

In this issue:

LGBT families

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In this issue of NCFR Report, your colleagues examine the many facets of LGBT families.

Insert: 2012 Call for Proposals

Next issue: Military Families

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Vote and nominate!

by Sandra J. Bailey and Karen S. Wampler, NCFR 2012 Elections Council Co-Chairs

Get involved in the leadership of YOUR organization!

The vitality of NCFR depends on the dedication of its members to serve in leadership capacities at various levels of the organization. The charge of the Elections Council is to identify people who are willing to commit their time and energy for leadership positions. Please consider how your skills and gifts might benefit NCFR. In turn, we are quite sure that you will gain valuable leadership experience and will grow personally as well as professionally. Here are two ways to be involved.

VOTE

...in upcoming elections (February 2012)

The Elections Council wants to encourage ALL members to vote in February 2012. We have submitted a nomination slate (ballots will be emailed to members in February 2012) for terms that will be filled at the end of the national meeting in Phoenix, Arizona in November 2012. The nominees are:

Annual Conference Program Chair-elect (2012-2013) – Chair at 2014 Conference

David R. Johnson – PA or Catherine A. Solheim – MN

Student/New Professional Program Representative (2012-2014)

Ronald B. Cox – OK or Aurea Osgood – MN

Elections Council (2012-2015) (two positions)

H. Wallace Goddard – AR or Abbie Goldberg – MA
Manijeh Daneshpour – MN or Mihaela Robila – NY

Fellows Committee (2012-2015) (3 Positions)

Bert Adams – WI or Randal Day – UT
Thomas Stone Carlson – ND or Francisco A. Villarruel – MI
Marilyn Coleman – MO or Adriana Umana-Taylor – AR

NOMINATE

...yourself/others; nominations due January 31, 2012 (February 2013 Slate)

The Elections Council wants to encourage ALL members to nominate someone for the February 2013 slate. As you think about who would serve NCFR well, please give serious consideration to nominating yourself as well as others. Here are the Selection Criteria to help you decide whether you would be willing to be nominated and/or to identify potential candidates for the upcoming election:

opment, family science, marriage and family practice, sociology, and related professions.

- Knowledge and/or experience in leadership roles through Sections, Affiliate Councils, Elections Council, conference planning, publishing, public policy, or other committee work.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SLATE

- Ability and disability
- Age
- Bilingualism and multiculturalism/English language learners
- Body size and condition

ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATIONS

- Current membership in NCFR
- Knowledge and/or experience in areas reflecting broad trends in human devel-

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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: Elaine Anderson

Board Members: Rose Allen, Paul Amato, Andrew Behnke, I. Joyce Chang, Jennifer Hardesty, Carolyn Henry, Lyndal Khaw, Maureen Perry-Jenkins, Brad van Eeden-Moorefield

Executive Director: Diane Cushman

Editor, NCFR Report: Nancy Gonzalez

Assistant Editor: Charles Cheesebrough

Adviser: Stephen Russell

Copy Editor: Lisa Hawkins

How to contribute to the NCFR Report: The NCFR Report is member-written. Articles accepted for publication will be edited using standard editorial practice, and given priority based on (1) relevance to the Family Focus theme, or (2) brevity due to space limitations, and (3) how articles form a complementary collection. For information and guidelines, contact the editor, Nancy Gonzalez, at nancygonzalez@ncfr.org. **The contents of Report articles represent the views of their author(s), which may not represent the position of the entire organization.**

To advertise in the Report, please see the specifications and price list at http://www.ncfr.org/adrates_report.html.

NCFR reserves the right to decline any paid advertising at our sole discretion.

Deadlines for each of the quarterly issues are: Spring issue—deadline December 21, Summer issue—March 21, Fall issue—June 21 and the Winter issue—deadline September 21. Send submissions to: Nancy Gonzalez at nancygonzalez@ncfr.org. For all submissions, please supply an email address to allow readers to contact you.

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- Customs and traditions
- Educational, disciplinary, or career status
- Ethnicity, race, national origin, or cultural identity
- Gender, gender identity, and gender expression
- Geographical background and location
- Marital status, relational status (including singlehood), and family structure or identity
- Objective and subjective worldviews and standpoints
- Political ideologies and affiliations
- Religion/no religion, spirituality and affiliations, and faith
- Sexual orientation, identities, and expressions
- Socioeconomic status, residential status, social class, employment, and national service

Keeping these criteria in mind, we invite self-nominations and nominations of others for the following positions for the **next slate to be elected in February 2013**. The terms for these positions will **begin November 2013** at the end of the annual conference in San Antonio, Texas.

Board President-Elect – 2013-2015 (President 2015-2017)

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. President-elect will serve on the Board Audit Committee and be in the charge of the Newcomer's Reception at the Annual Conference.

Board Member-at-Large – 2013-2016 (2 Positions Open)

NCFR Board Members are responsible for the overall governance of the organization on behalf of all NCFR members. They attend two 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 reflecting the needs of all NCFR members.

Affiliate Councils President-Elect – 2013-2015

The Affiliate Councils President-Elect shall serve on the National Council on Family Relations Board of Directors for a two-year term, and shall represent concerns of the members of the Affiliate Councils. This position shall assume the presidency of the Affiliate Councils for a two-year term following his or her term as President-Elect.

Student/New Professional Board Representative-Elect – 2013-2014

The Student/New Professional Board Representative-Elect serves a one-year term as a non-voting member of the Board. After serving their one-year term this position will move to the position of Student/New Professional Board Representative and serves a two-year term as a voting member of the Board of Directors. During their one-year term, the S/NP Board Representative-Elect will learn about the organization and their roles as the future S/NP Board Representative by shadowing and assisting the current S/NP Board Representative and S/NP Program Representative.

Conference Program Chair-elect – 2013- 2014 (Program Chair for 2015 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 with the help of the NCFR staff.

Elections Council Members – 2013-2016 (two positions)

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

Fellows Committee – 2013-2016 (two positions)

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

Inclusion & Diversity Committee Chair-Elect – 2013-2014 (IDC Chair 2014-2016)

The IDC Chair shall be the official representative of the Inclusion and Diversity Committee in the activities of NCFR. The chair shall preside at all meetings and shall call special meetings when necessary. The responsibility and authority of the Chair will devolve upon the Chair-Elect if the Chair becomes unable to fulfill the role as described.

vote and nominate continued on page 3



Passing the baton

by Gary L. Bowen, NCFR President, gibowen@email.unc.edu

By the time this issue of NCFR Report is released, NCFR's 73rd Annual Conference will be history, six new NCFR Board members will be in place, and Elaine Anderson will be holding the leadership reins as NCFR's 63rd President. I will have the distinction of being listed as an NCFR Past President—what a wonderful list of people to be associated with by former position. I have total confidence in Elaine's ability to continue to move NCFR forward as "the premier professional association for the multidisciplinary understanding of families." I just love the sound of that phrase—"the premier professional association" and indeed it is the best source in the world for cutting-edge research about families and family life. New Board members will include Paul Amato, I. Joyce Chang, Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, Carolyn Henry, Rose Allen, and Lyndal Khaw. They will join Elaine Anderson, Andrew Behnke, Jennifer Hardesty, and Maureen Perry-Jenkins who will continue on the Board. A funny thing about serving as president of NCFR—during the last year of your term, you are the only one remaining of those who rotated onto the Board with you. The president serves for four years—two years as president-elect and two years as president.

Norma Burgess, Mary Ann Hollinger, Gary Lee, and Minnell Tralle will have joined me in rotating off the Board. I would like to thank them for their outstanding service. They have

been a joy to work with, along with Debra Berke, Soyoung Lee, Gary Lee, Glen Palm, and Chloe Merrill who rotated off the Board earlier in my term. If you haven't served on the NCFR Board, let me share a little secret with you—it's a lot of fun. In addition, you learn a lot about what it takes to run a membership organization. This job has improved my leadership and management skills as a university employee and as a principal investigator.

In the context of singing the praises of Board members with whom I have served during the past four years, let me add the tremendous respect and admiration I hold for Diane Cushman, Jeanne Strand, Nancy Gonzalez, Charles Cheesebrough, and the rest of the NCFR staff. Bottom line—Diane Cushman is a top leader and manager, and Jeanne Strand is the glue that keeps it all together from my point of view. They all made my job an easy one—NCFR has a lot more moving parts than I ever realized as a member, and Diane keeps all these parts moving together and forward in an effective and efficient manner.

