

# Call for Proposals — NCFR 74th Annual Conference

## Theme: *Families and Health*



Wednesday, October 31 - Saturday, November 3, 2012

Pre-Conference Workshops, Tuesday, October 30

Hyatt Regency Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ

Come to sunny Phoenix for entertainment, climate, shopping, and sightseeing.

**Program Chair: Leigh Leslie, Ph.D., University of Maryland**

**Submission Deadline: 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time, March 1, 2012**

The World Health Organization defines health as “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being.” As a discipline we have long been focused on the mental and social foundations of health. The theme of the 2012 conference encourages us to also explore the multitude of ways in which the physical aspects of health are relevant to our understanding of well-being for children, families, and communities. At the substantive level the conference will address critical questions such as what is “family health” and how do we promote it through our research, interventions, and policy? At the discipline level we will engage the question of how do we, as family scientists, interface with health disciplines.

## Confirmed Major Speakers



**Brian Smedley, Ph.D.**, Vice President and Director of the Health Policy Institute of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. The Institute’s mission is to generate policy recommendations on longstanding health equity concerns. Formerly, Dr. Smedley was co-founder of The Opportunity Agenda, an organization dedicated to ensuring equity in health care reform. He previously served as Senior Program Officer in the Division of Health Sciences Policy of the Institute of Medicine, where he was Study Director for the IOM reports, *In the Nation’s Compelling Interest: Ensuring Diversity in the Health Care Workforce* and *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*. In 2004 Dr. Smedley was honored by the Rainbow/PUSH coalition as a “Health Trailblazer”; in 2002 he was awarded the Congressional Black Caucus “Healthcare Hero” award and the Early Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest by the APA.



**Barbara Fiese, Ph.D.**, Professor of Human Development and Family Studies at University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign and Director of the Family Resiliency Center. Her research focuses on family level factors that pro-

mote health and well-being in children. Under her leadership the Family Resiliency Center is engaged in numerous initiatives related to families, food, and child health, including *Strong Kids*, “a cross-disciplinary project to examine how genetic, family, community, child care provider, cultural, and media factors contribute to the development of childhood obesity, health behaviors, and health beliefs” and *Shared Family Meals*, a project designed to understand the economic, cultural, environmental and family level factors that can lead to increasing the frequency and quality of family mealtimes.” Her recent work includes *Family Routines and Rituals*, a book published by Yale University Press, and a *Social Policy Report Brief, The Family Diner Table: Implications for Children’s Health and Wellbeing*.



**Jackie Campbell, Ph.D.**, Anna D. Wolf Chair and Professor in the Johns Hopkins Univ. School of Nursing. She has conducted research in the areas of family violence and health disparities related to trauma since 1980. She has received 10 major NIH, National Institute of Justice or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention research grants and published more than 150 articles and seven books on violence against women. She is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine and the American Academy of

Nursing and was a member of the congressionally appointed U.S. Department of Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence. She has served on many boards of directors including the House of Ruth Battered Women’s Shelter. Awards include the 2005 American Society of Criminology Vollmer Award and the 2006 Pathfinder Award from the National Institute of Nursing Research.



**Sara Honn Qualls**, Kraemer Family Professor of Psychology and Director of the Gerontology Center at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. She is a practicing clinical psychologist who helped establish the CU Aging Center in Colorado Springs which provides mental health services for older adults. She has published six books on mental health and aging, including *Aging Families and Caregiving*. Her research focuses on family development and clinical interventions for later life families, innovative approaches to senior housing, and applied technology interventions to improve well-being of older adults. She is a fellow of both The Gerontological Society and The American Psychological Association and recipient of the ARC Professional Contribution Award

More special speakers will be announced soon!

## Conference Objectives

The conference committee seeks proposals that catalyze research, theory, practice, and policy for the purpose of enhancing the health and wellbeing of families throughout the life cycle. Our overall objectives:

- To showcase research which takes a holistic approach to family well-being, recognizing the importance of physical, emotional, and social foundations of health.
- To highlight evidence based best practices in the promotion of individual, family, and community health which recognize the interdependency of these three areas.
- To provide family life educators and

practitioners with innovative tools to enhance the health of children, couples, families, and communities.

- To examine the role of policy in promoting healthy families locally, nationally and internationally.
- To demonstrate the ways in which our social context of community, geography, culture, race, gender, and economics impacts our physical, relational, and family health.
- To engage the question of how do we, as family scientists, interface with other health disciplines.

