

Teaching Associate Professor
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work,
University of Southern California
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Education

Ph.D. Social Work, University of Southern California, USA (2002)

- Dissertation: Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse: The Experience and Effects on Non-Offending Mothers

Master of Social Work, Summa Cum Laude, University of Haifa, Israel (1992)

- Thesis: Violence among intimates: Towards a theoretical model of the violent event.

Batchelor of Arts in Social Work- Magna Cum Laude, University of Haifa, Israel (1986)

- Minor in Sociology & Anthropology

Certificates

USC CET Brightspace Institute, Foundations (2024)

USC CET Certificate of Completion, Getting Comfortable with Challenging discussions (2022)

USC CET Certificate of Completion Accelerated online Teaching Intensive (2020)

Mapping and Adjusting Practice Instructor Certificate (2016 - Current)

Family and Marriage Counselor Certificate, Israel (1993- 2017)

Academic Positions

05/2022- Current **Teaching Associate Professor**
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

05/2010- 2022 **Clinical Associate Professor**
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

08/2011- 05/2015 **Clinical Associate Professor, Co-Chair Children & Family Concentration**
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

05/2007- 05/2010 **Clinical Assistant Professor**
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

08/2003- 05/2007 **Part Time Instructor**

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

01/2003- 05/2007 **Part Time Academic Advisor, International and Part-time students**

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

09/1987- 06/1993 **Part Time Instructor**

University of Haifa, School of Social Work, Israel

09/1988- 06/1993 **Part Time Instructor**

Tel-Hai College, School of Social Work, Israel

09/1987- 06/1991 **Part Time Instructor**

Western Galilee College, School of Social Work, Israel

Roles and Responsibilities

Co-Lead AMHW Track (2023 –

- Oversight of Track course content
- Oversight of needed track requirements and policy
- Organize and facilitate track faculty meetings
- Collaborate with other track leads and with the MSW director

Member of the Scholarship Committee SDP School of Social Work (2023-

- Review students' applications for awards and scholarships
- Participate in a review committee

Facilitator of Teaching Faculty Group (January 2023-

- Organize and facilitate monthly discussion meetings
- Collaborate with Administration related to issues raised in group

Mapping and Adapting Practices Coordinator (2021-2023)

- Negotiated and worked to secure yearly contracts with Practice Wise
- Train faculty
- Facilitate curriculum discussion and adjustment in CYF courses
- Provided oversight to ensure Faculty were holding a current MAP license
- Oversight of content and hours covered in the various CYF courses
- Report and maintain relationship with the doner
- Collaborate with Practice Wise on MAP professional presentation
- Provide feedback to Practice Wise on content needed or need to be revised

Course Lead (2008- 2022)

- Courses I served as a lead on primarily Advanced Practice Courses: 601, 602, 545, 629, 610, 621, 623, 666, 682

- Courses I currently lead are primarily electives: 666, 634
- Converted courses to the on-line VAC format 601, 602, 610, 621
- Designed new course syllabi for 621, 629
- Collaborated in designing a new course syllabus 610, 613
- Review and updated courses and then converted courses to online 601, 602, 610, 621
- Facilitated monthly faculty meetings for courses I led
- Oriented and trained new instructors
- Developed and maintained instructors teaching resource files
- Participated in curriculum subcommittees

Co-Chair of International SIG (Special Interest Group) Social work & the Arts (2022 –

- Promote the development of scholarships in SW and the arts among SW faculty
- Act to connect members of the group
- Facilitate meetings and discussions on SW & the Arts related themes

Chair of International Roundtables on Social Work and the Arts (2016-2019)

- Identified social work faculty with scholarship on social work & the arts
- Solicited participation and paper presentations from scholars to the roundtables
- Facilitated three-day roundtable presentations and discussions
- Facilitated a Special Section on Social Work and the Arts in Research on Social Work Practice to feature the roundtable's proceeds
- Developed a book proposal to publish advances made and submitted to Oxford University Publication

Facilitator of the SDP SSW Social Work & the Arts Faculty Interest Group (2019-Current)

- Facilitate monthly group meetings
- Coordinate the development of an Expressive Arts Certificate.
- Organize collaborations between the faculty group and the Social Work and the Arts Students' Caucus

Chair of the SDP SSW Social work & the arts incubator/Faculty interest group (2015-2021)

- Developed a group of interested faculty
- Collaborated with socially engaged art groups in California
- Developed agenda facilitated monthly meetings and took minutes
- Advised two students organizations focused on the arts, and the arts in healing
- Organized a photography exhibition in SWC on Aging in Prison (W/ Dr. Anne Katz)

