

Linking family research, education, and practice.

Report

December 2005

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Family Focus On...

Family Strengths and Resilience

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When faced with crises such as unemployment, illness, divorce, or natural disaster, families need the physical, emotional, spiritual, and financial resources to bounce back.

In this issue, we explore programs and policies that can increase family resilience.

And we look at families themselves and the ways they face difficult situations with strength and grace.

As always, we welcome your comments.

NEXT ISSUE:

Families and Public Policy

Researchers and Practitioners Together Make a Stronger NCFR Conference

In 1938 NCFR was started by **Rabbi Sidney Goldstein**, **Paul Sayre**, Professor of the College of Law at the University of Iowa, and **Ernest W. Burgess**, a sociologist at the University of Chicago. The first Constitution of NCFR stated that the purpose of the National Conference on Family Relations (as it was originally named) was “to advance the cultural values that are now principally secured through family relations for the advantage of the individual and the strength of the nation.” The annual conference was started as a tool to present research on marriage and the family, discuss problems bearing on family welfare, review work in the area of family life education, and consider action programs. David Fulcomer, one of the early NCFR leaders said, “One of the things that excited me in those early days was the amazing variety of professional persons from many disciplines and organizations that were involved in some way.”

NCFR has always been a multi-disciplinary organization. Since the early days of the conference there has been a great blend of practitioners and researchers working together. Sections formed so that members could work with others with similar interests.

The quality of NCFR conferences has been of utmost concern. Approximately five years



Discover the *Unanswered Questions in Marriage and Family Science* in Minneapolis, November 2006

ago, the NCFR Board appointed a task force to assess the quality of the conferences. The committee came up with some good suggestions, and as attendees fill out the evaluation forms, they have consistently commented on the high quality of the conference presentations. This is a great commendation for the organization. However, over the years, the conference evaluations spotted another trend: The conference sessions have been classified as “research presentations,” and some practitioners felt the conference had little to offer them. In 2004, the NCFR Board began Strategic Planning. In past surveys some practitioners had echoed the concern that there was little for them in the conferences in NCFR. In answer to these needs, one of the Strategic Goals is to offer more sessions and papers

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to attract more practitioners. The board appointed a committee to evaluate its current proposal acceptance process and to propose a new structure which gives credence to both practitioners and researchers. The committee, comprised of **Jane Gilgun** (2005 Conference Chair), **Ada Alden**, **Mary Jo Czaplewski**, **William Allen**, **Don Bower**, **Edith Lewis**, **Leigh**, **Leslie Lynn Blinn-Pike**, **Mary Bartlett**, **Lynette Olson**, **Dawn Cassidy**, and **Cindy Winter** have thoroughly assessed including both practitioners and researchers into NCFR and the conferences. They came up with the following ideals:

1. NCFR can create an inclusive and integrative process for accepting a balance of papers/presentations that appeal to and are useable for both researchers and practitioners.

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.

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NEWS DEADLINES: January 3 for March issue; April 3 for June; July 3 for September; October 2 for December

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2. NCFR should make research more readily useable to practitioners, including family life educators, college and university professors, family therapists, and those interested in family policy.
3. Research is best used in evidence-based practice to improve the lives of individuals, children and families.
4. By providing new criteria for acceptance of conference proposals, NCFR can be the relevant and forward-looking conference in promoting effective practitioners and researchers for the 21st century.

Many organizations offer two “tracks” at their conferences. After careful discussion by the committee, they determined that this would not be in the best interest of NCFR. They felt it would be better to integrate practice and research. Researchers need to have a place to “apply” their research. “Practice” by definition, requires immersion in the field and interactions with consumers. The exchanges between practitioners and consumers are often verbal in the form of narratives and stories. Practice is experiential, not unlike many forms of research. Thus research and researchers use ideas from practitioners to design new inquiries and becomes reciprocal in value. Practitioners must use theories to help them craft, interpret, and evaluate interventions.

With these conclusions the committee revised the Call for Proposals this year. (A copy is in your *Report*, and also on the website).

Here are the criteria by which proposals will be judged this year.

- n Topic is justified and relevant to the conference theme, and the Section focus to which it is submitted.

- n Proposal is clearly written and logically organized.
- n Authors proposing to present papers that involve data collection and analysis should describe the research methods used, and the analysis and conclusions of the study.
- n Authors proposing to present papers that are based upon clinical experience or programs as family life educators should integrate their practitioner experienced-based programs as well as the research base of their proposals.
- n Papers and posters, whether based on data collection and analysis, or on practitioner experience, should include the scholarly basis of their work. This means a literature review with references.
- n Papers that are reviews of the literature, theory, and conceptual pieces are welcome.
- n All papers should follow the format of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th Edition). Link to: <http://www.apastyle.org/>

As the Conference’s more inclusive format is implemented it will strengthen the program. Everyone – researchers and practitioners alike - are encouraged to submit proposals this year. The goal is to strengthen the NCFR conference by providing enrichment and professional development for attendees. This will enrich everyone as together we work for all types of families and the strengthening of the nation and world. We want YOU to submit your work. You have something to offer – share it with your colleagues.

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ON THE NET



International Year of the Family – 2005 Conference, 2006 Plans

In 2005, we celebrated the 11th Anniversary of the United Nations' International Year of the Family (IYF). By the time that you read this column, the 11th anniversary celebration will be coming to an end. Similar to 2004, we had multi-layered events that ranged from ZIPPY News messages throughout the year to a Special Session and IYF Movie Night at the conference. This year's special session topic was "The South Asian tsunami/earthquake: Making meaning after catastrophic natural disasters." The speaker was Dr. Anie Kalayjian, Director of the Mental Health Outreach Project (MHOP) of the Association for Disaster & Mass Trauma Studies. Dr. Kalayjian has traveled with teams of mental health professionals to provide direct services to tsunami survivors. In addition to a description of clinical service, Dr. Kalayjian described the status of research on service outcomes.

This is the second year of the IYF Movie Night. This year's film, "The Way Home", was the story of an elderly grandmother and her young grandson who live together in rural Korea. The grandson is used to a cosmopolitan life in a large city, so his adjustment to his grandmother's community (e.g., no Gameboy, no fast food) is quite difficult for him. The grandmother is ever patient, and eventually they build a strong bond. The film was co-sponsored by the Asian American Focus Group and the discussant was Ms. Na Yeon Lee, a graduate student at Texas Tech University.

In addition, I was asked by NCFR Headquarters staff to provide support for the Local Arrangements Silent Auction. Each year, the Local Arrangements Committee conducts an auction to raise funds for a local community service agency. This year's agency was the Arizona Center for the Lost Boys of the Sudan. Given the obvious international connection to this agency, I was happy to provide support. The support included advertisement of the auction at the conference, plus offering an opportunity for one of the Sudanese men to speak during the last part of the IYF Special Session.

At the time of this article, there were approximately 30 ZIPPY News messages

this year. The topics ranged from conference announcements, affiliate cultural events, teaching tools, research summaries, historical interpretations of family life, current events, world record marriages, refugees services/status. There were also special articles about the South Asian tsunami and Hurricane Katrina.

I'd like to thank the IYF Committee members, authors/consultants on ZIPPY messages, the program match participants, the movie discussant and the Special Session speaker for their involvement throughout the year. I would also like to thank Michael Benjamin, Cindy Winter, Jane Gilgun (Program Chair) and the NCFR staff for their extraordinary support. Finally, I'd like to thank the campus/affiliate chairs for their efforts to

integrate IYF perspectives/themes into their regional events.

