July 1, 2017 began the second phase of my tenure at CSWE (with the granting of the new 5-year contract in June) and it’s great to be in such a good place! Although we have begun a process to develop our next organizational strategic plan, the current plan, Vision 2020: Strengthening the Profession through Research, Education, and Career Advancement, continues to provide excellent direction for CSWE initiatives and activities. This report is written to align those initiatives and activities with each of the key six goals:

- **Strengthen the position of social work within higher education, the national political environment, and in the perceptions of the general public.**

- **Strengthen social work through identification and dissemination of emerging technology and innovative models, pedagogies, and practices.**

- **Ensure the quality and sustainability of social work education through accreditation of baccalaureate and master’s degree programs, research, and responsive faculty development.**

- **Develop partnerships with organizations, agencies, corporations, and foundations both within social work and those external to social work to enhance collaboration on issues critical to social work education.**

- **Promote the preparation of social work graduates who can practice effectively in an increasingly diverse and global practice environment.**

- **Develop and maintain a healthy, viable organization by ensuring effective management, strong leadership, diversity of the staff, and open communication among the staff, Board of Directors, Commissions, Councils and other governance and programmatic entities.**

This report reflects progress and achievements in accordance with these goals that have occurred since June 2017. The Division reports included in the Board Book provide further detail and highlight additional initiatives in support of the goals.
Strategic Goal 1: Strengthen the position of social work within higher education, the national political environment, and in the perceptions of the general public.

As noted in my summary report of the first five years, raising the profile of social work within higher education, the political environment and among the general public has been – and will continue to be – a primary focus. Given the dizzying pace of change and worrisome trends exhibited in the first few months of this fiscal year, our strategy has been mostly to actively (and proactively, when possible) respond to the threats to social work education, higher education, workforce development, and programs that affect our various constituencies (not least the people with whom social workers work!).

The full report of the Public Policy initiative chronicles numerous initiatives and strategies in this space. I will highlight a few here:

- Broad and strategic approaches that responded to President Trump’s first full budget request, which proposed eliminating almost all Title VII health-care workforce programs at HRSA, threatened Public Service Loan Forgiveness, and promised to severely cut Medicaid. In addition to advocating singly and in coalitions (i.e., with the Federation of Associations of Schools of Health Professions, FASHP), we reached out to members with information to facilitate advocating with their own members of congress locally.
- With the Administration’s announcement to reverse the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), we employed the same strategies.

Dear CSWE Members,

Yesterday, United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the Trump Administration would rescind President Obama’s executive order on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA). This decision would affect more than 800,000 undocumented young adults in our schools, programs, and communities across the United States. The Administration, which views DACA as an unconstitutional action through executive order, is passing on to Congress to decide whether to enact legislation to protect these young people.

CSWE is dismayed about this decision and strongly concerned about its implications. Through its Public Policy Initiative, CSWE will share its concerns with Congress, in the hope that it will act to protect DACA and these individuals. CSWE is also providing information to its members who wish to weigh in on DACA. This is a completely voluntary activity.

If you would like to contact your senator or representative, e-mails and phone calls are the best way to contact members of Congress when immediate action is needed.
• Writing a letter or an e-mail: Correspondence by e-mail is a popular option for communicating with members of Congress, and e-mail is preferred over regular postal mail. Your e-mail should be written clearly and concisely. Feel free to use some of the bullets below and include some of your personal background. We recommend checking your representative’s or senator’s website, where a form for e-mailing them if often provided.

• Making a telephone call: When preparing to make a telephone call, craft your message clearly and concisely, because you have less time to make your case than if you were drafting an e-mail. It is always helpful to write out a short script of what you would like to say. Again, feel free to use the bullets below. Please note that when calling, you may request to speak with the representative or senator directly, but you will probably be asked to leave a message with a staff member who covers a variety of issues; be prepared with a clear message. You can also ask to leave a message on the appropriate staff voicemail or leave a message and request a return call. Be prepared to provide your address and telephone number.

• Find information to contact your representative here: https://www.house.gov/representatives/find/

• Find information to contact your senator here: https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm.

• In addition to using the House and Senate websites to obtain office phone numbers, you can call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121, provide your legislator’s name, and request to be connected with the office.

When contacting your representative or senator about DACA, consider mentioning the following:

• Your concerns about the decision of the Administration to rescind DACA, which will affect more than 800,000 individuals in the United States.

• How DACA has improved the lives of its recipients and their families and had a positive effect on communities throughout the United States.

• That Congress should act quickly on necessary legislative action to maintain DACA and protect these individuals.

