GADE
GROUP FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
DOCTORAL EDUCATION IN SOCIAL WORK
EST 1977

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY IN SOCIAL WORK DOCTORAL EDUCATION THROUGH NETWORKING, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND STEWARDSHIP OF THE PROFESSION

The **Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE)** is an organization made up of over 100 social work doctoral program directors who represent their member institutions.

Founded in 1977, GADE's mission is to promote excellence and equity in social work doctoral education through networking, capacity building, and stewardship of the profession

Our members focus on sharing experiences to support innovation and excellence in teaching and learning and the advancement of the quality of doctoral research.

GADE Membership

99 Total Member Institutions

92	U.S.A.
7	International

84	PhD
29	DSW
24	Have Both PhD & DSW

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER
President's Address

As 2022 draws to a close, GADE marks the end of its 45th year. Although COVID-19 and its variants continued to dominate the early months of the year and the pandemic is not yet behind us, we are grateful and relieved to be moving toward a "new normal". With the support of our membership and advisory Boards, the GADE Board of Directors has strived to sustain forward momentum in promoting excellence in social work doctoral education. We are deeply indebted to Drs. Lin Fang, Michael Hurlburt, and Mo Yee Lee, who completed their terms on the Board this year, and we congratulate and welcome their successors, Drs. Mimi Chapman (who assumed the role of secretary!), Sondra Fogel, and Tova Walsh.

Board Retreat
In June, Dr. Julia Henly hosted outgoing and current Board members at an in-person strategic planning retreat at The University of Chicago's Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice. We began by renewing GADE's commitment to anti-racist, anti-oppressive social work doctoral education and pledged to underscore and act on these commitments throughout our governing documents and professional activities. We adopted a new mission statement that reflects the significance of inclusion in pursuing GADE's purposes: "To promote excellence and equity in social work doctoral education through networking, capacity building, and stewardship of the profession." New vision, goals, and value statements that align with this mission will be posted on the website in early 2023.

The Board also finalized plans to develop a Student Advisory Board. This Board stems from a series on anti-racist pedagogy led by four doctoral students, Kimberly Bonds-Grocher, Alicia Mendez, Maxine Taylor, and Durrell Washington, in 2020-21. Its purpose is to increase student engagement with GADE in ways that will more systematically inform the Board of student perspectives; enhance GADE's planning and sponsorship of activities that have an explicit student focus; and share student ideas, concerns, and activities with membership. Applications/self-nominations for the Student Advisory Board will open in Spring 2023. Selection will be geared toward ensuring diverse experiences and perspectives.

Finally, Drs. Larry Farmer and Mo Yee Lee led a very fruitful discussion on the history, purpose, structure, and content of the Quality Guidelines for PhD Programs in Social Work. This document serves as a critical reference for existing and developing social work PhD programs alike. It is updated about every 10 years, and the new version will be shared through the website and at the annual conference in March 2023.

Membership

We have experienced healthy growth as an organization this year. Our membership roster is nearing 100 member institutions and we currently boast 84 PhD programs and 29 DSW programs. We expect this expansion to continue at a modest pace, particularly as more DSW programs come on board. We warmly welcome all new members and strongly encourage them to become actively involved in our various committees, the members listserv, and the annual conference.

Annual Conference

Although the ongoing pandemic dashed our hopes for an in-person conference in Salt Lake City, Dr. Christina Gringeri (Chair) and GADE Board member, Dr. Chi-Fang Wu (Co-Chair) organized a superb, well-attended virtual conference at the University of Utah. The theme was *Societal Shifts and the Changing Landscape of Doctoral Education: Research, Pedagogy, and Public Impact.* In 2023, we will build on the idea that social change interacts with and influences doctoral education by turning attention outward to contemporary economic, social, and political strife and backward to our own history. The conference, themed *Social Work Doctoral Education in Divisive Times: Learning from the Past to Educate for the Future*, will convene March 29-31, 2023, at the University of Texas at Arlington. Many thanks to Dr. Poco Kernsmith, who is just transitioning to her position in Texas (Chair) and Dr. Michael LaSala (Co-Chair) for their careful, capable planning of the conference.

Marketing and Communications

Dr. LaSala also provided stellar leadership in the complex process of redesigning and updating the website this year. The process involved streamlining and updating content and technology with the goal of improving the availability, accessibility and utility of information and resources for members and other interested parties. Please explore the new site, check in regularly for information and resources, and share feedback and suggestions with us.

Annual Awards

One great pleasure of involvement in GADE is the opportunity to publicly recognize excellence in student and faculty contributions to social work doctoral education. The 2022 student awardees were Amanda Spishak-Thomas (Columbia University, Leadership & Service); Elizabeth Premo (University of Wisconsin, Teaching in Social Work), and the 2023 student awardee was Shen (Lamson) Lin (University of Toronto, Social Work Research). Dr. Mo Yee Lee (The Ohio State University) received the 2022 Faculty Award for Educational Leadership in Doctoral Education and Dr. Kimberly Bender (University of Denver) was awarded the 2023 Donna Harrington Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentoring of Doctoral Students. Gratitude and kudos to Dr. Anne Williford for her competent leadership of the busy awards committee.

