

National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) 2019 Annual Conference

Wed.–Sat., Nov. 20–23, 2019 (*preconference workshops Tues., Nov. 19*)

Fort Worth, Texas | Omni Fort Worth Hotel



Program Chair:
Katia Paz Goldfarb, Ph.D.
Montclair State University

Proposal Submission Deadline:
11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time
March 4, 2019

Conference Theme

Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems

Family sustainability is defined as the relationships among family members that maintain the well-being and resilience of the family unity across generations. Family sustainability is developed and strengthened by the continuous and various relationships with which the family engages as those relationships are influenced by social and physical environments. Family sustainability is seen as a process, not as a static goal.

The 2019 NCFR Annual Conference theme focuses on understanding the ever-complex reality of family relationships. The theme stresses the importance of acknowledging and working with supports that already exist within and outside diverse families. Of particular interest are proposals that stress the importance of looking at the what, the how, and the why of family relationships within their specific contexts and evolving systems.

The goal is to embrace and extend the theme of family sustainability to *all* families, with relationships as the focus. Proposals should frame conversations on strengths, not deficits, and focus on relationships that are normative to specific family systems and their context rather than focusing on a comparative paradigm.

The theme allows for a wide variety of topics, debates, and policy analyses. Find examples and more information about submitting your proposal at ncfr.org/ncfr-2019. The online proposal submission system will open in January 2019.

Confirmed Plenary Presenters



Stephanie Coontz, M.A.
Director of Research and Public Education,
Council on Contemporary Families



Valerie Maholmes, Ph.D.
Chief of the Pediatric Trauma and Critical
Illness Branch, NICHD at the National
Institutes of Health



Rubén Parra-Cardona, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Steve Hicks School
of Social Work, University of Texas
at Austin

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Sustainable Conference Goals

- To highlight strength-based research on diverse families and their relationships within their context.
- To feature innovative evidence-based best practices, programs, and pedagogies that promote family resiliency and well-being for diverse families in a variety of contexts.
- To draw attention to and critically analyze policies that strengthen or are of detriment to relationships for all types of families.

2019 Conference Program Committee

Program Chair: **Katia Paz Goldfarb**,
Montclair State University

Program Chair-Elect:
Bradley van Eeden-Moorefield,
Montclair State University

Affiliate Councils Program Chair:
Brandon Burr, University of
Central Oklahoma

Section Chairs:
Advancing Family Science:
Jennifer Reinke, CFLE, University
of Wisconsin-Stout

Education and Enrichment:
Michelle L. Toews (chair-elect),
Kansas State University

Ethnic Minorities:
Yolanda T. Mitchell, University of
North Texas

Families and Health:
Kimberly Greder, CFLE, Iowa
State University Extension

Family Policy:
Anne Farrell, Chapin Hall at the
University of Chicago
Morgan Cooley (chair-elect),
Florida Atlantic University

Family Therapy:
Rachel B. Tambling, University of
Connecticut

Feminism and Family Studies:
Abbie E. Goldberg, Clark University

International:
Mihaela Robila, Queens College,
City University of New York

Religion, Spirituality, and Family:
Michael Goodman, Brigham
Young University

Research and Theory:
Kari Adamsons, University of
Connecticut

Students and New Professionals:
Erin Lavender-Stott, South
Dakota State University
J. Kale Monk, University of
Missouri

TCRM Co-Chairs: **Spencer James**,
Brigham Young University; **Adam
Galovan**, University of Alberta

*Inclusion and Diversity Committee
Representative:* **Miriam Mulsow**,
Texas Tech University

Ex Officio:
NCFR Executive Director:
Diane Cushman
NCFR Director of Research and Policy Education:
Jennifer Crosswhite

NCFR Program Consultant:
Cindy Winter
NCFR Conference and Meeting Planner:
Judy Schutz

Conference Presentation Formats

NCFR considers all formats, including posters, of equal value. All formats are reviewed with the same criteria.

For questions regarding content, call or email the chair of the section to which you will be submitting.

For technical or process questions, email Cindy Winter (cindywinter@ncfr.org).

Remember that the more choices in presentation format you provide, the better your chance of being accepted if your review scores are high enough. You'll choose from among the following presentation formats:

Lightning Paper Session — 6 papers centered on a common theme. Focuses only on key findings/observations, followed by a question and answer time. Each presenter has 8 minutes to present. A maximum of 8 slides are to be prepared in advance.

Paper Session — 3-4 papers that coalesce around a common idea or theme, followed by a question and answer time. Each presenter has approximately 12 minutes to present.

Poster — A display containing a title, short abstract, sub-headers, bullets, illustrative information (e.g., tables, charts, graphs, pie charts, etc.), and select references. It provides an opportunity for in-depth discussion of presentations with attendees. Posters are scored using the same criteria as papers, symposia, and workshops, and are equal in merit to all other formats.

Special Instructions for a Symposium Proposal

- **On Page 1**, include the following:
 - (1) symposium title
 - (2) a list of individual paper titles, authors, and coauthors
 - (3) symposium chair and discussant names

For all first authors and presenting authors and discussants, **list current employer and job title, highest degree earned, discipline and institution from which the highest degree was earned, current licenses, and email address**. For coauthors not presenting and symposium chairs, include only email address and employer.

Poster Symposium — An addition to the poster session. Authors prepare material as a regular poster. During the last 20 minutes of the poster session, a facilitator leads a discussion with the poster presenters grouped for the poster symposium and the audience.

Symposium — A presentation and discussion by 3-4 experts on a particular topic. A discussant integrates and summarizes the papers, develops implications for policy and practice from the research, and initiates audience discussion. **See below for special instructions for symposia proposals.**

Workshop — A **training session** in which the speaker leads participants through exercises or skills development in a given field.

