

IN THIS ISSUE:
Family Focus on...
Welfare Reform

pages F1-F24

In 1996, the U.S. shifted to a “work first” welfare system.

For example, the work exemption for parents of children under 3 years of age was repealed, and less emphasis was placed on skills development and education.

In this issue, we explore the effects of welfare reform on families and children and look at ways to facilitate the transition from welfare to work. As always, we welcome your comments.

Next Issue:
Medical Technology

Round ‘em Up and Come to Houston!

Many months of exceptional planning by Alan Booth, Program Chair, and his enthusiastic committees have culminated in a terrifically stimulating premiere conference in Houston, Texas - “SPACE CITY USA!” We invite you to round up your colleagues, students, family and friends, and join us November 21-24, 2002 for a memorable

discounts in the future? In addition, for each booking by a conference attendee, NCFR receives credit to be used to bring in VIP speakers at lower airline rates, thus cutting expenses which are then passed on to **you**, the consumer.

The conference theme: **Families over the Life Course: Bridging Research and Practice** has informational sessions for just about any professional. Here are a few examples:

- **High quality content sessions** for researchers, practitioners, and clinicians: In addition to the plenary panels (see March 2002 **Report**) there are over 25 sessions covering children/adolescent/parenting/fathering issues; 20 sessions on mate selection and marriage; 15 on aging issues; 20 on international, diverse families; 20 on work/family/community life; 30 on teaching/research methodologies and many more topics of interest to family scholars and practitioners.
- **Pre-approved CEU Credits** by APA, NASW (Metro Washington Chapter), National Board of Certified Counselors, Employee Assistance Professional Association, George Mason University and Certified Family Life Educators, many of which are specified on the program. This is a sure way to enhance your professional development portfolio.



Cindy Winter, CMP, Conference Coordinator and Alan Booth, 2002 Conference Program Chair

professional development experience that also promises to be great fun for all! “Rounding up” means travel and you can help NCFR for future conferences while getting to Houston! Here’s how. . .

Getting to Houston: Did you know that when you book your flights to Houston through **Continental MeetingWorks #UF2DCY** or **Northwest Meeting Services Desk #NEM6V** you not only get great discounts for yourself, but you are enabling NCFR to build a successful airline profile that helps to negotiate better conference

Come to Houston! continued on page 2



President's Report

3 C's of Membership in NCFR

Fall is always a time of new beginnings after a summer break. It is a time to renew commitments to work, begin new professional endeavors, welcome new colleagues to our work environments, introduce new students into our varied programs, and prepare for the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Inevitably new colleagues and students ask about membership in NCFR. After I tell them about the general mission of

NCFR, which is to provide a forum for family researchers, educators, and practitioners to share in the development and dissemination of knowledge about families, to establish professional standards, and to promote family well-being, I also share the 3 C's of NCFR membership: connection, competence, and commitment.

CONNECTION

The annual conference is always a time for us to update our knowledge of the field and renew our friendships with colleagues who have similar personal and professional interests. In fact, a recent membership survey showed that many NCFR members feel that the

opportunity to network and meet with friends is an important reason for attending the conference. It's a wonderful time to connect with colleagues who are doing research on similar topics or using similar methodologies, as well as with teachers and practitioners with whom we can share strategies for effective practice.

We who teach family studies understand that it's impossible to know everything about this multifaceted field. The annual meeting gives us a chance to talk with researchers and educators in all areas of family studies; colleagues in disciplines such as psychology, sociology, law,

President's Report continued on page 3

Report

of The National Council on Family Relations

Mission Statement for the Report:

REPORT, the quarterly newsletter of the National Council on Family Relations, strives to provide timely, useful information to help members succeed in their roles as researchers, educators, and practitioners. Articles address family field issues, programs and trends, including association news.

President: Carol Anderson Darling
Editor: Michael L. Benjamin
Managing Editor: Sasha A. Smith
Topics Feature Writer: Nancy Giguere

NCFR Report is published quarterly by the National Council on Family Relations, 3989 Central Ave. N.E., Suite 550, Minneapolis, MN 55421, Fax: 763-781-9348, website: www.ncfr.org.

Third class postage permit.

Report subscription rate: \$20.00 per year; \$5.00 per copy. For bulk rates, call 888-781-9331, ext. 14. Annual membership dues include *Report* subscription. \$15.00 U.S. postage per year postpaid at individual rate.

NEWS DEADLINES: January 8 for March issue; April 9 for June issue; July 9 for September issue; October 1 for December issue.

One copy of any portion of this publication can be made for personal use. Additional reprints of this publication are available by contacting NCFR headquarters at the address above. Bulk rates available.

Copyright © 2002 National Council on Family Relations. All rights reserved.

COME TO HOUSTON

continued from page 1

- **Super Sights, Sounds, and Smells of Houston** integrate conference learning experiences with fun when you take advantage of some great specials such as:
 - **Pre-conference tour of the Johnson Space Center/NASA with *Cosmo Cool Concept Inc.*** on Wednesday, November 20, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. where you'll view actual space craft, gear, artifacts, and look behind the scenes at how astronauts train. En route to and from you'll tour through Houston's historic, art, sports, medical, and shopping districts. All this for only \$60/person including venue tickets, lunch and transportation. (See p. 77 of program.)
 - **The Titanic Exhibit** complete with artifacts, an IMAX film "6 Stories High" and a Planetarium Dome simulation of the weather of that fateful 1912 night will be available to NCFR Conventioneers for a discounted price of \$17.50 through the Hyatt Hotel. This is a part of the Museum of Natural Science November showings, just a short distance from the hotel.

- **Houston's Ethnic and Cultural Heritage** is rich in the food cuisine (seafood from Kemah, Cajun, Mexican and Western barbecue); music from Houston's opera, and symphony to Zydeco and line dance. Theatres abound for every person's taste. Museums combine the truly American melting pot and include the *Buffalo Soldiers*, *Bayou Bend (Ima Hogg estate)*, *Battleship Texas*, and *The American Cowboy Museum*. Science and technology are distinguished in the largest medical complex in the world at Texas Medical Center, and the great Petrochemical complex.

By registering before October 15, to come to Houston, you can save up to \$40 on your registration fee. Go online at www.ncfr.org, and click on the conference link, or call 1-888-781-9331 ext 14. We are anxious to give you our very best conference, and Houston is anxious to show you its best in fun and entertainment, so round up your resources and make plans now to **come to Houston!**

Alan Booth
2002 Conference Program Chair
E-mail: axb24@psu.edu

Cindy Winter, CMP
Conference Coordinator
E-mail: wintersc@ncfr.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *continued from page 2*

medicine, and human development; and therapists and other practitioners who work in social service agencies, in the military, or in government. These connections enhance both our classroom teaching and our work with graduate students who are embarking on their own research. Moreover, as we become more global in our research, teaching, and understanding of world events, NCFR membership opens doors and creates bonds with international colleagues.

COMPETENCE

In this increasingly complex world, staying competent means continual learning. Every year when I leave the annual conference, I'm happy about what I have learned and experienced. But I'm also frustrated that I couldn't attend all the sessions. I always say, "I'll just have to come back next year to learn some more." Since NCFR is an organization that links family research, education, and practice, the annual conference offers us many wonderful opportunities to enhance our competence in research methodology, theoretical developments, subject matter, and practice. I often say that I come to the conference to gain both a research "fix" and a teaching "fix."

I also rely on NCFR's journals to keep up-to-date. From the *Journal of Marriage and Family*, which is rated number one in the social science field, I get the latest information on theoretical developments, research findings, and a critical discussion of research related to marriage and families. *Family Relations*, an interdisciplinary journal of applied family studies, highlights the implications of research for practitioners. These are two very important journals in my personal library, and I use them frequently.

COMMITMENT

NCFR is an organization committed not only to its members, but also to the well-being of the profession, families, communities, and our students and clients. For example:

- NCFR is committed to providing quality teachers in family life education and setting the standards for the field. The Certified Family Life Educator Program, established about 20 years ago, is a credentialing program that currently has over 1300 CFLEs. Moreover, there are now 67 approved

programs at 54 colleges and universities (54 at the undergraduate level and 13 at the graduate level). During times of financial cutbacks, many family science programs have turned to NCFR for letters of support because many academic institutions view the CFLE-approved program credential as an asset for a department. NCFR and the CFLE staff also provide us with teacher kits, course syllabi, and teaching methodology updates. Look for the upcoming publication *Family Life Education: Integrating Theory and Practice*.

- NCFR is positioning itself as an issue-oriented professional organization that brings the latest scientific research on families to the attention of policymakers. NCFR's booklet *Public Policy through a Family Lens* has been distributed to members of the U.S. Congress, governors, and selected state legislators. This publication illustrates the collective expertise of NCFR members on family-related issues and provides a tool to examine the impact of legislation on families. The annual Public Policy Conference allows members and nonmembers to learn the latest national policy trends that affect families and those who work with them. It also gives colleagues a chance to network and strategize about ways to influence public policy. The public policy committee is also in the beginning stages of developing a SWAT team (Scholars Worldwide Action Team), which will conduct research on the family impact of proposed legislation and develop fact sheets to provide timely and empirical data to members of Congress.
- NCFR updates members over the Internet through "Zippy News," listservs, and the official NCFR web site. We receive the latest information on grant possibilities, census data, public policy issues, and organiza-

tional developments. In addition, the quarterly *NCFR Report* provides us with organizational information as well as a *Family Focus* section devoted to an issue of current interest. *Family Focus* can be removed and added to our files.

- NCFR provides national recognition of outstanding work through awards to individuals and organizations. These awards recognize excellence in research, teaching, service to families, and audio-visual production, as well as outstanding work by students, future administrators, and international scholars.
- NCFR is particularly committed to students and new professionals. They have an elected role in each section and are represented on both the Board of Directors and the Program Planning Committee for the annual meeting. Because many of us first joined NCFR as graduate students and new professionals, we really try to be supportive. A few years ago I asked some of my graduate students who had attended their first NCFR conference how they liked the annual meeting. They said they had learned a lot, but more importantly, they were impressed that everyone was so friendly to them. A new professional recently told me that she liked being a NCFR member and going to our meetings because NCFR was an "organization with a heart."

So what does membership in NCFR

mean to me? If I didn't belong to NCFR, I would feel lost. The **connection** to others in the field, the opportunities to enhance my **competence**, and NCFR's **commitment** to provide us with the latest information helps me to grow, change, and meet the continuing challenges that I face personally and professionally.

