

—those public-spirited citizens who have, over the past ten years, given to us generously of their time and advice.

Hunter College pledges to all these good friends continued care for the maintenance of high professional standards, intensive concern with the welfare of the community, and complete devotion to the highest tenets of research scholarship.

I know this distinguished audience will join with me in expressing the hope that the unselfish example here provided will become a model for future collaboration among private and public agencies in the numerous areas where such joint efforts can supply so much that our society needs today.

Professor Schreiber,

Director, School of Social Work:

It is not often that social work, and social work education in particular, are the recipients of a gift as magnificent and at the same time as imaginative and challenging as the one Mr. Samuel J. Silberman has presented to the City University of New York.

What he has made possible represents more than brick and mortar, more even than space for a threefold increase in the number of students, important as this is in view of the desperate manpower shortage and the need for an ever-increasing number of qualified social workers. What we *do* in this new building; how we educate and for what goal; how we implement his ideas for social work education under public auspices constitute the real challenge and will, in the final analysis, determine whether we can measure up in full to the tasks and demands of the second half of the twentieth century. The potential is as demanding as it is exciting. Social work education is offered the recognition implicit in a beautiful physical plant. Social work's importance in the life of families and individuals in all walks of life is expressed in the emphasis on adequate and comfortable facilities for study and research which characterizes the architectural plans.

But the new school building with all its wonderful provisions will only fulfill its promise when it houses a curriculum that truly reflects the compassion and the hope, the dedication to the pursuit of happiness, which have been social work's precious heritage—to bring into the field graduates with an "informed heart," who can meet successfully the widening range of social work responsibilities.

The new scholarship resources will make social work



Professor Paul Schreiber

a more attainable career goal for many who, heretofore, could not consider an education which required two years of full-time attendance. New groups will be reached, and it will be our responsibility to help those whose educational background may have been inequitable and therefore inadequate, to compensate for the gaps and raise their standards so that they can meet our entrance requirements.

While we at The Hunter College School of Social Work share the responsibility for constant improvements in standards of service and personnel with our five sister institutions in the metropolitan area, we have a special, though not exclusive, concern for the public services which increasingly require more and better prepared staff workers. We must find ways, both through appropriate education and through closer cooperation with administration, to make better use of social work skills in the vast network of public agencies which comprise our City government.

With the help provided by the Silberman Foundation, by the State and City University, and by other public and private funds, we must strike out boldly in the development of a curriculum that will produce social workers able to meet the new multiple demands for social services. Unfettered by outworn, narrow boundaries, we must be willing to risk new approaches in action and in research, though they may be at times unpopular and controversial. Building on the valid gains of sixty years of experience in social work education, we shall imaginatively and flexibly move ahead to meet the demands not only of today, but of tomorrow.