Other special formats for sections are described below, under their section plans.

- **Page 2** is a one-page description (i.e., abstract) of the symposium, including how all the individual papers fit together. Include three measurable objectives (**see page 4 of this call for sample objectives**).

- **Page 3 and following:** Prepare a proposal of no more than 500 words and one page of tables/references for each of the papers to be presented during the symposium. Combine everything into one document. For questions about content, contact the section chair to whom you will submit your proposal (email addresses on succeeding pages). For questions about the computer submission process, contact Cindy Winter (cindywinter@ncfr.org).

Criteria for Proposals

- The proposal describes work that meets BOTH of the following criteria:
 - (a) Progress on the work is far enough along so the research can be completed and a polished presentation prepared in time for the conference;

AND

 - (b) Regardless of focus (i.e., research, practice), a prescribed methodological approach is used which is appropriate and rigorous.
- The proposal is clearly written and logically organized, with complete references provided.

- Proposals can be based on qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method research, or can focus on a systematic literature review, program intervention or evaluation, policy analysis, or analysis of theoretical or pedagogical approaches.
 - (a) Regardless of focus, the proposal explicitly articulates a strong connection to existing research;
 - (b) Regardless of focus, the proposal explicitly articulates a strong connection to theory;
 - (c) The proposal has the potential to stimulate new knowledge and/or innovative practices.

Proposal Submission Checklist

- **Proposal title** (maximum of 125 characters, including spaces and punctuation)
- **Select a primary subject keyword.** (See list on page 13 of this document.)
- **Name your first and second choice of preferred formats** (e.g., paper, symposium, workshop, poster, poster symposium, lightning paper, resource exchange roundtables, etc.).
- **Proposal focus:** Indicate the focus of your proposal (e.g., qualitative research, systematic literature review).
- **Determine to which group you will submit your proposal:** one of the 10 sections; affiliate councils; Students and New Professionals (SNP only accepts proposals that address professional development); or TCRM. *Please note that proposals to TCRM and the affiliate councils have different proposal submission processes.*
- **Prepare a short abstract.** This is a maximum 125-word synopsis of your proposal, keyed into the submission system. Do not list the names of the authors on the abstract. The computer program tracks author identity.
- **Prepare a long proposal** and save it as a PDF (you will only be allowed to submit your proposal as a PDF). This document is used for the review process. The proposal consists of no more than 1,000 words plus a maximum of two pages of figures/tables and one page of references. Do not list author names or addresses. The proposal is reviewed anonymously in a blind-review process.
- **Prepare 3 measurable objectives.** Sample objectives to guide formatting:
 - *To evaluate the effectiveness of the [insert title here] family program.*
 - *To analyze the [insert policy here] from a family perspective.*
 - *To demonstrate the return on investments families provide in health care.*

Your long proposal must include the following elements (no abstract):

- **Thesis/aims/goals:** Begin by summarizing the thesis of your proposal, followed by the aims and goals. Because of the brevity of the proposal, make your point up front rather than writing your entire proposal before you get to the purpose.
- **Methods:** Write the main points; do not include reasons in support of your thesis. Briefly discuss the methods you are using to provide evidence for your thesis and show how this is timely, relevant, and cutting-edge. Explain the implementation of your methods. Demonstrate your knowledge on the methods you used and explain how they benefit your research.
- **Analysis and preliminary results/conclusions:** Indicate the kinds of procedures you are using to answer your hypothesis, and provide preliminary results and conclusions based on the data that you have collected. Readers will want to know the possible benefits and drawbacks of your research.
- **Implications for practice/policy:** Discuss the potential impact of your results. Be sure that you show how your research can be applied.

See our webpage at bit.ly/NCFRLitRev for specific tips for writing a successful literature review.

Please remember: For all first authors and presenting authors and discussants, **list current employer and job title, highest degree earned, discipline and institution from which the highest degree was earned, current licenses, and email address.** For coauthors not presenting and symposium chairs, include only email address and employer.

The NCFR Annual Conference is an approved continuing education (CE) provider for National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) and Certified Family Life Educators (CFLE). We collect additional information, such as presenter credentials and objectives, during the proposal submission process to ensure we have the information required for NCFR to provide CEs.

Submission Questions

May I submit a previously published/presented paper?

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

When will I know if my proposal has been accepted?

You will be notified by June 1, 2019.

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

- At least one author of accepted proposals must attend the conference — including registering and paying the registration fee — to present.
- Upload copies of the PowerPoint slides you will be using to the NCFR website by one week prior to the conference.
- If your presentation is accepted as a paper, symposium, lightning paper, or poster symposium, you must send a copy of your final presentation to the session facilitator/discussant by Oct. 21, 2019. You also are required to upload your presentation PowerPoint slides to the NCFR website (except poster symposium).

May I submit more than one proposal as a first author? Yes.

How to Submit Your Proposal Online

NCFR, through Oxford Abstracts, will open the online submission system through a link on the NCFR website.

NCFR will post and publicize complete details about how to navigate the online submission system prior to when the system opens. The submission system is slated to open by late January 2019.

Please note: The submission system requires you to submit *names, email addresses, current employer and job title, highest degree earned, discipline and institution from which the highest degree was earned, and current licenses* for **all first and presenting authors and discussants**. For coauthors not presenting and symposium chairs, include only names, email addresses, and current employers.