I am pleased to announce that Michael Benjamin has decided to continue NCFR's celebration of the International Year of the Family up to the 2006 conference. We have selected that the Special Session will focus on refugee/immigrant families. I am working with Bill Allen (Program Chair) to coordinate two IYF Movie Nights at next year's conference.

If you have questions/comments about IYF, please do not hesitate to contact me. I cannot guarantee that I can bring all suggestions to fruition, but I will listen to your feedback with an open mind.

*Jacki Fitzpatrick
IYF Committee Chair
E-mail: Jacki.Fitzpatrick@ttu.edu*

NCFR Granted Consultative Status by UN

After more than a decade of being recognized by the United Nations as a non-government organization (NGO), the National Council on Family Relations was granted consultative status by the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). NCFR joins about 2,700 NGOs worldwide that have such designation and gives NCFR the ability to make "useful contributions to the work of the Council (ECOSOC) or other bodies" within the UN.

Throughout this process, Marilyn Bensman has served as our representative and liaison to the UN and worked to overcome obstacles in being designated with Special Consultative Status. The various areas that NCFR will be sharing its special competence are in family science/relations. NCFR will be able to work with specific commissions with ECOSOC: Commission for Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Population and Development. In addition, through Jacki Fitzpatrick of Texas Tech University, we

continue the work of the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family, another important UN initiative.

In earning the Special Consultative Status, this meant that NCFR had to be officially registered with the United States Government as a NGO/non-profit, must have an established headquarters, a democratically adopted constitution, authority to speak for its members, a representative structure, appropriate mechanisms of accountability and democratic and transparent decision-making processes. The basic resources of the organization must be derived in the main part from contributions of the national affiliates or other components or from individual members.

NCFR's next opportunity to work with the UN will be the 50th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to be held from February 27-March 10, 2006. The Commission will focus on two thematic issues: (1) Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality

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President's Report

National Healthy Marriage Resource Center

Over the last year NCFR has engaged in a cooperative agreement with the Administration for Children and Families of the United States Department of Health and Human Services to produce a Website known as the National Healthy Marriage Resource Center (NHMRC). The purposes of this agreement, our partners in the endeavor (Norfolk State University, Syracuse University, Texas Tech University, University of Minnesota, Brigham Young University, and Child Trends), and the debate around this matter have been detailed thoroughly in our newsletter, *Report* and through regular e-mail communication with our members. I am devoting my first column as President to the decision by the NCFR Board of Directors to exit from this agreement. First I will review why the Board originally approved NCFR's involvement in this agreement and then explain why we decided to exit the agreement.

NCFR uses the Carver Policy Governance Model, which requires the Board to identify clearly the "ENDS" of the organization, i.e., the organization's goals and purpose for existing. ENDS statements force boards to consider three things: what outcome, for what "consumer(s)," at what costs and benefits. The Board has refined our ENDS statements over the years, resulting in two statements: (1) NCFR members will have the knowledge and skills to study, teach about, and serve families; and (2)

STATUS *continued from page 3*

and for the advancement of women; and (2) Equal participation of women and men in decision making processes at all levels. For more information on this session, please contact Marilyn Bensman at by December 15, 2005.

Beginning in January, NCFR's letterhead will use the following wording to acknowledge our new UN designation: "NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations."

Families, professionals, and public decision makers will be better informed about family well-being. The second ENDS statement reflects NCFR's public policy goals. According to the Carver model, the Board, while not abdicating its role, empowers NCFR's Executive Director to pursue any reasonable means for achieving those two ends as long as the method is legal, reasonable and prudent. The Board remains responsible for, among other things, careful monitoring, evaluation, deliberation, and decision-making regarding the long term effectiveness of NCFR in reaching its goals.

The Executive Director asked the Board in the Spring of 2004 to consider responding to a program announcement to enter into the cooperative agreement that would ultimately create the NHMRC. The Board carefully considered the pros and cons of such a policy activity in accordance with NCFR's second ENDS statement. We sought earnestly to inform ourselves on the identifiable positive and negative aspects of the project within the short timeframe that is typical for such program announcements. We concluded that while this was not a perfect opportunity it was a reasonable opportunity for furthering some of NCFR's policy goals. We believed that we had identified a policy outcome for an identified consumer (i.e., family scholars and practitioners, family life educators, and the general public). We also knew that NCFR is the home for sound, research based information on marriages and families, and our desire is that NCFR gain greater recognition as such. Therefore, we authorized the Executive Director to respond to the NHMRC program announcement. Given how the program funds would be paid and dispersed to our partners, financial benefit to NCFR was never a significant consideration.

Although some good work has been accomplished, some of the elements of the cooperative agreement have negatively affected NCFR and risk jeopardizing other important NCFR tasks and goals.

After deliberation, the Board concluded that continuing with the NHMRC project was no longer feasible and instructed the Executive Director to withdraw NCFR from the cooperative agreement and all related activities in an orderly and expedient fashion. Some aspects of the project will require a transition period out of respect for our partners and employees. It remains the Board's intent, however, that NCFR exit the cooperative agreement as soon as is feasible while protecting NCFR's assets.

Some of you have responded to program announcements for a grant or cooperative agreement or to requests for proposals (RFP) for a contract. You know, therefore, an initial program announcement or RFP usually does not contain much detail about the day-to-day work of a project. Such was the case here: the program announcement contained little specificity about the daily project requirements. Consequently, some of the issues that arose – especially issues of restricted content and control over the website – became apparent only after NCFR began to perform under the cooperative agreement. Even as such issues arose, we remained optimistic that there would be room for negotiation and compromise so that we could perform under the agreement while maintaining the integrity of our organizational values.

A significant factor in the Board's decision to exit the cooperative agreement is the lack of broad member consensus and support for this policy activity. Let me here acknowledge that many NCFR members wrote to us to applaud the decision to respond to this program announcement and the award of the cooperative agreement. You may now be confused or angry over the reversal of course. NCFR has a long history of engaging in policy activities only when there is broad consensus among our members on policy issues. This requirement has produced what is, in the opinion of some of us, maddeningly

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We Want You to Serve in Leadership Positions

Lynn Pike & Jerelyn B. Schultz, NCFR 2004-2005 Elections Council Co-Chairs

We want your involvement in our organization! We understand that many public and private educational institutions have recently faced budget reductions, particularly during the last year. Please do not let those limitations interfere with your participation in NCFR. We encourage you to have your sections or fellow NCFR members nominate you for leadership positions in the organization for the 2007 election.

We have submitted a nomination slate (ballots will be mailed to members in February 2006) for terms that will be filled at the end of the national meeting in Minneapolis, MN in November 2006. The nominees are:

Student/New Professional Board Representative (2006-2008)

April L. Few - VA vs
Jason D. Hans, CFLE - KY vs
David G. Schramm, CFLE - AL

Program Chair Elect (2006-2007) (Program Chair for 2008 Conference): (1 Position)

H. Wallace Goddard, CFLE - AR vs Anisa Zvonkovic - TX

Elections Council (2006-2009): (2 Positions)

David H. Demo - NC vs Michael P. Johnson - PA
Sally Bowman - OR vs Arminta Jacobson, CFLE - TX

Fellowship Committee (2006-2009): (3 Positions)

Marilyn Flick, CFLE - OR vs Judith Myers-Walls, CFLE - IN
Carol A. Darling, CFLE - FL vs Karen A. Roberto - VA
Harold D. Grotevant - MN vs James M. White - Canada

Student/New Professional Program Representative (2006-2008)

Heather R. Haberman - MN vs Jennifer L. Hardesty, CFLE - IL

The Elections Council wants to encourage ALL members to become involved in leadership positions of our organization.

