

IN THIS ISSUE

Family Focus on Immigration

The reasons families migrate are many, and while their experiences will vary, the process of migration and acculturation, the trauma and challenges they face, and the assets and resources they have access to can all greatly influence how they ultimately adjust to their situation. The aim of this issue of Family Focus is to share a few examples of how translational Family Science can inform resources and strategies to support immigrant families.

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New NCFR Olson Grant Invests in the Future of Family Science

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) and David H. Olson, Ph.D., are proud to announce the creation of the **NCFR Olson Grant: Bridging Research, Theory, and Practice**. This new \$10,000 annual grant will be available to NCFR members working to creatively contribute to the discipline of Family Science by effectively uniting research, theory, and practice in their work.

"Projects that integrate and bridge research, theory, and practice are often more challenging but offer the most potential for exciting discoveries," said Dr. Olson, an NCFR Fellow, professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota, and creator of the highly respected Circumplex Model of Couples and Families.

"Integrative projects also increase the validity of the findings and expand the relevance of the project," Dr. Olson said. "This 'triple threat'

approach is also a 'triple treat' for the investigator."

NCFR accepted the first round of Olson Grant proposals early this spring with an application deadline of April 20, 2020. The first

grant will be awarded by July 1, 2020, and the recipient will present the research at the 2021 NCFR Annual Conference in Baltimore.

The call for projects that bridge Family Science research, theory, and practice is intentionally broad to encourage a variety of innovative proposals. The principal investigator (PI)



David H. Olson

Olson Grant continued on page 12

Congratulations to Our 2020 Elected Officers!

Three NCFR members were elected this spring to the NCFR Board of Directors, and many more were voted into other NCFR leadership positions. Here are your incoming NCFR Board representatives, who will take office after the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference in November:

Board Members-at-Large (2020-2023)

Shelley M. MacDermid Wadsworth,

Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University

Roudi Nazarinia Roy, Associate Professor, Child Development and Family Studies, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, California State University-Long Beach

Ruben P. Viramontez-Anguiano,

Professor and Chair, Department of Human Development and Family Relations, University of Colorado Denver

Turn to page 17 to view other NCFR members who were elected to leadership positions within the organization. *

2020 NCFR Annual Conference

Nov. 11-14, 2020

Family Expansions, Expanding Families: Contouring Family Science's Negative Spaces

Register now!

ncfr.org/ncfr-2020

Seeking NCFR Fellows!

Mission Statement for NCFR Report

NCFR Report, the quarterly newsletter of the National Council on Family Relations, provides timely, useful information to help members succeed in their roles as researchers, educators, and practitioners. Articles address Family Science issues, programs, and trends, including association news.

President: Leigh A. Leslie

Board Members: Norma J. Bond Burgess, Jennifer L. Doty, April L. Few-Demo, Soyoung Lee, Bethany L. Letiecq, Brian G. Ogolsky, Robert Reyes, Andrea L. Roach, Joanne A. Roberts

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Judith A. Myers-Walls, Ph.D., CFLE

How to contribute to the Family Focus section:

The Family Focus section of 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,
- 2) brevity due to space limitations, and
- 3) how articles form a complementary collection.

For information and guidelines, contact the editor, Ted G. Futris, Ph.D., CFLE at reporteditor@ncfr.org.

The contents of articles represent the views of their author(s), which may not represent the position of the entire organization.

How to advertise in NCFR Report

To advertise in NCFR Report, please see the specifications and price list at ncfr.org/about/advertise-ncfr/ncfr-report. NCFR reserves the right to decline any paid advertising at our sole discretion.

Deadlines for each of the quarterly issues are:

- Spring issue—Jan. 1
- Summer issue—April 1
- Fall issue—July 1
- Winter issue—Oct. 1

Send advertisements to Trip Sullivan at tripsullivan@ncfr.org. For all submissions, please supply an email address to allow readers to contact you.

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M. Elise Radina, Ph.D., CFLE., and Spencer Olmstead, Ph.D., CFLE., NCFR Fellows Committee Co-Chairs

Greetings, NCFR members! The Fellows Committee is seeking nominations for the 2020 Fellows status. Please help us by nominating members who have made significant contributions to the organization and the field.

What Is Fellow Status in NCFR?

Fellow status in NCFR is an honor awarded to living members of NCFR on the basis of their outstanding contributions to Family Science. Nominations of all family researchers and professionals who have made contributions to the family field are encouraged. Among the recognized areas of contributions are scholarship, teaching, outreach, practice, and professional service, including service to NCFR. By definition, outstanding contributions are those that have broad impact on the field and are enduring over time.

What Are the Criteria for Fellow Status?

- A. Nominees must have made outstanding contributions to the field and to NCFR as an organization. Satisfying a combination of these criteria is required. Examples of outstanding contributions include:
 - Published, refereed scholarship that has shaped or reshaped the field of Family Science
 - A history of innovation in practice or outreach that has transformed the field, such as the development and implementation of novel or significant interventions or programs designed to promote healthy family relations
 - Recognition of teaching excellence through awards and mentoring
 - The development and implementation of innovative curricula for training professionals in the area of Family Science
 - The development and implementation of innovative social policy relevant to families
 - A history of innovation and publication about the methods and measurement strategies used in related Family Science arenas
 - Outstanding contributions to NCFR as an organization, which may include a history of organizing conference symposia, editing or guest editing NCFR journals, or developing nationally

distributed products or curricula that bridge Family Science and practice

- B. Nominees must have at least 10 years of professional experience after the receipt of the appropriate graduate or professional degree.
- C. Nominees must have held NCFR membership continuously for the past 5 years at the time of nomination.

What Is the Procedure for Nomination?

- A. Nominees **must be nominated by another NCFR member.***
- B. Nominees **must have the endorsement of two additional individuals**, one of whom must be an NCFR member,** describing the outstanding nature of the nominee's contributions.
- C. In general, nominees should not be aware that they are being considered for fellow status. For this reason, the NCFR office will not contact candidates for Fellow status at the time of their nominations.
- D. Unsuccessful nominees for Fellow status will not be considered eligible again until after a 3-year waiting period.

*Nominations from NCFR members involved in the nominee's academic preparation (e.g., major adviser, administrative head of the program from which the nominee graduated) or who have possible conflicts of interest (e.g., partner or family member) will not be accepted.

**Endorsements from NCFR members with a potential conflict of interest may be included with the nomination packet but cannot be used to satisfy the requirement for endorsement by an NCFR member.

For complete information, NCFR Fellow Status Policies and Procedures, nomination form and sample letter of endorsement, please visit ncfr.org/fellows.