To submit a proposal when the online submission system is open:

- 1. Visit ncfr.org/call-for-proposals**
- 2. Click on “Submit a Proposal”**

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NCFR Resources Available

NCFR has created **free webcasts** on the NCFR conference submission and review process to help submitters and presenters prepare for the conference. Find these webcasts on the NCFR website:

- **How to Submit a Conference Proposal**
(bit.ly/NCFRsubmit)
- **Understanding NCFR Conference Presentation Formats** (bit.ly/NCFRformats)
Includes a guide for students and new professionals, and roles of/tips for authors, facilitators, and discussants.
- **How to Review a Conference Proposal**
(bit.ly/NCFRreview)

Proposal Mentoring Program

NCFR offers a conference proposal mentoring program. We have assembled a cadre of experienced presenters who are willing to volunteer their time to help you with your proposal.

To participate, email a draft proposal to Cindy Winter (cindywinter@ncfr.org) **before Feb. 15, 2019.**

We will match you with a supportive mentor who will give you feedback before you submit your proposal online.

Section, Affiliate, SNP, and TCRM Calls for Proposals



Advancing Family Science (AFS) Jennifer S. Reinke, Chair

The AFS Section seeks to expand, strengthen, and enhance the Family Science discipline and profession. In particular, the section is concerned with issues related to the strength and sustainability of Family Science programs, including marketing and recruiting for Family Science programs; innovative and effective teaching strategies for Family Science courses, including the development, delivery, and evaluation of Family Science curricula; best practices for administrators of Family Science programs; ethical issues in the practice of Family Science; and the state of Family Science as a discipline. The section welcomes conference proposals which address these issues.

We also are interested in proposals which address the 2019 theme, “Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems.” More specifically, presenters might consider what sustainability looks like in the Family Science classroom, in institutions of higher education, and across the discipline. Examples of topics related to the conference theme might include:

- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning related to family sustainability — sustainability in the family home, sustainable family development, sustainable family living, etc.
- innovative strategies for teaching about contemporary challenges and salient topics related to sustainability in Family Science.
- how to create sustainable service-learning, study abroad, and other collaborative local or international partnerships.
- evidence-based practices that effectively demonstrate and promote Family Science program viability.
- the role of Family Science administrators in advancing Family Science programs and the discipline by addressing universal threats to family sustainability.

In addition to the many other conference proposal formats (see page 3),

we will again feature **Resource Exchange Roundtables** during the AFS Section member meeting. (See special instructions for this format on this page.)

Proposals focusing on theory development, research methodology, and specific issues confronted by families do not fall within the focus of the AFS Section and would be a more appropriate fit for another section.

We encourage submissions of proposals from all Family Science professionals, including administrators, educators, and students. NCFR student members who serve as first authors of the accepted proposals are eligible for the Wesley Burr Student Paper Award, which includes a plaque and cash award. Applicants must be members of the AFS Section.

Contact: Jennifer S. Reinke, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Department of Human Development and Family Studies; email: reinkej@uwstout.edu



Education and Enrichment (EE) Michelle Toews, Chair-Elect

The EE Section welcomes proposals that focus on programs, resources, and scholarship that increase practitioners’ effectiveness in providing community education and enrichment for individuals, couples, parents, and families. The 2019 conference theme offers an opportunity to submit proposals that examine how applied Family Science, Family Life Education, and extension (i.e., programming, evaluation, research) can support family sustainability (i.e., the relationships among family members that maintain the well-being and resilience of the family unit across generations).

Proposals highlighting the intersection of applied research, evidence-informed best practices, and policies related to family sustainability are encouraged. Fitting the 2019 conference goal, proposals can include, but are not limited to, innovative evidence-based best practices and programs that promote family resiliency and well-being for diverse families in a variety of context. Proposals related to a broad variety of topics covered within applied Family Science,

Family Life Education, and extension also are welcome.

In addition to the many other conference session formats (see page 3), we will feature **Resource Exchange Roundtables** during the section member meeting. Highlighting the role of practice as integral to Family Science, we are looking both for resources from an applied setting and basic research to strengthen the work of Family Life Educators. (See special instructions for this format on this page.)

We encourage proposals from established scholars, practitioners, new professionals, and students. All EE student members who submit a proposal as first author will be considered for the Student Proposal Award, which includes a cash award and registration waiver.

Contact: Michelle Toews, Kansas State University, College of Human Ecology; email: MLToews@ksu.edu

Special Instructions for Advancing Family Science and Education and Enrichment Resource Exchange Roundtables

In addition to all conference proposal formats, the Advancing Family Science and Education and Enrichment Sections will again feature Resource Exchange Roundtables during their combined section member meetings.

The Resource Exchange Roundtable is an interactive opportunity to demonstrate an educational, administrative, enrichment, or pedagogical (e.g., specific curricula or teaching technique) resource that has been particularly useful when working with students, families, professionals, or other populations. An overview is given by the leader who then facilitates active discussion about the topic. Evidence of effectiveness such as evaluation data should be provided in the proposal.

Please note: Resource Exchange Roundtable submissions for the AFS and EE Section member meeting go through the normal proposal review and evaluation process. Those accepted for the conference program are peer reviewed.



Ethnic Minorities (EM) **Yolanda Mitchell, Chair**

The EM Section examines child, youth, individual, family, and community issues within the sociopolitical, historical, economic, and cultural context and through the lens of ethnicity, race, and other social addresses. We specifically focus on the social, cultural, biological, regional and ancestral characteristics, traditions, learned behaviors, customs, and adaptive tendencies found at all levels of the human ecology. Our section strives to continue the legacy of our past section members Marie F. Peters and John L. and Harriette P. McAdoo, who recognized the importance of human capital in ensuring resilience over adversity in families of color.

