The background of the entire page is a large, light gray watermark of the University of Minnesota seal. The seal features a central shield with a book and a star, surrounded by the text "UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA" and "1862".

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

*Recognition Ceremony*

MAY 14, 2011  
TED MANN CONCERT HALL

MOORHEAD

ST. PAUL

ROCHESTER

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the School of Social Work, I join your families and friends in congratulating you on this special day. Earning your M.S.W. or Ph.D. degree is, of course, something special, and we celebrate that today. But one thing in particular that is special to this celebration is that you are being hooded by your friends and family—persons close to you who have supported you in this journey. And so we recognize them as well as you.



As you walk across the stage to receive your hood, you have also become part of an enduring legacy. You join the thousands of our alumni who have worked hard to build a just, caring, and inclusive society. When you accept this symbol of academic achievement, in a real sense you walk through time to stand with those who have preceded you. Now it is your turn also to help the School renew its commitment in providing leadership for a just and caring society. And so, as you cross this auditorium's stage to embark upon a new stage in your career, we offer you a pointed invitation: partner with us in our work, remain part of this school and its commitment to engagement, teaching and learning. Join our advisory board, mentor one of our students, and in the future join our faculty as a field instructor or share your practice wisdom in a classroom. We welcome you; indeed, we need you.

Congratulations, again, on your academic achievements, and our best wishes for a successful and fulfilling future.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James R. Reinardy". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

James R. Reinardy, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Director, School of Social Work



## MAYKAO Y. HANG

MayKao Y. Hang is the sixth President and CEO of the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation. Prior to assuming this role, MayKao was the Director of Children and Family Services for the Wilder Foundation where she was responsible for leading, directing and guiding the strategic work and operations for children and families. MayKao was also the Director of Adult Services for the Ramsey County Human Services Department. At Ramsey County, she had responsibility and oversight of all services and staff in the county delivering an array of social services to people 18 and older and for children with physical and developmental disabilities. She also held the position of Resident Services Director at the St. Paul Public Housing Agency, managing 4,200 units of public housing and related community services for residents. MayKao is an active community member who works to improve services and systems for the most vulnerable in society.



MayKao has a B.A. degree in Psychology from Brown University and a M.A. degree in Social Policy and Distributive Justice from the University of Minnesota Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. She currently serves on the Board of Hnub Tshiab: Hmong Women Achieving Together, Twin Cities LISC, and the St. Paul and Minnesota Community Foundations.



# PROGRAM

## FACULTY PROCESSIONAL

Velmer Burton  
Peter Dimock  
Colleen Fisher  
Priscilla Gibson  
MJ Gilbert  
Jane Gilgun  
David Hollister

Judy Hoy  
Katie Johnston-GoodStar  
Helen Q. Kivnick  
Hee Yun Lee  
Linda Jones  
Traci LaLiberte  
Elizabeth Lightfoot

Steve Maxwell  
Megan Morrissey  
Jean Quam  
James Reinardy  
Ronald Rooney  
Victoria Van Slyke

## WELCOMING REMARKS

James Reinardy, Ph.D.  
*Director, School of Social Work*

## STUDENT EMCEES

Kate Anderson and Hafsa Kaka

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

MayKao Hang  
*President & CEO, Amherst H. Wilder Foundation*

## MUSIC

Flutists: Elizabeth Cutter & Dawn Moosberger  
Musicians/Performers: MJ Gilbert & Steve Maxwell

## PRESENTATION AND RECOGNITION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

James Reinardy, Ph.D.

Jean Quam, Ph.D.  
*Dean, College of Education and Human Development*

Kelley Leaf, Elise Niedermeier and Joe Timmons  
*M.S.W. Students*

## PRESENTATION OF FRIEDMAN AWARD

David Hollister, Ph.D.  
*Director of Graduate Studies*

## CLOSING REMARKS

Kate Anderson and Hafsa Kaka

## RECESSIONAL

## RECEPTION



## *Acknowledgements*

Sincere thanks to the Friedman family for their recognition of graduate student scholarship through the Gertrude Friedman Prize.

Special thanks to the staff, students and volunteers who helped make this event possible: Karen Borchardt, Jan Goodno, Roz Elstrom, Sheila Hanschen, Amy Khath, Kelley Leaf, Elise Niedermeier, Cynthia Nelson, Rachel Oberg-Hauser, Joe Timmons

Much appreciation to Elizabeth Cutter, MJ Gilbert, Steve Maxwell and Dawn Moosberger for sharing their musical talents.



# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK CLASS OF 2011

## Ph.D. Students

Katharine Hill

Kel Abel Knochel

Valandra

Timothy Brett Zuel

## M.S.W. Students

Megan Marie Alama

Jennifer Lynn Huber

Desireé Lynn Price

Kate Lauren Anderson

Annie Johnson

Laura R. Rindahl

Amanda Mae Baker

Elizabeth Y. Johnson

Catherine Lenore Russell

Korina Jovan Barry

Jan Schuldt Johnson

Rachael Marie Sarto

Caitlin Lainey Boyd

Melinda Anne Johnson

Melissa Ann Schebloom

Lara Brown

Breanna Jolene Jones

Kelsey Ann Schleif

Peter Meadows Caldwell

Hafsa Kaka

Sarah Irene Schroepfer

Maggie Elizabeth Carman

Evelyn Ellen Osebe Kebaya

Molly Marie Seaver

Jamie Lynn Davis

Belle Phuong Khuu

Anna Shkolnik

Antonia Adetoun Dedeke

Debra Klein

Alison M. Smetana

Athena Marie Diesch

Jonelle Alissa Klemz

Jeanette Lorette Sole

Kathleen Duffy

Kimberly Alice Koerselman

Samuel Douglas St. Marie

Sarah EunHye Easton

Charlotte Rae Kohlgraf

Elena Kay Taylor

Joanne Eloise Ehrmantraut

Soo Chin Lee

Janine Judd Tea

Jordan William Fischer

Ka Moua Lo

Becca Jo Tumm

Nina Jo Fox

Zhanni Lu

Amanda Lynn Van Wyhe

Sarah Elizabeth Frazell

Virginia Beattie Madeiros

Kristina Maria VanDyke

Rodney Rolando Gayle

Hillary Ann Pond Mealman

Zer Vang

Ashley Maria Gehrke

Adam Mark Mikelson

Jill M. Vinge

Meaghan Mohr Gesino

Brianne Marie Miller

Maria Lee Volpe

Devon K. Gilchrist

Nasro Osman Mohamed

Anoki Nakia (Capers) Vulu

Kristin Elizabeth Gloe

Amina Hashi Mohamed

Natalie Marie Wasiluk

Briellen Elizabeth Griffin

J. Laine Mohnkern

Anne Louise Watson

Joel Paul Grostephan

Eric Alan Murtha

Edwin Yanquoi Weedor

Melissa Ann Gunderson

Marie Anastasia Nelson

Courtney Kellerman Wells

Charity Anne Hans

Katherine Elizabeth Nick

Erin Michelle Whitcomb

Nora Brookner Haupt

Jennifer O'Leary

Lauren Dwyer Wilkerson

Elizabeth Anne Henze

Kelsey Marie Olson

Ka Zoua Yang

Erin Irene Hilleshiem

Carly Buckman Petersen

Rebecca Kathleen Zaremba

Alisha Honore

Ashley Middleton Peterson

Lisa Tetsugan Zummach



# PARTING WORDS

## PH.D. STUDENTS

Many thanks to my friends and family and the staff and faculty at CASCW, ICI, and the School of Social Work. Special appreciation to my committee members- Liz Lightfoot, David Johnson, Traci LaLiberte, and Terry Lum. Chris and Frances, I love you both from the bottom of my heart.

***Katharine Hill***

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***Kel Abel Knochel***

I appreciate the support, direction, and patience of everyone who walked this path with me. With gratitude and respect,

***Valandra***

A heartfelt thank you to all the faculty and staff that have been so supportive over the years.

***Timothy Brett Zuel***

## M.S.W. STUDENTS

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"—MLK, 1957. Much gratitude and respect to those who help me continually answer that question: Greg, my parents, Robyn, and my friends in the SSW (including A.S., B.M., C.B., J.E., K.D., L.B., M.N.) and at the PNC.

***Megan Marie Alama***

Thanks to the people who have helped me get where I am today - Mom, Dad, Joe, Jake and especially Matt, who has been my rock. Thanks to friends from past and present who have helped me develop a passion for social work. Last but not least, thanks to the professors, supervisors, coworkers, and peers who helped me to discover my place in the world.... I love you all! :)

***Kate Lauren Anderson***

Thank you to my parents who have always provided love, support, and guidance, I wouldn't be where I am today without you! Thank you Aaron for always having faith in me and helping me along the way, I love you!