Please send your nomination materials to Rosemary Johnson at rosemaryjohnson@ncfr.org. **The deadline for nominations is Sept. 15, 2020.** We are building this special recognition to further the legacy of outstanding members of NCFR. Let us hear from you! Thank you very much for your consideration. ✨



Reflections on a Career and a Discipline

Leigh A. Leslie, Ph.D., NCFR President, lleslie@umd.edu

As you are reading this column, many of you may be looking forward to a little slower pace in the summer. For many of us in academia, we have just ended one of the most unusual semesters we have ever experienced; as I write this in March, universities across the country are moving to online instruction. Despite the very abnormal times and the fact that we've all been adjusting to a new public health reality, I ask your indulgence as I reflect on both my career and the growth of Family Science over the past four decades. As you read this, I will have just retired from the University of Maryland, ending a 38-year academic career. As I look back on my career as a Family Science professor, I am struck by two opposing realities: the ongoing struggle for recognition of the field and the immeasurable contribution the field has made to family well-being through our research, services, and policy work.

In the mid-1970s I entered graduate school, proud to proclaim the interdisciplinary nature of my chosen field of Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS), as it was commonly called then. Likewise, we pointed with pride to the cross-fertilization of ideas that was evident in the formation of NCFR, our professional association, by an attorney, a sociologist, and a rabbi. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, programs identifying themselves as HDFS, Family and Consumer Science, Family Science, and various similar names proliferated on college campuses. Graduates and faculty of these programs, myself included, continued to argue that a perspective that integrated a multidisciplinary lens was the best for understanding and working with families. Yet our influence in higher education seemed muted, and our students sometimes had difficulty competing in the job market against more recognizable disciplines. We remained optimistic, thinking that our approach was new and, with time, would

become more highly valued and respected. And still, with time the problems have continued. Over the years, NCFR has worked tirelessly to address this issue through such efforts as developing the Certified Family Life Educator credential, rebranding, convening a Future of Family Science task force, and far too many other endeavors to list here (see the NCFR History Book at history.ncfr.org).

Perhaps as a field and as an organization it is time for us consider what it means for us to fully claim a disciplinary mantle and decrease our emphasis on being interdisciplinary.

Over my decades in Family Science, I have witnessed how we have been at the forefront of furthering the understanding and definition of families, providing evidence-based treatments and services to strengthen families, and promoting policies that benefit families. I must admit that over the years at NCFR there have been internal struggles as to whether our primary focus as an organization was on family research, family intervention, or family policy. Likewise, there have been painful debates on how inclusive we are in our definition of family. But today, I believe we have realized that as a field and as an organization we must serve all families on all our expertise fronts. Families are better served because of the work of Family Science. The knowledge we have generated with our research, the programs we have developed, the policies we have

helped craft and advocate to benefit families, particularly vulnerable families.

Thus, I reach the endpoint in my academic career wondering why the invaluable work we do is not fully recognized by our academic institutions or the social services community; why Family Science and Family Scientists are not widely considered the go-to experts on all things family related. In my pondering, I find myself wondering if our ongoing interdisciplinary identity has hindered us from making the case of our being the experts on families. While at my core I value an integrative perspective, I wonder if it is time we focus more on Family Science as a unique and distinctive discipline. I am not sure what fully implementing that would look like, but it is where my reflections have led me. I hasten to add that I am in no way suggesting that scholars trained in disciplines such as sociology, psychology, law, and many others don't have important things to say about families. Many NCFR members trained in other disciplines have contributed greatly to our field and our organization. I am not arguing for disciplinary isolation or discontinuation of intellectual and empirical cross-fertilization. However, I do wonder if our interdisciplinary mantle is often read by the world as "a little bit of this and a little bit of that," and nothing distinct. Perhaps as a field and as an organization it is time for us consider what it means for us to fully claim a disciplinary mantle and decrease our emphasis on being interdisciplinary. As the NCFR Board of Directors tackles the question of strategic planning in the months to come, this will be on my mind. I welcome your thoughts and reactions. My final career reflection is that I am delighted that in my current role I can continue to think about how to grow and strengthen our discipline even as my academic career ends. ✨



Adjusting to Unprecedented Times

Diane L. Cushman, NCFR Executive Director, dianecushman@ncfr.org

As this issue of *NCFR Report* was coming together in early March, the United States was only just beginning to take stock as to how the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) would come to effect everyday life. The World Health Organization had only just classified the outbreak as a pandemic, and colleges and universities had started closing down their campuses. The authors of articles you'll read throughout this edition—most of whom are employed in higher education—were only starting to assess how they could move from face-to-face instruction to teaching their classes entirely from their homes using the internet and technology.

Without the aid of a crystal ball, I cannot comment on the current reality or “new normal” that exists as you are reading these words. This issue won't appear in readers' hands until late June or early July 2020.

What I am happy to share with you is the great early steps that NCFR staff and board of directors were able to take at the outset of this global phenomenon to keep family researchers and practitioners connected to one another and to the very best resources. I am proud of the quick actions staff and board members took while we were all learning how to work from home indefinitely and what new terms such as *social distancing* and *sheltering in place* meant.

The 2020 NCFR Annual Conference Call for Proposals had ended on March 2, when NCFR began sharing information on COVID-19 through its website and social media accounts, starting with a New York Times parenting article, “How to Talk to Kids About Coronavirus,” featuring NCFR member Abi Gewirtz, Ph.D. From there we set about compiling existing resources from NCFR publications and other trusted sources, on everything from general health and wellness, to moving classrooms online, and even how to work from home with kids.

We also began to create our own new educational materials, kicking off with two free webcasts by NCFR webinar coordinator Claire Kimberly, Ph.D., CFLE: “Recommendations for Online Teaching in Higher Education” and “Tips and Tools for Online Presentations.” These webcasts are

As you acclimate to new ways of serving families, NCFR will continue to provide you with resources, information, and support.

open to all and can be found with all of our on-demand webinars at ncfr.org/past-webinars. By now, there will be other great materials available on our website to help you through these unprecedented times. I invite you to peruse all the products and services we've made for you, which will be listed at ncfr.org/covid19-response.

At the current moment, NCFR is proceeding as planned with preparations for the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference scheduled for Nov. 11–14. We had already made the decision to switch two in-person meetings—our spring conference-planning committee sessions and our June board meeting—to virtual ones. Future plans will be adjusted as necessary to ensure the health and well-being of our members and conference attendees. For the latest updates, please visit ncfr.org/conference.

The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically altered the lives of families and individuals throughout the world, and it will continue to have ramifications on how NCFR and your own places of work operate going forward. As you acclimate to new ways of serving families, NCFR will continue to provide you with resources, information, and support. I am especially grateful for the dedication of our many members for adapting, adjusting, and innovating during such an unprecedented time of change. I am glad to be in your company. ✨

Thank You, NCFR Donors

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Marketing Family Life Education, Part 2— Past and Future Efforts

Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE, Director of Family Life Education, dawncassidy@ncfr.org

My past two columns have focused on the issue of marketing Family Life Education (FLE) and the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential. In my winter 2019 column I discussed challenges to increase the awareness and value of both the FLE practice and the credential, including the lack of academic identity and the diversity of settings in which FLE takes place. My spring 2020 column included several implemented and proposed marketing strategies. I requested the involvement of CFLEs and NCFR members in assisting NCFR staff in the carrying out of a focused effort to increase the value and recognition of FLE and CFLE.