The goal of the 2019 conference will be to focus on “understanding the ever-complex reality of family relationships. The theme stresses the importance of acknowledging and working with supports that already exist within and outside diverse families. Of particular interest are proposals that stress the importance of looking at the what, the how, and the why of family relationships within their specific contexts and evolving systems.”

When thinking of this year’s conference theme, one might consider:

- how the strength and resilience within ethnic families serves as a catalyst for healthy children, youth, adults, neighborhoods, communities, and society.
- how scholars and practitioners can promote and learn from the strengths and resilience of ethnic minority families.
- how family relationships within ethnic families promote healthy communities and neighborhoods.
- how culturally appropriate, evidence-based practices promote family empowerment that shape the experiences and narratives of families at multiple levels of context.
- how existing, modified, and/or new policies can recognize and promote the role of ethnic families by building stronger schools, neighborhoods, workplaces, and communities.

- how grandparents, fictive kin, and other elders within ethnic families and communities serve as change agents for strong children, families, communities, and the broader society.
- how existing prevention programs can be adapted to meet the needs of the ever changing and diverse populations of ethnic families.
- how families create or access human capital to ensure successful adaptation to their environments.

We encourage and welcome other research, theory, practices, and policies that provide a cultural perspective on any aspect of the 2019 conference theme or outside of the theme that centers on children, youth, and families from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

Scholars, practitioners, and new professionals of all ethnic, racial, and diverse backgrounds are encouraged to submit proposals. Accepted proposals submitted by Students or New Professionals (SNP)—who also are EM Section members—will be considered for the SNP Best Paper Award for the section. The submission must demonstrate research that is completed and focused on a topic that has direct relevance to ethnic families.

Contact: Yolanda Mitchell, University of North Texas, Department of Educational Psychology; email: yolanda.mitchell@unt.edu



Families and Health (FH) **Kimberly Greder, Chair**

The mission of the FH Section is to promote the health and well-being of all families and their members through interdisciplinary activities that facilitate excellence in family health practice, research, education, and policies.

Our membership is comprised of individuals from diverse disciplines who collectively work to improve the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. We view health holistically and on a continuum that encompasses a variety of wellness and disease states. We believe health promotion and prevention activities are important, as well as projects that address myriad situations affecting families and their well-being.

We encourage the submission of proposals related to the conference theme or any aspect of families and health.

The 2019 conference theme, “Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems,” provides a unique opportunity for proposal submissions to highlight the critical role that relationships and systems play in promoting resilience and stability among families. We welcome proposal submissions that highlight research, programs and best practices, and theory and policies that are related to the conference theme; promote health and well-being; and lessen health disparities. FH is interested in proposals that utilize innovative methodologies (e.g., direct observational methods, ecological momentary assessment [EMA], geographical informational systems [GIS]), mixed methods) to gain in-depth understanding of socioecological influences on families and health issues. Topics may include:

- health-related interventions and outcomes-based research;
- chronic conditions (physical and mental health);
- public health prevention (e.g., community health workers, nursing);
- health and wellness issues across the lifespan (birth to death; aging);
- relational influences on health (e.g., siblings, partners);
- community influences on health (e.g., education, services and supports through schools, health care centers, community mental health centers, military, churches, parks and recreation centers); and
- effects of trauma, violence, conflict, disability, illness, caregiving, loss, sleep, substance abuse, risk behaviors, etc. on family health and well-being.

Established scholars, new professionals, and students are encouraged to submit proposals. We especially encourage symposium submissions with established scholars as presenters. Each year, FH acknowledges outstanding student and professional papers and student posters with monetary awards. FH Section members can email award applications to Section Chair-Elect Amber Seidel (ajs49@psu.edu), by June 1, 2019.

Contact: Kimberly Greder, Iowa State University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies; email: kgreder@iastate.edu



Family Policy (FP)
Anne Farrell, Chair

NCFR is the national organization committed to informing our understanding of how families live, struggle, and (hopefully) sustain themselves under a variety of conditions and contexts. It is hard to imagine a public system, market, industry, or academic discipline that does not intersect with family life. We live in a society in which family well-being and sustainability are greatly impacted by evolving and diverse relationships within and between family members, the family system, and society. This year's theme addresses any and all facets of family life!

The primary mission of the FP Section is to inform and examine the influence of policy on all aspects of family life, including the ways in which policies facilitate and/or hinder sustainable family well-being across diverse families and the lifespan. Policies influence the functioning, adaptation, coping, and health of individuals, families, and communities. We as researchers, educators, practitioners, and leaders can inform policy matters in the academy, at the state and national levels, and globally. Through our scholarship and translation of research findings in our teaching, practice, outreach, and engagement, policy implications abound.

Indeed, **we need your research to contextualize relationships within evolving systems!** Whether you study family decision making, health, gender issues, child welfare, child well-being, family well-being, disabilities, education, parenting, or some other facet of family life, the impact of your work is only enhanced by connections to policy, which has its effects at the population level.

The FP Section aims to leverage this year's theme by emphasizing the ways in which research can inform policy. Of particular interest are proposals that focus on **new lines of research on prevention and intervention approaches, programs, and policies that support families at risk for disparate outcomes.**

Does your work:

- address family structure?

- address the effectiveness of programs and strategies that attempt to build individual and family resilience?
- promote family sustainability within a variety of contexts or family systems?
- reduce the effects of trauma and stress on vulnerable families?
- help parents manage in an increasingly complex atmosphere?

