A New World for Social Workers

On March 23, 2010, President Barack Obama signed into law the Affordable Care Act (ACA), initiating sweeping changes to address inefficiencies, rising costs, and poor outcomes in the United States’ health care system. Focusing on prevention and early intervention, the ACA emphasizes coordinated and integrated primary and behavioral health care with particular attention to enhancing quality and reducing cost. Social workers will have new and potentially expanded roles in a reorganized health care system, and the NYU Silver School of Social Work has stepped to the forefront in the field to train students for these seismic changes.

In the post-ACA world, prevention will be a priority with one clinician managing an individual’s overall care. Better integration of primary and mental health care will require collaboration across systems and among teams of multi-disciplinary caregivers. Team members will connect patients to an expanded range of services, such as physical health care, substance abuse treatment, and supportive housing.

“Social work is uniquely positioned to respond to the content demands of the Affordable Care Act in that we’re holistic thinkers,” said Mary McKay, McSilver Professor of Poverty Studies and the director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research. “In our training, we have the ability to think about the whole person and multiple influences on their health and well-being.”

One goal of this integrated model: prevent illnesses and co-morbidities from becoming chronic conditions. According to Assistant Professor Victoria Stanhope, patients will be more active in their own health care, with social workers engaging clients through activities like wellness management and facilitating better communication between patients and families. The Center for American Progress and The Commonwealth Fund estimate preventative care alone could save $600 billion over nine years.

Also anticipated to change is the way clinicians are paid—from a fee-for-service model to outcome-driven service delivery—likely leading to briefer treatments and a deep knowledge

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A New World for Social Workers

of which evidence-informed services will quickly achieve a needed outcome. Said McKay, “I think social workers are really going to have to think about the evidence base for the care that we provide.”

Data management will become an important part of social workers’ lives, including integrating client needs with payment reform incentives to agencies, client-desired outcomes, and ongoing quality metrics. According to Andrew Cleek, executive officer of the McSilver-Urban Institute for Behavioral Health, few agencies or practitioners currently bring client outcome data together with payment and financial information.

“The ability to manage data is going to be a huge need amongst the new generation of social workers, and it is something about which we’ve never traditionally thought,” he said.

The Silver School has taken a lead in preparing students for these changes. Last year, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services Administration awarded the School a $467,000 grant to support interdisciplinary education of future behavioral health care providers. In partnership with the NYU Colleges of Nursing and Dentistry and two community-based organizations, Institute for Community Living (ICL) and Community Access, the School has established an integrated classroom-field experience for MSW students focused on services for women with serious mental health challenges. Students take a combined advanced policy class and practice elective in primary and behavioral health care integration and three one-credit intensives, with field placements at ICL or Community Access.

Five MSW students enrolled in the program in the spring semester with 10 expected to join in the fall. By the end of the grant’s three years, 35 students will complete the program.

While it may be too early to anticipate how the ACA will impact field education, Helle Thorning, who with Stanhope instructs the policy and practice elective course, noted, “We want our students to work with other professionals and feel comfortable bringing social work to other professionals. That has always been part of our program, but it has to be even more so.” Thorning, former assistant dean of field learning and community partnerships, is now a research scientist at the Center for Practice Innovation at Columbia University.

“Attending to the training of students—the emerging workforce in integrated primary and behavioral health care—is critical during this momentous time of transformation,” added Thorning. The School is looking to have more group learning in the field, which will be more reflective of team work. Additionally, students must be able to listen to clients, know when to bring in doctors or substance abuse specialists, and think about prevention and care management along with treatment.

The School's McSilver Institute is assisting agencies navigate ACA changes, as well as responding to Medicaid and state budget cuts. McSilver’s Clinical Technical Assistance Center (CTAC)—funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health—offers training and resources to behavioral health clinics to improve clinical services, financial liability, and financial health.

“What makes us really unique as a school of social work is that most schools do not concentrate on finances of provider organizations,” said McKay. This connection between an organization’s strong financial health, best evidence-informed clinical practices, as well as training students in interdisciplinary care, is crucial to the social work’s future and the betterment of the nation’s health care system.
A Letter from the Dean

Dear alumni and friends:

As temperatures heat up outside, we at the Silver School get a short time to reflect on the 2012-13 year. On May 21, we celebrated the graduation of 625 students from our baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral programs. Former Congressman Edolphus “Ed” Towns, a social worker who chaired the Congressional Social Work Caucus, delivered an uplifting keynote address at our convocation. Congratulations to all our outstanding graduates!