*I was pleased to be contacted by NCFR member **Greg Brooks, Ph.D.**, an assistant professor of marriage and family studies at Abilene Christian University. He has conducted research about the job market for CFLEs and asked whether NCFR would be interested in collaborating to extend his research.*

*To date, Dr. Brooks's research has confirmed that the little exposure the CFLE credential does receive through job advertisements is limited to positions in postsecondary education. His next efforts involving job advertisements and outreach to potential CFLE employers will provide NCFR with valuable information to guide our future marketing strategies. I asked Dr. Brooks to summarize his previous research efforts and outcomes, as well as his plans for extending that research. **Bailey Gomez** also contributed to this article. I join Dr. Brooks and Ms. Gomez in encouraging CFLEs and NCFR members to share your questions and suggestions.*

The Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential exists to “provide assurance to employers and consumers that the designee is qualified to be providing Family Life Education” (NCFR, 2013, p. 4). Family Life Education is carried out in a myriad of settings that provide direct and indirect services to families (Wilkins, Taner, Cassidy, & Cenizal, 2014) and yet, many of the individuals and families that benefit from FLE services, as well as staff at the organizations and agencies providing these services, are unaware that the credential exists.

As you'll read in this article, we briefly discuss research we have been conducting on the status of the CFLE in the job market and propose directions for research to understand the decision-making processes of managers who are hiring for Family Life Education positions.

In 2018–2019 we conducted a content analysis project regarding the CFLE credential. This involved a weekly search of five national job advertisement sites (Monster, Indeed, ZipRecruiter, the NCFR Jobs Center, and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Job Connection) using the search terms *CFLE* and *Certified Family Life Educator*. Our sampling frame included

search results in September–December 2018 and August–October 2019. Our searches revealed 41 unique job advertisements that included our search terms anywhere in the advertisement's text or title.

These findings suggest that faculty positions make up most job advertisements that mention either *CFLE* or *Certified Family Life Educator*.

The most common category in which we found the CFLE credential mentioned was college or university faculty, in 28 of the total 41 advertisements. Of those, 19 were for tenure-track positions, three for adjunct positions, and six for non-tenure-track faculty roles (e.g., instructor, clinical faculty). Another job advertisement was for an academic coordinator position in a university department that offers a CFLE-approved degree program. Eleven job advertisements were for family and adoption specialist positions, all of which were with one statewide private agency in Texas, and one



Greg Brooks



Bailey Gomez

was for a child abuse prevention educator for a countywide child advocacy agency in Texas.

From these 41 job advertisements, only three listed the CFLE as a required credential for candidates. Thirty advertisements stated that the CFLE credential was a preferred qualification. Eight advertisements mentioned the CFLE credential because the candidate would have an administrative or faculty role in a CFLE-approved university program, but it was not a required or preferred credential.

All three advertisements that listed the CFLE credential as required were faculty positions: one adjunct, one instructor, and one tenure-track position. Each of the 11 family and adoption specialist positions, as well as the child abuse prevention educator

position, also listed the CFLE as a preferred credential for candidates.

These findings suggest that faculty positions make up most job advertisements that mention either *CFLE* or *Certified Family Life Educator*. In fact, if it were not for two private agencies in Texas, there would have been no advertisements for nonfaculty jobs seeking candidates with the CFLE credential in our sampling frame. This aligns with previous research about the work settings of CFLEs: In a 2009 survey of 412 fully credentialed CFLEs and 110 provisional CFLEs, the largest proportion of participants reported that their primary work setting was postsecondary education (34%; Darling, Fleming, & Cassidy). Community-based services, which includes adoption and foster care as well as child abuse prevention, was the second most common primary work setting, selected by 20% of respondents.

We wondered how many nationally advertised positions that CFLEs are qualified for do not list our search terms of *CFLE* and *Certified Family Life Educator*. So we

performed a separate search on a single day in November 2019, using the search term *parent educator*, on a single national job advertisement site (Indeed). The search returned 174 unique job advertisements. Although many of these advertisements were for jobs in the medical field, such as public health professionals and nurses, this large return of results suggests that more research and analysis is needed before we can draw further conclusions.

Of the 41 nationally posted job advertisements that included the terms of either *Certified Family Life Educator* or *CFLE*, the majority of positions were relevant only to CFLEs interested in careers in higher education. In the next phase of our research we plan to investigate why this is the case.

We are continuing to collect nationally posted job advertisements, and in 2020 we have expanded our search terms to include words and phrases relevant to the jobs performed by CFLEs. Including the top five most common practice settings among CFLEs, after postsecondary education, as identified by the survey conducted by Darling, Fleming, and Cassidy (2009): *parenting education, marriage/relationship education, early childhood education, cooperative extension/community education, and K–12 education*. To attempt to limit our results to job ads that are relevant to CFLEs, we plan to narrow the category of K–12 education through the additional search terms *family and consumer sciences, home economics, child development, family studies, and family science*.

Using these search terms, we will perform content analysis to identify characteristics such as job category, required and preferred candidate qualifications, and location. Our purpose in this analysis will be to identify nationally advertised jobs for which a CFLE would be by default a qualified candidate but that do not include *Certified Family Life Educator* or *CFLE* in the advertisement title or text.

In the summer of 2020, we plan to begin contacting hiring managers, identified by the job advertisements collected that did not specifically identify the CFLE

credential, and interviewing them about their decision-making process regarding the job in question. Specifically, we will inquire about those individuals' awareness of the CFLE credential, and whether they consciously chose not to include it in the job advertisement. Our plan is to use a first round of interviews to develop a survey instrument that may be distributed widely to a larger sample of hiring managers.

This research is the first of its kind regarding the CFLE credential. Despite the qualifications of CFLEs themselves, the credential appears to receive very little attention in the job market. As we continue, we anticipate learning a great deal about why this is the case. We welcome the suggestions and questions of CFLEs and other NCFR members about our research plan.

Greg Brooks, Ph.D., LMFT, is an assistant professor of marriage and family studies at Abilene Christian University.

Bailey Gomez is a graduate assistant at Abilene Christian University pursuing a master's degree focused in marriage and family therapy and counseling. ✨

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NCFR Report: A Member Forum

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 *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.



2020 NCFR Conference Submission and Review Process

Jennifer Crosswhite, Ph.D., CFLE, Director of Research and Policy Education, jennifercrosswhite@ncfr.org

Spring is blooming—the sky is blue, the birds are singing, the air is getting warmer, my daughter is playing kickball, and I am writing this article on my deck. It is the beginning of May 2020, as I write this article—many around the world continue to work from home and have kids learning online because of the coronavirus. A new way of life, for now at least.

While we are living in an unprecedented time, the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference is being planned. We have been able to maintain some of the same elements of the planning process but have also had to adjust others. I want share with you in this article the planning process thus far and how things have been adjusted.