Research in any and all of these areas is of policy relevance, and we warmly invite you to submit your proposals. The FP Section also seeks proposals that reflect the ways in which Family Science both reflects and informs the ecology of child and family development. Topics might include:

- the relationship of family and the various contexts or systems in which families live, including their shared capacity to reciprocally influence development and outcomes;
- the experience of adversity, poverty, and toxic stress;
- the capacity of public and private programs, supports, and systems to capitalize on resilience and promote sustainability among and within vulnerable families; and
- the efficacy and efficiency of programs and systems with respect to improving well-being.

Research designs need not be embedded in or emerge strictly from policy, however, authors and presenters should devote significant attention to the potential impact of research (e.g., how methods and findings might inform public policy or policy relevant outcomes, including access, cost, and well-being).

In addition to proposals addressing the conference theme directly, the FP Section encourages submissions of all formats that investigate:

- the influence of social policies on family structures and functioning, family processes and transitions, and
- the ways in which individuals and families navigate, negotiate, and make meaning of their lives in diverse and global contexts.

As a section, we are keenly interested in examining effective and innovative

methods of teaching family policy; how scholars conduct policy analysis both within and distinct from scholarship; and how researchers negotiate policy engagements through a range of activities.

Proposals submitted to the FP Section should include a clearly articulated policy context and/or implications. Prospective presenters are advised to consider a range of policy-relevant questions, especially as they might relate to the priorities of major public systems (e.g., healthcare, education, child welfare, housing, juvenile and criminal justice, financial supports for needy families, mental health and substance abuse, etc.). If you are not sure how your work aligns with policy, get in touch!

FP Section members — especially students and new professionals — are encouraged to apply for one of our Feldman Awards. For more information see nconf.org/awards/section-awards.

Contact: Anne F. Farrell, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago; email: afarrell@chapinhall.org



Family Therapy (FT)
Rachel Tambling, Chair

The theme of the 2019 conference, "Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems," invites us to consider our role as family therapists in larger social, cultural, and global systems.

We hope the 2019 conference theme will attract scholarship covering a broad range of cutting-edge, relationally oriented clinical research that examines how family therapists can appropriately and responsibly address the intersections between societal and cultural factors, and how these factors shape the individual and relational experiences of the people with whom we work. In particular, we are seeking proposals focused on:

- developing and testing clinical theories;
- creating and evaluating therapeutic interventions; and
- improving the training and supervision of couple and family therapists in ways that help families and couples contribute to the overall well-being of society.

Special consideration will be offered for proposals that include clinical data.

In addition to submissions pertaining to the conference theme, we also invite submissions on a wide variety of other topics important to the couple and family therapy field. Research and applied presentations can focus on topics including but not limited to:

- intimacy, relationship formation and dissolution;
- parent-child relationships;
- diverse families and couple relationships;
- influences of larger social factors such as sexism, racism, classism, and heterosexism on individuals, couples, and families; and
- therapeutic approaches and techniques.

The FT Section has a strong tradition of vibrant and well-attended roundtable presentations and symposia. Please consider submitting a roundtable or symposium proposal. Roundtable presentations are a great way to showcase the work that we do as family therapists in an interactive format. Symposia bring together the work of scholars in similar areas for engaging discussion. Please consult the submission website for more information regarding each presentation format.

Established researchers, therapists, and educators as well as students and new professionals are encouraged to submit proposals. Student and new professional poster and paper submissions that are first authored by FT Section members are eligible for awards within the section (please see descriptions at bit.ly/NCFR-FTawards).

In addition to the general NCFR review criteria for proposals, the FT Section expects that proposals will include practical implications for clinicians, educators, supervisors, and the profession of couple and family therapy.

Contact: Rachel Tambling, University of Connecticut, Department of Human Development and Family Sciences; email: rachel.tambling@uconn.edu

 **Feminism and Family Studies (FF)**
Abbie E. Goldberg, Chair

Feminist family scholars recognize the power of social, cultural, and political context in shaping individuals' and

families' lives, and work to advance research and policy that reflects the rapidly changing and increasingly diverse family landscape. In 2019, the conference focus is on family sustainability — namely, the relationships among family members that maintain the well-being and resilience of family unity across generations. This theme emphasizes the ever-complex reality of family relationships; stresses the importance of acknowledging the supports that already exist within and outside of diverse families; and embraces attention to strengths, not deficits, in understanding contemporary families. It also highlights the need to examine the “what,” “how,” and “why” of family relationships within their specific contexts and evolving systems.

This theme allows feminist scholars to propose and share work that centers on family processes and relationships in family structures that have been understudied, marginalized, or ignored. It encourages feminist scholars to “dig deep” into the lived experiences of families, in all their complexity, without assuming a comparative lens.

We encourage submissions that explore the experiences of families-in-context, attending to how families have been shaped by and resisted heteropatriarchal structures and systems. We especially encourage submissions that use feminist perspectives to address how gender, sexual orientation, class, race, religion, and other social locations intersect to shape family processes and functioning, amidst broader structures of inequality. For example: How do LGBTQ youth raised in religious homes resist and challenge sexual and gender normativity within their families and communities? What are the experiences of immigrant women and children in the U.S. in the current political climate, and what personal and contextual factors appear to support their resilience and empowerment?

We invite proposals advancing feminist theories and practices, whether they are linked specifically to the conference theme. Established professionals, newer professionals, and students all are encouraged to submit proposals.

Contact: Abbie Goldberg, Clark University, Department of Psychology; email: agoldberg@clarku.edu



International (IN)
Mihaela Robila, Chair

The International Section (IN) strives to increase the understanding of families around the world by promoting family research, education, policy, and practice globally, and facilitating communication and sharing information among international scholars.

Through its global focus, the IN Section has a great opportunity to make a significant contribution to the 2019 NCFR conference theme of “Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems.”

