SOCIAL WORK AND THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY



Social Work
Day on the Hill
Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Student
Advocacy Day
Thursday, March 11, 2021



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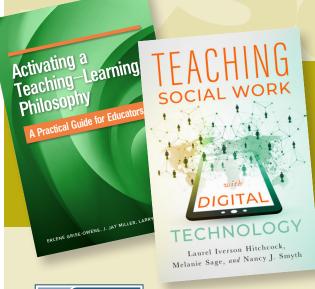
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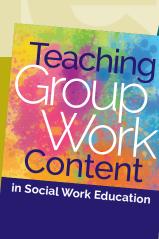


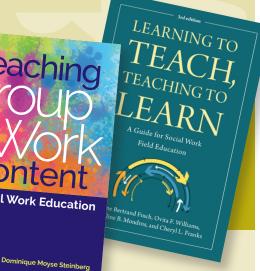
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March 10, 2021

Greetings fellow social workers and all people of good will as we celebrate another March is Social Work Month! Much has transpired since our celebration was shortened last year. We are still battling the Covid-19 virus that has contributed to the deaths of more than a half million Americans. Fortunately, the country has new leadership with a more effective plan for getting the pandemic under control. The Biden-Harris Administration is off to a good start with the passage of the \$1.9 trillion fiscal stimulus plan that will bring relief to millions of Americans who have been hammered by the health and economic crises.

Three years ago we raised the question: Can Social Work Help Save Democracy? in response to Nancy MacLean's book Democracy in Chains: The Deep History of the Radical Right's Stealth Plan for America. We saw evidence of our profession's desire to fight for the preservation of democracy through intensive voter registration and mobilization projects throughout the nation, led by the work of the National Voter Mobilization Project (Voting Is Social Work). We also will be launching the Social Work Democracy Project in 2021.

We witnessed on January 6th the storming of the nation's Capitol by a mob of insurrectionists bent on preventing the counting and certification of the Electoral College results. While Mr. Trump has been removed from office, he is already contemplating his return. With the Supreme tilted farther to the right with the addition of three justices appointed by the Trump administration, many states are emboldened to increase their efforts to suppress voting. According to a recent report by the Brennan Center for Justice, 43 states have introduce 253 bills to restrict voters access to the polls.

Despite the challenge of producing our events virtually, CRISP decided there is little time to waste in countering these challenges. Social workers need to be engaged with our government and we thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Lewis, Jr, MSW, PhD

Charles E Lewis Jr

Director





The National Association of Social Workers is a proud sponsor of the **CRISP 2021 Social Work Day on the Hill**

To learn more about NASW's advocacy work in Congress and regulatory agencies visit socialworkers.org/Advocacy

Social Work Day on the Hill Policy & Politics Forum

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 • 9:00 a.m. EST

Social Work and the Future of Democracy

Moderator



Justin Hodge, LMSW, is a clinical assistant professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan where he promotes socially just policies through his engagement in governmental and political organizations. A licensed MSW, he earned his MSW degree at the University of Michigan. Justin was elected to serve the Washtenaw County community as both the Chair of the Eastern Washtenaw Democratic Club and the Vice-Chair of the Legislative Committee for the Washtenaw County Democratic Party. He was also appointed to serve on the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Community Advisory Board for Law Enforcement where he brings a social justice perspective to the board.

The Panel



Dr. Mimi Abramovitz is the Bertha Capen Reynolds Professor of Social Work at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College and The CUNY Graduate Center. She is co-leader of the Social Work National Voter Mobilization Campaign. Known nationally and internationally as a public intellectual and an activist, she publishes widely on issues related to women, poverty, human rights, the U. S. welfare state and the impact of public policy on non-profit human service agencies—all through the lens of race, class and gender. She earned her B.A. in sociology at the University of Michigan and her MSW and PhD at Columbia University School of Social Work.



