

# NETWORK

ALUMNI NEWS • IU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

JULY 2007

## A Long Way from Home.....

by Gayla Pitts, BSW '85, MSW '87

Ni Hao? (pronounced “Nee How”), or literally, “How you do?” These were the first Mandarin Chinese words I learned during my in-country briefing in Beijing, China. The week-long trip in November, 2006, was made possible thanks to a “human service professional renewal grant” through the United Way of Central Indiana, and funded through the Lilly Endowment. I was part of a delegation of 150 social workers from all over the U.S. who participated in a cultural exchange with our Chinese counterparts, sharing experiences on how each country addresses health, aging, and end-of-life care issues.

Beijing is an enormous city, and after traveling for 33 hours, I immediately experienced sensory overload – strange language, density of population, the air thick with pollution, observing how 15 million people, 10 million bicycles and countless cars and busses make their way through this ancient city, full of both old, run-down high-rises; and modern, state-of-the-art construction. A huge neon clock greeted us in Tiannamen Square, as it counted down to the date of the 2008 Summer Olympics. Sports venues are being erected, and old, polluting factories are being moved outside the city limits. A grand welcoming ceremony in The Great Hall of The People, where countless toasts were given, wonderful hospitality was displayed, strange, exotic foods were served, and some of Beijing’s wonderful dancers and musicians entertained us, we were made to feel very special and welcomed. We were provided an overview of urban society, which is full of contrasts—a culture holding onto the tenets of communism while embracing private ownership and capitalism; political corruption as common as the call for peaceful cooperation in order to build a “harmonious society.”

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*A Spirit Stone gift is presented by Gayla Pitts to a 104-year-old hospice resident. It is a Native American symbol symbolizing longevity!*

## Message from Dean Patchner



History continues to be made at the School of Social Work. Effective July 1, 2007, the Indiana University Division of Labor Studies merged with the School of Social Work. Thus, the School of Social Work will assume all fiscal and administrative authority for the Labor Studies Program which operates on six IU campuses across the state and offers the Associate of Science in Labor Studies and the Bachelor of Science in Labor Studies. Labor Studies and the School of Social Work are a natural fit. Both are system programs, offering degrees across the state on multiple campuses and both have a strong commitment to social justice. This merger will create opportunities for collaborative teaching, research, and service.

The recommendation to merge the Division of Labor Studies with the School of Social Work was developed over the last six months. The IUPUI Faculty Council, under its President Bart Ng, recommended that the School of Social Work consider administering the Division of Labor Studies. Both faculties met, saw the many similarities and possibilities for collaboration, and voted overwhelmingly for the merger. Chancellor Bantz appointed a Transition Team to develop a plan for the merger. The Transition Team also recognized the compatibility of the two units and recommended the merger to the Chancellor. Subsequently, Chancellor Bantz approved the merger.

Irene Queiro-Tajalli, Executive Director of Undergraduate Education at the School of Social Work, will serve as the Interim Director for the Labor Studies Program. Much needs to be done to assure the merger is done effectively and is structured in such a way as to maximize its operations and efficiencies on multiple campuses.

On another front we are expanding our strong partnership with the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS). In 2001, the School of Social Work began working with the DCS (then the Division of Child and Family Services), initially by identifying existing child welfare staff with leadership potential and supporting them in obtaining their MSW from the School. In January of 2006, this partnership expanded to include support for BSW students in their senior year. In exchange for financial support from DCS, these students take specialized child welfare courses and complete their senior practicum in county DCS offices. They graduate with a commitment to work in child welfare for two years. Our first group of students graduated in May and are now working in a variety of counties around the state.

The most recent expansion of the partnership is in the area of training new and experienced workers. In an effort to better equip staff with key skills when engaging families and

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## A Long Way from Home...

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Despite the modernization of this city, the ancient thought and value systems of its people is still very present. There is an old saying, "You will be old tomorrow...so take care of your parents today."

The young delegation of leaders who hosted us had angst over leaving their parents behind to come to the cities for educational and economic opportunity, and are the first generation to begin to defer their aging parents' care to newly evolving institutions--retirement communities and hospices. The field of

social work itself is a "new" discipline in China (although its roots are in Confucianism), which began redeveloping out of the universities in the 1980's to address societal issues such as an aging, unhealthy population, with approximately 10,000 graduates each year. Ten-percent of China's 1.3 billion population is 60 years of age or older, and having lived during the age of Communism, have no material wealth. The Chinese Association of Social Workers, established in 1991, is challenged to alleviate its society's conflict and the strain of rapid advances as a world economic leader. Their tasks are daunting: 1) The speed in which their society is aging; 2) The lack of resources held by the aged; 3) The chronic physical problems that will negatively impact the quality of life of the aged, including high blood pressure, diabetes, and cancers; and 4) Chinese society's reluctance to address the mental health of its citizens, instead continuing the practice of institutionalizing this population.

Our hosts graciously set up tours of hospices and retirement centers to illustrate their new approaches to addressing aging and health issues in China, and I met some amazing health care providers, caregivers and residents. I was also privileged to visit The Emperor's Palace and the Great Wall during this "fast and furious week."



*Exchange of ideas.*

While there, I was struck by the vast differences of the people and their society – the food, the customs, even the terrain, and especially the time difference, to which my body never truly adjusted! But during my journey home I reflected on the amazing spirit of the people, their humility, and genuine thirst for knowledge and understanding about the world. During our tour of a retirement center, I learned that they offer English classes to the residents! I began to realize that there are more commonalities than differences as we Americans tackle the same challenges of providing high quality health care to our aging population.

With a bow, as is Chinese custom, I say, "Xie Xie," (pronounced shee-eh shee-eh), or "Thank you," to my wonderful hosts in China, and the once-in-a-lifetime experience that they provided to my fellow social workers and me.



*Gayla Pitts arrives at the conference after 33 hours of travel!*

## Message from Dean Patchner

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assessing safety of children DCS and the School are working together to provide a comprehensive training system for new and experienced workers. The research supports that well trained family case managers are key to positive outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system. This partnership is reflective of the many partnerships that have been developed around the country between child welfare agencies and state universities. The partnership in Indiana will utilize the leadership, talents, and expertise of our two organizations to combine research-based practices and practical applications in a way that will help improve the services to families dealing with child abuse and neglect in Indiana. When this expansion is completed, we will have 26 people working on this project.