The conference will also provide:

- Formal and informal opportunities to

network with colleagues engaged in family research, practice, and education from around the world.

- Opportunities for NCFR members to monitor and participate in the governance of the organization, ensuring that through its activities, NCFR continues to reflect its collective commitment to families and their well-being.
- Opportunities for rejuvenation and transformation through continuing education. [NCFR is approved to provide CE hours from National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), National Association of Social Workers (NASW), and NCFR - CFLE].

## Criteria for Proposals

- The proposal describes scholarly work that meets BOTH of the following criteria:
  - (1) Progress on the work is sufficiently advanced that a polished presentation can be prepared in time for the conference; AND
  - (2) Regardless of focus (i.e. research, prac-

tice), the methodological approach used is appropriate and rigorous.

- Proposals can be based on qualitative, quantitative, or mixed method research, or can focus on literature reviews, analyses of methodologies or intervention and teaching techniques. Regardless of focus, proposals should explicitly articulate a strong

connection to existing research and theory, and make clear how the project generates new knowledge and/or innovative practices.

- The proposal is clearly written and logically organized, with complete references provided.

## Submission Questions

### May I submit a previously published/presented paper?

No. Papers that have been published or previously presented are not accepted.

### How many proposals can I submit?

Only ONE conference proposal may be submitted as a first author. Other proposals can be submitted to the same or another Section if you are a secondary author.

### When will I know if my proposal has been accepted?

You will be notified by **June 1, 2012** of the status of your proposal.

### If my proposal is accepted, what is expected of me?

- Upload copies of a handout/summary of your work that attendees can download; for example, a synopsis of the research paper or copies of the PowerPoint slides

you will be using.

- If your presentation is a paper or symposium you must send a copy of your final presentation to the session facilitator/discussant by **October 15, 2012**.
- **Register for the conference and pay the registration fee postmarked by July 31, 2012.** At least one author of accepted papers is committed to attend the conference. Instructions are online.

## Program Committee

Program Chair .....**Leigh Leslie**, University of Maryland  
Program Chair-elect ..... **Judith Fischer**, Texas Tech University  
Affiliated Councils Program Chair .....  
.....**Deb Cashen**, Parenting Partnerships Inc.  
TCRM Workshop Chair ..... **Jay Fagan**, Temple Univ.  
Section Chairs, Students/New Professionals Program Rep (see names in Sections calls)

Ex Officio:

NCFR President..... **Elaine Anderson**, University of Maryland  
NCFR President-elect ..... **Paul Amato**, Penn State University  
NCFR Executive Director..... **Diane Cushman**  
Program Consultants..... **Cindy Winter; Nancy Gonzalez**  
Membership/Marketing Director..... **Charles Cheesebrough**  
Conference/Meeting Planner.....**Judy Schutz**

# Checklist for Submitting a Proposal

- ❑ Proposal title (Fewer than 75 CHARACTERS including spaces and punctuation)
- ❑ A primary subject keyword selected. (See list on page 8 of this document.)
- ❑ Name your first and second choice of preferred formats (paper, poster, roundtable, symposium, workshop, poster symposium).
- ❑ Proposal Focus - Be sure to indicate the focus of your proposal. Is it: a quantitative research study; a qualitative research study; a mixed methods research study; is it a literature review; demography/trend analysis; a state of the science; an intervention, teaching technique, research or practice methodology?
- ❑ Determine where you will submit your proposal: One of the 10 Sections, Affiliate Councils, or Students/New Professionals.
- ❑ **Prepare a short abstract.** This is a 100 word synopsis of your proposal, which

will be keyed into the database. **Do not list the names of the authors on this abstract.** The computer program tracks author identity.

- ❑ **Prepare a proposal in a Word document.** This is the document that is used for the review process. The proposal should be a **maximum of 1,000 words plus a maximum of 2 pages of figures/tables and 1 page of references.** **Do not list the names of the authors.** The computer program tracks author identity and forwards your proposal anonymously in a blind-review process.