Chad Dion Lassiter is a national expert in the field of American race relations. Mr. Lassiter has worked on race, peace, and poverty-related issues in the United States and abroad. He is currently the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, where he has legislatively delegated authority to investigate a complaint alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination. Mr. Lassiter received his Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Social Work, where he was the A. Phillip Randolph Award winner in 2001 and he received his bachelor's degree in Social Work from Johnson C. Smith University in 1995.



Edolphus "Ed" Towns is former Member of the United States House of Representatives where he served 15 terms (30 years) representing citizens of Brooklyn, New York. During his distinguished career in Congress, Ed Towns rose to become the Chairman of the powerful House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. In 1991, he was elected Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) in 1991 and in 2010, he founded the Congressional Social Work Caucus during the 111th Congress. He earned his MSW degree from Adelphi University School of Social Work. Ed Towns is a principal with Gray Global Advisors, a consultant for the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC), and a board member for World Business Lenders.



Charles E. Lewis, Jr. is the founding Director of the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy (CRISP). He is an adjunct professor at Columbia University School of Social Work and a member of the Grand Challenges for Social Work Leadership Board. He was recently inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. Dr. Lewis was Deputy Chief of Staff and Communications Director for former Congressman Ed Towns Towns when he oversaw the creation of the Congressional Social Work Caucus. He earned his MSW degree in clinical counseling from Clark Atlanta University and PhD in policy, planning and policy analysis from Columbia University.

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Andrea Joseph

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Social Work Day on the Hill

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 • 11:00 a.m. EST

Social Work and the Future of Democracy



DONISHA COTLONERecent Graduate of
University of Houston



MONIKA J. SOTO MSW Student at Columbia University



SIERRA WOLLEN
Recent Graduate of
University of Washington



TAYLOR BROWN
Recent Graduate of
The Brown School

SOCIAL WORKERS

YOUNG



JABREE HARRIS
Recent Graduate of
Howard University





MIRIAM EDELMAN Recent Graduate of Columbia University



RENESON JEAN-LOUIS

MSW Student at

Columbia University



ALI LOZANORecent Graduate of University of Houston



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Coming Soon! The Social Work Democracy Project

The Social Work Democracy Project (SWDP) will serve as the vehicle for a concerted effort by the social work profession to push back against forces seeking to disrupt, corrupt, and destroy the system of democracy in the United States as described in the Constitution. While an imperfect document, the Constitution was designed to create a society wherein all citizens are guaranteed the right to full citizenship. Social workers will be encouraged to educate ourselves on the workings of our government and participate in activities that promote social work values and lead to a more equitable and egalitarian society.

The idea for the project was spawned by a panel discussion at the 2019 NADD Fall Annual Meeting in Denver on October 23, 2019 as a concur-



rent session that drew approximately 40 deans and directors. The panel consisted of Dr. Teasley; Dr. Uehara; Dr. Lewis; Dr. Sandra Crewe, dean of the Howard University School of Social Work; and Dr. Laura Abrams, chair of the Department of Social Welfare at the Luskin School of Public Affairs at UCLA. After another well-received presentation with numerous ideas

proffered by the deans and directors, it was decided the panel—with the addition of Dr. Alan Dettlaff, dean at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work—would comprise the initial steering committee to further develop the idea of the Social Work Democracy Project.

The goal of the Social Work Democracy Project is to marshal the collective abilities and energy of educators, researchers, practitioners, and students in an effort to address threats to democracy and its institutions in the United States. The SWDP will identify and monitor projects that are underway and create opportunities for participation in SWDP-initiated projects.

A primary goal of the Social Work Democracy Project is to

continued on page 25



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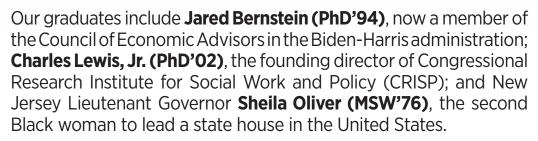
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Our **Fisher Cummings Washington Fellows Program** provides an exciting opportunity for MSW students in the policy concentration to complete internships in Washington, DC. Fisher Cummings Fellows have been placed at federal agencies, congressional offices, and a variety of NGOs—ranging from the national office of NASW to the Brookings Institution.