In keeping with our strong commitment to child welfare, Dr. Gail Folaron received a highly competitive federal research grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Her research will evaluate a new Child Welfare Practice Model that will be implemented in several Indiana counties by the Indiana Department of Child Services.

As you know, many of our students have distinguished themselves. To better understand homelessness, Kyle Evan Walke spent Spring Break being homeless in Indianapolis and is now in the process of doing a documentary film on his experiences. Diane Scott (MSW student) is doing a field placement in Eldoret, Kenya, this summer. She has created a blog (<http://www.peteyscott.blogspot.com/>) to chronicle her experiences. (Her blog is well worth logging on.) Polly Lay, Christy Meyer, and Justine Sherwood were selected for the IUPUI Top 100 Outstanding Students and Polly Lay was chosen as one of the Top 10 Female Students. Kendol Enzinger and Polly Lay received the William Plater Civic Engagement Medallion. Students on all of our campuses are engaged in numerous projects to benefit their communities, such as supporting food pantries, walking for HIV/AIDS and homelessness, assisting victims of domestic violence, and doing health screenings to name a few.

This summer we are seeing some transitions at the School of Social Work. After distinguished careers, Dr. Marion Wagner, Executive Director of MSW Education, and Dr. Eldon Marshall are retiring. We will miss them greatly. Dr. David Westhuis will replace Dr. Wagner as the Executive Director of MSW Education. Robert Weiler, former director of our MSW Program at IU Northwest, will become the Senior Coordinator for MSW Field Education on the IUPUI campus. Joining the School in August will be Drs. Stephanie Boys and Carmen Luca.

I thank all of you for your constant support of the School of Social Work. We continue to be a first-rate school dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, and service.

## Tell Others About Yourself!

If you would like to have your biography printed in a future issue of this newsletter, please contact Irene Weinberg, 317-578-7883 or [turtleindy@aol.com](mailto:turtleindy@aol.com). Since this is a newsletter for Alumni of the IU School of Social Work, we would like to hear from more of you and pass your information onto your classmates and others who are interested in what you've been doing since you earned your degree.

## PhD Students Excel in Teaching

by Margaret Adamek, PhD, and Valerie Chang, PhD

To build upon the mentoring in teaching course initiated in 2005-2006, a Teaching and Learning Brown Bag Series was initiated in Spring 2007. An average of 6 to 8 PhD students who teach courses in the undergraduate and masters program attended the sessions throughout the spring semester. Led by Dr. Valerie Chang, this discussion forum met monthly to share resources and ideas for enhancing teaching. Topics covered included: preparing to teach, teaching culturally diverse students, the scholarship of teaching and learning, the importance of establishing objectives for each class, the elements of great learning experiences, assessment of learning, innovative ways to facilitate student reading, the DEAL (Describe, Examine, and Articulate Learning) reflection model for facilitating discussions of multi-cultural content, and the impact of different teaching approaches on Judgment of Learning (JOL).

Our efforts to enhance the teaching skills and knowledge of PhD students who teach or who aspire to teach began with the development of a 3-credit hour course (*S724: Theory, Practice and Assessment of Social Work Teaching*), first offered in Spring 2004 and again in Spring 2006. This course will continue to be offered every other spring. In 2006, Dr. Chang offered a Teaching Mentoring course to students who took the previous course to continue the intensive mentoring around teaching issues. The Teaching & Learning Brown Bag series was initiated to provide a continuing opportunity to share resources related to teaching and to enhance teaching skills. The Brown Bag series also opened the door to PhD students who are interested in teaching in the future. Students who participated in the monthly discussions expressed appreciation for the opportunity to learn from others who were currently teaching.

Dr. Chang was so impressed with the developing teaching skills of our PhD students that she proposed a new award to

recognize the students' teaching excellence. The *Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Teaching* was awarded for the first time at the Spring Symposium in April 2007 to three students who teach in the BSW and MSW programs: Carolyn Gentle-Genitty, Phil Suman and Lisa Lewis. Each student received a framed certificate of recognition. Dr. Chang shared her observations about each recipient:

**"Carolyn Gentle-Genitty** is an enthusiastic, very positive teacher who motivates students to set high goals and then helps them achieve their goals. Besides that, Carolyn has already developed a new method of teaching, whose effectiveness she is researching. One of Carolyn's students told me, 'I want to come to class even though it is on Saturday morning'."

**"Lisa Lewis** is particularly good at inviting students to consider and talk about topics from several points of view. Lisa's discussion style of teaching encourages the development of independent, analytic, and critical thinking. One of Lisa's students told me, 'This class has been the most beneficial class for me so far'."

**"Phil Suman** is an innovator. He is consistently creating new and exciting ways to actively involve students in learning. In every class Phil uses a wide range of teaching strategies. Phil is especially good at relating concepts back to practice. One of Phil's students told me, 'He makes everything real'."

We anticipate that our graduates who have received the *Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Teaching* will have a leg up when they enter the job market to apply for academic positions. James Brown was also the recipient of the IUPUI Favorite Professor Award. This award is given to outstanding educators who have been nominated for the award by a student athlete.

In addition, PhD student Kathy Compton was honored with the prestigious Trustees Teaching Award on the Columbus campus of Indiana University. Congratulations to all of the teaching award recipients!

## MSW Report

by Michelle Webb

The MSW Student Association Representatives for the 2007-2008 school year are:

President- Kasey Demps (2nd year Full Time Cohort),  
kdemps@iupui.edu, 317-459-9387

Vice President- Alexis Rose (2nd year Full Time Cohort),  
rose2@iupui.edu, 765-561-3235

Treasurer- Bessie Proffet (2nd year Part Time Cohort),  
abproffet@earthlink.net, 812-344-1905

Secretary- Open

Student Liaison- Sarah Mathews (Full Time Cohort),  
sbmatthe@iupui.edu, 317-509-1101

Legislative Representative- Cheri O'Neil  
(Part Time Sat.), coneill@indiana.edu

NASW Representative- Open

Part Time Evening Representative- Open

Alumni Board Representative- Michelle Webb (3rd year),  
milwebb@iupui.edu, 765-748-3352

Students have been alerted to the openings still available, but if you know of any current students who might be an asset,

please recommend them and/or encourage them to participate. Not only is a title an excellent addition to one's resume, it's a wonderful opportunity to contribute to important program related decisions and to gain vital leadership experience.

