Focus Group End of Year Report for 2023

Name of Focus Group: Families and Technology

Chair/Co-chairs: I. Joyce Chang and Brandon T. McDaniel

Chair/Co-chairs email: chang@ucmo.edu and btmcdaniel.phd@gmail.com

1. What were your focus group's major activities or accomplishments this year?
   - We met at the 2022 NCFR conference and had a great discussion. 2022 meeting agenda
   - We noticed a drop in the number of technology-related presentations for the 2022 conference and discussed possible issues and solutions.
   - Encouraged members to consider NCFR positions (2024 ballot).
   - Shared resources to promote communication among members.
   - Created a list of technology-related presentations for the 2022 NCFR conference.
   - Created a list of technology-related presentations for the 2023 NCFR conference.
   - Focus group members organized a symposium related to the conferences and presentations.
   - Co-chair, Brandon, met with the board of the journal *Family Relations*, developed a call for papers on Artificial Intelligence in Everyday Family Life, and we distributed this call to focus group members.

2. What has your focus group done during the past year to further NCFR's inclusion and diversity initiatives?
   - Welcomed and shared resources with new members (at the new member welcome reception)
   - Resource Sharing: Some of our members are more knowledgeable on this topic and have shared their research with the group. For example, Susan Walker has shared multiple resources on social media.
   - Brandon has shared the special call for papers on AI in family life.

3. Please list any concerns, questions, or suggestions.
   - We responded to a call for NCFR report articles and submitted an article on Artificial Intelligence on June 7th for review. We have emailed Kyle (and Maddie, while she was still employed with NCFR) multiple times (e.g., on June 12th and then June 25th to confirm receipt of the article; then again on August 15th and September 11th regarding the status) but have continued to hear nothing back concerning the status of the article. This lack of communication is concerning and discouraging to us.

   - Return by **Friday, October 16, 2023** to **membership@ncfr.org**

Focus Group Work Plan for 2024

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1. **Do you wish to have a time allocated for your focus group during at the next NCFR Annual Conference?**
    ■Yes   □ No

2. **If Yes, please list or attach tentative agenda.**
    - Shared research and resources.
    - Networking.
    - Discussion on the impacts of AI on individuals and families

3. **Please list 2024 focus group goals/projects/aspirations.**
    - The 2024 conference theme is Building Resilience among Individuals, Families, and Communities. As technology continues to be increasingly important, our focus group will aim to encourage members to submit projects fitting the theme.
    - Our focus group just added two student representatives and they will share relevant technology-related content on social media
    - Will host quarterly zoom meetings in 2024 starting in January

4. **Please identify any opportunities, suggestions, or concerns regarding the role of this focus group in furthering NCFR's inclusion and diversity initiatives.**
    - Greater focus on the impact of technology on families and children and addressing the digital divide.

5. **Please list any areas where you would like assistance from NCFR staff.**
    - Scheduling of focus group meetings at the 2024 annual conference
    - Responsiveness to article submission, inquiries, etc.

6. **Are there any other concerns or questions that have come from the 2023 focus group annual meeting?**
    - Many people could not attend the conference due to the location of the conference. We realize, though that this was out of NCFR's control (for financial reasons) and reflects more the political climate of the U.S.
    - Why does NCFR not have a section related to the intersection of technology and family life, like many other organizations (e.g., Society for Research on Child Development, etc.)?

Attach your **2023 annual meeting minutes** to this form and return by **Friday December 1, 2023** to **membership@ncfr.org**

Attendance (Random order. Not including last names since it will be posted online):

Keosha F., Ting X, Gabrielle S., Melissa Y, Yan W., Xiaoran S., So Young P., Margo H., David K., Xiaoqi M., Xiping J., Eunyoung P., Becky W., Brendon M., and Joyce C.
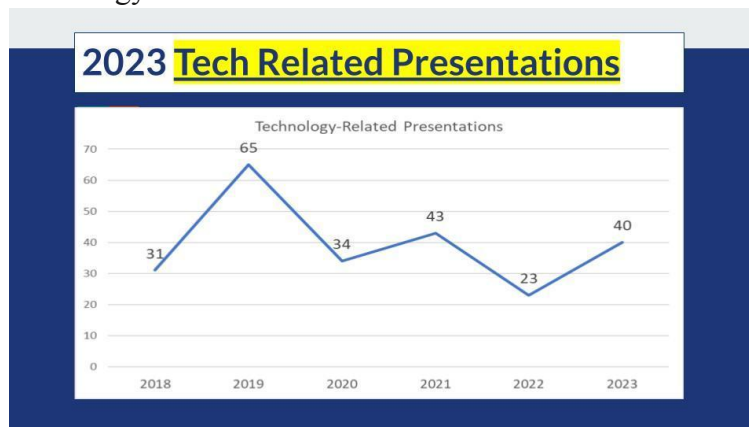
Agenda
I. Welcome and Introduction
Brandon and Joyce welcome and self-introduction

II. 2023 Review
1. 2023 Tech related presentations at 2023 annual conference
   A list of tech-related presentations for the 2023 conference was shared via social media and NCFR discussion board.

   Members discussed the current and future conference themes and relevancy to technology.

2. Supporting NCFR and members
   We shared resources online and promoted NCFR events. For example, we promoted FR on Instagram.

3. FR: Special Collection Call for Papers - Artificial Intelligence in Everyday Family Life. Brandon explained the AI call for papers, invited submissions to FR, and answered questions from members.

III. Discussion

1. Adding student representatives
   Ting (UMN) and Eunyoung (UMN) volunteered. They will be in charge of creating social media posts highlighting tech-related scholarship.
2. NCFR positions on 2025 ballot: encouraging members to consider various NCFR positions
3. Virtual Meeting in January
4. Discussed submitting symposiums to NCFR 2024 conference and pulling in colleagues from CHI and other tech fields
5. Discussion on impacts of AI

IV. Game/Prize Drawing

Prize winner: Melissa