We Want You continued on page 6

Obituaries

Dr. Lorrie Ryan, Associate Professor of Family Studies at Central Michigan University, passed away September 13, 2005 after a long and hard-fought struggle with breast cancer. Her colleagues and friends at CMU are privileged to have known her.

Charles "Rusty" Dannison, husband of Linda Dannison, passed away September 7, 2005, following some complications with elective surgery. He brought his expertise as an attorney to address the legal issues grandparents face when they are caring for their grandchildren.

Dr. Bron B. Ingoldsby, friend and colleague, passed away October 18, 2005, from cancer. He was surrounded by his immediate family, members of his extended family, and friends. He is survived by his wife, Valerie Ingoldsby, twin daughters Hilary Ingoldsby and Marie Bigelo, a granddaughter, Bronwyn, his father, and siblings.

Bron had been a member of NCFR for over 25 years, serving on the Board of NCFR and as Section Chair for both the International Section and the Religion and Family Life Section. He was a

Certified Family Life Educator, and was a founding member of the Northwest Council on Family Relations and Teaching Family Science Association. In 2003, he was the recipient of the Jan Trost Award, given by NCFR to honor his work in international family studies.

Bron's professional career was exemplary. He was a much-loved teacher, whose students kept in contact with him years after they graduated. His co-authored textbooks in family theory, mate selection, and cross-cultural families were well-received by faculty and students alike. His multicultural research interests combined his scholarship in religion and international studies, and spanned from Latin America to Micronesia to the Hutterites in North America. His dedication to service could be seen in his many professional leadership positions and in his work with the Partners of the Americas organization. With Partners, Bron worked with street children in South America, and provided training and resources for day care centers and kindergartens in the countries he visited.

Bron will perhaps best be remembered for his sense of humor, his love of life, his ability to make the world a better place for those around him, and his love for his



Dr. Bron B. Ingoldsby

family. In his final hours he was read messages from NCFR members. As they recounted, Bron was the one who welcomed many of us into the "NCFR family." Many remembered his wry sense of humor and one-liners, always coupled with warm affection. Bron encouraged everyone to be involved in NCFR, not only in leadership positions...but also on the dance floor at the S/NP dance.

Perhaps the real measure of this man, however, is that his loss has been felt, not only on the campuses of BYU Provo and Idaho, where he spent the majority of his teaching career, but also by hundreds of friends and colleagues in the United States and across several continents. Contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society in his memory.

Bill Doherty wins the Outstanding Family Life Educator Award



William J. Doherty, past President and longtime member of NCFR, was chosen as the first recipient of the Margaret E. Arcus Outstanding Family Life Educator Award. Dr. Doherty is well-known for his many books and media presence. But his proudest accomplishments are in other areas.

“My proudest contributions are in two areas,” reports Dr. Doherty. “The Levels of Involvement in Family Life Education provided a continuum of intensity of family life education that broke the impasse over the distinction between education and

therapy. Second, Community Engaged Parent Education is a breakthrough that views parents as citizens and parent education as interweaving the personal and public dimensions of parenting.”

“Most of us would be proud to have contributed important books to the field,” says Dr. Wally Goddard, Past Chair of Education and Enrichment, the Section which sponsors the award. “But Bill has changed the field in fundamental ways.” Dr. Doherty is famous for general audience books such as *Take Back Your Marriage*, *Take Back Your Kids*, and *The*

Intentional Family, in addition to professional books on family therapy.

Dr. Doherty has brought an infusion of innovation from related fields to the practice of family life education. Drawing on experience in family medicine, Dr. Doherty defined the gradations from family life education to family therapy. According to Dr. Doherty, “good family life education engages the full person and invites the sharing of life stories that can

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WE WANT YOU *continued from page 5*

There are several avenues to become involved in NCFR and your involvement can begin by becoming active in various sections, as well as participating as a Student/New Professional.

Our charge from the Board is to develop a slate that reflects the selection criteria in the revised NCFR By-laws.

Here are the Selection Criteria (Source: NCFR By-Laws, May, 2002, Article IX, Section 2, B 3) to help you identify potential candidates for upcoming elections:

- 1 knowledge and/or experience in areas reflecting broad trends in Family Science in the United States and internationally.
- 1 knowledge and/or experience with policy governance and the development of ENDS policies.
- 1 knowledge and/or experience in leadership roles through Sections, Association of Councils, Elections Council, Conference planning, publishing, public policy or other committee work.
- 1 diversity in race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, gender, age, physical ability or religion.
- 1 diversity of geographic location.
- 1 diversity in educational training.
- 1 diversity in employment and/or professional settings; and
- 1 specific characteristics identified by the Board of Directors and charged to the

Elections Council before the call for nominations is developed and circulated.

Keeping these criteria in mind, we invite self-nominations or nominations of others for the following positions for the next slate to be elected in February 2007. The terms for these positions will begin November 2007 at the end of the annual conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

President-elect – 2007-2009 (President 2009-2011)

The President-elect shall assist the President and in the event of the President's absence, incapacitation, resignation or death, the President's duties (general management of the business of the NCFR Board) shall devolve upon the President-elect.

Two Board Members-At-Large – 2007-2010

NCFR Board Members are responsible for the overall governance of the organization on behalf of all NCFR members. They attend three face-to-face Board meetings per year, along with regular conference calls and email exchanges. They take responsibility for maintaining contact with the membership and to reflecting the needs of all NCFR members.

Association of Councils President – 2007-2010

The Association of Councils President shall serve on the NCFR Board and repre-

sent concerns of the members of the Association of Councils. They preside at all meetings of the Association of Councils and the AC Executive Board and provide leadership for the Association of Councils.

Two Elections Council Members – 2007-2010

It is the responsibility of the Elections Council to prepare a slate of nominees for officers and members of the Board of Directors, Fellowship Committee, Program Chair-elect, and the Elections Council positions, and to ensure that the policies regarding recruitment as provided by the NCFR Bylaws, and the Elections Council Policies and Procedures are followed.

Two Fellowship Committee Members – 2007-2010

The Fellowship Committee shall review the applications from nominees for fellowship status. During the NCFR Annual Conference, discuss and vote on which applicants will be recommended to the Board of Directors.

Conference Program Chair-elect – 2007-2008 (Program Chair for 2009 Conference)

Serves one year as Conference Program Chair-elect, proceeding to Program Chair the following year and has primary responsibility for selecting the theme for the Annual Conference and selecting plenary and other special speakers.

Send nominations to Jeanne Strand at jeanne@ncfr.org. For additional information, please review our website, www.ncfr.org. **Deadline for nominations is January 31, 2006.**



Executive Review

2005 Annual Report to the Membership

In 2004, the National Council on Family Relations Board of Directors, in collaboration with the NCFR staff, developed a strategic plan, which identified the organization's strategic issues, vision, mission, principles, and goals. This

year's annual report is organized according to the strategic objectives and specific tasks contained in the strategic plan.

I. Strategic Objective: Over the next three years, increase by 50 percent the

number of people participating in NCFR's various education offerings.

Task A: Offer full-day practitioner pre-conference workshops as part of NCFR's Annual Conference based on one of the content areas for CFLE certification.