Due to changes in policies related to the student activities fees, a budget for the year must be submitted by September in order to gain access to funds! So, the officers' are in the process of conducting a survey in hopes of obtaining students' opinions & ideas for the upcoming year. Also, in an effort to maximize attendance, they intend to schedule meetings at the same time every month, such as the first Wednesday, so students can plan accordingly.

Dr. Marion Wagner and Dr. Eldon Marshall are retiring as of the end of June. Both will be sorely missed! Students have written personal notes and signed the poster sized Thank You cards which will be framed and presented at their respective going away parties.

As last year's MSWSA Vice President, I will be attending MSWSA meetings whenever possible, serving as a consultant to this year's officers, and continuing to serve as the Alumni Board Representative. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to get in touch with me or any one of the officers.

# Highlights from the IUPUI BSW Program

by Irene Queiro-Tajalli, Professor and Executive Director of Undergraduate Education

We have come to the end of another academic year with many successes and much to celebrate. Here, I would like to highlight some of the accomplishments of the BSW program on the Indianapolis campus.

**Support from IUSSW Alumni.** Recruitment efforts would not be the same without the participation of our alumni. We were fortunate to have the following practitioners share their professional experiences with prospective BSW students and parents at several Fall and Spring recruitment events: Nikki Barnes, Katrina Carlisle, Robert Coykendall, Susan Day, Laura Jefferson, Kijrsten Kmetz, Annette Smith, Jackie Votapek, and Shannon Wilson. Sheila Dennis, BSW Student Services Coordinator, is already planning the Fall and Spring IUSSW Alumni Association sponsored Information Sessions. If you are interested in participating in one of the sessions or other upcoming BSW recruitment events, please contact her at 317-274-5447 or dennis2@iupui.edu.

## Honors and Awards for the BSW Graduating Class of 2007

- Polly Lay, Christy Meyer, and Justine Sherwood were selected as part of the IUPUI 2007 Top 100 Outstanding Students. For a second year in a row, Polly Lay was chosen as one of the Top 10 Female Students.
- Kendol Enzinger and Polly Lay received the William M. Plater Civic Engagement Medallion.
- Christy Meyer was selected by her peers to deliver the 2007 BSW Class Representative Commencement Speech.
- Misha Bennett was one of the recipients of the IUPUI Chancellor's Scholar Award.
- The following students graduated with honors: Misha E. Bennett (highest), Catherine Marie Gentry (high), Kellie Christine Terwin (high), Lorie Ann Long (with distinction), and Sandra Ann Finney (with distinction).
- Jocellyn Ford received the *I Have a Dream Award*.
- Shana Richter received the Undergraduate Student Government Executive Appreciation Award.
- Child Welfare Title IV-E Scholars, Karen Butterworth, Sarah Finney, Whitney Mallow, Wendy Maschino, and Candice McDaniel successfully completed the *IUSSW - Department of Child Services Training Partnership program*.
- Fifteen graduates were members of Phi Alpha Honor Society.

**IUSSW Scholarships for 2006 – 2007.** The School was pleased to award 13 scholarships to BSW program students who met the high standards set forth by the scholarship eligibility criteria.

**Field Practicum Information.** This academic year, BSW students completed nearly 30,000 practicum hours in over 50 agencies. New agency partners include *Beacon Academy, Partners In Housing, Choices, Inc., Concord School, Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana, and Damar Services*. These agencies joined our 75 active IUPUI internship partners in the undergraduate program.

**Child Welfare Service Learning Initiative.** The BSW program implemented the second year of this project with support from the *Commitment to Excellence* funds. The project goals are to increase student knowledge, skills, awareness and service concerning child welfare issues in Indiana. This is a course-based service-learning experience with participation from the following organizations: the Children's Bureau, Family Services, Youth Emergency Services and the Department of Child Services. The service learning experiences include assisting staff in adoption services with "special needs" children; providing child care to children in a crisis center, tutoring and/or teaching modeling parent skills to teen parents; providing leadership and communication skills to youth, monitoring legislative issues that are a priority regarding children, and shadowing case managers working with at-risk families.

Erika Galyean, School BSW Field Practicum Coordinator, developed this program and is coordinating the activities with agency-based service learning coordinators, Julie Stewart, Carolyn Langan, Shoshanna Everhart, and Patrick Hughes. Approximately 1200 hours of service were completed by students. This project would not be possible without the assistance of our fulltime and associate faculty who offer service learning in their courses.

Finally, I would like to end this report with the reflections of one of our 2007 BSW graduates who prefers to remain anonymous. This insightful piece can serve to inspire us all as we continue our important work.

"Who Am I?"

Who am I takes on many faces as I reflect back in time. It encompasses all the experiences, trials, joy, pain, mistakes, accomplishments and grooming that I have had over the years.

I am a woman who has grown strong through the challenges and barriers I have faced and overcome: I can reach out to help others.

I am a lady refined by the guidance of my elders (grandmothers and grandfathers).

I am a mother of a beautiful daughter who is also my friend.

I am a daughter, the second oldest of eleven children. I am a 'daddy's girl'.

I am a sister who lived most of my life as an only child.

I am a friend who takes pleasure and finds solace in having friends.

I am a hairstylist who enjoys helping others to look and feel their best.

I am a student returning to school after 20 plus years, proving that equifinality is alive and well.

I am an American with aspirations and hope of a life of health and prosperity. I consciously seek education and growth within society.

I am a member of an oppressed population.

I am Black; an identifying label given to me in America."

