

Thomas P. Felke, Ph.D., MSW

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Health disparities among minority populations; food instability and insecurity issues; international social welfare; refugee and immigration policy; application of geographic information systems (GIS) to social work research and practice; the use of distance education technologies in social work education.

TEACHING INTERESTS: Social work research and ethics; social welfare policy and planning; macro theory and practice; social work administration; international social work issues.

EDUCATION:

University of Connecticut School of Social Work (West Hartford, CT)

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Dissertation Chair: Nancy A. Humphreys, Ph.D.

Dissertation: 'It's been 20 years': The Case of Ethnic Armenian Refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan

Received: May 2010

University of Connecticut School of Social Work (West Hartford, CT)

Degree: Master of Social Work

Concentrations: Administration; Policy and Planning

Certificate: International Social Work

Received: May 2002

Providence College (Providence, RI)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Major: Elementary and Special Education

Received: May 1996

AWARDS & RECOGNITION:

National Society for Leadership & Success – Florida Gulf Coast University Chapter

Recipient: Excellence in Teaching – 2017

National Association of Social Work – Florida Chapter: Southwest Unit

Recipient: Social Work Educator of the Year – 2016

EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE

Florida Gulf Coast University (Fort Myers, FL)

Department Chair, January 2017 – Present

- Oversees daily operations of the BSW and MSW program

Florida Gulf Coast University (Fort Myers, FL)

BSW Program Director, August 2014 – Present

- Oversees curriculum development, curriculum review, program assessment, and program reports

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Florida Gulf Coast University (Fort Myers, FL)

Associate Professor, August 2017 – Present; Assistant Professor, August 2011 – July 2017

BSW Program:

- Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare
- Social Work Research
- Social Policy Analysis

MSW Program:

- Social Policy Analysis
- Research Methods
- Practice Evaluation

Elective Courses (cross-program):

- International Social Work Issues
- Spatial Planning and Analysis in Human Services
- Macro Social Work: Leadership and Management
- Computer Applications in the Human Services
- Issues in Aging

Southern Connecticut State University (New Haven, CT)

Adjunct Faculty, September 2010 – December 2010

BSW Program:

- Introduction to Social Work Research

MSW Program:

- Human Behavior in the Social Environment: Groups & Communities

Central Connecticut State University (New Britain, CT)

Adjunct Faculty, September 2010 – December 2010

BSW Program:

- Introduction to Social Work Research

University of Connecticut School of Social Work (West Hartford, CT)

Adjunct Faculty, September 2002 to May 2011

MSW Program:

- Principles and Foundations of Social Work Research
- Research Methods in Social Work Practice
- Human Behavior in the Social Environment: Macro Theories
- Human Behavior in the Social Environment: Macro Practice
- Comparative Social Welfare Policy (International Distance Education Course)
- Geographic Information Systems in the Social Services
- Computer Applications in the Human Services

University of Connecticut School of Social Work (West Hartford, CT)

Instructional Technology Teaching Assistant, September 2002 to December 2009

MSW Program:

- Comparative Social Welfare Policy
- International Social Work: Global Issues

STUDENT ADVISING EXPERIENCE:

Florida Gulf Coast University (Fort Myers, FL)

- BSW Program Academic Advisor: 2012 – Present
- MSW Program Field Placement Liaison: 2017 – 2018
- BSW Program Field Placement Liaison: 2011 – 2014

University of Connecticut School of Social Work (West Hartford, CT)

MSW Program Field Placement Advisor:

- Center for International Social Work Studies: 2006 – 2009
- Connecticut Department of Social Services: 2004 – 2005

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Organizational

Department of Social Services/Department of Mental Health and Addiction (Hartford, CT)

Organizational and Skill Development Consultant and Project Manager, April 2001 – June 2011

Catholic Charities/Catholic Family Services of Connecticut (New Haven, CT)

Regional Child and Family Services Program Manager, February 1998 – March 2001

Internships

University of Connecticut: Center for International Social Work Studies (West Hartford, CT)

Social Work Intern, (2001 – 2002)

Department of Social Services: Office of Organization and Skill Development (Hartford, CT)

Social Work Intern, (2000 – 2001)

Department of Health: Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (Providence, RI)

Public Policy Intern, (1995 – 1996)

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION EXPERIENCE:

Journey of Hope Program Implementation & Analysis

Funding Source: Save the Children

Funding Dates: September 2018 – August 2019

Total Award: \$200,000 (awarded)

Title/Role: Project Manager

Lee County Gaps Analysis

Funding Source: Lee County Human & Veteran Services

Funding Dates: October 2018 – August 2019

Total Award: \$100,000 (awarded)