**Your proposal must include the following elements:**

- Aims/Goals
- Methods
- Analysis and Preliminary Results
- Implications

**Special instructions for a Proposal for a Symposium or Workshop only:** Include the following on the first page of your proposal: (1) symposium title and a list of individual papers and authors. (For these formats you must include the names of authors and co-authors and respective employers.) The chair then prepares 1 page that gives an overview of the symposium and summarizes how the papers fit together. Then prepare 500 words maximum and 1 page of tables/references for **each** paper to be presented in the symposium or workshop. Place all of these together into one document that will be loaded online. Contact the Chair of the Section to whom you will submit your proposal if you have questions. For questions about the computer submission process, contact **Cindy Winter** ([cindywinter@ncfr.org](mailto:cindywinter@ncfr.org)). **Note: You do not need to list the names of papers and authors in your short abstract.**

## Section Plans



### Affiliate Councils (AC) Deb Cashen, Program Chair

The Affiliate Councils link researchers, scholars and practitioners to the concerns of regions, states, or communities. Individual and affiliate group proposals are welcome. Research proposals on family impacts might include proposals which:

- Describe effective local services, interventions, practices that strengthen families of all forms.
- Report on local or state level research that explores new family life education or clinical practice questions.
- Describe or evaluate programs related to emerging cultural and societal issues as they impact family functions.
- Assess state policy family life education initiatives that strengthen diverse families in a changing society.
- Offer program development guidelines to strengthen children, youth and families in the context of shifting populations.
- Present controversial local, regional, and state issues related to families, including unanswered perspectives.
- Suggest ways state, regional, and student affiliate groups can serve as forums for

discourse and policy on families.

Strong college and university, state and regional affiliates are necessary for the long-term viability of NCFR. Submitting to the AC highlights the important affiliate level research and practice.

**Contact: Deb Cashen**, Parenting Partnerships, Inc., 2510 Wills Way Dr., Granbury, TX 76049-8063. Phone: 817-573-7969; fax: 832-217-3123; **email: [debcashen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debcashen@sbcglobal.net)**



### Education & Enrichment Section (EE) Susan Walker, Chair Jacqueline Kirby Wilkins, Chair-elect

The EE Section welcomes proposals that focus on programs, resources and discoveries that increase practitioners' effectiveness in providing education and enrichment for individuals, couples, parents and families. The 2012 theme offers an opportunity to submit proposals that speak to the role of family life education (i.e., programming, evaluation, research) in the support of families dealing with a variety of health issues and concerns, the prevention of disease and

health maintenance, as well as the interface with partners in various health disciplines. Proposals related to a broad variety of topics covered within family life education and enrichment arena are also welcomed. This may include program evaluations, research foundations to family life education, and innovative ideas for outreach and educational intervention.

In addition to regular conference formats of papers, posters, workshops and research paper symposia, EE Section formats include Teaching Roundtables and Resource Exchanges. A **Teaching Roundtable** focuses on specific curricula or teaching techniques, with an overview given by the leader, who then facilitates active discussion by participants. **Resource Exchanges** are poster sessions that highlight resources that have been particularly useful in education and enrichment. In these formats as in all others that feature programs and interventions, evidence of effectiveness such as evaluation data should be provided in the proposal. Proposals with students as sole or primary author are encouraged. Outstanding student proposals are recognized with a cash award and registration waiver offered annually by our Section.

**Contact the Section Chair-elect: Jacqueline Kirby Wilkins**, Ashland University, 401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805. Phone: 330-350-0512; **email: [jwilkin2@ashland.edu](mailto:jwilkin2@ashland.edu)**



### **Ethnic Minorities Section (EM) Yvette Perry, Chair**

The EM Section is committed to recognizing the importance of diversity within contemporary ethnic family experiences. The integration of theory, research, and applied work with all ethnic minority families is emphasized. The 2012 theme presents an opportunity for participants to engage the major thrust of the EM Section. We welcome research and applied works that will help family scientists and practitioners to understand the challenges of families in the present multicultural milieu and how these varied groups can make strides toward health and wellbeing. We are particularly interested in investigating how families negotiate the intersections of race and ethnicity, class, culture, religion, education, and sexual orientation in our pluralistic world. We encourage submissions that run the whole spectrum from infancy to the aged populations. In addition to proposals directly connected to the conference theme, we welcome other submissions that will enhance our knowledge of diverse families in general. We are extremely interested in providing an intellectual environment for theorizing how social class, geography, language, disabilities, class, gender, ethnicity, race, religion, and educational levels impact families and how family scientists may help families cope with these realities, as well as uncover the human capacities of these families that may benefit families from other cultural experiences.