A person's time being president is relatively short. Consequently, I decided to focus my efforts on working with the Board and NCFR's membership on re-examining NCFR Ends (the organization's desired results). Several of my president's columns in *NCFR Report* discussed this effort. I am pleased to say that we concluded this work during our summer 2011 Board retreat in Minneapolis.

I am most appreciative of the leadership and support that we received from Dennis Orthner, an NCFR Fellow and legacy group member, and Judy Sharken-Simon, NCFR's paid governance consultant. Dennis facilitated the Board retreat in the summer of 2010 that kicked off this work.

I will have the pleasure of giving the NCFR President's Award to Dennis Orthner at the 2011 Annual Conference. Proposed by the late NCFR president, Maxine Hammonds-Smith, this award is given at the discretion of the president to a person whom the president considers to have advanced the organization and the president's initiatives. Dennis, a professor of social work and public policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has played a key role in NCFR for 40 years, beginning with serving as the student representative on the NCFR Board. Dennis was instrumental in my success as NCFR's President, as he has been for my entire professional career. He was the person who encouraged me to join NCFR in 1977 and, when I was elected president-elect, he was the first person to congratulate me and offer his assistance. I am a firm believer that there are no self-made people—we all stand on the shoulders of those who have stepped forward to nurture and mentor us. Dennis has been such a person in my life, and I am most appreciative of his wise counsel and his steadfast support through thick and thin. One of the most fortunate days of my life was the day I met Dennis Orthner.

In conclusion, my goal in any leadership position is to leave the situation a little better than I found it. Well, this was a little difficult in the present case because the organization was in great shape when I assumed the reins. In all modesty, NCFR has so many great leaders—a successful president for the most part just has to get out of the way.

Thank you for honor and privilege of serving as NCFR's 62nd President. I look forward to future opportunities to serve NCFR.

May peace be with you and your family. ■

vote and nominate *continued from page 2*

Inclusion & Diversity Committee Student/New Professional Representative - 2013-2015

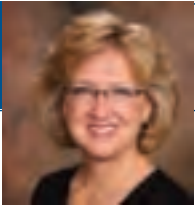
The Student/New Professional shall act as a liaison between the IDC and the Student/New Professional Leadership Council.

Inclusion & Diversity Committee Member-at-Large - 2013-2016 (two positions)

IDC Members-at-Large will serve to assist IDC to respond to the needs and desires of NCFR members. The Members-at-Large will help the committee send updates on the work

of IDC via webpage postings, NCFR Reports, and other effective venues of communication. The Members-at-Large will provide information and suggestions to IDC, ensuring that information is documented via a report.

Again, become involved in leadership positions of our organization. Consider what your involvement will be. Send nominations to Jeanne Strand at jeannestrand@ncfr.org. For additional information, please review our website, www.ncfr.org. **Deadline for nominations is January 31, 2012.** ■



Wrapping up, looking ahead

by Diane Cushman, Executive Director, dianecushman@ncfr.org

Yearend and board transitions

Thank you to our stellar cast of outgoing board members: President Gary Bowen, Norma Burgess, Treasurer Mary Ann Hollinger, Gary Lee, and Affiliate Council Board Chair-elect Minnell Tralle. Minnell moves on to chair the Affiliate Councils Board. Each and every one of these board members contributed their unique skills and perspective to the board. We are grateful for their time, energy, wisdom, humor and contributions to NCFR. A special thank you to Gary Bowen for leading the Board through the task of revising the Global Ends, a courageous undertaking. Gary's kindness is matched by his energy and desire to engage members at all levels of the organization.

We are fortunate that NCFR members are willing and able leaders and we welcome six newly elected members to the Board. They are: Paul Amato (President-elect), Rose Allen (Affiliate Council Board President-elect), Lyndal Khaw (Student New Professional Representative-elect), Carolyn Henry, Brad van Eden-Moorefield, and I. Joyce Chang, Members-at-Large. These new board members have been auditing the board meetings for several months and have participated in a Policy Governance™ orientation program. They are ready to serve you! This is our first year with the added non-voting position of SNP Rep-elect. We added this position based on feedback from previous SNP board reps who said they could do a better job representing the students and new professionals if they had a year to audit the Board activities in advance of their year as an active member of the Board.

2011 Highlights

2011 was a fun year filled with an abundance of new member programs made possible by www.ncfr.org and member input. Check out:

- The Professional Resource Library
- Our NCFR Family
- Find a Degree Program
- Contact an Expert
- Real World Impact
- NCFR History (in recognition of NCFR's upcoming 75 year anniversary in 2013)

- Archived conference proceedings in audio, video, PowerPoint and pdfs of the Theory Construction and Research Methodology presentations
- Enhanced professional development resources including grant-writing and writing for NCFR's scholarly journals

Work continues to streamline the conference submission process and to increase the number of multi-disciplinary invited symposia. The Board's Inclusion and Diversity Committee has finalized NCFR's definition of diversity and its guiding principles and has gathered input from NCFR members on the future direction of its work. The Affiliate Council has continued to tweak and execute their strategic plan and have added three new student affiliates (Eastern Illinois University, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and Utah Valley University) and the Wisconsin Council on Family Relations. Congratulations on a job well-done.

Challenges ahead in 2012

Mark your calendar now for the 2012 conference, Tuesday October 30, through Saturday, November 3. Our United States members with children and grandchildren may be disappointed that the dates overlap with the celebration of Halloween. Unfortunately our 2012 conference dates were booked many years ago. Please know that we would not intentionally schedule the conference during this time.

We also cannot anticipate changes in state laws between the time we sign a contract and

the conference date. The Board's Inclusion and Diversity Committee has made suggestions and will continue to work with the 2012 Conference Program Chair, Dr. Leigh Leslie, and the program planning committee to address potential issues related to Arizona's immigration laws. The planning committee and staff of NCFR are open to member input at all times.

Opportunities abound

NCFR comes alive through the Sections and Affiliates. Catalyzing leading-edge research, theory and practice happens when members meet-up with others of like or complementary interests and make something of their synergy. The Feminism & Family Studies Section rolled out a new mentoring program at the 2011 conference. The Student/New Professionals (SNPs) put a new twist on the Hospitality Suite at the 2011 conference by creating The Gathering Place where friendships and collaborative relationships were hatched and plans for future research projects set in motion.

We need you in 2012!

As we approach the New Year and you are considering goals for yourself, please consider deepening your participation in NCFR. Share a lesson plan or an article in our Professional Resource Library. Write an entry for our Community Blog. Submit an article to the *NCFR Report* magazine. Become active in your local affiliate or "follow" NCFR on Facebook and Twitter. And, at any time, please contact me if you have ideas or questions. Best wishes for a safe and meaningful holiday season and a Happy New Year! ■

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info@ncfr.org

To reach specific staff members:

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Welcome new CFLE volunteers!

by Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE, Education Director, dawncassidy@ncfr.org

The NCFR Education Department and the CFLE program continue to grow and expand. In addition to promotion and maintenance of the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) and Academic Program Review programs, we are continually working to provide more value to CFLEs and members of NCFR. A few years ago NCFR implemented a new database that has allowed us to better track and serve our customers and to be more consistent and timely in our billing system and delivery of services.

This past year we implemented the new NCFR website which includes a new **Degree Program** section and numerous other features that allow far more interaction with, and between, members. The new **Professional Resource Library** is proving to be a great source of information for family professionals.

The efforts of the NCFR staff are focused on “leveraging systems and engaging members.” As staff we are fully aware of the amazing talents of our CFLEs and members. We know that you have the knowledge and skills to advance the field of family science and strengthen families.

This is why we rely so heavily on CFLE and member involvement to reach the goals of NCFR. We’ve recently welcomed a number of new volunteers to assist in reaching our goals. **Deb Gentry, CFLE, APR Liaison**, has welcomed ten new members to the Academic Program Review Committee.

Dorothy Berglund, CFLE, Mississippi University for Women

Kristie Chandler, CFLE, Samford University

Marty Covey, CFLE, Spring Arbor University

Janet Crow, CFLE, Baylor University

Michael Fleming, CFLE, University of Northern Iowa

Clara Gerhardt, CFLE, Samford University

Tammy Harpel, CFLE, Louisiana Tech University

Melinda Markham, CFLE, Kansas State at Salina

Tara Newman, CFLE, Stephen F. Austin University

Meeshay Williams-Wheeler, CFLE, North Carolina Agriculture & Tech Station

They will join **Sadguna Anasuri, CFLE** (CanDoTech Services), **Duane Dowd, CFLE** (Central Washington University), **Lauri Etheridge, CFLE** (University of North Texas), and **Tami Moore, CFLE** (University of Nebraska at Kearney) in helping to review new academic program application materials as well as complex program renewal matters. They will be very busy over the next year as we are anticipating over 30 CFLE approved program renewal applications. In addition, we average five new program applications each year!


