio. He has created nearly 40 new mentoring programs and guided the Central Ohio agency to become the largest of more than 500 Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliates.



Judy Sillince Braun
MSW '76, BSSW '71

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Sillince Braun recently retired after 32 years of service as founder and president/CEO of COVA (Center of Vocational Alternatives for Mental Health, Inc.). Created to provide community-supported employment opportunities for persons with mental illness, COVA grew into an organization offering an array of innovative and client-driven psychosocial, vocational and peer support services.



“PAY IT FORWARD”

Anne Hayes Memorial Scholarship celebrates a very special lady

Mention Anne Hayes and Buckeye fans will recall the strong, capable wife of football Coach Woody Hayes.

A constant support and inspiration to Woody’s players, certainly, Anne was much more than that. Educated as a social worker, her commitment to kindness and helping others shone through in all facets of her life.

She greeted every acquaintance like a friend, asking about spouses and kids and grandkids by name.

She treated waitresses and janitors with the same respect as university presidents.

She was the one who, in a long and impatient post office line during the holidays, would spontaneously break out in a Christmas carol.

She served on boards, donated her speakers’ fees back to charities and shared her generous spirit with people from all walks of life.

In 1999, to honor his mother’s vision, Judge Steven Hayes launched the Anne Hayes Memorial Scholarship for Academic Excellence at the College of Social Work.

Like other family and friends of the Hayes’, Anne’s great-niece, Cathy Levy, and her husband, Dave, were pleased to make annual contributions to the scholarship fund to honor the aunt they adored.

In 2013, the Levys gained first-hand insight into social work and the steadfast commitment the profession demands when Dave’s mother went through multiple hospitalizations, ending with late-stage lung cancer in 2013.

It was social workers who coordinated hospice care, helped them push back against



Photo by Doral Chenoweth III

From left: Cathy Levy, Dave Levy and Steven Hayes

an aggressive doctor advocating extreme measures, and made it possible for them to focus on loving their mother instead of drowning in the logistics of moving her between care systems.

“They were the angels who swooped in to take care of things,” Dave Levy says.

Through these experiences and others, the couple came to regard the Anne Hayes Memorial Scholarship in a new light. What started as modest yearly giving was transformed into a movement. They are now both benefactors and advocates for the scholarship. Their mission: to make sure those who give of themselves to become social workers have the means to pursue their calling.

The largest endowment in the college, the Anne Hayes Memorial Scholarship has helped support 50 students since its inception. Cathy and Dave want to ensure the growth and impact of the scholarship beyond their own lives. They have committed \$300,000 to the fund—part from their estate plans and the rest with their own pledge. Through this lead gift, the Levys helped the college launch its campaign to expand the scholarship to include The Anne Hayes Scholars Program.

Through the scholars program, the college will award a one-year, full-tuition scholarship to a select number of students. It will give them an opportunity to graduate debt-free without the stress of choosing salary over passion and to follow their calling to be a social worker—to be a true change agent—bettering the lives of those most in need.

Throughout the award year, Anne Hayes Scholars will undertake an outreach project that serves Ohio communities, in-turn reflecting the values of Anne and her “pay it forward” philosophy.

“We’re hoping that people will relate to our story about Aunt Anne—either because they remember her, remember someone just like her, or they relate to our stories about how a social worker touched their lives—and then consider joining us by contributing to the Anne Hayes Memorial Scholarship for Academic Excellence,” Cathy says. “We’re hoping to honor people like Aunt Anne and enable social workers to make the world a kinder, more humane place.”

WE ASKED...

How do you change the world?

“Helping families become healthier, safer and stronger.”



Tanya Shats, BSSW '10, MSW '11

“I work at Shawnee Family Health Center in rural southeastern Ohio as a child and adolescent mental health therapist. I help these kiddos from rural Appalachia understand that each one of them is special and can dream big dreams, even when they feel they have no hope.”



Roger Canter, MSW '13

“By advocating for those who can’t advocate for themselves.”



Lisa Stokes Fallara, BSSW '85, MSW '03



“Wouldn’t change my job for the world. Honoring and empowering our nation’s service members at the Wounded Warrior Project.”

Kimberly Neff, LISW, MSW '11



“Giving HOPE—helping individuals imagine their greatest potential.”

Kelly Maggard Ott, MSW '03

We’d love to hear from you, too!



UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

Tuesday, August 4–Thursday, August 6: HECAOD, National Meeting, Focused on Collegiate AOD Misuse Prevention & Recovery, visit hecaod.osu.edu

Friday, October 9: College of Social Work Hall of Fame, visit go.osu.edu/cswhomecoming

Saturday, October 10: College of Social Work Homecoming Tailgate, OSU vs. Maryland Terrapins, visit go.osu.edu/cswhomecoming

Dear College of Social Work Alumni,

You are part of 13,000 social work alumni living in the United States and abroad, working to transform your communities in ways that improve and heal lives. We'd like to connect with you to hear about your inspiring stories as ambassadors in the social work field, as well as your amazing experiences while you were students. We are proud of the work you do—and can't wait to share your stories and successes with other alumni!

Additionally, as the university continues to grow, let us become your connection to campus. We want to make our large campus a bit smaller and more convenient to visit, creating easier access and more fun when you come home. We welcome any chance to show you the updated Stillman Hall, set up a campus tour, and connect you to the myriad of vibrant and diverse resources at Ohio State.

*Look for information soon about our **Hall of Fame Luncheon and Homecoming Tailgate** (October 9 & 10), regional college events in your area, quarterly networking events and the launch of our Young Alumni Outreach program for alumni ages 18-35.*

We look forward to building friendships and sharing all your good news. And remember, you are welcome home anytime.

Gratefully,

Amy Bibler
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Tareya Jefferies
Assistant Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Engagement
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**WE HAVE SO
MUCH MORE
TO SHARE!
VISIT US AT**



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College of Social Work

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**They were willing to fight for our country.
Now they need someone to fight for them.**

When veterans return from war, they often face challenges adapting to life at home. Brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse are just a few obstacles they battle.

A social worker fights through the red tape to provide veterans with the support they need to find the right resources during these difficult times.

Thank you for being a social worker!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