Conference Program Planning Committee Training

The 2020 Conference Program Planning Committee consists of Conference Program Chair, Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, Ph.D.; Conference Program Chair-elect, Tammy Henderson, Ph.D.; 10 section chairs; the two representatives of the Students and New Professional program; the two Theory Construction Research Methodology cochairs; the Inclusion and Diversity Committee program representative; the Affiliate Councils program representative; and several staff (i.e., Cindy Winter, Judy Schutz, Diane Cushman, and myself). The conference planning begins one year in advance at the conference with a face-to-face meeting. Committee members learn of the conference theme and plenaries planned by the Conference Program Chair and begin discussing special sessions and invited symposiums related to the conference theme. During the next couple of months, the committee members receive training on how to organize their invited sessions, the submission and review process,

forming the overall program, and much more. These trainings occurred as planned for the 2020 conference.

Submission and Review Process

The submission process is similar each year. The submission system, Oxford Abstracts, opens in early January and proposals are due on or around March 1 (depending on whether March 1 falls on a weekend). Although we do get a few submissions early on, most submissions come in on the last day, close to the final hour. The coronavirus emerged before the submission system closed. We wondered if and how COVID-19 was going to have an impact on the submission process. Although I cannot definitively say that the virus had an impact on the submission rate, the total submissions were about 200 fewer than the submission rate in 2019. There are likely to be other factors as well that decreased the submission rate this year.

This year we have been able to maintain some of the same elements of the planning process but have also had to adjust others.

During the time the submission system is open, we also invite members to sign up to review proposals submitted to the conference. Three reviewers are needed for each proposal, with at least two professionals reviewing the proposal, along with at most one upper-level graduate student. Occasionally, we have faculty members who use this opportunity to teach students about how to do quality reviews. For all reviewers, we offer a number of resources (written and video) to learn how to do quality reviews. An appropriate number of members signed up to review. We were not lacking in reviewers.

Once the submission system closes, reviewers are automatically and randomly matched to proposals on the basis of subject codes provided by the author(s) and the reviewers. This is only the second year we have been able to do automatic randomized matching. This year, authors and reviewers were able to choose at least one keyword from three different codes: subject, primary population, and method and approach. Authors could choose up to three codes in each area. Reviewers were not limited in identifying their areas of expertise. This allowed for more possible reviewer matches for each proposal. The matching process also ensures that authors and reviewers are not employed at the same institution.

The matching process went very well this year. Only two proposals resulted in zero matches. In this case, the system is set up to randomly assign reviewers to the proposals. Section chairs review the matches and have the opportunity to change reviewers as necessary. There were very few of these changes this year. Reviewers are also instructed to let us know if they have a conflict of interest in reviewing the proposal. There were a few conflicts of interest noted this year, but this is typical, as it is impossible to catch all potential scenarios for conflict of interests before matching. All in all, the reviewer matching process is a great new addition and helps section chairs be efficient in their work.

Reviewers are given just over two weeks to complete their reviews. Inevitably, life happens and not everyone is able to complete their reviews within this period. When this happens, section chairs assign section officers and other backup reviewers to ensure that each proposal has three reviews. With the coronavirus ravaging the United States during the review period, many of our members (and thus reviewers) were moving their classes online and having

to care for children while working from home and contending with a number of other new daily life challenges as a result of COVID-19. During that time, we needed to be flexible. Reviewers were given an extension to complete their reviews. The extension helped reviewers complete additional reviews. However, the section chairs did have additional proposals needing additional reviews than in the past. As in years prior, the section chairs relied on the backup reviewers to complete the reviews.

Forming the Conference Program

Every spring toward the end of April, the Conference Program Planning Committee comes together to form the conference program, which results in a fully organized program by mid- to late May. Initially, section chairs examine all the reviews and decide which proposals are accepted or rejected. After the section chairs accept proposals, they decide the presentation format that each proposal will have and form concurrent sessions. The format each

proposal receives is determined by author preference, reviewer recommendation, and room on the program.

I want to thank each of the program committee members for their flexibility, commitment, and loyalty. This group of committee members had the added challenge of organizing the conference while working from home during unprecedented times and integrating work, family, and the conference.

To form the program, each section is provided with a set number of concurrent sessions. This allocation is based on the number of proposals submitted to that

section—the more proposals submitted to that section, the more concurrent sessions the section will have on the program. Section chairs fill their concurrent sessions with symposia, paper sessions, workshops, and—new this year—interactive papers and interactive workshops. Section chairs are also allotted a high number of posters spots.

While the section chairs are putting their sessions together, Conference Consultant Cindy Winter and I start organizing the rest of the conference schedule—for example, scheduling plenary presenters, special sessions, and invited presenter symposiums. As the concurrent sessions are formed, they are scheduled into the program. The draft program is thoroughly examined to minimize overlap across sections, focus groups, presenters, and topics. At the end of April, the Conference Program Committee meets to review the draft program for overlap and necessary changes. The committee also schedules section and focus group meetings. We try our best to avoid all overlaps.

Thank You to the 2020 Conference Program Committee

Program Chair:

Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, Montclair State University

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International Section Chair:

Grace Chung, Seoul National University

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section Chair:

Yolanda Mitchell, University of North Texas

Religion, Spirituality, and Family Section Chair:

Pamela Payne, University of Nevada-Reno

Research and Theory Section Chair:

Amy Rauer, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Students and New Professionals Reps:

Erin Lavender-Stott, South Dakota State University

J. Kale Monk, University of Missouri

Affiliate Councils Conference Program Chair:

Hannah Mudrick, Pennsylvania State University-Harrisburg

TCRM Co-chairs:

Kani Diop, Florida State University

Daniel Puhlman, University of Maine

Inclusion and Diversity Committee Rep:

Tiffany Brown, California State University at Long Beach

Ex Officio:

NCFR Executive Director:

Diane Cushman

NCFR Director of Research and Policy Education:

Jennifer Crosswhite

NCFR Conference Consultant:

Cindy Winter

NCFR Conference and Meeting Planner:

Judy Schutz

For the following few weeks after the Conference Program Committee meeting, tweaks are made to the program and poster presentations are scheduled. By June 1, authors are notified of their acceptances and rejections

Responding to COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, we changed the 2020 spring conference program face-to-face meeting to an online meeting for the first time. We met meeting through Zoom using a modified schedule. The logistics and training aspects of the meeting were recorded so committee members could watch at their convenience. We met live to discuss the most important aspects of the program to ensure the program is organized.

NCFR is closely monitoring news on COVID-19 and recommendations from the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We are currently proceeding with preparations for the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference, scheduled for Nov. 11–14, 2020. We will adjust plans as necessary to ensure the health and well-being of our members and attendees.

Gratitude

I want to thank each of the program committee members for their flexibility, commitment, and loyalty to the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference. The committee does an amazing job each year putting together the conference. This group of committee members had the added challenge of organizing the conference while working from home during unprecedented times and integrating work, family, and the conference. Thank you! We couldn't organize the conference without you. ✨

Congratulations to NCFR's Honors Graduates for Spring 2020

NCFR awarded honors to 52 college and university students who completed their academic programs in spring 2020. Thank you to our members who reviewed applications!

NCFR Honors Student Recognition is awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding achievements in academics, leadership, and community service in the discipline of Family Science.

Graduating soon? The deadline to apply for honors for fall 2020 graduates is Oct. 1.

