Welcome to the 2015-2016 academic year! If you haven’t stopped by the doctoral student office lately, you are in for a big surprise! Over the summer, the office was given a new look with fresh paint and new furniture! We hope that just like the office, we are all refreshed and ready for a productive year! We hope to see you in the office working, catching up, and supporting one another. Good luck and here’s to a great year!

We’ve been thinking a lot about the Doctoral Student Association this summer and fall! Here is an update on who is taking on new roles, what events are upcoming, and how you can get involved! The Doctoral Student Association is a student-led group that seeks to support fellow Doctoral Students in academic pursuits, scholarly productivity and professional and personal development. Check out the “who’s who” below to find out more about some of the efforts your fellow students are involved in and be in touch with your questions, comments, and concerns!

**Who’s Who**

**Doctoral Committee Reps**

**Who:** Caitlin O’Grady and Andrew Repp  
Email Caitlin and Andrew with your questions, concerns, and ideas for the Doctoral Program Administration  
Contact info: cograd5@uic.edu and arepp3@uic.edu

**Jane Addams Student Government (JASG) Representative**

**Who:** Position Vacant  
The JASG Rep keeps us updated on what JASG has going on and shares ideas, concerns, and questions from PhD students with the Jane Addams College Administration  
Interested in this position? Contact the JASG President, Indira Orozco at iorozc4@uic.edu
Welcoming the 2015 Cohort!

We are excited to welcome seven new members to the JACSW Doctoral program!

Susanny (Susie) Beltran is a first generation Cuban American from Miami, Florida. She graduated with an MSW from Florida International University (FIU) in 2013. While in school, she worked as a Case Manager coordinating services for seniors aging at home in her community. After graduating, she moved to Denver and worked in nursing homes, where her primary responsibility was advocating for residents and families. Her research interests are in human service administration. Primarily, she hopes to specialize in aging, with a focus on evaluating established programs and resources for older adults in long-term care and community settings. She wants to create interventions that enable older adults to have more control, more choice, and more decision-making abilities in regards to their resources as they age.

Janaé Bonsu received her Master’s degree from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration this past June, concentrating her studies in social policy planning, analysis, and advocacy. She received a BA in Experimental Psychology and Criminal Justice from the University of South Carolina in 2012. Upon completion of her BA, Janae relocated to New York City to work for MDRC, a nonprofit nonpartisan social policy research organization. She is also currently a community organizer with the Black Youth Project 100 (BYP100), a collective of Black activists ages 18 to 35 dedicated to creating justice and freedom for all Black people. Her research interests include the criminalization and incarceration of Black cis and trans* women and its impact on family, civic life, and access to support services.

Wonbin (Bin) Her is Korean and in her first semester in UIC. She previously studied in Korea. She is especially interested in women and adolescents faced with addiction. Through her studies, she wants to make the world a better place to live. Bin enjoys eating (and sometimes cooking) and spending time chatting with friends. She also enjoys running at the fitness center.
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**Amanda Labash**, LCSW, CADC (Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor), Amanda obtained her MSW degree at Jane Addams College of Social Work in 2009. Since graduation she has worked as a mental health therapist in therapeutic day school, psychiatric inpatient, and community mental health clinic settings. She currently practices psychotherapy with adolescents, adults, and families at a community practice in the Chicago suburbs. Amanda teaches yoga and meditation at a local studio. In addition, she provides instruction of yogic mind-body techniques for overall health and anxiety reduction at area high schools and community clinics. Clinical interest areas include the treatment of trauma and anxiety disorders utilizing integrated somatic approaches. Research interests include the study and treatment of trauma within the homeless population and among victims of labor and sex trafficking.

**Kirsten Rebstock** is an LCSW who received her MSW from Jane Addams in 2002, in the Health track. Since then she has done most of her work in the hospital setting, primarily in smaller community hospitals, but am now at University of Illinois Hospital, back on the UIC campus. She began my career with a focus on healthcare in the aging population, but has expanded her experience to working with all populations in a hospital setting. Most recently she was working in the Emergency Department and has now transitioned into a new role as the Complex Discharge Coordinator for the hospital. It focuses on the most medically and socially complex patients. In this role and through her research, she hopes to focus on developing processes to improve patient throughput when there are multiple variables impeding transition to the next level of care. Her main focus is on the relationship with the patient and/or family and how it affects outcome. She enjoys living in the city and looks forward to being a part of Jane Addams once again.