• How the decision to rescind DACA would affect you, your school, or your community.

Other Advocacy Efforts: You may also be interested in learning about an effort by FWD.us, which is “mobilizing the tech community to promote policies that keep the U.S. competitive in a global economy, starting with fixing our broken immigration system and criminal justice reform.”

Relevant Background: “In 2012, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) began implementing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, which allows youth who were brought to the United States as children and who meet certain criteria to request consideration for deferred action, which constitutes a case-by-case determination by DHS not to pursue an individual’s removal from the United States for an initial two-year period as a matter of prosecutorial discretion. DACA recipients can live and go to school in the United
States and may be eligible to obtain work authorization while their deferred action remains in effect." Source: Supporting Undocumented Youth

- In the case of DACA, we also communicated ways in which schools and programs could support students affected by this decision:

Dear Members,

CSWE remains committed to providing resources to our members that can help in navigating difficult situations. With the latest announcement from the Trump Administration regarding DACA, our community has been dealt yet another blow. CSWE would like to share some ideas on how you might further communicate your support of students affected by DACA and your commitment to protecting their human rights.

- Communicate to your students that you are committed to promoting mutual respect, understanding, inclusion, and diversity.

- Identify ways your program is prepared to protect students that are undocumented.
  - Confidentiality. Has your institution made a decision or statement about protecting the confidentiality of the students' immigrant status?
  - Financial Aid. Have changes been made in financial aid eligibility that need to be communicated to affected students?
  - Legal Counsel. Are there legal resources that students can access through the university or in the community?

- Share with your students the vast number of resources that your campus offers to support those that are affected by the rescinding of DACA. It is very likely that students also have family and/or friends that may be affected by this decision. Are you offering any programming dedicated to this topic? Special events? Panels? Seminars? Further, share campus resources that are equipped to provide assistance to students and encourage them to take advantage of those resources. For example:
  - Counseling Services
  - Chaplain
  - Student Health Services
  - Help Lines
  - Campus Security

- Provide detailed information about student groups that can offer a safe haven for students feeling isolated due to the activities of this Administration.
If your campus has implemented any protocols that you think would lend ideas to the above suggestions, please consider sharing those with us. We will collect these resources and provide a summary on the CSWE website.

Two key initiatives that promise to advance the profile of social work, as well as to increase the understanding and value of the profession, have progressed nicely:

- There has been very strong participation in the survey of recently graduated students for the Social Work Workforce Study (the survey was launched this fall). In addition to a report on the results of this survey that will come later this year, the consultants have written a profile of the social work workforce based on the analysis of existing data sources which will be published very shortly. This will be of great interest and assistance to programs in many ways, not the least of which will be to provide data to guide program development and revision. We are currently considering how to proceed with a “next stage” of this work.

- Since approval of the statement of task for a consensus study on the role of social care in addressing health and health disparities, there has been significant progress made on raising the funds needed to launch the study process at the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM). NADD president, Dr. Teasley, has embraced his role in enlisting the support of NADD members; I worked with Dr. DuWayne Battle and Amanda Scott of BPD to also engage baccalaureate programs; and we have received funding from the New York Community Trust and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. To date, funds raised are more than half of the $1.2 million needed to conduct the study. The CSWE Board of Directors will be asked to consider a contribution to the effort at its October board meeting. Information is provided in the Board materials.

At the direction of the Board, we have commenced the “Future of Social Work” initiative to facilitate deep thinking to inform our next strategic plan. Twenty key informants were selected and interviewed; our consultant, Josh Mintz, from Cavanaugh, Hagan, Pierson, & Mintz will be analyzing the interview summaries to identify themes and trends in preparation for a face-to-face meeting of the Task Force in December. In addition, a survey will be sent to CSWE members shortly after the Annual Program Meeting (APM). Board members may be interested in attending a session at APM – Future of Social Work: Engaging with CSWE’s Strategic Thinking Initiative, Saturday, October 21, 2017, 3:15 pm-4:15 pm, Sheraton Dallas Hotel Majestic Room 4, 37th floor.

SocialWorkCAS launched its second cycle on August 29, 2017. In addition to two new programs joining SocialWorkCAS, the fee waiver program has been expanded to include students that have served in the US military, as well as the community-service programs AmeriCorp, City Year, Peace Corps and Teach for America. This summer, the dean and associate dean from one of our programs assisted us in brainstorming how to better disseminate information on the value of SocialWorkCAS participation. Once again, the relationships with other professions that participate in centralized application services have put us in a great position to recruit to the
profession. CSWE will participate in Health Professions Week again this fall to engage high school and college students in learning about the range of health careers.

