

UNITED FOR MACRO!

The Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice in Social Work has an ambitious campaign: “20% by 2020.” Our goal is to increase enrollment in a macro concentration or method (for programs that identify a specialization) to 20% of MSW students country-wide by the year 2020. Our second goal is to ensure that curricula of all BSW and generalist MSW programs include a more equitable balance of macro and micro content.

In 2013, a survey of ACOSA faculty members documented lack of support for macro content or specialization. This resulted in the Rothman Report (2012) recommending the establishment of a Special Commission to redress this imbalance between macro and micro. We seek to increase the social work profession’s ability to influence and shape public policy, increase the leadership in social services for marginalized populations, and enhance community well-being. It is of the essence to promote the profession’s social justice ethos, given present-day society’s increased economic inequality, deteriorating police-community relations, institutional racism, sexism, heterosexism, and environmental challenges.

To date we have had many successes! Here are just a recent few:

- Produced with CSWE a “Macro Specialization Curricular Guide” in Partnership with ACOSA (Association for Community Organization & Social Administration), NSWN (Network for Social Work Management), and ISP (Influencing Social Policy);
- Strengthening CSWE EPAS 2015 to make macro curricula more pronounced;
- Speaking at political venues such as C.R.I.S.P.’s “Social Work on Capitol Hill” Days;
- Securing revisions to the “Social Work” entry in the Department of Labor/BLS Occupational Handbook to more completely reflect social work practice;
- Joining with ACOSA in 2016 as a partnership project (www.acosa.org)
- Collaborating with the leadership of BPD, NASW, SSWR (communities and organizations tracks), #MacroSW, NSWM, ASWB
- Participating in *The Coalition for Policy Education and Practice in Social Work*.
- Producing a “Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice in Social Work – Overview” YouTube video.
- Supporting the Macro Social Work Student Network MSWSN (www.mswn.org)
- **AND MUCH MORE!**

COMMISSIONERS: Co-Chairs; **Darlyne Bailey, Terry Mizrahi**, Sheryl Brissett Chapman, Steve Burghardt, Dick Cook, Sondra Fogel, Lorraine Gutierrez, Sunny Harris Rome, Mark Homan, Peg Pittman-Munke, Linda Plitt Donaldson, Loretta Pyles, Susan Roll, Jack Rothman, Margaret Sherraden, Tracy Soska, Kristie Holmes, Altaf Husain, Bruce Friedman, Michel Coconis, Mimi Abramovitz, Diana DiNitto, Lisa Carr, Charles Lewis, Sam Copeland, Deb Adams, Murali Nair, Rebecca Sander (ACOSA Chair}.

MACRO INVESTOR SCHOOLS, PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENTS (Financial and/or Faculty/Field Contributors to the Macro Curricular Guide): Adelphi, Asbury, Arizona State, Azusa Pacific, Barry, Baylor, Berkeley, Boise State, Boston College, Boston U, Bryn Mawr, Case Western, CSU-Bakersfield, CSU-Long Beach, CSU-Northridge, CSU-San Marcos, Daemen, E. Connecticut State, Fayetteville State, FL Gulf Coast, Fordham, Fund for Social Policy Education & Practice, George Mason U, Georgia State, Howard, Indiana U, Johnson C Smith U, Kutztown U. of PA, Loyola-Chicago, Mansfield, Marywood, Michigan State, Miles, Molloy, Monmouth, NSWM, Oakland, Ohio State, Portland State, Rhode Island C, Rutgers, Sacred Heart, Saginaw Valley State, Salisbury, San Francisco State, Siena, Silberman-Hunter; Simmons, Slippery Rock, S.E. Missouri State, S. Connecticut State, S. U. of New Orleans, Spring Arbor, St. Louis U, Stephen F. Austin U, Stony Brook, SUNY-Albany, SUNY-Buffalo, Temple, TN Dept of Human Services, Touro, Union, U. of Alabama, U. of Arkansas, U. of Buffalo, UCLA, U. of Connecticut, U. of Denver, U. of Georgia, U. of HI at Manoa, U of Houston, U. of IL. at Urbana-Champaign, U. of Kansas, U. of Kentucky, U. of Maryland, U. of Michigan, U. Minnesota, U. of MO-St. Louis, U. of New England, U. of North Dakota, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Wilmington, U. of Oklahoma, U. of Pittsburgh, U. of S. Carolina, U. of S. Dakota, U. of S. California, U. of TN-Knoxville, U. of TX-Austin, U. of Utah, U. of Washington, U of WI-Eau Claire, U. of WI-Oshkosh, Virginia Commonwealth, Washington U-St. Louis, Wayne State, W. Carolina U, W. Michigan U, Widener, Yeshiva.

