

# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK NEWSLETTER



## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

The School of Social Work is gearing up for its 40th anniversary celebration. The Legacy Society has been established, and supporters have started to donate. Stop by the school and see the giving tree with its many contributors.

We have formed a committee of social work students with support from faculty and staff to plan the upcoming celebration. We held a kickoff event in January, and the 40th celebration is scheduled for Sept. 27, 2019. Stay tuned for time and place.

The student committee has received the list of the school's social work graduates. They are working on formulating a plan to use social media and electronic formats to invite social work graduates to participate in this celebration. Beyond the contributions of the Legacy Society, the committee is asking graduates to participate in the 40/40 club. Each graduate from the School of Social Work is encouraged to donate \$40. However, graduates can choose to donate more.

Visit the school's website or Facebook page for flyers and videos related to the historic celebration. We hope to see everyone at the event.



To give online, visit [forms.sfasu.edu/giving/onlinegift.asp](https://forms.sfasu.edu/giving/onlinegift.asp) and complete the following steps:

**Step 1** Under "What areas of the university would you like to support?" choose "Other."

**Step 2** Mark the amount you wish to donate. Then, under "Special instructions," specify your gift is to benefit the School of Social Work's 40th Anniversary.



ONE VISION  
ONE SCHOOL  
ONE DREAM  
ONE FAMILY

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Welcome to this inaugural newsletter and the announcement of our 40th celebration of delivering quality social work education at the School of Social Work. This year is an opportunity for us to reflect on our history, embrace our identity as professional

social workers and recognize the true impact we have on society.

Forty years ago, our predecessors began formally training social workers at SFA. I do not know if they anticipated that what began as a dream would become reality with the School of Social Work. However, I am confident they shared our vision that the world is a better place with SFA Lumberjack social workers in it. Our school has produced thousands of graduates who each in their own way have changed the world through practice, research and service.

In this special 40th anniversary issue, I invite you to reflect upon your time at the university. I hope you recognize familiar faces, learn about the accomplishments of your former classmates and enjoy reminiscing about your favorite memories and fondest experiences.

To all of you who have worked or studied at SFA, I remind you that you are a part of a lineage of people who share your commitment to knowledge and a just society where all can reach their potential. You might take the time to think about those who came before you, who helped make possible the difference you make in the world and who contributed in many ways to the advancement of social work education, practice and research at SFA. And in the same spirit, you might then reflect upon your own contributions and how you could mentor the next generation of social workers.

While it is necessary to look to our past and honor those who came before us, it becomes appropriate to look forward to the next 40 years and consider what society needs from us now to better prepare the social workers of the future. For the 30th anniversary of the School of Social Work, we created the motto "Building Bridges and Changing Lives." I would like to think that during the past decade, we have managed to live up to those words through our students, staff and faculty. Enjoy the newsletter, and thanks for your support.

**Dr. Freddie L. Avant, LM.S.S.-AP, ACSW**  
*Director and Associate Dean of the School of Social Work*

## NEWS

### SOCIAL WORK MONTH WAS FULL OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



Social Work Month at the School of Social Work is always exciting and fun. The social work programs at the Nacogdoches, The Woodlands/Lone Star and Tyler locations held many activities to celebrate the social work profession. The theme "Elevate Social Work" put an emphasis on the importance of social workers in our community. Nacogdoches County Judge Greg Sowell proclaimed March as Social Work Month.

The B.S.W. program held special events, including guest speaker Gary Roberts from Brown's Family Health Center, Nacogdoches Mayor Shelley Brophy and James Montoya, Nacogdoches Independent School District schoolboard member and social worker. B.S.W. training included a workshop on contemporary social problems sponsored by Kristin Bailey-Wallace, assistant professor, and Safe Space Ally training.

The M.S.W. program's activities included a workshop on licensure preparation sponsored by Dr. Stephanie Washington, SFA adjunct faculty member, and the Association of Graduate Students of Social Work; a community services project in downtown Houston sponsored by Marcus Benoit, Lone Star College adjunct faculty member; and a panel on self-care sponsored by Lenola Wyatt and Almarie Henderson, SFA adjunct faculty members.