**Strategic Goal 2: Strengthen social work through identification and dissemination of emerging technology and innovative models, pedagogies, and practices.**

The full range of exceptional educational programs and resources are well described in the report by the Division of Education; I would like to thank Jessica Holmes and her team who have primary responsibility for these efforts.

Information on completed curricular guides (Gero-Ed and Economic Well-being) will be highlighted at the APM; we are close to being able to release additional guides focused on working with military and their families, trauma-informed social work, and a macro practice guide.

The macro guide is but one way that CSWE is working with the Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice, since the Board’s decision to do so at its June meeting.

**CSWE Full Circle - September 2017**

CSWE Affirms the Need to Advance Macro Practice

At its June 2017 meeting the CSWE Board of Directors affirmed the need to ensure that the preparation of social workers be rooted in the profession’s historic mission to promote social justice through social change. One of the goals of the Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice is to have 20% of MSW students concentrating their studies in macro practice by the year 2020. Given the current social, economic, and political environment, the CSWE Board of Directors applauds the Special Commission for its work to advance macro practice. Further, CSWE is committed to partnering with members of the Special Commission, the Association for Community Organization and Social Administration (ACOSA), the Network for Social Work Management, Influencing Social Policy, the Macro Social Work Student Network, and other social work education and professional organizations to support and strengthen the educational preparation of macro social workers.

Examples of partnership activities between CSWE and macro practice organizations include the following:

- Establishment of a policy coalition with several sister organizations to advance policy practice
- Promotion and support of field placements that provide students with policy and other macro practice experiences
The current development and future dissemination of a macro practice curriculum guide, in partnership with the Special Commission

In addition, the work that CSWE supports internationally is very much focused on macro practice, specifically social development in other countries. Examples include the CSWE China–U.S. Social Work Collaborative and activities of the CSWE Katherine Kendall Institute for International Social Work Education.

As the national association of schools and programs of social work, CSWE commends the focus and leadership of the Special Commission on advancing macro practice. CSWE and the Special Commission will continue to work together to identify activities and devote resources to furthering macro practice in social work education.

See the ACOSA website for more details about their work.

The third Social Work HEALS cohort was selected this summer, including 48 BSW and MSW students and 4 doctoral students. This collaboration with NASW, funded by the New York Community Trust, has been an important program to support the preparation of social workers across the educational curriculum in integrated health settings. Orientation seminars were held this Fall and another webinar focused on Immigration and Health Care is scheduled for November.

At the “closing meeting” of the Coalition for Policy Education and Practice, participating organizations (CSWE, NASW, the Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice, NSWM, BPD, and NADD) agreed to continue to convene regularly to better coordinate and collaborate our efforts to advance policy practice in social work. CSWE will provide leadership in this effort. In addition, CSWE is working with the New York Community Trust to be able to extend the Policy Practice in Field Education initiative.

Considerable work continues to build out the educational resources made available on the new CSWE website.

**Strategic Goal 3:** Ensure the quality and sustainability of social work education through accreditation of baccalaureate and master’s degree programs, research, and responsive faculty development.

As stated in Dr. Borasky’s report from the Department of Accreditation, there are now over 750 baccalaureate and master’s degree social work programs accredited by the CSWE Commission on Accreditation. As programs coming up for reaffirmation of accreditation in the current cycle no longer have a choice of which set of standards to respond to, the department has needed to step up its efforts to provide training in the 2015 EPAS. It is also very active in providing site visitor training to these standards, as well as supporting the development of specific skills needed in this role. Thanks to Dr. Borasky’s good work, the CSWE Commission on Accreditation
received a positive review of its interim report for the Council on Higher Education Accreditation.

The Memorandum of Understanding with the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) to more deliberately and strategically expand our Public Policy Initiative to advocate for social work research has allowed us to strengthen our presence in the science and social science arenas. SSWR president, James Herbert Williams and I have been asked to contribute to the Consortium of Social Science Associations’ “Why Social Science?” blog. This will provide an opportunity to highlight the value of social work science and research to contemporary social issues.

The inaugural Assessment Academy in 2016 was well-attended and feedback suggested a need for more such offerings to assist programs in learning about methods to assess student learning outcomes and creating a culture of assessment. Therefore, the 2017-2018 CSWE Assessment Academy has shifted from a single post-conference event featuring assessment approaches of different social work programs to that and a series of live webinars in spring 2018.