Spring 2020 Recipients

Brigham Young University

David Brent Allsop
Megan Christine Gale
McKell A. Jorgensen-Wells

California State University, Sacramento

April Jacek

Illinois State University

Nancy Mariana Alvarez-Torres
Miranda L. Bejda
Katarina E. Mraz
Rachel Rymer

Indiana State University

Haley Renee Hedden
Shantel Hickerson
Maleah D. Huser
Heather Andrea Scott

Messiah College

Kaitlyn M. Chemidlin
Erica Conard
Megan Defluri
Josiah Harmes
Kaitlin Jo Ponchione
Allison N. Schillinger
Melanie A. Siegle
Katherine Leigh Wagoner

Mississippi State University

Leah B. Pylate

Mississippi University for Women

Courtney Laine Reed

Northern Illinois University

Abby G. Baumbach
Jamyne Hunter

Oklahoma Baptist University

Micah Elizabeth Wakefield

Samford University

Elizabeth Autry
Kathryn A. Brown
Kristen Blair Kent
Trina Leary
Emma Paine
Abigail Plott

Southeast Missouri University

Jennifer L. Neal
Alexis L. Yancey

Texas Tech University

Connad Higgins
Jenna Moye
Austin Ross

Texas Woman's University

Heidi Hastings

Ohio State University

Anna Olsavsky

Pennsylvania State University

Kimberly D. Stout-Kramer

University of Central Oklahoma

Hailey Nicole McClain

University of Connecticut

Benton Mitchell Tarala

University of Delaware

Laura Cutler

University of Georgia

Katherine L. Crenshaw

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Aran Garnett-Deakin

University of Wisconsin–Stout

Kayle Sue Fox

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Avery Campbell
Amy Morgan
Jessica Simpson

Weber State University

Steven Cardenaz
Kimberly Lorraine Leach
Tyler Martin

Winthrop University

Gabrielle Lidia Mirelez

Take Advantage of Your NCFR Member Benefits

Thank you for your membership in NCFR and for your continued dedication to better understanding and strengthening families.

Make sure you're taking advantage of all the benefits your NCFR member provides, including these and more that you can find at nconf.org/membership.

Résumé and Curriculum Vitae Review Program

Through NCFR's Résumé and Curriculum Vitae (CV) Review Program, new in 2019, you can get valuable feedback to help make your CV or résumé its best.

Submit your CV or résumé during one of three submission periods—the first half of the month in January, April, or August—along with brief information about your specific situation and needs. We'll match your document to experienced NCFR members who review and provide quality feedback about your document's content, formatting, structure, appearance, and more.

The next submission period is Aug. 1-15, 2020. Any NCFR member may submit their document during this time to receive a review from seasoned reviewers (who are also NCFR members).

Find more details at nconf.org/resume-cv-review.

NCFR Mentoring Academy

In 2019, NCFR welcomed the inaugural class of mentor and mentee pairs—24 participants in all—in the NCFR Mentoring Academy, who will continue working together through the program during most of 2020.

Mentoring can be a key resource to grow and advance professionally, receive support and guidance in taking on professional challenges, and achieve successful outcomes. The mentoring relationship can also be just as valuable to the mentor, in developing leadership and communication skills, enriching your professional and personal knowledge, and more.

Consider applying for the NCFR Mentoring Academy! **Applications will be due July 1, 2020**, to be a mentor or mentee in the second pilot year of the Mentoring Academy. Applicants will be notified by Sept. 15 about whether they have been accepted. Only NCFR members are eligible to participate in the NCFR Mentoring Academy; any member is eligible.

Learn more at nconf.org/mentoring-academy.

Even More Member Benefits

There are even more benefits included with your NCFR membership:

- **Discounts** on NCFR conference attendance, journal submission fees, CFLE credential fees, and other NCFR products
- **A 25% discount from Wiley**, the publisher of NCFR's scholarly journals, on most Wiley book purchases. Use NCFR member code **NCFR1** at checkout when buying through the Wiley website.
- Automatic membership in your state or regional NCFR **affiliate** (local chapter)

- Use of NCFR's online **discussion groups** and **member directory** for members. Visit groups.nconf.org.
- The opportunity to serve in **leadership** positions in the organization
- Eligibility to apply for many NCFR **awards**, including the NCFR **Honors** Student Recognition program for graduating students
- The NCFR **Member Bookshelf**—We'll post your newly authored or edited book on the NCFR website and announce it in our weekly *Zippy News* email newsletter.

If it's time for you to renew your membership, we hope you'll choose to stay involved and engaged as an NCFR member. Please contact us at any time if you have questions about your membership or ideas about how NCFR could better serve your needs—we're always open to your feedback!

See a complete list of your member benefits at nconf.org/membership. ✨

Advertise in NCFR Report

Looking to promote your university's programs to potential students or faculty candidates? Want to advertise an event or workshop you're organizing?

Get the message to your NCFR colleagues by advertising in NCFR Report, NCFR's quarterly member magazine.

Each issue of Report — which includes organizational news and the popular "Family Focus" section made up of translational, research-based articles — goes out to the entire NCFR membership.

Space is available for advertising in every issue of Report. Rates start at \$350 for a quarter-page ad (with volume discounts available).

Interested? Find more details about rates, deadlines, and specs at nconf.org/advertise-nconf-report

Welcome to the Newest Members of NCFR

Please join us in welcoming these members who joined between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2020.