The IN Section welcomes proposals that use sound theoretical and empirical approaches focused on families in an international context. Possible topics related to the conference theme include:

- examination of different factors (e.g., international migration, technology) that impact families' sustainability and their functioning in different countries;
- development, implementation, and evaluation of programs and services that support family well-being and adaption in the global context;
- examination of policies and their impact on families sustainability around the world;
- analysis of educational approaches, resources, trainings, and practices that strengthen families and communities around the world; and
- exploration of ways in which family scholarship and practice can address global issues, such as sustainable development, gender equality, poverty reduction, health and well-being, and strong communities and societies.

IN strives to attract submissions from colleagues from around the world and have a wide geographical representation at the conference. We encourage our colleagues who are submitting and attending the conference from outside the U.S. and Canada to apply for the IN travel awards. Established scholars, early career professionals, and students are encouraged to submit proposals.

Contact: Mihaela Robila, Queens College, City University of New York, Department of Human Development and Family Studies; email: mihaela.robila@qc.cuny.edu



Religion, Spirituality, & Family (RSF)
Mike Goodman, Chair

The 2019 NCFR Annual Conference theme is "Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems." From the description of the conference theme: "Family sustainability is defined as the relationships among family members that maintain the well-being and resilience of family unity across generations. Family sustainability is developed and strengthened by the continuous and various relationships with which the family engages as those relationships are influenced by social and physical environments. Family sustainability is seen as a process, not as a static goal. This theme stresses the importance of acknowledging and working with supports that already exist within and outside diverse families."

With the increasing secularization of society, questions have been raised regarding the relevance of religion as an important context within which to study the family. However, research continues to show that religion and spirituality correlate strongly with several family processes and outcomes, including greater family stability in most though not all cases. The Religion, Spirituality, and Family (RSF) Section thus has much to contribute to the 2019 conference theme.

The following questions may be helpful in formulating proposals to be submitted to the RSF Section for the 2019 conference:

- How has or does religion/spirituality contribute to family sustainability?
- Are there ways in which religion/spirituality can be detrimental to family sustainability and if so, how?
- How can more healthy approaches to religion and spirituality in the family minimize some of the less beneficial connections?
- What are some of the macro and/or micro aspects of religiosity that influence family sustainability?
- Why has religion/spirituality historically impacted family sustainability and have societal changes (e.g., residential mobility, divorce, cohabitation, immigration, etc.) modified this impact?
- What processes are involved in the connection between religiosity and family sustainability?
- Are their specific ways various religious

traditions can and do contribute to family stability in unique ways?

- Which specific aspects of religiosity/spirituality contribute to or detract from family well-being?
- Which specific aspects of belief, practice, or sociality associated with religiosity create the greatest impact on family sustainability?
- Does the role of religion in family sustainability change depending on whether the faith tradition is the minority or majority religion of the area?
- How might gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual identity intersect with religion/spirituality to impact family sustainability?
- What role can/does religion play in family sustainability for ethnic, racial, sexual, or other underrepresented groups?
- What role can religion and spirituality play in supporting family sustainability in the face of ever-changing circumstances of modern life and culture?
- How does religiosity intersect with international / cross-cultural variations to affect family sustainability?
- In what ways does religion/spirituality help with coping and in what ways can it be harmful?
- What understudied religious traditions could be examined in relation to family sustainability?
- How does the increase in interfaith marriage impact family sustainability?
- What methodological innovations can improve the study of religion and family life?

These questions are not meant to be exhaustive but rather are intended to provide a few ideas on how a focus on religion and spirituality may add to this year's conference theme. All proposals on these or other issues related to religion, spirituality, and family are welcomed.

As we did last year, we encourage and invite our senior professional section members to submit a proposal to the 2019 conference. Student members are still encouraged to contribute even as we invite our professional section members to share their expertise and knowledge.

Contact: Michael Goodman, Brigham Young University, Department of Marriage, Family, & Human Development; email: professorgoodman@gmail.com



Research and Theory (RT)
Kari Adamsons, Chair

The RT Section focuses on promoting work that effectively integrates research and theory about families and the context in which families live, work, interact, and develop. All theoretical perspectives and styles of research that emphasize both conceptual and empirical rigor are welcome.

As the RT Section works to strengthen its identity, we are particularly interested in proposals that:

- explore the links between theory and the process of research;
- emphasize the connection between theory and research methodologies; or
- anchor research questions or hypotheses in a clearly articulated theoretical perspective.

This year's theme provides an opportunity to explore the systems and relationships that make up and influence families and the ever broadening global context in which families live, work, interact, and develop. It also offers an opportunity to highlight the strengths that lead families and individuals to thrive.

We invite you to submit a proposal and encourage your colleagues to do the same. Each symposium proposal should include a maximum of four papers organized around a common theme, with at least one named discussant. Symposium proposals would be strengthened by including scholars who are from diverse disciplines, or who approach the topic with innovative methodological strategies or theoretical perspectives. In addition, formats other than symposia are welcome. Presentations by senior scholars as well as rising new scholars are encouraged, as are presentations by scholars from outside of North America. We particularly encourage presentations on cutting edge aspects of a content area, theory, methodology, and analytic procedures.

We look forward to seeing all of your proposals and putting together another great selection of RT Section sessions!

Contact: Kari Adamsons, University of Connecticut, Department of Human Development and Family Studies; email: kari.adamsons@uconn.edu



Affiliate Councils (AC) Brandon K. Burr, Program Chair

Sharing ideas, giving support and combining resources are a few of the services of the Affiliate Councils (AC). Strong student affiliates and state/regional affiliates are necessary for the long-term viability of NCFR. In many ways, AC helps build the interconnection between the national and the local/state/regional. Submitting to AC highlights important affiliate-level research and practice, and aids in the exchange of ideas and resources with others across the nation. AC welcomes proposals which address important issues related to affiliate successes and managing challenges.