In the past year we continued to work on our strategic plan (www.socialwork.nyu.edu/about-silver/strategic-plan-and-vision). We expanded our global engagement through the work of our faculty and research centers and new global learning opportunities for students. In this issue of the Newsletter, you will learn about some of these developments, including the work of Associate Professor Yuhwa Eva Lu in China and a new global learning program established in Washington, DC. In June, we convened a multidisciplinary, three-day conference on “Global Health and Well-Being: The Social Work Response,” which drew speakers and attendees from around the world. You can read about the conference on our website, www.socialwork.nyu.edu.

If you check out that article, you will notice a new look for the School’s website. We completed a website redesign this spring, which brought about several improvements, including a new visual design, a new section for alumni, and a better representation of all that is happening at the School.

Another area in which the School has been expanding its work is the integration of behavioral and mental health care. As you will read about in the Newsletter, we are educating our students to fill this area of growing demand, due in part to the changes stemming from the Affordable Care Act.

I hope you are all enjoying your summer, and I thank you for your support of the Silver School.

Sincerely,

Lynn Videka
Dean and Professor

Make your gift

Online: Visit www.nyu.edu/giving/make.gift/campaign.html?id=13

On the phone: Call Karen Wright, Director of Development, (212) 998-6924

By mail: Make your check payable to NYU Silver and mail it to:
NYU Silver
25 West 4th Street, Suite 336
New York, NY 10012
A Year in China

Associate Professor Yuhwa Eva Lu spent 2011-12 across the world in Shanghai, teaching and conducting research in a country with a fledgling social work profession. Based out of East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST) and East China Normal University (ECNU), Lu taught two courses at ECUST—Community Mental Health and Cotemporary Social Work Development in the U.S.—and one at ECNU—The Progression of Social Work Profession.

Among her research, Lu examined chronic physical pain and mental illness in the elderly. She presented at major conferences, including in Hong Kong on the Social Work Objective Structured Clinical Evaluation (SW-OSCE).

Chinese elders comprised 9.1 percent of the country’s population in 2011—about 123 million people—and are the world’s fastest growing elderly population. Lu studied the efficacy of traditional Chinese healing practices and the body-mind-spirit (BMS) model on elders with co-occurring depression/anxiety and chronic physical pain.

Sixty-four elders from two nursing homes and one community center in Shanghai were divided into two groups. Over a 12-week period, both groups partook in traditional Chinese healing practices. One group participated in only Tai Chi exercises and the second was taught integrated practices, including mindful meditation, Ba Duan Jin, and Tai Chi, combined with group activities and lectures related to mental health—a BMS approach.

“The BMS model is new to Chinese social workers,” she said. “They’ve never really thought along that line. They pretty much pursue our mainstream social work material and have a number of our text books translated.”

Lu’s preliminary findings saw improvement in both groups’ depression, anxiety, chronic physical pain, and self-efficacy. Overall, younger elders had more improvement than their older counterparts with the BMS group’s change more significant.

The Chinese government has an ambitious goal to increase the number of social workers from 200,000 in 2011 to two million by 2020. While China still imports Western social work practices, Lu noted that Cecilia Chan of the University of Hong Kong has researched more indigenous techniques and practices. As an example of its dedication to exploring these methods, the Centre on Behavioral Health at the University of Hong Kong funded Lu’s BMS study.

Lu travelled to Hong Kong in January 2012 to present on the development of a SW-OSCE. The OSCE—a standardized, simulated interview that assesses students’ interactional skills—has long been used to strengthen medical students’ clinical skills.

In a March 2011 Social Work Education article, Lu and her co-authors identified five categories for evaluation: interviewing skills, cultural empathy, assessment and intervention strategies, comprehensive evaluation, and meta competence. To test its validity, 122 MSW students chose the SW-OSCE as the final assignment for a required course at the NYU Silver School of Social Work. Lu found students often rated themselves higher than their client on cultural empathy. Additionally, strong clinical skills did not necessarily translate to cultural empathy and a racial/ethnic match between the student and client did not predict greater cultural empathy or better rapport.

“The results provide strong support for the use of the SW-OSCE as a tool for assessing performance in social work practice,” Lu and her co-authors wrote. “They also indicate its potential for evaluating the outcomes of educational programmes.”