Danielle Albertina	Jennifer Edwards	Bayleigh LaBarr	Gretchen Ann Ray-Jensen
Amber Allen	Jenna Nicole Ellenstein	Faith Marie Laframboise	Cesar Reyes
Machele Anderson	Rachel Leigh Elms	Katie F. Laubender	Dora M. Riley
Elizabeth Autry	Brandi L. Elwood	Rebecca Leaf Brown	Joy Rodriguez
Malana Brene Balcarcel	Savannah Kate Evans	Trina Leary	Karina Rodriguez
Patricia G. Baranowski	Danette Knievel Fessler	Angelique Long-Hill	Rachel Julia Rymer
Rachel Renee Barlage	Rachel Fidel	Karla Anna Lukavsky	Aremy Salazar
Skylar Jean Barnes	Marcus J. Flores	Shannon Lacaе Malone	Jennifer A. Samp
Candy Lynn Beers	Makiah V. Flowers	Nicole Mank	Mary L. Schaefer
Jenna Rachel Berry	Lexie Eden Formanek	Tyler Branch Martin	Theresa Schinkowitch
Audrey Besch	Kayle Sue Fox	Tom Mathews	Heather Andrea Scott
Katherine Belle Blair	Kemesha S. Gabbidon	Tessa McGlashan	Sharell Breylnn Searcy
Lydia B. Blalock	Erica Gaetz	Na’Imah McQuitty	Nadia Segar
Tess E. Blanchard	Elizabeth Garcia	Danielle Michelle Mead	Raka Sen
Danielle Marie Blaser	Caroline Levanen Gauss	Sarah Jane Mesaeh	Gwendolyn D. Shanks
Erin Renae Blockston	Nancy Guox-Perez	Andrea Hannah Miller	Janet Sidaway
Dawn Michelle Bouton	Amanda Lynn Hanson	Gretchen Leann Mills	Jessica Simpson
Jill Linnea Brennecke	Whitney Hardrick	Gabrielle Lidia Mirelez	Miranda Nicole Smith
Kathryn Anne Brown	Hannah Lee Harnichar	Larissa Moguel	Jieun Song
Elizabeth Bryan	Sydnee Anne Harris	Kim Elizabeth Mooney-Doyle	Bekah Sparks
Avery Campbell	Carrie V. Hatch	Chloe Moore	Roniesha Nicole Spencer
Carlos Alberto Carbajal	Haley Renee Hedden	Tierra Moore	Nora Spinks
Steven Cardenaz	Rachel Steele Herrera	Dory Marie Moss	Madeline Stedry
Megan Carroll	Shantel Hickerson	Gustavo Alexis Murillo	Kimberly D. Stout-Kramer
Jessica J. Carter	Jamel M. Hicks	Kimberly Huhn Murphy	Kyleigh Donn Sullivan
Carlos Alonso Chama Cárdenas	Derricia Trenice Hill	Peter Ndiang’ui	Benton Mitchell Tarala
Zhaoying Chen	Kristina Marie Hill	Victoria Uzunma Ndukwe	Malary Jean Thorsby
Anna Elizabeth Colby	Kathleen Holloway	Jennifer Neal	Emily Kalia Vang
Erica Conard	Jamye Hunter	Leila Angelina Noman	Briana Orta Vazquez
Erin Connolly	Maleah Huser	Megan Marie O’Leary	Devyn Vernier
Katherine L. Crenshaw	Justice Jackson	Fatima Ologbauma	Ethan Vu
Linda M. Curley	Kayla Marie Jacoby	Kiara S. O’Neal	Shannon M. Warren
Meada R. Daly-Cano	Victoria J. Johnson	Peyton Overbee	Tessa Washburn
Stephanie Davis	Jill N. Jones	Linda Vail Perkes	Amanda Weber
Nickolas K. De Ceuninck	Ashley Brooke Kay	Elizabeth Peters	Janelle Weldin-Frisch
Haley Jane DeCarlo	Kelsie Nicole Kennedy	Clairee Peterson	Alexis G. Werner
Taylor Deer	Kristen Blair Kent	Tammy Pettit	Melissa Sue Werner
Jessica DeLoria	Vonell Kinderknecht	Abigail Plott	Duane Williams
Emma Sue Dugas	Bree A. King	Charity Powell	Jada Dominique Wilson
Marie Rhonda Dutra Gross	Tohnai King	Serena Putin	Marcia Winter
Talia Edmonds	Leanne Knobloch	Emily Ragland	Kayli Madison Worthey
	Kacie Koslowski		



Family Policy Section Update

Morgan Cooley, Ph.D., LCSW, cooleym@fau.edu; Anthony Ferraro, Ph.D., CFLE, aferraro@ksu.edu; Susan Meyerle, Ph.D., susanmeyerle@gmail.com; Jordan Arellanes, Ph.D., jaarell@ilstu.edu; Family Policy Section Officers

Hello, section members and colleagues! We have one update and a request to share.

NCFR Annual Conference Invited Workshop

We are excited to announce that we are hosting an invited workshop at the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference: "Translating Your Work to a Broader Audience: A Workshop for Researchers Whose Work Is of Practical and Policy Significance." This workshop is organized by the Family Policy Section and will be hosted by NCFR journal editors. This session is intended to help participants conceptualize and plan for eliciting the translational (policy and practice) significance of their work and disseminating their work to a larger audience. In addition to appraising the translational significance

of their work, participants will (a) generate and refine a list of potential outlets for presenting and publishing studies; (b) craft discussion sections and related material that emphasizes the practical and policy significance of their work; (c) position translational studies for publication; and (d) consider dissemination strategies that assist in realizing translational promise and advancing author reputation. Participants are encouraged to bring one-page descriptions of one or two studies they have in progress or completed. We will share further details in the coming months for those who plan to attend and provide some parameters for what to prepare before the workshop. We are excited about this collaborative opportunity and hope you will consider attending!

Soliciting Idea for Mid- or Late-Career Awards

The Family Policy section has been considering the addition of one or more awards for mid- and/or late-career section members, specific to family policy research, policy work, or mentorship. Currently, all of the section's awards are intended for students and new professionals, and we would like to engage our full membership and recognize other efforts of our more seasoned scholars. We would like to ask our section members for ideas before we proceed with planning. Please email Morgan Cooley at cooleym@fau.edu by **July 31, 2020** with ideas or suggestions. Thank you. ✨

Olson Grant *continued from page 1*

applying for the grant must be a current NCFR member and either a professional, a postdoctoral fellow, or a doctoral student. Priority will be given to proposals that relate to the Circumplex Model and/or Dr. Olson's PREPARE-ENRICH program.

"NCFR is thrilled to continue its commitment to promoting the integration of family research, theory, and practice," said NCFR Executive Director Diane Cushman. The grant's focus strongly embodies a key area of the work of NCFR and its members—to apply rigorous research and theory to issues in the real world that affect real people.

"That's what stands out about NCFR," she said.

A Storied Career in Family Science

Dr. Olson is renowned for his many contributions to the Family Science discipline as a scholar, teacher, therapist, and professional. Over the past 30 years, his Circumplex Model of Couples and Families

has enabled researchers and practitioners alike in examining a couple's relationship through their flexibility, cohesion, and communication skills. Dr. Olson also established the PREPARE/ENRICH program, used around the world for premarital education and marriage counseling.

Dr. Olson has spent his career developing theories and methods that help couples and families improve the quality of their lives together. The Circumplex Model and its accompanying instruments (FACES, Clinical Rating Scale) have been used to guide therapists in assessing couples and families and setting out treatment plans. Dr. Olson has written over 100 articles and 20 books on marriage and family, and has appeared numerous times on national television including the *NBC Today Show*, *CBS Morning Show*, *ABC Good Morning America*, and the *Oprah Show*. He has received numerous honors and awards recognizing his career from over 10 national associations. At NCFR,

Dr. Olson has been instrumental, serving as president, annual conference program chair and serving three terms on the Board of Directors.

"Projects that integrate and bridge research, theory, and practice are often more challenging but offer the most potential for exciting discoveries."
- David H. Olson, Ph.D.

NCFR is delighted to help Dr. Olson give back to the discipline of Family Science by supporting a new generation of Family Scientists in fostering innovations that push the discipline into the future.

Find complete details about the grant, eligibility criteria, and application process and requirements at nconf.org/nconf-olson-grant ✨

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section Update

How Can We Serve You?:

Reflecting on the Direction of the Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section

Anthony G. James Jr., Ph.D., CFLE, Section Chair-Elect, anthony.g.james@miamioh.edu

“How can we serve you?” It’s a common question, one we often here at restaurants or from other service providers, especially as the United States increasingly becomes a primarily service-based economy (“The American economy,” 2018). Outside of businesses, many leaders take this approach in terms of their responsibility to their constituencies (Parris & Peachy, 2013). And in that vein, it is my belief that as section leader, it is my responsibility to serve the needs of the section members. What is less clear for me, though, is which services will best meet the varying needs of our section.