National Association of Social Workers Deep East Texas 2019 Luncheon Awards also were held in March. Wilma Córdova was named social worker of the year; Rokayah Beavers was named B.S.W. student of the year, and Mary Williams-Broom received M.S.W. student of the year. Lufkin Councilman Robert Shankle was named elected official of the year, and Nancy Niehaus won community member of the year.

International Social Work Day was celebrated with class presentations and guest lectures. Aleida Chavez, Lone Star College adjunct faculty member, invited guest lecturers Josue Colon and Isaac Velez, M.S.W. students from Puerto Rico, and Karla Banic, a licensed master social worker from Houston. Their presentation focused on trauma-informed care and evidence-based practice.

Students and faculty members from The Woodlands/Lone Star campus celebrated the end of Social Work Month with "Elevate Social Work: We Put The 'Social' in Social Work Networking Soiree." Sha'terra Fairley, adjunct faculty member, and Benoit worked with Dr. Carrie Butler, clinical instructor at Lone Star College, to invite B.S.W. and M.S.W. students to the event. Dr. Ron Rush, one of the panel presenters, shared his expertise and wisdom about being a social worker. Students were able to engage in dialogue with social workers and faculty members and mix and mingle over music and food.

A special thank you to members of AGSSW, Student Association of Social Workers and Phi Alpha Honor Society for all their hard work in collaboration with the School of Social Work to make Social Work Month a success.



# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK RECEIVES GRANT FROM HOGG FOUNDATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

The School of Social Work was one of five Texas nonprofits to receive a \$410,000 grant from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health to support collaborative approaches to well-being in rural communities.

For the purposes of this initiative, well-being is defined as the holistic state of being well and feeling content in life, including feeling grounded emotionally, mentally, socially and spiritually. Mental health is an essential component of well-being.

The grant funds an initiative focusing on identifying and improving the mental health conditions of those in Nacogdoches County. Dr. Steve Cooper, associate director of research for the School of Social Work, said the grant will help determine the needed steps to be taken in order to improve the county's overall mental health.

"The Hogg Foundation recognizes rural areas' need for better mental health," Cooper said. "This initiative allows the community to identify the challenges. The grant funds the facilitation of a community-driven process of identifying the needs related to mental health and deciding on how to go about addressing them."



Cooper is spearheading the work along with Dr. Emmerentie Oliphant, M.S.W. director and Lenola Wyatt, SFA adjunct faculty member. Faculty members and students also are actively

involved in the process. This is particularly important for students, who are gaining real-world experiences via participation in community conversations, gathering data and more.

## CENTER FOR RURAL SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CURATES NEW SOLUTIONS

The Center for Rural Social Work Research and Development takes the lead in implementing new strategies in rural communities in East Texas.

Faculty members and students collaborate with partner agencies to address the challenges of people impacted by rural lifestyles. The center collaborates with funders, including the T.L.L Temple Foundation, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health and the Episcopal Health Foundation, to conduct research and empowerment projects.

The center is involved in numerous projects. Faculty members Drs. Steve Cooper, Emmerentie Oliphant and Lenola Wyatt, in partnership with the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, are establishing a community collaborative that will address the mental health needs of East Texas. Drs. Freddie Avant and Oliphant, and Kristin Bailey-Wallace, SFA assistant professor, are working on an

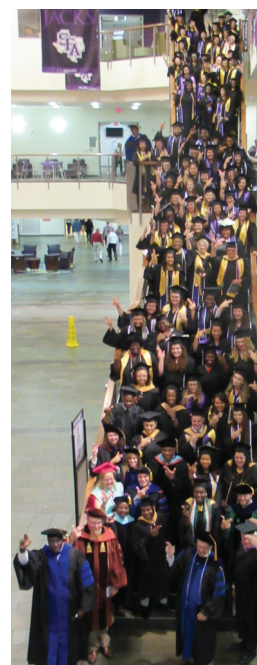
analysis of health-care cost in East Texas counties.

Additionally, faculty member Dr. José Carbajal and Cooper are partnering with the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council to assess opioid recovery needs in the Deep East Texas region.

In 2017, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared opioid use a public health emergency. The center is partnering with the ADAC to conduct a recovery needs assessment for the region.