## A Fond Farewell to Dr. Marion Wagner

Since beginning at the Indiana School of Social Work in 1982, Dr. Marion Wagner has exemplified dedication to the fundamental values of the social work profession while serving students, faculty, and the social work professional community. Dr. Wagner has been a leader in efforts to achieve social justice for women, children, gays, lesbians, people of color, and other disenfranchised groups. Being a feminist and social work educator have been a natural fit for this gifted leader, teacher, and scholar.

Dr. Wagner has held leadership positions for the MSW and MSW weekend program for 18 years. During her leadership, IUSSW has seen an increase in faculty and students, an improved curriculum, increased attention to diversity issues, national recognition for assessment efforts, and the development of three regional campuses. Dr. Wagner's leadership extended to the larger Indiana University community when she served as co-chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee and as a member of the Graduate Faculty, University Faculty Council and Strategic Directions Review Panel. Dr. Wagner also served on the IUPUI Faculty Council for eleven years and its Executive Committee for five years.

Dr. Wagner's teaching expertise has been in social work history, political social work, child welfare practice and organizational behavior. Whether speaking to an orientation group or class, Dr. Wagner's teaching has been characterized by her passionate, extemporaneous explanations of complex questions. Over the years, she received many awards for her teaching including the TERA Teaching Award in 1997 and 1998. Dr. Wagner has written and presented on a variety of topics including teaching students about social policy, gay and lesbian issues, and child welfare practice. Her most recent research has been a retrospective history of the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in Indiana, a social justice effort that included Dr. Wagner's leadership.

One reason Dr. Wagner's teaching has been effective is because she has been able to illustrate the content with examples from her own social work advocacy efforts. For example, she helped begin the first domestic violence shelter in Indianapolis called Sojourner and now known as The Julian Center. She has been an active advocate for women as a local, state and national leader of the National Organization for Women. Dr. Wagner has served on the National Association of Social Workers Indiana Chapter's Political Action and Education Committee and received the state chapter's Social Worker of the Year Award in 1984, as well as, the Distinguished Service Award in 2004. Dr. Wagner's concern for better child welfare services in Indiana is best illustrated in the design and administration of two different grants that helped educate future child welfare social workers through a partnership with the Indiana Department of Family and Social Services from 2001 to 2006. A third grant, authored by Dr. Wagner, provides field instruction for social work students in field placements at the Marion County Department of Child Services.

Central to Dr. Wagner's leadership, teaching and scholarship has been a compassion for those who do not have power, rights or a voice in society. When past students continue her social justice tradition, they pay tribute to Dr. Wagner's compassion and the social work profession.

## Grad Bags a Huge Hit at Commencement

The Indiana University School of Social Work Alumni Association in partnership with the Indiana University School of Social Work presented graduation bags to all graduates at the 2007 Commencement ceremonies.

Graduates on the IUPUI campus also received donated gifts from various social services agencies in the Indianapolis area. These items were stuffed in the graduation bags and delivered to the Commencement ceremony at the RCA Dome.

In addition to thanking the School of Social Work for providing the bags, we would also like to thank the following organizations for their kind contributions to this annual project:

*Hamilton Center*

*Lutheran Child and Family Services*

*Whitewater*

*Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation*

*The Children's Bureau*

*Strong Families at Riley Hospital for Children*

*National Association of Social Workers – Indiana Chapter*

*Midtown Community Mental Health Center*

*Choices, Inc.*

*Community Home Health Services*

*Dunn Center*



## Dr. Eldon Marshall to Retire

*Below is the tribute written about Dr. Marshall on April 23, 2007, by Dr. Robert Bennett, Indiana University School of Social Work*

A teacher hopes to accomplish a variety of things during a career - making a required course interesting, bringing textbook material to life, enthusiasm for the subject transmitted to students. A teacher tries somehow to create a vital and vibrant atmosphere in which he and his students together turn knowledge into valuable, viable concepts to use long after the end of the course. Dr. Eldon Marshall has succeeded in accomplishing these tasks throughout his career as a social worker, educator, and practitioner.

Some of the typical remarks heard from students are:

"Dr. Marshall's class filled up during the first hour of registration. I really wanted to have him for this course."

"Try to get Dr. Marshall for the HIV course. He's wonderful."

"You've got to get into Marshall's class. You will learn so much."

What better testimonials to a teacher are there beyond the desire of students to take a class offered by that professor? Dr. Eldon Marshall's classes are always among the first to fill at registration. His course/instructor evaluations are always among the highest in the school. In summary, he delivers – again, and again, and again. He is able to introduce

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## Dr. Eldon Marshall to Retire

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complex ideas, expound upon them, then help students to simplify, and apply them. Additionally, he is readily available and desirous of helping students in every possible way. It is no surprise that he is one of the most well respected and popular professors at the IUSSW.

Dr. Eldon Marshall completed his undergraduate education at DePauw University, his MSW at Wayne State University, and his PhD at St. Louis University. He began teaching in a tenure track position at the University of Tennessee in 1972. In 1987, he joined the faculty at the Indiana University School of Social Work on the IUPUI campus. He brought to the University his practice, wisdom, insight, and a firm professional knowledge base. His career serves as an outstanding example of the combination of social work practice, scholarship, and service.

His teaching methods are intended to offer a variety of activities in order to address the differences in learning styles as well as to make the subject come to life. He masterfully combines a variety of techniques including didactic instruction, experiential application of materials, demonstrations, and guest speakers. He has received multiple teaching awards including the Trustee's Award for Teaching, Outstanding Professor of the MSW Program, and the Outstanding Professor Award in the area of Diversity.

Dr. Marshall also sets a good example for students and faculty with his commitment to his own ongoing skill development and growth. This is evidenced by his completion of several family training post-graduate programs over the years.

Dr. Marshall has been at the forefront of several endeavors at the University and in the community. His development of the course Social Work Practice and HIV disease was among one of the first nationally. He also was the Principle Investigator for NIH Grant "Coping with HIV Disease" a short term intervention grant for people with HIV and their families. In addition, he has served as a consultant to the Damien Center providing consultation to the care-coordinators serving clients with HIV/AIDS.

