



Top row, left: Jeannie Duke; **top row, middle:** Jeannie and Emily Myers; **top row, right:** Ms. Duke, Dr. Jason Newell, Dr. Clark Hultquist and Dr. Susan Vaughn. **Bottom row, left:** Dr. Brendan Beal, Ms. Duke and Dr. Newell; **bottom row, right:** Dr. Newell, Ms. Duke, Dr. Beal and Dr. Meredith Tetloff.

Jeannie A. Duke Retires as UM's Director of Field Education

In May 2019, Jeannie A. Duke retired as the director of field education after 23 years of administering more than 500 field placements for Social Work Program alumni. Jeannie barely paused before she returned to UM as a part-time instructor to assist the program through the final stages of the re-accreditation process. She also provided support to Johnna Matthews in her transition to the field education office.

Jeannie's pedagogical expertise in field education was remarkable, as was her competence in facilitating placements in Shelby, Jefferson, Bibb, Chilton, Dallas, Coosa, Montgomery, Talladega and Calhoun counties. Throughout her career, Jeannie worked diligently to place students in their home counties when it was economically advantageous to the student and their families. She was a powerful advocate for students, with a deep commitment to promoting student professionalism, well-being, academic success and personal growth.

To say that Jeannie has had a remarkable career in social work is an understatement. Her practice experience includes public child welfare, residential treatment for children and adolescents, rehabilitation from substance use disorders and gerontology. Prior to her hiring at UM, Jeannie served on the social work faculty at Troy University and at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is the recipient of the AL-NASW Social Worker of the Year Award, Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alabama Conference on Social Work and is a two-time Alabama-Mississippi Field Educator of the Year. She is well respected among the social work education community in Alabama and nationally. She was widely regarded as the "go-to" in field education for the state of Alabama; she was always available to other field directors to offer up her sage advice and practical wisdom. Jeannie was particularly dedicated to providing opportunities for continuing education and life-long

learning for social workers. She served in conference leadership roles for the Alabama Higher Education Consortium on Child Welfare, Alabama Conference on Social Work, Alabama Gerontological Society, Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors, National Association of Social Workers and UM's Social Work and Advocacy Day committees.

Jeannie celebrated her retirement with her husband Jim Loop, her mother Wilma Duke, her longtime friend Emily Myers and many friends and colleagues from the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Beyond her significant achievements and contributions to the University of Montevallo and to the Academy of Social Work Education, Jeannie is a supportive friend and colleague. She is known for her thoughtfulness and for her meals in support of faculty during the good and bad times. Although she has retired from UM, we know she will not sit still for long, and we look forward to her next chapter.

Note from the Director



Dear alumni, students and friends,

Last year marked my 13th academic year on the Social Work Program faculty, and to say this has been a year of challenges is certainly understated. The program successfully submitted its re-accreditation documents to the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in March of 2020 as Alabama and the nation embarked on the unprecedented pandemic lockdown and quarantine.

Despite the challenges of 2020, I am happy to report that our program was fully re-accredited in fall 2020 and we will continue to provide the high-quality social

work education that has been our program's legacy for nearly 100 years.

Following the submission of our re-accreditation report in March, we learned that all classes at the University would be online for the remainder of the spring semester. For the first time in our program's history, both core social work classes and field education were delivered in fully online platforms.

As the fall 2020 semester started, it was necessary to teach our core social work classes in dual-modality (both online and face-to-face format). Our faculty and students pivoted to their new learning environments with academic rigor and professional resilience. We all learned in real-time how the profession of social work rises to the occasion during times of need to serve those who are vulnerable and suffering.

Finally, I have great faith that the profession of social work will unite with whole hearts in our efforts to overcome political and social injustices as we pursue the core values that define the spirit and mission of our work.

As the political, social and pandemic crises continue to unfold, there is much work for the profession of social work in the future. To meet this charge, our program is committed to training our future social work professionals on innovative practices to meet the inevitable challenges ahead. As you read the newsletter, please take note of our curricular advances in field education, technology and the addition of a new departmental minor in peace and justice studies (co-coordinated by Dr. Tetloff).

We are proud to highlight the personal and professional achievements of our alumni and hope you will continue to stay in touch with program.

We also want to acknowledge the incredible generosity of our donors, who help our students on their pathways to the human service workforce with less financial burden. One of the best parts of being a member of the social work faculty is awarding scholarships to students each year. We hope that next year will allow us to re-open our doors to our annual Social Work and Advocacy Day events. Until then, feel free to contact me anytime, I always welcome updates from our alumni community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason M. Newell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason M. Newell, Director

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION



(From left) Dr. Meredith Tetloff, Dr. Jason Newell, Johnna Matthews and Dr. Brendan Beal

Johnna K. Matthews Joins the Social Work Faculty

After many years as an adjunct instructor, the Social Work Program is proud to have Johnna K. Matthews as our new full-time clinical instructor and director of field education. Johnna received her undergraduate degree in social work and her master of social work with a concentration in mental health from The University of Alabama in 1998 and 2000, respectively. A seasoned practitioner, Johnna has more than 20 years of combined practice experience in the fields of mental health, military social work, geropsychiatry, child welfare and social work administration. She is a licensed independent clinical social worker in the state of Alabama and holds her private independent practice certification in clinical social work and social work administration.