The CFLE Advisory Board will be holding an election to fill the positions vacated by **Panayiota Courelli, CFLE, SYCRCC/Dept. of Juvenile Justice**, **Carol Darling, CFLE**, Florida State University, and **Tara Newman, CFLE**, Stephen F. Austin University. Positions will be filled for one Academic Representative position, one Student/New Professional position, and one Practitioner Representative position. The CFLE Advisory Board meets regularly throughout the year via conference call and face-to-face at the NCFR conference to provide leadership for the ongoing development of the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) program.

This year we welcome a brand new committee, the CFLE Online Clearinghouse Committee, chaired by **Deb Bailey, CFLE**, of Central Michigan University. The clearinghouse will include two sections. One section will highlight academic, for-credit, courses that have been pre-approved as meeting CFLE content requirements and are available online. The clearinghouse will provide a way for students who are unable to complete CFLE-approved courses at their institution to complete the CFLE-related coursework via distance education options.

The other section will feature online continuing education modules or webinars related to the CFLE content areas. These modules will be approved for continuing education credit as opposed to academic credit and can be used by CFLEs wishing to earn

cfle directions continued on page 6

Meet our NCFR family, Laura and Violet! Laura Sanchez is Professor of Sociology at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, and Violet is a thoroughbred registered with the Jockey Club of America. Together they are “Team Tenderness!” as Laura says it. Laura has two horses, one dog, four cats, two chickens, two beloved nieces and one adorable nephew. Laura says she feels blessed to love both her two- and four-legged herd mates. Her animal-loving great-grandmas, grandmas, and aunts taught Laura to love pets as family.



Our NCFR family

credit for their certification renewal every five years. They can also be used by other family life education professionals wishing to strengthen their knowledge and understanding of content relevant to family life education.

By providing continuing education opportunities relevant to the ten family life content areas, NCFR is contributing to the promotion and advancement of the profession of family life education. We are pleased to welcome the following members of the CFLE Online Clearinghouse Committee:

Jill Bowers, CFLE, University of Illinois

Jerry Cook, CFLE, California State University - Sacramento

Jonathan Davis, CFLE, Samford University

Todd Gomez, CFLE, Northeast State University

Lis Maurer, CFLE, Ithaca College

Sandy Osborne, CFLE, Montana State University.

We'll be recognizing these many wonderful volunteers who have helped make the CFLE and APR programs the successes that they are at the CFLE Reception on Wednesday, November 16 in Orlando, Florida.

There will be many more opportunities to get involved in the CFLE program and the Education department over the coming year. If you are interested in serving in some capacity, please let me know. dawncassidy@ncfr.org. We welcome your involvement! ■

NCFR Report - A member forum

The *NCFR Report* is a quarterly magazine for members designed to encourage member-to-member dialogue; to inform colleagues about our research and to discuss research application for practitioners and policy professionals. Through the *Report*, NCFR also builds our community by reporting on people, events and organizational news.

Unlike the content of our scholarly journals, the articles in *NCFR Report* have not been peer-reviewed. In the spirit of open debate and academic freedom, *NCFR Report* is a member forum for exchanging ideas. The opinions or findings expressed are those of the author(s), which may or may not represent the official position of NCFR as an organization nor the prevailing scientific consensus on the topic.

Author email addresses are provided to encourage readers to offer comment to writers. Members may access the content of our scholarly journals on-line at www.ncfr.org. To join NCFR, click on our convenient on-line membership application at www.ncfr.org. Journalists with media inquiries are invited to contact Nancy Gonzalez at 763-231-2887 or via email at nancygonzalez@ncfr.org for information on our scholarly research.

Certified Family Life Educators

The following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators designated between July 1 and October 31, 2011. Provisional unless otherwise noted.

Alabama

Equiller Mahone

California

Margaret Tuhus
Andrea L'Heureux

Colorado

Miranda Jarrard

Connecticut

Krista Westerman

Florida

Masami Lewis

Idaho

Amy Scoville

Illinois

Jessica Collingsgrove

Indiana

Carrie Lawrence FULL
Alexandra Hutchinson
Sarah Luckett
Amber Seidel

Iowa

Kelsey Sievers

Kansas

Audrey Davis

Louisiana

Anne Branscum FULL
Joseph St. Mary

Maine

Brianna O'Connell

Maryland

Jennifer Kratz
Naketta Lowrey
Ashley Coburn
Brooke Ellis
Shayna Sikowitz

Massachusetts

Katherine Siebried

Michigan

Lindsey ShullFULL
Rebecca Menna
Sonja Lee
Tina Belcourt
Sara West
Linsey Higgins
Jessica Browne
Janice Lovett
Deanna Klemmer
Sirene Douglas
Noreen Miller
Robin Head
Mollie Barkovich

Minnesota

Gale Cannon

Montana

Tonya Frotz

Nebraska

Kassandra Diessner

Nevada

Linda Granger FULL

New Hampshire

Heather Ridge

New York

Mary Peeso
Laura Buzon
Rijha Bhatia
Catherine Lehn
Christine Klara
Keriann Giancaspro
Caitlin Brennan

North Carolina

Katherine Collins

North Dakota

Ashley Frank

Ohio

Amanda DePompei
Barbara Pierce
Keri Bond
Chelsea Verhoff
Abbey Latham
Erin Smolko
Colleen Kline
Lauren Clark

Oklahoma

Comelia Jackson

Pennsylvania

Konstance McCaffree FULL
Susanna Bean

South Carolina

Memory Cameron FULL

Tennessee

Teresa Thomas
Brandie Nelson
Julie Kole
Melissa Woodson

Texas

Alyssa Brown
Jessica Stice
Leslie Margolis
Deanna Cook FULL

Utah

Celeste Peckham
Maren Hadley
Amanda Knighton

Virginia

Jillian Scollan

Wisconsin

Mellissa Hancock

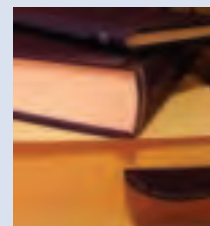
Wyoming

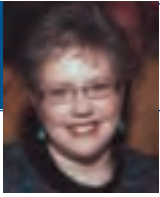
Ashley Frome
Adrianna Bingham

On the bookshelf

On the Bookshelf is a news column intended to build community by letting colleagues know about new books by fellow members. Inclusion on this list does not constitute an endorsement by NCFR. To submit your book for consideration in the next *On the Bookshelf* column, at least one author must be an NCFR member and the announcement will be published once. Send your submission in the exact format of this listing to nancygonzalez@ncfr.org

Stephen F. Duncan, H. Wallace Goddard (2011). *Family Life Education: Principles and Practices for Effective Outreach*. Sage.





Bless the beasts and children

by Nancy Gonzalez, CFLE, Editor, nancygonzalez@ncfr.org

Facebook, for all its controversy, has been a wonderful tool to have a peek into the lives of our members. One of the first things I noticed was that there are many animals lovers in NCFR. Facebook is replete with photos of NCFR members' pets. In our regular feature *Our NCFR Family*, sociologist Laura Sanchez is featured with her beautiful mare, Violet. (See page 5.) Familia Gonzalez loves animals, too. In addition to our own Border Collie and two cats, we dogsit for many friends and neighbors. It's amazing how attached we've become to these "foster pets."

A couple of years ago, one of our frequent houseguests, Roxy, had to be euthanized. She was (forgive me, Roxy) the ugliest dog I have ever seen in my life. First of all, in an injury she received as a puppy, her tongue received a cut and it never healed properly. As a result, her tongue was permanently forked. She no longer had any pain, but she smiled like a serpent which gave a sinister look to an otherwise sweet and loving dog.

She was a black Lab with mysterious bumps and growths all over her.... her fur looked like a bear rug with marbles under it. She was old—an ancient 14 going on 140, and she moved like a glacier. Then the worst... and I won't dwell on it, but a description of her isn't complete without the following: she had unpredictable attacks of room-clearing flatulence.

But we loved Roxy! Our friends always left home for vacation feeling at ease, because when Roxy would get to our house, she recognized her home-away-from-home the minute they drove up. She would hop out of the car enthusiastically and pull like a sled dog to get to our door.