**Contact: Yvette Perry**, 10565 Tremont Circle, Fishers, IN 46037-9500. Phone: 317-376-5087; **email: [Yvette.Perry@utoledo.edu](mailto:Yvette.Perry@utoledo.edu)**



### **Family and Health Section (FH) Jan McCulloch, Chair**

The mission of the FH Section is to promote the health of all families and their members through interdisciplinary activities that facilitate excellence in family health practice, research, education, and policy development. What a great year for us – 2012 Conference theme focuses on Families

and Health!

Even though our members come from diverse backgrounds, we stand together in our commitment to improve the health of individuals, families, and communities. We view health holistically and on a continuum that encompasses a variety of wellness and disease states. We also believe health promotion and prevention activities are important, as are projects that address the myriad of situations affecting families and their wellbeing. We encourage submission of proposals related to the conference theme or any aspect of family health.

The Section is also interested in proposal submissions that present information on interventions and outcomes-based research, practical solutions to family health issues, integrated reviews of topics related to family health, or the effect of violence, substance abuse, risk behaviors, etc. on families.

Established scholars, students and new professionals are encouraged to submit proposals to us. Each year, the FH Section acknowledges two outstanding papers from the new professional/student category and the professional category that are accepted for presentation with monetary awards. Applications for these awards must be sent by email before **September 30, 2012** to the Section Chair-Elect.

**Contact: Jan McCulloch**, 290 D McNeal Hall, Univ. of Minnesota, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108. Phone: 612-624-1208; **email: [jmccullo@umn.edu](mailto:jmccullo@umn.edu)**



### **Family Policy Section (FP) Tammy L. Henderson, Chair**

The primary mission of the FP Section is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on scholarship, practice and policy that concerns the well-being of individuals and families across the life span. The FP Section encourages submission of proposals that specifically address the theme - submissions that will enhance our understanding of policies that influence overall health and wellbeing. Such submissions may address research and practice associated with new and innovative **family policies** that are influencing the overall well-being (i.e., physical, mental, economic, social, and cultural) of families and communities, including families who exist in a **national and global context**.

Topics such as evaluations of specific child and family policies, health policies and families, health disparities, global health, mental and physical health, work-life policies, and family resource management (i.e., caregiving, hospices, access to health care and other services, financial management, quality child care, assisted living and more) are most welcome. In addition topics pertaining to the interactions between families and social systems, including military families, social services, health care and educational systems, criminal justice systems, and the workplace.

Other submissions may focus on innovations in bridging the gap between scholars/practitioners and policy makers; or innovations associated with helping families speak to the policy making world. We are also looking for proposals on **teaching excellence, advocacy, and educating the larger public on family policy concerns** (such as family impact seminars, town meetings, and educating of policymakers at all levels of government).

Scholars and practitioners at every career stage are welcome to submit proposals describing their work. Individuals from **all nations and diverse academic disciplines** are encouraged to submit as are students and new professionals. Remember to add your **policy implications** in proposals submitted to this Section. Let us know if you want support in drafting your policy, program, and practical implications. Look at the guidelines for the variety of presentation formats and adhere to conference objectives.

**Contact: Tammy L. Henderson**, Oklahoma State University, Human Development and Family Sciences, 233 Human Sciences, Stillwater, OK 74078-6122. Office: 405-744-8350. Fax: 405-744-2800. **Email: [tammy.henderson@okstate.edu](mailto:tammy.henderson@okstate.edu)**



### **Family Science Section (FS) Tammy Harpel, Chair**

The FS Section seeks to expand, strengthen, and enhance family science as a scholarship discipline. In particular, the Section focuses on issues confronted by practitioners, educators, researchers, and administrators engaged in the practice and delivery of family science as a profession.

The Section welcomes proposals which address issues related to pedagogical (teaching) strategies and techniques at the university/

college level, administration of family science academic programs, marketing and recruiting for family science academic programs, delivery and evaluation of family science curriculums, issues confronted by educators and administrators of family science programs, the state of family science as a discipline, and ethics.

In addition, we are also interested in proposals which address the 2012 theme. Examples of topics related to the conference theme include:

- The “health” of the family science discipline and/or family science academic programs
- The merger of family science programs with health-related programs in higher education – What are the issues, opportunities, and/or challenges associated with such mergers?
- The influence of faculty and student health issues on administration, teaching, and program delivery
- The inclusion of health content in family science programs/courses – What courses and content are being taught? What methods are used to teach the content? Etc.

