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IN THE LOOP

PhD in Social Welfare, The Graduate School and University Center
City University of New York

<https://socialwelfare.commons.gc.cuny.edu>



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Welcome to Fall 2023

Welcome to the Fall 2023 semester! I hope you all are settling into the semester. I have enjoyed seeing many of you on campus whether in class, at a meeting, a drop by to my office, or at one of our new community activities, "Coffee Connection." Our first Coffee Connection was a success with students and faculty in attendance and even a drop-in from the Provost. We were also treated to a coffee tasting by Paddy Schelle (2nd year) from his Justice Brews Coffee Company ([@justicebrews](https://www.instagram.com/justicebrews)). Please join us each month when we will hold Coffee Connection on a Monday and Tuesday. Next dates are 10/23 (1-2pm) and 10/24 (2-3pm). - Barbra Teater, EO PhD Program in Social Welfare

Call for Student Funding

We are pleased to announce a call for funding for all registered students. The funding can help support your presentation at an academic conference taking place this Spring 2024, or can be used to support you in your completion of data collection and/or data analysis (e.g., transcription costs; services of an editor) of your dissertation research. If you are interested in applying for funding, please complete the application form at:

[Call for Funding.](#)

Deadline is October 20, 2023

FEATURING:

- Call for Student Funding: 10/20 deadline
- Conference Funding Sources
- Student Achievements
- Meet Mikayla! MSW Student Intern with the PhD Program in Social Welfare
- The Virtual Town Square
- Student Spotlight

NEED ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE FUNDING?

- [GC Conference Presentation Support](#) - application deadline is 10/23/23. Awards are \$300. Must have presented between May 24, 2023 - January 1, 2024.
- [International Journal Award for PhD Research Dissemination](#) - Awards are £750. Open call.

Student Achievements: August & September



Miguel Rodriguez will present a round table discussion, "*The necessity of action: Following through on the promise of action in participatory action research*" at the 28th annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research.

Ryan Savino will present "*From homelessness to hotel living during the COVID-19 pandemic*" at the 28th annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research.

Katrina Hannan (with Barbra Teater) will present "*Social workers explicit and implicit use of theory and methods in practice: A pilot study*" at the 28th annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research.



Jamie Borgan and **Katrina Hannan** will present "*PhD student expectations*" at the 28th annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research.



Brie Scolaro (with SJ Dodd) will present "*Examining mental health practitioners' comfort with sex and sexuality*" at the 28th annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research.

Diana Melendez, Diana Ballesteros, and Cameron Rasmussen (with Alexis Jemal) had their article, "Igniting pathways for land-based healing: Possibilities for institutional accountability" published in *Genealogy*.

Ian Williams (with James Mandiberg) presented "*Utilizing the decentralized autonomous organization (DAO) form for social enterprise*" (co-authoring with Katherine Chen) at the 9th annual EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise.



Ian Williams (with Marissa Kaloga, Melissa Singh and Gokul Mayandam) will present a round table discussion, "*Centering a social innovation lens: Formalizing the future of global social work science*" at the 28th annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research.

Meet Mikayla Hubert, MSW Student Intern

Pleased to meet you! I am currently a second-year MSW student specializing in Community Organizing at Silberman School of Social Work. Prior to pursuing my MSW full-time, I worked as a community organizer, youth educator, and gardener at East New York Farms (ENYF). My professional background also includes experience in social-emotional education and counseling, with elementary and middle-school-aged students, as well as college students on the autism spectrum. Outside of work and school, I spend my time absorbed in books, tv, and movies, singing niggunim (Jewish, wordless melodies), and hanging with my cat Mimi. From September to May, I'll be supporting your program with interdisciplinary collaboration, strategic outreach, and community engagement. I'm particularly excited to meet all of you and discuss how I can best support your program.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions, ideas, or just want to connect.

Room: 6304.25

Days: Monday, Thursday, Friday

Email: mikayla.hubert61@myhunter.cuny.edu



The Virtual Town Square

How are you documenting your academic achievements?

Any social worker knows some variation of the phrase, "if it isn't documented, it didn't happen." Social media follows a similar logic - a curated version of events shaped by particular conventions, constructing a kind of reality. The purposes, audiences, and conventions are quite different, but nonetheless, the imperative to document exists. Without that, there is nothing to share.

This year, consider your practices - how you document your work and share the successes of your colleagues, and the ongoing project of telling the story of your journey at The Graduate Center. Consider, too, how we can support you in sharing your successes, your in-progress projects, your thoughts and curiosities, and other ways of putting your best academic self out there.

Expect some updates on this in the fall, but also, here are a few suggestions:

1. Follow our accounts (on [Twitter/X](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)) and tag us in your posts (keep it professional and relevant to your role as a student, please).
2. Take pictures at conferences and events, and get pictures of yourself when presenting.
2. Fill out our [Google Form](#) to share your successes and give us more content to work with.
3. Share information and resources with each other through internal networks such as email listservs and WhatsApp groups.
4. Reach out to me at iwilliams1@gradcenter.cuny.edu with other ideas, such as campaigns, themes, things that we can amplify and highlight, or questions you have about your own social media presence and personal branding. My role is to serve the program.



Ian Williams
Social Media Fellow
[@igraywill](#)

Student Spotlight: Juan Diaz

Let's Have a Conversation with Juan!



Why did you apply to the PhD in Social Welfare? -

Applying to the PhD in Social Welfare is my only choice due to its multidisciplinary approach, faculty, location and my research interests. With my professional background delivering social services to vulnerable populations and my immigrant experience, I came to terms about my interest in pursuing a PhD in Social Welfare from the CUNY Graduate Center and expand the Latino immigrant experience research in New York City.

What has been your favorite course so far as a student?

Why? - *My favorite course has been Development Practice Knowledge, taught by Dr. Barbra Teater. This course set the tone for the remaining courses. The course was very well organized, which allowed me to produce a solid literature review for my research interest.*

What do you want to do after you graduate? - *I would like to get involved in academia and become a full-time professor. Most importantly, I want to use my research to advance policy solutions to close the inequality socio-economic gap in New York City.*

What leadership and/or employment positions do you hold within CUNY? - *I recently became a Qualitative Research Assistant for the CUNY Research Foundation.*

What's something that people would be surprised to know about you? - *I am a huge 80's music fan, both in English and Spanish. Additionally, I did not take the regular path to higher education, as I earned my bachelor's degree in my late 30's when my daughter was six years old. Walking with her to receive my diploma is one of my best life memories.*

What are you currently reading, watching, or listening to? - *I am currently reading a number of peer-review articles on Latino immigration, law and society and program evaluation. Lately, I have been watching a sitcom full of drama, power, greed and strategic negotiation, called Suits.*

What's something we should ask you? What's your answer? - *Describe your immigrant experience? I experienced over two decades of lack of immigration status. Similarly, like millions of Latino immigrants, the lack of employment, education and social networking opportunities were constant as a teenager and adult. These experiences have allowed me to build resiliency and the ability to advocate for marginalized populations.*