Johnna served as an adjunct instructor for UM from 2013 to 2019 teaching courses across the curriculum, including human behavior and the social environment, practice in mental health care, practice with individuals and families and introduction to social welfare and social work. She currently teaches social work practice skills and pre-practicum along with the senior social work seminar. In her role as full-time clinical instructor and director of field education, Johnna has demonstrated admirable diligence and competence through the difficult task of placing students in meaningful field education experiences during the pandemic. Her work included pivoting the spring 2020 cohort from a face-to-face modality to an online learning environment, converting the field curriculum to an online learning platform for the fall 2020 and spring 2021 cohorts, and developing new field placements. Needless to say, we are delighted to have Johnna on our social work team!

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(From left) Johnna Matthews, Dr. Brendan Beal, Dr. Jason Newell and Dr. Meredith Tetloff



Dr. Jeanine C. Bozeman '51 Plans Gift for First Endowed Chair in Social Work

BY KELLI J. HOLMES, UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Dr. Jeanine Cannon Bozeman, a native of Crenshaw County, Alabama, has dedicated her career to the education of future social work professionals. Dr. Bozeman graduated from UM in 1951 with a double major in English and history. She was involved on campus in several capacities, including serving as vice president of her class.

Dr. Bozeman described the University, then the Alabama College for Women, as a place that “gave an opportunity to be a woman, you did not have to pretend you were something else. We had the room to do anything we wanted to, and that was acceptable.”

Her first job was in Defuniak Springs, Florida, as a high school English teacher and part-time school counselor. She credits her love for working with young adults and her dislike of grading English papers as motivations for pursuing a career in social work.

After she and her husband, Dr. Thomas Welby Bozeman, married and re-located to New Orleans, she completed her master

of social work degree at Tulane University in 1972 and her doctorate at New Orleans Baptist Seminary (NOBS) in 1984.

Dr. Bozeman is a distinguished professor of social work at NOBS, where she has been on faculty since 1985. She describes her career in the Academy of Social Work Education as “a wonderful experience because I have met so many people over the past 35 years through teaching, traveling and speaking opportunities.”

She helped to establish the social work education program at NOBS, where she continues to teach in the areas of grief and loss, marriage and family, divorce, ministry and foster care. Dr. Bozeman has a particular interest in teaching students about the stages of grief and loss. Inspired by her own grief work after the death of her mother, Dr. Bozeman returned to Tulane University on sabbatical from NOBS to study and develop an educational course on death, grief and loss.

When asked about the future of social work at the University of Montevallo,

Dr. Bozeman said she hopes to see increased enrollment, innovation and the continuation of the program’s successful operation.

To facilitate her vision for continued success and innovation, Dr. Bozeman has generously planned legacy gifts for the first endowed chair in the history of the program. The Dr. Jeanine Cannon Bozeman Chair of Social Work will be established in memory of her parents, Henry Oliver Cannon and Ruby Rowell Cannon, and her late husband Dr. Thomas Welby Bozeman.

A second gift will establish the Cannon Bozeman Scholarship to fund scholarships for social work students, with preference given to applicants from the Alabama counties of Crenshaw, Coffee and Covington.

If you’re interested in leaving your legacy through a planned gift to the UM Social Work Program, please contact Kelli J. Holmes at 205-665-6272 or kholmes4@montevallo.edu.

Dr. Rebecca Turner '71 Receives 2020 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award



The UMNAA Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award recognizes an alumnus whose contributions, through career and community service, reflect positively on society at the local, state or national level. Throughout her career, Dr. Rebecca O. “Becky” Turner has been an advocate for the profession of social work in Alabama and nationally through her work on the Council on Social Work Education and the Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors.

Dr. Turner graduated from the University of Montevallo in 1971, earning a bachelor’s degree in social work. Dr. Turner attended graduate school at The University of Alabama, earning a master’s degree in social work in 1974 and later completing her doctoral degree in social work in 1990. Dr. Turner is a lifetime social work practitioner, educator and higher education administrator.

Dr. Turner began her career in social work education in 1978 as an instructor of field education at Auburn University. After three years, she left Auburn to join the faculty at Jacksonville State University in 1981, where she remained until her retirement in 2019 after 38 years of

service. She started teaching at the instructor level in 1981 and was promoted to the rank of full professor in 2001.

During her tenure at JSU as the Social Work Program director, Dr. Turner taught courses across the BSW curriculum, including introduction to social welfare, family and child welfare and human behavior and the social environment.

In addition to her teaching and service accomplishments, Dr. Turner has an outstanding record in higher education administration. As a dedicated member of the JSU faculty, she helped institute the Social Work Program at JSU and served as the first program director and later chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work.

In 1998, she was appointed to the position of provost and vice president for academic affairs, becoming the first woman to hold a vice president position at JSU. In this role, Dr. Turner was instrumental in developing JSU’s faculty, implementing the current strategic plan, creating the university’s first doctoral program, leading the SACS re-accreditation process and in the overall effectiveness of the institution.