Proposals which focus on theory development, research methodology, and specific issues confronted by families do not fall within the focus of the FS Section and would more appropriately fit another Section.

We encourage the submission of proposals from all professionals, educators, and students. Students who serve as first authors of accepted proposals are eligible for the Wesley Burr Student Paper Award which includes a cash award.

**Contact: Tammy Harpel**, Louisiana Tech Univ., School of Human Ecology, P.O. Box 3167, Ruston, LA 71272-0045. Phone: 318-257-2890; **email: [harpelt@latech.edu](mailto:harpelt@latech.edu)**



### Family Therapy Section (FT) Thomas Blume, Chair

Family therapists hear stories of physical health issues throughout the lifespan, and our work with discourses, decisions, and behavior patterns always has health implications. Family therapists have been embedded in health settings and have worked closely with medical professionals (e.g. fam-

ily systems medicine) for many years. We expect, then, that the health theme of the 2012 conference will attract scholarship covering a broad range of cutting-edge relationally oriented preventive and clinical intervention concerns. We seek papers, posters, roundtable, workshop, and symposium proposals focused on developing and testing clinical theories; creating and evaluating clinical and psychoeducational interventions with couples and families; and improving the training and supervision of couple and family therapists.

In addition to the conference theme, we also invite submissions on a wide variety of other topics important to our field: research and theory presentations often focus on questions such as experiences of identity, intimacy, and isolation, shared meanings, emotion management, and relationship distress in complex linkages of couple, parent-child, and sibling relationships.

Established scholars, practitioners, and trainers as well as students and new professionals are encouraged to submit proposals. Student and New Professional submissions (must be first author) are eligible for awards (separate judging for posters and papers) (see descriptions on website).

In addition to the general NCFR review criteria for proposals, the FT Section expects that proposals will include practical implications for clinicians, clients, trainers, supervisors and the profession of couple and family therapy. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or suggestions for our Section or your submission.

**Contact: Thomas W. Blume**, Dept. of Counseling SEHS, Oakland Univ., Rochester, MI 48309. Phone: 248-370-3069; **email: [blume@oakland.edu](mailto:blume@oakland.edu)**



### Feminism and Family Studies Section (FF) Elizabeth Sharp, Chair

The FF Section foregrounds feminist perspectives in research and applied work with families, broadly defined. Sex/gender is a primary focus as well as how sex/gender intersects with other social locations, such as those shaped by geography, race/ethnicity, income, sexual orientation, and age. Feminist perspectives on family studies critically frame issues related to relationships and families, recognizing the broader social con-

texts in which individuals, relationships, and families are shaped.

The 2012 conference theme on the intersection of Families and Health is especially relevant to FF members. In fact, according to the World Health Organization, sex/gender is a central factor in the health of individuals. Members are invited to submit work which examines the intersection of sex/gender and physical health (violence, reproductive issues, community wellness, diseases, illnesses, injuries, etc.) in the context of relationships and families. Attention to gendered operationalization/defining of “family health” as well as transdisciplinary-informed proposals are also encouraged.

We welcome a wide variety of proposals advancing feminist practices in research, application, and teaching. Praxis-- a hallmark of feminist work-- emphasizes a commitment to apply research, through education, clinical work, policy, and other outreach modes. We invite explorations of cutting-edge feminist interventions/programs and techniques that provide opportunities for exploring and understanding relationships, families, and health. We are also interested in presentations exploring how such interventions and techniques are translated into curriculums and policy.

In addition to the general NCFR review criteria, proposals submitted to the FF section should include feminist frameworks and methods. In reviewing proposals, we ask:

- Are traditional biases in ways of conceptualizing the study of families challenged? Are biases embedded in traditional theory and research challenged?
- Are the contributions of women (e.g., their ideas, existing work, and participation as participants) valued? Does the proposal advance research/programs for women (not solely limited to research/programs on or serving women)?
- Is the personal recognized to be political?
- Is the topic relevant but not widely considered in the family studies field?
- Are broader social systems identified as influencing the reality of people’s lives?

We especially invite the work of students and new professionals. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the section or your submission.