It is my perspective that there are some uncertainties about the role of the Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families (REDF) Section within NCFR, the Family Science discipline, and the professional lives of Family Scientists. A friend and colleague recently said to me, “Good leaders bring clarity in times of uncertainty.” Reflecting on those words has provided me with some ideas during my transition into the role of section chair. It appears that the focus has shifted some regarding the section’s role in the organization and discipline. For instance, is the section a safe place for professional scholars during our busy annual meeting? Maybe it’s akin to a homecoming, where scholars have the opportunity to visit with friends and colleagues one time during the year. Or it could be a network of members offering their support in various aspects of professional development and the feelings of isolation often experienced by Family Science scholars who feel marginalized for some aspect(s) of their social identities. Of course, it could also be all of these things—and more—at the same time.

One thing the section has been is a clarion call for the work of section members, especially here in *NCFR Report*. But this may not be enough to meet members’ primary needs.

For instance, we recently solicited members, via the online discussion board, to send us information on books they had recently published or would publish in the near future. In addition to my own book *Black Families: A Systems Approach*, only two others responded: “An Integrated Model of Family Strengths and Resilience: Theorizing at the Intersection of Indigenous and Western Paradigms,” by Ricardo O. Sánchez, Bethany L. Letiecq, and Mark R. Ginsberg, published in 2019 in *Journal*

of Family Theory and Review (doi.org/10.1111/jftr.12351) and “The Family Safety Net of Black and White Multigenerational Families,” by Sung S. Park, Emily E. Wiemers, and Judith A. Seltzer, published in 2019 in *Population and Development Review* (<https://doi.org/10.1111/padr.12233>).

Along the same lines, our usage of the discussion board to solicit feedback on the

REDF continued on page 15

How to Participate in NCFR’s Online Networking Communities

NCFR offers an online gathering place for NCFR members and CFLEs to join conversations with members of their section, focus group, CFLE community, and other member groups. Group members will be able to ask questions, share resources, and more.

In April, NCFR created **three new groups** all focused on aspects of continuing work from remote locations. These groups are free for anyone to join. See page 18.

Group Features

- **Access through your inbox or browser.** You can create discussion threads and reply to others directly from your e-mail or you can also log in through your preferred web browser (e.g. Safari, Chrome, etc.) to view and participate.
- **See the people you are talking to.** Each discussion group member is able to create a profile (including picture) that is connected to their posts. There’s also a directory that shows who’s in the group, and you can even send private messages to other individuals.
- **Browse and search past discussions and resources.** Log in online, go to

your group, and search by keyword or browse through all past discussions in one place—no more going back through your entire e-mail in box!

How to Post

There are two ways you can participate in this and your other discussion groups:

1. **Log in at nconf.org.** Logging in to the web platform will show you all of the groups you are in; allow you to search the library of documents and resource that group members post; and, of course, create and respond to discussions in your groups. Your username is likely your preferred email address on file with NCFR, and is the same username and password you use to log in at my.nconf.org.
2. **Post directly from your email.** In this email and other discussion group emails, click “Post New Message” at the top of the email to create a new discussion. You’ll also see links in the email that allow you to respond to existing discussion threads.

Visit groups.nconf.org to join the conversation. ✨



Families and Health Section Update

Kimberly Greder, Ph.D., CFLE, Section Chair, kgreder@iastate.edu

Apply for 2020 Families and Health Section Student or New Professional Poster Award, Due Oct. 2, 2020

WHO CAN APPLY: Any student or new professional who is the first author on an accepted poster for the Families and Health Section. One award will potentially be presented in each of two categories: undergraduate and master's students, and Ph.D. students and new professionals.

JUDGING CRITERIA: Posters will be judged on relevance and clear delivery of research content (e.g., background, aims methods, findings, discussion) as well as visual quality.

HOW TO APPLY: Send the following items to Carolyn Sutter at carolyns@illinois.edu:

- Two PDFs of your finished poster (one with author details, one with all identifying information removed)
- Your current student status (undergraduate, master's, Ph.D., new professional)
- Information on your designated poster session time at the NCFR annual conference

AWARD: \$100 prize, a certificate, and a ribbon on their posters, as well as recognition at the Families and Health Section meeting. Additional information is available at ncfr.org/awards/section-awards/families-health

Special Session

The Families and Health Section is excited to cosponsor a special session at the 2020 NCFR

Annual Conference with the Family Therapy Section. The session will be on expanding our understanding of diversity to include individuals with disabilities as a way to promote health and resilience in families and communities. Our presenters will share their insights, experiences, and research related to this topic.

Title: Promoting Family and Community Health and Resilience: Expanding Our Understanding of Diversity to Include Individuals With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Presenters:

Jennifer L. Jones, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Human Development & Codirector of the Institute for Developmental Disabilities, Department of Human Development and Family Science, Oklahoma State University

Kami L. Gallus, Ph.D., LMFT, Associate Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy & Codirector of the Institute for Developmental Disabilities, Department of Human Development and Family Science, Oklahoma State University

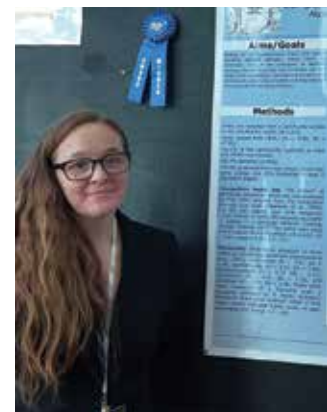
During this session, the presenters will offer an understanding of intellectual and developmental disabilities from a social-ecological perspective. A systemic and social-ecological approach to disability focuses not on fixing or "curing" the individual but rather on changing the understanding of individuals across contexts

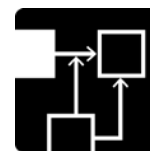
to provide supports that promote individual health and well-being, and also have the potential to enhance individual, family, and community resilience. Presenters will also provide an overview of current research, as well as policies and practices related to the health and well-being of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Families and Health Section Award Recipients

The following awards were presented at the 2019 NCFR Annual Conference. Recipients are pictured below, left to right, with Section Chair Kimberly Greder and Chair-elect Amber Seidel.

- **Outstanding Professional Paper/Publications Award**
Brian G. Ogolsky, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
"As the States Turned: Implications of the Changing Legal Context of Same-Sex Marriage on Well-Being"
- **Outstanding Student and New Professional Paper Award**
Elizabeth C. Coppola, Purdue University
"Military Couples' Depression Symptom Trajectories"
- **Outstanding Outstanding Student and New Professional Poster Award**
Jacquelyn K. Mallette, Ph.D., CFLE, East Carolina University
Michelle Lynn Appelt, Pennsylvania State University *





Research and Theory Section Update

Kayley Davis McMahan, M.S., Section Communications Specialist, rls693@vols.utk.edu

Hello there! My name is Kayley Davis McMahan, and I am the new communications specialist for the Research and Theory (RT) Section. As the communications specialist, it is my goal to increase RT's visibility to current and potential new members and to highlight the many accomplishments of our members as well as available opportunities. If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions about communication in RT, please feel free to contact me. For this issue, we highlight a recent RT awardee, Todd M. Jensen, Ph.D. (pictured here receiving his award from Past Chair Kari Adamsons, Ph.D.).

