Welcome to our special 2016/2017 Year in Review edition of our newsletter!

Sandler Family $7 million donation
Greetings Alumni and Friends,

I hope you are having a peaceful and relaxing summer. Through this newsletter, we would like to update you on several accomplishments from the 2016/2017 school year. We are excited to announce that our school received a $7 million gift from longtime benefactors Phyllis and Harvey Sandler to name The Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work, establish new centers, develop certificate programs, and renovate current facilities within our school to accommodate for the growth and expansion.

Our classrooms are full with eager students pursuing their education toward their BSW, MSW and DSW degrees. Further, this summer we have admitted another large class of new students into our MSW program and are very excited to welcome our 2nd DSW program cohort in the fall.

During the 2016-2017 academic year, our social work students completed field internships in over 140 local agencies and provided 164,800 hours of service to the local communities. We estimate the economic impact of these services to be approximately $3,772,000.

This newsletter highlights some of our many accomplishments. As always, thank you for your support and involvement in our School.

Best wishes,
Naelys Luna, PhD
Director and Professor
August, 2016

**Dr. Marianna Colvin** was highlighted in the Research Weekly Newsletter for her analysis of the service efficacy of a sexual assault hotline in the Southern U.S.

The Community Advisory Board welcomed 2 new members: **Fran Levine** and **Debra Tendrich**. Debra is the Founder and CEO of a non-profit organization called Eat Better Live Better. Fran, along with her husband Steven, founded the non-profit, Emy’s Promise, which provides funding to young women aging out of foster care.

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September, 2016

**Robin Rubin** was nominated from Adolph & Rose Levis JCC for the 29th Annual Woman Volunteer of the Year (WVOY) presented by the Junior League of Boca Raton. This is an incredible honor that recognizes all she does for our community.

**Dr. LeaAnne DeRigne** was interviewed by the BBC World News Service and Wisconsin Public radio on her research on Sick Leave.

A number of students in adjunct **Seth Densen’s** class had their comments published in the Sun Sentinel this month.

On September 29th our school sent representatives to **College Connect**, an event that aims to “connect” freshmen, sophomore, and new transfer students to the college that houses their major of interest. Thanks go to Ellen, Tina, Keith, Sara and Precious for organizing and representing our school.
October, 2016
MSW Student **Chris Leonard** helped draft the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation for the City of Wilton Manors. Chris works for SunServe as the Domestic Violence Coordinator, facilitating LGBT Intimate Partner Violence Support Groups, generating referrals, and facilitating community training.

November, 2016
**Dr. LeaAnne DeRigne**’s Sick Leave research article was printed in the New York Times.

December, 2016
FAU MSW Concentration student, **Shannon McMullen**, was recently asked to write about her work with "To Write Love on Her Arms" for the Advent Activist. Read about Shannon’s experience volunteering for this organization (TWLOHA) for 8 years and the cause of this organization: to bring hope to those that struggle with depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide. What a wonderful representation of what difference a social worker can make! [http://adventactivist.weebly.com/day-18---to-write-love-on-her-arms.html](http://adventactivist.weebly.com/day-18---to-write-love-on-her-arms.html)

Dr. **Juyoung Park**’s curriculum grant pre-proposal Research and Inquiry (RI) Assignment for Evidence-Based Social Work Practice for Older Adults has been selected to move forward to the full proposal stage.

January, 2017
**Brandy Macaluso-Owens**, one of our MSW graduates and adjunct faculty won the US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation's 2016 Director's Community Leadership Award in recognition of her outstanding service to the local community and of enduring contributions to the advancement of justice. She went to Washington DC in April to accept the actual award at FBI Headquarters.
Our school successfully hired a new DSW Coordinator **Dr. Manny Gonzalez** who will start on July 10th and 2 assistant professors **Drs. Danielle Groton** and **Heather Howard** who will start in August 2017.

