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Grinstein-Weiss

The **Society for Social work and Research** (SSWR) has selected Assistant Professor **Michal Grinstein Weiss, Ph.D.** as the winner of the 2011 Deborah K. Padgett Early Career Achievement Award.

This award recognizes individuals who in their early careers have done innovative work and are making a notable influence in their field and in the profession. Their accomplishments reflect innovative scholarship, a rigorous approach to social work research, scholarship which is attracting the interest of other scholars, work that exhibits an emerging influence in the field and noteworthy contributions to advance the profession.

Grinstein Weiss was nominated by UNC School of Social Work's **Paja Charles** (Ph.D. '09), **Mark Fraser** and **Dean Jack Richman**; Michael Sherraden of Washington University in St. Louis; and William Gale of the Brookings Institute.

Her research interests focus on public policies related to issues of economic inequality and social development. Specifically, she is interested in policies and programs that promote the well-being of low-income families and their communities.

"We are exceedingly proud of Michal and her achievements," said Richman. "Many of us will be in Tampa [at SSWR's annual conference] on Friday, January 14th to applaud her as she is so honored."

"This is wonderful recognition for Michal and her accomplishments and it also speaks volumes about our School, collegiality, the mentoring that our faculty provide, and the supportive environment that helps support faculty like Michal, as they conduct their important work," he added.

Grinstein-Weiss is the second UNC School of Social Work faculty member in two years to be awarded this distinction by SSWR.