From top: CSSW alumni Jared Bernstein, Charles Lewis, and Sheila Oliver

Professors Irwin Garfinkel, Ronald Mincy, and Jane Waldfogel





CSSW Graduate Degree Options

SPECIAL REPORT: CSSW and U.S. Politics & Government

Two CRISP Fellows Among AASWSW's 2021 Inductees

Dr. Charles E. Lewis, Jr., the founding Director of the Congressional Research Institute for Social and Policy (CRISP), and Dr. David L. Albright, a member of the CRISP Board of Directors and Professor and Hill Crest Endowed Chair of Mental Health Research at the University of Alabama School of Social Work were among twelve individuals selected for induction into the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare during a ceremony featured at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) conference on January 22, 2021.

According to the AASWSW, they were recognized for "their distinguished accomplishments as scholars and practice and policy leaders dedicated to achieving excellence in high-impact work to advance social good." "It is gratifying to be recognized

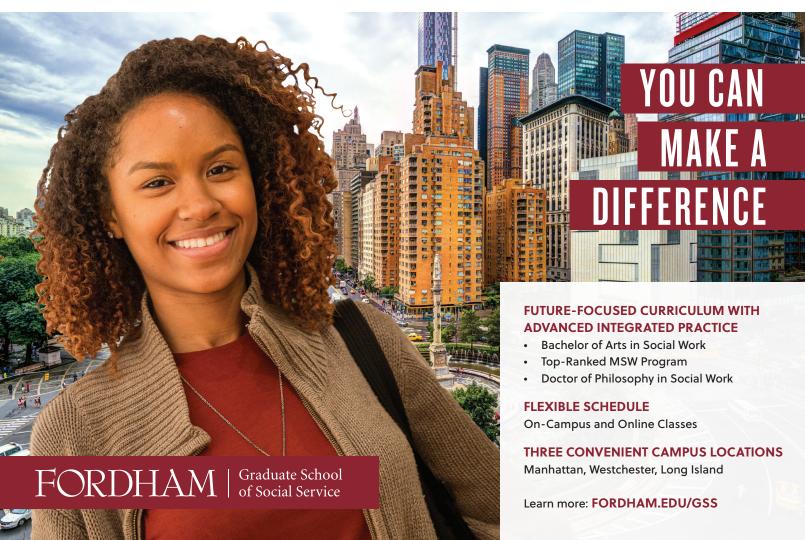


Dr. Charles E. Lewis, Jr.

Dr. David L. Albright

for the work you do," Dr. Lewis said. "I believe my most impactful work is yet to be done." Election into the AASWSW is through a confidential nomination by current Fellows and election by

a supermajority of Fellows. "I am humbled to be named to the Academy which is the highest recognition the profession can bestos on a social work scholar," Dr. Albright said.



2021 CRISP Student Advocacy Day Leadership Team



Nathalia Mora Columbia University CRISP Fellow



Noshin HoqueColumbia University
Team Leader



Monika J. Soto Columbia University CRISP Fellow



Tiffani L. Hutton Columbia University



Taylor BrownThe Brown School



Jen NakosSacred Heart University



Jessica Cherry
Barry University



Stacey BaxterCatholic University



Laura Kuhn University of Maryland



Allie Maskin Columbia University



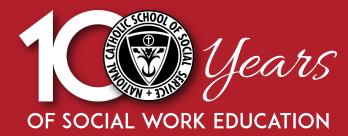
Sarah Jamgotch Columbia University



Elizabeth Corkery
Columbia University



Kelly Anguiano Columbia University



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Student Advocacy Day

Thursday, March 11, 2020 8:00 a.m. PST/11:00 a.m. EST



Morning Program begins at 8:00 a.m. PST/11 a.m. EST and will end at 10: a.m. PST/1:00 p.m.