*Carol Anderson Darling, Ph.D., CFLE
NCFR President
E-mail: cdarling@mailers.fsu.edu*

Encourage colleagues or students who are interested in joining NCFR to check our web site at www.ncfr.org and to talk with current members. Lend them copies of our publications. Invite them to the annual conference or the meetings of student and affiliate chapters. Have them view our membership CD. (It's available from the NCFR office. An updated version will be available at the annual meeting in November.) Let's promote the 3 Cs of NCFR membership to everyone in the family studies field!



Executive Review

Research that Influences Public Policy

In my last column, I began a discussion on “research that influences public policy” and how family scientists might use a public health framework to articulate issues related to family well-being and public policy. More specifically, I brought up the concept of utilizing epidemiological tools that would “provide data more pertinent to policy makers, such as the prevalence of a problem, its risk to the population, and the potential cost-savings of policy responses.”

In that context, I would like to introduce you to the work of Jean Bauer of the University of Minnesota and Bonnie Braun of the University of Maryland and their colleagues who are studying rural families and welfare (see pages F3 and F4 of *Family Focus*). In tracking the well-being of rural families and their functioning in the context of welfare reform, they studied 433 families in 28 non-metro counties in 15 states. What these researchers found was that employment, in and of itself, does not guarantee a way out of poverty or food security. Moreover they found that even though 50 percent are working, over 70 percent of those do not receive any childcare assistance. Additionally, most mothers reported having trouble making ends meet!

These researchers have developed a “framework for categorizing family income status in relationship to poverty and other well-being studies of families and individuals across the country.” Bauer, Braun, and their colleagues have formed a “surveillance network” that resembles the Community Epidemiology Surveillance Network, which was created in 1976 by a number of multi-agency work groups with a public health orientation. That network studied the spread, growth, and development of drug abuse and related problems. The primary objectives of the network members were to:

- Identify drug abuse patterns in defined geographic areas.
- Identify changes in drug abuse patterns over defined time periods to establish trends.
- Detect emerging substances of abuse.
- Communicate and disseminate the information to appropriate community agencies and organizations so it can be used in developing policies, practices, prevention strategies, and further research studies.

To achieve these objectives, network members accessed existing data and information from multiple sources. They met periodically to review, compare, and

draw conclusions from the data. The data were reported in a standardized format to facilitate the review and comparative analysis. That is exactly what Bauer, Braun, and their colleagues are doing. In fact, their next meeting will take place in October.

Clearly surveillance is a significant component of epidemiology. There must be a way to determine or recognize the existence of disease outbreak (for example, inadequate food security in low-income families) in a geographic area (rural counties) of concern and a way to monitor the data that need to be collected.

In her work with the American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences, Braun has developed an excellent analytical tool – The “Five Is” Policy Analysis Organizing Tool. This tool fits well within the operational framework of a Community Epidemiology Surveillance Network. The “Five Is” format offers a methodology that defines and determines the magnitude of issues related to family well-being, provides an early warning for emerging problems, considers the impact and implications on various levels of policymaking, and provides a “call for action.” This last element is an essential part of any public health framework.

Public health develops population-based strategies to influence behavior change. Public policy becomes the vehicle for that change. When family science researchers use a public health framework, the opportunities for further family policy development increase considerably!

Cases in point are several studies on nurse home visiting to low-income mothers. The researchers found that “nurse-visited mothers had an average of 69 percent fewer arrests, 37 fewer months on food stamps, 30 fewer months on Aid to Families with Dependent Children (the old welfare program), 23 fewer months Medicaid, one-fifth fewer subsequent births, and a spacing of 28 months between first and

Executive Review continued on page 5

Student Chapter Grants – Round Two

With the initial success of creating 16 student affiliate councils, or student chapters, on college campuses this past year, NCFR is pleased to announce that this fall it will once again offer \$500 grants to stimulate the creation of student chapters. The program is a one-time-only request available to departments oriented toward family studies. Grants must be used to start NCFR student-affiliated councils at the undergraduate or graduate level.

The guidelines for this program are straightforward:

- Submit a letter from the dean or department chair requesting the \$500 grant to start up an NCFR student-affiliate council.
- Adhere to the 12-point “Student Affiliate Requirements” guidelines.
- Submit a final report prior to the close of the academic year as to progress and expenditures made.

The deadline for requests is February 1, 2003. Please make inquiries or send your request to Lynda Bessey at NCFR. Lynda’s e-mail address is lbessey@ncfr.org.



Family Policy



Report From Washington

GREATER DISPARITY

NCFR members, concerned with the well being of families, cannot help but be concerned about the growing disparity between the rich and the poor, the working poor and the professional class. Many documents come to me through contacts here in Washington, around the country and the world. A recent small but important paperback book, sent by the National Partnership for Women and Families with their recommendation, seems to me to be one NCFR members would appreciate knowing about and perhaps using in classes. The book is "The Widening Gap: Why America's Working Families Are in Jeopardy and What Can Be Done About It." The author, Jody Heymann is Director of Policy for the Harvard University Center for Society and Health. The thesis of the book is that society has failed to adjust to the changes in work which have taken place in the past century and a half in where and how parents work. She states that, "Our society—like any society with a future—must continually reexamine how best to approach at least three essential issues: what values the society will uphold, how the work of the society will get done, and how future generations

will be raised. The failure to address how working families' needs are met in the United States is affecting all three of these." The book is based on seven years of original survey research, in many cases using subjects already part of national surveys such as the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth which began in 1979. Funds were provided by several of the nationally known foundations and agencies. Useful appendices with graphs point out the effects of work and working conditions for parents which are related to poor child outcomes in school and poor and uncompassionate care for the elderly and other family members.

WELFARE OUTCOME SINCE 1996

Researchers from the Urban Institute have been studying the effects of the 1996 changes in their project, "Assessing the New Federalism." To help inform the debate, their major findings have now been summarized in a new book, "Welfare Reform: The next Act," edited by Alan Weil and Kenneth Finegold. (www.urban.org)

As has been widely reported, the major effect has been a more than 50% drop in the number of families on welfare, but whether the drop has been because of better economic times and governmental

policies such as a higher Earned Income Tax Credit or the work requirement is not clear. We have not heard that the number of child-only cases has also dropped but not as steeply as the overall case load and therefore is a higher percentage of welfare recipients.

Those who have made it off welfare and those working while still on welfare typically have low paying jobs with few benefits. Although people have been able to get jobs and, in combination with work supports, have higher income than before, many single parent families are living in extreme poverty. The hopes that working parents would result in better child outcomes has not been fully realized. Children in welfare families and those who have left welfare "are at similar risk" and child outcomes seem to improve only when there are improved financial resources. Although there appears to have been a "virtuous circle" so far, we do not know what will happen if the economy falters which would lower opportunities for work and would probably diminish federal and state funds for benefits now available.

WELFARE IN CONGRESS

By October 1st of this year the welfare laws of 1996 must either be revised or extended. Working toward this deadline, the House passed their bill in May and the Senate passed theirs in June. There will have to be reconciliation. For the House and the Senate, work is the central goal for welfare recipients. Both have passed versions which would require 24 hours a week in work, but the Democratic Senate specified 30 hours a week of work related activities, while the Republican House specified 40. Any resolution will demand compromises. The Senate is offering more money for childcare but House members claim more money for childcare will not fit the budget. I have not seen mention of care for elders or other family members. Neither the House nor Senate version would fully meet the requirements for an adequate "caring" society, sincerely

EXECUTIVE REVIEW *continued from page 4*

second children. Because of the promising results that have emerged due to the "methodologically sound longitudinal studies," these studies have attracted the attention from policymakers.

That's the beauty of the epidemiologic framework: it gives the researchers the tools to determine what factors might contribute, for example, to better parenting or the reduction of juvenile violence. Researchers can then monitor individual factors over time in longitudinal studies. Ultimately, they can show that a given factor, such as home visiting, lead to a demonstrated change in outcomes.

My concluding thought: if family science researchers conduct well-designed

studies using an epidemiologic model, and if the data are properly analyzed and interpreted, then these studies can provide strong and reliable evidence that can be added to our already burgeoning arsenal of public policy efforts. This means that research will move beyond the "academic journal on the library shelf" and have the potential of leading to a call to action on which to base policy decisions that will affect family well-being of Americans.

As always, I welcome your comments!

Michael L. Benjamin, M.P.H.
NCFR Executive Director
E-mail: mberjamin@ncfr.org

Family Policy continued on page 6



CFLE Directions

How NCFR Members Assess the CFLE Program



The recent NCFR membership survey provided some interesting information about what members think about the CFLE program. 390 NCFR members responded through the Internet; another 45 returned surveys sent through the mail. Responses between the two groups were fairly consistent.

When asked to rank the importance of various member services, 5 = very important, 1 = not at all important, both the Internet responses and the mail responses ranked the CFLE program as 3. But when asked to rank the five most important services in order of 5 -1 with five being the most important, both groups ranked the CFLE program as a 4. The only other member service that received a 4 was the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. All other services received either 2 or 3; none received 1 or 5 when all scores were considered.

Another question asked members to respond to the current expense allocation for each of NCFR's departments. The CFLE department currently repre-

sents 17% of organizational expenses. Of those who responded to the Internet survey, 22% thought this was too high, 31% thought it was just right, 11% thought it was too low, and 36% had no opinion. For those who responded through the paper survey, 13% thought it was too high, 42% just right, 9% too low and 35% had no opinion. When asked to provide an alternate percentage of funds, the allocation averaged out to CFLE representing 16% rather than the current 17%.

Of those who responded via the Internet to the question "Should NCFR allocate more resources for marketing CFLE," 31% said more, 26% about the same, 16% less and 27% didn't know or had no opinion. Paper survey respondents included 26% who thought more should be allocated, 21% about the same, 13% less and 42% didn't know or had no opinion.

31% of the Internet respondents were CFLEs as compared with 39% of those responding through the mail. Of those not already certified 18% of the Internet

respondents stated that they were planning to apply and 22% were undecided; 9% of the mail respondents planned to apply and 13% were undecided.

75% of those responding on the Internet and 77% of those responding to the paper survey felt that the CFLE program was consistent with the mission of NCFR.