**Alanna Shinn** is from South Korea. She studied in Korea, focusing on North Korean refugees. She is now eager to study more about discrimination issues and mental health problem and interested with refugee and immigrant populations. She loves cooking (but cannot promise that it is delicious) and watching movies. She is new to Chicago and hopes to make new friends!

**Kenan Sualp** is from Istanbul, Turkey. He received his Bachelor’s degree in psychology from Istanbul University, and MSW degree from the University of Central Florida. His research interest is in exploring the relationship between terminal illness diagnoses and domestic violence.
Presentations
Janis Sayer is invited to present “Health and Equity in Chicago: Health in All Policies and the Englewood Line Trail Health Impact Assessment” at the upcoming American Public Health Association Conference in Chicago (Oct/Nov, 2015).

Walton, Q., & Shepard Payne, J. will be presenting “Mental health resilience: Strategies for emotional wellness in African Americans” at the 2015 American Psychological Association Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada.


Walton, Q., & Shepard Payne, J. will be presenting “Improving cultural competence when detecting depression symptoms in African Americans” at Skills workshop at the Council on Social Work Education 61st Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO. (October, 2015)

Starting this Fall
Qiana R. Cryer-Coupet started her position as Assistant Professor of Social Work at North Carolina State University.

Quenette Walton accepted a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Social Action and Mental Health at the University of California, Los Angeles Center for Health Services and Society Department of Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences.

Anjali Fulambarker is going on the job market!

Awards & Fellowships
Judith R. Rocha - UIC Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship

Doctoral Dispatch Newsletter Editor
Who: Susie Beltran
For the next newsletter, send Susie your accomplishments, updates, important dates you want to share, and if you would like to contribute an article to the newsletter!

Contact info: sbeltr2@uic.edu

Who’s Who, cont.

Brown Bag Co-Chairs
Who: Judith Rocha and Suhad Tabahi
Judy and help to plan events during the semester including guest speakers, professional development, and writing retreats. Be on the lookout for emails with upcoming dates and events! Have a suggestion? Send it their way!

Contact info: jrocha2@uic.edu and stabah2@uic.edu

Program Progress
Qiana R. Cryer-Coupet successfully defended her dissertation “Father Involvement and Informal Kinship Care: Impacts on Child Well-being chaired by Dr. James Gleeson (7/15)

In Print

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Awards & Fellowships
Judith R. Rocha - UIC Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship

Your accomplishments deserve our applause!
Share your great work by emailing sbeltr2@uic.edu
Important Dates

October 15-18, 2015 - Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 61st Annual Program Meeting, Global Social Work - Social Work on the Frontiers of Change (Denver, CO)

October 27, 2015 @ 3:00pm - Doctoral Program Reception (University Hall, UH 2850)

October 31 - November 4, 2015 - American Public Health Association Conference (Chicago, IL)

November 6, 2015 - Last day to submit defended and approved dissertation to Graduate College for Spring 2016 graduation


January 29, 2016 - Last day to file for graduation for Spring 2016

February, 2016 - CSWE abstracts due

March 18, 2016 - Last day to submit defended and approved dissertation to Graduate College for Spring 2016 graduation

April, 2016 - SSWR abstracts due

Know of a conference we should know about? Email the information to sbeltr2@uic.edu

GOOD TO KNOW...

Where do I get those business cards?

Students can place an order using the Publications Services, on-line ordering, www.uicprint.uic.edu. Click on "online order" Click on "stationery" Click on either "Order Campus Stationery" or "Order College Stationery" Click on "Order business cards"

You'll be asked to sign in. If this is the first time using the Publications Services, you'll need to establish an account

Note: In the "special instructions" section indicate that you would like to order 100 black and white student business cards for $12.50.

Enter "9" in the fields that require the C-FOPAL account numbers and an invoice will be e-mailed to you

You can pick up your business cards at Publications Services, B-4 Student Center West, 828 S. Wolcott. You can pay with a check or credit card at time of pick up. Or you can contact the financial services after they receive the invoice.

Questions? Call (312) 996-3562

This newsletter is created and published by the Jane Addams College of Social Work Doctoral Student Association. The views expressed herein are the views of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Jane Addams College of Social Work.

Please send comments and contributions to the newsletter editor, Anjali Fulambarker at afulam2@uic.edu