Meetings begin after the Morning Program until 1:00 p.m PST/4:00 p.m. EST

There will be ongoing activities on the Stage and in various Booths throughout the day



Morning Program

Opening Remarks • Dr. Charles E. Lewis, Jr., CRISP Director

Welcome • Noshin Hoque, CRISP Leadership Team Leader

Greetings • Special Guests

Overview of the Day • Nathalia Mora, CRISP Fellow

Overview of Legislation • CRISP Leadership Team

Introduction of Keynote Speaker • Monika J. Soto, CRISP Fellow

Keynote Speaker • Luisa Lopez, Manhattan Borough President's Office

Wrap-Up • Noshin Hoque, CRISP Leadership Team Leader

Meetings • 10:00 a.m. PST / 1:00 p.m. EST

Networking Session • 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. PST / 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. EST

Debriefing Session • 2:00 p.m. PST / 5:00 p.m. EST



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We are proud to recognize the vital work of the Center for Social Development and **Michael Sherraden**, its founding director. The Center's research on voter access and equity exposes opportunities for more inclusive voter participation. Its research and influence in Child Development Account policy are creating positive impacts in our nation and around the world.



Mary M. McKay

Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean of the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

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The National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work supports CRISP and its pledge to promote the Future of Democracy. We believe in morality, truth, and social justice as central to democratic well-being in society.



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CRISP Political Boot Camp to Resume in 2022

After careful consideration, coordinators of CRISP's Political Boot Camp and Media Training decided to forego organizing an event in July 2021 and begin planning for an in-person event in 2022. It was decided that although the country seems to be making significant progress stemming the pandemic, it is still uncertain what the circumstances will be four months from now.

The four-day intensive political and media training has received rave reviews since its inauguration in 2017. Sixty-six social work students, faculty and practitioners have participated in the three previous Boot Camps. The 2020 event was cancelled during the height of the Covid-19 virus outbreak. The next event is being coordinated by Justin Hodge, a clinical assistant professor in the School of



Donisha Cotlone, a graduate of the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work, seen here at the 2019 CRISP Boot Camp.

Social Work at the University of Michigan, and Dr. Jason Ostrander, an

assistant professor at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut. Both have been actively engaged in political social work.

The University of Michigan School of Social Work recently announced the initiation of a MSW program specialization in political social work. The school now offers an online certificate program for which Hodge is an instructor. He recently was elected to a seat on the Washtenaw County Commission Board.

Ostrander earned his MSW and PhD at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, the home of the Nancy A. Humphreys Institute for Political Social Work where he was mentored by the late Dr. Humphreys, the foremost proponent of more social workers being engaged in the political arena.



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Congratulations to Our 2021 AConorees

Congressional Social Worker of the Year



Congressmember Karen Bass was re-elected to her sixth term representing the 37th Congressional District in November 2020. Congressmember Bass serves on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs where she is the Chair of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights. She also serves on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism. Rep. Bass served as the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in 2019 and 2020. Rep. Bass founded the bipartisan Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth. Prior to going to Congress, she made history by becoming the first-ever African American woman to serve as speaker in a state legislature.

Congressional Social Worker Staffer of the Year



Anneliese Marcojohn is the Deputy Long Island Regional Director for Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer. Anneliese provides constituent services to residents of Long Island. Additionally, she works with the Regional Director to arrange for press conferences and other events for Senator Schumer on Long Island. In the last year, Anneliese has organized press conferences aimed to bring awareness to the pending legislation around domestic violence and forgiving student loan debt. Anneliese graduated with a Master of Social Work, specializing in Community, Policy, and Political Social Action from Stony Brook University.

Outstanding Individual in Academia



Tanya Rhodes Smith is the Director of the Nancy A. Humphreys Institute for Political Social Work and an Instructor in residence at the UConn School of Social Work. She teaches Program Planning and Evaluation, Political Advocacy and Political Social Work. Since earning her MSW in 2000, she has worked in a variety of settings and has been a committed advocate for children and families in the Bridgeport area. She has experience in policy development, nonprofit administration, team management, community organizing, legislative advocacy, research and evaluation.

