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MANDEL SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES RECEIVES \$92,000 FROM MCGREGOR FOUNDATION FOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN GERONTOLOGY PRACTICE AND LEADERSHIP

Funds Will also Go Toward Case Studies of Service Delivery to Elderly

CLEVELAND - - A \$92,000 grant from the McGregor Foundation will enable Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (MSASS) to begin a certificate program for advanced practice in gerontology and strengthen its existing courses in aging and geriatric services.

About \$72,000 of the grant will go to MSASS's Program for Innovative Education in Aging. Merl C. "Terry" Hokenstad, the Schmitt Professor of Social Work, said the funds will be used to add a certificate program, the Certificate for Advanced Practice and Leadership in Gerontology, for professionals whose previous social work education did not focus on gerontology.

"A lot of people working in aging related services started out somewhere else in social work and may have moved into the aging field, but they don't have the background and skills they need to maximize their effectiveness," Hokenstad explained. "This certificate course will provide them with that." The program is scheduled to begin at the start of the 2006 calendar year.

The grant will also enable the Program for Innovative Education in Aging to conduct on-site case studies of programs around the United States and in other countries with unique approaches to delivering services to the elderly. The case studies will be incorporated into MSASS's social work practice courses in its aging concentration.

The remaining \$20,000 of the grant will go toward the Gerontological Scholars Program, which provides scholarship funds to students in the Program for Innovative Education in Aging.

The McGregor Foundation made a similar grant for \$60,272 earlier this year to establish the Program for Innovative Education in Aging.

The Mandel School offers a concentration in aging as part of its M.S.S.A. degree, including field learning and courses in family caregiving, death and dying, aging policy and service delivery and social work serving older people.

About Case Western Reserve University

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