Status: A Work-Life Summit, "Work-Life Strategies for Arizona's 21st Century Workplaces," was offered at the 2005 conference in Phoenix. The summit was targeted to human resource managers, Employee Assistance Professionals, and social workers. Also offered at the Phoenix Conference were two additional pre-conference events that were created to attract non-NCFR participants: "Promoting the Safety of Women and Their Children When Women Separate from Violent Partners" and "It's the Law: Family Professionals Make a Difference."

For the 2006 Annual Conference in Minneapolis, we are working with Extension Family Life Specialists to create a workshop for practitioners. In addition, we are planning to convene a work-life summit and a repeat of the "It's the Law" seminar. Our target audience for both the summit and the seminar will be non-NCFR participants.

Task B: Increase both the number of conference sessions for practitioners and the overall appeal of the 2005 Annual Conference.

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OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR *continued from page 6*

involve emotional pain. Good therapy often focuses on knowledge and skill for managing every day problems. Viewing family life education and therapy as a dichotomy did not work."

Dr. Doherty's work on Community Engaged Parent Education aims to move the profession towards an expanded paradigm of practice. "The key principle is that all personal parenting concerns, without exception, have public dimensions, and that comprehensive parent education should attend to both sides of the parenting experience," according to Dr. Doherty.

Dr. Doherty is professor and MFT director in the Department of Family Social Science at the University of Minnesota. He received the award and presented an address on Friday, November 18, at the Annual Conference in Phoenix.

The Arcus Award is established to encourage a tradition of excellence and scholarship in family life education by recognizing family life education scholars and practitioners who advance the field of family life education through significant contributions.

Dr. Margaret E. Arcus, for whom the award is named, distinguished herself as a scholar and family life educator. Emeritus faculty at the University of British Columbia is recognized for her significant contributions to the field of family life education. Dr. Arcus was selected as a NCFR Fellow in 1999.

Dr. Arcus says of the award, "I think it is timely that the Education and Enrichment Section has established a new NCFR Award in Family Life Education, an Award

that acknowledges and celebrates the significant growth and development of Family Life Education over the past number of years. I am deeply honored to have my name associated with the Award, and hope that it will bring important visibility and credibility to Family Life Education, both inside and outside of NCFR, and that it will encourage and stimulate scholars and practitioners and others involved in Family Life Education to continue and to strengthen their efforts to advance the field as they seek to better serve individuals, families, and communities."

The Margaret E. Arcus Outstanding Family Life Educator Award was launched at the 2003 NCFR Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. The NCFR Education and Enrichment Section contributed \$15,000 to fund the new award. Faculty members from the University of British Columbia held a fundraising event during the Annual Conference of the NCFR in November 2003.



Donations

The following persons have contributed donations since July 1, 2005. Their generosity aids NCFR in continuing its programs and awards.

General Fund

Margot Breckbill, CFLE - Wichita, KS
Jacki Fitzpatrick, CFLE - Lubbock, TX
Martha Herndon, CFLE - Martin, TN
Lane H. Powell, CFLE - Lubbock, TX
Mary Lee Wood - Parma, ID

Men in Families Focus Group

James A. Doyle - Harriman, TN

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CFLE Directions

New CFLE Advisory Board Created



Congratulations are in order for ten members of the newly-formed CFLE Advisory Board. The CFLE Advisory Board will oversee the ongoing development and promotion of the CFLE credential.

Since the inception of the CFLE program there have been two ongoing committees working with the CFLE program: the *Certification Review Committee*, responsible for the review of individual CFLE applications, and the *Academic Program Review Committee* that evaluates applications from schools seeking CFLE approval status for their academic programs. In addition, committee members have contributed to decisions regarding program policies. But as the CFLE program has evolved, the need for a separate board, focused solely on program policy and promotion, has been identified.

Discussion at the CFLE Focus Group meeting at the NCFR Annual Conference

in 2004 resulted in the decision to develop a new advisory board to serve as a policy-making and monitoring body for the certification program. Board members will work with the CFLE staff to establish policies related to certification standards, investigate the development of a CFLE examination, determine the direction of the program and influence marketing and promotion efforts.

An ad hoc committee consisting of **Kevin Allemagne, Karen Myers-Bowman, Beckie Adams, and Carol Rubino** was created to oversee the development of the CFLE Advisory Board.

The CFLE Advisory Board includes a combination of appointed and elected positions. The appointed positions represent existing committees and the CFLE Focus Group as well as a Student New Professional and Employer Representative. The following people were appointed to the CFLE Advisory Board:

Appointed Positions

CFLE Focus Group Representative:
Kevin Allemagne, Private Practice

Certification Review Committee Representative:

Wm. Michael Fleming, University of Northern Iowa

Academic Program Review Committee Representative:

Carol Darling, Florida State University

Student New Professional Representative:
Susan Eitel, Texas Women's University

Employer Representative:

Kathy Steblea, Children's Services Council Palm Beach Florida

The remaining positions were filled through an election by all current Certified Family Life Educators. The election was held in September, 2005.

Elected Positions

Academic Representative:

Sharon Ballard, East Carolina University

Academic Representative:

Marty Covey, Spring Arbor University

Practitioner Position:

Deb Cashen, Parenting Partnerships

Practitioner Position:

Jeannie Buckner, The Family Expert

Practitioner Position:

Jerica Berge, University of MN Medical School

The CFLE Advisory Board met for the first time at the NCFR conference in Phoenix. An update on their activities will be included in the *March Report*. The development of the CFLE Advisory Board represents an important step in the evolution of the CFLE program!

NCFR's Newest Resource for Family Life Educators

Hot off the press, *Teaching Family Life Education: A Syllabus Collection*, edited by Michael Walcheski, Ph.D., CFLE, and NCFR staff member, Nancy Gonzalez, M.Ed., CFLE, is a collection of over 40

Following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators designated since July 15, 2005. (* - Provisional)

CERTIFIED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATORS

Alabama Kimberly Greene * Jessica Shaw *	Michigan Angela Cook-Hoekwater * Cynthia Denham Diane Mathis-Taylor Carol Miller * Pelica Pitchford-Kaliyati * Tamara Sides * Pamela Weinhagen * Sarah Wright *	Oregon Tammy Chatfield * Paula Dawson * Shannon Horsley * Erica Jayasuriya
California Shelley Sousa *	Minnesota Danielle Carlson * Megan Ruf *	Pennsylvania Tiffany Aumen * Kayla Sollenberger *
Colorado Eruc Pillard *	Nevada Jennifer Johnson *	Tennessee Laura Krebs *
Florida Cheryl Blackman Kathleen Pokrana *	Ohio Melissa McNeil * Caroline Salgado *	Texas Betty Gyempeh * Pam Rinn Roger Sherrill *
Iowa Michele Hafer		Utah Amara Kockler * Andrew Poll * Mikelle Worthern
Maine Julie Carroll *		Virginia Holly Christein *
Maryland Michael Ellsworth *		

CFLE Directions continued on page 9



Annual Conference



Thank You!

After many months of an enormous amount of planning by Conference Chair **Jane F. Gilgun**, it doesn't seem possible that the 2005 Conference is now history!