Dr. Turner’s dedication to the mission, values and spirit of the social work profession is exemplified by her lifetime of work to improve social work education at the local, state and national levels. She is a lifetime member of the Council on Social Work Education and the Association of Baccalaureate Social Workers, where she has served on several editorial boards including the Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work and CSWE’s annual editions. Her committee work for CSWE included serving on the Commission on Educational Policy, a past member of CSWE’s national

site visitor and accreditation team and participation in the national conference planning committee. As part of CSWE’s Annual Program Meeting, Dr. Turner conducted pre-conference institutes for new Social Work Program directors for several years.

Dr. Turner was joined by her husband, son and daughter at the 2020 Homecoming Alumni Luncheon, where she was presented with the Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award.

Dr. Turner also received the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences Distinguished Alumna Award in 2016. Dr. Turner remains loyal to the Purple Side at UM and credits Montevallo with laying the foundation for her long and storied career in social work and higher education.

In her acceptance speech, she consistently acknowledged and honored the value of the social work profession and importance of our work as we serve those who are most in need.

Above left: UMNAA president 2018-2020, Toni Leo '80, presents Dr. Rebecca Turner with the 2020 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award; **below:** Dr. Jason Newell and Dr. Turner.



Dr. Jeanetta Corbett Keller '75 Awarded 2019 Distinguished Alumna Award from the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Dr. Jeanetta Corbett Keller '75, a Montevallo native, received the Distinguished Alumna Award during the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences' 2019 Homecoming reception. Her mother, Ellen Corbett, worked for the University for 30 years. As a child, Dr. Keller can recall spending time reading in Carmichael Library while her mother worked in the stacks.



Dr. Clark Hultquist presents Dr. Jeanetta Corbett Keller with the 2019 BSS Distinguished Alumna Award.

Dr. Keller earned her bachelor's degree in social work in 1975. As a student, she was active on UM's campus working in both the business and social work administrative offices, cheerleading and serving on the Student Government Association. After graduating from UM, she earned a master of social work degree from The University of Alabama and later a doctorate in higher education administration. Dr. Keller has a dynamic professional history including seven years as the director of UM's Office of Alumni Affairs, director of public relations at Southern Progress Corporation and health care administration for the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

In addition to her impressive professional work history, Dr. Keller is a loyal alumna and steward to the University of Montevallo. Among her many contributions to UM, she served as a trustee from (2000-2012).



Dr. Meredith Tetloff Co-Coordinates Minor in Peace and Justice Studies

After several years of interdisciplinary and collaborative efforts, the University launched a new minor in peace and justice studies in fall 2020. Peace and justice studies at UM examines causes and consequences of economic disparity, institutionalized inequality and strategies of peace building and conflict resolution. UM's location at the heart of the civil rights triangle in rural Alabama and our institutional history of working toward gender equity and inclusivity provide unique opportunities to pursue the work of a peace and justice studies minor.

PJS students explore community issues within global contexts to critically analyze race, gender and class relations. The program offers students spaces for experiential education and community partnerships as well as scholarly engagement to learn the history of and techniques for conflict resolution, mediation, social change and critical thinking. Students who minor in PJS may enhance their major field of study through a social justice framework and go on to become negotiators, community mediators, government officials, educators, business leaders and

professionals in organizations focused on human rights, dispute resolution, environmental protection, international law and human and economic development.

Dr. Meredith Tetloff (pictured above, left), associate professor of social work, serves as the co-coordinator of the program. In 2019, Dr. Tetloff, along with colleagues Dr. Jen Rickel (pictured above, right) and Dr. Steve Forrester, attended Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies' summer workshop in order to learn from some of the United States' foremost peace and justice experts. A committee of faculty from different disciplines spent the next year designing the curriculum and completing the approval process for a new program.

Twenty students enrolled in the inaugural introduction to peace and justice studies course in fall 2020, co-taught by Dr. Tetloff and Dr. Rickel.

A core component of the class was to connect students to experts of a variety of related topics, including immigration rights, environmental justice, criminal justice reform, restorative justice, deliberative democracy, gender and LGBTQ+ rights and social entrepre-

neurship. Guest speakers included a mix of UM faculty and community experts.

Due to the limitations in place to protect students, faculty and staff from COVID-19, guest speakers spoke with faculty and students via Zoom. Students learned from UM faculty, including Dr. Leonor Vazquez-Gonzalez (Spanish and Latin American studies), Dr. Steve Forrester (philosophy), Kathy King (English), Dr. Sierra Turner (Spanish and African American studies), Dr. Andrea Eckelman (political science), Dr. Susan Caplow (environmental studies), Dr. Tom Sanders (business) and Dr. Greg Samuels (education).

The course included guest lectures from community experts from the Equal Justice Initiative, David Mathews Center for Civic Life, UAB, Alabama Arise and the Birmingham Museum of Art. David Smith, author of *Peace Jobs: A Student's Guide to Starting a Career Working for Peace*, and Dr. Bernard Lafayette, a contemporary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and one of the founders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the Poor People's Campaign were highlights of the course.

Dr. Brendan Beal Coaches University of Montevallo Esports Team



While non-traditional, social work practice can be integrated into the culture of college sports in support of the health and wellness of college athletes. Established in 2015, the Alliance of Social Workers in Sports promotes a “social worker in sports perspective that is grounded in social and economic justice, strength-based approaches and person-in-environment frameworks.” In 2018, the president of the University, Dr. John W. Stewart III, approached Dr. Brendan Beal with a unique opportunity to facilitate the start of an esports team. Dr. Beal had prior experience with

a competitive video game team, making him a good fit for the job. College esports is still a growing field, and although there are thousands of student club programs, there were only approximately 100 varsity programs in the U.S. in 2019. When Montevallo esports started, it was the first program in Alabama to offer scholarships to players.

