

LAUREN A. RICCIARDELLI, PHD, LMSW

Contact: Department of Social Work
University of West Florida
Building 85, Office 140
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Education: The University of Georgia, BA, Philosophy 2006

The University of Georgia, MSW, 2011; PhD, 2017 (“A multi-methods analysis for understanding the intersection of intellectual disability, capital punishment, and social inclusion: Implications for policy, practice, and research in social work”) Social Work

Faculty Appointments:

Assistant Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, University of West Florida, Pensacola, January 2026 – present

Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, University of West Florida, Pensacola, August 2025 – present

Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, University of West Florida, Pensacola, August 2021 – August 2025

Assistant Professor, School of Social Work and Human Services, Troy University, Phenix City, January 2018 – May 2021

Adjunct Faculty, School of Social Work, The University of Georgia, Athens, January 2017 – December 2017

Research:

My research examines the convergence of legal and social/ service systems with a focus on implications for public policy, impacted individuals and communities, and the social work profession. My secondary research line examines the relationships between digital information and communications technology and ethical social work practice at the larger systems levels with a focus on implications for social work education.

Publications:

Refereed Journal Articles:

Knierim, M.T. & Ricciardelli, L.A. (2025). A competency-based framework for research instruction within social work programs [Teaching note]. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 1-6. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08841233.2025.2593672>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Herzog, J.R., Knierim, M.T., Lewis, M.L., Toland, A., & McGarity, S.V. (2025). A process evaluation of online and face-to-face options in a U.S.-based MSW program: Examining differences in student perspectives and needs. *Social Work Education*, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2025.2582735>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Bantry White, E., & Loy, A. (2025). Preserving the integrity of evidence-based social work in the age of AI: A proposed ethical framework. *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/26408066.2025.2587092>

Lucio, R., Harris, A., Creswell Báez, J., Campbell, M. & Ricciardelli L.A. (2025). Artificial intelligence in systematic literature reviews: Social work ethics, application, and feasibility. *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/26408066.2025.2548853>

Ricciardelli, L.A., McClernon-Chaffin, K., Herzog, J.R., & McGarity, S.V. (2025). Inclusive education at a crossroads: Assessing accommodations for online students with disabilities. *Critical Disability Discourses*, 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.25071/1918-6215.39771>

Ricciardelli, L.A. (2024). Social work students & social media: A descriptive analysis of survey items across four time-points. *Social Work*, 69(3), 277-286. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swae026>

Ricciardelli, L.A., McGarity, S.V., & Berry, J. (2024). Social work & social media: A national replication study of use, attitudes, and knowledge among U.S. students. *Social Work Education*, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2025.2474492>

Ricciardelli, L.A., McGarity, S.V., Lewis, M.L., & Herzog, J. (2024). Social work interstate compact legislation: Points for analysis & advocacy. *Social Work*, 69(3), 303-307. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swae018>

Ricciardelli, L.A., & McGarity, S.V. (2024). In pursuit of equity: Examining ASWB exam disparities and legislative responses. *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*, 21(2), 141-144. <https://doi.org/10.1080/26408066.2024.2310598>

Ricciardelli, L.A., McGarity, S.V., Mbao, M., Erbetta, K., Herzog, J., & Knierim, M. (2023). Racial disparity in social work professional licensure exam pass rates: Examining institutional characteristics and state licensure policy as predictors. *Journal of Evidence Based Social Work*, 21(2), 199-213. doi:10.1080/26408066.2023.2285887

Ricciardelli, L.A., Dillard, D.R., Quinn, A.E., Skinner, J., & Nackerud, L. (2023). U.S. social work students' attitudes on social media as treatment modality: A pre-pandemic national survey. *Journal of Social Work*, 24(1), 58-72. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14680173231197796>

Ricciardelli, L.A., King, E.A., & Broadley, M. (2022). COVID-19, mental illness, and incarceration in the United States: A systematic review, 2019 – 2021. *Social Sciences*, 11(11), 521. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci11110521>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Quinn, A., & Nackerud, L. (2022). Social work & social media: A survey of use, attitudes, and knowledge among U.S. students. *Social Work Education*, 43(3), 530-545. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2022.2122950>

