

Focus Group End of Year Report for 2018

Name of Focus Group **Military Children and Families**

Chair/Co-chairs **Christina Marini and Kalya Fitzke**

Chair/Co-chairs email cmm97@psu.edu and kayla-fitzke@uiowa.edu

1. What were your focus groups major activities or accomplishments this year?

-Creation of a student-held position to help facilitate focus group member communication and provide students with professional leadership opportunities

-Creation of two focus group awards—a student/new professional proposal award and a professional member proposal award; this included the formation of an award committee, thereby involving leadership support from additional focus group members

2. What has your focus group done during the past year to further NCFR's inclusion and diversity initiatives?

-Our creation of proposal awards that allow all military-focused proposals to be considered promotes diversity and inclusion in that members do not need to self-nominate (or be nominated by another person) to be considered. By evening out the playing field in this way, we believe our awards are more inclusive and capture students and professionals who may be less apt to nominate themselves for awards and accolades

-We will also be hosting two speakers during the 2018 conference who were not previously NCFR members, their work in military-research related contexts outside of academia contributes to a broader perspective that we hope will cultivate engaging discourse during the conference

3. Please list any concerns, questions or suggestions.

*Our only suggestion is that it would be helpful if focus groups had an official means of advertising how their focus group time will be used during the conference in order to boost attendance at the meeting. One way of doing so that was suggested to us by our group members last year was being able to list specific activities that will take place during the focus group meeting in the conference program (if not in print, then perhaps in the online format version).

Return by October 15, 2018. [Prior to the NCFR annual conference.](#)

Send to Bethany Cox, NCFR member relations manager, at bethanycox@ncfr.org