American Contributions to Global Social Work

CSWE Recipients of the
IASSW Katherine A. Kendall Memorial Award

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A response to human experience that combines compassion with competence is desperately needed in a world in which concern for human welfare and human rights is beginning to be matched—and threatened—by a growing belief in hatred and violence as the way to address human and social problems.

—Katherine A. Kendall (Kendall, 1978, p. 191)

The contributions of Katherine A. Kendall (1910–2010) to social work education in the United States and around the world are difficult to capture in a few pages. Although Kendall’s lively personality was conveyed in her reference to herself as the “Pearl Mesta of social work” (Kendall, 2002, p. 162), Robin Huws Jones perhaps said it best when he referred to the “splendid gifts and the sustained dedication” Kendall brought to social work (Kendall, 1978, p. ii). Her multifaceted roles at the American Red Cross, the Children’s Bureau, the Council on Social Work Education, and the United Nations (UN) all reflect her deep concern for human dignity.

Born in Muir-of-Ord, Scotland, on September 8, 1910, Kendall came to the United States in 1920 and became a U.S. citizen in 1940. After reading Upton Sinclair’s The Jungle (1906), she decided that her future career had to involve the pursuit of social justice and work for those
affected by inequality (Kendall, 2010). She earned a BA from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1933, an MA from Louisiana State University in 1939, and a PhD from the University of Chicago’s School of Social Service Administration in 1950. She first served with the Home Service Program of the American Red Cross, which sought to meet the needs of military families, from 1942 to 1944. At the Children’s Bureau she worked on a Latin American exchange program and later moved to the United Nations as a social affairs officer under Alva Myrdal. She became executive secretary of the American Association of Schools of Social Work in 1950 and took on the same role for CSWE when it was established in 1952, later becoming CSWE’s executive director and director of international education. Kendall’s challenges in CSWE’s early years included convincing individuals and organizations that social workers required professional education and that the proper place for social work was as a university-level discipline (Bediako, 2009). Devising a sufficiently rigorous social work curriculum also was a major priority for both Kendall and CSWE (Kendall, 2002).

Kendall’s involvement with the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) stretches back many years. For the 1950 conference of IASSW’s precursor, the International Committee of Schools of Social Work, she was invited to deliver the keynote address and comment on the UN study *Training for Social Work*, which laid the groundwork for her dissertation. She served as honorary secretary of IASSW for a number of years before becoming the organization’s full-time secretary general in 1971.

Kendall officially retired in 1978, although she remained active in the social work community. In 2004 CSWE established the Katherine A. Kendall Institute for International Social Work Education to strengthen connections with colleagues from other countries and further promote a global perspective in social work education. Kendall passed away in December 2010 at age 100.

IASSW established the Katherine A. Kendall Award in 1991 to recognize individuals who have made substantial contributions to international social work education. After Kendall’s death, the award was renamed the Katherine A. Kendall Memorial Award. In noting her pride in this award and other honors, Kendall swiftly acknowledged the many colleagues with whom she worked over the years (Katherine A. Kendall, 2002).

The two profiles that follow in these pages provide insights into the varied backgrounds, careers, and achievements of CSWE members and former presidents, Herman Stein and M. C. “Terry” Hokenstad, Kendall awardees who, like Kendall, share a commitment to social work that reaches across borders and strives to achieve greater human well-being.

In depth profiles of all Kendall awardees from around the world will be available in a forthcoming book to be published by IASSW.
References


Development of manpower for mental health service, critical as this continues to be, is not enough. New approaches are needed in the delivery of services, and new contributions are necessary to understanding and coping with the impact of societal strains, deprivations, racial and other inequities on the mental health of children and adults.

—Herman D. Stein (Stein, 1972, p. 23)

Herman D. Stein played a variety of roles throughout his versatile life: actor; author; dean; professor; provost; university vice president; facilitator of new schools of social work; and director of efforts to serve individuals affected by the Holocaust, displaced persons, and citizens of the third world.

Stein was born in New York City on August 13, 1917, into a family that displayed a partiality for the stage. At one time he was in a theater company led by Danny Kaye, and throughout
his life he enjoyed reading the telephone book aloud with dramatic flair (“Herman D. Stein,” 2009). His brother, Joseph—a former social worker—received a Tony award for his work on the musical *Fiddler on the Roof* (Gates, 2010).

Stein earned his MSW in 1941 and DSW in 1958 from the Columbia University School of Social Work (CUSSW). He began his social work career as an agency caseworker and a CUSSW faculty member before working for the American Joint Distribution Committee in Europe and North Africa, where he saw the effects of World War II, the Holocaust, and colonialism. These experiences, which he said “continue to haunt me,” led to his efforts to establish social work schools in Paris and Jerusalem, seeking to prepare qualified personnel who could help address the human needs arising from the new realities of a postwar Europe (“Herman D. Stein,” 2002, p. 259). He returned to Columbia University in 1950, becoming director of CUSSW’s research center. Stein began a long association with UNICEF in 1962, advising on community development in Tanganyika (later Tanzania) and working extensively on the mental health needs of children. He became dean of the School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in 1963, later serving there as provost, vice president, and university professor.