Taiwan is beginning to use the SW-OSCE in hospitals. The Chinese government has made the development of the social work profession a priority, and ECUST and the Shanghai city government are building interview rooms for the assessment tool. Lu said that ECUST’s social work department is interested in having more evidence-based observational interviewing methodology in their teaching.

Lu called her year “rewarding.” She said, “I feel like I was able to use my cross-cultural experiences here working with Asian immigrants and as a faculty member, a researcher, and a private practitioner. The Chinese were very eager to hear and to learn about cultural competency in the profession.”

Technology for Good

Jessica Mason, BS ’10

Since graduating from the NYU Silver School of Social Work in 2010, Jessica Mason has worked in Haiti, traveled the United States raising awareness about extreme poverty, and will soon pack her bags for England as a Marshall Scholar.

The common thread through Mason’s college experience and early career had always been poverty and homelessness. After completing her NYU Silver degree and serving as the all-University commencement speaker, she spent six months in Haiti directing earthquake relief efforts with the Global Volunteer Network.

“It was an eye opening experience and a whole new level of poverty,” she said. “One thing I really saw as a proactive solution that worked well was technology, particularly mobile service.”

Haiti has been a cell phone service leader in the Caribbean. Despite widespread poverty and high illiteracy levels, 3.2 million Haitians—one-third of the country’s population—owned cell phones in 2010. In fact, text messaging was crucial in the first days following the earthquake—between family members and from the country’s Emergency Information System.

When she returned to the United States at the end of 2010, Mason joined an anti-poverty campaign, where she toured the U.S. talking to politicians, donors, and reporters. She also learned more about leveraging advocacy work in the technology sector before eventually landing at Google’s YouTube for Good.

The YouTube for Good team builds online tools and programs for nonprofit organizations, educators, and activists—some are available to any nonprofit via YouTube’s website and others are built specifically for an organization. Her projects have varied from assisting a nonprofit’s fundraising campaign to training teachers in using YouTube to developing a face-blurring tool for activists that allows for anonymity in online videos.

“In my current work, I get to touch a lot of different projects,” explained Mason. “I learn about many different issue areas and sit down with nonprofits to think strategically about their technology goals and what they want to communicate to their constituents.”

Mason is intrigued by how people are reacting to technology and legislation that can potentially inhibit the Internet’s “good aspects.” She stressed that without free and open communications across the World Wide Web, the Arab Spring might never have happened.

“The Internet is the world’s first truly global platform,” she said. “We have a scary possibility that we might create laws that take this away.”

Mason’s social work degree gave her a strong foundation for social justice and policy, and she still refers back to some of her courses, such as the global policy course. “My Silver School degree provided a good combination of a liberal arts base and hard skills that would apply to work.”

During her time in the technology sector, Mason has become more interested in politics and policy, especially international policy. Named a Marshall Scholar for 2013, in September she will leave for England to pursue two consecutive master’s degrees to help her acquire policy-specific skills. Her first year will be spent at the London School of Economics studying global politics, followed by a year at the Oxford Internet Institute focusing on social sciences of the Internet.

In the future, Mason could see herself on a few different paths from a job in government to working for a corporation on policy issues, but she also realizes that technology’s rapid growth may open her up to experiences she cannot yet imagine.

“Technology is such a fast-changing industry, and social media tools are all toddlers getting ready for first grade,” she said. “In a few years I have no idea what I will be doing in this space and where I fit in, but I do know we need experts in Internet policy who will help promote growth and ensure that we keep using technology.”
Dean’s Advisory Council: Working to Advance NYU Silver

“It’s a nice way to stay in contact and to be informed about what’s happening at the University and in social work education in general.”

Claudia Oberweger, MSW ’88, a long-time member of the NYU Silver School of Social Work Dean’s Advisory Council, recently reflected on why she joined this select group of NYU Silver alumni and friends. She continued, “I like to be connected to the School. I feel very grateful for my experience there and the change of my life because of it.”

The Dean’s Advisory Council’s 43 members provide advice and support to Dean Lynn Videka in accomplishing the School’s strategic and fundraising goals. This distinguished body was formed in 1996 with the first meeting held on December 11 of that year. The members have been asked over the years to join by various deans and many accept as a way to remain engaged with NYU Silver.

Members bring their outside perspectives and experiences within the field of social work. For example, during the development of the School’s five-year strategic plan the group’s expertise added valuable input. In 2012-13, the Council collaborated to create operating guidelines for the group, which established goals and objectives consistent with the School’s strategic plan.