He has served the LGBT community through his active participation on the Board of the Indiana Youth Group. And, he has taught a courses on developmental issues for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and trans-gendered persons.

In addition, Dr. Marshall developed the first outpatient treatment program in Indianapolis for Adolescent Sex Offenders. He was the lead clinician and clinical director of this program for 10 years.

Those of us who have been fortunate enough to be Dr. Marshall's student, his colleague, or be associated with him in the community, have been touched by his gifts, his class, and his compassion. He is an individual who is in high demand in all areas; thus, making the University and the community a better place. Dr. Marshall will be truly missed by all; yet will continue to make contributions to both the public and the university during the next stage of his career.

## President's Award Presented to Christine Jakacky

On Thursday, March 1, 2007, Christine Jakacky was presented the President's Award by Indiana University Alumni Association Interim President, John Hobson (see photo). The President's Award is the highest award presented to alumni by the Indiana University Alumni Association.



Christine has served on the IU School of Social Work Alumni Association Board of Directors since 1998 and is currently the Past President, just completing her second term as President. Christine has been instrumental in the creation of the mental health conference that has over 200 alumni in attendance annually, the establishment of three scholarship funds at the school, and implementation of a student and alumni program series. She has served on numerous committees at the school and campus level.

Christine M. Jakacky, L.C.S.W., N.C.B.F., is a licensed clinical social worker who received her bachelor and master degrees in Social Work from Indiana University. Christine is certified by the American Academy of Bereavement. She has had extensive professional experience in working with adults and children who are trying to cope with their individual grief journeys. In addition to her work in bereavement, Christine is also a Social Worker at Ruth Lilly Hospice of Clarian working with patients and families facing end-of-life.

We are proud to have Christine as an IU School of Social Work graduate. Congratulations Christine.

## Celia Williamson, Ph.D., Named the 2007 Indiana University School of Social Work Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient



Celia Williamson, Ph.D., was presented the 2007 Indiana University School of Social Work Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna Award on Friday, March 2, during the Human Trafficking Conference. Williamson, the keynote speaker for the conference, was presented the award during the luncheon program.

Celia Williamson received her bachelor degree in Social Work from the University of Toledo, her masters degree from Case Western and her doctorate degree from Indiana University. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Toledo, Department of Social Work. Her research has been in the area of street prostitution. Dr. Williamson has served as a board member and consultant on numerous community boards and commissions, authored many articles, and has been a scholarly presenter at many national conferences. We are very proud to have Dr. Celia Williamson as the 2007 Distinguished Alumna Award Recipient.

## Profile on Jan Lindemann

Jan Lindemann was drawn to Social Work after early college experiences with an outreach program in Inner city Detroit in 1969, Operation Bread Basket with Jesse Jackson in Chicago in the early 70's, and a placement at Family & Children's Center in Mishawaka. Jan changed her major from Theology to Social Work her final year at Valparaiso University. She had planned to be a deaconess in the Lutheran Church and instead received her BSW in 1971. Her decision to get an MSW right out of undergraduate school was pragmatic in that she couldn't find a job with a BSW. Since she was a newlywed with no funds, she looked for scholarships and was fortunate to meet Frank Newman, the executive director of the Jewish Federation. There was an instant connection and he offered her a full scholarship to IU School of Social Work making her the first non-Jewish recipient.

At IU School of Social Work, Jan knew she had chosen the right professional path. In graduate school she met several friends who are among her closest to this day. She was influenced by Dr. Diane Brashear and her work in human sexuality. Jan assisted and then taught undergraduate classes in Marriage and Family under Diane's tutelage. She also led Sexual Attitude Reassessment groups at the Kinsey Institute and at Diane's private practice. Jan is pleased to currently be serving on the IU School of Social Work's Community Advisory Council.

Jan's thirty-four years in the social work profession have been a kaleidoscope of creative positions. After graduate school in 1973, she began working at Larue Carter Psychiatric Hospital. She did individual, marital, family and group therapy often working with psychiatric and psychology residents who were training at Larue Carter. She vividly remembers being in a small basement office with a psychiatric resident doing joint therapy with a psychotic patient who became very angry and began doing judo kicks at them. Jan enjoyed multidisciplinary team work. She joined Dr. George Siskind in developing marital therapy training videos for residents and in co-authoring a chapter for a book. She also partnered with Fran Lehmann, clinical nurse specialist and dear friend, to create an award winning film "Who Has the Right" about mental health commitments.

In 1978, Jan became executive director of the Indiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Work. With her passion for advocacy, she built a strong legislative network and viable political action committee with a presence at the State House and with policy makers. Membership and program development grew under her leadership.

When Jan's first daughter Andrea was born prematurely in 1980, she decided to devote most of her time to mothering. During this time, she intermittently led professional development and self-esteem groups at The Julian Center. She also became involved in her neighborhood and was president of the Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association in 1980. In 1982, her second daughter Jessica was born.

In 1984, Jan began working in advocacy for the Indiana Coalition for Human Services. Again it was Frank Newman who played a significant role in her career. Frank was the President of the Coalition and made the decision to hire Jan. She spent the next twelve years lobbying and developing the broad base Coalition that became the unified voice for human services in Indiana. In its early formation, there were few human service lobbyists at the State House. Helen Daniels, one of the first

woman and first human service advocates, was Jan's mentor. Welfare reform, adequate human service funding, an increase in child welfare caseworkers, Kids' First license plates, and prenatal care for indigent mothers were among the programs that Jan helped address. She received the Indiana Social Worker of the Year Award in 1995 and the Oscar C. McCulloch Social Concerns Award in 1996.

Jan shifted gears after leaving the Coalition in 1996. She pursued two passions. One was writing children's books. She has not yet been published but takes encouragement from Dr. Seuss who was rejected hundreds of times and for many years before getting his first book in print. She faithfully attends her Writers' Critique Group and is a member of the Society of Children's Writers and Book Illustrators. Her other passion is deepening her spirituality through a variety of practices, readings, workshops, and classes. She was an active member of The Church Within, and led their Children's Church and the nursing home outreach for several years. "Many paths, one God" sums up the Church's and Jan's belief. She is currently attending St. Luke's Methodist Church. She is in a Spirit and Discernment Group. Her favorite spiritual book is "The Course in Miracles." Jan also likes reading novels and has been in a Women's Book Group for over ten years.

