# **Sarah E. Slates, LSW**

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# **Education**

## **Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research**

Bryn Mawr, PA

August 2016-present

* PhD Social Work and Social Research
* **Dissertation topic:** The Role of Validation Experiences and Sense of Belonging in Academic Self-Concept and Intent to Persist Among Four-Year College Students
* **Awards and Honors:** McPherson Award for Excellence and Service to the Community (2018)

## **University of Louisville**

Louisville, KY

August 2013-May 2016

* MSSW
* MA Women’s and Gender Studies
* Graduate Certificate, Latin American and Latino Studies
* **Awards and Honors:** Ann T. Allen Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in Women’s and Gender Studies, Carolyn Krause Maddox Prize for Best Graduate Essay in Women’s and Gender Studies, Kent School of Social Work Dean’s Citation, and School of Interdisciplinary and Graduate Studies Graduate Dean’s Citation (2016)

## **Seton Hill University**

Greensburg, PA

August 2005-May 2009

* BA Spanish
* Elementary and Special Education
* **Awards and Honors:** Outstanding Spanish Senior Award (2009)

# **Research Interests**

First-generation and historically underrepresented college students’ experiences of validation and sense of belonging, social work education, student support services, pedagogical partnerships

# **Publications**

## [**Scholar Profile: ORCID**](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0864-4532)

**Slates, S.** & Moedano, C. (2022). Responding to the psychosocial experiences of first-generation Master of Social Work (MSW) students. *Journal of First-generation Student Success*. 10.1080/26906015.2022.2137444

Byers, S. D., McInroy, B. L., Craig, L. S., **Slates, S**., & Kattari, S. (2020). Naming and addressing homophobic and transphobic microaggressions in social work classrooms. *Journal of Social Work Education, 56*(3), 484-495. 10.1080/10437797.2019.1656688

Sousa, C., Yutzy, L., Campbell, M., Cook, C., & **Slates, S**. (2020). Refining curriculum for a macro social work concentration: A community-based process. *Journal of Social Work Education*, *56*(3), 533-547. 10.1080/10437797.2019.1656686

Sousa, C., Siddiqi, M., & **Slates, S**. (In progress). Suffering and strategizing: A review of literature about parenting within community violence.

# **Selected Conference Presentations**

Slates, S. (2021). Role of validation and belonging in equitable outcomes for four-year college students [Poster, session cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns]. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting. Orlando, FL. November 4-7.

**Slates, S**., Solo, C., & Sinclair, S. (2019). Challenging white supremacy culture in student writing and writing center work. Mid-Atlantic Writing Centers Association. Towson, MD, March 6-7.

**Slates, S**., Moedano, C., Byers, S. D., & Garran, A. (2019). Inclusion means changing: Supporting first-generation students in MSW programs. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting. Denver, CO, October 24-27.

Sousa, C., Siddiqi, M., & **Slates, S**. (2019). The vulnerabilities and strengths of parents within the context of community violence: Results of a systematic literature review. Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA, January 16-20.

Byers, S. D., McInroy, B. L., Craig, L. S., **Slates, S**., & Kattari, S. (2018). Naming and addressing homophobic and transphobic microaggressions in social work education. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting. Orlando, FL, November 8-11.

Collier, C., Hudson, W., & **Slates, S**. (2016). Contesting Epistemological Boundaries: Recognizing the Limits of Belonging. Paper title: “Not All Ignorance is Intellectual.” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference. Montréal, Québec, November 10-13.

Slates, S. (2015). Beyond Self-Care: A Holistic Approach to Secondary Trauma [Poster]. Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Spring Conference. Brescia University, Owensboro, KY, April 9-10.

Slates, S. (2015). Borders Redefined. The Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, April 1-4.

# **Grant Applications**

**Slates, S.**, Miller, S., & Sporher, J. Blended Learning in Graduate Social Work Writing Supports. Funded by Library Information and Technology Services, Digital Bryn Mawr Seed Grants, $2,000. May 2019-August 2019.

* Digital Bryn Mawr Seed Grant funded the research and development of online writing supports for graduate social work students

**Slates, S.**, Dobson, M., & Gordon, B. Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency, Rural Health Coalition. Funded by Plan4Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, $130,000. November 2015-July 2017.