Besides giving generously of their own time and money, Council members have been involved in fundraising and development efforts. They have called alumni to ask them to give, thanked them for gifts, and encouraged participation in School activities. This role was instrumental for NYU Silver’s 50th anniversary celebration in 2010.

“It’s not just about money,” said Howard Leifman, MSW ’87, PhD ’01, who has been on the Council since 2010. “It’s about commitment and investment in time, energy, and thought.”

Leifman serves on the School’s Career and Professional Development Advisory Committee, which informed the School’s Career and Professional Development Curriculum, launched this past January. Leifman, along with fellow Council member Carol Kanarek, also provided one-on-one career coaching to MSW students over the past academic year.

Leifman’s participation in the Dean’s Advisory Council sprang from his own desire to give back to a school and university that provided him a superb education. One challenge he sees for NYU Silver is the many changes it has gone through over the last 25 years. He explained, “I realized there were a lot of alums who didn’t know what the School was up to, and if they did know they could be more involved financially and support the School with knowledge and experience.”

One way the Dean’s Advisory Council worked to reengage alumni and have them meet Videka was to host “Conversations with the Dean.” Last summer, Council members hosted two of these events—one in New York City and one in Westchester.

On NYU’s 2012 Alumni Day, the Council hosted an art show and reception at the School to showcase the art of adults with developmental disabilities. All the art came from the LAND (League Artists Natural Design) Studio & Gallery, a creative program founded by the League Education and Treatment Center, based in Brooklyn.

Oberweger said she has been interested in and followed the curriculum changes over the last several years. Besides being on the Dean's Advisory Council, she funds a scholarship and has supervised bachelor’s students—other ways she has been able to stay engaged with a School that had such an impact in her life.

As an MSW student, she worked full time as a substance abuse counselor and had two children. Not only did NYU Silver give her solid training to advance her career, but the administration was extremely supportive of working her field placement into her other life responsibilities.

“That is the imprint of the School on me,” she said. “It is emblematic of the profession, and helps people negotiate their lives better.”

Karen Wright, director of development, praised the dedication of the Dean’s Advisory Council members. She said, “The Dean’s Advisory Council is one of the strongest connections the Silver School has to the community. The Council includes many of our area’s most committed alumni whose experiences in the field and as NYU Silver students are invaluable in their input to the dean. We are very grateful for their service and support.”

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 3, 2013
Conversation with the Dean
6:00-7:30 pm
Morris Country Club, Morristown, NJ
For more information and to RSVP, contact Alexin Tenefrancia at 212-998-6775.

Saturday, October 19, 2013
NYU Alumni Day
Save the date for the NYU Silver Dean’s Luncheon, with the 5th Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony.
For more information, visit alumni.nyu.edu.
NYU Silver Goes to Washington

When I came to NYU Silver last year the last thing on my mind was doing any sort of policy work. I figured I had paid my activist dues dancing for disarmament and fighting to end world hunger in the 1980s. But, like many social work students, my consciousness got raised (again) thanks to policy class in my first semester.

When it came time to choose an advanced policy course, I decided I wanted to do something hands on. I chose the week-long Washington, DC trip because I wanted to learn first hand how I, as a social worker, could help shape policy and advocate for my clients and the communities where I live and work. I found the learning experience to be so inspiring and productive that I wanted to share what I learned. Blogging on a daily basis was the ideal way to do just that.

We had a very specific objective: go to Capitol Hill on behalf of the National Association of Social Workers and speak to congressional staff about current policy issues. We were lucky enough to be prepped by a team of experts led by our professor, Dr. Jeane Anastas, president of NASW. Our three days included lectures about social security and Medicare, immigration, and the Social Work Reinvestment Act by speakers who actively worked in these fields. By our third afternoon we had enough information under our belts to split into teams and prepare for our meetings with congressional staffers the following day.

Ours is a participatory government, and we were actively participating. I was surprised by the warm reception we received everywhere we went and how the congressional staffers we met with were genuinely interested in what we had to say.

My biggest takeaway was a feeling of empowerment. As social workers, many of us see on a daily basis how policy affects the lives of our clients. We can (and should) back up our policy positions with research data, but our greatest strength is that we can also humanize the issues by telling stories from the front lines. After my week in Washington, I am now inspired to raise my voice and truly believe my voice will be heard.

Judy Rosen, MSW ’13, was a student blogger in 2012-13. Read Judy’s blog, Pop Topics, and all student blogs at www.socialwork.nyu.edu/blogs.