Feeling the pull back to Social Work, Jan once again brought her coalition building skills to a new area of an unmet need in the community. In 2003, she partnered with Sheldon and Natalie Siegel to launch the Indianapolis Consortium for Creative Aging and Retirement and then served as its project director and grant writer. This initiative is to promote a senior friendly city that involves adults fifty and older in vibrant, creative life enriching activities and programs in Indianapolis. The Consortium meets quarterly to exchange information and identify program ideas and needs. The first offshoot of the Consortium, the Indy Creative Aging website, is being piloted and will give seniors easy access to information about life enrichment programs, civic, social, recreation, and volunteer activities in the city.

About three years ago, Jan felt the tug to reenter social work direct service. Following the death of her mother from cancer, her father benefited greatly from hospice in his home town of Kankakee, Illinois, which was where Jan was born. Jan decided she would like to work in hospice and has been doing PRN or as needed social work at St. Vincent Hospice. She works primarily with families and patients in their homes but also, on occasion, in the inpatient unit. Recently she has volunteered to rock babies at the Pediatric Rehab Center. She feels honored to be touching those at birth and at death.

Jan teases that she is ready to be grandma but her daughters are both very career oriented at the present time. Andrea completed law school at Berkeley last year and is practicing law in San Francisco. Jessica is in her second year at Harvard Law School. Both took after their father who is partner at the law firm of Krieg, DeVault LLP. Jan still believes both daughters will do pro bono or human rights law of some sort once they pay off their student loans. Jan and Paul have been married 36 years and enjoy travel, movies, and golf. Most recently they were thrilled to be at the Super Bowl in row 11 watching the Colts' victory.

To end on a light note, Jan likes this quote. "We could learn a lot from crayons...some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull; some have weird names, and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box."

# A Focus on Irene Weinberg

by Jan Lindemann

The bold purple shirt with vibrant gold words “The Power of Social Work... Real Solutions for Real Problems” which Irene wore during our interview captures both the passion and commitment which she brings to the social work profession.

Born and raised in Chicago, Irene had a distant relative who was a secretary to Jane Adams at Hull House. She decided to cross the state border and attend Indiana University in Bloomington. A bright and talented young woman, Irene entered IU at the age of sixteen and was going to become a math teacher. Adjusting to college life at sixteen was not easy particularly with a problematic dorm roommate. Irene wisely went to her dorm counselor who was studying social work. The counselor was very helpful and even took her to Social Work Club meetings and this is how Irene met social work Professor Theodora Allen. It was Theodora Allen who helped her through the transition and became an inspiration for her interest in social work. In fact, Professor Allen had such an impact that Irene established a scholarship in 2003 through the IU School of Social Work to honor her memory. To date, six Bloomington undergrad students have gotten scholarships and two more have been chosen for the 2007 school year.

A side note which may resonate with some of the other social workers graduating before 1968 when the IU School of Social Work came into existence. When Irene received her Master of Arts degree from the IU Division of Social Service in Indianapolis in 1963, there was not yet an official Masters of Social Work degree designation. For years this caused great consternation for Irene who had to explain how her degree had all the elements of the MSW but just wasn't called that when she graduated. Maybe a wish to discuss this was one of the factors that in 2003 prompted Irene to organize the one and only IU School of Social Work class reunion for her class of 1963.

Irene's field work placements were in the public schools and at Family Service Association. They served her well when she began her career at the Children's Bureau in Indianapolis where she worked in adoptions and foster care. She helped the first blind family in Indiana to get approved for foster care and made the first ever black adoptive placement at the Children's Bureau.

From there she went to the Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Center in Indianapolis where she could use her social work abilities in ever evolving programs over the next 30 years. Irene's compassionate clinical skills were evident in many arenas including her work in outpatient medical and mental health clinics, admissions, community nursing homes, home care, inpatient specialty surgery services, and the nursing home care unit. Once she remembers returning to the hospital medical unit late at night, after an exhausting day, to see a homeless man who

*Continued on page 9*

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(5-yr. payment plan: 5/\$135)	
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Your Classnote \_\_\_\_\_  
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Attach a business card, newspaper clipping, or a sheet describing your recent activities. Mail this form to:

IU School of Social Work Alumni Association  
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 Indianapolis, IN 46202-5198

Fax: (317) 274-6589 or  
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## A Focus on Irene Weinberg

*Continued from page 8*

was in a coma and not expected to live. Holding his hand and talking with him even though he was unable to respond, Irene felt a special connection; he died peacefully less than an hour after she left. This is just one example of the compassion Irene brought to her social work clients. Over the years she supervised several IU graduate and undergraduate students.

Program development was high on Irene's list of career accomplishments at the VA. She developed and implemented several programs which included: social services in the medical outpatient clinics; a new residential care/foster home component for veterans with medical and mental health problems; a hospital based home care social service program; and the first quality assurance program for the social service department.

At the VA, Irene excelled in finding and securing concrete services for people and in fighting for benefits for veterans and their families. During the time she was at the VA, she worked with WWI, WWII, Korean War, VietNam and Gulf War veterans. She was struck by the devastating, lifelong effects that military service had on the veterans and their families and how woefully ill-equipped the VA was to help these people. She is deeply saddened that not much has changed for those returning from the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Professional and personal growth were important to Irene and over the years she participated in many trainings, workshops, and growth experiences. Once when attending a VA workshop in St. Louis in January 1978, a big blizzard hit and she was stranded for three days so she had to use her social work training with weary travelers. On a personal level, her three years of training with Anne Wilson Schaefer in Montana in Living in Process were the most significant and life changing for her.

With such energy and creativity, it is easy to see why Irene could not leave social work completely after thirty-three years. She did however, want more time to enjoy other interests so she retired from her full-time VA position in 1996. She found a part-time position with "Hand in Hand International Adoptions" where she still works doing home studies and follow-up visits for families who have adopted children. Irene has helped place sixty-one children from several different countries. Her career has come full circle.