Title/Role: Principal Investigator

Spatial Assessment of Food Insecurity in Southwest Florida

Funding Source: Harry Chapin Food Bank

Funding Dates: March 2017 – June 2017

Total Award: \$8,960 (awarded)

Title/Role: Principal Investigator

Five-Year Update to Needs Assessment of Elder Care Services in Southwest Florida

Funding Source: Jewish Family & Community Services of Southwest Florida

Funding Dates: January 2017 – July 2017

Total Award: \$10,000 (awarded)

Title/Role: Principal Investigator

Regional Needs Assessment on Homelessness in Southwest Florida

Funding Source: Saint Matthew's House

Funding Dates: November 2015 – May 2016

Total Award: \$8,250 (awarded)

Title/Role: Principal Investigator

Transportation Infrastructure Assessment for Estero, Florida

Funding Source: Village of Estero

Funding Dates: October 2015 – January 2016

Total Award: \$17,500 (awarded)

Collaborators: Margaret Banyan, Ph.D.; Claude Villiers, Ph.D.

Title/Role: GIS Analyst

Community Housing & Transportation Assessment for Sanibel, Florida

Funding Source: Charlotte County Parks and Recreation Division

Funding Dates: December 2014 – May 2015

Total Award: \$20,000 (awarded)

Collaborator: Margaret Banyan, Ph.D.

Title/Role: Co – Principal Investigator; GIS Analyst

Community Needs & Assets Assessment for Charlotte County, Florida

Funding Source: Charlotte County Parks and Recreation Division

Funding Dates: January 2014 – July 2014

Total Award: \$20,000 (awarded)

Collaborator: Margaret Banyan, Ph.D.

Title/Role: Co – Principal Investigator; GIS Analyst

Needs Assessment of Elder Care Services in Naples, Florida

Funding Source: Jewish Family & Community Services of Southwest Florida

Funding Dates: August 2012 – August 2013

Total Award: \$2,500 (awarded)

Collaborator: Mary Hart, Ph.D., MSW

Title/Role: Co – Principal Investigator; GIS Analyst

Testing Health Impact Assessment Models: The Public Health Implications of Transportation Projects and Corridors

Funding Source: Florida Gulf Coast University

Funding Dates: August 2012 – July 2013

Total Award: \$5,000 (awarded)

Collaborator: Margaret Banyan, Ph.D.

Title/Role: Co – Principal Investigator; GIS Analyst

Investigating Latino/Hispanic Health Disparities in New York's Five Boroughs

Funding Source: Fordham University

Funding Dates: December 2008 – December 2010

Total Award: \$10,000 (awarded)

Collaborator: Gregory Acevedo, Ph.D.

Title/Role: Co-Principal Investigator; GIS Analyst

CONSULTING:

Review and Re-Development of Statewide Assessment Tool

Funding Source: Florida Head Start – Parent & Family Engagement

Funding Dates: September – October 2016

Total Award: \$5,000 (awarded)

Community Needs & Assets Study for the Village of Estero, Florida

Funding Source: Estero Community Improvement Foundation

Funding Dates: April 2015 – November 2015

Total Award: \$15,000 (awarded)

INTERNAL FUNDING:

Building capacity for the use of geographic information systems technologies in social work

Funding Source: FGCU Professional Development Grant

Funding Date: December 2012

Total Award: \$1,500 (awarded)

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS:

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Felke, T. (2015). The use of geographic information systems (GIS) in conducting a needs assessment of seniors in Collier County. *Advances in Social Work, 16*(1), 140-153.

Jani, N. & Felke, T. (2015). Gender bias and sex-trafficking in Indian society. *International Social Work, 58*(4), 1-16.

Felke, T. (2014). Building capacity for geographic information systems (GIS) in social work: Educating students on its potential uses. *Journal of Technology in Human Services, 32*(1-2), 81-92.

Felke, T. (2006). Geographic information systems: Potential uses in social work education and practice. *Journal of Evidence-based Social Work Practice, 3*(3/4), 103-113. Published simultaneously in J. Dunlop & M. Holosko (Ed.), *Information Technology and Evidence-based Social Work Practice*. New York: Haworth Press.

Felke, T. & Healy, L. (2002). Creating connections through distance education technologies. *Caribbean Journal of Social Work, 3*(1).

BOOK CHAPTERS

Felke, T. (2019). The use of geographic information systems (GIS) for social work education, research, and practice. In L. Goldkind, L. Wolf, & P. Freddolino (Eds.), *Digital Social Work: Tools for practice with individuals, organizations, and communities* (145-167). Chicago, IL: Lyceum.