Two of the eight questions geared specifically to the CFLE program dealt with the possibility of offering the CFLE designation through an examination rather than the current portfolio review process. For the questions "Would the CFLE designation be more viable if it were obtained through completion of a multiple-choice exam rather than the current portfolio review process," 14% of the Internet respondents and 11% of the paper survey respondents said yes; 41% and 47% said no and 45% and 44% were undecided.

Finally, the survey asked members to respond to the question "What do you think employers might believe about certification if it were obtained through

CFLE Directions continued on page 7

FAMILY POLICY

continued from page 5

devoted to making sure the next generation is raised to maximize their potential for good and healthy citizenship. In addition to positive governmental policies, there is great need for change in the workplace to include flexibility in work time to care for families, opportunity for education, assistance in adequate health care, both physical and mental, and sufficient income to enable working parents to rise from poverty.

It is unlikely that the values of Heymann's caring society will be fully exemplified in this year's reauthorization but we can hope that lawmakers, or their staffs, will read and profit from the research work exemplified in these two books.

Margaret Feldman, Ph.D.
NCFR Policy Representative
E-mail: mefeldman@aol.com

CIVITAS

Have you even wondered if there is one trusted source of information on child development that could help make your job easier? Provide you with the answers you're looking for in a fast and interesting way? Look no further, Civitas - a not-for-profit communications group that creates and distributes child development tools- has a series of resources available just for you.

If you're like thousands of professionals who have used these products successfully with their clients, you might be interested in learning more about our videos. *Begin with Love*, a 30-minute video hosted by Oprah Winfrey in English and Cristina Saralegui in Spanish, provides new parents with answers to help give babies the best possible start in life. *Grandparenting: Enriching Lives* - features the most up-to-date information on child development and highlights the profound effect grandparents can have on the lives of their grandchildren while providing ideas for making the most of this invaluable relationship.

If a book is more your style, look no further. Civitas recently released *Understanding Children*, which addresses over one hundred of the most pressing questions facing today's parents and caregivers, while offering helpful advice compiled from the world's leading childcare experts.

To learn more about Civitas or to order any of these products, log on to www.civitas.org or call 1-800-TO-BEGIN (for videos)

CFLE DIRECTIONS *continued from page 6*

completion of a multiple-choice exam rather than the current portfolio review process." The responses were as follows: for Internet respondents, 21% thought it might make the designation more valuable, 26% about the same, 12% less valuable and 42% did not know or had no opinion. For paper survey respondents, 16% thought it would make the designation more valuable, 40% about the same, 11% less valuable and 35% did not know or had no opinion.

The HumRRO CFLE survey conducted last year also included a question about the portfolio process versus an examination but phrased the question in a different way. Respondents to that survey were asked to rank their level of confidence in the quality of the CFLE certification if it were administered through an exam rather than a portfolio process. In that survey, 8% reported much more confidence 44% felt they would have more confidence and 43% said there would be no difference, 4% would have less confidence and 1% much less confidence. The audiences for these two surveys were different (NCFR membership versus a randomly-selected sample of family life educators and FLE employers throughout the country). While the HumRRO survey respondents were a bit more confident in an exam-based certification process, neither response group showed a marked preference for an exam over the current portfolio review process.

What does this all mean to the CFLE program? Overall the responses show strong support for the CFLE designation within the NCFR organization. Most members feel the CFLE program is consistent with the mission of NCFR, that it is an important member service, and that the amount of expense allocated to the administration of the program is appropriate. Ideally we would have liked to see a higher percentage for the number of members that planned to apply for the CFLE certification (only 18%) but can focus on educating the 22% that were undecided about the benefits of holding the designation.

FUTURE STEPS

For the past few years I have been increasingly convinced that NCFR should develop an examination to replace the current portfolio review process. My attendance at the National Organization

for Competency Assurance (NOCA) and the Veterans Administration Transition Assistance Conferences, review of other certifying organization's practices, and exposure to articles and newsletters from the certification industry, confirmed that a professionally-developed and administered multiple-choice exam was the industry standard. In addition, a formal examination is a more objective and legally defensible form of evaluation.

Given this information, we still strongly believe that NCFR should invest in the development of an examination for the CFLE designation. However, we think it may be prudent to postpone the development of the exam for a year or two. In the meantime we would pursue other efforts in order to increase the likelihood that once an examination is available, it will be welcomed and utilized.

In reviewing the marketing analysis provided by HumRRO and Michael Hamm and Associates, it became clear that the reason more people are not pursuing the CFLE designation or employing people that are certified, is not the fact that the application process is conducted through a portfolio review process rather than a multiple choice exam, but rather the fact that they are not really aware of family life education

as a profession and/or the existence of the CFLE designation. While we think it would be in NCFR's best interest to provide the CFLE designation through an objective, legally defensible exam, it will not necessarily result in an increase in employer's awareness of the designation. And it may in fact result in a decline in applications. We have had very few people tell us that they want to wait to apply until the exam is in place; rather most people have said they want to be sure to apply *before* an exam is required. Few people are excited about the prospect of taking a test.

Before we invest \$50,000 - \$80,000 in the development of an examination we are instead launching a comprehensive and multifaceted effort at increasing employer awareness of students and professionals with training in family life education.

NCFR has at its disposal a number of relatively low-cost, easily implemented activities/efforts that would increase recognition and awareness of family life education as a profession and the CFLE designation as the preferred professional credential. NCFR can take advantage of these opportunities and actively involve NCFR membership and other stakeholders in this effort. The majority of these

CFLE Directions continued on page 8

CERTIFIED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATORS

Following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators designated since March 15, 2002. (* - Provisional)

Alabama Angela Hardy *	Kansas Deanell French * Sarah Johnson *	Missouri Peggy North-Jones Karla Parman *	Pennsylvania Sharon Myers * Judith Turnbaugh *
Arizona Gloria Gabler	Erin Krause * Jessica Shirk *	Nebraska Angel Kramer Nichols * Christine Psota *	Tennessee Allan Kennedy * Wilhelmina Williams
Florida Melanie Bazarte Martha Campbell Genevieve John Jennifer Ringel Cherrise Wilks *	Kentucky Heather Hoskins *	New Mexico Faith Ybarra *	Texas Wen-Hsing Cheng * Sandra Renick * Joan Roberts
Illinois Jeff Fish * Michelle Kruss *	Michigan Jeanette Frey * Colin Jenkins * Christy Johnkoski-Tomasi * Brenda Knapp * Nancy Lahring-Boyer * Debra Miller *	North Carolina Melinda Bennett * Latresa Webster Phillips	Utah Jerry Cook Scott Erickson * Dixie Greenwood * Aaron Larson Leisha Olney * David Thorne *
Indiana Reba Colley	Rebecca Pasko Andreas Philaretou Delphine Portee * Deborah Threatt * Janet Vannest	Ohio Jennifer Dailey * Jennifer O'Malley *	Wisconsin Sarah Hotchkiss Katherine Short *
		Oregon Brenda White *	



Members in the News

Obituary

Jean Ann Griffin Glass, CFLE, of Covina, California, passed away March 24, 2002. She had been an NCFR member since 1988.

CFLE DIRECTIONS

continued from page 7

efforts can be implemented with funds from within the current CFLE budget.

NCFR has identified three stakeholders who have something to gain by increasing awareness of family life education as a profession. NCFR is in a position to function as a clearinghouse with these stakeholders and to work with them to increase awareness among consumers of family life education and among potential employers. These stakeholders include: **NCFR Affiliate Councils, NCFR Approved Academic Programs, and CFLEs**. NCFR will work closely with each stakeholder group to take advantage of the marketing/public relations opportunities available. NCFR's efforts will prove beneficial for each group as they all stand to gain by increased recognition and value of family life education as a profession. Over the next two to three years NCFR will work aggressively to implement these activities. The intent is that these efforts will help to establish family life education and the CFLE designation so that should NCFR choose to develop a CFLE exam in the future, it will be welcomed and utilized.

I will discuss in detail our plan to work with identified stakeholders to increase the visibility and value of the family life education profession and the CFLE designation in the next CFLE Report column. In the meantime, if you would like more specific information about this effort, please contact me at dawn@ncfr.org

*Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE
NCFR Certification Director
E-mail: dawn@ncfr.org*

Donations

The following persons have contributed donations since May 2002. Their generosity aids NCFR in continuing its programs and awards.

General Fund

Letha Chadiha – Ann Arbor, MI

Annual Conference Fund

Lane Powell, CFLE – Lubbock, TX

For more information on contributing to NCFR, contact:

Michael L. Benjamin, NCFR Executive Director, 3989 Central Ave. NE, Suite 550, Minneapolis, MN 55421

Toll free: 888-781-9331 ext. 21 or mbenjamin@ncfr.org

CORRECTION

In the March 2002 issue it was noted that Maureen Blankemeyer made a donation to the General Fund. It should have stated that the donation was on behalf of **Margaret Arcus, CFLE, Deborah Gentry, CFLE, Bron Ingoldsby, CFLE, and Kathleen Gilbert, CFLE**. NCFR apologizes for the mistake.

NCFR REPORT – Family Focus on ...

Call for Topic Papers

Issue	Topic	Deadline for Topic Section
December 2002	Medical Technology & Families	October 1

2003 Family Focus topics will be decided based on member input and discussions at this year's annual conference.

We continue to welcome your suggestions and offers to write or be willing to be interviewed by our journalist, Dr. Nancy Giguere.

If you have data, research or practice articles for any of these topics, or know of outstanding persons who can be interviewed or taped please call or e-mail Michael Benjamin immediately at 888-781-9331, ext. 21 or mbenjamin@ncfr.org.

Let us hear from you about other topics that you would like to see published in the *Report*.

ON THE NET

Access NCFR's website at: www.ncfr.org

To reach NCFR headquarters: **John Pepper**
pepper@ncfr.org
ncfr3989@ncfr.org

To reach specific staff members: **Jeanne Ryberg**
jryberg@ncfr.org

Michael L. Benjamin
mbenjamin@ncfr.org

Judy Schutz
ncfr3989@ncfr.org

Lynda Bessey
lbessey@ncfr.org

Sasha Smith
sasha@ncfr.org

Dawn Cassidy
dawn@ncfr.org

Cindy Winter
wintersc@ncfr.org

Nikki Cunningham
nikki@ncfr.org

To reach NCFR President
Carol Darling:
cdarling@mailier.fsu.edu

Laura Eiklenborg
laura@ncfr.org



Annual Conference

Where Can You Find an Environment of Discovery, Intellectual Challenge, and Debate?