We have another geriatric dog in our lives who has vacationed with us for over 10 years. His name is Jasper and he's 14. He is completely deaf now, and so I've trained him with a hand signal to get him to come. He sleeps with us at the foot of our King Size bed, of course, but he can no longer jump up on the bed himself. He has to be lifted up

and down. I may throw out my back someday, because he's over 50 pounds. We know that any of his visits may be his last. Our Executive Director Diane Cushman has a dog named Hobbes (pictured) and he has spent two holidays with us! There are three other dogs who stay with us regularly.

For a few weeks this past summer via Facebook, I had the pleasure of watching NCFR colleague Derek Gwinn and his wife Ann rescue a kitten, nurture it and prepare it for adoption. They found the kitten in a



Diane Cushman's dog, Hobbes, a Plott Hound mix

storm drain near their home in Springfield, Missouri. He weighed 2 pounds and was undoubtedly near death. They brought him home and then to the veterinarian. They fed, bathed and soothed him as he slowly gained weight and began to act like a kitten. But Derek and Ann had to manage not just the kitten but the emotions of their two young boys who love animals. The Gwinns already have three cats—the kitten could not stay. The challenge for the Gwinns was in sending the firm yet loving message to their sons that the kitten would be placed in an adoptive home as soon as possible. They handled it so beautifully. They told the boys that they would appreciate their help in socializing the kitten so that he would be adoptable by another family. How wise of them to draw this boundary around their children's attachment mechanism. Derek says, "The first rule was that we were not going to give the cat a



This is IttyBittyKitty, the kitten Ann and Derek Gwinn rescued from a storm sewer.

real name. That was how Lewis (their third cat) became a permanent resident." The kitten was given a temporary name of IttyBittyKitty. (See photo.)

One of the conundrums many parents must address with children is how best to deal with the loss of a pet. More than one comedian has performed a routine about goldfish funerals and then a flush... but it's no laughing matter. There are truly no right answers here—so much is contextual. So many factors must be weighed: the developmental stage of the child, the relationship the child had with the pet, how the pet died, whether other losses have occurred recently in a child's life—or whether one is imminent.

We lost our Cocker Spaniel, Mac, when our son was six. Eric cried for most of three days. This was the only pet he'd known and they'd been together since our son was born. It was devastating. If you know it's coming, you can give it some thought... and even consult with some helpers such as a parent educator, the veterinarian or a clergyperson. In our case, Mac had a terminal illness. He maybe could live another month, but it would've resulted in suffering for the dog. We involved Eric in the decision. We explained the facts. It didn't take Eric long to agree that he didn't want Mac to suffer.

Mac's death was not a surprise, so I had some time to prepare for this parenting challenge. I suspected that Eric would ask if Mac went to heaven. I was right. He did ask. Not only is this complicated parenting stuff, parents can feel as if they are wading into some heavy-duty theology. Each family must work this through considering their faith and feelings. In my faith tradition, there is a scriptural

report from minneapolis continued on page 8

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report from minneapolis *continued from page 8*

reference to doves descending from heaven. I used this as evidence to explain to my son that it was my opinion that if God was telling us that there were doves in heaven, He probably meant that other animals are welcome there, too... and I believed Mac was there.

Another deliberation that soon follows is when or whether to get another pet. No pat answers from me. When I lose a pet, I head right to the Animal Humane Society to get another one—sometimes the same day. In my pragmatic adult mind, there is an animal

in a cage somewhere who needs a home, and that's that. For others, this immediate step would seem like a disrespectful attempt at "replacing" something irreplaceable—or worse. For some, it could complicate the grieving process. The late Fred Rogers, "Mr. Rogers," wrote a book for children on *When a Pet Dies*. Although I haven't read it in years, I remember it as a good resource. At our local animal shelter, there are written resources available and pet loss support group meetings too. Each child is so unique.

It's for each family to judge whether these are appropriate to read with the grieving child.

What happened to IttyBittyKitty? He has a forever home with a loving woman who also has another cat. I love happy endings. Thanks to Derek and Ann Gwinn for providing me with several weeks of vicarious animal bonding last summer. ■



This 1988 photo is an example of how pets are indeed a part of a family. I placed my week-old newborn on the kitchen counter and went into the next room to get something. When I came back 60 seconds later, our Cocker Spaniel "Mac" had used a nearby sofa to jump up onto the counter to stand guard for the baby. That's when I knew that Mac had accepted our son into our "pack."

Thank you donors

NCFR thanks the following persons for their generous donations to the organization.

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Affiliates matter

by Chloe D. Merrill, Ph.D., CFLE, ACB President

Following the annual NCFR Conference, there will be a leadership change on the ACB. This is a result of a two-year rotation of officers. I will become the Past-President. I have certainly enjoyed the two years I spent on the NCFR Board of Directors and also the past two years as President of the Affiliate Councils Board. It has been exciting to see strategic plan developments and affiliate growth during that time. Thanks to everyone for their support during these past four years. There has been growth and continued effectiveness from all of the affiliates.

At the end of the 2011 NCFR Conference, Minnell Tralle will assume the role of President of the Affiliate Councils Board. The ACB will continue to change as new leadership takes office. This will lead to continual new and exciting changes for the ACB and for the affiliates.

The Affiliate Council Board has had a busy year continuing to implement strategic plans and new ideas for the Regional, Provincial, State, and Student affiliates. Some of the activities that the Affiliate Council Board and Affiliate Councils have been involved with are highlighted below.

- Quarterly conference calls were held (February, May, August) to help meet the needs of the various affiliate councils and to get a better idea of what affiliate needs are so that NCFR can address them as best they can.
- The Affiliate Councils Board (ACB) met once a month via conference call.
- The ACB also met several times at the NCFR Annual Conference in November 2011.
- On January 8 and 9, 2011, the ACB met in Minneapolis for the third strategic planning meeting. At this meeting the board, along with NCFR staff members, mapped out plans for the Affiliate Councils and the Affiliate Councils Board.
- At the NCFR Annual Conference, the ACB sponsored its annual workshop entitled “Affiliates Matter: Planning for Success.” The workshop keynote speakers were Deb Cashen and Susan Marsh. Also, participants learned from other affiliates in the following roundtable discussions: Planning for Success, Recruitment, Web Page Ideas, Career Paths in Family Science, and Program and Conference Ideas. Workshop participants had opportunities to interact with their peers. The annual business meeting was also held at this time.

The ACB sponsored a Friday breakfast meeting for presidents and representatives of student affiliate councils at the NCFR Annual Conference. The topic was “Bridges to Building a Successful Student/Local Affiliate.”

The Affiliate Councils Board was also pleased to announce two winners of the 2011 ACB Outstanding Student Paper competition. Each NCFR Affiliate Council can submit one graduate and one undergraduate student paper to the review committee for award consideration.

This year’s graduate student winner is Kimberly A. Crossman of the Illinois Student Council on Family Relations with her paper titled, “He Could Scare Me Without Laying A Hand On Me.” Kimberly received a monetary award, travel stipend, an award plaque, and presented a poster session.

Michelle Burton and Andrew Chris of the Weber State Student Council on Family Relations and the Utah Council on Family Relations were the undergraduate student winners with their paper titled, “Religiosity Impacting Stepfamily Dynamics.” They received a monetary award and an award plaque.

This year the ACB also sponsored the second President-For-A-Day Award. Michelle Burton from Weber State University received this award for 2011. The award recognizes a student or new professional’s commitment, energy, innovation in their service to NCFR and empowers them to continue evolving their leadership role. The recipient of this award

will have supported and furthered the organization’s mission during their membership through previous conference volunteering, year-round service opportunities (including service to student/state/regional affiliate councils or NCFR-related university or professional activities), and overall efforts to foster community among S/NPs.

The ACB also gave four Affiliate Councils Award for Meritorious Service. This award recognizes the service of affiliate members within their local, state and regional council. This past year the recipients were

- Marcie Rein – Minnesota Council on Family Relations
- Dr. Richard Sale – Texas Council on Family Relations
- Dr. Paul Schvaneveldt – Weber State Student Council on Family Relations and Utah Council on Family Relations
- Dr. Jennifer Hardesty - Illinois Student Council on Family Relations.

The Affiliate Council Board would like to extend appreciation for the service that the past board members have given. As they leave the ACB for new adventures, we wish them well and want them to know that they will be called upon for their expertise in the future. These members include Dr. Richard Sale and Dr. Joanne Roberts.