Outstanding Student of the Year



Caprecia Miller is a Master of Social Work student at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. During her time at GMU she has been incredibly involved with voter education and registration in Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. In April 2019, she joined the "When We All Vote" team and began serving as a Voting Squad Captain. Despite the pandemic, she sought creative and safe ways to educate and register 400 new voters in the community, focusing her efforts on marginalized communities and vulnerable populations. She worked diligently with formerly incarcerated citizens with their restoration of rights process. She also registered people experiencing homelessness at local shelters.

Outstanding Individual in Government



Liliana Hernandez is a Child Welfare Program Specialist in the Children's Bureau, Division of Program Implementation at the Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services. Her portfolio includes the Kinship Navigator programs, Guardianship Assistance Program and the Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Projects, and the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare. She also serves on the Administration of Community Living, Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Advisory Council. She received a Masters of Social Work and a Masters of Public Policy from the University at Albany.

Previous Honorees			
	2020	2019	2018
Congresssional Social Worker	Rep. Sylvia Garcia	(No Awardee)	Rep. Karen Bass
Outstanding Hill Staffer	Jacqueline Fonseca-Romano	Elisabeth Coats	(No Awardee)
Outstanding Individual in Academia	Dr. Angelique Day	Dr. Mary M. McKay	Dr. Sandra E. Crewe
			Dr. Suzanne Pritzker
Student of the Year	Donisha Cotlone	Robert Sagastume	Lakeisha Mixon
Outstanding Individual in Gov't	Dr. Carla Thornton	(No Awardee)	Rep. Maxine Waters
Outstanding Individual in Nonprofit	(No Awardee)	Dr. Lakeya Cherry	Dr. Sharon McDaniel
Outstanding Individual in Philanthropy	Karina Jimenez Lewis	Maxine Clark/Bob Fox	Grantsmakers Concerned
Outstanding Individual in Business	(No Awardee)	(No Awardee)	(No Awardee)

Social Work Day on the Hill

Wednesday, March 10, 2020 •3:00 p.m. EST

Saluting the Social Work Members of Congress

Rep. Barbara Lee (CA-13), Chair, Congressional Social Work Caucus U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow (Michigan)

U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema (Arizona)

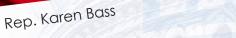
Rep. Karen Bass (CA-37)

Rep. Val Demings (FL-53)

Rep. Sylvia Garcia (TX-29)



Rep. Barbara Lee



Program

Welcome

Dr. Charles E. Lewis, Jr.

Greetings and Introduction of Emcees

Dr. Mary McKay

Emcees

Dr. Darla Coffey & Dr. Angelo McClain

Awards Presentations



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Social Work Democracy Project to Launch in 2021

continued from page 11

expand social work's participation in public discourse. Social work's influence on society and efforts to preserve democratic ideals will be measured partly by our ability to infuse social work values into the public domain. This will require deliberate and focused strategies and campaigns that are proactive and targeted. Social work leaders and educators should seek and create opportunities to engage in public discourse.

Social workers are uniquely suited to be leaders of public discourse because our training prepares us to engage with individuals and groups. While there is specific training that is needed to be an effec-

tive leader of public discourse, those barriers are easily conquered in today's world of online training. What is required is a commitment to be more engaged in the public arena and train young social workers to pursue careers in public service.

Among the goals of the Social Work Democracy Project would be to determine whether social work education is providing adequate knowledge about democratic ideals and processes in the current curriculum and develop recommendations for basic information that would provide a fundamental understanding of the American system of government. Review current core curriculum and develop foundational knowledge needed

to ensure adequate understanding of the United States system of democratic government (e.g. federalism, checks and balances, how Congress works, the role of the Executive branch, voting issues such as ballot initiatives. While these are complex topics, the SWDP would focus on the essential elements that should be addresses in the curriculum.

Social work as a field of study does not include adequate communications training to equip social workers with the knowledge and skills that are needed to be effective participants in public discourse. The SWDP will develop a certificate program in communications for social workers that can be taken in addition to social work courses.



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