Attend the 2002 Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop in Houston on November 19th-20th. TCRM meets annually as a pre-conference event at the beginning of the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference. The TCRM 2002 theme is **Bridging Theory and Research**, echoing NCFR's theme of *Families Over the Life Course: Bridging Research and Practice*.

Our mission is to facilitate the creation and refinement of theory and methods relative to the study of families. TCRM

strives to create an environment of discovery, intellectual challenge, and debate for authors and colleagues who have "works-in-progress" that could benefit from the collective wisdom and critique of informed scholars. Rather than formal presentations of papers, TCRM sessions comprise informed discussions of working papers that are sent out in advance to all TCRM registrants.

For TCRM 2002, workshop highlights include:

- an opening plenary session on *Interrogating Structure and Function* with

David Demo and David Klein discussing papers by Don Swenson and by Jim White and colleagues

- discussions of 18 working papers, including an invited paper on *Black Feminism as Identity Politics* by April Few and Stacey Floyd-Thomas
- brainstorming sessions on *Work and Families* and on *Family and Child Assessment*
- a panel discussion on the new *Sourcebook of Family Theories and Methods* revision project, featuring the newly selected editors, Alan Acock, Vern Bengtson, Katherine Allen, Peggye Dilworth-Anderson, and David Klein.
- a closing plenary on *Bridging Gender Theory and Research* featuring invited speaker Janet Saltzman Chafetz, editor of the *Handbook of Gender Theory* and chair of sociology at the University of Houston, with discussants Alexis Walker, Katherine Allen, and Kristine Baber.

All NCFR members are invited to come early to the conference to attend these special sessions! Registration is only \$40 (\$25 for students) and includes advance copies of all 18 papers to be discussed in the workshop sessions. A complete TCRM 2002 schedule is included in the NCFR conference program and a separate registration form and TCRM 2002 program is available on the NCFR web site at <http://www.ncfr.org/tcrm/default.htm>. To receive a TCRM 2002 workshop schedule, registration form, or reading packet (\$20 without conference registration), contact Libby Balter Blume, Chair, TCRM 2002, P.O. Box 19900, Detroit, MI, 48219-0900 or blumelb@udmercy.edu.

Libby Balter Blume, CFLE
Chair, TCRM
E-mail: blumelb@udmercy.edu

Employment Matching Service

Graduate students from Texas Woman's University will manage the Employment Matching Service at the annual conference. This year's service will provide both print versions of employment information and electronic databases. In this way, the service can be extended beyond the six days of the conference, aiding employers in following up with candidates they don't have a chance to meet in Houston.

The Master's and doctoral students spearheading these new options are enrolled in Leadership & Staff Development at Texas Woman's University. Their attendance at the Houston Conference will be their only in-person meeting during the semester-long Internet course. While at the conference, they will be studying and visiting with the outstanding leaders in the family field who gather each year at NCFR. Dr. Mary Bold of the TWU Department of Family Sciences will accompany them. Dr. Bold teaches both online and on-campus graduate courses in Family Studies.

This year's Employment Matching Service will include the traditional notebooks of resumes and job listings that NCFR has made available in a designated room at each conference. The new feature of electronic databases will be on display in the same room. At the end of the conference in Houston, the database of job applicants will be available to all participating employers. (Job applicants will have the option of whether their resumes will appear in the database or be limited to the Conference display).

Our "hybrid" approach to the Employment Matching Service will be evaluated after the conference. This will help NCFR in deciding how to continue to improve this service to Conference attendees and NCFR members.

Candidates are included in the display notebooks and the electronic database at no cost. Employers can list job openings at a cost of \$25 per listing.

Forms for participating in the Employment Matching Service are available in the Conference space of the NCFR website, www.ncfr.com. Information is also available from Dr. Mary Bold at TWU, MBold@twu.edu.

Mary Bold, CFLE
Texas Woman's University
E-mail: MBold@twu.edu

Visit the National Extension Parenting Educators' Framework website:
<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fcs/NEPEF.html>

Reuben Hill Award Recipients

The winners of the Reuben Hill Award for the Best Research Articles Published in 2001 are William G. Axinn and Scott T. Yabiku for their article "Social Change, the Social Organization of Families, and Fertility Limitation" (*American Journal of Sociology* 106: 1219-1261) and Jody Van Laningham, David R. Johnson, and Paul Amato for their article "Marital Happiness, Marital Duration, and the U-Shaped Curve: Evidence from a Five-Wave Panel Study" (*Social Forces* 79: 1313-1341).

The Reuben Hill Award is given in memory of Reuben Hill, Regents' Professor of Sociology, University of Minnesota. Dr. Hill was a pioneer in the field of Family Research, and a leader in NCFR.

The Reuben Hill Award Committee, chaired by Ted Greenstein of North Carolina State University, reviewed articles from nearly fifty professional journals. The award is given annually to an outstanding article that combines theory and research in the tradition of the award's namesake. This year, two articles were so highly evaluated that the award is shared.

Axinn's and Yabiku's paper examines the role of the social organization of the family as a link between macro-level social change and individual-level childbearing decisions. They use multi-level hazard models to analyze data provided by 1,395 married women from south-central Nepal. They find strong evidence for contextual effects – that non-family services and organizations near communities increase fertility limitation of women – on childbearing behavior.

William G. Axinn is Professor of Sociology at the University of Michigan. His work studies the relationships among social change, family organization, intergenerational relationships, marriage, cohabitation and fertility in the United States and Nepal. His research also includes the development of new methods for collecting social science data. His teaching centers on the family, the life course, fertility and research methods. Scott T. Yabiku is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Michigan studying family, life course, demography, and population and environment.

Van Laningham's, Johnson's and Amato's paper uses a five-wave sample of 1,479 individuals to study one of the better-known empirical generalizations in sociology of marriages and families: the U-shaped relationship between marital duration and marital happiness. They conclude that this U-shaped pattern is most likely an artifact of cross-sectional research, and that the relationship more likely is negative (that is, marital happiness declines over time) when other life-course variables are taken into account.

Jody Van Laningham received her Ph.D. in Sociology in 1996 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, specializing in the areas of family studies and research methods and statistics. She is currently working at home and enjoying the full-time care of her children ages 4 and 1. Her research interests include marriage

and family relationships over the life course, children's mental health, and family policy, particularly in regard to child abuse and neglect and alternative care placements. David R. Johnson is a Professor of Sociology and Human Development and Family Studies and Director of the Survey Research Center at Pennsylvania State University. His research interests include marriage over the life course, mental health and family, rural-urban differences in mental health, hormones and social behavior, marital naming, quantitative longitudinal research methods, and community effects on child neglect. Paul Amato is a Professor of Sociology, Demography, and Family Studies at Pennsylvania State University. His research interests include marital quality, the causes and consequences of divorce, parent-child relationships across the life course, and psychological well-being.



Make Plans Now to Submit a Proposal for the 2003 Conference in Vancouver

Although it seems like a long time away, the 2003 Annual Conference will be upon us before we know it, so it is a good idea to start making initial plans for attendance and participation by submitting a proposal.

The theme for the conference will be *What is the Future of Marriage?* Many of the sessions on our program will revisit Jessie Bernard's fundamental question, posed in her classic 1972 book, *The Future of Marriage*. We will explore this question from a variety of perspectives, with attention to race and ethnicity, gender, social class, and sexual orientation.

Our first plenary speaker at the conference will be **Andrew Cherlin** from Johns Hopkins University, who will address the topic from the perspectives of demography and social policy. Curiously, the last time the NCFR conference theme referred to marriage was in 1958, when the theme was "Marriage, the Family, and the NCFR."

In addition to having a great program, we will be meeting in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia, which should be a big draw. **In 2003, the conference will begin mid-day on Wednesday and finish on Saturday evening.** This arrangement

makes it possible for most NCFR members residing on the east coast or in the south to catch an early morning flight on Wednesday and arrive in Vancouver in time for the first session. Moreover, with Sunday free, some members may choose to stay an extra day in Vancouver to do some sightseeing. Vancouver has an abundance of museums, cultural activities, great restaurants, and stunning scenery.

The formal call for proposals will appear in the conference packets at the 2002 Conference and in the December *NCFR Report*. **A separate call for proposals will appear on the NCFR web site next month.** However, if you are planning to submit a paper to the program, then it would be useful to start thinking **now** about your presentation. Keep in mind that not all proposals are accepted, and your proposal will stand a better chance of acceptance if it describes research (or theoretical work) that is either completed or close to completion. I am hoping that the 2003 Conference will be one of the best ever, but we need **your help** to make this happen!

Paul R. Amato, Penn State Univ.
2003 Annual Conference Program Chair
E-mail: pxa6@psu.edu

NCFR Honors Its Colleagues for Outstanding Work: 2002 NCFR Award Winners Announced

NCFR seeks to honor those who have distinguished themselves in the family field. The following awards will be presented during NCFR President Carol Darling's Presidential Address on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2:15 pm.

Jan Trost Outstanding Contribution to Comparative Family Studies Award: Bron Ingoldsby, CFLE, Brigham Young Univ. This award is given in honor of Jan Trost, Uppsala Univ., Sweden. He was one of

the founders of the International Section, a past chair of the Section, and a past NCFR Board Member.

Reuben Hill Award for the Best Research Article of 2001: William Axinn and Scott T. Yahiku, Univ. of Michigan; Jody Van Laningham, Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, and David R. Johnson, and Paul R. Amato, Penn State Univ. (two articles tied for first place). See article on page 10.

NCFR Student Award for Excellence as a Student With High Potential for Contribution to the Field of Family Studies: Jason D. Hans, CFLE, Univ. of Missouri-Columbia.

Outstanding Research Proposal From a Feminist Perspective in Honor of Jessie Bernard: Abbie Goldberg, Univ. of Massachusetts/Amherst, for her proposal, *The Transition to Parenthood for Lesbian Couples: Implications for Mothers' Psychological Well-being and Relationship Quality.*

Outstanding Contributions to Feminist Scholarship Paper Award in Honor of Jessie Bernard: Lori A. McGraw, Oregon State Univ. for her paper, *Meanings of Sisterhood and Disability: Narratives from White, Able-Bodied Sisters*

These two awards are given in memory of Jessie Bernard, former NCFR Board Member, and pioneer in the field of Feminism and Family Studies.