**Contact: Elizabeth Sharp**, Dept of Human Development & Family Studies, Texas Tech

Univ., Box 41230., Lubbock, TX, 79409.  
Phone: 806-742-3000 x288; fax 806-742-0285; email: [elizabeth.sharp@ttu.edu](mailto:elizabeth.sharp@ttu.edu)



### International Section (IN) Michael N. Mbito, Chair

The IN Section brings a global lens to the understanding of family. We promote cross-cultural scholarship and facilitate communication and research collaboration among family scholars throughout the world. The 2012 conference theme offers an excellent opportunity for family scholars who conduct cross-cultural research, teach courses on global and diverse family systems, and partner in communities to serve immigrant and refugee families to show how health provision structures affects the quality of families. We encourage proposals that focus on the unique contributions of culture to family processes.

- What cultural lenses are critical to the study of couple relationships, parenting, work, financial management, and aging?
- Do family theory lenses adequately embrace global health?
- What methodological issues surround the measurement of health provisions to families in research design?
- How do we develop the cultural lenses of graduate and undergraduate students?
- How have specific courses and learning abroad experiences developed students' global lenses?
- How has work with immigrant and refugee families shaped our notions of family?

While the Section is particularly interested in focusing on sessions that bring cross-cultural issues to the conference program, we also welcome proposals that generally relate to an international perspective in family scholarship.

**Contact: Michael N. Mbito**, Department of Human Development and Family Science, Messiah College, PO Box 3047, 1 College Ave., Grantham, PA 17027. Phone: 717-796-1800, Ext. 7205; email: [mmbito@messiah.edu](mailto:mmbito@messiah.edu)



### Religion and Family Life (RF) Joanne Roberts, Chair

The RF Section seeks to explore the connections between religion and the family and solicits diverse proposals for papers, posters,

roundtables, or symposia that examine how religion is related to individual and family well-being. The conference theme certainly is relevant for religion and family scholars, and we also welcome all submissions addressing any of the broad topics associated with religion and the family.

Research on how religion affects individuals and families has been increasing in recent years, but the links between religion and family relationships remain vastly under-investigated. Thus we encourage a wide range of innovative proposals that provide empirical data describing religion-family associations in diverse family structures, from varied religious traditions, at multiple points through the lifespan, among different levels of family systems, and with different methodological strategies or theoretical perspectives.

We also welcome conceptual and theoretical papers that offer explanations of how religion influences relationship formation, stability, and functioning, for better or worse. In addition, we will accept practice-oriented presentations that address relevant policy issues or that help educators and therapists utilize integrative interventions that are both efficacious and ethical.

Students, new professionals, and established scholars are encouraged to submit proposals. Cash awards are presented for the Outstanding Paper and the Student/New Professional Outstanding Paper.

**Contact: Joanne Roberts**, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology, Hardin Simmons University, P.O. Box 16216, Abilene, TX 79698. Phone: 325-670-5863; fax: 325-670-5865; email: [jroberts@hsutx.edu](mailto:jroberts@hsutx.edu)



### Research and Theory Section (RT)

**Thomas B. Holman, Chair**

Our Section focuses on promoting the highest quality theory and research across the full range of family life content areas, with careful attention to processes, contexts, theoretical and empirical rigor, and cutting-edge innovations in theory, methods, and analytic procedures. We welcome all theoretical perspectives and styles of research and emphasizes both conceptual and empirical rigor. We give special priority to thematic symposia, particularly those that address the con-

ference theme. The 2012 conference offers an exciting opportunity to encourage scholars from an especially broad range of disciplines to participate – please submit and encourage your colleagues to do so also. Each symposium proposal should include a maximum of 4 papers organized around a common theme, as well as at least one discussant. Symposium proposals would be strengthened by the inclusion of scholars who are from diverse disciplines or from outside North America, or who approach the topic with diverse methodological strategies or theoretical perspectives. Of course, formats other than symposia, including papers and posters, are always welcome. Presentations by senior scholars are especially encouraged, as are presentations on cutting-edge aspects of a content area and/or innovations in theory, methods, and analytic procedures. I am looking forward to seeing all of your papers, and putting together another exciting array of RT Section sessions.