The AC will host two workshops: one exclusively for student affiliate councils and the other for state/regional councils. Proposals will be accepted from both student and state/regional affiliate councils.

Both 2019 AC workshops will feature roundtable presentations. Affiliate members are encouraged to submit one or more proposals for roundtable discussion that highlight top areas in which their affiliate is doing well. The goal is for councils to identify their strengths and showcase their successes in a unique way at their accepted roundtable. Discussion with members of other affiliates across the country will be a priority at the conference.

Specific workshop topics to consider include the following:

- recruitment and retention of members;
- service projects and involvement;
- annual conferences;
- fundraising ideas and accomplishments;
- strategies for meeting with policymakers and providing education;
- marketing and social media outreach strategies;
- leadership; and
- community engagement.

Whether submitting roundtables for the student affiliate or the state/regional affiliate workshop, **include the following information in your proposals:**

1. Full proposal title and presenter information (i.e., name, credentials,

affiliation, and email). While the presentation may be individually authored, it must be affiliate-based.

2. Whether you are submitting to the student affiliate workshop or the state/regional workshop.
3. Short abstract (maximum 100 words)
4. Full summary of the roundtable proposal (maximum 1,000 words) for peer review. All documents must be in PDF format and should:

- i. Provide a brief background of the proposing affiliate council.
- ii. Explain the significance of the considered topic and what the affiliate council is doing that would be beneficial for other affiliate councils.
- iii. Include innovative methods, tools, concepts, and approaches for engaging participants with the topic.

5. **Email your proposal by March 4, 2019, 11:59 p.m. PST to Bethany Cox (bethanycox@ncfr.org)**, NCFR's manager of member relations.

Authors of accepted roundtables will be required to bring any materials needed for their roundtable to their assigned workshop.

We also encourage applications/nominations for the three AC awards: Affiliate Grant (grant money for the Affiliate group), Meritorious Service Award (for outstanding service by state and regional affiliate members), and President-for-a-Day-Award (empowers a student or new professional to continue growing in their leadership within NCFR).

Contact: Brandon K. Burr, University of Central Oklahoma, Department of Human Environmental Sciences; bburr1@uco.edu



Students and New Professionals (SNP) Erin Lavender-Stott and Kale Monk, Co-Reps

Students and New Professionals (SNP) promote skills and provide relevant information to students (graduate and undergraduate) and new professionals (within five years of their final degree). Their primary emphasis is on promoting professional development for students, teachers, researchers, and practitioners during the early stages of their careers.

We encourage students, new professionals, and seasoned professionals to submit proposals. The 2019 conference theme is "Family Sustainability: Contextualizing Relationships Within Evolving Systems." With the conference theme and the SNP mission in mind, we are particularly interested in proposals related to:

- mentorship;
- applying to graduate school
- tips and tricks of the job market (academic and non-academic);
- tips, tricks, and benefits of post-docs;
- 21st century higher education;
- applying for grants;
- sustaining work-life integration;
- scholar-activism and/or practitioner-activism; or
- communicating science, engagement, and translational research.

We welcome all proposals related to skill building and/or professional development relevant to students and new professionals. If you are a student or new professional with a proposal outside of those foci, please submit to one of the sections.

The SNP program representatives are happy to answer questions or provide feedback regarding proposal ideas.

Contact: Erin Lavender-Stott, South Dakota State University, Department of Counseling and Human Development; email: Erin.LavenderStott@sdstate.edu or Kale Monk, University of Missouri, Department of Human Development and Family Science; email: monkj@missouri.edu

Theory Construction & Research Methodology (TCRM) Workshop Adam Galovan and Spencer James, Co-Chairs

The Theory Construction and Research Methodology (TCRM) Workshop offers a unique opportunity for scholars to discuss working papers on family theory and research methodology. The TCRM workshop will be held immediately preceding the 2019 NCFR Annual Conference, on Nov. 19–20, 2019, in Fort Worth, Texas.

We are pleased to have Dr. Thomas Bradbury presenting a special session at TCRM this year. High-quality theorizing and theory-driven questions are

foundational to quality family scholarship. The best intervention work should also be theoretically driven and ideally accompanied by excellent evaluation and basic research. Dr. Bradbury will discuss his work and the importance of theory for both basic and applied scholarship.

We invite scholars to submit theoretical or methodological proposals that would be of interest to both basic and applied researchers.

TCRM sessions follow a distinctive format. Authors submit their papers several months before TCRM and leaders in the field serve as discussants, writing reviews of the paper. Authors' papers are made available prior to TCRM so attendees can come to the session already having read the paper. Each session begins with a brief summary of the papers followed by discussant comments, author responses, and audience conversation providing invaluable feedback to the authors and stimulating the thinking of authors, discussants, and attendees alike.

Rather than focusing on empirical findings, TCRM papers should advance family theories or research methodologies. TCRM is sponsored by NCFR's *Journal of Family Theory & Review* (JFTR), and many papers presented at TCRM have eventually been published in JFTR.

TCRM 2019 will accept proposals for two types of sessions:

- **Working papers:** Special topics in theory and methodology. Paper proposals are submitted individually.

- **Methodology workshops:** Open format sessions focusing on specific methodological techniques or data sources.

When submitting a paper proposal to TCRM, proposals should include:

1. the full paper or workshop title
2. a running page header appropriate to your topic
3. a short abstract (maximum 100 words, for publicity purposes)
4. a long proposal, no more than 1,750 words (excluding tables, figures, and references) for peer review
5. 2-3 suggestions for discussants for working papers

All documents should be sent in PDF format.