The Marie Peters Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Area of Ethnic Minorities will be announced during the Awards Ceremonies, but will be presented in 2003 during the Peters Award Address. This award is given in memory of Marie F. Peters, a pioneer in the study of Ethnic Families, a former NCFR Board member, and leader and one of the founders of the Ethnic Minorities Section.

The Ernest Burgess Award for an Outstanding Career in Family Research and Theory will be given to Pauline Boss, Univ. of Minnesota, on Saturday, Nov. 23, 3:45 p.m. in conjunction with Dr. Boss' delivery of the Burgess Award Address (see article at left).

The following appreciation awards will be presented during the Annual Business Meeting, Friday, Nov. 22, 6:00 p.m.

2002 Annual Conference Program Chair: Alan Booth, Penn State Univ.

Local Arrangements Committee Chair: Maxine Hammonds-Smith, CFLE, Texas Southern Univ.

Awards given by various NCFR Sections and Focus Groups will be presented during their respective membership meetings.



Burgess Award Recipient

Pauline Boss, professor of family social science at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, is this year's recipient of the Burgess Award. Widely known nationally and internationally for her work on ambiguous loss and boundary ambiguity, Professor Boss will give the Burgess Lecture at this year's NCFR Annual Conference. Her topic is "Ambiguous Loss and Boundary Ambiguity: Lessons Learned from Three Decades of Research, Theory, and Practice." Burgess honorees also receive a cash award, travel expenses to the conference, and a plaque commemorating their achievements.

Several members of NCFR served on the award committee. One committee member said, "Honoring Pauline Boss is particularly appropriate in this post-September 11 period when so many people are experiencing 'ambiguous loss.' Her ideas are of central importance in that area—and it's clearly an area that really matters across so many domains." Boss and her students traveled to New York several times to work with families who lost loved ones in the September 11th attack on the World Trade Center. Other committee members noted her long-term commitment to the promotion of family scholarship, as an editor of the *Sourcebook on Marriage and the Family*, as a participant in the pre-conference workshop on Theory Development and Research Methodology, and as president of NCFR.

Professor Boss joins a distinguished group of family scholars who are recipients of the award. Past awardees include Alice Rossi, John Gottman, Helena

Znaniecka Lopata, Vern Bengston, Rueben Hill, Joann Aldous, Glen Elder, and Mavis Hetherington.

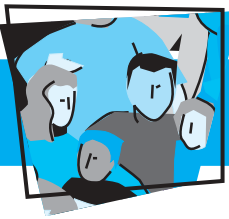
The award is named after Ernest Burgess, a major early figure in family scholarship and a member of the department of sociology at the University of Chicago between 1916 and 1951. He was one of the co-founders of NCFR and served as its fourth president. Professor Burgess was also a co-founder of NCFR's first journal, now the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. After his retirement, friends and colleagues donated money to establish the award in his name.

The Burgess Award and Lecture is given every other year and is sponsored by the Research and Theory Section of NCFR. Immediate past chairs of the section organize the award process. The present chair of the section is a member of the committee. Jane F. Gilgun chaired this year's Burgess Award Committee as a non-voting member. Committee members were Nan Crouter who is the current chair of the Research and Theory Section, Robin Jarrett, Gregory Harris, Jay Mancini, Lynn Blinn Pike, Walter Schumm, Patricia Voydanoff, and Gayle Ricks.

Jane Gilgun
Chair, Burgess Award Committee
jgilgun@tc.umn.edu

Have you registered for the Conference yet?

Register before fees increase after October 15th. Online: www.ncfr.org or call/fax in your registration.



Section News

Feminism and Family Studies Section



I'm writing this column the week the Western Circuit Court ruled the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional, due to the "under God" clause. The decision and its media coverage took me back to my school days, when I learned the pledge. As my mother told the story, I came home puzzled about how we could pledge "with liberty and justice for all" while asserting that we are "under God." At age 6, coming from a family with two

different religious traditions (Protestant and Muslim), I could not understand how we could say there was justice and freedom for all when we claimed that our country was under one God.

And I'm still fascinated by the idea of different religious and spiritual traditions and how they intersect with our philosophies and lives. This interest spurred me to organize a special session at NCFR's upcoming annual conference, which will

be held on Saturday, from 5-6:30. The session is entitled "Reconciling Spirituality and Feminism: Religious Identity and Beliefs in Cultural Contexts." This session is co-sponsored with the Ethnic Minorities section. Beth Miller, who organized and moderated last year's powerful and well attended session, "Balancing on the Edge of a Dual Lens," will serve as moderator for this special session. Speakers will include FFS section members Sally Gallagher on Evangelical Christianity and feminism and Batya Hyman on Jewish lesbians and feminism, among other speakers. It promises to be an engaging and stimulating session!

I'm delighted to be co-sponsoring many sessions with other sections at the NCFR meetings. I think it's great that feminist perspectives and approaches are being infused across the NCFR program. If you are wondering how to know if a session was submitted to FFS or is one that is being co-sponsored with another section, an easy way to tell is if there is a recorder assigned to the session. The FFS section established the post of recorder so that we would be able to distribute via our newsletter short abstracts of each session. Before the conference, we'll be sending an electronic listing of the sessions we are sponsoring and co-sponsoring. If you are not on our section's email listserv, our section newsletter editor, Becky Warner, is willing to send information from the section to you, upon request. Contact her at rwarn@orst.edu.

One more update about the NCFR Annual Conference: our section will be selling t-shirts to raise money for the Jessie Bernard Scholarship fund. You can pre-order shirts from Ramona Oswald (roswald@uiuc.edu) or come to the conference with money to spare. T-shirts make great gifts too! We look forward to displaying our t-shirts at the conference and supporting our awards for students and new professionals.

Anisa Zvonkovic
Chair, Feminism and Family Studies Section
E-mail: zvonkova@orst.edu

Family Policy Section

The Family Policy Section received many outstanding proposals for the 2002 conference in Houston. We will be sponsoring five symposia, thirteen posters, and two roundtables. All of the presentations will address current issues that converge at the busy intersection of families and public policy.

Two symposia will focus on welfare reform. One will discuss the link between research findings and welfare policy while the other will focus on parental advocacy in welfare reform. A third panel will address family services and child care from both military and civilian perspectives, the fourth will explore families and aging issues with an emphasis on challenges facing informal caregivers, and the fifth symposium will examine various strategies for converting policy research to action.

There are two new features being introduced this year with respect to poster sessions. First, all section posters are scheduled within the same time frame and they are confined to the same physical space, making it more convenient for interested viewers. And second, each section will select their top poster and honor the author(s) for their achievement. Poster topics this year include, but are not limited to, foster care; policy initiatives to strengthen families; work and family issues; child custody; food security under welfare reform; and issues related to schools, families, and communities.

The two roundtables sponsored by the Family Policy Section include one on designing and teaching a course on family law and another on the role of parental involvement in the delivery of social services to children and families.

At least two other sessions that may be of interest to family policy section members in particular are the Work/Life Summit, a pre-conference workshop scheduled for Wednesday, November 20th, and a special Public Policy Seminar ("Getting Your Policy Grant Funded") presented by Karen Bogenschneider on Friday, November 22nd.

Presiders and discussants have all been selected for the five symposia. However, there is still a need for recorders. Our tentative plan is to ask the recorders to summarize each session and circulate their summaries via the section listserv. Anyone who is interested in being a recorder should contact Steve Wisensale, Section Chair, at Steven.Wisensale@uconn.edu. In the meantime, if anyone has any policy-oriented information they would like to share with their fellow section members, they should do so through the Family Policy Section's listserv address at familypolicy@cfapress.org.

Steven Wisensale
Chair, Family Policy Section
E-mail: Steven.Wisensale@uconn.edu

Research and Theory Section

The 2002 program for Research and Theory looks very strong, and I hope many members will come to Houston to take part in it! One highlight will be a methods workshop on Friday, November 22nd at 8:30 a.m. Entitled, "Using Multilevel Modeling to Analyze Dyadic Data", the workshop will be presented by Drs. Aline G. Sayer, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, and Mary Maguire Klute, RMC Research Corporation, Denver. The presenters are not only excellent methodologists, but they are great teachers who are able to make complex methods user-friendly. You won't want to miss their presentation.

A panel of over 30 family scholars from the U.S. and Canada did a superb job reviewing submissions to our section (their names will appear in the NCFR program). I especially encouraged symposium submissions because they are such a good way of showcasing research efforts that fit together well. Symposia to look forward to in November include: **The Coparental Relationship and Non-residential Fathering; Work in the Working-Class: Low-Wage Jobs and Work-Family Challenges; The Family Ecology of Children's Media Use: Evidence From the PSID Child Development Supplement; Sibling Relationships: A Neglected Area of Family Re-**

search; Families and Technology: An Agenda for Research; and Reducing the Stress of Concurrent Planning for Children in Foster Care: The "Lifelines for Kids" Program. Research and Theory is also co-sponsoring several symposia and paper sessions with other sections.

The section will hold its annual business meeting from 7-8:15 p.m. on Friday, November 22nd. All members are encouraged to come. We especially welcome students, new professionals, and those new to NCFR. It's a good chance to see old friends and make new ones. After the business meeting (and the traditional dessert reception), there will be a meeting at 8:30 to discuss plans for the second edition of the *Sourcebook of Family Theories and Methods*. Anyone who is interested in possibly contributing a chapter to that volume, who would like to provide early input to the editors about content, or who is simply curious about the plans, should plan to attend. The first edition of the *Sourcebook* has been a source of pride (and revenue) for the section, and we want to do all we can to support the creation of a strong second edition.

Hope to see you in Houston!

Ann C. Crouter
Chair, Research and Theory Section
E-mail: ac1@psu.edu

Education and Enrichment Section

NCFR members have quite an exciting conference awaiting them in Houston! The Plenary Panels, Special Sessions and RUPS (Research Updates for Practitioners) are filled with cutting edge issues that will stretch our minds and strengthen our skills for working with families across the lifespan.

Plan to attend the Education and Enrichment Section Meeting, scheduled for 8:30 – 9:45 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 22nd. Exciting initiatives will be unveiled, outstanding awards will be bestowed, and energetic new officers and committee members will seek your feedback and input.