Class Notes

Marci Auerbach, MSW ’83, works at Presbyterian St. Luke’s Medical Center and Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children as director of case management and palliative care. She is currently involved in a project funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to address transitions of care from hospital to home in an eight-county area in Colorado.

Debra Castaldo, PhD ’04, has recently been featured as a relationship expert on: FOX Good Day NY, NBC The 10 Show, CNN American Law Journal, The Lisa Oz Show, and in Ladies Home Journal, Woman’s Day, Redbook, More, and Shape magazines. She also published two books, Divorced without Children and Gifts of Love, and is finishing her third, Relationship Reboot.

Rachel Duvall, MSW ’11, recently started as a counselor at Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation’s Margaret’s Place program, which provides a “safe space” in public schools for students affected by domestic violence. She offers individual and group counseling, conducts school-wide anti-violence campaigns, trains students and teachers in anti-violence curriculum, and oversees the peer leadership program.

John Evangelinelis, MSW ’01, passed away on December 9, 2012. He lived in Daytona Beach, Florida, and worked as a therapist in foster care until his retirement last summer.

Diane Freedman, PhD ’07, LCSW, created the Freedman Center for Clinical Social Work, in Suffolk County, New York, comprised of six social workers helping many communities including LGBTIQ. FSCCSW also works with first responders, people who have suffered trauma, and people in the Armed Forces.

Betsy Greenberg Abramovich, MSW ’92, moved to Arizona in 1997. In January 2006, she took a position with the Gila River Health Care Corporation as a clinical liaison and is now a team leader. Gila River is a small Indian reservation about 30 miles south of Phoenix.

Rob Jaskiewicz, MSW ’95, recently authored the book Dharmakaya: The Language of Love, a collection of poems and reflections that capture the richness of inner experience within the Mahamdra Buddhist meditative tradition. He is an adjunct professor of psychology at Rutgers University and the co-founder of Montclair Health Associates.

Harilyn Rousso, MSW ’74, recently had her memoir, Don’t Call Me Inspirational: A Disabled Feminist Talks Back, published by Temple University Press. The book looks at overcoming prejudice against disability. For more information, visit www.harilynrousso.com.

Catherine Traiforou Vlasto, MSW ’95, works as a per diem hospice social worker for the New Milford Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice in New Milford, Connecticut. She also facilitates a bereavement support group for Friends of Hospice, Inc. in Torrington and is an executive with Young Living Therapeutic grade essential oils.

Send class notes to ssw.alumniaffairs@nyu.edu.
Future Social Workers Learn about Crucial Social Welfare Benefits from Agency Leaders

In early January, 30 NYU Silver School of Social Work students gathered for a two-day seminar on entitlement programs to learn about benefit programs and services allocated under the Social Security Act and how they are organized and delivered by New York City social welfare agencies. Topics covered included eligibility requirements, city agencies responsible for the delivery of these services, how to access services for clients, and major advocacy issues for social workers.

“This is just a part of what social workers do and is what sets us apart from other clinical disciplines,” said seminar instructor, Associate Professor Alma Carten. “We connect people to services, and it’s our responsibility to be well informed about the social welfare benefit structure.”

While seminar content is included in various courses across the School’s curriculum, Carten said, “None offers a comprehensive overview of all city agencies and nonprofit organizations. My motivation for creating the course was the need for our students to know what services are available in New York and who is eligible for these services.”

Guest speakers from private and public sector agencies shared a wealth of information that began with presentations from senior staff of the Community Services Society of New York (CSS). David Jones, president and chief executive officer, discussed the agency’s historic commitment to fighting poverty, current research initiatives, and advocacy efforts. He examined issues related to diversity, poverty, and the disproportionate impact of social problems and urban ills on minority populations. Diane Wenzler, director of public benefits and resources, provided an overview of benefit programs. She introduced the agency’s new electronic tool—a one-stop resource to link clients to governmental benefit programs across New York State. Reyes Irizarry, project director of CSS’s Financial Coaching Corps, spoke about this innovative financial advocacy program offering individualized money-management coaching and financial counseling from highly trained volunteers.

Speakers on the second day included Fatima Shama, commissioner of the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs, whose presentation included information about the mayor’s executive order that protects immigrants from the unnecessary reporting of their immigrant status when seeking city services. Charles Hollander, former ACS chief legal counsel, discussed services for youthful offenders and the agency’s recent merger with the Department of Juvenile Justice. Daniel Farrell, vice president of programs at HELP USA and an NYU Silver doctoral candidate, discussed homeless services underscoring the high need for clinical social work services for this population, and Martha HoSang, whose private practice is in gerontology, explored services for the elderly.