Supporting quality and innovative field education is a priority for CSWE and this year we have developed a few venues to do that. A Field Education Institute is being offered as a pre-conference event at APM 2017. This Institute will not only provide a way to follow-up on the recommendations made at the CSWE Summit on Field Education in 2014, but also link field explicitly to the Grand Challenges (the theme of this year’s conference). In addition, and in collaboration with the Council on Field Education, a training was developed to assist field directors with less than two years’ experience, Managing a Field Education Program: A Training for New Field Directors, which is offered on the CSWE Learning Academy Platform. The training addresses issues of gatekeeping, working with field sites, working with students and field instructors, and integrating field and classroom curriculum.

Finally, the CSWE Program Director Academy had a very successful launch of its second cohort in July 2017 with 31 participants. This program is supporting the leadership development of new program directors of baccalaureate and master’s degree programs. The first cohort (51 participants) will be acknowledged for completion of their program at the APM.

I would like to note that being able to provide these types of “responsive faculty development” programs, part of Strategic Goal 3, has been considerably enhanced through the organizational restructuring and leadership of the Vice President of Education, Dr. Jo Ann Regan (who oversees a fantastic team led by her directors Dr. Borasky, Jessica Holmes, Anastasia Pruitt, Heather Marshall, Dr. Meeks, and Tabitha Beck). Until Jo Ann and the creation of space to develop meaningful ways to support faculty and programs to deliver quality social work education, CSWE was necessarily more focused on helping programs satisfy accreditation standards, alone.

**Strategic Goal 4:** Develop partnerships with organizations, agencies, corporations, and foundations both within social work and those external to social work to enhance collaboration on issues critical to social work education.

The relationships that have been nurtured within social work and with other professions continue to reap valuable benefits for CSWE and its members. Three of note include:
1. CSWE’s presence in interprofessional education initiatives continues to grow. We were asked to appoint someone to the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) Planning Committee, which plans the bi-annual IPEC Institutes and other interprofessional development initiatives. Dr. Jo Ann Regan joined this group and has been very instrumental in furthering the aims and reach of IPEC, as well as social work’s presence in this space. IPEC launched its first interprofessional deans leadership program designed to support deans lead in an interprofessional environment. The program is facilitated by faculty form the Academy for Academic Leadership. Dean Martell Teasley, University of Utah (and President of the NADD) was selected to participate.

2. As a member of the executive team of the Federation of Association of Schools of Health Professions (FASHP), I have introduced and facilitated discussions on topics of interest to other health professional education groups. This coalition of recognizably important professions providing health care to the country allows CSWE’s voice to be amplified on issues such as federal loan and repayment programs (including Public Service Loan Forgiveness), the need for robust workforce development, and the national importance of interprofessional education to contain costs and improve health-care delivery.

3. In July, I delivered the keynote address to the National Academy of Medicine’s Action Collaborative on Clinician Resilience and Well-Being. This was an outgrowth of my work on the discussion paper produced by the National Academy of Medicine, A Multifaceted Systems Approach to Addressing Stress Within Health Professions Education and Beyond. I have begun working with a social work colleague on developing a 2-page commentary to be added to the library of resources on the NAM website articulating approaches that social work takes on addressing stress in education and the workplace, which will be fundamentally rooted in trauma theory.

**Strategic Goal 5: Promote the preparation of social work graduates who can practice effectively in an increasingly diverse and global practice environment.**

Dr. Yolanda Padilla has completed her second year as the director of the CSWE Center for Diversity and Social and Economic Justice. She is a strong advocate for the Center and good representative of CSWE. In the upcoming annual survey of social work programs, Dr. Padilla has developed items to gather information on curriculum needs and interests in diversity and social, economic, and environmental justice. The Center will use this information with the goal of developing accessible, useful, and credible resources of value to social work programs. This summer, Dr. Padilla engaged her Advisory Committee in a brainstorming session to assist her in setting strategic priorities for the Center. We have made sure to place the Center and its initiatives in our communication and marketing plan to increase visibility.

Dr. Gerry Meeks, director of the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), had a stroke in June. During her medical leave, Tabitha Beck has provided capable and stable leadership for the MFP. Although inclusion of the MFP in the 21st Century Cures Act was considered a significant
milestone, in the current political environment there remains uncertainty about commitment to adequately funding the program. For the current academic year (2017-18), there is dedicated funding for both the doctoral and master’s degree cohorts. The next cycle will require a full grant application (and not just a continuation as the past cycle). At this date, we are still uncertain about the levels of funding for the next cycle.

As the regional center for the Global Agenda Observatory, CSWE has begun the collection of materials and exemplars from the North American and Caribbean region on how social work practice and education is furthering the third goal of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development, “Working toward environmental sustainability.”