Co-Chair of Children Youth and Families Concentration (9/2011-5/2015)

- Convened and facilitated concentration faculty meeting
- Developed and facilitated concentration orientation to students
- Conducted yearly evaluations of the orientation and student's study evaluation
- Assigned instructors to courses
- Reviewed and assist in developing new knowledge area
- Developed Concentration faculty training
- Reported to EVD and Chair of the MSW on progress

Courses Taught

Professional Self-Care in Integrative Social Work Practice (2023-2024)
SW Practice with Individuals, MSW (2003- 2015)
SW Practice with families and Groups, MSW (2004-2015)
Human Behavior and the Social Environment (2020-2021)
Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services (2020)
Social Work Research (2003-2004)
Advanced Practice with Children and Adolescents, MSW (2005-2016)
Advanced Practice with Families, MSW (2004- 2016)
Social Work with Children and Families Across Settings, MSW (2016-2021)
Brief Therapy and Crisis Intervention, MSW (2018)
Social Work in Early Care and Education Settings, MSW (2020-2021)
Social Conflicts and Expressive Therapies in Israel Global Immersion, MSW (2009, 2010, 2014)
Integrative Health in China: Body, Mind & Spirit: Global Immersion (2018)
Social Work Practice with Groups and Complex Cases (2004- 2015)
Advanced Theory and Clinical Interventions with Adolescents & Young Adults (2016-2021)
SW with Immigration & Absorption of Immigrants BSW, (1990- 1992)
Group Work in Social Work, BSW (1990-1993)
Domestic Violence and IPV, MSW (2015-2020)
Violence in the Family, BSW (1989-1992)
Child Abuse and Neglect, MSW (2017-2018) MSW
Group Work in Addiction Recovery, BSW, (1992)
Cultural Aspects of Social Work, BSW (1990-1993)

Professional Practice

International Student Advisor, University of Southern California, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work (2003-2007)

Director, Women's League for Israel, The Unit for Research, Prevention, and Intervention with Domestic Violence, Haifa, Israel (1991-1993)

Clinical Research Practitioner, Women's League for Israel, The Unit for Research, Prevention, and Intervention with Domestic Violence, Haifa, Israel (1986-1991)

Clinical Social Worker, Student Counseling Center, University of Haifa, Israel (1987-1991, Part time position)

Clinical Social Worker, The Unit for Youth in Distress, The City of Kiriyat Ata. Child Welfare Municipal Services. (1985-1987)

Scholarship Activity

Co-Principle Investigator: The Empathy Model training for social workers in San Diego County. USC School of Social Work Seed Grant for a pilot study \$5000. with Dr. Jennifer Lewis. June 2015

Co-Principal Investigator: Developing a problem-based learning unit within a conventional pedagogical course, USC grant of 10,000 over two years (2006-2008)

Investigator Effects of child sexual abuse on relationship between mother and child (2004-2006)

Provision and adequacy of mental health services for abused and neglected children (Principal Investigator: Ferol Mennen). (2003-2006)

Doctoral dissertation (1998-2002)

Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse: The Experience and Effects on Non-offending Mothers. Qualitative and quantitative data collection, analysis, and interpretation.

Research Assistant

Career development of MSW within the Department of Child and Family Services (1993-1998).

Research Assistant

Research on therapy modalities for child abuse and family violence. (1988- 1993)

Research Assistant

Variables effecting youth victimization. Adolescent violence, Acculturation of immigrant children in elementary schools in Israel. (1986-1990)

Publications

Sela-Amit, M., & Cohen Konrad S. (2024). *Social Work & The Arts: Expanding Horizons*. Oxford University Publications.

Sela-Amit, M., & Cohen Konrad S. (2024). The hardest stories: working with the arts in social work education. In *Social Work & The Arts: Expanding Horizons*. Oxford University Publications.

Flynn M. & **Sela-Amit M.** (2019). Introduction to Islandwood papers on social work and the arts. *Journal of Research on Social Work Practice*.

Sela-Amit, M. & Huss, E. (2019). Art in social work: Do we really need it? *Journal of Research on Social Work Practice*. (29). 721-726.