JOIN A SPECIAL COMMISSION ACTION CLUSTER (AC)

- **AC I. A focus on practice materials** identifying, producing and utilizing resources to strengthen or expand macro content and/or a macro specialization. **Convener: Diane Bessel dbessel@daemen.edu**
- **AC II. A focus on connecting with Social Workers and other professional and community colleagues** by outreaching, networking, and disseminating webinars, blogs, presentations, speaking at public meetings, and social media. **Convener: Kristie Holmes, kholmes@gmail.com For Webinar: Steve Burghardt, hrdt@aol.com**
- **AC III. A focus on expanding or strengthening professional leadership** roles and connections with other Social Work and other professional organizations, developing strategies to mobilize various constituent groups in support of the Special Commission goals. **Convener: Darlyne Bailey, dbailey01@brynmawr.edu**
- **AC IV. A focus on greater visibility for the SC** and other “macro matters” strategies and activities; includes a sub-committee focusing on licensing and its impact on macro social work **Conveners: Mimi Abramovitz, iabramo@hunter.cuny.edu; (on licensing) Linda Plitt-Donaldson donaldson@cua.edu**
- **AC V. A focus on a Strategic Campaign to achieve 20% by 2020**” with CSWE Board endorsement of the goal and direction to staff to undertake efforts to aid in its accomplishment. **Convener: Amy Murphy Nugen, abmurphynugen@email.wcu.edu (See Current Statement Below)**
- **Macro Specialization Curricular Guide- Focus Area Leaders-** Tracy Soska tsssw@pitt.edu; Bruce Friedman bruce_friedman@rocketmail.com; Sunny Rome srome@gmu.edu.

Excerpt from Memo from Society of Social Work Research (SSWR) President Ruth Dunkle - May 2018

“The SSWR supports the Special Commission agenda and has been moving in a similar direction on many of the issues identified by the Special Commission... We agree wholeheartedly with the following two recommendations, and also believe that they are well underway within the association... (1) Providing top-level support, such as special lectures, pre-session and post-session activities... (2) Extending support to researchers to amplify their macro findings/implications.”

Statement from The NASW Board, President Kathy Wehrmann - February 2018

“The NASW Board supports the Special Commission's goals and objectives and will work to collaborate with the Special Commission.”

Statement by the National Association of Deans and Directors (NADD) - October 2017

“The NADD Board of Directors wholeheartedly endorses the Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice in Social Work and supports its goal of '20 by 2020'. We strongly feel that the Special Commission is an important endeavor and will work with these colleagues to achieve this goal that is central to the future of the social work profession.”

Excerpts from “CSWE Affirms the Need to Advance Macro Practice”, CSWE Full Circle e-newsletter -September 2017

“At its June 2017 meeting, the CSWE Board of Directors affirmed the need to ensure that the preparation of social workers be rooted in the professions’ historic mission to promote social justice through social change. One of the goals of the Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice is to have 20% of MSW students concentrating their studies in macro practice by the year 2020. CSWE commends the focus and leadership of the Special Commission on advancing macro practice. CSWE and the Special Commission will continue to work together to identify activities and devote resources to furthering macro practice in social work education.”

From the NASW News “Taking a stand against the status quo.” Editorial by CEO Angelo McClain - January 2016

“The Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice in Social Work is on a campaign to rebalance social work’s focus to assure that sufficient emphasis is placed on social work macro practice and addressing social injustices. The commission’s mantra, ‘Macro matters,’ is an important reminder of the enormous power in policies, politics and people.”