**Contact: Thomas B. Holman**, Professor of Family Life, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602. Phone: 801-422-6704; email: [thomas\\_holman@byu.edu](mailto:thomas_holman@byu.edu)



### Students/New Professionals (S/NP) Cass Dorius, Program Representative

Our section promotes skills and information relevant for students (graduate/undergraduate) and new professionals (within 5 years of their final degree). The primary emphasis is to promote professional development as students, teachers, researchers, and practitioners. We encourage students, new professionals, as well as seasoned members to submit proposals. Specifically, we are looking for proposals related to the following:

- how to successfully apply to grad school
- how to successfully craft an academic job application
- how to navigate the interviewing and negotiating processes
- how to find, apply for, and interview for non-academic jobs and post-docs
- new technologies and techniques in teaching family studies
- work and family balance
- tips and techniques for efficient work

In following our theme, we particularly welcome proposals that are “innovative” and

Cutting edge in terms of professional development. That said, we welcome all proposals as long as the proposal has a **professional development component** in keeping with our goal of promoting an information exchange relevant to students and new professionals. Do **not** automatically submit to the S/NP section simply because you are a student or new professional. If your proposal does **not** have a professional development component, it will not be considered for the S/NP program. Please contact the S/NP Program Rep with any questions or for feedback regarding proposal ideas.

**Contact: Cass Dorius**, 2032 Institute for Social Research, 426 Thompson Street, Ann

Arbor, MI 48106. Phone: 734-763-3437; fax: 734-763-1428; **email: cdorius@umich.edu**

### Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop

TCRM offers a unique opportunity for scholars to present and discuss their ideas and ongoing research in a highly constructive format designed to enhance works in progress and advance the development of theory and methods in family research and practice. All interested family scholars are invited to attend and participate! Information about submitting for TCRM will be online.

## Check the NCFR Website for Further Information

You can go to the NCFR Website to find information about the following topics and print the instructions:

- **Descriptions of NCFR Sections** (for help in deciding where to submit your proposal)
- **Screens of the Abstract Database**
- **How to Write a Proposal for the NCFR Conference**
- **Why Should I Submit a Proposal?**

## Formats Used in NCFR Sessions

The Program Committee strives to maintain the highest quality for all sessions. Each session format makes an important contribution to the overall value of the conference. As you prepare your proposal, **if you have questions regarding content, call or email the chairs of the Section** to which you will be submitting. **For technical or process questions email Cindy Winter**, Program Consultant, **cindywinter@ncfr.org**. The NCFR Conference is an approved CE provider for: National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), National Association for Social Workers (NASW) and NCFR Certified Family Life Educators.

### Paper Sessions...

contain three or four 12-minute presentations that coalesce around a common idea or theme. The Section chair makes the final decisions as to which papers are to be presented in each paper session. There will be audience participation at the end of each paper session. **Authors must send their papers and a brief bio-sketch to the session facilitator/discussant by October 15, 2012.**

### Poster sessions...

are detailed displays that summarize completed research, practice or methodologies and include referenced literature, and any related diagrams and graphics to fill a 4' high x 8' wide poster space. Bring multiple copies of a summary of your poster content to provide to interested colleagues. Posters are displayed by topics. Authors are expected to be at the poster the entire 90 minutes of display to answer questions and distribute handouts.

### Roundtables...

Consist of a speaker who facilitates a discussion in which those present take part. The speaker begins with a 10 minute introduction, or provides materials that define the issue and provide background information for use by participants. After 40 minutes participants are then able to go to another table. Roundtables are limited to 10 people. Topics may directly apply to teaching pedagogy, methodologies or curriculum development of family courses. Leaders may bring syllabi to distribute and attendees are encouraged to do the same.

### Symposia...

are presentations by a group of three to four individuals on the same topic. Each speaker approaches the topic from a different perspective. Typical formats include:

- A panel of several speakers who make brief introductory remarks, then discuss the topic with each other.
- Several speakers who make presentations on different aspects of the topic, then receive comments from other presenters and audience members.
- A lead speaker who is followed by comments and questions from discussants and the audience. The symposium concludes with the chair/discussant integrating the presentations as they relate to each other and the topic. All papers within a symposium are submitted as one document: A one-page summary of how the papers fit together, followed by 500 words of information about each paper presented within the symposium, and 1-2 pages of tables/references. Please contact the Chair of the

Section to which you wish to submit your proposal to discuss your ideas for a symposium.

### Workshops...

offer opportunities to conference attendees to update or acquire new skills. Workshops typically update research methods, discuss "best practices" for direct family service and suggest strategies to inform policymakers. Some workshops have included new applications of statistical analyses, innovative therapeutic approaches, educational techniques or policy outreach.