Dr. Beal (or Coach Beal, as the players call him) has grown the program to 24 players total, offering four game titles: League of Legends, Overwatch, Fortnite and Smash Bros. The University allocates a course-release for Dr. Beal’s coaching duties, which include finding competitions, holding practices three days a week, leading physical training sessions, helping other programs around the state start their esports teams, hiring assistant coaching staff and managing the team budget. COVID-19 cut last year’s season short after the Overwatch team had completed only one competition. The team made it to the playoffs during fall 2020, and placed fifth overall!

When asked what it’s like to coach a new sport like this, Dr. Beal said, “it’s been a lot of work, but it’s also been a lot of fun.” He connected his new role as coach with his social work identity saying, “Surprisingly, the hardest part of the job has been to keep all the players communicating and keep the relationships cohesive. It’s been a lot like the family team meetings I used to facilitate when I worked in child welfare.”

Montevallo esports is currently recruiting for its fall 2021 team, where it expects to have more than 30 players and offer more than \$10,000 in scholarships.

Social Work Faculty Profile:

Johnna K. Matthews

I LOVE SOCIAL WORK. There, I said it. I said it and I mean it. It’s true... I have loved social work since I was a kid, although I didn’t fully understand it at the time. I volunteered at a local nursing home starting at the age of 12 and then served in a food pantry as a teen.

As an adult, I have continued my love affair with the profession. I consider myself quite lucky to be in a career that makes me feel proud of myself and that I am passionate about.

However, when studying in college, I knew I wanted to eventually end up in higher education. I relish the energy of college campuses — the excitement of young people eagerly realizing dreams and anxiously awaiting a yet undetermined future.

When I had the opportunity to begin adjunct work with the University of Montevallo, I was thrilled! Does it get any better than sharing your love for a profession with others that have that same love? I say no, it does not.

In 2019, I began my role as a full-time clinical instructor and director of field education. Little did I know (or anyone else, for that matter) the world was about to fall into a crisis of unprecedented proportions. Just a few months into my new role, along came COVID-19. Thanks, 2020.

Navigating social work field education during a pandemic has been an immense challenge. However, I must applaud the field instructors and the students for their ability to remain flexible, resolute and considerate throughout these uncharted waters.

COVID-19 provided an opportunity for social work values to be amplified in all spaces, and our field instructors truly demonstrated those values when working with our field students. The students, now apprehensive about completing their field hours in a manner unfamiliar and foreign to all involved, truly tackled the challenge with enthusiasm and commitment. I remain in awe and appreciative of the field instructors and the students for what they have been able to accomplish throughout this pandemic. It has truly been social work in action!

We continue to battle new challenges each semester due to COVID-19, but students continue to be diligent and field instructors remain adaptable. I believe our social work education prepared us well for this crisis. Our values and ethics keep us grounded and focused. We will continue moving forward. We will continue supporting one another. Did I mention I love social work?





Field Education Feature: *DRUM the Program*

Social work is not always accomplished inside agency walls or inside someone's home. What about outdoors or inside a dance or art studio? The Social Work Program has the privilege of working with DRUM the Program to highlight how the practice of social work can be provided in unique and exciting ways.

DRUM stands for Drum Rhythm Unification Movement. The program was designed to impact participants by improving self-confidence, awareness of cultural diversity and by creating a sense of community through the drum and dance rhythms of West Africa.

Located in Montevallo, DRUM the Program offers after-school programs, summer camps, educational workshops and classes throughout central Ala-

bama and in Austin, Texas. DRUM's programs embody positive affirmation, cultural awareness and social-emotional development.

DRUM Director Elvie Schooley earned her master of social work degree from Texas State University in 2013. Already a cultural community developer and West African folk art advocate, Ms. Schooley has utilized her social work education to combine her passion for African folkloric drum and dance with programs that emphasize goal-setting, self-management and a sense of belonging to at-risk youth populations.

In 2020, Ms. Schooley became a field instructor for UM's Social Work Program. Her first UM student was Asho Buckingham, who graduated in May 2020 with their social work degree.

Buckingham describes their experience with DRUM as special because of the kids and opportunities for art. DRUM offers many opportunities for hands-on work and development of interpersonal skills for both students and instructors.

"DRUM has helped me hone my social work skills as far as nonprofit management is concerned," Buckingham said.

We are so excited to have DRUM the Program on board as a field agency and resource for the Social Work Program.

If you would like to learn more about DRUM the Program, check them out on social media (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Twitter) or visit their website at drumtheprogram.org.

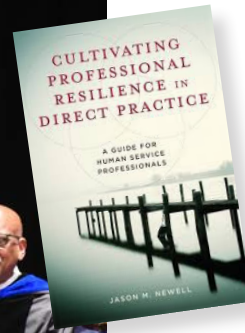
Opposite page, top: Children attend an after school camp hosted by DRUM the Program; **bottom:** DRUM notecards designed by Asho Buckingham; **this page:** Local students at DRUM the Program's after school program participate in art and face painting activities.