Jane Gilgun selected the theme – **The Multiple Meanings of Families**. This was extremely relevant and appropriate as we celebrated **all** families. Kudos to Jane, the great orchestrator of the 2005 Conference. Jane selected plenary, Research Update, and special speakers and panel sessions. All the sessions were exciting and enlightening with new information. Her Round Robin Author Reception on Thursday evening was such an innovation as she asked authors to give helpful hints to prospective authors. Jane put together a wonderful PowerPoint presentation celebrating NCFR's many families that was shown at each plenary session. Poster sessions again received the recognition they so rightly deserve. It was great that the posters and exhibits were all together in the open atrium, visible to everyone. The quality of the posters was great, and with virtually no competing sessions, the attendance was great. We salute you Jane, for the excellent job as Program Chair. She was truly a partner with NCFR staff to ensure that the program met the needs of attendees.

We were extremely pleased with the overall quality of all sessions this year. This was evident from the time the proposals

were submitted. Program committee chairs found that the scores were very high. Again the proposals that were accepted received a 3.5 or better score.

When an attendee sees a conference run smoothly, it appears to be an easy task to put on a convention. However, a successful conference involves an enormous number of people who spend numerous hours planning the program, executing logistical details and seeing to attendees needs.

THANK YOU to the following for their contributions:

- 1 **Section Chairs** did a remarkable job in planning the excellent, innovative special sessions, paper, symposia, poster and round table sessions. They had a tremendous amount of work in sending out submissions to reviewers, evaluating the reviewers' comments and formulating the program.
- 1 **All Plenary, Research Updates, special speakers and panels** provided the backbone for the conference. They did a superb job in covering the areas of the theme and giving real "meat" to the Conference.
- 1 **Reviewers of the Section proposals** did an excellent job in making sure that all the criteria were adhered to, and carefully scored each proposal based on its merits. Reviewing proposals can be a thankless job, but it is vital to ensuring a top-quality conference program. Please note the list of all the reviewers on page 44 in this year's program.
- 1 **Leonor Boulton-Johnson and Patricia Merk** did a wonderful job as local arrangements co-chairs. In addition to local arrangements duties, they also were part of the Work-Life Summit Advisory Committee. The other **local arrangements team** were superb! The entire local arrangements team went "the extra mile" in working with NCFR staff in planning, locating contacts, and numerous other duties. They worked

diligently behind the scenes in the roles such as Hospitality Center, Employment Matching Service, VIP Speaker Hosting, Student Assistant coordination, securing Audio-visual equipment, Emergency Liaison. They never complained about the work, but were always enthusiastic about their tasks.

- 1 **NCFR staff** worked endlessly behind the scenes. They truly are the backbone of the Conference. They make sure that everything runs smoothly. In addition to helping behind the scenes, they attended meetings, provided answers to questions that attendees had, and many other duties. They do a superb job in pulling off all the details.
- 1 More than 40 **Student Aides** assisted in registration, employment service, exhibits, and general assistance. Through their efforts, the conference ran smoothly. **Patricia Neff**, the Student Aides chair, did an excellent job in using setting up the schedule, and training them to do a good job.

Other people who were important to the success of the conference:

- 1 **Coordinators of Pre-conference Workshops**. These sessions provided "hands-on" tools based on the latest techniques and research for family professionals.
- 1 **Carl Williams**, our A/V Coordinator for more than 25 years, worked many

Conference continued on page 10

CFLE DIRECTIONS

continued from page 8

syllabi covering all of NCFR's ten content areas for the CFLE, plus other syllabi for related family courses and electives. \$21.95 for NCFR members or CFLEs; \$23.95 for non-members. Call Pat at 888-781-9331 x 14 to order!

Next CFLE Review Submission Deadline is March 3, 2006.

Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE
NCFR Certification Director

Give the Gift that Keeps on Giving!

Purchase Video and Audio Tapes, CDs or DVDs

Tapes of major sessions may be purchased from NCFR. A list and order form is enclosed in this Report. Fill out the enclosed form in the insert and return it to NCFR. If you want a better price, look at our packages for the 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 tapes.



Affiliate Connection

Association of Councils Update

The Association of Councils has been very busy this past quarter. Lynda Bessey, our staff liaison at NCFR headquarters, has been diligently working to get all of the affiliate names and addresses on the AOC listerv. This will enable all of us to communicate in a more general fashion. It will also assist us in staying on top of current issues and concerns of our individual councils.

Your Association of Councils invited everyone attending the conference in Phoenix to bring a strategic plan to share at the business meeting. The strategic plans were for one to three years for individual councils. Seeing what others are planning and paying attention to on a national basis assists individual councils with their strategic planning. These strategic plans are available to any of the councils. The

Board's goal in requesting and sharing this information is to communicate with one another about ideas that have worked and perhaps suggestions for those struggling with certain issues.

All Councils are asked to submit important dates to the AOC Board. These dates may be conferences, special events, fundraising, student/new professional news, international happenings in local councils and any other important dates that the entire Association of Councils might find beneficial in planning. A Master Calendar will be sent out to all the Association of Council's Presidents to share with their members. It will also be sent out on the listerv.

The Speaker's Bureau is moving ahead. There are approximately 30 speakers on the list. A discussion is ensuing as to

possibly link the Speaker's Bureau info to affiliate websites with options for affiliates to search by region and by topic and by procedure to request the speaker.

Please review the minutes from the Breakfast and the Business meeting for your AOC's Boards latest decisions made at the Annual Conference in Phoenix.

In closing may I suggest you start a "piggy bank" and put your loose change in to help you all attend the 2006 Annual Conference in Minneapolis, MN next November. The Minnesota Council on Family Relations is eager to host you. Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful holiday season!

*Marcie Brooke CFLE
President, Association of Councils
E-mail: Marcie.brooke@spps.org*

Texas Council on Family Relations

The annual TCFR conference held in Ft. Worth, March 31-April 1 was filled with new information, new insights, celebrations, and friends-old and new! "Promoting Healthy Families - Caregiving Across the Lifespan" was the theme in friendly Ft. Worth. Throughout the conference, participants were informed about public policy and legislative issues,

particularly relevant to older adults and their caregivers, and challenged to action. The conference opened with Lynda Taylor Ender's challenge to participants to care, get involved, and make a difference of the lives of those who are no longer able to care for themselves. Ms. Ender is Director of the Senior Source, Senior Citizens of Dallas. Michael Benjamin, Executive

Director of NCFR, recapped statistics of older persons in the United States and compared the data on older persons in Texas. He used a time line to update participants on legislation affecting children and adults and closed the conference by challenging TCFR participants to be leaders in developing and implementing a plan to support quality of life for all ages.

CONFERENCE *continued from page 6*

hours seeing to the needs of program speakers to ensure great presentations and provided technical assistance for all sessions. He had the responsibility of making sure that all the PowerPoint materials worked on cue.

- 1 Program presenters, discussants, presiders, and recorders.**
- 1 And most of all, to Conference attendees.** Without you, the Conference would not take place.

Thanks to the staff at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix Hotel who did a great job in

making quick turns of rooms in a short amount of time. They truly were a team with the NCFR Staff.

There are many others who also worked behind the scenes. As you can see, it really takes a "village" to make a successful conference. **Thank you one and all.**

*Cindy Winter, CMP
Conference Director
E-mail: cindy@ncfr.org*

*Jane Gilgun
Program Chair
E-mail: jgilgun@umn.edu*

Outstanding general and concurrent sessions were energized by students from a number of universities including Louisiana Tech University (LTU), Texas Tech University (TTU), Texas Woman's University (TWU), and University of North Texas (UNT). Celebration occurred as student paper award winners presented overviews of their papers and were presented monetary awards.