**Dr. Juyoung Park** had an article published on the FAU Research press release regarding her “Chair Yoga Effective Way to Treat Osteoarthritis” study.  
http://www.fau.edu/newsdesk/articles/chair-yoga-study.php

**Dr. LeaAnne DeRigne** had her article on sick leave chosen as the Health Affairs Journal Editor’s top 2016 article.  
http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2017/01/06/health-affairs-in-2016-editors-picks/

**February, 2017**

**Dr. Allan Barsky’s** latest book “Conflict Resolution for the Helping Professions” was published by Oxford University Press.

**March, 2017**

**Dr. Juyoung Park** had an article published in the Sun Sentinel that highlights her research on the effectiveness of chair yoga.

**Dr. Heather Thompson** received the 2016-2017 Scholar of the Year Award for the Assistant Professor level. Dr. Thompson was recognized at the Honors Convocation Ceremony on April 19th.

Phi Alpha sponsored the annual **Social Work Career Fair** on March 20th in the CSDI rotunda. 23 different agencies were represented at the event.

On March 3rd 2017, we had an amazing and enthusiastic group of FAU alumni attending the Alumni Society Breakfast event. Miriam Garcia from Women in Distress presented on Domestic Violence providing us with 1 CEU. Thanks to our Director, Dr. Luna and MSW Coordinator, Joy McClellan for participating. A big thank you to Caron Renaissance for sponsoring us with a delicious breakfast.
This year’s **Suicide Prevention Walk** was a success!! We had 3x the number of registered walkers participate (around 600) and raised nearly twice as much money, compared to last year's walk. $18,000 was raised for suicide prevention, research, advocacy, and programming. Our school ended up being the top team, both in participation and fundraising, and we got to hold the banner as we walked around the route. Phi Alpha's Positive Affirmation Stand turned out amazing as well. Several community agencies came out to show support and provide walkers with information, education, and resources, including: NASW, NAMI, the Alliance for ED Awareness, Palm Beach 2-1-1, Aid to Victims of Domestic Violence, Jewish Family Services, and Al-Anon.

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**April, 2017**

On April 28th, longtime benefactors **Phyllis and Harvey Sandler** donated $7 million to name our school the **Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work.** The gift will also establish the Substance Misuse, Mental Health and Recovery Research Center and the Robin Rubin Mindfulness and Wellness Center. It will provide certificate programs in addiction/neuroscience, military/veteran affairs and non-profit management and leadership. A portion of the gift will also go toward College renovations expanding our facilities for extra space for more classrooms and offices to accommodate the program’s growths and needs.

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On April 28th we had our annual **Phyllis Sandler Heart of Social Work** event. **Lydia Bartram** was recognized as Outstanding Alumni and **Broward County School Board** was recognized as Outstanding Field Agency. BSW student **Lynn Gordon** and MSW student **Pamela Ramsewak** read their winning essays. A special announcement was made by President John Kelly regarding our $7 million donation from the **Sandler Family** and new school name.
Students of Social Work ("SOS") is a student organization which provides its members with distinct avenues to enhance their education and careers. Its main event for the year happened in April when SOS hosted the annual trip to Tallahassee for **Legislative, Education, and Advocacy (LEAD) Day**. More than 60 students across both the BSW and MSW programs spent 3 days engaging with Senators and Representatives, as well as a Supreme Court Justice, around topics of social justice and legislative priorities for the profession of social work. This learning opportunity allowed students to translate course content into action and contribute to social work practice at the policy-level. Students built connections that will strengthen their professional career networks and also deepened relationships with each other in ways that reinforce the culture of community in the school and across programs.

The National Association of Social Workers, Office of Ethics and Professional Review hosted a Virtual Ethics Round Table on April 21st. Among the panel was **Dr. Allan Barsky** who with other acclaimed social work ethics experts weighed in on today’s political climate and the ethical implications for social work practice and administration during a live online broadcast.

In April one of our students **Tabitha Bush** participated on a human trafficking panel with Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz. The story was featured on WSVN 7 News and in the Sun Sentinel newspaper. Tabitha can be seen around:52 in the video. Tabitha couldn’t attend LEAD, but she used this as her project and did a great job of representing FAU and social work.

