

Jesse Waterman Wins Writing Award



For 36 years UMBC has published *Bartleby, Creative Arts Journal*, dedicated to the creative and diverse works of students. Every year the journal receives hundreds of submissions from students who hope to see their name in print. The *Bartleby* staff, along with the English Department, members of the Student Government Association (SGA), and the Friends of the Library support the publication with resources including staff and funding.

The 2017 *Bartleby, Creative Arts Journal*, which will be distributed in May, will include Jesse Waterman's fictional story, *Meditations on a Year: Greg's Bagels*, which describes a

bagel shop owner and his influence on a clerk. Jesse, a social work major graduating in May 2017, commented that he has been writing since he was a young child and that he writes something every day, his routine for years. It should be noted that this is the second time Jesse has received recognition by *Bartleby*. In 2015, the journal published his fictional work, *Parallax*, to much acclaim.

Congratulations to Jesse Waterman who brings to print the joys and anguishes of everyday people.

BACCALAUREATE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, Maryland 21250

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Catch the Social Work Spirit!

Spring 2017

Graduation Celebration December 2016

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December 22, 2016, the date of UMBC's sixty-seventh commencement, was a day of huge importance for some social work students. As family, friends, faculty, and staff gathered to honor graduates, President Hrabowski quoted poet Langston Hughes, "Hold fast to dreams" and added "Remember that your dreams and, most important your character, will determine who you become."

The following students were then honored:

Lisa Alvarez, Katera Brittingham, Eboni N. Brown, Karen Buckhalter, Maura Burton, Josie Mariah Caruso, Amanda M. Ccana, Aby G. Chacko, Whitney Nicole Daggett, Weynshet Tadele Dagne, Sinoreh Daryadell, Faven Gebremedhim, Aaron Givens, Sara C. Gonzalez, Amira Mohammad Hussein, Rachel N. Ingley, Chelsey Renee Lafferty, Samuel Levin Macer, Arich M. Manasseh, Jessica E. Melefsky, Sarah Moore, Othello Marissa Nelson, Thanh Trang Thi Nguyen, Norma Olivares, Margaret A. Pazel, Kelly Alexandra Portela, Joy Mary Pothier, Talisa Gabriella Richards, Gabrielle Samuels, Scarlett Odessa Schiller, Chasity Lynn Stacy, Julie Stauss, Karina Velasco, and Emily M. Wigfield.

A luncheon reception followed graduation attended by the social work community. As one family member of a graduate stated, "It's a remarkable day for all of us. She worked hard to make this happen."

Congratulations to the graduates and all the best in you next leg of life's journey.

Welcome Back to
UMBC

Social Work Students!

It's a Pizza Party!

Tuesday,

February 7th

12-1pm

Sherman Hall-B

Room 334

Council on Social Work Education Reaffirmation



Work is underway for the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) reaffirmation process which will result in a continuation of the program's national accreditation status. In preparation for this eight year event, faculty members have attended workshops to better understand the CSWE nine competencies which are: 1) Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior; 2) Engage diversity and differences in practice; 3) Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice; 4) Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice; 5) Engage in policy practice; 6) Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; 7) Assess individuals, families, groups, and communities; 8) Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities; and, 9) Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Community Advisory Board

At their meeting on December 7, 2016, members of the Community Advisory Board (CAB) discussed issues of self-care for students in relation to classes and the field placement program. Using ideas provided by Beth Potter, a faculty member at Anne Arundel Community College (AACC), topics discussed included: the need to develop healthy habits, clear boundaries, and acceptance of self and others. Neglecting basic self-care often results in stress for students accompanied by eroding physical and mental health. In the end, academic performance suffers.



To highlight the importance of self-care the Social Work Program is considering how best to integrate information on the topic in publications like the *Student Guide and Field Education Manual*. Thought is also being given to including self-care statements in syllabi. If you have ideas on this subject please send them to Karen Kraft at kkraft@umbc.edu.

Discussion on Election Results



Members of the Social Work Student Association (SWSA) organized a discussion on the recent presidential election. Open to the UMBC campus, the event featured faculty from the School of Social Work, University of Maryland: Dr. John Belcher, Professor, a moderate conservative, along with Adam Snyder, Clinical Instructor, a progressive. Assistant Dean for Field Education, Dr. Adrienne Ekas-Mueting, introduced the speakers who offered initial comments on the election and perspectives for consideration.