Ricciardelli, L.A., McGarity, S., & Nackerud, L. (2022). Social work education and the recognition of rights in the digital tech age: Implications for professional identity. *Social Work Education*, 41(1), 90-104. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2020.1805427>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Quinn, A., & Nackerud, L. (2020). The criminalization of immigration and intellectual disability in the United States: A mixed methods approach to exploring forced exclusion. *Critical Social Work*, 21 (2), 19-40. <https://ojs.uwindsor.ca/index.php/csw/article/view/6462/5180>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Quinn, A., & Nackerud, L. (2020). “Human behavior and the social media environment”: Exploring group differences in social media attitudes and knowledge. *Social Work Education*, 40(4), 473-491. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2019.1710125>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Nackerud, L., Quinn, A., Sewell, M., & Casiano, B. (2020). Social media use, attitudes, and knowledge among social work students: Ethical implications for the social work profession. *Social Sciences & Humanities Open* 2(1), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssaho.2019.100008>

Ricciardelli, L.A., Nackerud, L., Cochrane, K., Sims, I., Crawford, L., & Taylor, D. (2019). A snapshot of immigration court at Stewart Detention Center: How social workers can advocate & advance social justice efforts in the United States. *Critical Social Work*, 20 (1), 46-65. <https://ojs.scholarsportal.info/windsor/index.php/csw/issue/view/560>

Ricciardelli, L.A. & Jaskyte, K. (2019). A value-critical policy analysis of Georgia’s beyond a reasonable doubt standard of proof of intellectual disability. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, 30 (1), 56-64. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1044207319828404>

Ricciardelli, L.A. & Laws, C.B. (2019). Using social work values and ethics to enhance social inclusion in post-secondary education: A value-critical approach. *Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics*, 16(1), 39-52. <https://jswve.org/download/spring2019/articles16-1/39-Social-Inclusion-in-Post-Secondary-Education-16-1-JSWVE-Spring-2019.pdf>

Ricciardelli, L.A. (2019). The case of intellectual disability vs. the death penalty: A Foucauldian analysis of Georgia’s beyond a reasonable doubt standard of proof. *Critical Disability Discourses*, 9. <https://cdd.journals.yorku.ca/index.php/cdd/article/view/39747/35998>

Ricciardelli, L.A. & Ayres, K. (2016). The execution of Warren Lee Hill: The standard of proof of intellectual disability in Georgia. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, 27(3) 158 –167. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1044207316637546>

Caplan, M. & Ricciardelli, L. A. (2016). Institutionalizing neoliberalism: 21st century capitalism, market sprawl, and implications for social policy. *Poverty & Public Policy*, 8(1), 20-38. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pop4.128>

Books and Edited Volumes:

Ricciardelli, L.A. (Ed.). (2020). *Social work, criminal justice, and the death penalty*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Ginsberg, L.H., Larrison, C.R., Nackerud, L., Barner, J.R., & Ricciardelli, L.A. (2019). *Social Work and science in the 21st Century*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Book Reviews:

Ricciardelli, L. A. (2020). [Review of the book *Capital defense: Inside the lives of America's death penalty lawyers* by J. B. Gould and M. Pagni Barak]. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 31(3), 468-470. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511253.2020.1764994>

Refereed Encyclopedia Articles:

NASW Press & Oxford University Press. (2021). Unemployment insurance. In *Encyclopedia of social work*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.013.404>

Sage Publications, Inc. (2015). Maine. In *SAGE encyclopedia of world poverty*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781483345727.n676>

Presentations:

Academic Conference Presentations:

Ricciardelli, L.A., & Toland, A.M. (October 2025). Disability and mental health service utilization among asynchronous online and face-to-face msw students. Poster presentation at the 2025 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Herzog, J. & Ricciardelli, L.A. (October 2025). Inclusive education at a crossroads. Paper presentation at the 2025 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Ricciardelli, L.A. & Herzog, J. (January 2025). Geography matters: Racial disparity in the ASWB professional licensure exam pass rates. Poster presentation at the 2025 Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & Toland, A.M. (March 2024). Social work student mental health. Round Table Presentation at the 2024 Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

McGarity, S.V., & Ricciardelli, L.A. (January 2024). The ethical implications of the digital welfare state for people with disabilities: Balancing inclusion and discrimination. Accepted poster presentation at the 2024 Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