***Amanda Mae Baker***

I want to thank my family and friends whose unconditional love and support helped me be here today. Thank you to all of my professors, fellow students, field staff and supervisors for sharing your wisdom. I have learned so much from each of you.

***Melissa Badowich***



The MSW program has helped me grow both professionally and personally over the past two years. The program assisted me in confronting my past which enabled me to prepare for the future and embark on the road to success. I wish everyone the best in their future endeavors!

***Korina Jovan Barry***

To all my peers, congratulations - we made it! To our families and loved ones, thank you for your support and patience. We can now resume our fair share of household duties. Cheers!

***Caitlin Lainey Boyd***

To deal with individual human needs at the everyday level can be noble sometimes. Jimmy Carter

***Lara Brown***

Wherever little children are hungry and cry, wherever people ain't free, wherever men and women are fightin' for their rights, that's where I'm gonna be, Ma, That's where I'm gonna be. Thank you to Valerie, my friends, family, professors and my SW crew!

***Peter Meadows Caldwell***

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***Maggie Elizabeth Carman***

I finally did it! I want to thank the Lord for giving me the courage and strength to apply and complete the MSW program. I could not have accomplished this goal without the support of my family and friends. I want to especially thank my husband Marvin and my two children Dominique and Kenya for their support and patience. Finally, I cannot forget my cheering section, my parents and my in-laws who always believed in me.

***Jamie Lynn Davis***

I would like thank my Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ for making this possible. I would also like to thank my family for encouraging me and supporting me when I felt like giving up. Thanks to the School of Social Work and their wonderful staff. God bless you all!

***Antonia Adetoun Dedeke***

It has truly taken a village to help me through Graduate School. I want to say to the members of that village, you know who you are, thank you for your love and support. This major achievement in my life would not have been possible without you all!

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***Sarah EunHye Easton***



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***Joanne Eloise Ehrmantraut***

Success feels great :)

***Nina Jo Fox***

Thanks to family, friends, and classmates for all the laughs, listening ears, and support.

***Sarah Elizabeth Frazell***

Now the real work begins. So let us thank those who stood by us as we burned the candle at both ends. Yet, now we need their support more than ever as we give of ourselves to help others have a voice.

***Rodney Rolando Gayle***

“Follow what is right and good. Pursue a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.”  
—1 Timothy 6:11

***Ashley Maria Gehrke***

Thank you Dorothy, Jack, Emily, and Joshua from the bottom of my heart for helping me throughout graduate school and life. I would not be here today if it was not for all of your love and support!!!

***Meaghan Mohr Gesino***

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”

***Devon K. Gilchrist***

Sincere thanks to my family, friends, community for all the love, support, encouragement and laughter along the way.

***Kristin Elizabeth Gloe***

It has been so wonderful to discover more of myself in this program - and not only what social work has done for me, but what I can bring to the field. Thank you for my family, who supported me tirelessly! I love you!

***Briellen Elizabeth Griffin***

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***Joel Paul Grostephan***

Many thanks to my husband, my family, and my friends for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout this journey. I couldn't have accomplished this without you.

***Melissa Ann Gunderson***



These last three years have really been a journey; I have been challenged and tested and am proud to be a better (and hopefully smarter!) person because of it. Thank you to all of my professors and peers who helped me to get where I am today. Thank you also to my family, my wonderful husband Ben (who has put up with many late nights of studying and weekend classes), and most of all to my wonderful Savior who is the reason that I am here today.

***Charity Anne Hans***

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***Kamyala Alyssia Howard***

Thank you to my Mom and Dad, and everyone who supported me along the way.

***Jennifer Lynn Huber***

"Find your truth and live it"—Anonymous. Sincere thanks to all who supported me and understood me in this process: family, teachers, mentors, comrades, friends. Gratitude and respect to the families who collaborated with me during my practicum and gave me new perspective.

***Annie Johnson***

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***Elizabeth Johnson***

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***Jan Schuldt Johnson***



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**Melinda Anne Johnson**

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**Breanna Jolene Jones**

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**Hafsa Kaka**

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**Evelyn Ellen Osebe Kebaya**

A sincere thank you to all my social work instructors, fellow students, and staff for making this experience one I will always cherish. I also want to cam on my wonderful family. I want to especially cam on my Addie for all your support and love!

**Belle Phuong Khuu**

To my teachers, child or grown: It is you who have called me out, cracked me open, asked for more, and then given me tenfold. In this, I've learned that I must arrive without expectation. Thank you.