Students gave enthusiastic feedback on the usefulness of the seminar content for their practice in field agencies. Myriam Lankry, MSW ’14 said, “With this information I felt more qualified to speak with my clients at my internship and guide them towards social services that can facilitate an improvement in all aspects of their lives.”

Jeremy Donohue, MSW ’14, enrolled because his field placement required him to refer clients to agencies for supportive services, and he wanted a stronger knowledge base. Speakers shared information and introduced services he did not know were available.

“I only wish the seminar had taken place early in the first semester,” he said. “It was that helpful.”

Given the favorable response from students, Carten hopes the seminar content will be incorporated into the School’s curriculum. She said, “Every social work student needs to be aware of public departments that provide critical services, and this essential information must be in the toolbox of every student who walks out of these doors.”
Seen at Silver

Clare Morris, MSW '09, the NYU Silver Outstanding Recent Alumna Award honoree, smiles for the camera with Dean Lynn Videka and Aaron Cooper, MSW '09, on Alumni Day 2012.


Former Congressman Edolphus Towns, MSW, delivers the keynote address at the Silver School’s convocation ceremony on May 21.

Beth Diesch, MSW '13, volunteers with clean up activities following Hurricane Sandy.

NYU Silver Student Award recipients Lily Tagg, BS '13 (second from left), Michael Fiore, BS '13, and Cordelia Brady, BS '13 (second from right) pose with their awards at the 5th Annual Student Awards on April 17.
Faculty Awards and Honors

New York University has named Professor Deborah Padgett as a recipient of the 2012-13 Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest teaching honor bestowed by the University. The Award recognizes faculty who have contributed significantly to the intellectual life of NYU and who have demonstrated their excellence as educators over a sustained period of time.

Professor Shulamith Lala Strausssner has been awarded a Fulbright Distinguished Chair Scholarship, the highest level of Fulbright faculty award with only 40 given out each year to those who have prolific teaching and publication backgrounds. Strausssner will share her knowledge on addiction and families at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic, where she will be a Fulbright Scholar from September 2013-January 2014.

Professor Vincent Guilamo-Ramos has been named a center core director with the National Institute on Drug Abuse-funded Center for Drug Use and HIV Research (CDUHR) in the pilot project and mentoring core. The Center includes six core areas of consultation and training and provides a research infrastructure in support of the work of approximately 50 investigators from four institutions: New York University, the National Development and Research Institutes, Inc., Beth Israel Medical Center, and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

The Westchester Division of the National Association of Social Workers awarded Clinical Associate Professor Sandy Speier the Merit Service Award, recognizing her leadership with NASW Westchester, her work as a mentor, and her contributions to the values of the social work profession.

The School’s Zelda Foster Studies Program in Palliative and End-of-Life Care has received two new grants. The first is from the 291 Foundation, for $225,000 over three years. The second is from The Y.C. Ho/Helen and Michael Chiang Foundation for $25,000, which will help provide scholarships for four Zelda Fellows in their final year of the MSW program, including two fellows from under-represented groups.

Professor James Jaccard has been awarded a three-year, $750,000 grant from the Office of Population Affairs of the Department of Health and Human Services for a research project titled “Improving Contraceptive Counseling in the US” to help reduce unintended pregnancies among young women. Jaccard is working with Planned Parenthood Federation of America and 10 clinics around the country. The project is designed to develop new contraceptive counseling protocols that are grounded in scientific evidence on contraceptive behavior and decision science.

Faculty Publications


Wakefield, J. C. (2012). Der Begriff der psychischen Storung: An der Grenze zwischen biologischen Tatsachen und gesellschaftlichen Werten. (The concept of mental disorder), In T. Schramme (Ed.), Krankheitstheorie (Theories of Disease) (pp. 239-262). Berlin: Suhrkamp Verlag. (in German)


The New NYU Silver Website

The Silver School of Social Work launched its new website this spring at www.socialwork.nyu.edu. The revamped site has a new section for alumni and new information about research and academic initiatives. It better integrates our social media outlets and more seamlessly uses multimedia, such as photos and videos. The website is also responsively designed, so it will automatically resize for your tablets and mobile phones. We welcome your comments about the new site, which can be sent via the feedback links at the bottom of each webpage.