- Mennen, F. E., Cederbaum, J. A., Chorpita, B.F., **Sela-Amit, M.**, Becker, K., D. & Lopez, O. (2018). The large-scale implementation of evidence-informed practice into specialized MSW curriculum. *Journal of Social Work Education*. Published first online. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10437797.2018.1434440>
- Zaleski, K.L., Araque, J.C., Finney, K., Harper, B., Lewis, J., **Sela-Amit, M.**, Tamas, C., McCrea-Steele, J., and Castronuovo, J. (2016). Empathy in Social Work Education. *Contemporary Behavioral Health Care*, 2(1): 48-43.
- O’Keefe, M., & **Sela-Amit, M.** (1997). An examination of the effects of race/ethnicity and social class on adolescents’ exposure to violence. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 22, 53-71.
- Sela-Amit, M.**, & Eisikovits, Z. (1994). Group work with battered women. In H. Goldblatt, & Z. Eisikovits (Eds.), *Towards a multidisciplinary intervention model in domestic violence* (pp.79-103). Haifa: Women’s League for Israel. (in Hebrew)
- Eisikovits, Z., Guttman, E., **Sela-Amit, M.**, & Edleson, J. L. (1993). Women battering in Israel: The relative contributions of relationship adjustment, conflict and social support. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 63, 313-317.
- Eisikovits, Z., Edleson, J., Guttman, E. & **Sela-Amit, M.** (1991). Cognitive styles and socialized attitudes of men who batter: Where should we intervene? *Family Relations*, 40, 72-77. Also published in Stith, S. & Straus, M. (Eds.) (1995). *Understanding Partner Violence: Prevalence, Causes, Consequences and Solutions*. (pp.109-116), Minneapolis: National Council on Family Relations.
- Eisikovits, Z., Edleson, J., Guttman, E., & **Sela-Amit, M.** (1991). Cognitive and interpersonal factors in woman abuse. *Journal of family Violence*, 6, 167-180.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2002). Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse: The experience and effects on Non-Offending Mothers. Ann Arbor, MN: UMI Dissertation services.
- Weaver, D., & **Sela-Amit, M.** (1996). Shall I stay or shall I go: The decision to remain at DCFS among graduates of the USC IUC internship program. Program evaluation. The Center on Child Welfare. University of Southern. California School of Social Work.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (1992). “Violence among intimates: Towards a theoretical model of the violent event.” M.A. Thesis submitted to the faculty of the University of Haifa and Published. (Hebrew).

Manuscripts in Progress and in Review

Sela-Amit M. & Lewis J. (2023, in review). Empathy: MSW Students' Perceptions of Challenges and Methods for Empathic Enhancement. *Teaching in Social Work*.

Peer-Reviewed and International Presentations

Sela-Amit, M. (2023). Holding You: Creating Virtual Communities Using Expressive Practices. International Association of Social Work with Groups Symposium. June 9-12

Sela-Amit, M., & Andujo E. (2022). Healing Centered Expressive Practices for Children and Families Impacted by Trauma. American Council for School Social Work Conference. February 1st -3rd.

Sela-Amit, M., & Supranovich R., A., & Boureadu, T. (2021). Advancing Evidence-Based Practices for Racially and Ethnically Diverse Clients. NASW-CA Conference (Virtual). October 15-18.

Sela-Amit, M., & Andujo E. (2020). Expressive Arts in Schools. American Council for School Social Work Conference. Virtual. February 2nd- 4th.

Sela-Amit, M., Nissen Burney, L., Szto, P., Cohen Konrad S. & Huss E. (2019). Arts in Social Work Education. Islandwood Social Work and the Arts Third Roundtable. Bainbridge Island, WA. July 9th – 12th

Bos, E., **Sela-Amit, M.,** Lanza, C., & Sakamoto, I. (2019). Arts in Communities and Social Work. Islandwood Social Work and the Arts Third Roundtable. Bainbridge Island, WA. July 9th – 12th

Sela-Amit, M. (2019). Overcoming Barriers and Enhancing Group Work Education in Social Work. International Association of Social Work with Groups Symposium. New York City. NY. June 5th-10th.

Sela-Amit, M. & Katz, A. (2018). Using Museums to Enhance Inclusion of Disabled and Socially Isolated Clients. Electronic Paper presented at the 64th Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, Florida. November 8th-11th.

Sela-Amit, M. & Katz, A. (2018). Using Mask Making for Self-Exploration and Group Affirmation. Workshop presented at The Arts in Society Conference. Vancouver, Canada. June 27th

Sela-Amit, M. (2018). Social Work as Art: The Art and the use of the self. Islandwood Social Work and the Arts Roundtable. Bainbridge Island, WA. June 19th - 22st.