## How to Submit Online

After you have checked off the steps listed on page 3, you are ready to transfer them to the online, password protected screen format. To do this go to NCFR's website: **<http://www.ncfr.org/call-for-proposals>**. Click on **"Submit a Proposal"** to be linked to the abstract database. A screen that says "If you have not yet made a submission to this meeting you must register your details with the submission system. **Click here.** Fill out your email and create a password. Complete the biographical information and click on "Send." In a few minutes you will receive an email back with instructions. You can then log back into the system and submit your proposal.

## Subject Codes

Adolescence	Family Demography	Intergenerational Issues	Never Married	Socioeconomic Class/ Inequality
Adoption	Family History- Genealogy	International Families	Parent Education/ Educators	Spirituality and Families
Adulthood/Adult Social- ization	Family Law/Courts	Interventions	Parenthood	Substance Abuse/ Addictions
Aging/Gerontology	Family Lenses	Job Security	Parenting Grandchildren	Suicide
Blended Families	Family Life Education	Lifespan Development	Peace	Teaching Methods
Childhood/Children	Family Policy	Males in Families	Physical Health	Technology/Internet and Families
Child Development	Family Preparedness	Marital Adjustment/ Quality	Poverty/Welfare	Theory Construction
Child Socialization	Family Process	Marital Relations	Premarital Education	Therapy/Counseling
Chronic Illness	Family Resiliency	Marital Roles	Professional Develop- ment	Trauma and Recovery
Cohabitation	Family Research	Marital Therapy	Practitioner Training	Unmarried Parents
Communication	Family Relationships	Marriage	Public Policy	Urban Families
Community and Families	Family Resource Manage- ment/Economics	Marriage/Divorce Laws	Qualitative Research	Violence
Cross-cultural Issues	Family Science	Marriage/Gay and Les- bian	Quantitative Research	Vulnerable Elderly
Curriculum	Family Services	Marriage/Intermarriage	Race/Ethnicity	Vulnerabilities
Death and Dying	Family Stress/Coping	Marriage/Interfaith/ Interracial	Refugees	War and Families
Decision-making/Power	Family Crisis/Response	Mate Selection and Dat- ing	Relationships	Wellness
Disabilities	Fatherhood	Media and Families	Religion and Families	Widowhood
Diversity	Financial Security	Mental Health	Remarriage/Stepfamilies	Women and Work
Divorce and Separation	Foster Care	Midlife Issues	Research/Theory/ Methods	Work and Families
Domestic and Family Violence	Former Spouses	Military Families	Resiliency	Other _____
Economy	Fragile Families	Motherhood	Retirement	
Ethnicity and Families	Gender/Roles	Mother/Father Absence	Rural Families	
Ethics and Values	Gender Violence	Multicultural Families	Security	
End-of-life Issues	GLBT Issues	Multicultural Families (trans-ethnic)	Sexuality	
Evaluation (programs, methods)	Grandparenthood	Multicultural Relation- ships	Siblings	
Evidence-based Practice	Health Policy	Multiple Roles	Single-parent Families	
Family Environment (natural)	Illness		Social Networks	
	Homeland Security		Social Work	
	Immigration/Migration			

## We Invite You to Submit a Proposal

**Proposals must be submitted electronically by 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time, March 1, 2012. Go to the NCFR Website: <http://www.ncfr.org/call-for-proposals>**

We especially invite session proposals from established scholars. Feedback from past conference evaluations reveals that attendees would like to have the opportunity to hear from senior researchers. Are you part of NCFR's Legacy Circle? Are you an NCFR Fellow or a recipient of the Reuben Hill Award? Propose a session and allow up-and-coming students, new professionals as well as your peers the opportunity to benefit from your scholarship. Proposals from practitioners such as family life educators, parenting educators, social workers, teachers and family therapists are welcome and encouraged. These proposals should integrate practice-based knowledge with the research base that informs practice.

**Need help?** Are you a first-timer and feeling bashful about submitting your first conference proposal? NCFR has a "**proposal mentoring program.**" We have assembled a cadre of experienced presenters who are willing to volunteer their time to help you. Write up a draft proposal. Send it to **Cindy Winter** ([cindywinter@ncfr.org](mailto:cindywinter@ncfr.org)) before February 1. We will match you up with a supportive adviser who can review it with you and make suggestions. Remember to have it ready by February 1! The submission deadline is March 1, and your mentor needs time to review it for you.

**Remember to submit your proposal electronically by 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time, March 1, 2012**