**Debra Klein**

Thanks to my family. Mom for constant encouragement. Karyn for a place to stay. Cody & Drew I could not have done this without you! Dan You are amazing. You took on everything so I could pursue a dream that was 24 years in the making..Thanks.

**Jonelle Alissa Klemz**

Thank you so much to my parents who inspired me to do this hard work through their love for others. And thank you to Ben who has been with me every tearful step of the way, saying, "You got this, babe!" I love you all.

**Kimberly Alice Koerselman**



A sincere thank you to my friends and family for their support and encouragement during this journey. Especially to Kelly, Kortney and Kristopher; words cannot repay you for the sacrifices that were made. I am looking forward to what the future holds and getting reacquainted with my weekends.

***Charlotte Rae Kohlgraf***

In the MSW program, I have learned from my faculty members and my peers. I have gained professional skills and knowledge. I have also learned empathy and dignity. I have mentors who treat me with patience. I also meet friends who are passionate.

***Soo Chin Lee***

I would like to sincerely thank my wonderful husband for believing in my strengths and encouraging me to persevere. Thank you to my amazing children, Michelle, Ethan, Eric and Nathaniel for your patience and understanding. A big thank you to my sisters for your love and support and for taking care of my children while I was in class. I am forever grateful to Amherst H. Wilder Foundation for being there to support me. And lastly, I want to thank God for giving me the strength and guidance.

***Ka Moua Lo***

The title "Social Worker" implies recognition of the interconnected threads that weave together all aspects of our communities and world. As such, we are bound by our passion for justice to see each thread brought to light, ever enhancing the beauty of our shared experience. Thanks to all the social workers who have come before us; I am proud to stand with you.

***Hillary Ann Pond Mealman***

Much love and many thanks to my husband, family, and friends for your constant love, support, and encouragement. To MA, CB, KD, MN, and AS: this journey would not have been nearly as great without all the laughs and happy hours shared together.

***Brianne Marie Miller***

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***Nasro Osman Mohamed***

Marka hore waxaa mahad leh Ilaahay, marka xitata, Thanks to my family, friends, and especially my husband Mohamed, without your love, patience and understanding, I could not have done it without you all!

***Amina Hashi Mohamed***

One doesn't achieve great things alone. I only obtain this recognition through the support and love of others. My better half, my parents who've always been proud of me, my grandmother with me in spirit and the rest of you who've put up with me day to day! Thank you.

***J. Laine Mohnkern***



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***Eric Alan Murtha***

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***Marie Anastasia Nelson***

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***Katherine Elizabeth Nick***

Thank you to my family for putting up with me these past 2 years! I walk away from this program truly changed. To everyone, I share my favorite quote: "Continuing to cling to the patterns you know inhibits your ability to discover what you don't know"—Eric Allenbaugh

***Jennifer O'Leary***

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***Kelsey Marie Olson***

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***Carly Buckman Petersen***

Many thanks to my husband Chad for asking "why not?" when I said "I can't do it." Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after another. —Walter Elliott

***Ashley Middleton Peterson***

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."—Leo Buscaglia

***Desirée Lynn Price***

Mom and Dad- THANK YOU for being the most supportive, best parents I could ever ask for. I must give them credit for my successes, because without them I would not be where I am. Also thank you to my brothers and friends, all the encouragement and support was appreciated!

***Laura R. Rindahl***



“Human nature is too fragile to learn wisdom except through experience.”—Socrates Never forget, you can do hard things.

**Catherine Lenore Russell**

Thank you, Matt, Mom, friends, family, SSW, ICI, LEND, CUHCC. Because of you, finishing an M.S.W. has been not only possible, but more enjoyable, interesting, and full. I'm thankful for everything I've learned, for the many small and large kindnesses, and for the opportunities ahead.

**Rachael Marie Sarto**

I want to thank my family for all their love and understanding. You represent strength, passion, and resilience, which have been the qualities that allowed me to be here today. I want to thank my boyfriend Troy for his support and encouragement, my best friend Rhiannon for her endless wisdom and guidance, and my favorite social worker Mary Lee Temple for inspiring me to follow my dreams.

**Melissa Ann Schebloom**

To my Mom and Dad, sisters, grandparents, friends, and supervisors. Thank you for the unconditional love and support. “A new world calls across the ocean, A new world calls across the sky, A new world whispers in the shadows time to fly, time to fly.” —Jason Robert Brown

**Kelsey Ann Schleif**

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**Sarah Irene Schroepfer**

“The awakening of critical consciousness leads the way to the expression of social discontents precisely because these discontents are real components of an oppressive situation.”—Francisco Weffort I vow to do my part in oppression dissolution, actively and with passion.