Hoffman, C., McGarity, S.V., & Ricciardelli, L.A. (November 2023). Social work students' perceptions and use of dating apps: Implications for sexual violence prevention. Accepted poster presentation at the 2023 American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & McGarity, S.V. (November 2022). Social work, information & communication technology, and the sphere of rights. Poster presentation at the 2022 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Anaheim, CA.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (April 2020). Social work and the recognition of rights in the age of digital technology. Remote presentation at the 2020 College of Education Research & Scholarship Conference, Troy, AL.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & Nackerud, L. (January 2020). Immigration and social work: How the profession can advocate & advance social justice efforts in the United States. Poster presentation at the 2020 Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Britton Laws, C. & Ricciardelli, L.A. (November 2019). Enhancing social inclusion in post-secondary education using social work ethics: A value-critical approach. Association of University Centers on Disabilities Annual Conference. Athens, GA.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & Nackerud, L. (October 2019). U.S. immigration policy and implications for social work field education. Oral presentation at the 2019 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & Nackerud, L. (October 2019). Social media use, attitudes, and knowledge among social work students. Oral presentation at the 2019 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Ricciardelli, L.A., Quinn, A., & Nackerud, L. (June 2019). A confirmatory analysis of standards of proof and Olmstead claims. Poster presentation at the 2019 American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Annual Conference, St. Paul, MN.

Nackerud, L., Quinn, A., & Ricciardelli, L.A. (June 2019). Forced exclusion: a mixed methods approach to understanding the criminalization of immigration and intellectual disability. Poster presentation at the 2019 American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Annual Conference, St. Paul, MN.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (June 2017). A Policy Analysis of Georgia's Beyond a Reasonable Doubt Standard of Proof of Intellectual Disability. Oral presentation at the 2017 Influencing Social Policy Conference 2.0, Brown School, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

Nackerud, L., & Ricciardelli, L.A. (June 2017). The Efficacy of Amnesty. Oral presentation at the 2017 Influencing Social Policy Conference 2.0, Brown School, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & McGarity, S.V. (June 2017). A Value-Critical Policy Analysis of Atkins v. Virginia in Georgia: Implications for Health and Well-being in the Criminal Justice System. Poster presentation at the 2017 American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Annual Conference, Hartford, CT.

McGarity, S.V. & Ricciardelli, L.A. (January 2017). Factors Related to the Banking Status of Low-Income Individuals with Disabilities: Findings from a Nationally Representative Sample. Poster presentation at the 21st Annual Conference for the Society for Social Work Research, Washington, D.C.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & McGarity, S.V. (June 2016). Capital Defendants Raising the Claim of Intellectual Disability and Disparate Standards of Proof: An Analysis of Between-State Variation and Significant Correlates. Poster presentation at the 2016 American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

McGarity, S.V. & Ricciardelli, L.A. (June 2016). Access to Assets: A Value-Critical Policy Analysis of the ABLE Act of 2014. Poster presentation at the 2016 American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & McGarity, S.V. (January 2016). "Smorgasbord of Discord": Emerging Challenges to Transition for Individuals with Disabilities in Post-Olmstead Georgia. Poster presentation at the 2016 Society for Social Work and Research 20th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

Ricciardelli, L.A., & Nackerud, L. (January 2015). A Formative Program Evaluation of the Cancer Foundation of Northeast Georgia Board of Directors. Guest speaker presentation—2015 CFNEGA Retreat, Athens, GA.

Ricciardelli, L.A., Nackerud, L., O'Hare, N., & Madden, M. (March 2014). Oconee Hill Cemetery Project. Poster Presentation at the 2014 Gulf South Summit Service Learning + Applied Research Conference, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (March 2014). Innovation in Service Learning. Roundtable Discussion Facilitator at the 2014 Gulf South Summit Service Learning + Applied Research Conference, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.

Invited Professional Presentations:

Ricciardelli, L.A. (November 17, 2021). The standard of proof of intellectual disability in death penalty cases: Implications for social work practice. Remote presentation to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (July 13, 2021). Racial bias in technology & implications for social work in the carceral setting. Remote presentation to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (November 7, 2019). Georgia's beyond a reasonable doubt standard of proof of intellectual disability. Oral presentation to the Office of the Georgia Capital Defender in Atlanta, GA.

Invited Guest Lectures:

Ricciardelli, L.A. (October 9, 2025). The standard of proof of intellectual disability in death penalty cases. Oral presentation to the Student Social Work Organization (SSWO) at the University of West Florida.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (September 26, 2023). Examining ASWB licensure pass rate disparities: Research methods and design. Remote presentation to Associate Dean, Dr. Rachel Fusco's PhD social work research class at The University of Georgia.