- Sela-Amit, M.** (2017). Museum Based Group Work in Social Work Education. International Association of Social Work with Groups Symposium. New York City, NY. June 7th-10th.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2017). Art for What? The Rationale for the arts in social work. Islandwood Social Work and the Arts Roundtable. Bainbridge Island, WA. June 18th - 21st.
- Sela-Amit, M.** & Bautista, S. (2016). Museums in Social Work Education: Towards Diversity Engagement. Presented at The Arts in Society Conference at the University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles CA. August 11-16th.
- Sela-Amit, M.,** Lewis, J. & Harper, B. (2015). 11th International Interdisciplinary Conference on Clinical Supervision. Adelphi University. Enhancing Empathy in Clinical Supervision.
- Sela-Amit, M.,** Lewis, J. & Supranovich, R. (2015). Assessing Students' Empathic Challenges in Field Education: From Theory to Practice. Paper presented in the 61st Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Denver. Colorado
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2014, December). Invited presentation at Lexington Commerce University in Shanghai, Department of Social Work. Topic: Working with Hard-to-Reach Families.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2014, December). Invited presentation at the 3rd CSWE-China Conference: What can China Learn from the American Child Welfare System? Wuhu, China.
- Sela-Amit, M.** & Lewis, J. (2014). Compromised Empathy: MSW Students' Perceptions of Challenges and Methods for Empathic Enhancement. Paper presented at the 60th Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Tampa, Florida.
- Sela-Amit M.** (2014, July). Social work beyond talk interventions: Artfluence as strategy and outcome. Paper presented at the 2nd Social Work and the Arts Symposium. Ann Arbor. MI.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2014, May). *Expressive theatre workshops as intervention for at-risk youth: Neuroscience behind the art.* Paper Presented at the International Conference on Science and the Arts, Harvard University, Boston, MA.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2013, December). Invited presentation at the 2nd CSWE-China Conference: Family Interventions for China. Anhui, China.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2013, December). Invited presentation at the 2nd CSWE-China Conference: Child Abuse in the Chinese Society. Anhui, China.
- Sela-Amit, M.** (2012, November). *Expressive practice in social work: From rational to course development and evaluation.* Paper presented at the 58th Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Washington, DC.

Sela-Amit, M. (2011, June). The infusion model: Addressing the lack of sufficient group work education in Social Work. Paper presented at the 33rd International AASWG Conference in Long Beach, CA.

Sela-Amit, M. & P. Harris (2011, March). *Can Knowledge and Skills Acquired in an Internationally Based Course Be Transportable Cross Culturally?* Paper presented at the 4th Conference on International Social Work, Los Angeles, CA.

Sela-Amit, M. (2010, October). *Reviving Group Work Education: Can this mission be accomplished?* Paper presented at the 56th Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Portland, OR.

Sela-Amit, M. (2010, June). Feminist Perspectives and Narrative Couple Therapy. A paper presented as part of an interest group symposium on Can We Destabilize Fixtures of Power in Narrative Work with Couples? The 32nd Annual Meeting of the American Family Therapy Academy. Boulder, CO.

Sela-Amit, M. (2009, November). *Teaching MSW Students Expressive Practice and Multidisciplinary Collaboration for Marginalized Community Empowerment.* Poster presented at the 55th Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Wood, G., **Sela-Amit M.**, & Smith, W (2007 October). *Developing a problem-based learning unit within a conventional pedagogical course.* Paper presented at the 53^{ed} Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, San Francisco. CA.

Sela-Amit M., & O'Keefe, M. (2007, October). *Biases and realities: Teaching intervention with nonoffending mothers of sexually abused children.* Paper presented at the 53^{ed} Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, San Francisco. CA.

Sela-Amit, M. (2006 February). *Opening our hearts and minds: Embracing and growing with international social work students.* Paper presented at the 52nd Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Sela-Amit, M., & O'Keefe, M. (2006 January). *Factors associated with distress in non-offending mothers following their child's sexual abuse disclosure.* Poster presented at the 10th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference. San Antonio, TX.

Sela-Amit, M., & O'Keefe, M. (2004 January). *Twice the trauma- Twice the impact? The experience and effects of intrafamilial child sexual abuse on non-offending mothers who were sexually abused in childhood and those who were not.* Poster presented at the 8th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference. New Orleans. LA.

Weaver D., & Sela-Amit, M. (1997 September) *Promoting MSW's adaptation and longevity in child welfare services*. Paper presented at the National Staff Development and Training Association. Washington, DC.