ADAC received a \$200,000 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration for this project. The research will assist in the development of plans to address the needs related to opioid use disorder recovery. Carbajal and Cooper are in charge of collecting and analyzing the data using appreciative inquiry, an approach to community-based participatory research.

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES LARGEST CLASS



The largest class in the history of the School of Social Work graduated from SFA on May 18. Fifty-six undergraduate and 55 graduate students represented the program from the Nacogdoches, The Woodlands/Lone Star and Tyler campuses.

During the pinning ceremony on May 17, two students received leadership awards — B.S.W. student Rokayah Beavers and M.S.W. student Michael Widenhouse showed excellence in service and leadership on campus.

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK RECEIVES ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP



From left: Dr. Freddie Avant, Julie and Buddy Zeagler

The School of Social Work has a 40-year history of building strong community relationships. Faculty members and students work with agencies to empower people and communities.

One of the partners is Buddy Zeagler, who retired as the T.L.L. Temple Foundation's executive director in 2016. After his retirement, Zeagler continued his work – in his own words “improving the human condition.” He may not go to the office anymore, but his mind continues working on how to improve people's lives.

His way of life inspired the Endowed Professorship for Community-Based Research for SFA's School of Social Work, created in his honor. Zeagler closely works with the School of Social Work to help communities be more resilient and independent, and empower them to assume the responsibility of making their community better.

Dr. Emmerentie Oliphant was named the first Buddy Zeagler Endowed Professor for community-based research. She is committed to enhancing interprofessional community practices and educating future social workers to continue Zeagler's legacy.

## ORGANIZATIONS OPEN DOORS TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS



SFA's School of Social Work is home to organizations with the objective of providing opportunities for students to enhance their abilities. Organizations host events throughout the year and find unique ways to give back to the community.

The Association of Graduate Students of Social Work is a student organization that allows graduate students to work together to further the goals and values of social work, both on campus and in surrounding communities.

AGSSW supports and sponsors programs and activities that enrich the education and service experience of both graduate and undergraduate social work students while promoting their advancement in the social work profession. This past semester, students involved in AGSSW held a fundraiser at Raising Canes restaurant for a Swaziland project. The students will be hosting a potluck after Thanksgiving for all student organizations and staff of the School of Social Work.

The Student Association of Social Workers is an organization that connects students to their local community and gives them an opportunity to volunteer and interact with individuals.



This past semester, SASW members collected nonperishables from the local community and donated them to the Nacogdoches Hope Center. SASW also donated money to the Hunger Jacks Student Food Pantry. The organization will continue to participate in service projects and promote social work values and practice throughout the year.

Phi Alpha Honor Society provides a closer bond among social work students and promotes humanitarian goals and ideas. Phi Alpha fosters high standards of education for social workers and invites students to join who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement in social work. All social work students are welcome to join, and induction ceremonies occur every semester.

OurLow was started by a group of students who saw a need for mental health awareness in Nacogdoches. The organization was founded by a diverse team with different backgrounds and experiences. Its goal is to be the bridge for mental health resources in the community and to address issues that are commonly ignored or stigmatized. OurLow strives to be accessible, relatable and adaptable to the ongoing changes in the modern world.

## DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Dr. Freddie L. Avant, associate dean and director of the School of Social Work, was elected president of the National Association of Social Workers in Texas for 2019 through 2022. Avant brings years of experience and leadership to the position. NASW — Texas is a professional membership association that advocates for social workers, advances the profession of social work and promotes sound public policy that is designed to ensure human needs are met.

Avant's career exemplifies commitment to all aspects of the social work profession. He has served in different professional leadership positions, including president of the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors in 2008-09, vice president of the Rural Social Work Caucus from 2000-02 and commissioner on the Council on Social Work Education Educational Policy commission from 2011-14. Avant has contributed to significant change in policies and practice on local and

national levels. His practice background and research interests include mental health, cultural diversity, intellectual disabilities, rural social work practice, medical social work, social work administration and leadership, social work education and school social work.

If you are interested in joining the Deep East Texas Branch for excellent opportunities to network and serve the profession, contact Matthew Moravec-Gallagher, NASW — Texas branch chair, at [mwmgnac@gmail.com](mailto:mwmgnac@gmail.com).



# UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

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## Letter from the Bachelor of Social Work director

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The Bachelor of Social Work program has been helping students become professional social workers since 1979. The Council on Social Work Education-accredited program offered at SFA's main campus has two

additional locations at Tyler Junior College and Lone Star College at The Woodlands. The B.S.W. curriculum is competency-based and prepares students with the necessary knowledge and skills to practice generalist social work anywhere in the world.

Students who complete the B.S.W. will gain more than 500 hours of field internships that helps prepare them for immediate employment opportunities. Faculty members and community agency partners help students gain valuable hands-on experience as they learn leadership skills through participation in student organizations, faculty committees and the school student council.

B.S.W. students who want to further their professional education work hard to achieve advanced standing and are eligible to achieve their M.S.W. in one year.

*Dr. Sam Copeland, LCSW*  
*Professor and B.S.W. Director*

## STUDENT SHOWCASES WORK ON LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS



Robert Hurt, an undergraduate student from the Nacogdoches campus, has served as a student intern for the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas since August 2018.

The tribe is located in Polk County, and their member's work with the Department of Social Services has involved helping the community with the Indian Child Welfare Act, as well as working for a judicial symposium.

For the symposium, Hurt worked with the Tribal Court and created its handout booklet with cloud-computing technology. He had the opportunity to stand before the Tribal Council to request approval on working with them to publish a magazine article about technology being used in social service agencies for social good. This one-of-a-kind internship aided in fostering future professional relationships among Hurt, the School of Social Work and the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas.

In March Hurt, along with Dr. James Morris, assistant professor of social work, presented research at the annual 2019 Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. Their presentation, "#brflood: A student-led project to assist disaster-affected families in Louisiana," was shared with dedicated and engaged faculty members and students during this national conference.

Their talk reflected on an introductory social work class, led by Morris in fall 2016, where students raised awareness and collected donations for flood-affected families. Working with a local social worker, students collected material donations provided by a needs assessment conducted by the YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge staff members. Students collected almost \$1,900 in donated foods. As part of a special five-to-one grant, the total economic impact of this project was nearly \$10,000.

Hurt has now presented this SFA class project at local, state and national conferences.

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## STUDENT RECOGNIZED AS FINALIST IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Reyna Sanchez was recognized as a College of Liberal and Applied Arts finalist in the 2019 Undergraduate Research Conference. Sanchez completed an exemplary policy analysis regarding homelessness and children, and she was invited to present a poster at the conference.

She was accompanied by peers and faculty members, along with her brother and mother, who also is a graduate of the SFA School of Social Work. Sanchez has successfully completed the B.S.W. program, including a comprehensive internship with the Lufkin Independent School District.





## UNDERGRADUATE TYLER COHORT COMPLETES COMMUNITY-SERVICE PROJECT

The SFA Tyler B.S.W. program's community-service efforts this past year included volunteering at the East Texas Food Bank and The Longview Dream Center.

A group of 25 students from both the junior and senior cohorts volunteered at the East Texas Food Bank in October 2018,

where they learned about food insecurity in the East Texas region. They helped pack boxes for the Backpack and Senior Box programs, and some students were tasked with the repacking of rice, beans and pastas for household distribution. Dr. Kara Lopez, Tyler Junior College assistant professor, led the project.

## SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS TAKE KNOWLEDGE ABROAD

"Akwaaba" or "Welcome!" That's what you will hear upon arrival in Ghana.

During the Maymester, social work students supervised by Wilma Córdova participated in a study-abroad program in Ghana. They attended lectures at the University of Ghana in Accra, the nation's capital, where they learned about the social welfare system and the policies that impact the country.

They visited the Elmina Castle and learned about the British colonization and enslavement of the country's people. Students visited the locations where the enslaved were kept and the Assin Manso Slave river. They participated in a boat ride along the Volta Lake, which is the country's main source of water. They also walked high above the tree tops in the Kakum Nature Park.

# GRADUATE NEWS

## Letter from the Master of Social Work director



The Master of Social Work program prepares graduate students to become leaders in the social work profession.

Social work provides opportunities to work with diverse systems on local, national and international levels. The world we live in is changing fast, and with that the need for social, economical and environmental

justice is increased. Our graduates become dedicated social workers who continue to develop their expertise.