In addition to registering at the hotel and making your travel plans, start thinking about your proposal for next year's conference. Proposals accepted in the Education and Enrichment section include rigorous evaluations backed up by systematic data collection. What data are you currently collecting on your most innovative programs? Who might you collaborate with to prepare a winning proposal for next year's conference? Let your good ideas percolate, and plan to network with potential collaborators at this year's annual meeting.

I look forward to seeing you in Houston. This is going to be a great conference!

Pat Tanner Nelson, CFLE, Chair, Education and Enrichment Section
E-mail: ptnelson@udel.edu

Ethnic Minorities Section

The 2002 Annual Conference sessions sponsored by this section promise to bridge theory, research, and practice over the life course of ethnic families. Highlights include:

- **A Special session** co-sponsored with Feminism and Family Studies. *Reconciling Spirituality and Feminism: Religious Identity and Beliefs in Cultural Contexts* concerns the spirituality and religion of women and the social contexts that impinge upon them as they confront sexism and reconcile feminist beliefs within their cultural traditions.
- **Diverse ethnic identities** in families for adolescents as well as adults.
- **Immigration and the Family:** a cutting-edge research update.
- **The Marie Peters Award** will be presented this year.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2002-2004 section officers: Farell J. Webb, Chair-Elect, April L. Few, Secretary-Treasurer, and Student/New Professional Representatives, Heather Hathaway Miranda and Ani Yazedjian! Special thanks to the other hardworking members of this section also nominated for these positions. Kudos for your teamwork!

MENTORING PROGRAM. M. Dewana Thompson developed comprehensive information on the EM Section mentoring program that includes an overview of the program, guidelines, and the responsibilities of mentors and mentees. Gracias, muchas gracias to Dewana for her time and effort in matching mentees with mentors in the Section!

Volume II of the Resource Manual for Teaching about Ethnic Families is available by special request to Adriana J. Umaña-Taylor, CFLE (umana@uiuc.edu).

EM Students and New Professionals are encouraged to attend all the S/NP events at the conference. Your S/NP representatives are Adriana J. Umaña-Taylor, CFLE (umana@uiuc.edu) and M. Dewana Thompson (DThomp7766@aol.com).

I am looking forward to seeing you at our next exciting conference in Houston!

Estella A. Martinez
Chair, Ethnic Minorities Section
E-mail: estella@unm.edu

Family and Health Section

Conference Highlights

Save these dates on your calendar: Nov. 20-Nov 24, 2002. The Family Health Section is sponsoring a number of cutting edge presentations at the 2002 Annual Conference that will be held in Houston, TX. A broad range of family health topics will be presented. Session topics include: "Adult Health and Family Caregiving," "Family Caregiving: Children with Special Health Needs," and "Family Issues Related to Substance Abuse."

Pre-Conference Invitation (Wednesday, Nov. 20th, 1-5 p.m.)

James Pennebaker will be presenting a timely workshop on "Putting Stress into Words: Writing, Health and Trauma." We are co-sponsoring this workshop with the Family Therapy Section.

Family and Health Section Meeting

(Saturday Nov. 23rd, 6:45-8:00 p.m.)

Join other colleagues who are interested in the interaction between health, health care and the family. This is a great opportunity to network and have a voice in planning next year's agenda.

Special Session: "Family Management of Ethical Issues in Genetic Testing"

(Friday, Nov. 22nd, 8:30-9:45 p.m.)

Kathy Knaff & Marcia VanRiper will be presenting on "Family Management of Ethical Issues in Genetic Testing" in a special session sponsored by the Chronic Illness and Disability Focus Group. This focus group addresses research and practice issues related to families who have members with developmental disabilities or special health care needs. For more information, contact Glenna Boyce: glenna@cpd2.usu.edu.

Issues in Aging Families Focus Group

(Friday, Nov. 22nd, 7:00-8:15 pm)

You are invited to attend the focus group, which provides a forum where gerontology/geriatric specialists and graduate students can network and exchange ideas related to aging families. In addition

to the focus group meeting, this section is sponsoring a special symposium on "Grandparenthood: The Current State of Research and Practice." For more information, contact Christine Price: CPrice@hec.ohio-state.edu.

Listserv

We are relying on our Family and Health Section listserv to share section news and information with members. If you have

not received any information via the listserv in the past 6 months, please contact John Pepper: pepper@ncfr.org to make sure that NCFR has your correct e-mail address.

Hope to see you in Houston in November.

Ann Garwick

Chair, Family Health Section

E-mail, garwi001@umn.edu

International Section

The program is now complete for the 2002 Conference. The International Section will sponsor two paper sessions (4 papers per session) on adolescence and marriage, one symposium on couple formation, one roundtable on professional development experiences of international students/scholars, and one poster session (12 posters) of diverse topics. Thanks to Richard Wampler, chair of the Family Therapy Section, we will be co-sponsoring a paper session on war and trauma. All paper and poster sessions for the conference will be scheduled in separate time periods, so there might be adequate opportunity for you to attend any and all presentations of interest to you.

The paper sessions will be organized slightly different this year. I requested that the discussants play a more facilitative role in promoting an exchange between presenters and audience members. It is my hope that this will provide more opportunities for dialogue (which is sometimes not available at the end of sessions) among those interested in particular topics. The discussants will have the option of sharing their observations during the dialogue, but will not be expected to prepare a formal commentary on each of the papers.

The presentations will highlight the broad scope of international studies conducted by students and scholars. One paper will focus on a 17-nation (e.g., Australia, Iceland, Japan, Sweden) study of marriage. Most of the presentations do not include such a large cross-national sample, but make a significant contribution in understanding the cultural experiences within one or two countries. Collectively, the presentations inform us about the experiences of individuals/families who currently reside (and/or have a cultural background from) the following nations:

Australia	Iran	Romania
Bahamas	Ireland	Singapore
Belgium	Israel	Spain
Canada	Italy	Sweden
China	Japan	Taiwan
Denmark	Kenya	Turkey
Ecuador	Korea	Ukraine
France	Netherlands	United Arab Emirates
Germany	Norway	United States of America
Iceland	Poland	Yugoslavia

Given this variety, I think the program provides an exciting opportunity to learn about many aspects of family/relationship dynamics around the globe. I wish to thank everyone who took the time to submit a proposal this year; it was your time and effort that made the International Section's presence in the program possible.

As the 2002 program is finalized, I must already begin working on the 2003 Conference. If you have any comments or questions about the role of the International Section in the next conference, please contact me at the e-mail address listed below. Thank you for your interest and support for the section.

Jacki Fitzpatrick, CFLE, Chair, International Section

E-mail: jfitzpatrick@hs.ttu.edu

NCFR WANTS TO KNOW!

If you have moved or plan on moving, please call: 1-888-781-9331 or e-mail: ncfr3989@ncfr.org with your new address.

The U.S. Postal Service does not forward publications like the Report or journals, and we want to make sure you receive them.

THANK YOU!

Family Science Section

A dedicated group of reviewers worked to identify an outstanding selection of papers, symposia, and posters to be sponsored by the Family Science Section for the upcoming Annual Conference to be held in Houston, Texas. Some of the sessions complement the conference theme. Audrey Clark, Scott Wayne Plunkett, and Stacey E. Longmore will contribute to a paper session entitled "Children, Communities, and Collaboration." Their paper will emphasize university-community collaboration to enhance the education of Head Start employees. Tammy Harpel will round-out a paper session entitled "Emerging Issues in Family Life Education: Making It 'Real'." The focus of her particular paper is teaching undergraduate students about adult development.

Roundtables attract many conference attendees. Kathryn K. Rettig and Kerry L. Kriener-Althen will share their insights about the challenges of using court records to conduct family research at a traditional round table session. William Rose and Douglas A. Abbott will host a teaching roundtable featuring service-learning experiences for family studies students. Jamilah L. Salim, Jennifer L. Hardesty, and Jason D. Hans will facilitate another teaching roundtable emphasizing the use of genograms to teach family systems theory in the context of large classes.

The section will sponsor a number of interesting and varied posters as well. Among them is one entitled "The Perceptions of Quality of Life in the Aging Population" by Tabitha M. Smith and Joyce W. Fields. Family life and ethnic identity of Korean Americans will be addressed in a poster presentation by Sun Wha Ok, Chung-Soon C. Kim, Anjin Yoo, Eun Young Rhee, Hee-Young Paik, Young Joo Nam and Songyi Park. "The Role of Intimacy in the Development of Father Involvement" is the title of the poster to be presented by Kay P. Bradford and Alan J. Hawkins.

Three other noteworthy poster sessions will be given by Kennon Rider and Carolyn Woody Graham on "Foster-Child Supervised Visitation With Non-Custodial Parents: A Program Evaluation;"

Family Science continued on page 16

Call for Manuscripts

Special Issue of the *Journal of Teaching in Marriage & Family*
"Assessment of Educational Programs"

Guest Co-Editors: Karen Schmid, Indiana State University, and Laurie Kramer, University of Illinois. Questions may be directed to the guest co-editors at ascks@isugw.indstate.edu or l-kramer@uiuc.edu

Submission Deadline: November 15, 2002

We are issuing a call for manuscripts that focus on assessment of educational programs in family science. The purpose of this special issue is to communicate to family scientists about issues and approaches to assessment in family science and to begin to develop a scholarship of assessment in family science. Empirical, theoretical, and descriptive manuscripts are encouraged, including concrete examples of experiences conducting assessment and results.

The term "assessment" has a variety of meanings. The focus of this journal is educational assessment in higher education, defined as "the systematic collection, review, and use of information about educational programs undertaken for the purpose of improving student learning and development" (Palomba & Banta, 1999, p. 4).

Articles are solicited on all aspects of assessment in family science, including:

- Case studies of assessment in family science programs, including successes and less successful approaches with lessons learned.
- Meta-analyses of assessment as practiced in family science.
- Ethical issues in assessment in family science.
- Approaches to assessing values and personal development.
- Integration of assessment with program review.
- Examples of using the results of assessment to improve the program and student learning.
- Involvement of stakeholders such as employers, students, and alumni in assessment.
- Assessment of specific aspects of family science programs such as service learning, internships, and capstone experiences.
- Assessment of graduate programs.

Manuscripts should exemplify high quality scholarship of teaching and learning. Authors may visit the following website for additional insights about how the "scholarship of teaching and learning" can be defined (<http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/CASTL/index.htm>). It is recommended that manuscripts be approximately 20-22 pages in length.