Now Irene has more time for more of her leisure activities. One of her passions is ragtime music and she has been on the board and been newsletter and e-mail list editor for the Classic Ragtime Society of Indiana. She enjoys traveling around the Midwest for various ragtime music concerts and festivals...in late May thru early June she went to Peoria, IL, Versailles, MO, Sedalia, MO, and Columbia, MO. Irene also enjoys listening to her 1923 player piano which has rolls and rolls of songs. It might surprise you to know that Irene loves gambling and trips to the boats are also a source of entertainment.

In ending, Irene's gentle and generous spirit make it easy to see why she was awarded the Spirit of Philanthropy Award in 2006. She also gives back to her profession by serving on the Board of the IU School of Social Work Alumni Association and enjoys writing and gathering bios for the newsletter. In her will, Irene has designated money to establish a college scholarship for children who have experienced abuse through the Jewish Federation. Her heart strings have always been with children. Irene has touched the lives of people of all ages and has brought "real solutions to real problems" in a powerful way.

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## Many Firsts & Some Yet to Come



Dr. Jacquelyn F. Green is the owner of Green Enterprizes, counseling, consulting and training firm established in Indianapolis in 1983. She has been a pioneer in a number of ways. After receiving her Bachelor Degree in Psychology from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, she became the *only* African American in her class in the School of Social Work (MSW Program) at Indiana University.

Her field work placements were at Larue Carter Hospital and the Children's Bureau. After earning her MSW degree, she worked at the Family Services Association, the Maternal and Infant Care Clinic, as Director of a halfway house for substance abusing teens called "Your House," and at Gallahue Mental Health Center. Following these work experiences, Dr. Green began her private practice in 1983 as stated above. She was the first private practitioner to be certified as a provider of Drug and Alcohol services by the State of Indiana in 1986. She was the first graduate of the PhD program in Social Work in 1999-2000. Her dissertation, "Factors in African American Student Persistence" addressed the experiences of African American students in Graduate Schools of Social Work. Her subjects included students from the two Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU's) and two Predominantly White Institutions (PWI's). Her study took her to Illinois, Michigan, Washington DC and Georgia. She compared and contrasted student reports regarding what was needed to be successful in the Schools of Social Work in the diverse settings.

Dr. Green has worked with numerous school systems to address how to best recruit, retain, and successfully graduate students of color and/or non-traditional students. She has also worked with several corporations and numerous social service agencies in the development of strategic plans to attract and leverage diversity in the workplace. Dr. Green has recently partnered with Roger Lyons, Corporate Diversity Magnet, to open a new wing of Green Enterprizes, the *Diversity Integrity Institute*. The Institute provides in-depth consulting, training, cultural audits, and diversity related products for use with companies seeking to maximize the contributions from a diverse workforce. Dr. Green has presented at numerous workshops and conferences across the United States and abroad. Her travels in Egypt, Tanzania, Ghana, Senegal, England, Holland, and Mali, to name a few, have assisted her in better understanding diversity, as well as commonalities, among people and across continents.

In her counseling practice, Dr. Green focuses upon relationships. She works with individuals, couples and families to implement positive communication strategies and to discover methods of effective problem resolution. She has become a regular participant on the WTLC radio station's "Relationship Thursday." There she responds to callers regarding relationship

challenges and positive practices. She also works with individuals experiencing stress in the workplace. She has found that cultural differences and misunderstandings often contribute to employee self-doubt, dissatisfaction, and depression.

Dr. Green is also a new author. Her first book documents many of the health, relationship, and economical challenges faced by African Americans and provides strategies for change. *Spiritual Resilience* provides a template to assist African Americans in incorporating spiritual practices into their daily lives. Her book has been presented across the United States and in Canada. She is currently beginning a workshop series based upon her work. She hopes to return to Ghana soon, to explore interest that a university there has expressed in her book.

She has received numerous awards, among which her favorites are the Sagamore of the Wabash from the Governor of Indiana, the Trailblazing Award from the National Association of Black Social Workers, the YWCA's Phyllis Wheatley Award, and the Breakthrough Women Award from the Coalition of 100 Black Women.

Dr. Green was born in Ohio but grew up essentially in the Butler Tarkington area of Indianapolis. She is married and is the mother of two sons and three grandchildren. "Her husband, Tony, assists her in the technology and distribution end of her business. Her oldest son shares her entrepreneurial spirit and is an accountant consultant on the east coast. Her younger son is studying computer science and engineering. While on the lecture circuit, Dr. Green is able to enjoy a favorite hobby – traveling. Dr. Green's ideal pastime, however, is spending time with her grandchildren. She finds looking at the world through the eyes of her grandchildren both refreshing and invigorating. She plans to dedicate her next book, which focuses upon education, to her family. She added that roller skating has been an important part of her life for many years and she has skated in competitions in different states across the U.S. And, she is still roller skating, having recently participated in a skating session at her grandson's school.

As related to me by Dr. Jacquelyn F. Green,  
Irene Weinberg

## Christine Jakacky Named Spirit of Philanthropy Recipient

The IUPUI Spirit of Philanthropy Award recognizes individuals, foundations, and corporations that have provided voluntary or philanthropy service to the campus. The 2007 Spirit of Philanthropy recipient for the Indiana University School of Social Work is Christine Jakacky. The award, presented in April, honored Christine for her longtime commitment not only the School of Social Work and its alumni, but also to the IUPUI campus and community. Congratulations Christine!



## 2007 Alumni Conference a Success

The 2007 Indiana School of Social Work Conference was a partnership among many schools and organizations. The conference was sponsored by the Indiana University School of Social Work Alumni Association, The Julian Center, Indianapolis Police Department, and IPATH (Indiana Protection of Abused and Trafficked Humans – A Task Force of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Indiana). Co-Sponsors of the conference included the Alumni Associations of the Indiana University Schools of Medicine, Law – Indianapolis, and Nursing.