Dr. Jason Newell Named 2018 University Scholar



Dr. Mary Beth Armstrong, provost, presents Dr. Jason Newell with the University Scholar honor at Founder's Day 2018



His most recent research focuses on the psychological impact of providing services to trauma populations on the providers themselves. He described this phenomenon in his 2017 textbook *Cultivating Professional Resilience: A Guide for Human Service Professionals*, published by Columbia University Press.

“The concept of professional resilience refers to the overall health and well-being of social workers and other human service professionals as they navigate the daily challenges of providing services to those who are vulnerable, oppressed or otherwise suffering in some way.” Dr. Newell said.

“The overarching goal of my research is to keep the human service workforce thriving and free of professional burnout and compassion fatigue; and I am just so grateful and humbled to be named a University Scholar and to be included in the ranks of such distinguished scholars before me.”

Dr. Newell is also a past recipient of the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award and the 2016 Alabama-Mississippi Social Work Educator of the Year.

During the University of Montevallo's 122nd Founders' Day Ceremony, Dr. Jason M. Newell was recognized as the 2018 University Scholar. UM annually recognizes one faculty member who has shown exemplary strides in creativity, research and scholarship.

Dr. Newell received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Auburn University and his master of social work and doctorate in social work from The University of Alabama. His specialty areas include clinical social work practice with

the mentally ill; treatment of anxiety, trauma-related and mood disorders; self-care and professional resilience; practice with veterans and military families; and child welfare.

Dr. Newell's research is published in the *Journal of Trauma Violence and Abuse*, *Best Practices in Mental Health*, *International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice*, *Journal of Workplace and Behavioral Health*, *Journal of Social Work Education*, *Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work*, *Journal of Teaching in Social Work* and the *Social Work* journal.

Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Wanda Brady Purcell Hosts Social Work Podcast



Dr. Wanda Brady Purcell '99 has more than 20 years of experience working with caregivers, care receivers and professional

health care providers.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in social work from UM in 1999. She completed the Master of Social Work degree program at The University of Alabama the following year with a concentration in social work practice with the aging. Dr. Purcell earned a Doctorate of Education degree from Alabama State University in 2015. Since that time, she has taught undergraduate

students in both social work and rehabilitation studies programs.

Her professional career has focused on helping families with children who have special needs, teaching and working in end-of-life care. Dr. Purcell has facilitated many support and grief groups over the course of her career.

As part of her current practice to serve the caregiving community, Dr. Purcell has launched a new podcast and website called “Accidental Care Partners.” The podcast and website are designed to connect with caregivers and care-partners on a personal level by providing best practices to ease the stress and burden of personal and professional caregiving.

Dr. Purcell strives to connect with listeners as if she was in their living room having a one-on-one conversation about the topic at hand. She has a special interest in reaching family caregivers and hopes that UM alumni and students will benefit from this resource, while also spreading the word to other members of our professional community.

New episodes of “Accidental Care Partners” come out each Tuesday on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher and most other preferred listening platforms. You can also access the archives at accidental-carepartners.com or search “Accidental Care Partners” on Facebook.



Alumni Spotlight: *Nicholas Preston '18, M.A. '20*

Nicholas “Nick” Preston, a native of Bibb County, was first introduced to the UM campus as an Upward Bound student in the ninth grade.

Nick is a graduate of Bibb County High School in Centreville, Alabama, where he participated in bi-weekly meetings and summer programs with students from Bibb, Chilton and Shelby counties. He recalls being inspired by the college students tutoring with Upward Bound, later becoming a tutor himself.

Building on these experiences, he attended UM as a first-generation student with support from the Smith Scholarship and Great Start Program. During his time as a student, Nick was involved as a Montevallo Maven (giving campus tours for prospective students), a Montevallo Master (serving as a host at official UM events) and as president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

He credits much of his success at UM to the resources and services he received through UM’s TRIO programs — Upward Bound, Student Support Services and the McNair Scholars Program. He describes the personal connections he made through these programs as extended family and life-long friends.

In addition to being active on campus, Nick was also active in the Social Work Program. He completed his Bachelor of Science degree in social work in 2018 after a field experience at the Bibb County Department of Human Resources in his hometown of Centreville.

Nick’s McNair Scholar research, mentored by Dr. Brendan Beal, focused on college readiness and educational resource utilization among foster youth aging out of the system of care. He pre-



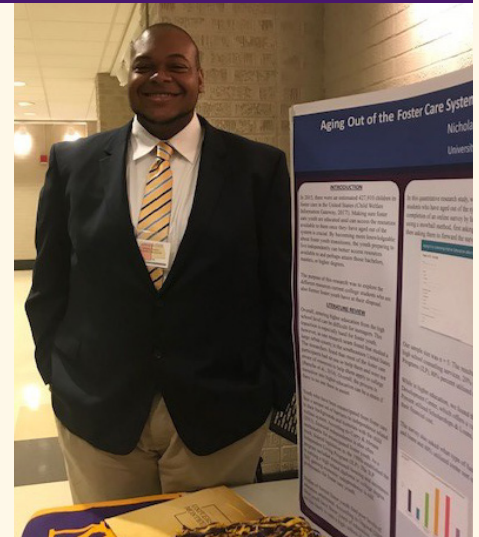
Above: (from left) Dr. Brendan Beal, Brianna Mahaffey '18 and Nick Preston; **below** Nick with his research at the Alabama-Mississippi Social Work Education Conference.

sented his work at the Alabama-Mississippi Social Work Education Conference.