New members of the ACB will be welcomed in November including Rose Allen, President-elect; Deb Cashen, program chair; and Josh

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Affiliate Councils Awards 2011

Affiliate Councils Outstanding Graduate Student Research Paper

Kimberly A. Crossman; Illinois Student Council on Family Relations; “He Could Scare Me Without Laying A Hand On Me”

Affiliate Councils Outstanding Undergraduate Student Research Paper

Michelle Burton and Andrew Chris; Weber State Student Council on Family Relation, Utah Council on Family Relations; “Religiosity Impacting Stepfamily Dynamics”

Affiliate Councils President-For-A-Day Award

Michelle Burton; Weber State University

Affiliate Councils Award for Meritorious Service

This award is given to NCFR members who have been active in affiliate councils and provided a significant leadership role in community service or public policy on behalf of an affiliate.

Marcie Rein, Minnesota Council on Family Relations

Dr. Richard Sale, Texas Council on Family Relations

Dr. Paul Schvaneveldt, Weber State Student Council on Family Relations and Utah Council on Family Relations

Dr. Jennifer Hardesty, Illinois Student Council on Family Relations

Kathleen Briggs Mentoring Award

Karen and Richard Wampler

The Family Therapy Section has conferred the Kathleen Briggs Mentoring Award jointly to Drs. Karen and Richard Wampler of Michigan State University. This first Briggs Award recognizes the Wampplers' years of service to the fields of couple and family therapy and family studies.



Karen and Richard Wampler

Dr. Karen Wampler has been a leading figure in research and training in the areas of couple and family therapy training and couple relationships for over 30 years. She was the founding director of the University of Georgia's accredited Marriage and Family Therapy Program and first coordinator for the MFT Certificate Program jointly administered by CFD, Social Work, and Counseling. Karen was on the faculty at Georgia for 10 years before moving to Texas Tech in 1989 where she served as program director and founding department chair for Applied and Professional Studies. She edited the *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy* while at Tech (2001-2004). After 18 years, she moved to Michigan State as chair of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies (formerly, Family and Child Ecology). At Georgia, she collaborated with Dr. Charles Halverson in an NIMH-funded longitudinal project on parent-child interactions. At Texas Tech, she began a research program focused on adult attachment and couple behaviors that she has continued at Michigan State. She is author of more than 50 journal articles and 11 book chapters. She has served as dissertation advisor for 26 doctoral students at Georgia, Texas Tech, and MSU, and has mentored dozens more master's and doctoral students and junior faculty over the years. Dr. Karen Wampler is recognized for her thoughtful writings on the nature of doctoral programs and on training programs for couple and family therapists.

Dr. Richard Wampler began his academic career as a rat psychologist in 1969 at 27, following his doctoral training at the University of Pennsylvania. Ten years and hundreds of rats into his career, he entered the social work program at the University of Georgia, specializing in family social work. After an internship at the Athens Family Counseling Service, he began work in mental health at the North Georgia Mental Health Center (1981-83), Central State Hospital (Developmental Disabilities Division, 1983-86, 1987-89), and returned to the Family Counseling Service for two years as agency director (1986-1988). In 1989, he began a second academic career at Texas Tech at 47. There, he taught, served as Director of the Family Therapy Clinic for a number of

years, and became involved in community-based programs with high-risk children and adolescents and their families. In addition to his acerbic wit, he is known for developing and implementing individual, group, and family therapy programs for adolescents on probation or held in juvenile detention and in-home family therapy programs for Latino/a families, and for training generations of graduate student mentors who went on to become supervisors in a variety of settings. In moving to MSU in 2007, he has continued to write about and research issues of services to minorities, served as Director of the CFT Program (2008-11) and Couple and Family Therapy Clinic (2010-11), and is directing the last two of his total of 22

Awards 2011

Awards to members and other scholars and practitioners in family-related areas are an important part of the work of NCFR. As an organization, we congratulate these deserving recipients for awards presented in 2011.

You are encouraged to nominate and to apply for NCFR awards. Most awards involved recognition at the annual conference, a cash award or travel stipend, and a plaque. Watch for the awards brochure and nomination/application form. Note the deadlines for awards that will be given in 2012 (some awards are biannual).

dissertations. He has published some 45 journal articles and made some 160 presentations at professional conferences.

The purpose of the Briggs Award is to recognize the important role that clinical and academic mentors play in Couple and Family Therapy training and research. The award is given in memory of Kathleen Briggs, long-time department chair at Oklahoma State and a beloved teacher and mentor. ■

Felix Berardo Award

B. Kay Pasley

The Felix Berardo Award winner, given for excellence in mentoring, is B. Kay Pasley, Ph.D., the Norejane Hendrickson Professor and Chair of Family and Child Sciences at The Florida State University. The Award was established by the family of the late Felix Berardo who credited much of his success to the devoted guidance of his mentor, F. Ivan Nye. It was the wish of Dr. Berardo's family that NCFR establish an award to recognize members who nurture junior colleagues.

Since 1977, much of Dr. Pasley's work has focused on understanding the challenges of stepfamily life, and she is commonly called upon to provide research-based information to media sources through her work with the National Center for Stepfamily Resources. In 1993 she began redirecting some research toward fathering after divorce.

Dr. Pasley has served in many leadership roles in NCFR and recently completed archiving the papers from the organization's Theory Construction and Research Methodology workshop. She is a former editor of one of NCFR's scholarly journals, *Family Relations: Interdis-*

ciplinary Journal of Applied Family Studies.

Professor Pasley serves on numerous editorial boards, and is part of the training team for the

Institute of Academic Leadership which provides education to newly appointed department chairs in Florida. Kay Pasley has published over 70 refereed articles, 30 book chapters, several edited volumes, and numerous lay publications. However, she is most proud of her contribution to the field through her mentoring of the next generation of scholars.

Dr. Pasley's nomination dossier is replete with praise from her mentees. Dr. Ted Futris describes his experiences in Dr. Pasley's classroom, "Never in my experience in graduate school do I recall reading so much, writing so extensively and, more importantly, receiving so much constructive feedback from an instructor." Chelsea Graneau, a current student, writes, "When I walked into her office a few years ago, feeling a little lost and fearful of



B. Kay Pasley

kay pasley continued on page 11

Cindy Winter Award

Erin Kostina-Ritchey, Karen Bluth

Erin Kostina-Ritchey and Karen Bluth are the winners of the Cindy Winter Award for 2011.

The biannual award is given in recognition of Cindy Winter, NCFR's Conference Director from 1964 to 2007 and includes complimentary registration to the Annual Conference, a plaque, and \$500 to be used for travel expenses to attend the conference. The purpose of the award is to honor a student or new professional who has demonstrated outstanding leadership/service in family studies, human ecology, human development, family science or related field.

Erin Kostina Richey is a Ph.D. student in Human Development and Family Studies at Texas Tech University. After earning undergraduate degrees at Oklahoma Baptist University Ms. Kostina-Ritchey worked for a non-profit as an education and social services coordinator/consultant in Central Asia for five years. She then received her M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in International Development and Public Policy in addition to receiving her graduate certificate in Women's Studies at Texas Tech.

Ms. Kostina-Ritchey has been an active member of NCFR since 2005 and became a Certified Family Life Educator in 2007. In addition to presenting at the Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop and the Work Life Summit, she has co-authored 16 NCFR conference presentations. She has been active at the state level co-presenting a research and professional workshop at the Texas Council on Family Relations and coordinating various outreach/education program for the Tech Council on Family Relations

Ms. Kostina-Ritchey served as the Student and New Professional representative for the International Section and is active in its Eastern-European focus group. In addition, she is a member of the Feminism and Family Studies, Family Policy, Ethnic Minorities and Research & Theory sections. She has been an active volunteer at past conferences both onsite and in reviewing conference proposals. She expects to defend her dissertation next spring which focuses on identity in Mexican American women who are the first in their family to attend higher education.

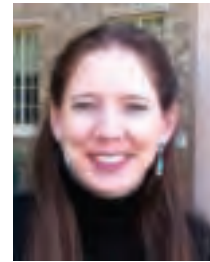
Karen Bluth is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Child and Family Studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Ms. Bluth's research interests focus on mindfulness, specifically the potential role that mindfulness practice plays in easing the transition from adolescence to adulthood. Her dissertation project investigates the function

of self-compassion as a mediator in the relationship between mindfulness and emotional well-being outcomes in adolescents.