Ricciardelli, L.A. (March 28, 2023; October 24, 2024). The standard of proof of intellectual disability in death penalty cases: The role of the social work profession in this legal discourse. Remote presentation to Dr. Dillard's undergraduate social work research class at Mississippi State University.

Program Evaluations/ Needs Assessments:

FASCETS Neurobehavioral Approach Training Intervention, pro bono evaluation, Northwest Florida, 2025- present

El Refugio, pro bono program evaluation, Lumpkin, GA, 2019

Cancer Foundation of Northeast Georgia, pro bono program evaluation, Athens, GA, 2014 – 2015

A Toolkit for Care Workers of Persons who are HIV Positive, multisite international program evaluation, Australia, Kenya, and Lebanon, 2014 – 2015

Athens Community Council on Aging, pro bono program evaluation, Athens, GA, 2014

External Funding:

Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success Program. [\$747,000]. *Social Work Programs as Auxiliary Support for Veteran Resource Centers: Enhancing Student Outcomes through Coordinated Care*. Application number: FOA 2024-11658. Application submitted July 29, 2024. Not awarded.

Russell Sage Foundation's Social, Political and Economic Inequality Program. [\$50,000]. *A needs assessment of community reentry programs in Florida for recently released people during and after pandemic: Implications for social, political, and economic inclusion*. Application number: R-2207-39498. Letter of Inquiry submitted July 25, 2022. Not awarded.

National Institute of Justice's Graduate Research Fellowship Program in the Social and Behavioral Sciences [\$32,000]. *Intellectual disability and capital punishment: Between-state variance and implications for Georgia policy and procedure*. Application number: 2016-90058-GA-IJ. Non-award decided October 5, 2016. Not awarded.

Internal Funding:

University of West Florida, UKCOH Resource Allocation Committee (RAC). [\$2,250]. Request for travel funding to present at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Conference in Seattle, Washington. Awarded November 13, 2024.

University of West Florida, UKCOH High Impact Practice (HIP). [\$3,700]. *Bridging research-informed practice & practice-informed research in social work graduate education: Implications for professional standards and regulations*. Awarded March 1, 2024.

University of West Florida, UKCOH Resource Allocation Committee (RAC). [\$2,600]. Request for travel funding to present at the 41st Annual Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD) Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Awarded November 15, 2023.

Courses Taught:*University of West Florida:*

SOW 5105, *Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Fall 2023, Fall 2024)

SOW 5218, *Analysis of Social Service Policy*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Spring 2022, Spring 2023 [online], Spring 2024 [online], Spring 2025 [online], Summer 2025 x 2 [online])

SOW 5324, *Generalist Practice II*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Spring 2023)

SOW 5404, *MSW Research Foundations*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2022 [online], Fall 2023 [online], Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025 [online], Fall 2025, Spring 2026, Spring 2026 [online])

SOW 5629, *MSW Human Diversity and Social Justice*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Summer 2022, Summer 2024 [online])

SOW 5757, *History, Philosophy, and Theory of Social Work Practice*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Spring 2022, Summer 2022 [online], Spring 2023 [online], Summer 2023[online], Summer 2024 x 2 [online], Fall 2024 [online], Spring 2025 [online], Summer 2025 [online])

SOW 6432, *Evaluation of Social Work Practice*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Fall 2021 [online; x 2], Fall 2022 [online], Fall 2023 [online], Fall 2025)

SOW 6618, *Clinical Practice with Individuals*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Summer 2023[online])

SOW 6846, *Clinical Practice with Groups*, MSW, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL (Spring 2024, Spring 2024 [online])

Student Professional Development and Active Mentorship:

Assigned faculty mentor to BSW and MSW students

Doctoral Dissertation Committee for Karen Pendergrass, methodologist, *Teacher and Student Perceptions of Project-Based Learning During COVID-19*, August 2021- present

Faculty supervisor of Graduate Assistant (Spring 2024)

Faculty supervisor of Graduate Assistant (Fall 2023)

Faculty supervisor of Graduate Research Assistant (Spring 2023), culminating in the poster presentation entitled, "Social media & social work: A replication survey study of use, attitudes, and knowledge among U.S. students," at the UWF CEPS Spring Showcase, April 20, 2023

Faculty research mentor to Graduate Research Assistant (Fall 2023), culminating in the oral presentation entitled, “Social media & social work: A replication survey study of use, attitudes, and knowledge among U.S. students,” at the UWF CEPS Colloquium, Feb. 16, 2023