Note to authors: The Journal of Teaching in Marriage and Family: Innovations in Family Science Education, formerly known as Family Science Review, is an electronically disseminated journal. Manuscripts are submitted to the lead guest co-editor for purposes of peer review. Next, they are sent out to reviewers electronically, and returned with comments in the same fashion. Finally, with the facilitation of Haworth Press, Inc., accepted manuscripts are published electronically. A sample copy of the journal is available at: <http://www.haworthpressinc.com/store/SampleText/J226.pdf>.

Manuscripts should conform to the guidelines of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th edition). Each manuscript should feature a first page listing the title of the work; name of author(s); affiliation(s) of author(s); street and e-mail address for first author; and any acknowledgments. Subsequent pages of the manuscript should not reveal the identity of the author(s). An abstract of 200 or fewer words, along with up to 5 key words for indexing purposes, should also be included.

Submit in one of two ways: 1) Provide an electronic copy of your manuscript, using Microsoft Word 6.0, via email attachment to the lead guest co-editor of the Journal of Teaching in Marriage and Family: Innovations in Family Science Education at this email address ascks@isugw.indstate.edu, or 2) Provide a file of the manuscript on a computer diskette, using Microsoft Word 6.0, to the lead guest co-editor of the journal at the street address given below. Additionally, for either means, submit a processing fee of \$15 to the lead guest co-editor. Checks may be made out to the Family Science Association, the sponsor of the journal.

Journal of Teaching in Marriage & Family: Innovations in Family Science Education - Special Issue: Assessment c/o Karen Schmid at the Office of Academic Affairs at Indiana State University, 208 Parsons Hall, Terre Haute, IN 47809; Fax: 1-812-237-3607. Telephone: (812) 237-4452.

Reference

Palomba, C.A. & Banta, T.W. (1999). *Assessment essentials: Planning, implementing, and improving assessment in higher education*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Family Therapy Section

I am looking forward to an exciting NCFR Conference in Houston. Initially, I was very concerned to see a drop-off in submissions (nearly 40%) that meant our space in the conference was limited to two paper sessions and posters. However, because NCFR presentations now carry APA CEUs, Cindy Winter and Alan Booth were willing to let us add several special presentations to the program. James Pennebaker of the University of Texas will be presenting a half-day pre-conference workshop on Wednesday, November 20th, 1-5 p.m. Dr. Pennebaker is well known as a researcher on the relationship between trauma resolution and writing. His workshop, "Putting Stress into Words: Writing, Health, and Trauma," promises to be an exciting chance for us to learn about his work. Dr. Pennebaker has been featured in a recent Monitor on the APA. He has shown that writing about traumatic events not only produces temporary relief but also reduces health problems over the longer term. The workshop will carry 4 hours of APA CEU credit and will be very affordable. Ann Garwick and the Family and Health Section are co-sponsoring this workshop with the FT Section.

A second very special session planned on Thursday, November 21st at 8:30 a.m., will feature our own Dr. Pauline Boss reviewing her recent work on coping with the traumas of 9-11, "Ambiguous Loss as a Framework for Intervention: Lessons Learned from 9-11." Dr. Boss and her associates have been traveling to New York City, first to work with traumatized survivors of the 9-11 disaster and, more recently, to train therapists in her ambiguous loss model. Following the new poster session (12:15-2:15, no other sessions scheduled, FT will have 9 post-

ers), FT will be sponsoring "Family Therapy and the Family Life Cycle," featuring 6 papers on lifespan issues, including papers on Alzheimer's caregivers, rural adolescents, and a paper from Switzerland on communication in couples whose first languages are different.

On Friday, November 22nd, FT will open with a symposium on "In Trauma's Wake: Assessment and Treatment of Families and Communities," co-sponsored with Jacki Fitzpatrick and the International Section. Organized by Kyle Killian, the presenters will address therapy issues around resolving trauma at home (e.g., Everyday Traumas, Greg Janson) and Abroad (Kosovo, Judith Landau). As if that were not excitement enough, the FT Section business meeting is scheduled for Friday also (7-8:15 p.m.); come and join us for dessert, networking, and a little business. Kathleen Briggs will be taking over as FT Section Chair.

On Saturday, November 23rd, the FT Section paper session, "Issues in Marriage and Family Therapy," is scheduled for 8:30-10 a.m. This session will pull together 5 excellent research papers on a range of topics—cancer patients, race, cultural competence, family businesses, and impaired MFT students. Later on Saturday, the FT Section is co-sponsoring a workshop, "Out of the Ivory Tower: Community-Based Programs That Work," with Pat Nelson and the Education and Enrichment Section. This is planned as a 'nuts and bolts' description of what works. Featured programs include two on family-based programs for delinquent adolescents, a program for families with a parent in prison, a program to assist inner city families with a mentally ill member, and a parent education program in a Hispanic community.

FAMILY SCIENCE *continued from page 15*

Barbara D. Ames, David R. Imig, and Jodi L. Spicer on "Creating a Longitudinal Family Data Base: A Model for Faculty-Citizen Engaged Partnerships;" and Mary K. Starr and Gregory Paul Hickman on "Influence of Humor and Family on the Initial Adjustment of Male and Female College Freshmen."

The specific times for these sessions can be found in the conference program. Most certainly, those who are Family Science Section members—or are inter-

ested in becoming members—should plan to attend the section business meeting on Saturday evening. The dance sponsored by the Student/New Professionals and all the other sections follows afterwards. Newly elected officers will begin their terms at that meeting. Be sure to come meet and support them.

*Deborah Gentry, CFE
Chair, Family Science Section
E-mail: dgentry@ilstu.edu*

The Family Therapy Section is pleased to announce an award of \$400 to Young-Kyong (Elena) Kim, graduate student at Ohio State University, for her paper entitled, "Do General Treatment Guidelines for Asian-American Families Have Applications to Specific Ethnic Groups? The Case of Culturally Competent Therapy with Korean Families. Ms. Kim will be presenting her paper, along with co-author, Roy Bean, at the Houston Conference. Certificates of Merit will be awarded to four other student authors whose papers were rated as excellent by a panel of Section officers: Martha Reuter (Univ. of MN), Brandt Gardner (Texas Tech), Leigh Ann Simmons (Univ. of GA), and Mark Adams (Texas Tech).

The workshops and paper sessions should all carry APA CEUs; however, there are many other NCFR sessions that will carry APA CEUs as well. If you have not received a registration form, go to www.ncfr.org to get one. Register now and come to an exciting conference in Houston in November!

*Richard Wampler
Chair, Family Therapy Section
E-mail: RWampler@hs.ttu.edu*

NOW AVAILABLE!

NCFR Discussion Listservs

Enrollment is open to all NCFR members.

NCFR Member Listserv

EducationEnrichment@cfapress.org

Ethnic Minorities website:

www.asn.csus.edu/em-ncfr

FamilyHealth@cfapress.org

FamilyPolicy@cfapress.org

FamilyScience@cfapress.org

FamilyTherapy@cfapress.org

FeminismFamilyStudies@cfapress.org

International@cfapress.org

ReligionFamilyLife@cfapress.org

ResearchTheory@cfapress.org

Student@cfapress.org

(Students/New Professionals)

To enroll, send your name, e-mail address, and the listserv(s) you wish to join to: John Pepper at 763-781-9331, ext. 16; E-mail: pepper@ncfr.org.

To sign up for the Ethnic Minorities Section listserv, go directly to its website.



Affiliate Connection

A Conference You Don't Want to Miss

As our Association of Councils Program Chair for 2002, Dr. Britton Wood has worked hard to plan an outstanding slate of events for conference attendees, particularly those who are currently or wish to be very involved in affiliate councils. I'd like to highlight some of these events and activities so that you can be sure to place them on your calendar.

The Association of Councils and the Religion and Family Life Section will sponsor a two-day pre-conference, November 19th and 20th, led by Green Cross co-founder Dr. Kathleen Regan Figley on the topic "Disaster, Trauma and Compassion Fatigue: The Family Therapist in Post September 11th America." (To learn more about the Green Cross Foundation, check out .) This workshop is designed to provide the basic tools necessary to respond to a traumatic incident. Instructional material will include appropriate responses to terrorist incidents such as the September 11th attacks. Participants will learn to: define types of stress and related symptoms; differentiate between therapeutic intervention and traumatic stress management; demonstrate appropriate stress management techniques; identify compassion fatigue symptoms; describe stress resiliency and self care strategies; and demonstrate compassion stress management techniques. Participants may be students or professionals in disciplines which may respond to the emotional needs of children or adults who are traumatized. A license to practice is not necessary for enrollment. The cost is \$75 for conference registrants and \$100 for those not attending the NCFR Conference. The registration fee includes two lunches and workbook materials. I'd like to encourage each affiliate to send at least one representative to this workshop, as this training might be something that state affiliates could sponsor within their own region at a future date.

Another special event, particularly designed for presidents and other leaders/board members of our affiliates, is the

Affiliated Councils Dinner and Leadership Training Workshop on November 20th, 4:30-8:00 p.m. All affiliated councils presidents or designate may attend for free. All other affiliate officers and board members are encouraged to attend for a \$25 fee (includes dinner). Participants will choose to attend three of five possible roundtables on relevant topics to our affiliate organizations (e.g., developing a web site for the affiliate; building strong board and committee structures; fund-raising suggestions for affiliates). Participants will also have opportunity to network with other affiliate leaders and share ideas for keeping affiliates strong.

With the assistance of mini-grants made available from NCFR, we now have 23 affiliates located on college or university campuses around the country! In an effort to provide support and to offer an arena in which to share ideas, we have organized a Breakfast Meeting for Student Affiliates on November 21st, 8:30-10:30 a.m. I encourage all leaders, advisors and members of campus affiliates to attend.

There will also be an exciting symposium entitled "Making the Most of Your Affiliate" offered November 23rd, 8:30-10:00 a.m. Five papers will be presented: "Starting from Scratch," "Expanding your Affiliate Council Membership Base," "Making the Most of Student Involvement in Affiliate Councils," "Helping Professionals – Helping Families," and "Building an Affiliate Team on the State Level." All of the presenters are experienced leaders and will have some excellent insights to share.

Finally, if all this talk about affiliate councils leaves you wishing that you were more involved, be sure to attend the Association of Councils Business Meeting, November 22nd, 7:30-8:30 a.m. In addition, if your state, country, or campus does not currently have an affiliate council, plan to attend the Association of Councils Luncheon on November 23rd, 12:00-2:00 p.m. We will offer the information necessary to organize a new council and highlight the support available for such efforts.