After graduating from the Social Work Program, Nick practiced at Shelby Emergency Assistance in Montevallo, providing services to families struggling with housing insecurity and homelessness.

It was not long before Nick returned home to UM, where he worked as an admissions counselor, serving as the primary point of contact for students in the greater Birmingham area and the Alabama Black Belt counties. He worked closely with UM’s student diversity and recruitment coordinator in the Minorities Achieving Dreams of Excellence program. The purpose of the M.A.D.E. program is to assist minority students in overcoming the social, emotional and academic professional challenges that come with college.

In these roles, Nick described using social work practice skills every day in the interview and assessment of students’ needs, resource development, financial planning and engaging schools at the community level through enrollment fairs and personal visits.



In December 2020, Nick completed his master’s degree in counseling with a focus on school counseling. He once again returned to Bibb County to complete his internship at West Blocton High School, and moved into a new role at The University of Alabama in spring 2021.

When asked about his next step, Nick seems to have found his lane and hopes to continue his career in higher education administration, enrollment management, student support services and alumni affairs.

Social Work Alumni Updates

Abigail Athey '17 is in practice at the Shelby County Department of Human Resources.

Dotti Bailey '11 earned a Doctorate in Social Work from the University of Tennessee. She also has a long-standing career with SafeHouse of Shelby County where she serves as the executive director.

Tyra Barganier '18 is a case manager for the Dannon Project in Birmingham working with high-risk young adults from ages 18-24.

Christopher Beldon '09 is a therapist at Renovo Center in West Virginia. He provides mental health and opioid recovery services.

Tamara Blair '18 passed her licensed graduate social worker licensing exam and has

been in practice with Central Alabama Health and Wellness as a school-based therapist.

Barbara Bonfield '58 recently published her book *Knesseth Israel: Over 123 Years of Orthodoxy*.

Asho Buckingham '20 published their McNair research in the *Journal of Clinical Psychology in Medical Settings*. They remain involved with DRUM the Program where they completed their field placement. They are a registered behavioral technician with Early Autism Services. Asho helped organize the Protest of Art for Black Lives Matter in Birmingham.

Deserae' Cabrera '20 has been hired as a case manager at Cahaba Medical Center.

Jacqueline Parker Collins '10 is living in California

with her husband Quinton '13 and their son.

Meagan Coppage '11 is a licensed independent clinical social worker at the Birmingham VA Medical Center, where she is the suicide prevention coordinator.

Abby Richburg Craddock '13 lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She and her husband have two children: daughter, Charlie, and son, Cain.

Amanda Faye Currie '16 completed her Master of Social Work at the University of Tennessee in 2019 with a focus on organizational leadership and certificate in human services management.

Molly Dean '15 recently passed her licensed baccalaureate social worker licensing exam.

Alana Godwin '20 is in practice at the Bibb County Department of Human Resources.

Jameka Greer '20 is practicing as a case manager at the Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging.

Rebekah Koen '19 completed her Master of Social Work field placement in Washington, D.C. She is currently practicing with the Veteran's Services Department and Friendship Place.

Natasha Langner-Smith '14 is a licensed independent clinical social worker in Alabama. She has worked as a child and family specialist for Therapeutic Foster Care, a substance abuse counselor for methadone maintenance program and as a therapist for a residential group home for boys. She completed her

Remembering Betty Glasscock (1931-2019)



Betty Glasscock was a native of Cullman County, Alabama. She attended the University of Montevallo for two years before graduating *cum laude* from St. Bernard's College in her home county.

She earned her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Tennessee in 1966. Betty had a remarkable career in social work practice and education spanning more than 40 years. Betty was an effective leader at the University of Alabama at Birmingham as the associate dean of student affairs for the School of Public Health. She retired from UAB in 1996, but continued her service to the social work profession as the executive director of the Alabama Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, State Coordinator for the Children's Rehabilitation Service Pediatric Cardiology Program and as a field education liaison for The University of Alabama School of Social Work.

Among her many achievements, the Alabama Chapter of NASW honored Betty as the Social Worker of the Year

in 1978 and the Lifetime Achievement Award recipient in 2001. In 2003, she was inducted into the Alabama Social Work Hall of Fame and was awarded the Alumna Distinguished Service Award from the University of Tennessee College of Social Work in 2016.

Betty's long-time friend and colleague, Joyce Greathouse '56, spoke to her significant contributions in establishing the Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners. The board provides licensure and certification for professional social workers in Alabama. "Betty, along with many others, worked hard to draft the first bill. There were many professional opinions and getting through the Legislature was difficult. There were roadblocks and it was necessary to make some compromises," said Greathouse. "I think it finally passed because of Betty's relationship with the speaker. They were high school classmates. Afterward, Betty helped set-up the Board and served as first president. Not an easy job." Betty's kind spirit and dedication to the education and professional development of social workers in Alabama will be greatly missed.

Master of Social Work at The University of Alabama in 2015 and is currently in the doctorate program.

Rachel Ellison Lawley '12 is a territory manager and therapist for Bradford Health Services. She completed her master's degree and licensure in counseling and has a private practice in Shelby County.