Faculty research mentor to Graduate Research Assistant (Fall 2022), culminating in the oral presentation entitled, “COVID-19, mental illness, and incarceration in the United States: A systematic review, 2019 – 2021,” at the CEPS Colloquium, Feb. 17, 2022
Attended the UWF Office of Undergraduate Research’s *Student Symposium & Faculty Research Showcase*, and engaged Dr. Dana Dillard’s undergraduate research class in discussions regarding their respective research methods and posters, April 14, 2022

Service:

University:

SACS Regional Accreditation Site Visit, Faculty Representative, Spring 2025

Argo Teaching Academy, invited participant, 2024-2025

NextGen Leadership, invited participant, Fall 2024

University of West Florida, volunteer alternate reviewer, Institutional Review Board, Fall 2023 – present

University of West Florida, hooder for the Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, and Fall 2025 Graduate Commencement Ceremonies

University of West Florida, research proposal reviewer for Office of Undergraduate Research, Fall 2024, Spring 2023

University of West Florida, marshal for the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies, December 10, 2022 and May 6, 2023

University of West Florida, Explore UWF! Majors Fair, Social Work Department representative, November 19, 2022

University of West Florida, Explore UWF! Majors Fair, Social Work Department representative, November 20, 2021

University of West Florida, Marshal for the Spring 2022 and Fall 2021 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies, December 11, 2021 and May 7, 2022

College:

University of West Florida, UKCOH Council, secretary, January 2025 – present

University of West Florida, UKCOH Council, member, August 2023 – January 2025

University of West Florida, UKCOH Council, RAC subcommittee, member, August 2023 – May 2024

University of West Florida, UKCOH Interprofessional Education Committee (IPE), member, August 2023 – May 2025

University of West Florida, CEPS Strategic Plan Committee, member, August 2022 – May 2023

Department:

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work, Assistant Chair, January 2026-present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Curriculum Committee, chair and recorder, August 2023– May 2024; chair, August 2024- present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Bylaws Committee, chair, August 2025 – present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Faculty Development Committee, member, August 2025 – present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Implicit Curriculum Committee, member, August 2025 – present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work *Ad Hoc* Doctoral Program Committee, member, August 2025 – present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work *Ad Hoc* Hybrid MSW Program Committee, member, August 2025 – present

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work, committee member, MSW Accreditation Committee, May 2022 – May 2023

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Bylaws Committee, member, August 2023 – May 2025

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Bylaws Committee, recorder, August 2021 – May 2023

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Student Success Committee, chair, August 2024– May 2025

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Assessment Committee, member, August 2024– May 2025

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work MSW Admissions Committee, MSW program liaison for prospective in-person applicants, July 2023 – August 2024

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work Tenure Track Faculty Search Committee, committee member, August 2023 – December 2023

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work MSW Admissions Committee, member, August 2022 – Spring 2024

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work, Tenure Track Faculty Search Committee, committee member, August 2022 – December 2022

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work, Student Success Committee, member, September 2021 – August 2022

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work, Curriculum Committee, member, September 2021 – May 2023

University of West Florida, Department of Social Work, participated in all clinical faculty candidate presentations, December 9-10, 2021

Community:

FASCETS Neurobehavioral Approach Training Intervention, pro bono evaluation, Northwest Florida, 2025- present

Invited to consult with Pensacola Police Department regarding the Mayor's proposed homelessness initiative, April 2023

Consulted with Logan Purvis, UGA Law School student, on Georgia's standard of proof of intellectual disability, October 2021; acknowledged in his March 2023 Georgia Law Review publication entitled, *Unacceptable risk: The failure of Georgia's "Guilty but Intellectually Disabled" statute and a call for change*

Inside-Out course on Contemporary Social Justice Issues at Santa Rosa Correctional Institution with Drs. Jenn Brinkley and Nicole Niebuhr, invited guest judge, April 22, 2022

Consulted with Victoria Pasculli, Esq., Cooley Law Firm in New York, Georgia's standard of proof of intellectual disability, December 2021

Georgia Resource Center, pro bono assistance with prison post-release planning, 2021 Georgia Options' Human Rights Committee, committee member, 2017 – 2019

Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, *On the Table* talk, participant, October 22, 2019

United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley College Scholarship, applicant judge, April 2019

The Arc's National Policy & Positions Committee, committee member, Dec. 2017 – Dec. 2018

Profession:

Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work (JEBSW), co-guest editor for the special issue entitled, "Social Work in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Ethical Implications for Practice, Education, Research, & Society." January 2025 – January 2026