Sela-Amit, M., (1996 April). *Group work with battered women: Can victims help each other?* Paper presented at the Israeli National Conference for Social Workers, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

Invited Presentations & Workshops

March 7th, 2024 Invited Key Note Lecture on Arts& Social Work, University of New England, Portland, Maine.

Winter, 2022 Invited Presentation

Three reasons why social work in behavioral health must embrace the arts. Abarbanel Hospital Social Workers Luncheon, Israel

Spring, 2018 Invited Presentation

Enhancing inter-generational connections using visits to museums. The Shanghai Elderly Health Association. Shanghai, China. (March 2018)

Winter, 2018 Invited Workshop

Neuroscience and the at-risk adolescent brain: Impacting positive youth development through the arts and mentorship. Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network, Los Angeles, CA. (January, 2018)

Fall, 2018 Guest Presentation

Group work with adolescents: Challenges and techniques. The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, SW Teaching Institute. Los Angeles, CA. (November 29th, 2018)

Spring, 2017 Guest Presentation

Why are group work skills needed more than ever before? The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles SW Teaching Institute. Los Angeles, CA. (March 19th)

Summer, 2014 Invited Presentation

Using a summer immersion course to teach community-based theatre for social work students. Second Symposium on Social Work and the Arts. Ann Arbor, Michigan. (July 7th)

Summer, 2014 Invited Presentation

Common Grounds: How Community-Based Theatre and Social Work can collaborate to empower communities. West Galilee Regional College, Israel

Spring, 2014 Guest Speaker

How Theatre Assists Incarcerated Youth. Bird Marella Law Firm luncheon, Los Angeles, CA (May 9th)

2014, Winter Guest Presentation

Understanding the Adolescent Brain, The Unusual Suspects Board Retreat, LAX Hotel, Los Angeles, CA (February 8th)

2012, Fall Invited Presentation

El Centro del Pueblo - Learning from the Israeli Experience about Community Model of Trauma response- Staff Training (November 5th)

2012, Winter Invited Presentation

Peace Over Violence: Annual Conference. Los Angeles, Using Theatre to Empower and Heal Youth. Los Angeles. CA (February 17th)

2012, Spring Guest Presentation

Culver City Youth Health Center, Culver City, Cultural competence skills for youth counselors (March 11)

2011, Summer Guest Presentation

The Unusual Suspect Theater Company, Los Angeles. The impact of Trauma and PTSD on youth expressive work (July 25th)

2011, Spring Guest Presentation

Culver City Youth Health Center, Culver City Cultural competence skills for youth counselors, (April 14th)

2010, Spring Guest Presentation

Culver City Youth Health Center, Culver City, Developing cultural competence in counseling youth (March 10th)

2010, Winter Guest Lecture

Jewish Family Service, Los Angeles Strategies for developing and implementing successful group work in agencies. (January 20th)

2009, Fall Guest Lecture

Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am, Los Angeles, Parenting and educating Israeli children in LA: challenges and opportunities for parents and educators. (September 21st)

2009, Winter Guest Presentation

The Jewish Federation Health and Human Service committee. Expressive arts for community empowerment: What USC MSW students learned in Tel-Aviv and how it may impact communities work in LA. (February 10th)

2008, Fall Guest Lecture

The Unusual Suspect Theater Company, Los Angeles. The impact of expressive therapies on disadvantaged and challenged youth. (October 22nd)

2008, Spring Brown Bag Presentation

University of Southern California, School of Social Work. Child sexual abuse and the effect on non-offending parents. (March 13th)

2007, Spring Guest Lecturer

University of Southern California, School of Social Work. Immigrant women: vulnerabilities and resiliency. Special presentation on immigration. Moderator: Richards, Valerie (April 17th)

2007, Spring Guest Lecturer

University of Southern California, School of Social Work. Mental health issues of battered women. For Dr. Dunn Shannon class Mental Health of Adults and Older Adults

Funded Projects

2019 – USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Fund to finance an Islandwood Roundtable on Social Work and the Arts: \$50,000.

2019 – USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Seed Grant for the Social Work and the Arts Incubator, \$10,000.