Shelby Lawrence '19 passed her licensed baccalaureate social worker licensing exam and is currently pursuing her Master of Social Work at The University of Alabama. She is currently in practice at the Bibb County Medical Center.

Sharneaka Lilly '19 is currently practicing at Shelby Emergency Assistance in Montevallo as a case manager.

Maegan Massey '17 completed her Master of Social Work at Jacksonville State University.

Bridget McDaniel '17 is practicing as an independent outreach specialist with Children's Aid Society of Alabama.

Gabrielle Metz '96 was recognized by the Birmingham VA Medical Center for her commitment to meeting the health and mental health care needs of veterans and their families.

Kaylyn Billingsley Oliver '18 gave birth to her son Graham Billingsley Oliver in 2019.

Kimberly Payne '18 has been promoted to program coordinator at the Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging.

Patrice Reese '09 passed her licensed graduate social worker licensing exam. She

credits her success to Jeannie Duke's licensing workshop!

Amanda Rosso '16 completed her Master of Social Work at Louisiana State University and is currently in practice with the Shelby County Department of Human Resources.

Charnelle Scott '18 is practicing at the Fair Haven nursing home in Birmingham.

Angela Smith '18 completed her Master of Social Work at The University of Alabama and is currently enrolled in the doctorate program. She recently published research in the *Children Youth Services Review* with her mentor Dr. Brenda Smith. She has also published with her McNair Scholars mentor Dr. Brendan Beal in the *International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science*.

Mallory Stewart '20 was recently hired to practice at the Chilton County Department of Human Resources.

Amber Dupes Sutton '12 is a licensed independent clinical social worker. She completed her Master of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis and is currently a doctoral student in the School of Social Work at The University of Alabama. Her research focuses on understanding intimate partner violence, reproductive coercion and maternal health/mortality through an intersectional feminist framework. Amber has worked with survivors of IPV and their families for the past eight years in a multitude of settings including residential services, prevention education and the criminal justice system.

Jeffrey Sutton '11 is a case manager with the Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority. He and his wife, **Amber '12**, welcomed their son, Walter Morrison, in 2019. Jeff and Amber met

10 years ago in Dr. Newell's introduction to social welfare and social work class.

Rebbie Taylor '13 is practicing as a Prosperity Coach for Thrive Shelby County in Montevallo.

Anna Terpo '20 is practicing as a case manager at the Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging.

Breana Thomas-Mahaffey '18 is practicing as the wellness coordinator for Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging.

Madeline "Maddie" Ward '19 is an intensive case manager at Central Alabama Health and Wellness.

Alana White '17 is in practice at the Bibb County Department of Human Resources.

Monique Prince Williams '09 completed the Master of Social Work Program at The University of Alabama.



Top left: Asho Buckingham and friends participate in Protest of Art for Black Lives Matter in Avondale Park; **top right:** Dr. Jason Newell with Bridget McDaniel '17; **right:** Amanda Faye Currie '16; **far right:** Jeannie Duke with Angela Smith '18.



Spring 2020

Laila Arceo
Haley Bellefleur
Gabrielle Brandenburg
Asho Buckingham
Christopher Fendley
Kaila Foster
Alana Godwin
Brianna Gooden
Christal Lagrone
Cody Lucas
Stephanie "Stevie" Moore
Tori Overton
Shay Smith
Ashley Walker
Rachel Wilson