Ms. Bluth's interest in mindfulness research is rooted in an extensive mindfulness practice that began in her own adolescence, and her interest in adolescents stems from a lengthy teaching career, the last seven years of which were teaching in a middle school. In addition to this project, Karen has recently completed a study which explored the relationships among parent mindfulness, parenting effort, and child behavior outcomes in both adolescent and preschool families; this study resulted in two publications in the journal *Mindfulness*.

In addition to her current dissertation study, she is beginning a mixed-methods mindfulness intervention study at a local middle school, where she will be extending her exploration of the role of self-compassion in mindfulness practice. In another vein, she is also piloting a picture-narrative qualitative methodology focus-



Erin Kostina-Ritchey



Karen Bluth

ing on adolescent identity with fellow doctoral students who she met at the European Association for Research on Adolescents-Society for Research on Adolescents (EARA-SRA) summer institute last year. Additionally, she has also recently spearheaded the reactivation of the student affiliate of NCFR at the University of Tennessee, as well as serving as vice-president of the Graduate Student Organization in her department and chairing the university-wide Student Health Advisory Committee. This semester, she is also teaching an undergraduate class on adolescent and adult development.

Ms. Bluth holds an undergraduate degree from Duke University and a master's degree in education from Southern Connecticut State University. ■

Marie Peters Award

William D. Allen

This award, presented by the Ethnic Minorities Section, was established for the purpose of recognizing distinguished scholars, researchers and practitioners who have made significant contributions to the areas of ethnic minorities families.

William D. Allen, Ph.D., is a family scholar who was trained at the University of Minnesota. Grounded in theoretical orientations, Dr. Allen has a keen interest in the practice of family therapy and combines his passion for theory and research with best practice skills in family interventions. He is a licensed marital and family therapist in Minnesota and is the owner of a private practice called Healing Bonds. He serves, among other things, as a consultant to private and public institutions on a range of issues related to mental health and well-being. In addition, Dr. Allen has served as an adjunct professor in the Department of Family Social

Science at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Allen has a number of research and clinical interests related to culturally diverse families and the roles that males play in family life across the lifespan. He has published numerous articles on topics ranging from explorations of adolescent fatherhood and African-American marriages, to effective therapeutic approaches for working with African-American males and supporting youth of color in the child welfare system.

The Marie Peters Award is presented in memory of Marie E. Peters who was a distinguished scholar, researcher, practitioner, and mentor, as well as an illustrious member of NCFR, a Board Member, and the Ethnic Minorities Section leader. ■



William Allen

kay pasley continued from page 10

the wide world of academia, and told her I was interested in working with her to research stepfamilies, she welcomed me with open arms, and sent me on my way with a towering stack of books and a new sense of direction." Former graduate student Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield says, "I often remember, and still see, quite a twinkle of excitement in her eyes as we engage in theoretical discussions, chat about new research findings and endeavors, and her smile and laughter continue to brighten my day even when they come in email form." ■

NCFR Student Award

Megan Haselschwerdt, Cassandra Kirkland

Megan Haselschwerdt and Cassandra Kirkland have been named winners of the NCFR Student Award.

Megan Haselschwerdt is a doctoral student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at Indiana University at Bloomington and a Master of Science degree at the University of Illinois. Her dissertation project will begin to fill a gap in the family studies literature by exploring domestic violence and secrecy within affluent families and communities. Through the use of grounded theory ethnography, her study will examine family dynamics in an understudied population.

Ms. Haselschwerdt's research will rely on individual interviews with affluent mothers who experienced domestic violence in their marriage, college students from affluent families who were exposed to domestic violence and domestic violence professionals and advocates (e.g., attorneys, social workers, therapists) who work with affluent families.

Ms. Haselschwerdt believes that researchers need to collaborate with a variety of practitio-



Megan Haselschwerdt



Cassandra Kirkland

ners who have been working with affluent populations at the grassroots or practical level. Despite the lack of research on domestic violence in affluent families, practitioners in these communities are well aware of the presence of domestic violence, as well as the potentially unique dynamics that occur within these families and communities.

Cassandra Kirkland is a doctoral candidate in Human Development and Family Studies at Auburn University whose concentration is fatherhood in the African American community.

Ms. Kirkland is passionate about fulfilling the mission of land grant institutions and utilizing a strengths-based approach to examine the fathering experiences of African American men. Her dissertation focuses on the intergenerational transmission of fathering practices among African American men and the implications of those practices for the well-being of their children. It is her desire to utilize the findings from her dissertation to

student award continued on page 14

Reuben Hill Award

Michelle J. Budig and Melissa J. Hodges

The Reuben Hill Award recipients for 2011 are Michelle J. Budig and Melissa J. Hodges, both of the Sociology Department at the University of Massachusetts—Amherst. Their article, "Differences in Disadvantage: Variation in the Motherhood Penalty across White Women's Earnings Distribution," was published in the October 2010 issue of *American Sociological Review*.

Budig and Hodges broke new ground by using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth to examine whether the size of the motherhood penalty, as well as the factors explaining this penalty, vary with the earnings level of white women. Although they found a wage penalty for motherhood at all earnings levels, mothers earning the lowest pay experienced the largest penalty. Factors associated with the motherhood penalty also differed by earnings level. For mothers with



Nichelle Budig



Melissa Hodges

low pay, family resources, work effort, and family-friendly job characteristics largely accounted for the motherhood penalty while, for high income mothers, lost human capital resulting from having children was associated with the motherhood penalty. This study deepens our understanding of how the motherhood penalty is differentially experienced by women at various earnings levels and underscores the support needs of low income mothers.

The Reuben Hill Award is sponsored by NCFR's Research and Theory Section. It is given annually in recognition of an outstanding article that combines theory and research methodology in the analysis and interpretation of a significant family issue. ■

Ernest Osborne Award

Terrance Olson

Terrance Olson, Ph.D., Professor in the School of Family Life at Brigham Young University (BYU) is the winner of the 2011 Osborne Award. He has served as department Chair, as an Associate Dean of the College of Family, Home and Social Sciences, as Associate Director of the World Family Policy Center, and as Associate Director of The Faculty Center, all at BYU.



Terrance Olson

The Osborne Award is given to recognize individuals who demonstrate enduring excellence in the teaching of family studies. It was established in memory of Ernest G. Osborne, President of NCFR, from 1948-1950.

Dr. Olson's work has focused on how the philosophies of science inform the practices of educators and therapists. His work on moral agency, drawing on theoretical work in the field, is applied to issues of adolescent sexuality, AIDS, marital interaction, parenting, adoption, the moral dimension of short story and film writing, and family life education. He also studies the intersection of social science and religion.

Dr. Olson was the principal investigator on a series of grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1981-1987 working in sixteen school districts in five western states. The project trained teachers in a character and citizenship curriculum designed to address problems associated with adolescent pregnancy. From 2000-2003, he assisted with curriculum writing and training for a federal grant to the National Council for Adoption designed to promote infant adoption.

He has taken the NCFR content on family life education to other professional organizations such as the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention; Society for Adlerian Psychology; National Council for Adoption; Association for Moral Education; the Character Education Partnership; The ANASAZI Adolescent Wilderness Treatment Program; The LDS and Catholic churches and Muslim (Qatar) groups; as well as to military chaplains and teachers. He helped create a documentary on the common ground families share across cultures, including interviews with Brazilian, Indonesian, Palestinian, Israeli and U.S. families. He has been a Fellow of the Wheatley Institution since 2008, where he addresses ethical issues in family interaction and education in the public schools. ■

Section Awards

Education & Enrichment Section

Student Proposal Award

Jennifer Doty, University of Minnesota; “Digital Divide: An Examination of How Parents’ Technology Use Differs by Income”

Student Proposal Award

Mallory Lucier-Greer, Auburn University; “Malleability of Gender Role Attitudes: Gendered Messages in Relationship Education”

Student Proposal Award

Shelece McAllister, Brigham Young University

Student Proposal Award

Katie Henderson Reck, Utah State University

Family & Health Section

Outstanding Professional Paper Award

Jane Lanigan, Washington State University; “The Relationship Between Practices and Child Care Providers’ Attitudes Related to Child Feeding and Obesity Prevention”

Outstanding Student/New Professional Paper Award

Daniel Carlson, The Ohio State University; “Deviations from Desired Age at Marriage: Mental Health Differences Across Marital Status”