TCFR Awards were presented at the closing luncheon. The Meritorious Service Award, which acknowledges and encourages outstanding services and support to families and to family life in

Texas Council presented on page 11

EXECUTIVE REVIEW *continued from page 7*

Status: The Program Committee revised the review standards for 2006 proposals to attract more proposals targeted to practitioners.

The NCFR Conference continues to have many benefits for attendees that many academic conferences do not offer: complimentary Cyber Café; complimentary multi-media projector, laptop, and overhead projector in every meeting room; and complimentary proceedings that list all accepted proposals.

The number of proposals submitted in 2005 was 512. This compares with 508 in 2004, which was down 6.5 percent from 2003 when we had 543 proposals. But the number of proposals for 2005 was still up from 2002 when we had only 428 proposals. Throughout the years, conference attendance has risen or fallen in direct proportion to the number of proposals submitted.

Registrations as of October 31, 2005, were 865, the same as 2004. The number of exhibitors was up this year. Some innovations in this year's exhibits included the Round Robin Author Reception on Thursday evening. Participating authors were asked to write a 2-page essay about the process of getting their books published, as well as suggestions for prospective authors. All essays were collected in a booklet and handed out to conference registrants.

Task C: Increase participation at conferences among both national and international constituents.

Status: For the 2005 conference, we developed a list of non-NCFR members from practitioner organizations and universities in the Southwestern United States. We also developed similar list that includes non-NCFR members in the Midwest, Canada, and other countries. We are hoping to interest them in submitting proposals in 2006 and following years.

Task D: Conduct study on the feasibility of offering online courses. This includes a survey of institutions and individuals interested in meeting CFLE requirements.

Status: We have established a working relationship with Concordia University-St. Paul, an approved program, which also has an on-line family life education degree program.

We are also maintaining a list of on-line opportunities that can fulfill professional development or CEUs needed for CFLE recertification. In addition, we are identifying existing courses offered by our membership and others.

Dawn Cassidy, CFLE Director, is currently working with the California State University -Sacramento to develop two online modules focused specifically on "Family Resource Management" and "Family Law and Public Policy," the two areas

applicants most often need to strengthen their CFLE application.

Task E: Create additional skill-building offerings for practitioners.

Status: We are working with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) to incorporate family systems theory and family professionals as parent coordinators in the court systems for cases involving divorcing parents.

Executive Review continued on page 13

Northwest Council on Family Relations

The NWCFR 2006 conference will be held from Wednesday June 21, 2006 to Friday June 23, 2006 in beautiful Calgary, Alberta. The conference will be hosted by the University of Calgary, Faculty of Nursing, Dr. Karen Benzies and Dr. Don Swenson Conference Coordinators. This year's theme is "Research for Families: Bridging Borders, Systems, and Disciplines." Our NWCFR conferences provide an opportunity to meet and network with colleagues from throughout the Northwest in a small group setting. Plan on staying after the conference and attend the annual Calgary Stampede starting July 7th. This is a world class rodeo you won't want to miss! For more information on conference registration and accommodations contact Dr. Karen Benzies at benzies@ucalgary.ca

Conference paper proposals will be accepted through February 28, 2006. This conference is a great opportunity for students and new professionals to present their work in a smaller setting, for participants to get feedback on works in process, and to present research on issues specifically relevant to families in the northwest. Proposal abstracts should be no longer than five pages in length, including references, and should be submitted to Dr. Sandy Bailey as an MS Word attachment at baileys@montana.edu .

We look forward to seeing you in Calgary!

Sandy Bailey
President, Northwest CFR
E-mail: baileys@montana.edu

TEXAS COUNCIL *continued from page 10*

Texas, was presented to the Center for Parent Education (CPE) and its founder and director for over 13 years, Dr. Arminta Jacobson. The purpose of the CPE is to respond to the needs of families through research, advocacy, resources and leadership for professionals interested in meeting the needs of parents and families.

Dr. Maxine Hammonds-Smith was honored as the recipient of the 2005 Moore-Bowman award. The Moore-Bowman Award recognizes professionals whose contributions to family well-being in Texas have been truly outstanding. Dr. Hammonds-Smith has been a Texas educator for over 20 years and has held many TCFR offices and worked on numerous committees.

Miriam Mulso and Lane Powell extended an invitation to the **2006 TCFR Conference** scheduled for **March 30-31, 2006** in Lubbock, TX. The theme will be "International Families: Family in the Global Community". Current plans are for a reception on Thursday night and conference sessions throughout the day on Friday. Special student events include a job fair, a refreshment break on the TTU campus with graduate schools from area universities offering information, and a West Texas Night at a special location with food and a western band for dancing planned for the Friday night post-conference. Mark your calendar now!

Jo Ann Engelbrecht
President, Texas Council on Family Relations
E-mail: Jengelbrecht@mail.twu.edu

Call for Nominations and Applications

for the position of Editor of *Journal of Marriage and Family*

The **National Council on Family Relations** is seeking nominations and applications for the position of Editor of *Journal of Marriage and Family* (JMF). The term of the current editor, Alexis J. Walker (Oregon State University) will be completed with the publication of the December 2007 issue.

The four-year term of the new editor will begin with the publication of the February 2008 issue. However, editorial responsibilities will be transferred to the new editor beginning approximately February 2007. The JMF Search Committee anticipates making the selection of the new editor at the annual conference in November 2006 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

A detailed description of the editor's responsibilities may be obtained from: Search Committee for Editor of *Journal of Marriage and Family*, **National Council on Family Relations**, 3989 Central Ave. NE, Suite 550, Minneapolis, MN, USA, 55421. Phone 1-888-781-9331; FAX 763-781-9348; email jeanne@ncfr.org.

Nominations and applications including a letter of application and a curriculum vita should be sent to the above address by **May 15, 2006**. The new editor must be a member of the **National Council on Family Relations**.

EXECUTIVE REVIEW *continued from page 11*

NCFR also plans to co-host a listserv of family professionals to help coordinate a grass-roots effort aimed at establishing training standards.

In addition, we have been working with Joan Comeau of Family Information Services to see whether it's feasible for NCFR to take over the production and marketing for Family Information Services.

Task F: Increase NCFR's visibility and awareness.

Status: Over the past year, NCFR has exhibited at the following conferences: Families and Fathers Conference in Phoenix, SRCD Conference in Atlanta, AAFCS Conference in Minneapolis, and Texas Council on Family Relations in Ft. Worth. Conference attendees receive follow-up letters. In addition, we have used refined mailing lists to recruit new members. Between June 1, 2004 and April 30, 2005, we were able to recruit 465 new members through this process.

Task G: Conduct the NCFR Student Member Conference Survey.

Status: Through the Association of Councils, we conducted a survey of students regarding their attitudes about the NCFR's Annual Conference. 107 students responded to the spring survey. Here are some of the responses:

I want to network with other students and new professionals.

Extremely important: 57.94%.
Somewhat important: 38.32%.

I want an opportunity to present my research.

Extremely important: 33.64%.
Somewhat important: 41.12%.

I want the opportunity to pursue leadership opportunities within NCFR's student organization.

A majority said it was somewhat important, but not necessary.

I want to meet scholars and practitioners in the family field.

Extremely important: 75.70%.

It is important that my faculty ask or encourage me to attend NCFR.

Extremely important: 40.19%.
Somewhat important: 48.60%.

I want to know how to become a Certified Family Life Educator.

Extremely important: 45.79%.

I want to know how to make money as a Certified Family Life Educator.
Yes: 52.34%.

