Dear Friends,

It is a tremendous honor and privilege to serve as the dean of the Brown School. Our diverse faculty, students and staff are incredibly proud of our commitment to research and educational excellence in the service of advancing social, economic and health equity.

Our school strives for significant impact globally, nationally and locally in our communities. St. Louis is a city with immense civic pride, an emerging leader in social innovation and entrepreneurship, and home to wonderful and genuine people. At the same time, St. Louis faces serious social challenges like so many urban areas across the U.S. These include serious health disparities, income inequality, and structural racism and oppression. The Brown School is committed to adding our voice, our science and our resources to the ever-growing chorus demanding social justice.

Included in this report are exemplary research studies, initiatives and accomplishments of Brown School scholars over the last academic year. The common thread that ties this work together is a sharp focus on advancing equity. Unless we specifically target structural racism and systemic oppression in our studies, projects, teaching and advocacy, social change is likely to be stalled or incremental.

Brown School students are contributing to the important work of nearly 200 local and regional organizations. Through coursework, field practicum and a vibrant school community, we are preparing our masters and doctoral students to lead the professions of social work, public health and social policy.

Collaboration across faculty, students, staff and alumni can and will improve lives and move us towards a more just and equitable world.

I am grateful to be a part of this school-wide commitment.

Sincerely,

Mary M. McKay
Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean, Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

“The Brown School is committed to adding our voice, our science and our resources to the ever-growing chorus demanding social justice.”
A Year of Impact and Innovation

GRAND CHALLENGES
Sarah Gehlert Leads AASWSW

More than 250 experts, advocates, and leading academics from all over the United States converged on the Brown School to outline a comprehensive range of solutions to some of the most pressing issues facing the nation. “Social Innovation for America’s Renewal,” was organized by the American Academy of Social Work & Social Welfare (AASWSW) in conjunction with the Center for Social Development.

Dedicated workgroups are developing evidence-based policy recommendations for the 12 Grand Challenges. The Brown School boasts many faculty who are AASWSW fellows and other scholars who are deeply involved in the Grand Challenges efforts. In January, Sarah Gehlert, the E. Desmond Lee Professor of Racial and Ethnic Diversity, was inducted as the new president of AASWSW.

ENGAGED FACULTY
Jason Purnell Named Person of the Year

Jason Purnell, associate professor and director of For the Sake of All, the groundbreaking initiative focused on the health and well-being of African-Americans in St. Louis, was named the 2016 Person of the Year by The St. Louis American.

ADVANCING LEADERSHIP
Dean McKay Installed in Endowed Deanship

Mary McKay was installed as the inaugural Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean of the Brown School. McKay’s endowed position at Washington University in St. Louis was made possible by a $5 million commitment from Michael and Noémi Neidorff — leading patrons of cultural and educational institutions in St. Louis and beyond — and the Centene Charitable Foundation.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Sean Joe Convenes HomeGrown STL Inaugural Summit

The HomeGrown STL Inaugural Summit, held Feb. 9 at the Brown School, drew over 120 local community leaders, researchers, funders and service providers committed to improving the lives of black boys and young men in St. Louis City and County over the next decade. Sean Joe, the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development at the Brown School, leads the HomeGrown STL initiative, part of the Center for Social Development’s Race and Opportunity Lab.

At the summit, Joe clearly articulated the barriers facing young black males and their consequences: higher mortality rates, higher unemployment and lifelong lower wages. The event emphasized the economic and moral benefits of improving the well-being of black men, stressing the importance of a strong community network and effort.

LEADING SCHOLARS
Ross Brownson Recognized for Excellence by APHA

Ross Brownson, the Bernard Becker Professor at Washington University in St. Louis and director of the Prevention Research Center, received the American Public Health Association (APHA) Award for Excellence for his work as a scholar, leader and public-health practitioner. The award was presented at APHA’s 2016 Annual Meeting and Expo in Denver. A leading expert in chronic disease prevention and in the area of applied epidemiology, Brownson is regarded as one of the great intellectual, educational and practice leaders in the field of evidence-based public health.

POLICY EXPERTISE
Alumna Elected as State Representative

Rep. Cora Faith Walker, AB ’06, MPH ’10, came to the Brown School to study healthcare policy. She leveraged her expertise into a successful run for public office, and now represents the 74th District in the Missouri House of Representatives, which includes portions of nine municipalities in north St. Louis County, such as Ferguson, Florissant, Hazelwood, Jennings and Normandy. During her campaign, in which she identified as a “policy wonk,” she spoke of her commitment to social justice and equity.
EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY
Clark-Fox Policy Institute Launches

The Clark-Fox Policy Institute, housed within the Brown School, launched in April. Founded through the generosity of Maxine Clark and Bob Fox, the institute seeks to advance social and economic justice by working collaboratively to connect evidence-based policy solutions to public awareness, practitioner training and policy decision-making.

The institute will serve as a vehicle for rapidly translating and disseminating the research of the Brown School’s renowned faculty. It will reach multiple audiences, with particular emphasis on policymakers, through the collaborative development of products and tools that reflect scientific evidence. Gary Parker, associate dean of external affairs, serves as the institute’s director.

APPLIED RESEARCH
Lora Iannotti Receives Gates Foundation Grant

Associate Professor Lora Iannotti has received an award from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for her nutrition study in rural Ecuador, the Lulun Project. She is examining the effects of the introduction of eggs when children are 6 to 9 months of age, and how it may influence their growth and nutritional biomarkers. (“Lulun” is the word for “egg” in the Kichwa language.) The grant will support ongoing analysis of stored blood samples and an opportunity to explore metabolic growth pathways involving amino acids, choline and related metabolites, and immune markers.