**Molly Marie Seaver**

A sincere thank you to my family and friends who have supported me throughout my graduate studies. And a special thank you to my fiancé, Ryan—I couldn't have done this without your love, patience, and encouragement.

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**Alison M. Smetana**

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**Jeanette Lorette Sole**



I will daily give of myself all that I can, but know that I cannot do it all.—small group SW8010.

***Samuel Douglas St. Marie***

Attaining a M.S.W. (Master's of Saving the World) has been a major accomplishment and significant part of my life. I am grateful for having this opportunity and will be forever changed by this experience. Thank you God, family and friends for all of your support and care. "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?"—Martin Luther King, Jr.

***Elena Kay Taylor***

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***Janine Judd Tea***

"In those days, we finally chose to walk like giants & hold the world in arms grown strong with love & there may be many things we forget in the days to come, but this will not be one of them."—StoryPeople

***Becca Jo Tumm***

Wow! What a journey! Thanks to my wonderful parents, amazing husband and friends I've met along the way. Compassion doesn't mean feeling sorry for people. It doesn't mean pity. It means putting yourself in the position of the other, learning about the other.

***Amanda Lynn Van Wyhe***

Thank you to all of my friends and family who have helped me get through these last two years. A special thanks to my parents who have always supported me through all of my crazy travels; I wouldn't be who I am without those experiences. I love you!

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***Zer Vang***

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***Jill M Vinge***

"When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid." —Audre Lorde

***Maria Lee Volpe***

Thanks be to my Lord & Savior! This journey has been long but awesome. I truly appreciate family, friends, colleagues, and others support, guidance, and prayers. It was invaluable throughout my time in graduate school. I am so thankful for this moment right now!

***Anoki Nakia (Capers) Yulu***



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***Natalie Marie Wasiluk***

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***Anne Louise Watson***

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***Edwin Yanquoi Weedor***

"We change our world by changing ourselves as we change our world." — Bricker-Jenkins & Hooyman, 1986. I am forever grateful for the love and support I continuously receive from my family and friends. Thank you for believing in my ability to change myself and our world.

***Courtney Kellerman Wells***

In order to understand who you are, you must understand who you are not.

***Erin Michelle Whitcomb***

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***Ka Zoua Yang***

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***Rebecca Kathleen Zaremba***

"We see the brightness of a new page where everything yet can happen."—Rainer Maria Rilke

***Lisa Tetsugan Zummach***

CONGRATULATIONS, TO ALL THE GRADUATES!

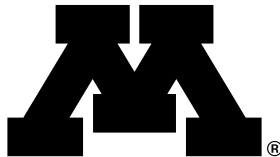


## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association and the College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society are proud to welcome you as our newest alumni of the University of Minnesota.

To help you make the transition from students to alumni, you will receive a gift of a one-year membership. This complimentary membership is filled with rewards and opportunities and can be the first step toward a lifelong connection to the College and the University.

Obtaining your free membership is easy! Your membership will automatically be activated in early fall when UMAA receives your degree completion record from the College.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

**School of Social Work**

*Leadership for a just and caring society*

**CEHD** | College of Education + Human Development



# LEADERSHIP FOR A JUST AND CARING SOCIETY

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## Coming Up in the School of Social Work

- May-August**      **Supervision Series Workshops**, University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus. Earn social work supervision Continuing Education credits. See <http://z.umn.edu/swsupervision> for information and to register.
- May 22-24**      **Unsettling Feminisms Conference**, University of Illinois at Chicago  
The School of Social Work is a supporter of this event. Details at <http://sites.google.com/site/unsettlingfeminisms/>
- June 14**      **11th Annual SSW Ice Cream Social**, 3:30-5 p.m., Peters Hall. Please join us at our annual celebration for alumni and friends of the school.
- June 21**      **Beyond the Baby Blues VI**, 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., Continuing Education Center, University of Minnesota St. Paul campus. The School of Social Work is a supporter of this conference. Details at [www.namihelps.org](http://www.namihelps.org)
- August 29 & 30**      **CEUs on a Stick**. Professional development workshops, Peters Hall. See <http://z.umn.edu/swce> for more information.

*For more information on any of these events, call 612-625-1220 or visit our Web site <http://cehd.umn.edu/ssw>.*

## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
1404 GORTNER AVENUE  
ST. PAUL MINNESOTA 55108  
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*The University of Minnesota shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.*