Felke, T. & Menon, G. (2012). Using technology for international education and research. In L. Healy & R. Link (Eds.), *Handbook on International Social Work* (349-355). London: Oxford.

TEACHING NOTES

Felke, T. (2019). Exploring communities using the American Factfinder. In L. Hitchcock, M. Sage, & N.J. Smyth. *Teaching Social Work with Digital Technology*. Alexandria, VA: CSWE Press.

NEWSLETTERS

Felke, T. (Spring 2008). Investigating refugee social identity using GIS. *Connecticut GeoFocus*, 1(1).

Felke, T. (Spring 2004). Teaching geographic information systems in the social services. *Healthy GIS*, 3(13).

MEDIA PRODUCTIONS:

Felke, T. (Producer), & Echevarria, W. (Director). (2002). A current of change: Social work in Armenia, [Documentary Short Film]. (Available from University of Connecticut School of Social Work Center for International Social Work Studies, 1798 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117)

CONFERENCE, SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS:

SELECTED NATIONAL PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Felke, T. (October 2017). *Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for the Social Work Grand Challenges*. Presentation delivered at the Council on Social Work Education 63rd Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.

Felke, T. (October 2016). *Toward New Competencies: Global Issues in the Social Work Curriculum*. Presentation delivered at the Council on Social Work Education 62nd Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Felke, T. (March 2016). *Using geographic information systems (GIS) in social work research efforts; Demonstrations from the field*. Presentation delivered at the 2016 Baccalaureate Program Director's Annual Conference, Dallas, TX

Felke, T. (January 2016). *Using geographic information systems (GIS) to conduct a senior needs & assets assessment*. Symposium presentation delivered at the 2016 Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Washington, D.C.

Felke, T. (March 2015). *Conducting community needs and assets assessments using geographic information systems (GIS)*. Presentation delivered at the 2015 Baccalaureate Program Director's Annual Conference, Kansas City, MO.

Felke, T. (January 2014). *Analyzing communities with geographic information systems (GIS)*. Workshop presented at the Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Jani, N., & Felke, T. (October 2013). *Integrating content on human trafficking with the use of audio-visual media in a liberal arts curriculum*. Presentation delivered at the Council on Social Work Education 59th Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.

Felke, T. (November 2012). *The situation of ethnic Armenian refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan: A stage-of-migration analysis*. Presentation delivered at the Council on Social Work Education 58th Annual Program Meeting, Washington, DC.

Acevedo, G., Felke, T., & Gonzalez, M. (November 2009). *Geospatial analysis of Hispanic socioeconomic well-being and mental health in the five boroughs of New York*. Presentation delivered at the Council on Social Work Education 55th Annual Program Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Felke, T. & Humphreys, N. (October 2007). *International learning through distance education technologies: Analysis of a demonstration effort*. Presentation delivered at the Council on Social Work Education 53rd Annual Program Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Felke, T. (February 2006). *The potential applications of geographic information systems in social work education and practice*. Paper presented at the Council on Social Work Education 52nd Annual Program Meeting, Chicago, IL.

INTERNATIONAL PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Felke, T. (June 2010). *The role of ethnicity and nationality in citizenship decision-making processes of ethnic Armenian refugees – A preliminary analysis*. Invited presentation for the 39th World Congress of the International Institute of Sociology, Yerevan, Armenia.

Felke, T. (August 2001). *Using online learning management systems for cross-cultural learning in graduate social work education*. Presentation delivered at the 5th Biennial Conference of Caribbean and International Social Work Educators, Nassau, Bahamas.

INVITED SPEAKING AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Felke, T. (October, 2018). *Food insecurity in Southwest Florida and beyond*. Presentation delivered for the James Beard Foundation Chef Impact Program, Sanibel, FL.

Felke, T. (May 2017). *The expansion of social issues among seniors in Southwest Florida*. Presentation delivered for the 16th Annual Southwest Florida Conference on Aging, Fort Myers, FL.

Felke, T. (May 2017). *Food insecurity in Southwest Florida*. Presentation delivered for the Harry Chapin Food Bank Hunger Summit, Fort Myers, FL.

Felke, T. (May 2016). *The invisibility of social issues in Southwest Florida*. Presentation delivered for the 15th Annual Southwest Florida Conference on Aging, Fort Myers, FL.

Felke, T. (April 2013). *Resilience and advocacy: The importance of policy practice and advocacy in social work*. Keynote speech delivered at the National Association of Social Workers – Southwest Florida Chapter Annual Awards Dinner, Fort Myers, FL.