- 2018 – USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Fund to finance an Islandwood Roundtable on Social Work and the Arts: \$50,000.
- 2018 – USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Seed Grant for the Social Work and the Arts Incubator, \$10,000.
- 2017 – USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Fund to finance an Islandwood Roundtable on Social Work and the Arts: \$35,000.
- 2017 – USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Seed Grant for the Social Work and the Arts Incubator, \$10,000
- 2016 - USC School of Social Work Seed Grant for the Social Work and the Arts Incubator, \$10,000
- 2015 - USC School of Social Work Seed Grant for the Social Work and the Arts Incubator, \$5,000
- 2011- Jewish Federation Health and Human Services: Funding to establish training for a group of USC School of Social Work students on disaster preparation and crisis intervention in marginalized communities in Israel. Total award was: \$2,500.
- 2009- Jewish Federation Tel Aviv Los Angeles Partnership: Further Developing and implementing the course on social conflict and Expressive Practices in Israel for the second time. Total: \$8,000.
- 2008 – Jewish Federation Tel Aviv Los Angeles Partnership: Developing and implementing a course on Social Conflict and Expressive Practices in Israel. Total: \$15,000.

Media Coverage

- 2014 Summer – Featured in an article: USC Pacific Asia Museum further utilizing the union working with school of Social work Pasadena Star News (July 2014)
- 2013 Fall – Featured in Zev Yaroslavsky Weekly Web Flash: Playing though the Pain (November 2013)
- 2012 Summer – An editorial: Building the Brain through improvisation: Neurobiology and the Unusual Suspects. In Unusual Times Newsletter (September 2012).

2012 Summer – quoted in the Riverside Press-Enterprise on the limits of legal mandated reporting laws of child abuse in relation to a child being abused in a local church (August 3ed, 2012, by Leslie Parilla).

2012 Fall – provided a filmed interview for an upcoming documentary, director Susan Kucera, on the therapeutic uses of improvisation and performing arts.

Awards

Distinguished Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service (May 2019)

Awarded by the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Hutto Patterson Foundation

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work and Keck School of Medicine ArtRx Student Organization Award for Excellence in Mentoring (June 2018)

Outstanding Presentation Award the International Conference of Arts and Sciences, May 2014

Certificates of Excellences for Integration of LGBT Issues into classroom instruction, University of Southern California School of SW 2008, 2009, 2015

Annual Scholarship Award, Center on Child Welfare, USC (1994-1999).

Dean's Award for Excellence and Academic Achievements, University of Haifa (1990).

Dean's Award for Excellence and Academic Achievements, University of Haifa (1986).

Professional Memberships & Certificates

Family and Marriage Counselor Certificate, Israel (1993).

Current- Research in the USC Center for Music, Brain and Society

Current - National Association of Social Workers

Current- Council on Social Work Education

Current- International Association for Social Work with Groups

Current- B'Yachad National organization of Israeli therapists in the USA

Service on Committees and Boards

2017-2019, Chair Social Work and the Arts International Roundtables, USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

2014- Current, Social work and the Arts, Chair, USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

2012- 2016 The Unusual Suspect Board of Directors, Member since January 2012, Executive team member since May 2012

2014 -Current, Miracle Mile Board of Directors, Member since January 2011

Current- USC School of Social Work, Children, Youth and Families Departmental Curriculum Committee, member since 2016,

2009- 2016 Children Youth and Families Concentration Co-Chair (2009 – 2016)

Current- USC School of Social Work Global Certificate Committee, since 2009-10 academic year, Chair

Current- USC School of Social Work Violence Certificate Committee, member since 2008-9

Current- USC School of Social Work Telehealth Committee, since 2012

USC School of Social Work Admission Committee, from 2003 reviewing International Students applications to 2009-10.

Current USC School of Social Work, Foundation Practice Sequence Committee, member from 2004-December 2010

Current- USC School of Social Work, Children & Family Concentration Committee, member since 2007

Current- USC School of Social Work, Advanced Theory and Practice with Children and Adolescents, SOWK601, Lead instructor since 2008

Current- USC School of Social Work, Advanced Theory and Practice with Families, SOWK602, in the Family and Children concentration - Lead Instructor since 2008

USC School of Social Work Faculty Council 2012- 2014.

USC School of Social Work Diversity Committee, from 2008- 2010

International Social Work Caucus, Faculty Advisor, 2004- 2010

International Social Work Caucus, Faculty Co-Advisor 2010- current

Current- Los Angeles-Tel-Aviv Partnership, Theater & Therapy Project

Committee, from Fall 2005- 2011

Los Angeles-Tel-Aviv Partnership, Health and Human Services Committee, member from
November 2007- 2010

USC School of Social Work Administrative Team, 2004- 2007

Languages

Fluent in Hebrew and English, Understand basic Arabic and Yiddish