* Plan4Health grant funded a rural health coalition to increase access to health and affordable foods and safe spaces for physical activity

# **Research Experience**

## **Rapid Cycle Data Collection for First-Year Experience Program (CONNECT) for Graduate Social Work Students (Pilot)**

### Role: Co-Primary Investigator, Fall 2020-present

* Mixed-methods project using surveys and focus groups to engage CONNECT facilitators and student participants in rapid cycle data collection to gain insights into the strengths and limitations of program

## **Graduate Social Work Writing Supports**

### Role: Primary Investigator, Spring 2019

* Qualitative project using focus groups with graduate social work current students and alumni to understand their experiences with academic and professional writing experiences, use of writing supports, and barriers and facilitators to accessing writing support resources
* Data used to inform program development and writing supports at the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research
* Supervised two graduate research assistants

## **Parenting in the Context of Community Violence**

### Role: Research Assistant to Cindy Sousa, Fall 2019-present

* Conducted literature searches, reviewed literature, identified and organized findings, and wrote results for publication

## **LGBTQ+ Microaggressions in Social Work Education**

### Role: Research Assistant to David Byers, Fall 2018

* Conducted a literature search, identified primary themes, wrote literature review for publication

## **Competencies for Macro Social Work Education**

## Role: Research Assistant to Cindy Sousa, Fall 2016-Spring 2017

* Crafted introduction and wrote up primary findings and conclusion sections for publication

## **Health Inequities Among Older Adults in Rural Kentucky Counties**

## Role: Research Assistant to Pamela Yankeelov, Fall 2013-Spring 2015

* Conducted literature searches, summarized literature, identified primary findings and implications for practice for programming purposes

# **Teaching Experience**

## **Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research**

Bryn Mawr, PA

### **Primary Instructor**

* MSS Program: Graduate and Professional School (GPS) Transition Program (Summer 2018-present)
* MSS Program: Social Work B555, Ethics and Social Work Practice Seminar (Winter 2019)
* MSS Program: Social Work B504, Research Informed Practice II (Summer 2017, 2018)

### **Teaching Assistant**

* PhD Program: Data Analysis I (Fall 2019)
* MSS Program: Research Informed Practice I and II (Fall 2016- Spring 2018)

## **University of Louisville, Kent School of Social Work**

Louisville, KY

August 2014-May 2015

### **Teaching Assistant**

* BSW Program: Social Work 201, Introduction to Social Work

# **Administrative Experience**

## **University of Louisville, College of Arts and Sciences**

Louisville, KY

August 2015-May 2016

### **Graduate Service Assistant to Dean for Graduate Education**

* Provided a variety of student supports and services to graduate students aimed at supporting well-being and successful program completion

# **Practice Experience**

## **Director of Career Services, Writing Coach, CONNECT Program Co-Lead**

Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research

Bryn Mawr, PA

January 2019-present

### **Career Counselor**

* Provide person-centered career counseling to current graduate students and alumni through individual appointments in-person and remotely via videoconference
* Develop, promote, and implement all career-related programming at the School, including instructional materials, workshops, and fairs
	+ Researched, planned, and developed first-ever digital career preparedness modules housed in learning management system for current students
* Collaborate with various campus offices including alumni relations and development, career and civic engagement, and student services to enhance services and supports for current students and alumni
* Engage social service agencies and organizations in a variety of networking and recruitment events including an annual career fair and meet and greets
* Conduct surveys and focus groups with current students and alumni for data driven program development
* Support Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) re-accreditation processes pertaining to aspects of the implicit curriculum related to student services and supports

### **Writing Coach**

* Promote best practices in writing pedagogy with an emphasis on anti-oppression and social justice practices
* Provide strengths-based writing consultation to current graduate social work students via in-person meetings and videoconference
* Develop and provide supports to the School community including in-person and virtual workshops available to students, faculty, and staff
	+ Developed and launched first-ever digital writing support modules housed in learning management system
	+ Developed and implemented transition program for incoming graduate social work students offered in-person and virtual formats
* Engage stakeholders in evaluation of writing supports through surveys, focus groups, and pre- and post-evaluations to enhance program offerings
* Supervise both graduate and undergraduate student employees