In 2021, the Board launched the Initiative for Cross-Institutional Student Collaboration as a "mechanism designed to engage students across universities around social work doctoral education topics, with an emphasis on centering student roles, leadership, and perspectives." This new opportunity is already bringing critical student-driven topics to the fore. In 2022, Tanzilya Oren (Fordham University); Agnes Nzomene Kahouo Foda (University of South Carolina) and Maryam Rafieifar (Florida International University) completed a project titled *Students from Migrant Backgrounds in Doctoral Programs in Social Work: Increasing Access and Creating Conditions for Success* this year. The project selected for 2023, *Pushing Us Out? Assessing the Needs of Academic Parents in Social Work Doctoral Education,* will be co-led by Gabriela Aquino-Adriatico and Gabriela Mohr (University of Houston) and Jessica Ramirez and Joanna La Torre (University of Washington). We applaud these students on their commitments and their initiative. We look forward to learning from these timely projects.

Other Initiatives

The vibrancy of GADE and its capacity to achieve its mission also depend on our advisory Boards and our linkages and collaborations with other social work organizations. Our external Advisory Board comprises Drs. Jeane Anastas, Darla Spence Coffey, Tawanda Hubbard, Waldo Johnson, Yolanda Padilla, David Patterson, Charmaine Williams, and James Herbert Williams.

They have informed and guided the Board on issues ranging from the nuts-and-bolts of the organization's internal functioning to thought leadership on current and future issues in social work doctoral education. We gratefully acknowledge their wisdom and their generosity of time and spirit. Likewise, as noted, we look forward to constituting the new student advisory board in 2023, which we expect will enrich and enlarge the scope and depth of our work together.

We continued to nurture and extend our relationships with other social work organizations in 2022. The pandemic sorely limited in-person participation at the 2022 SSWR conference; however, a few intrepid souls attended, and others joined virtually as they could. At a Roots and Wings session, Drs. Mo Yee Lee and Daniel Hackman moderated an excellent panel on *Mentorship for Anti-Racist and Inclusive Research*. Thanks to Julia Henly, Larry Farmer and a bevy of supporters, we also enjoyed a beautiful virtual GADE awards ceremony after SSWR. GADE had a strong presence at the 2022 CSWE Annual Program Meeting. We co-sponsored the annual breakfast meeting and awards ceremony with CSWE, our members led various sessions on doctoral education, and we hosted a very active booth.

With regard to new collaborative projects, the New York Community Trust has funded two social work doctoral education projects, each for three years with a potential for renewal. A grant to the Council on Social Work Education will support the CSWE-SSWR-GADE Social Work Doctoral Student Policy Fellowship Program. The first cohort of 10 students was selected in Fall 2022 for this one-year fellowship. The second award, the Social Work Grand Challenges Doctoral Awards Program, will provide funding support of $3,000 for 13 doctoral dissertations/capstone projects, one in each of the Grand Challenges. The first cohort will be selected in early 2023. In addition, GADE has become an organizational member of the Leadership Board of the Grand Challenges for Social Work.

I was honored to participate in a day of robust critical dialogue with colleagues from other key organizations at the annual Social Work Leadership Roundtable at the CSWE offices. Dr. Laura Nissen led a thoughtful, creative session on Social Work Futures, then the group spent the afternoon in a candid, collegial discussion of current topics and priority issues for the profession. The day's proceedings were marked by a sincere sense of respect and gratitude to Dr. Darla Spence Coffey for a decade of steady, skillful leadership as President and Chief Executive Officer Executive Director of CSWE. Darla convened the Leadership Roundtable and she routinely promote the visibility and linkages of its members. Her 2022 GADE webinar, *Current and Emerging Issues in Social Work Education: A CSWE Update with Implications for Doctoral Programs and Doctoral Students,* is but one example.

The cusp of a New Year is traditionally a time for reflection, acknowledgement, and appreciation. In closing, I would like to single out a few aforementioned individuals who have supported and enabled me to move into and serve as President of GADE this year. A huge thank you to immediate past Co-Presidents, Drs. Larry Farmer and Julia Henly, and to the incredibly talented, deeply committed Board of Directors. And, if I have learned nothing else from my experience in academic administration, it is that there is a wizard behind every curtain. I owe an incalculable debt to Mr. Jonathan Okstad, new friend and program manager extraordinaire.

I wish you all a healthy, happy New Year and look forward to our continued work together.

Denise

Denise Burnette

CONGRATULATIONS GADE AWARDEES

2022 Faculty Award for Educational Leadership in Doctoral Education
Dr. Mo Yee Lee
The Ohio State University

2022 Student Award for Teaching in Social Work
Elizabeth Premo
University of Wisconsin-Madison

2022 Student Award for Leadership & Service
Amanda Spishak-Thomas
Columbia University

2023 Donna Harrington Award for Excellence in Mentoring of Doctoral Students
Dr. Kimberly Bender
University of Denver

2023 Student Award for Social Work Research
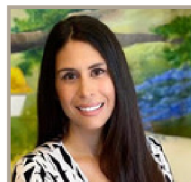Shen (Lamson) Lin
University of Toronto

2023 Initiative for Cross-Institutional Student Collaboration

Gabrielle Aquino-Adriatico
University of Houston

Joanna La Torre
University of Washington

Gabriela Mohr
University of Houston

Jessica Ramirez
University of Washington

2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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