International Section

Jan Trost Award

Phyllis J. Johnson, University of British Columbia

Religion & Family Life Section

Outstanding Paper Award

Karen Quek, Alliant International University

Student/New Professional Outstanding Paper Award

Julie Zaloudek, University of Wisconsin-Stout

Research & Theory Section

Best Abstract by a Student/New Professional Award

Jinni Su, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

QFRN Focus Group—Anselm Strauss Award

Maria Garcia and Teresa McDowell; “Mapping Social Capital: A Critical Contextual Approach for Working with Low-Status Families”

Men in Families Focus Group—Best Research Article Award

Anne Martin, Rebecca M. Ryan, Jeanne Brooks-Gunn; “When Fathers’ Supportiveness Matters Most: Maternal and Paternal Parenting and Children’s School Readiness”

Men in Families Focus Group—Best New Professional Research Article Award

Erin Kramer Holmes and Aletha C. Huston; “Understanding Positive Father-Child Interaction: Children’s, Fathers’, and Mothers’ Contributions”

Family Therapy Section

Kathleen Briggs Award

Karen S. Wampler and Richard S. Wampler, Michigan State University

Feminism & Family Studies Section – Jessie Bernard Awards

Jessie Bernard Contribution to Feminist Scholarship Paper Award

Carla A. Pfeffer, Purdue University North Central; “Women’s Work? Women’s Partners of Transgender Men Doing Housework and Emotion Work”

Jessie Bernard Outstanding Research Proposal from a Feminist Perspective

Barbara Gurr, University of Connecticut; “I Didn’t Know We Were Queer: Transgender Children and Family Identity”

Research & Theory Section

Reuben Hill Award

Michelle J. Budig and Melissa J. Hodges, University of Massachusetts; “Differences in Disadvantage: Variation in the Motherhood Penalty across White Women’s Earnings Distribution”

S/NP News

Engagement through section membership and involvement



by Alisha M. Hardman, CFLE, S/NP Representative of the Education & Enrichment Section

Being a member of NCFR is a public expression of your commitment to the field and to your continual professional development; however, there is a difference between being a member of a professional organization and being an engaged member. Engaged members are actively involved and are integral to the well-being of the organization.

Becoming more involved in a national organization can be a bit overwhelming at first. Fortunately NCFR contains sections (and focus groups) that “are a means of increasing communication and interaction among NCFR members of similar interests within the framework of the larger organization” (NCFR website). Take time to familiarize yourself with the various sections of NCFR by visiting <http://www.ncfr.org/> sections and consider joining those that reso-

nate with your professional experiences, interests, and goals. Membership in the sections is free if you are a member of NCFR.

Below is a list of some strategies for membership and involvement in sections. The list has been compiled by current student and new professional section representatives and is based on their own involvement within sections.

- **Be selective.** “When I first joined I thought that ‘more is better’ but I’ve since realized that I’d rather be a member of only a few sections that I can really invest time in than to be an ‘in name only’ member of all of them.”
- **Take advantage of the section listserv.** “Reading listserv messages, even when they don’t appear to directly pertain to you, can be

a great way to keep informed about leading-edge research, knowledge, and practice operating in the family field. It is also an ideal avenue for soliciting advice or assistance from experts (although be sure to do so appropriately).”

- **Attend section meetings.** “It was not until I was elected as the S/NP representative for my section that I attended my first section business meeting. I’ve since discovered that attending the section meetings provides greater insight into the section and is a great way to meet new people who share some of your interests.”
- **Volunteer to lead.** “I jumped in as a student to co-chair a focus group called Men in Families. Serving helped me to meet and

s/np continued on page 14

News from Religion and Families Section

by Joanne Roberts, Ph.D., CFLE, Section Chair, jroberts@hsutx.edu

Greetings from the Religion and Family Life Section! By the time you read this, our conference in Orlando will be over. The section had several impressive paper and poster presentations as well as an outstanding special session. At our business meeting two awards were presented. The first was the award for the S/NP Outstanding Paper. This was presented to Julie Zaloudek, University of Wisconsin-Stout. The second was the award for the Professional Outstanding Paper, which was presented to Karen Quek, Alliant International University.

I am the new chair of the Religion and Family Life Section and I am looking forward to the responsibilities and opportunities offered by this position. Joe Wilmoth, our past chair, has done an outstanding job of moving our section forward. During his tenure, he supported the section's ongoing projects and directed the development of a religion and family life bibliography. He worked tirelessly to plan and organize the section's 2010 and 2011 conference sessions. I want to thank him for his leadership and support of our section. I also

want to thank Teri Henke for her service as the S/NP. It was under her leadership that the daily conference mediations were so successful for the last two conferences.

We have a dedicated slate of new officers ready to go to work on behalf of the section. They are Loren Marks, Chair-elect; Chris Gonzalez, Secretary/Treasurer; Bryce Jorgensen, S/NP Representative; and Joe Wilmoth, Past Chair. We look forward to working together as we maintain our ongoing projects and look for new ways to enhance the work and profile of the section.

The Religion and Family Life Section has two ongoing projects. The first is the compilation of syllabi of courses that address issues related to religion and family life. We encourage anyone who teaches such a course to send your syllabus to me and I will forward it to the appropriate person. If you know of a course someone else is teaching, please send me contact information for the instructor. The second project the section is working on is a religion and family life bibliography. This can be accessed through the Professional Resource

Library on the NCFR website. If you know of additional resources that should be added, please email me and I will see that they are included on the list.

Plans for the 2012 conference are underway. The theme of the conference is "Families and Health," and it will take place in Phoenix, October 31-November 3. I encourage you and your colleagues to consider submitting a proposal to the Religion and Family Life Section. The Call for Proposals is available on the NCFR website and the deadline for submissions is March 1. Also, if you have ideas about potential speakers or topics, please let me know. ■

Research & Theory Section News

by Thomas Holman,
Thomas_holman@byu.edu

Greetings from the Research and Theory Section! I hope you all had a very stimulating time at the 2011 NCFR Annual Conference in Orlando. Thanks to the efforts of the NCFR staff as well as all of the conference presenters and supporters, I think the conference was a great success. In this article, I describe several efforts that are underway for 2012.

First, I am working to recruit outstanding scholars to submit proposals to, and attend, the 2012 conference. This has been an ongoing effort for several years, and I'm pleased to report that our conference sessions are getting high marks from observers and attendees.

Second, we are continuing to work on raising funds to support our section awards. Please send contributions to NCFR, designated either for Research and Theory section awards, or for the specific award you choose (the Burgess or the Hill awards). Our goal is to avoid having to reduce the frequency with which we give our awards or reducing the funds available to help award winners travel to the conference. You can help a great deal with even modest contributions. Thank you!

Third, I am just beginning my two-year term as chair and am thus especially eager to hear from you about how I can organize the best possible conference program for our section and help the section to pursue other worthy goals. I am eager to hear from you! Please email me at Thomas_holman@byu.edu. Best wishes for a productive spring term. ■

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work with the amazing people in that area of the field. These connections have led us to learn from each other and write together from both the practitioner and the academic sides of the field. It has been some of the best times of my life."

- **Volunteer to be a conference proposal reviewer.** "I have volunteered to review conference proposals for three years now and it's a really great opportunity to gain the perspective of a reviewer which can inform and improve your own proposals in the future. Look for a solicitation for reviewers through your sections' listserv announcements in January and February."

- **Utilize the S/NP section representatives.** "Feel free to contact the S/NP representatives with questions, ideas, or interest in becoming more involved in the section or NCFR. We are here to represent and assist students and new professionals."

- **Become part of the traditions.** "As a member of the ethnic minority section, I have felt that the traditions and experiences I have participated in during our meetings have deepened my commitment to NCFR and our work in this field. I wouldn't trade it for the world."

- **Reach out and network.** "During my first year at NCFR, I was intimidated with some of the 'big names' in my field. My advisor suggested for me to just 'go talk to them. They won't bite.' That encouraged me to introduce myself to a 'big name' researcher before a section meeting. I had some of the best conversations about my work. Let your section officers know if you would like an introduction. They will be happy to do it."

Students and new professionals are often interested in becoming more involved in professional organizations but are sometimes unsure how to do so. Get involved in a section this year. We promise it will help you make a lasting difference and it will make a difference in your life as well! ■

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inform her future service-oriented work with low-resource expectant fathers.