### **CONNECT Program Co-Lead**

* Collaborate with Dean’s Office and Student Services to research, coordinate, and implement an innovative first-year student community wellness program for graduate social work students
* Facilitate information and listening sessions with students, faculty, and staff to gather feedback to inform program development
* Coordinate workgroup activities and planning retreats for faculty, staff, and students
* Co-supervise PhD student facilitators and provide ongoing training and development opportunities
* Develop survey- and focus group-based evaluation plan in collaboration with Institutional Research

## **Student Services Coordinator**

Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research

Bryn Mawr, PA

August 2018-January 2019

* Provided consultation with students to identify strengths and challenges related to academic, professional and social success at the School and referred to relevant campus and community resources and supports
* Planned and coordinated community building events for School community
* Coordinated professional development opportunities for School community including LGBTQ+ fundamentals training with area LGBTQ+-serving organization
* Consulted on the review and enhancement of academic advising and academic progress committees
* Supported student organizations and activities including graduate student government

## **Policy Analyst**

Kentucky Youth Advocates

Jeffersontown, KY

August 2015-May 2016

* Facilitated meetings and events with partners, work groups, and coalitions
* Produced issue briefs, fact sheets, and blog posts related to agency policy priorities
* Attended government committee hearings and convening sessions of state legislative bodies

## **Grant Project Manager**

Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency

Louisville, KY

May 2015-November 2015

* Supervised diabetes peer mentors and facilitated weekly to bi-weekly progress meetings
* Planned and facilitated bi-weekly meetings with grant leadership team to ensure timely completion of grant activities
* Assisted community organizers and coalition partners to effectively plan, implement, and evaluate community-based interventions
* Partnered with evaluation team to implement follow-up assessment of nearly 300 community members and 3 local governments

## **Trainer and Educator**

Exploited Children’s Help Organization

Louisville, KY

August 2014-May 2015

* Assisted with development and implementation of child abuse prevention and recognition education program
* Partnered with area schools identified as “at risk” to develop safe educational environments and communities
* Documented child abuse disclosures, made reports to Child Protective Services (CPS) as needed, and connected survivors of abuse to services

## **Lead Child and Youth Program Assistant**

Fort Knox School Age Center

Fort Knox, KY

September 2012-April 2014

* Established program environment that promotes positive child and youth interactions with other children, youth, and staff
* Maintained program participation data, completed required daily reports, and supported certification and national accreditation processes

## **Literacy Specialist**

FRYSC-Corps, AmeriCorps

Boston, KY

August 2010-May 2012

* Provided appropriate literacy and behavioral interventions for a caseload of 32 students in grades kindergarten through 8th
* Developed, modified, and implemented instruction based on student needs assessments data
* Referred students and/or family members to appropriate school and community services

# **License**

Licensed Social Worker (LSW), Pennsylvania, December 2020

# **Professional Service**

## **Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research**

* Admissions Committee, Spring 2019
* International Social Work Exchange, Planning Committee, Fall 2017

## **Bryn Mawr College**

* Breaking Barriers Program for First-Generation Students, Mentor, Spring 2019-Spring 2020
* Hanna Holborn Gray Undergraduate Fellowship, Social Sciences Research Mentor, Summer 2017 and 2018
* Chief Enrollment Officer, Search Committee, Spring 2017
* McPherson Award for Excellence, Selection Committee, Spring 2017

# **Professional Memberships and Activities**

Co-editor, *International Journal for Students as Partners*, 2020-present

National Association of Colleges and Employers, 2019-present

Consortium for Career Development in Social Work Education, 2018-present

# **Community Service**

## **Athena’s Sisters**

Louisville, KY

January 2014-May 2016

* Supporter and membership committee member for veteran women’s organization

## **Women in Transition**

Louisville, KY

November 2013-August 2014

* Provided childcare during monthly training and special events for grassroots, anti-poverty, and human rights focused organization

## **Advocacy and Support Center**

Elizabethtown, KY

November 2010-March 2013

* Trained in crisis intervention and best practices in supporting survivors of sexual violence
* Conducted intakes, advocated, and provided referrals for survivors and/or their family members