The M.S.W. program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. We offer the program in Nacogdoches and The Woodlands. We are working toward an online advanced M.S.W. program starting in spring 2020. Faculty members in both locations integrate teaching, scholarship and service into the profession and community.

**Dr. Emmerentie Oliphant**

*M.S.W. Director and Buddy Zeagler Endowed Professor for Community-Based Research*

## STUDENTS VOLUNTEER WITH HOMELESS SHELTER



Lone Star social work graduate students spent time working with the Houston homeless population through The Beacon, a nonprofit organization that serves the Houston homeless community through daily services, civil legal aid, counseling and mentoring, meals, laundry and access to housing.

The students prepared and served lunch to more than 200 homeless men and women. After lunch, they cleaned the kitchen and completed laundry while the guests showered.

Their instructor, Patti Savage, said, "The students organized this community service event and tirelessly worked, without complaint, throughout the day. I am so proud of the selfless work so many of our SFA graduate students are doing on behalf of our community."



## GRADUATE STUDENTS PARTNER WITH NACOGDOCHES-BASED NONPROFIT

Dr. José Carbajal, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, along with social work graduate students, partnered with C&R Kuttbottle, a nonprofit organization, to seek and acquire funding as part of a grant proposal assignment.

The mission of C&R Kuttbottle is to promote

environmental sustainability awareness and to encourage community involvement in recycling. The organization recycles glass in Nacogdoches.

As a result of the project, one grant application from the Wal-Mart Foundation for \$5,000 is pending approval.



## STUDENTS GAIN COMPASSION THROUGH POVERTY EXPERIENCE



Graduate students completed The Compassion Experience Classroom Exercise. The exercise challenged students to integrate a theoretical approach they were learning in class in the area of childhood poverty.

The Compassion Experience provided students with an opportunity to walk through an exhibit that replicated the environments of two children — one living in Guatemala and the other in Uganda. Students were provided with an audio-guided journey in the exhibit space, featuring replicas of the homes and environments of real children who have grown up under the weight of extreme poverty.

Students had the opportunity to hear the child's life story through headphones, as told by professional voice actors in an immersive experience.

The Compassion Experience was created to share the children's realities from their individual perspectives. The exercise's purpose was to raise awareness for children living in extreme poverty and provide the opportunity for social work students to view the cycle of poverty in a child's life from a theoretical perspective. Students immediately completed a debriefing activity after the experience and a two-page written process exercise.

## SAFE HOUSE RECEIVES \$20,000 GRANT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS



Lynn Stevens, an M.S.W. student at The Woodlands campus, interned last year at a Huntsville shelter, the Sexual Assault and Abuse Free Environment House. While there, she came across a grant application from the Mary Kay

Foundation. She consulted with the shelter's executive director in order to write the grant.

Among 1,200 domestic violence shelters from across the country that submitted applications, the Mary Kay Foundation announced SAAFE House would receive the \$20,000 grant in October as part of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

SAAFE House will continue to use the grant to provide critical support for its two shelters in the area, directly



impacting the women and children seeking protection from abuse.

# ACHIEVEMENTS

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## Greetings from the field department

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Each semester, School of Social Work students are immersed in a valuable and unique learning experience known as field education.

The Council on Social Work Education explains field education as “signature pedagogy.” Signature pedagogy represents the central form of instruction and learning in which a profession socializes its students to perform the role of practitioner.

Students in any given semester in the undergraduate social work program are engaged in a junior field placement or senior field practicum while students in the graduate program are engaged in a generalist (first-year field placement) or a (second-year) specialized practice field placement.

Each field experience is designed to either introduce students to professional social work behaviors, reinforce professional social work behaviors or demonstrate competency of professional social work behaviors.

Social workers supervise students in some 200-community agencies in Texas and Louisiana. Under the supervision of these social workers, students learn to practice with a diverse client population and are instrumental in finding solutions to complex social problems. The field instructors volunteer their time to train future social work practitioners. This is truly a win-win situation, as both parties are enriched by the field experience. Social workers have been referred to as the “safety net” of our society, and this net is immensely strengthened each semester through this field experience.