Felke, T. (January 2013). *The needs of seniors in Collier County*. Presentation delivered to community stakeholders, Naples, FL.

Felke, T. (April 2012). *Using online GIS tools to support teaching, grant writing and program planning*. Presentation for faculty and staff at Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, FL.

Felke, T. (June 2010). *Using Atlas.ti for qualitative data management and analysis*. Presentation delivered for social work faculty at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, West Hartford, CT.

Felke, T. (September 2008). *Community mapping for social service planning and practice*. Presentation delivered for social work students at Eastern Connecticut State University, Windham, CT.

Felke, T. (April 2007). *Potential applications of geographic information systems in Electronic Benefits Transfer fraud detection and monitoring*. Invited presentation at the National EBT Director's Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

PUBLIC AND SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Felke, T. (August 2018). If you're stranded in a food desert, grocery shopping's a pain not a pleasure. Article may be found in the August 31, 2018 issue of *The News Press*.

Felke, T. (January 2017). Geographic information systems in social work practice. Twitter chat facilitated for #MacroSW (<https://macrosw.com>) on January 19, 2017.

Felke, T. (October 2015). Commentary provided for an article focused on the lack of a Social Security cost of living increase. Article may be found in the October 23, 2015 issue of *The Naples Daily News*.

Felke, T. (May 2015). Commentary provided for a national feature by the PBS NewsHour (also published by *CNN Money*) focused on the needs of seniors in Naples, FL. Feature may be found at <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/number-hungry-seniors-doubled-since-2001-going-get-worse/>

Felke, T. (September 2014). Commentary provided for *Nowhere to go: The struggle of impoverished seniors in Naples* an article focused on the needs of seniors in Naples, FL. Article may be found in the September 2014 issue of *Gulfshore Life Magazine*.

Felke, T. (August 2014). *On international social work and macro practice*. Interview delivered to the online blog *The Political Social Worker*. Interview can be found at <http://www.politicalsocialworker.org/dr-thomas-felke/>

UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Florida Gulf Coast University

Omicron Iota – FGCU Phi Alpha Chapter (2017 – Present)

Role: Faculty Advisor

Social Work Student Association [SWSA] Student Organization (2015 – Present)

Role: Faculty Advisor

FGCU Rescue Team Student Organization (2013 – 2016)

Role: Faculty Advisor

Planning and Budget Council [PBC] (2016 – 2017)

Role: Faculty Senate Representative

Senate Planning & Budget Advisory Committee [SPBAC] (2016 – 2017)

Role: Member

University Senate (2014 – 2016)

Role: Senator

University Academic Integrity Committee (2014 – 2016)

Role: Member

University Student Conduct Committee (2014 – 2016)

Role: Member

University Senate Leadership (2015 – 2016)

Role: Secretary

University Budget Council (2014 – 2015)

Role: Member

University Planning and Budget Council (2013 – 2014)

Role: Member

University Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee (2012 – 2013)

Role: Member

University Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee (2012 – 2013)

Role: Member

University TRIO Program: Student Support Services (Fall 2012)

Role: Group Leader

Community Health Aid Development [CHAD] Student Organization (June 2012)

Role: Faculty Advisor

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Food Policy Taskforce of Southwest Florida BlueZones Project (2017 – Present)

Role: Chair

Lee County Continuum of Care – Fort Myers, FL (2016 – 2018)

Role: Steering Committee Member

Jewish Family & Community Services – Naples, FL (2012 – 2016)

Role: Steering Committee Member

Area Agency on Aging – Southwest Florida (2013 – 2016)

Role: Board Member

Harry Chapin Food Bank – Naples, FL (2013 – 2015)

Role: Steering Committee Member

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors of Social Work (2018 – Present)

Role: National Board Member

Florida Association of Deans & Directors of Social Work (2017 – Present)

Role: Treasurer

CSWE Commission on Global Social Work Education (2015 – 2018)

Role: Commissioner

Commission for the Advancement of Macro Social Work Practice (2015 – Present)

Role: Commissioner

National Association of Social Workers – Florida Chapter: Southwest Unit (2015 – Present)

Role: University Representative and Legislative Liaison

International Social Work [Journal] (2014 – Present)

Role: Reviewer

Advances in Social Work [Journal] (2014 – Present)

Role: Reviewer

British Journal of Social Work [Journal] (2018 – Present)

Role: Reviewer

Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting – Technology Track (2011 – Present)

Role: Reviewer

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Association for Community Organization & Social Administration (ACOSA)

Baccalaureate Program Directors Association (BPD)

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)