The factors that make it most likely that I will attend NCFR are:

1. Low cost (funding/scholarships)
2. Networking with professionals
3. Time availability (Fri & Sat)
4. Opportunity to present research (oral or poster presentation)
5. Career exploration
6. Graduate school or internship fair
7. Practical learning experiences for students

II. Increase the quantity and quality of publications that link research to practice, improve the ranking of *FR*, and maintain the ranking of *JMF*.

Task A: Educate about writing for publications.

Status: We plan to develop a special booklet based on two articles from the November 2005 *JMF*: "Writes of Passage: Writing an Empirical Journal Article" and "Crafting Qualitative Research Article on Marriages and Families." The booklet would be distributed to non-family relations academic departments. In addition, the journal editors and Fellows were available to provide guidance on journal writing at the President's Welcoming Reception at the 2005 Annual Conference.

Task B: Increase participation of scholars from outside the United States through submissions, subscriptions, and participation in the editorial process.

Status: We mailed copies of the December 2004 special issue of *JMF* on "International Perspectives on Families and Social Change," to scholars on international mailing lists. The issue was accompanied by a letter from Alexis Walker, *JMF* editor, announcing our receptivity to international authors.

We also use press releases to enhance the impact of the journals and to increase their visibility to potential authors. NCFR coordinates the dissemination of press releases with Blackwell, our journals' publication house, to gain maximum exposure.

Task C: Increase the number of submissions to *FR*.

Status: *FR* co-sponsored NCFR's 2005 Public Policy Conference. According to Joyce Arditti, *FR*'s editor, "*FR*'s advisory

council evaluated all poster presentation submissions for the conference. It is anticipated that over time *FR*'s involvement in the conference will stimulate policy-related research, increase the journal's visibility relative to the policy arena, and that *FR* will serve as an outlet for family policy scholarship showcased at the conference."

III. Establish a system of procedures for informing family policy at national and state levels.

Task A: Monitor federal and state policies for their impact on families and communicate this information to members.

Status: NCFR staff monitors federal legislation on an ongoing basis. Findings are communicated via the weekly ZIPPY NEWS and specific notices to the Public Policy Committee. In addition, we work with the Public Policy Committee to identify important areas that staff should focus on, particularly with regard to policy briefs and fact sheet topics.

We have revised and republished the "Public Policy through the Family Lens" booklet and its accompanying "Checklist for assessing the impact of policies and programs on families."

Task B: Sponsor fellowships for professionals and internships for students in Washington, D.C. and Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Status: Developed criteria for internships and have found placements for public policy interns during the spring semester and CFLE interns throughout the year.

Task C: Establish collaboration with groups that share our focus on informing family policy, for example, Family Impact Seminar, AAFCS, SRCD, ASA, AAMFT, NASW, Family Support American, and others.

Status: Over the past two years, NCFR has affiliated with AAFCS to co-sponsor the annual public policy conference.

Task D: Continue the development of educational materials on important family issues for public officials.

Status: Developed Policy Brief on Social Security Reform, Fact Sheet on Family Trauma (inspired by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita). A Family Preparedness Policy Brief is under development. Exploratory

Executive Review continued on page 14

EXECUTIVE REVIEW *continued from page 13*

conversations are underway about a Work-Life Balance Policy Brief.

In addition, we created “How to Talk to your Legislator,” a document hand out to participants at the annual policy conference.

For these publications, we recruit the best possible authors, and each one is peer reviewed. The latest Fact Sheet—on Families and Trauma—was written and published in record time—about two weeks—after Hurricane Katrina. This enabled us to speak to an important new issue for families, allowing NCFR to address the topic in a timely fashion.

IV. Expand NCFR certification program

Task A: Have Family Life Education Recognized as an Occupational Code within the Department of Labor (DOL).

Status: We have researched the steps needed to have family life education considered as a Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). We have also com-

pared and contrasted existing SOCs with family life education and identified why a new category for family life education is needed. Finally, we submitted package to DOL for review in preparation for use in the 2010 Decennial Census.

Task B: Achieve a 50 percent increase over the next three years in approved programs in family life education in colleges and universities in the United States and Canada where family science curriculum is offered.

Status: There are currently 121 undergraduate and 190 graduate programs listed in the Graduate and Undergraduate Study in Marriage and Family, but not all of those schools have appropriate CFLE programs. Based on the Family Programs available across the country, we have established NCFR approval status with 92 programs.

It is likely, therefore, that the majority of eligible programs are already “in the NCFR family.” But there is a handful left

to recruit. We began to look at these from a geographic perspective and discovered that although there are 92 approved programs nationwide, there are no approved programs in 11 states.

Nancy Gonzalez, program specialist in this area, examined all of the Family programs available in these 11 states and determined that 9 of them have colleges or universities with family programs that are at least “in the ballpark.” We contacted these programs by sending an introductory letter with information about NCFR and the CFLE. The letter also invited these schools to apply for approval.

A secondary objective is to “Identify all potential academic Programs that would meet the CFLE criteria.” Based on a survey and examining the curricula left, we estimate there are 15 to 20 remaining family programs. Most of the non-approved programs across the country are geared toward counseling and therapy, family faith-based ministry, or family-consumer sciences. They are generally not the best fit for the CFLE.

Task C: Develop pieces for those teaching Family Science courses.

Status: This past summer NCFR published “Teaching Family Life Education: A Syllabus Collection.” This book will be of great use to Family Life Education instructors nationwide, as it provides representative syllabi from all 10 CFLE content areas.

Task D: Develop an abbreviated CFLE process for Minnesota State Licensed Parent and Family Educators.

Status: Licensed Parent Educators will be pre-approved in a certain number of content areas by virtue of their license. They will need to submit additional information for those areas not included in the Minnesota license criteria.

Task E: Expand the employment matching service to include positions for CFLEs in non-academic settings.

Status: NCFR’s new web-based employment center will include an employment matching service for CFLEs.

We always look forward to responses to our annual report. My e-mail address is mberjamen@ncfr.org.

Michael L. Benjamin, M.P.H.
Executive Director

Do you teach Family Life Education or design FLE curricula? This “must-have” publication is a collection of over 40 syllabi covering all of NCFR’s 10 content areas for the CFLE, plus syllabi for related family courses and electives. A rich resource, full of content ideas, class activities, suggested readings, grading criteria and more.

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Teaching Family Life Education: A Syllabus Collection



EDITORS
Michael Walcheski, PhD, CFLE
Nancy Gonzalez, MEd, CFLE
PUBLISHED BY
National Council on Family Relations

Teaching Family Life Education: A Syllabus Collection



Section News

Family and Health Section

As Section Chair, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Family and Health Section as well as other members of NCFR who supported our symposia (2), special sessions (3), roundtables (5), paper sessions (6), and posters (22) at the 67th Annual Conference held in Phoenix, AZ last month. “Thank you’s” are also in order for the session recorders, moderators, and discussants. We could not have been as successful as we were had we not had such terrific participation from the membership of the Section. I also wanted to thank Jennifer Hardesty, Christine Price, Whitney Brosi and the Aging Focus Group who were responsible

for planning and organizing two of our special sessions “Abuse During Pregnancy: Implications for Family Health Globally”, presented by Jaquelyn Campbell, R.N., PhD, and “Aging and the Family, It Has Never Been This Way Before” presented by Msgr. Charles Fahey. Finally, a big thank you to Jennifer Hardesty who helped organize the pre-conference workshop entitled, “Promoting the Safety of Women and Children When Women Separate From Their Violent Partners”. All were well attended and indeed increased the visibility of the Section.