Congratulations to **Dr. Woody Hamlin**, on his appointment as Professor Emeritus by the Florida Atlantic University. Dr. Hamlin served as MSW Coordinator and professor from 1999 to his retirement in 2016. Students and faculty alike appreciate the commitment, enthusiasm, knowledge, and social work values that Dr. Hamlin brought to his teaching, research, administration, and service.
Georgia Brown, Everiste Ambris and Dr. Keith Platt were promoted to senior instructors. Drs. Naelys Luna and Gail Horton Chewning were promoted to full professor.

May, 2017

On May 3rd we celebrated our MSW Induction Ceremony where our 1000th graduate Shanekia Calbert was recognized to much fanfare. The event was held once again in the Barry Kaye Auditorium where we had a record number of attendees. Our keynote speaker was Gina L. Duncan who spoke about her transgender experience and equality. 127 MSW students graduated this spring.

Dr. Juyoung Park was awarded Fellow status through the Health Sciences Section, The Gerontological Society of America (GSA). GSA fellowship is the highest class of membership and represents an acknowledgment of Dr. Park’s outstanding and continuing work in the field of gerontology. Dr. Park’s contributions to the field of gerontology bring excellence and national/international recognition to our school, college and university.

On May 19th our field faculty sponsored a Field Recognition Seminar in the Live Oak Pavilion. In attendance were 50 field instructors. Drs. Michele Hawkins and Arlene Kaplan were presented with awards for their dedication to the program. Speaker Robin Rubin presented a Mindfulness & Wellness seminar entitled “Habits of Happy People.”

Our DSW program had a very successful first year. The first cohort of students are progressing very well in the program. We have admitted 11 students as a 2nd cohort that will begin the program in Fall 2017. We have established a collaboration with the Brain Institute and the College of Medicine/Psychiatry residency program to strengthen doctoral program research and instruction.
June, 2017

Our school’s MSW program ranked #2 of top Social Work Schools for 2017 according to student reviews from GraduatePrograms.com. This is up from #6 last year.

Our College has a permanent Dean – Dr. Wesley Hawkins, Professor in Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work who served as interim dean for 2 years.

**Dr. Juyoung Park’s** pilot study “Effects of Chair Yoga in Older Adults with Moderate to Severe Dementia” was selected for funding. Dr. Park will use a three-arm randomized control trial design with two control groups (participatory music intervention [MI] and chair-based exercise [CBE]). This is an interdisciplinary research project that involves the College of Medicine, and other professionals including a physical therapist, a yoga therapist, and a music therapist. In addition, one of our MSW students and one of our BSW students will be joining Dr. Park’s research team. This pilot study will provide research experience for both students, increasing the involvement of undergraduate students in research.

Dr. Allan Barsky presented on the “Ethics of Online Dispute Resolution” at the Access to Justice and ODR Conference Sponsored by UNESCO and the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, France.
Our **Professional Development Office** had an active year with a number of courses presented. Dr. Allan Barsky led a “Social Work and Technology” ethics seminar on 2/10. We also had 2 LCSW training sessions on 4/8 and 5/6 and a CBT course the week of 5/8 all of which were led by Dr. David Landsman-Wohlsifer. The sessions were well attended. Upcoming events for the next year include lectures on “Healthy Relationships – The Most Important Subject We Never Learned in School”, “Understanding and Treating Sexual Addiction”, “Interpersonal Mindfulness” and additional LCSW Exam prep courses. Other courses will be offered in the spring on ethics, mindfulness and resilience.
Faculty Publications in 2016-2017


DeRigne, L., Stoddard-Dare, P., & Quinn, L. (2016). Workers without paid sick leave less likely to time off work for illness or injury compared to those with paid sick leave. benefits and foregone, delayed, and high cost medical care. Health Affairs, 35(3).


Faculty Publications in 2016-2017


**Faculty Publications in 2016-2017**


**Thompson, H. M., & Colvin, M. L. (in press).** Perceived needs of therapeutic service providers in their work with families in the child welfare system. Accepted to *Child and Adolescent Social Work*.


Give a gift that keeps on giving. Your contribution to FAU Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work supports students who will be devoting their careers to improving the lives of people. Your gift helps support research that seeks to understand how we can improve the lives of people in all walks of life. Your gift can make a difference. Give today.

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