I look forward to seeing you in Houston!

Raeann R. Hamon, CFLE
President, Association of Councils
E-mail: rhamon@messiah.edu

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2003 SCRIVNER RESEARCH GRANTS

The American Psychological Foundation (APF) is requesting applications for the Roy Scrivner Research Grants. The Scrivner Fund provides two postdoctoral grants (\$4,000 each) consistent with the goal of encouraging research on lesbian, gay, and bisexual family psychology and lesbian, gay, and bisexual family therapy. Researchers from all fields of the behavioral and social sciences are encouraged to apply. Two \$1,000 grants are also available for graduate student research in this field, with strong preference given to applicants at the dissertation stage of their career.

Eligibility: To qualify for the post-doctoral research award, all applicants (including co-investigators) must have a doctoral degree. To qualify for the pre-doctoral

research award, all applicants must be graduate students and include a letter of support from their supervising professor. All research involving human subjects must have been approved by an IRB from the principal investigator's institution *when the application is submitted.*

Deadline for applications: November 1, 2002

For application guidelines and additional information, contact:

Scrivner Small Grants Program
American Psychological Foundation
750 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002-4242
202-336-5814
foundation@apa.org

Texas Council on Family Relations

As the new president of the Texas Council on Family Relations I would like to be one of the first from our council to encourage you to begin planning now to attend the NCFR Annual Conference in Houston, November 21st-24th. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet new people, learn what's happening in our professions and see a great city. Houston has many attractions that will intrigue you and entertain you. Everyone in TCFR and NCFR who are from Texas are getting excited about hosting this great event.

The TCFR Board and members will plan to meet and visit with you at several occasions during the conference. The local arrangements committee is planning some wonderful events and is working hard to make sure any need you might have will be taken care of. You will want to experience the "Texas Hospitality" as many times as possible during the conference.

The recent TCFR Annual Conference was a wonderful experience for all who attended. We had a large number of students as well as professionals. The mix was good for both groups. We are now finalizing plans for our next conference in April 2003 at Texas Woman's University in Denton.

The TCFR Board continues to grow and become more active. Some of us will be sharing in a round table discussion at the National Conference concerning the transition of the TCFR from a group who was struggling a few years ago to a vital and active affiliate. We are fortunate to have added representatives from the military and from the state of Louisiana. I am grateful for the dedicated group of board members who know are leading for the future in TCFR.

November will be here quickly and much preparation is being done. If there is anyway in which the Texas Council on Family Relations can help you in relation to the Annual Conference, let us know. We are looking forward to your presence in our great state.

*Richard Sale, CFLE
President, Texas Council
E-mail: sale@tarleton.edu*

Northwest Council on Family Relations

Greetings from the Pacific Northwest!

Those of you who gathered in Vancouver, BC know we had a thought provoking and fun conference in June. Phyllis Johnson started us off with a fascinating presentation on the adaptation of Vietnamese refugees to Canada, and we ended the conference by learning about Safeteen, which is a program that endeavors to teach adolescents how to stay safe in romantic relationships (avoiding violence) and in other situations where harassment might arise.

With another successful conference behind us, it is time to begin thinking about the next biennial conference to be held in 2004. With that in mind, and keeping to our original intent of rotating conference sites to ensure each state/province has at least one conference that is convenient to them on a fairly regular basis, we chose Montana as our next location. We are still working out the details, but it will probably be in the Bozeman area.

Finally, we discussed new officers for the coming two years. They will be voted on before we meet in Houston in November so



Northwest Council on Family Relations Conference attendees, back row, left to right: Dale Roberts, Jim Ponzetti, Rena Miyazaki, Yoshie Sano, Anisa Zvonkovic, Jamie Wood, Bron Ingoldsby, Cindy Winter, Jim White. Middle row: Karen Benzies, Sandy Bailey, Lisa Mason, Sheila Marshall, Cheryl Jeffs. Front row: Phyllis Johnson, Lo Ming Wong, Hilary Rose, Margaret Arcus, Deborah Padgett Coehlo, Suzanne Smith.

watch the e-mail listserv for more details about an election. The slate put forward is: President- Suzanne Smith; Vice-President- Sandy Bailey; Treasurer/Secretary- Hilary Rose.

In closing, if you are a member of the NWCFR (you live in Alberta, British Columbia, Montana, Oregon, or Washington) but have not received any emails from us via the listserv please send me an e-mail so I can have you added to the list. Traffic is minimal, but important for allowing communication outside of the conference. Otherwise, I hope to see all of you at the business meeting in Houston as we discuss our plans for the following year.

*Suzanne Smith
President, Northwest Council
E-mail: smithsu@vancouver.wsu.edu*

Missouri Council on Family Relations

1st Annual Conference

The first MCFR Conference was held on the campus of the University of Missouri in Columbia on May 3rd, 2002. The conference theme was Social Policy and the Welfare of Families.

In addition to over 150 professionals and students in attendance from around the state, distinguished out-of-state attendees included Michael Benjamin, Executive Director of NCFR, and Dr. Alan Hawkins, professor in the School of Family Life at Brigham Young University.

The day started with a continental breakfast and comments by Roger Wilson, Former Governor of Missouri. The morning presentations that followed focused on family demographics in Missouri, early head start, family mediation, and foster care.

Lunch was included in registration, and provided an opportunity for attendees to interact with old friends and meet new acquaintances. In addition, a career fair was held during lunch and was heavily attended by students. A few students were offered jobs on the spot, and many others indicated that they had made contacts for potential summer employment.

NCFR Past-President Stephen Jorgensen began the afternoon session by introducing Michael Benjamin. Michael shared his expertise on transforming family science research into family public policy. Other topics for afternoon sessions included domestic violence, court-mandated programs, and Temporary Aid to Needy Families.

Missouri continued on page 19

MISSOURI *continued from page 18*

The final topic of the day was covenant marriage. Alan Hawkins presented data on attitudes toward covenant marriage, some of which was published in the April 2002 issue of *Family Relations*. (Alan was also featured on the local ABC News that evening in a news segment on covenant marriage.) Following Alan's presentation, a reaction panel made up of a family scholar, a family law professor, and a family therapist discussed the implications of covenant marriage.

Among the many benefits of attending the conference was the opportunity to purchase new books at bargain prices. A silent auction was held for approximately 30 new books donated by Dr. Lynn Blinn-Pike, Book and Material Review Editor for *Family Relations*. The proceeds (just under \$300) helped to defray conference expenses.

Overall, exit evaluations suggest that the conference was a tremendous success! The quality of the presentations was exceptional and the "extras" (e.g., career fair, silent auction, breakfast and lunch) were thoroughly enjoyed by most.

Jason D. Hans, CFLE
President, Missouri Council
E-Mail: JHans@familyscholar.com

Pennsylvania/Delaware Council on Family Relations

On October 9, 2002 the P/DCFR will once again co-sponsor its annual conference with Penn State's Building Strong Families organization. The theme of this year's conference is *Bridging Generations: The Modern Family in Motion*. Dr. Richard Wiscott, Director of Gerontology at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania will present the morning keynote address. Throughout the day, concurrent sessions will focus on topics relating to intergenerational family relationships.

This year's conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Grantville, PA (just a few miles north of Harrisburg). In the past, this one-day conference was held on a college campus. The conference planning committee hopes that offering the 2002 conference at a hotel will be more convenient for those who are traveling from longer distances. As usual, students, young professionals, practitioners, teachers, and researchers are welcome to attend. For more information on conference and hotel registration, contact Marg Malehorn (MMalehorn@psu.edu) or Cynthia Drenovsky (ckdren@ship.edu).

The Pennsylvania/Delaware Council on Family Relations now has a website: www.ship.edu/~pd CFR. Members can find a variety of PA/DE information such as conference updates, past conference information (there is a slide show from last year's P/DCFR conference), and contact information for the P/DCFR Board of Directors. Eventually, our newsletter will be presented online. We would like to include a page for undergraduate and/or graduate students. If you are a student who would like to add to our P/DCFR website please contact Cynthia Drenovsky (ckdren@ship.edu).

Plans are in the works to add Maryland to the P/DCFR! Adding the resources and energy from our Maryland members is sure to produce a successful regional council. Please check our website for updates on this merger. We welcome your comments and ideas on the future of this endeavor.

Cynthia Drenovsky
President, Pennsylvania/Delaware Council
E-mail: Ckdren@ship.edu

CALENDAR

September 20-21, 2002

Families, American Association of Christian Counselors Superconference, Chicago, IL. For more information, visit

September 23-28, 2002

Family Violence: Working Together to End Abuse, Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute's 7th International Conference at the Town & Country Hotel & Convention Center in San Diego, CA. Visit www.fvsai.org for further information.

October 9, 2002

Bridging Generations: The Modern Family in Motion, Pennsylvania/Delaware Council on Family Relations' Annual Conference at the Holiday Inn, Grantville, PA. For more information, e-mail Marg Malehorn (Mmalehorn@psu.edu) or Cynthia Drenovsky (ckdren@ship.edu).

October 25, 2002

The Effects of Family Violence on Children: Decreasing the Impact, Family Guidance Training Institute, Inc. conference at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Holiday Inn in Chattanooga, TN. For more information, call Family Guidance Training Institute, Inc.: (931) 431-7580.

November 19-24, 2002

NCFR 64th Annual Conference, Families Over the Life Course: Bridging Research and Practice, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Houston, TX. For more information, contact NCFR: 888-781-9331, or visit the NCFR website at: www.ncfr.org

February 28-March 1, 2003

From 9 to 5 to 24/7: How Workplace Changes Impact Families, Work and Communities, conference sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Foundation and the Community, Families & Work Program of Brandeis University's Women's Studies Research Center; Orlando, FL. Visit the Community, Families & Work Program website for the call for papers and more information: www.brandeis.edu/centers/wsrp/CFWP/

April 13-16, 2003

Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) Annual International Conference & Exhibition, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix, AZ. Visit the ACEI website for more information: www.acei.org

April 24-27, 2003

The Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting, Tampa, FL. For more information, visit the SRCD website: www.srpd.org



NCFR
3989 Central Ave. N.E.
Suite 550
Minneapolis, MN 55421
www.ncfr.org

IN THIS ISSUE:
Family Focus on...
Welfare Reform

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rochester, MN
Permit No. 289