Submit Your Resources Today!

CSWE is seeking your feedback and resources to support the regional report of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development. We are gathering evidence about the activities of social workers, educators, and social development practitioners who support the implementation of the Global Agenda, to give visibility and credibility to their contributions and promote further action.

Please note: We must capture information related to this year’s theme, Community and Environmental Sustainability. Acceptable submissions include any efforts to promote community and environmental sustainability through teaching, research, and/or practice. Definitions and examples of environmental justice developed by the National Association of Social Workers can be found here.

Complete the data collection questionnaire now

This information will provide the core material for the biannual Observatory Report, which will be published by the three global partners and widely promoted at world conferences and beyond.

The survey will close on Wednesday, November 1. Learn more here.

The CSWE-China Collaborative initiative celebrated the conclusion of its five-year commitment in June with a meeting in Beijing. There was much interest among both US and Chinese participants in continuing and even expanding the Collaborative and I am currently exploring this idea with interested parties. Funds from the CSWE Katharine A. Kendall Institute for International Social Work Education (KAKI) provided funding for the evaluation of the China Collaborative; the evaluation report will be available on the CSWE website in the near future. Thank you to the international team, Carol Cohen (Adelphi University, USA), Susan Lawrence
(United Kingdom) and Yuk-chung Chan (Hong Kong), who conducted the evaluation of the initiative.

The KAKI is in its second year of providing grants to programs to advance the preparation of social work students to work globally. In the last cycle, KAKI received 36 very high-quality grant proposals. Three grantees were selected based on their innovative projects that demonstrated transferability and potential to advance the field of international social work education. The 2017 Katherine A. Kendall Institute grantees are as follows:

1. **Alabama A&M University**: Enhancing Minority Student Development Participation Through Collaboration With the United Nations

2. **University of Michigan-Flint**: Global Justice: Social Workers, Breathing Life into New Possibilities, Integrating Global–Local Thinking About Social Problems to Rebuild Healthy and Vibrant Communities

3. **University of Georgia**: Transcending Boundaries: Connecting University of Georgia Social Work Students and Their Grenadian Peers in Virtual and Actual Space

This summer, I worked with colleagues across the globe to facilitate an international convening on leadership in social work education in Prato, Italy in September 2017. With Marie Connelly (Australia) and Charlotte Williams (United Kingdom), I will be co-editing a book on this topic for Springer Publishing.

**Strategic Goal 6: Develop and maintain a healthy, viable organization by ensuring effective management, strong leadership, diversity of the staff, and open communication among the staff, Board of Directors, Commissions, Councils and other governance and programmatic entities.**

Adding an executive team member to improve our communication, marketing and branding has most definitely paid off. Under Julie Montross’ leadership, CSWE has increased its social media presence and streamlined its communications. Every department and initiative is “touched by” our Communications team, providing strategic and targeted direction for dissemination and marketing. The decision to increase the half-time position in the Communications and Marketing Division to a full-time one has allowed us to increase our footprint in various communications venues. In addition, over the last few months, we have also benefited from the expertise of a temporary worker, Lauren Roedner, who has assisted with a variety of APM tasks, mostly assisting in data collection and data mining.

In the Division of Education, we created a new position, Program Assistant, and welcomed Kamilah Omari full-time to CSWE (she had been working as a part-time temp in the MFP Program). She provides needed support for the administrative management of education and professional development programs including offerings during APM, meetings, and events sponsored within the division. As stated before, Tabitha Beck has capably stepped in to provide leadership for the MFP program (with able assistance by Kendre Israel and a new temporary employee, Sara Daneshmand.
The financial health of CSWE is strong. We had our annual audit conducted in August; the Audit Committee will hear from the auditors right before we meet in Dallas. The auditor paid Arminn Leopold, Vice President of Finance and Operations a compliment on the seamless transfer from one accounting system to another (apparently very rare!).

Finally, I welcome new members to the Board of Directors! New commission and council members also began their terms in July 2017. Thank you to Sharon Reed, who continues to hone the system for application and review of these important positions. I am grateful for the collaborative spirit of our Board Chair, Dr. Barbara Shank, in making these appointments. All new commission and council members were oriented to CSWE and our shared governance structure this summer. This is the second time that we have provided an orientation “program” to new commission and council members; we welcome feedback on how we can continue to improve the orientation and ongoing communication with commission and council members.

We are off to a good start in 2017-18, I think. Thank you for your support!

Respectfully,

[Signature]

President and Chief Executive Officer