INVESTING IN STUDENTS
Student Scholarships Increase

The Brown School awards more than $6.4 million in scholarships annually. Recognizing the importance of financial aid to students and their families, new scholarships are being created every year. In the coming year, the Gallop Family Foundation Scholarship will support a Masters Research Fellowship focused on policy research, practice and dissemination.
The Master of Social Policy (MSP) program has expanded from the original collaboration with Fudan University to two additional partner universities in China: Renmin University of China and Xi’an Jiaotong University.

**MSW**
- Fall 2016 Cohort: 209 total
- Average Age: 26
- 24% Have Service Corps Experience

**MPH**
- Fall 2016 Cohort: 64 total
- Average Age: 25
- 14% Have Service Corps Experience

**MSW/MPH**
- Fall 2016 Cohort: 9 total
- Average Age: 25
- 22% Have Service Corps Experience

**Careers Info**

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*Only includes full-time, U.S. based employment outcomes.

**Total Research Portfolio 2016**

Brown School faculty are engaged in cutting-edge research supported by the National Institutes of Health and a range of other highly competitive funding sources.

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**MSW**
- Cohort: 209 total
- Average Age: 24
- 26% Have Service Corps Experience

**MPH**
- Cohort: 64 total
- Average Age: 14
- 25% Have Service Corps Experience

**MSW/MPH**
- Cohort: 9 total
- Average Age: 22
- 25% Have Service Corps Experience

**Total Employment Outcomes**

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Race and ethnicity data are self-reported.
Brown School Faculty

Angela Hobson*, Senior Lecturer
Peter Hovmand, Associate Professor of Practice; Director, Social System Design Lab
Darrell L. Hudson, Associate Professor
Lora Iannotti, Associate Professor
Sean Joe, Associate Dean for Faculty and Research; Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development
Kimberly Johnson, Associate Professor
Melissa Jonson-Reid, Ralph and Muriel Pumphrey Professor in Social Work; Director, Center for Violence and Injury Prevention
Jack A. Kirkland, Associate Professor
Patricia Kohl, Associate Dean for Social Work; Associate Professor
Matthew W. Kreuter, Associate Dean for Public Health; Kahn Family Professor of Public Health; Senior Scientist, Health Communication Research Laboratory
John Landsverk, Professor of Practice
Edward F. Lawlor, William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor
Carolyn Lesorogol, Associate Dean for Global Strategy and Programs; Professor
Jessica Levy*, Senior Lecturer
Ryan R. Lindsay*, Associate Dean for Social Work; Associate Professor of Practice
Douglas A. Luke, Director, Doctoral Program in Public Health Sciences; Professor; Director, Center for Public Health Systems Science
Timothy McBride, Professor
Mary M. McKay, Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean of the Brown School; Professor
Molly W. Metzger, Assistant Professor
Sarah Moreland-Russell, Clark-Fox Senior Scholar
Nancy Morrow-Howell, Betty Bofinger Brown Distinguished Professor of Social Policy
Ross Hammond, Senior Scholar
Velma McBride Murry*, Senior Scholar
Von Nebbitt*, Associate Professor
Sojung Park, Assistant Professor
David A. Patterson, Associate Professor
Carrie Pettus-Davis, Assistant Professor
Enola K. Proctor, Shanti K. Khinduka Distinguished Professor; Director, Center for Mental Health Services Research
Jason Q. Purnell, Associate Professor
Linda L. Raclin, Senior Lecturer
Mark R. Rank, Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare
Rodrigo S. Reis*, Professor
Stephen Roll*, Research Assistant Professor
Barry Rosenberg, Professor of Practice
Vetta L. Sanders Thompson, Professor
Ozge Sensoy Bahar*, Research Assistant Professor
Anna Shabsin, Senior Lecturer
Michael Sherraden, George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor; Director, Center for Social Development
Margaret Sherrard Sherraden, Research Professor
Joseph Steensma, Professor of Practice
Susan Stiritz, Senior Lecturer
Rachel Tabak, Research Assistant Professor
Molly Tovar, Professor of Practice
Jean-Francois Trani, Associate Professor
Christopher Veeh*, Research Assistant Professor
Henry S. Webber, Professor of Practice

PUBLIC HEALTH EXCELLENCE

MPH Program Accreditation

Matt Kreuter, associate dean for public health and Kahn Family Professor of Public Health, and Amy Eyler, assistant dean for public health and associate professor, will conclude their appointments leading the MPH Program. Among the many accomplishments under their leadership: student enrollment has grown by 20% to 183 students, a PhD program was introduced, joint degrees were developed with Medicine, Business and Occupational Therapy as well as a 3-2 MPH with the College of Arts and Sciences. Additionally, they led the Brown School through the re-accreditation process of the MPH Program. They will be succeeded by Associate Professor Lora Iannotti as associate dean for public health and Senior Lecturer Angela Hobson as assistant dean for public health.

Brown School Research Centers

Center for Diabetes Translation Research
Center for Mental Health Services Research
Center for Obesity Prevention and Policy Research
Center for Public Health Systems Science
Center for Social Development
Center for Violence and Injury Prevention
Envolve Center for Health Behavior Change Evaluation Center
Health Communication Research Laboratory
Institute for Advancing Justice Research and Innovation
Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies
Prevention Research Center in St. Louis
Social System Design Lab
OUR VISION

To create positive social change through our path-breaking research and educational excellence.

OUR MISSION

To educate and prepare future social work and public health leaders in areas of policy, practice, and research.

To pioneer research and apply results to impact policy and practice locally, nationally, and internationally.

To collaborate with organizations to use evidence to improve access to and quality of social services and to address social and economic justice.