

Begun Bulletin



Mandel School Awards

New Notice of Awards

Dissemination, Media
Articles &
Interviews

Important
Announcements



Mandel School Staff Award Winners

Heather Distin - **Research and
Training Award of Excellence**

Paula Kertes - **MSASSy
Recognition Award**

Julie Rentsch - **MSASSy
Recognition Award**

CONGRATULATIONS!!



Upcoming Birthdays

April

05: Dennis Donkor
07: Junghyae Lee
22: Caitlin Minkus
23: Renne Rodriguez

May

08: Heather Distin
17: Elizabeth Schultheis
18: Amanda Gillespie
24: Ivette Noreiga

New Projects Awarded:

- * RECLAIM Ohio 10-Year Impact
(PI - Dr. Kretschmar)
- * Franklin County ADAMH
(PI - J. Evenden)
- * OhioMHAS Supported Employment
Education Handbook FY24-25
(PI - J. Evenden)
- * Children's Mental Health Block Grant
(PI - Dr. B. Beale)
- * Cuyahoga Cty Juvenile TTAC
(PI - Dr. B. Beale)
- * CCJC MST Training and Consultation
(PI - Dr. R. Shepler)

Celebrating Workiversaries

**THANK YOU
for another year!**

April

Renne Rodriguez
Michael Fox
Steve Shober
Paula Kertes

May

Satabdi Samtani
Joyce Agne
Julie Kalina-Hammond
Katherine Lewis
Laura Overman
Jenny Row
Michael Sanford
Adrian Johnson
Maggie Ogonek - celebrating 10 years

Dissemination & Media **Articles.**

"Drug Overdose Death among Residents of Urban Census Tracts: How Granular Geographical Analyses Uncover Socioenvironmental Correlates in Cuyahoga County, Ohio," was published in the *Journal of Urban Health*(Springer Nature).

A team of researchers from the Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education at the Jack Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences conducted a study examining how drug overdose deaths correlate with urban census tracts.

The team consisted of research associates Ryan McMaster, Luma Masarweh-Zawahri and Vaishali S. Deo, Senior Research Associate Karen Coen Flynn and Daniel J. Flannery, the Semi J. and Ruth W. Begun Professor and director of the Begun Center.

Article by Vaishali Deo made it to Local/Ohio news:

Cuyahoga County syringe program shows disconnect between what drug users think they're using and reality.

The Mandel School at SSWR 2025:

Tugba Olgac, Jamie Saunt & Xiao Ding presented at various sessions during the Society for Social Work and Research's (SSWR) 2025 Annual Conference, Jan. 16–19, in Seattle.

Dr. Flannery was quoted in NPR Article on:

In Chicago, cognitive behavioral therapy shows promise curbing youth violence.

Dennis Donkor featured in The Daily:

Empowered to lead: Discover how three Black CWRU staff members are making a difference.

Dr. Flannery spoke at Arizona State University:

Dr. Flannery presented on the topic: Addressing the Opioid Overdose Epidemic via Community, Law Enforcement, and Research Collaborations.

Katherine Lewis mentioned in The Daily:

In honor of World Social Work Day, during both Social Work Month and Women's History Month, the Mandel School spoke with Katherine Lewis, who is also a graduate of the school.

Important Announcements

2025 CWRU compliance training is due on March 31. Please refer to Liza Palazzo's email.