When the forum opened to questions from the audience, issues related to health care and immigration dominated the discussion. In particular, students questioned the viability of the Affordable Care Act under a President Trump administration. Both speakers concluded that modification would be made to the current health care policy although there was some disagreement on what those revisions would be. As for immigration, both Dr. Belcher and Instructor Snyder concluded that human rights must be upheld while they debated questions of citizenship and national boundaries. The speakers concluded their comments by urging the audience to participate in the political system at the local, state and national levels of government.

Special thanks to Meghan Herring (President) and Monica Drever (Vice President) of SWSA for the energy they dedicated to insure the election discussion was conducted in a timely manner.

Dr. Nancy Kusmaul, Eminent Scholars Program

UMBC's Eminent Scholar Program is designed to facilitate a mentoring relationship between a newly-hired UMBC Assistant Professor and a prominent researcher in their field of research. Ideally, this relationship will be established to provide a connection for the UMBC faculty member to their larger research community in order to enhance their success as they advance through the ranks of academia.

Dr. Nancy Kusmaul was selected for the 2016-18 Eminent Scholar Program. With a scholarship agenda dedicated to issues of older adults, Dr. Kusmaul's research focuses on organizational culture and culture change models; direct care workers; and policies and practices related to quality of life. She has selected as her

mentor, Dr. Sandy Butler a professor in the School of Social Work, University of Maine and a Resident Scholar at the Center on Aging. Dr. Butler teaches a social welfare policy and also serves as the School's Graduate Coordinator. With a national reputation, Dr. Butler's research focuses primarily on the health needs and social welfare experiences of low-income women across the life span. Her most recent publications examine poverty, the employment circumstances of direct care workers, public assistance and older workers, rural aging, and the impact of higher education for low-income mothers.

In the next two years it is expected that Dr. Kusmaul will use a portion of the Eminent Scholar Program funds to visit with Dr. Sandra Butler and give a research seminar. Additionally, Dr. Butler will visit UMBC and present a seminar for faculty and students of the Social Work Program. Throughout the timeframe, Drs. Kusmaul and Butler will continue a mentoring relationship. Congratulations to Dr. Kusmaul for receiving this honor and thanks to Dr. Butler for accepting the opportunity to participate in the Eminent Scholar Program.

Universities at Shady Grove Scholarships

November 18, 2016 marked the 7th annual Scholarship and Donor Luncheon at the Universities at Shady Grove. Attended by honored students, faculty, donors, and statewide politicians, the luncheon recognized both scholarship donors and recipients including the following social work students:



Nicholas Albaugh, Renee Carrizo, Yesenia Enriquez-Arias, Althea McDowell (*Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Scholarship*); Nicholas Albaugh, Rosalene Allen, Danielle Combs, Jennifer Cook, Jennifer Marquez, Ivanna Santos Ramos, Reina Valladares, Abbey Viado, Khiana Ward (*Healthcare Initiative Foundation of Montgomery County Scholarship*); Olabode Adeyefa-Olasupo, Sanyambe Kasembe (*Kaiser Permanente Scholarship Fund*); Claudia Aragon (*Lavinia Engle Scholarship*); Michelle Roque (*Senator Nancy King District, 39*); Claudia Aragon, Faith Kamel, Jennifer Marquez (*Delegate Charles Barkley, District 39*); Kathryn Guzzey, Reina Valladares (*Delegate Bonnie Cullison, District 19*); Mahawa Bundoe, Khiana Ward (*Delegate Kathleen Dumais, District 15*); Danielle Combs, Denys Conway, Ivanna Santos Ramos, Abbey Viado (*Delegate Jim Gilchrist, District 17*); Sungsook Kim, Franklin Ofshun, Mongar Pratt (*Delegate Aruna Miller, District 15*); Cynthia Colon (*Delegate David Moon, District 20*); Stefany Wolfe (*Delegate Kirill Reznick, District 39*); Shannon Sisco (*Delegate Shane Robinson, District 39*); Nancy Paz (*Mary Ann O-Bara Bateson Scholarship*); Sinoreh Daryadell (*Shady Grove Adventist Scholarship*); Gabriela Flores, Faith Kamei (*USG Internship Scholarships*); Cindy Ngo (*USG Board of Advisors Scholarship*).

Special thanks to the donors whose generous contributions make the scholarships possible. Congratulations to all the scholarship recipients!