Jane Addams College of Social Work

Class of 2011

PROCESSIONAL

“AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL” ................................................................. Lillian Murphy
lyrics on page 48

GREETINGS ....................................................................................... Creasie Finney Hairston
Dean

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHANCELLOR ........................................... Creasie Finney Hairston

REMARKS ............................................................................................ Paula Allen-Meares
Vice President and Chancellor, Chicago
John Corbally Presidential Professor

INTRODUCTION OF FACULTY ............................................................ Faith Johnson Bonecutter
Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
and Student Services

INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER ...................... Creasie Finney Hairston

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS ............................................................... Michelle R. B. Saddler
Secretary, Illinois Department of
Human Services

PRESENTATION OF JANE ADDAMS PIONEER AWARD ................. Creasie Finney Hairston

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES ................................................................. Paula Allen-Meares

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

PHD IN SOCIAL WORK ......................................................................... Laura Lee Junker
Associate Dean, Graduate College

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK ................................................................. Faith Johnson Bonecutter

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES (see list on page 45)

PHD IN SOCIAL WORK

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

RESPONSE FROM THE CLASS OF 2011 .............................................. Jaime Dewaele
President, Jane Addams College Student
Government

CLOSING REMARKS .......................................................................... Creasie Finney Hairston

Music by Brass Works.

Reception to follow in the reception tent adjacent to the Harrison Street Parking Structure.

UIC University of Illinois at Chicago
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

MICHELLE R. B. SADLER
Secretary, Illinois Department of Human Services

Michelle R. B. Saddler serves as secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS). After taking a four-month leave in 2010 to serve as the governor’s chief of staff, Michelle returned to DHS in December 2010. As Illinois’s largest and most diverse state agency, DHS serves as many as two million people every day (one in every five Illinois families) through its wide range of services for low-income families, persons with disabilities, and those needing assistance with issues of mental illness and substance abuse.

Michelle previously served as director of investments for the State of Illinois, and she later managed one of the nation’s top performing investment pools for nearly 200 Illinois municipalities.

She currently serves as cochair of Protestants for the Common Good, an Illinois social justice organization. She served for more than five years as president of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, and she led Illinois’s largest international adoption agency, Lifelink, in Bensenville, Illinois.

Michelle earned her undergraduate degree from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and her master’s degree in management from Northwestern University’s Kellogg Graduate School of Management. Michelle and her husband, Ed Shurna, have four adult children and three grandchildren.

JANE ADDAMS COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK PIONEER AWARD

JAMES H. WILLIAMS
Faculty, University of Washington Tacoma

The Jane Addams College of Social Work Pioneer Award was established to recognize alumni who have made significant, pioneering, or standout contributions to a community, state, or nation consistent with the mission of the college. This year’s Pioneer Award recipient is James H. Williams, MSW ’93, PhD ’03. Dr. Williams is being recognized for his outstanding commitment to the mentally ill in the criminal justice system and for his overall sustained leadership and commitment to social justice and social reform.

Williams, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, worked as a labor and community organizer after obtaining his BA in political science from University of Louisville. He became a steelworker at the U.S. Steel South Works plant in Chicago and helped to organize a food bank and other social services when the mill closed.

He later became a substance abuse counselor at Martha Washington Hospital in Chicago.

In 1990, Dr. Williams began the MSW program at the Jane Addams College of Social Work while working as a supervisor in the Cook County Pretrial Services Department. Upon licensure, he became supervisor of the Cook County Adult Probation Mental Health Unit. In his role as supervisor, Dr. Williams advocated for increased funding from the state and eventually achieved Medicaid certification for the unit, allowing reimbursement from the state for mental health services provided to the clients. After receiving a PhD from the Jane Addams College of Social Work, Dr. Williams moved to Savannah, Georgia, to teach at Savannah State University. While there, he worked with the court system and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to establish a Mental Health Court in Chatham County, Georgia. Mental Health Court aims to reduce recidivism for criminal activity and psychiatric hospitalization of individuals with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system. Mental health court brings together the necessary resources to meet the complex needs these individuals bring to the criminal justice system.

Dr. Williams presently lives in Tacoma, Washington, where he teaches social work and criminal justice courses at the University of Washington Tacoma and continues to be active in NAMI, advocating for services for the severely mentally ill.
CREASIE FINNEY HAIRSTON ........................................ Dean

FAITH JOHNSON BONECUTTER .................................. Associate Dean

CHRISTOPHER MITCHELL ........................................ Associate Dean for Doctoral Studies and Academic Programs

KIMBERLY PADGETT ................................................ Interim Assistant Dean for Administration

BARBARA COATS .................................................. Director of Field Instruction

EDWARD POTTS .................................................. Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

Larry Bennett Chang-ming Hsieh Patricia O’Brien
Valerie Borum Annette Johnson Eric Ornstein
Pamela Brown Sonya Leathers Susan Phillips
Alice K. Butterfield Nathan Linsk Natalie Smith
Alan Dettlaff Carol Massat Chedgzsyy Smith-McKeever
Lydia Falconnier Mark Mattaini James Swartz
Aida Giachello Henrika McCoy Tremaine Terry
James Gleeson Cassandra McKay-Jackson Amy Watson
Binta Alleyne Green Von Nebbit

STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

JAIME DEWAEL .................................................. President

PHILLIP LEVERETTE ........................................... Vice President

LANCE MARTIN .................................................. Treasurer

MAKI MORI .................................................. Student Affairs Chair

BRITTNAY LAWTON ........................................ Committee Liaison

AZALEA PARRILLA ........................................ Part-Time Program Liaison
The Alumni Association Constituency Board supports and promotes the educational, social, and charitable interests of the college and works in partnership with the University of Illinois Alumni Association to encourage alumni engagement.

NICOLE MILANO LEYVA (BSW ’00, MSW ’01) ....................... President
JUDITH ROCHA (BSW ’01, MSW ’05) .............................. Secretary
JOEL RUBIN (MSW ’83) .................................................. Treasurer
LOUIS DIAMOND (MSW ’99) .......................................... Liaison to Illinois Connection
KENNETH HORACE (MSW ’82) ........................................ Liaison to Illinois Connection

JANE ADDAMS COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK MISSION

The mission of Jane Addams College of Social Work is to educate professional social workers, develop knowledge, and provide leadership in the development and implementation of policies and services on behalf of the poor, the oppressed, racial and ethnic minorities, and other at-risk urban populations.

JANE ADDAMS 1860–1935

The original site of the Jane Addams Hull-House, Chicago’s first settlement house, is located on the campus of UIC. Jane Addams, the founder of Hull-House and recipient of the 1931 Nobel Peace Prize, was an advocate and organizer on behalf of immigrants, women, children, and other vulnerable groups. She was a social innovator, able to bridge differences of class, race, and culture in order to solve community problems. She founded the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom and helped establish the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and other progressive organizations. The Jane Addams College of Social Work at UIC continues to build on the great legacy of its namesake. In addition, the very presence of Hull-House on campus, now a museum, is a powerful reminder that tremendous social conditions and challenges remain that require social change and intervention for the most disenfranchised individuals.