*Linda Harris*  
Field Director

## SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS SHOW LEADERSHIP

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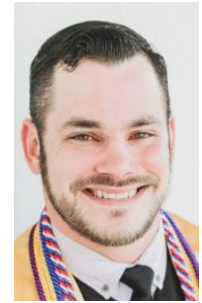
Rokayah Beavers  
B.S.W. Leadership Award and National Association of Social Workers



Mary Williams-Broom  
National Association of Social Workers



Alicia Vera  
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health



Michael Widenhouse  
M.S.W. Leadership

There are many opportunities for social work students to show their dedication to the profession. The following students received awards during the past year for their dedication.

### Leadership Awards

Rokayah Beavers received the 2019 B.S.W. Leadership Award, and Michael Widenhouse received the 2019 M.S.W. Leadership Award.

The leadership awards are presented to students who demonstrate excellence in service to the social work profession. These two students were active in student organizations on campus. Beavers served as the president of the Student Association of Social Workers, and Widenhouse was the president of Phi Alpha Honors Society.

### National Association of Social Workers 2019 Awards

The NASW Deep East Texas Branch recognized the following students, social workers, elected officials and community members during its annual luncheon in March.

- B.S.W. Student of the Year – Rokayah Beavers
- M.S.W. Student of the Year – Mary Williams-Broom
- Social Worker of the Year – Wilma Córdova
- Elected Official – Councilman Robert Shankle
- Community Member – Nancy Niehaus

### Hogg Foundation for Mental Health Scholarship

Each year, the Hogg Foundation awards scholarships to graduate students in Texas. The Ima Hogg Scholarship is awarded to students who are committed to work in the field of mental health. Alicia Vera was this year’s SFA recipient of the scholarship.



# CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



Kimberly Pineda



Jason Whitlow

Each semester, the Child Welfare Professional Development Project partners with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to provide stipends to students who are committed to work with children in the foster care system. The stipend process is a lengthy and competitive application procedure.

The stipends for spring 2019 were awarded to B.S.W. student Kimberly Pineda and M.S.W. student Jason Whitlow. As part of the stipend agreement, Pineda and Whitlow completed their final field experience at a local CPS office and then committed to an employment position upon graduation. Throughout the process, these students, as well as all those who applied, showed great professionalism.

## FACULTY AND STAFF

### Leadership

Dr. Freddie L. Avant, associate dean and director of the School of Social Work

Dr. Sam Copeland, Bachelor of Social Work director and professor

Dr. Emmerentie Oliphant, Master of Social Work director and Buddy Zeagler Endowed Professor

Linda Harris, field director and clinical instructor

Diane Sizemore, Child Welfare Professional Development Project coordinator

### Administrative Assistants

Carol Levine

Judy Montgomery

Cristy Sorrells

### Professor Emeritus

Dr. Kathleen Belanger

### Professors

Dr. H. Stephen Cooper

Wilma Córdova

Dr. Peter Simbi

### Assistant Professors

Kristin Bailey-Wallace

Dr. José Carbajal

Dr. Kara Lopez

Dr. James Morris

### Adjunct Faculty

Marcus Benoit

Cheronda Brown

Nettrel Brown

Aleida Chavez

Christy Collins

Kim Culbreath

LaKeshia Harris

Almarie Henderson  
Sha'Terra Johnson-Fairley

Megan Langford

Dr. Juan Lebron

Dr. Bruce McNellie

Alicia Moss

Dr. John O'Neill

Barbara Rivas

Dr. Ronald Rush

Charlotte Sanders

Patti Savage

Angela Signorelli

Teresa Tarver

Dr. Stephanie Washington

Lenola Wyatt

### Clinical Instructors

Dr. Carrie Butler

Shanta Scott

## MISSION OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

The mission of the School of Social Work at Stephen F. Austin State University is to prepare competent and effective professional social workers committed to generalist and advanced generalist practice and able to respond to the needs of rural communities and

to the challenges faced by people with rural lifestyles. The school is committed to providing leadership for the region, particularly in identifying and addressing community needs and issues, including those related to the alleviation of poverty and oppression within

the context of rurality, cultural diversity and social and economic justice. In support of its educational endeavors, the school is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, lifelong learning and community service.



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
School of Social Work

### KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US!

**Facebook:** @sfasusocialwork

**Web:** sfasu.edu/socialwork

**Phone:** (936) 468-5105