From the Directors

We are excited to announce the relaunching of a quarterly newsletter to all of our social work students, prospective students, alumni, and the greater community. We hope these newsletters serve as another mode for delivering relevant content about the past, present, and future of our department.

We want for all of you to share in our success as we launch our new masters in social work (MSW) program, continue to lead the oldest accredited bachelor’s in social work (BSW) program in Indiana, and expand our footprint in the local, state, national, and global community. Each of you play a valuable role in creating the educational space needed to develop future social work leaders, providing hope for those facing social, economic, and environmental injustice, and illustrating the values that define the social work profession. Our program is made stronger by the work each of you do on a daily basis.

Dr. Glenn Stone, Department Chair
Dr. Greta Slater, MSW Program Director
Dr. Matt Moore, BSW Program Director
Children Explore Social Work Profession
Faculty, staff, and BSW students hosted second graders from Longfellow Elementary School in Muncie, Indiana. These students came to campus to learn about the social work profession and to discuss the role of family and community in their development. Members of the Department of Social Work led the second graders in discussion and helped them to create their own genograms and ecomaps. This event is part of Ball State’s commitment to the Muncie School Corporation. The department is exploring additional ways for engaging with Muncie School children in future semesters.

Please Join us for our Centennial Celebration: Building Healthy Communities
As we celebrate Ball State University’s Centennial, the department is hosting a Building Healthy Communities training and networking workshop. There will be four breakout training session options with continuing education units available and a reception. Topics include the opioid crisis in our communities, housing and healthy communities, and a training session on the recent changes to the National Association of Social Workers code of ethics. We hope you will join us for this special event! You can register for the event by contacting Shannon Staton by January 16.
Alumni Spotlight

Lindi (Johnson) Kelley began working as a therapist on the child and family services team at Centerstone in Seymour, Indiana after graduating from Ball State. She completed her MSW in July 2018 from Indiana University. Lindi became a licensed social worker in November 2018. She just recently accepted a position as a school social worker at Lincoln Elementary in Lawrence County, Indiana. She just celebrated her first wedding anniversary.

Brandon Puszkiewicz began working for Cornerstone Autism Center as an applied behavior analysis therapist in 2016. After two years, he began a new role at Cornerstone Autism Center as a center manager. Suggest alumni to be spotlighted by contacting Dr. Matt Moore.

New Field Director Appointments
Shannon Staton will now serve as the director of field with a primary emphasis on MSW placements. Adrienne Newman will now serve as the assistant director of field with a primary emphasis on BSW placements.

Health Professions Building
The Department of Social Work will relocate to the new Health Professions Building in August 2019. It is located on Riverside Avenue between Martin and Dicks streets.

Faculty Openings
We are currently seeking applications for two tenure-track faculty positions.

Faculty Announcements
• Dr. Jonel Thaller presented with Dr. Greta Slater at the Indiana Public Health Conference on the Volunteers of America Fresh Start Recovery Program. Dr. Thaller presented at a conference in Phoenix, Arizona with colleagues on advancing efforts to eliminate sexual violence by intimate partners.
• Dr. Ronald Dolon presented at the International Conference on Health, Wellness, & Society in London. He presented on humor as a stress management tool.
• Dr. Matt Moore presented at the Fourth Annual Social Work in Sports Symposium in Orlando, Florida. He was elected president of the Alliance of Social Workers in Sports. Dr. Moore also co-authored a textbook, Sport Social Work: Promoting the Well-being and Functioning of College and Professional Athletes.
• Dr. Glenn Stone, Instructor Josh Raines, and Associate Professor Judy Gray presented at the 2018 Council on Social Work Education Conference on “Using Virtual Reality to Develop Students’ Practice Skills: The VRoom Project.”

Upcoming Events (Eastern Time)
• January 10: Master of Social Work Information Session, 5:30–6:30 p.m., L.A. Pittenger Student Center, Room 303
• January 10: Centennial Speaker, Dr. Edwin K. McDonald IV, MD. “Food Swamps, Food Deserts, & Food Insecurity” L.A. Pittenger Student Center, Ballroom, 5:30 p.m.
• January 16: Centennial Event, Healthy Lifestyles Fair, L.A. Pittenger Student Center, rooms 301–302, 1–3 p.m.
• January 18: “Bouncing Back: Stay Resilient During Life’s Challenges Webinar,” 1–2 p.m., registration required
• January 22: Martin Luther King Jr. Speakers Series, Eric Michael Dyson, 7:30 p.m., Pruis Hall
• February 23: “Addressing the Healthcare Needs of Students with Autism” Alumni Center, 7:45 a.m.–3 p.m. registration required