The conference, titled “Vulnerable Persons in a Global Society: Responding to Human Trafficking and the Exploitation of Persons in the Heartland”, was held on March 2, 2007. The sold out conference featured national and local speakers on a variety



of topics. The Honorable Susan Brooks, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana kicked off the conference by speaking on the crime of human trafficking. She was followed by our Keynote Speaker, alumna Celia Williamson, PhD, who spoke on “Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery in the Midwest.” Dr. Williamson, a professor at the University of Toledo, said the Midwest has become both a recruitment site for traffickers and a destination for customers.



The morning breakout sessions featured a session on additional information on human trafficking by Gayle Helart, U.S. Attorney with the Southern District of Indiana, Mary Garner, Marion County Deputy Prosecutor, and Carleen Miller, Director Center of The Julian Centers

Trafficked Persons Assistance Program. Elizabeth Hopper, Director of Project Reach at the Trauma Center in Boston, discussed the psychological trauma and practical approaches for working with survivors, Dr. Williamson gave a morning breakout session on sexual exploitation of adults and children. The fourth morning breakout session was on cultural competency in working with vulnerable persons. The speakers for this session were Mark Cassini, Executive Director of Exodus, and Laura Dandeleit, Program Manager at LaPlaza.

During the luncheon, attendees were able to hear from Tina Frundt, Outreach Coordinator for The Polaris Project in Washington D.C. She gave a victim’s perspective as well as information on how vulnerable persons are manipulated and forced into prostitution. She explained why it is difficult for trafficking victims to gain access to assistance.

Breakouts in the afternoon included another session by Elizabeth Hopper on the topic of compassion fatigue and the need for self-care. A session was held on legal and immigration issues with speakers Michelle Gutierrez, staff attorney at The Julian Center, and Abby Kuzma, Executive Director of

the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic. A session on proactive investigations and prosecution strategies was conducted by Gayle Helart and Detective Shawn Ramsey of the Lee County Sheriff’s Office in southwest Florida. The fourth



afternoon breakout was on substance abuse. Helen McClain and Robin Parsons from Fairbanks Hospital provided information on the complex relationships among the problems of domestic violence, substance abuse, and human trafficking.

The planning committee is already meeting to plan the 2008 annual conference. Please send topic suggestions to [kdeery@iupui.edu](mailto:kdeery@iupui.edu). We hope you plan to attend the next conference on Friday, March 7, 2008.

## Class Notes

**Dwayne Kniola, MSW ‘96**, is Clinical Program Director of the Wellness Community – Central Indiana and is the 2007 President- Elect of Indiana Oncology Social Work, Inc.

**Michelle Luallen, MSW ‘06**, is a treatment counselor at Volunteers of America.

**William Manship, MSW ‘01**, is on the board of directors for Dads Inc. of Indiana.

**Carol Morris, BSW ‘81, MSW ‘95**, is one of the Victim Witness Coordinators in the U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Colorado, in Denver. She held a similar position in the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Southern District of Indiana for the past 15 years.

## Mark Your Calendar

Board of Directors Meeting ..... September 19 @ 5:30 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting ..... November 7 @ 5:30 p.m.

Holiday Night at the Children’s Museum .....December 5 @ 6:30 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting .....February 13 @ 5:30 p.m.

IUSSWAA 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Conference .....March 7 @ 9:00 am

Board of Directors Meeting .....May 21 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Note:** All Board of Directors meetings are held in the Room 4130 at the IU School of Social Work.

## News from the Bloomington Campus

by Kathy Byers, PhD

This May, twenty-five BSW students graduated from the Bloomington campus, marking the fourth year that BSW students have graduated from Bloomington. Some graduates were going directly into graduate school, while others were planning to work prior to graduate school. The Class of 2007 was the first to experience our new year-long practicum of being placed both semesters senior year in one agency placement. Students and field instructors both noted that greater depth of learning opportunities and increased responsibilities were possible with this practicum arrangement on the Bloomington campus.

Included in the group of graduates were four Child Welfare IV-E Scholars who will be working for the Department of Child Services for at least two years after graduation: Whitney Dather, Katie Heckman, Brian Jensen, and Ali Mohler. They join the Department at an exciting time of transformation and change, as they learned first hand in their senior practicum experiences.

Other student accomplishments this past year included:

- 30 life books created by juniors in S332 (second practice course) for residents of Bell Trace as a service learning exercise to develop interviewing skills and provide social history information for families and staff.
- Student completion of grant applications for community agencies, three of which were funded, in S323 (organizations class).
- Successful implementation of five community projects, planned by seniors as a part of their S433 Communities class, including a car seat safety booth at the Brown County Family Fair, a kidney early screening program for those at greatest risk, a community services information booth at the Homeward Bound walk, a sexual assault awareness outreach program for Little

500 Weekend on the IU campus, and a community outreach program for the new Volunteers in Medicine clinic.

- Student Social Work Association Food Drive netted 789 lbs of food for Hoosier Hills Food Bank.
- Students organized teams to raise funds for both the Homeward Bound Walk and Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids Sake, organized a Pack-A-Thon for Midwest Pages to Prisoners, worked as ACEs- Advocates for Community Engagement – in two community agencies, and translated brochures, letters, etc. into Spanish at University Elementary School and Area 10 Agency on Aging. Two students started two new student organizations: the Social Justice League to improve communication across various campus organizations and a mentoring program for youth.
- Sigall Rave, '07, who founded the IU Chapter of Camp Kesem continued the program and recruited our majors as volunteers. This spring she was honored by receiving one of the University's Academic Support and Diversity Student Leader awards for service.

In addition, Bloomington faculty assisted in the development of two new Bloomington agencies: Volunteers in Medicine Clinic and Emergency Family Shelter

Where are they now? What we hear from Bloomington graduates...

Shaya Newton is working with autistic children...Michelle Tranor is starting the MSW program at the University of Cincinnati...Annie Lynch has graduated from Columbia University MSW program...Stephanie Mrozinski, Debra Hoesman, and Jessica Scott just graduated from the MSW program at IUPUI...and Stephanie left in June to work in London...Stephen Young is working for the Marion County Department of Child Services...Teresa Schwartz is working with Midtown Community Mental Health, also in Indianapolis. Let us hear from more of you. We enjoy knowing what you are doing now.