Kendall (2008) noted Stein’s significant influence on the social work curriculum, citing his role in producing CSWE’s 1962 statement on curriculum policy; co-editing the textbook *Social Perspectives on Behavior* (1958) with Richard Cloward, which emphasized sociocultural content; and bringing together field personnel, educators specializing in human behavior and the social environment, group work specialists, and community organization experts to ensure that sociocultural content could be reflected in many areas of social work education. CUSSW noted that Stein designed some of the first courses in the country on comparative social welfare that emphasized the third world (“Social Work Leader,” 2009).

Stein served as president of CSWE from 1966 to 1969 and as IASSW president from 1968 to 1976. Kendall (2008) noted Stein’s ability to mediate between often acrimonious parties and produce effective discussions, particularly during the 1960s and 1970s when Stein’s challenges included advising Carl Stokes, the first Black mayor of Cleveland; meeting with student protesters at Case Western Reserve University; and addressing on behalf of IASSW the delicate situation of South African schools of social work under apartheid. His unflappable nature was further demonstrated when he, along with CSWE’s Katherine A. Kendall, attended a summer 1970 IASSW meeting in Manila despite typhoons and subsequent flooding (“IASSW Congress,” 1971). He received lifetime achievement awards from CSWE and NASW, the University Medal from Case Western, and the Rene Sand Award from the International Council on Social Welfare. In 2002 he noted the “special significance” of receiving the Kendall award because of his “long association” with Katherine Kendall and his work with IASSW (“Herman D. Stein,” 2002, p. 270). He died October 2, 2009.
References


The understanding and capabilities of professional social workers must extend beyond the parochial boundaries of their own national locale and into the international arena.

—M. C. “Terry” Hokenstad (1988, p. 7)

M. C. “Terry” Hokenstad studied to become an Episcopal minister, but then decided that his mission in life “was perhaps secular rather than sacred, but still meant service” (Hokenstad, 2010, p. 6). As a social worker on the lower East Side of New York City in the 1960s, he began to learn about the issues facing older adults. The poverty among the elderly made an enduring impression, and he became involved in advocacy for civil rights, Medicare, and the Older Americans Act (Hokenstad, 2010; Weinraub, 1963). A Rotary Foundation fellowship in the United Kingdom eventually led him to pursue his interests in aging and policy within an international context.
Born in Norfolk, NE, on July 21, 1936, Hokenstad earned a BA in history, summa cum laude, from Augustana College in South Dakota in 1958; an MSW from the Columbia University School of Social Work in 1962; a PhD from Brandeis University in 1969; and a certificate in educational management from Harvard in 1977. His academic career included 6 years as the initial director of a new School of Social Work at Western Michigan University. In 1974 he moved to Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), where he was dean of the School of Applied Social Sciences (now the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences) for nearly a decade and chair of the doctoral program in social welfare for 5 years. His current positions at CWRU are Distinguished University Professor, the Ralph S. and Dorothy P. Schmidt Professor in the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, and professor of global health in the School of Medicine.

He was a senior Fulbright lecturer in 1980 at Stockholm University in Sweden and a Fulbright research scholar at the Institute of Applied Social Research in Oslo, Norway, in 1989. He has also held visiting teaching or research appointments at the London School of Economics, Canterbury University in New Zealand, Eotvos Lorand University in Hungary, the University Zuyd in the Netherlands, and at Beijing Normal University in China. Hokenstad served as president of CSWE in 1986–1989, after chairing both the International Committee and the Committee on National Legislation. More recently, he endowed the Hokenstad International Lecture to bring distinguished social work educators from other nations to speak at CSWE’s Annual Program Meeting. He also chaired the International Committee for the National Association of Social Workers from 1991 to 1993.

Hokenstad was a member of the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) board of directors (1978–1992, 1996–2000) and continues to serve as a United Nations’ (UN) nongovernmental organization (NGO) representative for IASSW, participating in planning for the annual Social Work Day at the UN and serving on the UN’s NGO Committee on Aging. He was a member of the expert committee that worked with the UN Secretariat in drafting the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (2002), which articulated priorities to promote the well-being of older adults in the developed and developing world.

In the 1990s Hokenstad directed a project funded by the Open Society Institute that provided technical assistance to 16 Soviet bloc nations in the development of home and community based care for older adults (Hokenstad, 2010). in 1999 he co-chaired the U.S. committee for the celebration of the International Year on Aging (Hokenstad, 1999). He also has led delegations of social work educators and social workers to several countries via the Citizen’s Ambassador Program of People to People International. Currently, he is participating in the China Collaborative (a joint effort of CSWE, the China Association of Social Work Education, and IASSW), which assists Chinese schools of social work in developing graduate-level social work programs.

Receiving the Kendall Award in 2004 held special meaning for Hokenstad because of the award’s “added clout in terms of forwarding the international dimension of social work education, particularly in the United States” (Hokenstad, 2010, p. 2) and especially because of his respect and affection for Katherine Kendall, with whom he worked for more than 40 years. Stated Hokenstad:

> Katherine has influenced the careers of many social work educators. She had a magnificent career, not only in her own accomplishments but in terms of serving as a role model, confidante, and consultant to many of the rest of us in this field. . . . [T]hroughout my career she has had a major impact. She is going to be very much missed by all of us. (Hokenstad, 2010, p. 10)
References