Plans for next years’ conference are well on their way. To be held in Minneapolis,

the theme is *Unanswered Questions in Marriage and Family Science*. Look for more specific information about the conference in a future *Report*. Please consider submitting an abstract to the Family and Health Section for a roundtable, paper session, poster, or symposium, if you think your work/project is congruent with our mission (to promote the health of diverse families and their members through interdisciplinary activities that facilitate excellence in family health practice, research, education, and policy development), as well as the conference theme.

Barbara Mandleco
Chair, Family and Health Section
E-mail: Barbara_Mandleco@BYU.EDU

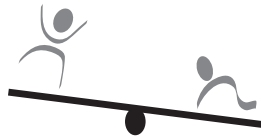
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES — Tenure Track, Assistant Professor

Responsibilities for this position include teaching undergraduate and graduate courses with emphases in foundations of Family and Consumer Sciences, family theories, family resource management, and other appropriate Family and Consumer Sciences courses. In addition, the person in this position will conduct research/scholarly activities and provide service to the University, community, and profession. An earned doctorate in Family and Consumer Sciences or related field is preferred. Evidence must be shown of successful higher education teaching, scholarly activities, and professional service. ABD with emphasis in Family and Consumer Sciences or related field will be considered. Affiliations with professional organizations are desirable, such as the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Starting date is August 2006. Applicants should submit letter of application, curriculum vitae, a list of three references, and transcripts to Dr. Kathleen O’Rourke, Eastern Illinois University, 600 Lincoln Avenue, School of Family and Consumer Sciences, Charleston, IL 61920-3099. For more information, email cfkao@eiu.edu or call (217) 581-6350. Review of applicants will begin on January 9, 2006, and continue until position is filled. Visit www.eiu.edu/~famsci for more information. AA/EEO/ADA

Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development at Washington State University, Pullman, WA, (permanent 9-month tenure track faculty position).
Required: Ph.D. in human development, family science, family studies, developmental psychology, family sociology, or related area prior to commencing employment.
Desired: Evidence of high quality, programmatic research; high quality teaching in higher education; potential for acquiring external research funding. Interest or experience in distance learning (i.e., telecommunications, correspondence, on-line). Applied developmental science perspective with expertise in prevention research, program evaluation research, or community collaborative research with expertise in one or more of the following content areas: Parent-child relationships, family well-being/coping, family processes, social policy relating to children and families. The person hired is expected to make contributions to both undergraduate and graduate education in the Department of Human Development. For complete description, go to: <http://hd.wsu.edu>. Send vita, transcripts, three current letters of reference and a letter describing how experience/training meet qualifications. Screening: December 5, 2005. Apply to Margaret H. Young, Ph.D. WSU, Human Development, PO Box 644852, Pullman, WA 99164-4852, 509-335-9203, FAX 509-335-2456, youngm@mail.wsu.edu. EEO/AA/ADA

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Report from Washington

A Tribute to Margaret Feldman

The September 2005 issue of *The Southwester*, a newsletter published by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly in Washington DC, featured a tribute to NCFR's Washington Representative Margaret Feldman. The article covers the highlights of Margaret's past and present. In August 2005, a farewell celebration was given in honor of Margaret before she moved back to Ithaca, NY. For the complete article and photos, visit http://www.swdc.org/news/Southwester_SEP_2005.pdf

RESOURCE CENTER *continued from page 4*

few policy activities for NCFR over the years. When the Board members gave our Executive Director the green light for responding to the NHMRC program announcement, we based our decision on the information available at that time and a desire to raise NCFR's profile as a respected source for research based policy and education information. When it became apparent that there was serious opposition to this policy activity the Board concluded that it was no longer appropriate for NCFR. On some level, it does not matter how large or small is the group of members who object to this activity, but that there is a lack of broad consensus and support for NCFR's engagement in this agreement. It may not bring much comfort to those of you now disappointed with the Board's actions but we hope that our responsiveness to NCFR members on this matter assures you that we also will not take the organization into a policy domain where *you* don't want NCFR to go.

A more recent development and a significant factor in the Board's decision to exit the cooperative agreement is the government's request that the NHMRC Website include a statement by President Bush and a picture of President and Mrs. Bush on the home page. The Board concluded that such a requirement has the appearance of overtly politicizing the project and unacceptably risks NCFR's image and posture as a policy and education organization, rather than a political or partisanship organization which, among other things, is inconsistent with NCFR's tax exempt status.

In sum, these factors prompted the Board to reconsider how well the project serves the organization. The lengthy and repeated discussions among the Board and the NCFR staff have made it difficult to devote sufficient time and energy to other important tasks and goals of the organization and our members. The decision to withdraw from the cooperative agreement reflects this realization as well

as the threat that a polarized membership poses to the long-term stability of NCFR.

The Board hopes that withdrawing from the cooperative agreement will resolve many of the issues that have emerged around this particular policy activity. Members who believe that NCFR should never have entered into this cooperative agreement told us that they objected either to the content of the activity (particularly the exclusive focus on heterosexual marriages), or the process by which we decided to respond to the program announcement, or both. We used sessions and forums at the Annual Meeting for further discussion of these and related matters. As always we encourage member comment and feedback via any method convenient for you, especially if you were not able to attend the meeting in Phoenix.

Let me close this first column with an observation. This has been a difficult period for NCFR. We took a risk and when it did not work, there was pain enough to go around. My most direct involvement in the debate was within the context of Board conversations, and the members of this and the two previous Boards wrestled with this issue in the most genuine, caring, and professional manner. We thank you for giving us the time to deliberate and then the space to re-chart our course. It is the earnest desire of the Board members and the Executive Director that the warm and open nature that is a cornerstone of NCFR will continue to thrive and that each of us will remain strongly committed to NCFR, to respect for diversity, and to each other. I look forward to hearing from you.

Pam Monroe

NCFR President

E-mail: pmonroe@agcenter.lsu.edu

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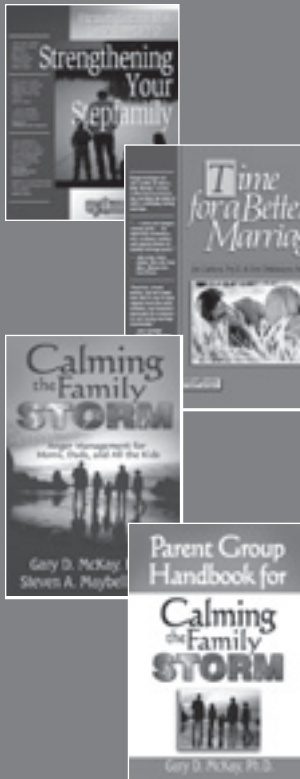
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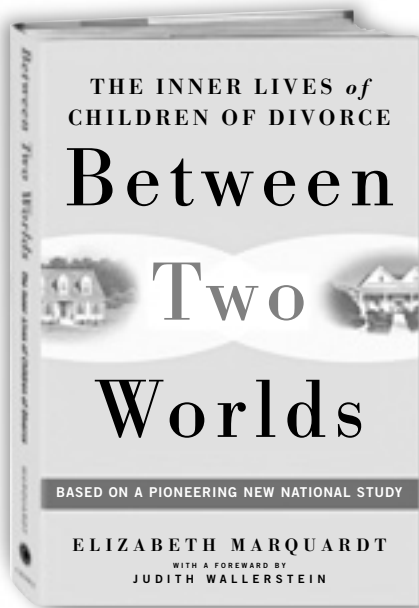
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