Ms. Kirkland received a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Family Development at the University of Georgia and a Master of Science degree in Marriage and Family Therapy at

Auburn University. During her tenure at Auburn, Ms. Kirkland coordinated the Alabama Community Healthy Marriage Initiative's (ACHMI) partnership with the Tuskegee-Macon County Head Start Program for five years, and she currently teaches the Parent Education course at Auburn University. ■

News from the Family and Health Section



by B. Jan McCulloch, Chair, jmccullo@umn.edu

We have many things to be excited as members of the NCFR Family and Health Section. First, we were well represented throughout the 2011 conference in Orlando. We sponsored excellent special sessions and enjoyed individual presentations from across our membership. Another very exciting part of the 2011 conference focused on our own section's launch of the 2012 Walk to Phoenix project and the culminating 5K Walk/Run Event to be held as part of the 2012 conference. It is always exciting to think about the annual conference, but 2012 is of particular significance for our section because the conference theme is Families and Health!

We're underway

Our conference project is in full swing and we're on our way to Phoenix in a healthful

way! As you read this, I hope all of you are "walking, walking, walking" for our sponsored health project. This is a project whose inception was generated at our 2010 section meeting. During the summer, we partnered with Walgreens/AARP's wellness program to record our progress. While we were in Orlando, attendees had the opportunity to visit the Walgreens/AARP Wellness Tour Bus to sign up for the walking project, receive a bag of goodies including pedometers for our walk to Phoenix as well as samples and coupons, and receive free health tests. The official start date for our project was November 18, 2011. If you have not yet signed up, you can still participate. Information to the entire membership is available to help you get started, determine team membership, etc. Visit www.ncfr.org/walk-to-phoenix for more in-

formation. (You can be eligible to win prizes, even with as little as 100 miles recorded between now and the next conference.)

Next year's conference

As we close the books on another calendar year, it is also time for us to be getting ready for conference proposal submission. Because 2012 is a special year for us, I'm hoping we will be well represented. The deadline for submitting proposals is March 1, 2012.

Last year, I received some suggestions for special sessions. I will return to this list as part of the 2012 planning process, but encourage you to e-mail me with any suggestions that you believe should be a part of the 2012 conference.

I will not be able to incorporate all of them, but the more we have the more I can pass along to Elise as she assumes her leadership as chair at the 2012 conference. We both want to be responsive to our Families and Health Section membership.

In closing, I wish all a restful time as we pause at the end of year and celebrate a new beginning as we welcome in 2012. As a section, we have had a successful year and a healthful, fun 2012 ahead of us. I want our FH team to be a winner when we make awards at the conference in Phoenix. We have undertaken an interesting and innovative project for our 2012 conference. It gives us a chance to "shine" in an exciting way while we are in Phoenix. ■

FFS Jessie Bernard Awards

Barbara Gurr, Carla Pfeffer

The Feminism and Family Studies Section has given its Jessie Bernard awards in feminist research to Barbara Gurr and Carla Pfeffer.

Receiving the Outstanding Research Proposal from a Feminist Perspective Award is Barbara Gurr from the University of Connecticut. Her proposal is titled "I Didn't Know We Were Queer: Transgender Children and Family Identity." Pointing the unique contribution of the proposal, one reviewer wrote "...the project promises to challenge traditional ways of conceptualizing families... the sophistication of the feminist perspective described in the proposal will likely challenge others in the field to employ feminist scholarship in the future."

Dr. Gurr's research highlights the intersections of race, class, gender, sexuality, citizenship, and the body. Her dissertation utilized a reproductive justice framework to examine the consequences of locating Native American women's health-care in a federal agency, the Indian Health Service. Her current research considers family identity tasks for cisgender parents with young transgender children. She is currently an Assistant Professor in Residence in the Women's, Genders, and Sexualities Studies Program at the University of Connecticut.

The winner of the Outstanding Contribution to Feminist Scholarship Paper is Carla Pfeffer

from Purdue University's North Central campus. Dr. Pfeffer's research exists at the intersections of burgeoning areas of sociological inquiry connected to contemporary LGBTQ families, gender, and bodies. Pfeffer's most recent work has been published in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Journal of Lesbian Studies*, and *Journal of Homosexuality*.

Dr. Pfeffer's work on women's partnerships with transgender and transsexual men considers social actors' disruption of existing sociological notions of identities, bodies, and families. The families and relationships these partners co-create often cannot be neatly conceptualized as either "same-sex" or "opposite-sex" using existing typologies. Pfeffer is also working on a study examining fat and size-acceptance advocates and activists in the era of the "obesity epidemic" to consider how weight management attempts, and disclosures about these attempts, simultaneously reflect and fissure notions of "responsible" social citizenship, health, and sociopolitical group membership. ■



Barbara Gurr



Carla Pfeffer

Family Therapy Section News

by Thomas Blume, blume@oakland.edu

At the 2011 Annual Conference, the Family Therapy Section announced Karen Wampler and Richard Wampler as joint recipients of the first Kathleen Briggs Outstanding Mentor Award. Richard and Karen were selected for the joint award from a field of outstanding candidates. Though separately nominated by their colleagues and students, their nominations were merged as letters of support documented both an individualized and a connected history of loyalty, fidelity, and dedication in utilizing their unique talents and opportunities to inspire, guide, and provide many kinds of support to emerging leaders in the field of family therapy. Their selection honors the memory of Kathleen Briggs, who in her short career set an example of caring, selflessness, and perseverance in her dedication to the personal and career development of others. ■

in this issue:

**Family Focus on...
LGBT Families**

Family Policy Section News

by Kelly Davis kdavis@psu.edu

Greetings from the Family Policy Section! We hope all are doing well as the fall semester is coming to a close and as the holiday season is upon us. We would like to take the opportunity to discuss a few things with NCFR members:

- We would first like to congratulate and welcome the new Family Policy Section officers who began serving November 2011: Bethany Letiecq, Chair-Elect; Kelly Davis, Secretary/Treasurer; and Diana Baltimore, S/NP Representative. Thanks to the contributions of the outgoing section officers Brenda Lohman, Secretary/Treasurer, and Kelly Davis, S/NP Rep, and the continuing service of Tammy Henderson, the new Chair.
- Second, we would like to encourage NCFR members to consider joining our section. Even if your research does not examine specific existing policies, your work can have policy implications for families. This

section creates a forum for members with variety of backgrounds to share how their work can inform policy at different levels.

- Third, we want to motivate members to start thinking ahead for the 2012 conference and consider submitting your poster, paper, round table, etc. to the Family Policy Section. Topics are not limited to but could include: immigration, workplace, marriage, and welfare policies. The deadline for submitting proposals is March 1, 2012. We also encourage members to become involved as reviewers for the 2012 submissions that come into our section. Look for a call for reviewers in early spring to help in this process. Members sharing their expertise through their submissions, serving as reviewers, and sharing their latest practice and scholarly work helps make the Family Policy Section and NCFR a vibrant organization for all. ■

Help us support the legacy

This year make your charitable contribution a gift for the future of Family Policy.

The Family Policy section of NCFR recognizes the legacy of Margaret and Harold Feldman as pioneers in the area of family policy through a series of awards given annually to increase the number of family policy researchers and practitioners engaged in policy-related activities. The awards also serve to further encourage family policy as a career path for Student/New Professionals.

Three Awards of \$500 are available for an S/NP each year:

- Feldman Internship Award
- Feldman Travel Award
- Outstanding Research Proposal for Research in Family Policy

Because of the current economic times, the Feldman award is in danger of having to be reduced in amount and/or moved to an award given biannually. To ensure the longevity of funding for these awards, the Family Policy

section is asking all NCFR members to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the "Friends of the Feldman Fund."

Our goal is to secure funding for these prestigious awards for at least the next five years. With as little as a \$10 contribution, you can help us meet our fund-raising goals and help us honor the Feldman's legacy to family policy. You may choose to become a legacy supporter by giving a pre-determined amount annually. Please consider supporting the "Friends of the Feldman Fund." Visit the NCFR website home page and click on "Make a Contribution" to make a donation. You can then choose "Contribute to NCFR Awards and Scholarship Funds" and direct your donation to the "Margaret Feldman Award." We thank you in advance for making a gift to the future of family policy. ■



Margaret Feldman

affiliates matter

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Shaw, student affiliate representative (Josh actually joined us earlier this year when there was a resignation). Continuing members include Minnell Tralle, Lloyd Pickering, Dani Taylor, Chloe D. Merrill, and Lynda Besse (NCFR staff).

Please let us know how we can continue to serve you and your affiliate needs. We all look forward to working with you and continuing to move the Affiliate Councils to new heights. ■