Proposals should:

- provide a brief background and context for the paper;
- explain the significance of the topic and what gaps in knowledge the paper seeks to fill;
- underscore how the proposed work will advance either family theory or research methodology;
- describe how the project takes up

innovative aims or employs novel concepts, approaches, or methods; and

- where possible, briefly discuss implications of the theoretical work or methodology to applied research or practice.

Showing evidence of work already underway is highly encouraged.

The deadline for TCRM submissions is March 15, 2019, 11:59 p.m. PST. Authors of accepted papers will be required to submit a full version of the paper, up to 35 pages, by Aug. 15, 2019.

TCRM submitters should fill out the TCRM application form and attach the proposal in PDF format. **Email your proposal to TCRM Co-Chairs Adam Galovan and Spencer James at TCRM2019@gmail.com.**

Note that TCRM proposals are not submitted through the usual NCFR online submission system with other conference proposals.

Please contact Adam or Spencer with any questions regarding TCRM, the proposal process, or being a paper discussant. We are looking forward to seeing you in 2019!

Contacts: Adam Galovan, University of Alberta, Department of Human Ecology, and Spencer James, Brigham Young University, Department of Family Life; email: TCRM2019@gmail.com

Proposal Submission Deadline: **11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time | March 4, 2019**

To submit a proposal when the online submission system is open:

- 1. Visit ncfr.org/call-for-proposals**
- 2. Click on "Submit a Proposal"**

With questions regarding content, contact the chair of the section to which you are submitting.

With technical or process questions, email Cindy Winter (cindywinter@ncfr.org).

Subject Codes

When you submit your proposal online you will be asked to designate subject codes that show the focus of your submission. The codes below will be available from a pull-down menu. You may submit up to 3 subject codes.

abuse/neglect	discipline	grandparents / grandparenting	mixed-methodology	self-harm
adversity	Discourse/Narrative Analysis	grief/loss	motherhood	service learning
advocacy	discrimination	Grounded Theory	mood disorders	sexual orientation
activism	displacement	group based trajectory analysis	multicultural	sexual abuse / harassment
Actor-partner Interdependence Model (APIM)	diversity	growth curve modeling (GCM)	multilevel (or hierarchical) linear modeling (MLM/ HLM)	sexuality
addiction	dyadic analysis	healing	multiracial/multiethnic	siblings
administration	early childhood ecological momentary assessment	health care	Multivariate Analysis of (Co)variance (MAN(C) OVA)	singlehood
adolescence	economics	heteronormativity	narrative	sleep
adoption	education	Hispanic/Latino/a/Latinx	nationality	social class
adulthood	elder care	homelessness	parenting education	social construction
African Americans	emerging adulthood	human capital	path analysis	social justice
aging	emotional problems	human rights	pedagogy	social media
American Indian/Alaskan Native/First Nations	employment	human trafficking	Phenomenology	society
anxiety	empowerment	identity	physical health	spirituality
applied research	enrichment	illness	policy	states
Asian/Pacific Islander	environment	immigrants	post-partum	stepfamilies
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	equality	incarceration	poverty	strengths
biobehavioral processes	ethnography	inclusion	pregnancy / prenatal development	strength-based stress
bio-markers	ethics and values	indigenous	prevention	structural equation modeling (SEM)
birth	ethnicity	inequalities	professional development	study abroad
blended families	evaluation	infancy	program development	substance abuse
caregiving	evidence-based practices / programs	infidelity	program evaluation	suicide
Caucasian/White	exclusion	interfaith	public health	survival analysis
Chi-Square	Experimental Designs	intergenerational	qualitative methodology	sustainabilities
child(ren)	Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)	international	quantitative methodology	systems
child care	extension	interpersonal relationships	race	t Test
childhood	Factorial Design	intersectionality	relational	technology
chronic illness	faith	interventions	relationship dissolution	theory
clinical / therapeutic orientation	family formation	intimacy	refugees	therapy
clinical theories	family functioning	intimate partner violence (IPV)	relationship education	therapeutic interventions
cluster analysis	family life education	item response theory (IRT)	relationship formation	time series analysis
cohabitation	family of choice	latent variable modeling	relationships	transgender
communication	family processes	leadership	Regression: Linear (Simple, Multiple, or Hierarchical)	transitions
communities	family relations	LGBTQ+	Regression: Logistic (Binary, Ordinal, or Multinomial)	translational
community participation / action research	family resource management	lifespan development	religion	transnational
community violence	family resource management	longitudinal modeling	religiosity	trauma
Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA)	Family Science	longitudinal research	remarriage	urban families
conflict	family structure	low-income	reproductive health research	violence
Content Analysis	family sustainability	marriage	resilience	vulnerabilities
context	family systems	marginalized populations	residential mobility	well-being
coparenting	family therapy	mate selection	risky behaviors	wellness
coping	fatherhood	media	rural families	women
Correlation	feminism	mediation/indirect effects	schools	work-family issues
couples	fertility	models	Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)	young adulthood
crisis	fictive kin	moderation	Secondary Data Analysis	
cross-cultural	food security	Measurement and Scale Construction (Item Response, etc.)		
curriculum development	fostercare	men		
dating	gender	mental health		
death	gender identity	mentoring		
decision making	gender normativity	meta-analysis		
depression	gender roles	middle adulthood		
developmental issues	geographical informational systems	middle childhood		
Diary Methods	gerontology	migrants		
direct observation	global	migration		
disabilities	globalization	military families		
disaster	governmental assistance and programming	mindfulness		

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