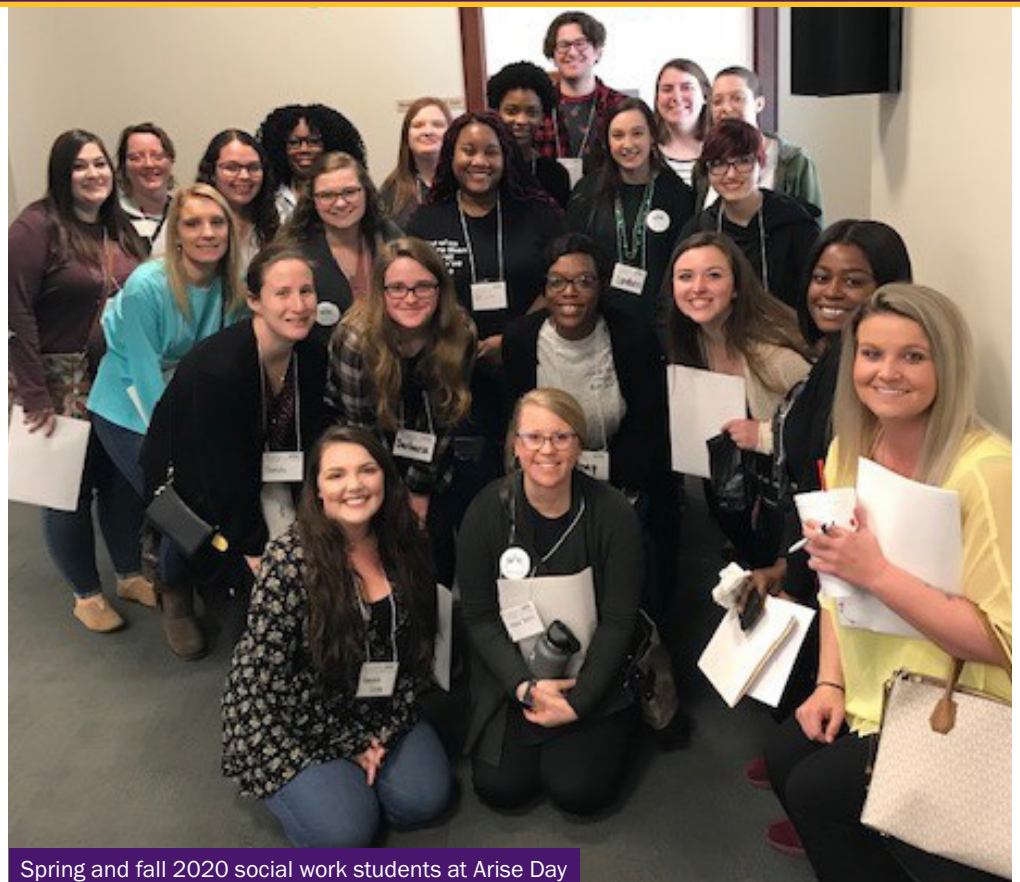


Spring 2020 Cohort

2020 GRADUATES

Fall 2020

Deserae' Cabrera
Darrylvoceya Campbell
Barbara Carpenter
Jameka Greer
Lindsey Hallum
Anna-America Legg
Ashley Leonard
Brandie Sherbert
Jennifer Smith
Mallory Stewart
Cassandra Swanson
Anna Terpo



Spring and fall 2020 social work students at Arise Day

Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 Social Work Scholarships

Anne and Harrison Blair Foundation Scholarship

Janisia Church
Lindsey Hallum
Sophia Moreno
Emily Price
Natalie Roberts
Mallory Stewart
Anna Terpo

“The Social Work Program’s aid impacted me and my family in such a positive and life-changing way. I am more focused on my education instead of the financial burden that college tuition has on many students and their families. Thank you so much.” — **Janisia Church, practicum student at Bibb County Department of Human Resources**

“Through the generosity of the Social Work Department, I received the Anne & Harrison Blair Foundation Scholarship. This scholarship has allowed me to strengthen my focus on my social work education and in turn, aided me in maintaining a high grade-point average in my social work classes. This scholarship has also helped me with the decision to further my education with a master’s degree in social work. I am

so honored to have received this scholarship and credit it with helping with my success at Montevallo.” — **Sophie Moreno, senior practicum student in the Alabaster City Schools System.**

Roxie Craig Scholarship

Barbara Carpenter
Jameka Greer
Breyanna Hamblin
Cassandra Swanson

“This past year, I was lucky enough to receive the Roxie Craig Scholarship, which was a pleasant surprise! Throughout my college experience, I have had to rely on financial aid and loans to help me advance in my college career. Receiving this scholarship has taken some of the financial burden off my family’s shoulders. It also allowed me to further explore social work as my major and helped me get into my pre-practicum without the stress of wondering if my classes are covered. I hope to apply for scholarships that can get me through my last semester here at UM!” — **Breyanna Hamblin, senior pre-practicum student**

Louise White Dawson Scholarship

De’Ana Carr

Jan Eagles Scholarship in Social Work

Jackson Neufeld
Linda Silva

Joyce Greathouse Advocacy Scholarship

Anna-America Jane Legg

Jeanette Niven Scholarship

Deserae’ Cabrera
Darryvoceya Campbell

Mary Edna Porter Scholarship

De’Ana Carr

Mel Dorrough Robinson Scholarship

Carson Turner

Susan Vaughn Advocacy Scholarship

Brandie Sherbert

Hiroko Oikawa Memorial Scholarship

Alexis Perez

Donor Profile: Joyce Greathouse ’56



Dr. Clark Hultquist, Jeannie Duke, Dr. John W. Stewart III, Dr. Susan Vaughn and Joyce Greathouse.

Joyce Greathouse ’56 was recognized as the Children’s Aid Society of Alabama’s 2018 Volunteer in Philanthropy recipient.

Joyce completed her bachelor’s degree with a minor area in political science in 1956. She earned her Master of Social Work from the University of Tennessee in 1962.

Beginning in 1977, Joyce served as the executive director of social services for Children’s Aid Society until her retirement in 1997. Since retirement, Joyce has served in various volunteer roles for Children’s Aid, Jefferson County DHR and in her church ministry.

Through the years, she has been a constant supporter of UM, loyal to the Purple Side and to the Social Work Program. She endowed the Joyce Greathouse Advocacy Scholarship for a high-achieving student dedicated to work with children and their families, giving priority to students interning with Children’s Aid Society.



What Your Gifts Make Possible for UM Social Work Students:

Fees, mileage and lodging for students to attend and present at local and state conferences.

Emergency relief funding for unplanned medical expenses.

Textbooks for use in the following classes: generalist social work practice; research in social work practice; social work practice skills and pre-practicum; social work practice with individuals and families; social work practice in mental health care; social work practice with children and families; social work practice with communities and organizations.

Instructional DVDs and software for classroom use.

Social work licensure preparation resources and study guides.

Journals and books purchased for our library collection.

Printing costs for the social work newsletter.

Refreshments for Social Work Club functions.

Scholarships for field education students.

Support for our Annual Advocacy Day Conference and Social Work Month/Honor's Day Reception.