National Association of Social Workers- Florida Continuing Education presentation entitled, "Social work and the helping ethic in the digital age: Implications for practice, education, and professional regulation," March 7, 2025

Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work (JEBSW), editorial board member, 2020-present

Special Commission to Advance Macro Social Work, member, September 2024- present
Journal of Social Work Education, invited reviewer, 2025

Critical Social Work, invited reviewer, 2025

FL-NASW Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD), Policy Planning Committee, October 2023 – February 2024

Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work (JEBSW), co-guest editor for the special issue entitled, “Addressing ASWB exam pass rate disparities: Aligning with standards and ethics,” April 2023 – February 2024

Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare, invited reviewer, 2023

Behaviour & Information Technology, invited reviewer, 2023

Social Sciences, guest editor for the special issue entitled, “Revisiting disability rights in the current context of U.S. criminal justice reform efforts,” 2022- 2023

Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics (JSWVE), editorial board member, 2020-2021

University of Chicago’s School of Social Service Administration, Smart Decarceration Project, invited to share developed syllabus for the course, *Social work, criminal justice, and the death penalty* to the Project’s website, 2020

Social Sciences, invited guest co-editor for special edition on immigration, 2018 – 2019

Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research, invited reviewer, 2018, 2019

Inclusion [AAIDD], invited reviewer, 2017, 2018

Certifications:

Licensed Master of Social Work, Georgia, 2012

Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators (English I and II), 2007

Memberships:

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Special Commission to Advance Macro Social Work

Experience:

Georgia Options in Athens, GA

Community Support Coordinator (Oct. 2012- Aug. 2013)

In a non-profit setting, supervised team of 30 direct care workers who provided daily community living supports for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities;

Participated in interdisciplinary team assessments;

Coordinated with support team, state agencies, and individuals served to ensure life goals were implemented, personal outcomes achieved, and high quality of care.

FMC-NA Clarke County Dialysis in Athens, GA
Licensed Master of Social Work (Jan. 2012 – Oct. 2012)

Provided case management to 98 individuals diagnosed with End Stage Renal Disease;
Worked in the capacity of patient advocate, case manager, and admissions coordinator;
Administered standardized assessments and participated in interdisciplinary assessment, working closely with the clinic director, nutritionist, insurance coordinator, technicians, nurses, and nephrologists.

Rutland Academy in Athens, GA
MSW Student Intern (Aug. 2010- May 2011)

Worked collaboratively with educators in the Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) setting for youth diagnosed with severe emotional disturbance with some co-occurrence of intellectual/ developmental disabilities;
Facilitated/ co-facilitated social skills learning groups at the middle and high school levels;
Developed and implemented Rutland Peer Mentor Program, promoting peer led learning.

Heritage Healthcare at Grandview in Athens, GA
MSW Student Intern (Jan. 2010 – May 2010)

Worked closely with the activities director and social worker to facilitate active and communal living, and to assess and advocate for the needs of the residents;
Performed intake and quality of life assessments, and assisted with transition planning;
Facilitated reminiscence groups and conducted 1:1 sessions.

Advantage Behavioral Health Systems in Winder, GA
Community Resource Coordinator (Jan. 2009- Aug. 2009)

Provided residential and community support coordination for two adults with intellectual/ developmental disabilities and co-occurring psychiatric diagnoses;
Fostered independent living skills and ensured dignity and respect in all aspects of daily living;
Utilized person-centered approach to facilitate identification and achievement of goals.

Impact Counseling & Consulting in Northeast GA
Case Manager (Jul. 2008- Oct. 2010)

Wrap-around service provider for female youth in Northeast Georgia involved with the Department of Juvenile Justice;
Engaged and intervened with youth and family to decrease challenging behaviors;
Attended court hearings and provided written recommendations to court officials, helping to inform subsequent interventions.

Awards and Nominations:

- Nominated for the 2025 UWF Faculty Advisor of the Year Award (April 2025)
- Nominated for the 2025 UWF Faculty HIP Award for teaching SOW 5404, MSW Research Foundations: *Bridging research-informed practice & practice-informed research in social work graduate education: Implications for professional standards and regulations* (March 2025)
- Received the FL NASW Educator of the Year Award for the State (May 2024)
- Received the FL NASW Educator of the Year Award for the Northwest Unit (March 2024)
- Nominated for the Rothman Structural Change Award (February 2024)
- Nominated for the UKCOH Faculty Research Award (November 2023)