Member Spotlight: Todd M. Jensen, Ph.D.

Todd M. Jensen, Ph.D., received the Research and Theory Section's Best Abstract by a Student or New Professional Award in 2019 for the symposium abstract "Stepfamily Processes Across Stages of Child and Family



Development." The symposium focused on adaptive family processes in the context of stepfamilies with young children, stepfamilies with adolescent children, and stepfamilies who experience the dissolution of the step-couple relationship. Abstract materials were developed alongside collaborators with whom Dr. Jensen shares all credit: Caroline

Sanner, Luke Russell, Chang Su-Russell, Lawrence Ganong, and Marilyn Coleman. Dr. Jensen is currently a research associate at the Jordan Institute for Families and a research assistant professor in the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He enjoys driving his motorcycle, playing his guitar, and traveling with his partner, Maggie.

Would you like to know more about this award?

Best Abstract by a Student or New Professional Award

Purpose: The award is intended to recognize outstanding scholarly work by a student or new professional member of the Research and Theory Section.

Award: The award winner receives a \$200 cash award and a plaque. The award is

Research and Theory continued on page 16

REDF continued from page 13

name change of the section garnered only seven responses. Admittedly, it could be the case that the discussion board is merely a poor mechanism for reaching members. But to be sure, we need members to provide actual feedback for how we can better reach each one of you and we also need feedback on how you would like the section to serve you. For example, a personal goal for my term as chair is to provide quality mentorship. It is my hope that the section can do this in a systematic way that deliberately promotes the professional development of scholars in our discipline across different areas of responsibility (teaching, research, practice) and at different levels of service (student, new professional, seasoned scholars). However, accomplishing that work ultimately comes from the ground up, with administration of it facilitated from the top down. The meeting of those two efforts in the middle is the sweet spot of where it all comes together.

As we get closer to the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference, the REDF Section leaders will

be thinking about ways to more effectively engage the section to provide some clarity for what we want the section to be. It is not lost on us that the section was started to help give voice, place, and representation to members who were marginalized in the discipline. I would be remiss to not acknowledge that a recent NCFR past president, William D. Allen, Ph.D., and current NCFR President-elect Norma J. Bond Burgess, Ph.D., are members with deep roots in this section.

At some level, we all must admit that the Family Science discipline is open to the voices of those who have been historically marginalized. Although it is true that this does not mean the field is a utopia, it does evidence progress. That progress means that we must continue to think strategically about what we want this section to be and how we can help get it there. A first step was to change the section name, but there is more work to be done. Please join me

in this opportunity to create some clarity so that we can maximize opportunities to provide quality service to our membership.

This piece is merely my attempt to help us make the right shifts, in the context of broader changes, so that we can continue to provide quality service to our section members. The REDF leadership look forward to serving you. ✨

References

- The American economy is experiencing a paradigm shift: As goods and services become more intrinsically tied, economist and policy makers look to the future. (2018). *The Atlantic*. Retrieved from <https://www.theatlantic.com/sponsored/citi-2018/the-american-economy-is-experiencing-a-paradigm-shift/2008/>
- Parris, D. L., & Peachey, J. W. (2013). A systematic literature review of servant leadership theory in organizational contexts. *Journal of Business Ethics, 113*(3), 377–393.

Journal of Marriage and Family Publishes 2020 Decade in Review



In February NCFR published the 2020 Decade in Review issue of *Journal of Marriage and Family (JMF)*, a series of research articles that critically evaluate empirical findings in the discipline of Family Science from the past 10 years.

If you're a member who subscribes to *JMF*, you received this special issue early in the year. Articles in this issue (Vol. 82, No. 1) are available online and are free access to the public until early 2021. Visit ncfr.org/jmf to access this and other issues of *JMF*.

JMF, published by NCFR, has been the leading research journal in the family field

for more than 75 years and is consistently the most frequently cited journal in Family Science.

Decade in Review issues serve as important markers in the Family Science discipline. This is only the fifth decade in review for *JMF* and the 50th anniversary of the very first one, published in 1970.

JMF's editor Kristi Williams, Ph.D., wrote in the issue's introduction that the goal of this Decade in Review was "to provide a comprehensive review of the current state of Family Science as articulated by leading scholars across the diversity of disciplines and perspectives active in the field." Working extensively with the *JMF* editorial board, Williams and her team of deputy editors selected 21 topics for the issue and invited contributing authors for the issue (an additional article was published in the April 2020 issue).

Among the topics selected were immigrant families, the evolution of fathering research in the 21st century, ethnic-racial socialization in the family, sexual- and gender-minority families, and intimate partner violence.

These 21 topics were organized under broader subjects that include union formation, stability, and quality; parenthood; families in context; family processes and consequences; demographic trends; and more.

Williams and her team endeavored to present high-quality scholarship and gave attention to theoretical, methodological, and analytic contributions and limitations. They were also sensitive to issues of gender, race/ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation. Since Family Science is interdisciplinary in nature, authors were asked to include research from a full range of disciplines and methodological approaches that have shaped the past decade's scholarship on the given topic.

More than simply a reflection, Decade in Review issues serve as important blueprints, laying a foundation for future scholarship within a discipline. Faculty will use the topics chosen for this Decade in Review to determine graduate course curricula, and scholars will continue to test and build on the findings of these articles. ✨

NCFR Member Authors

Thank you to all the NCFR members who contributed to the publication of the *JMF* Decade in Review, including the many editors and reviewers. The following list are current NCFR members who were authors of Decade in Review articles.

Katherine R. Allen
Cheryl Buehler
Marcia J. Carlson
Andrew J. Cherlin
Karen L. Fingerman
April L. Few-Demo
Karen Benjamin Guzzo
Jennifer L. Hardesty
Benjamin R. Karney
Daniel T. Lichter
Brian G. Ogolsky
Maureen Perry-Jenkins
Kelly R. Raley
Sarah J. Schoppe-Sullivan
Adriana J. Umaña-Taylor
Debra Umberson

Research and Theory continued from page 15

presented at the Research and Theory Section meeting at the Annual NCFR Conference.

Criteria: The nominee must be a student or new professional; must be a current member of NCFR and the Research and Theory Section; and will have the highest-rated proposal submitted to the Section.

Nomination/application process: The recipient is selected on the basis of the average rating from peer reviews. The paper with the highest average score is selected as the award recipient. In cases when multiple papers receive the same score, the members of the RT Section's Executive Committee review each of the top-scoring papers and vote on the winner.

Deadline: The 2020 award recipient will be notified by July 31, 2020.

Moving forward: What can we do to make RT feel more relevant?

We are interested in ways we can make RT feel more relevant to our members, as well as highlight our applicability to all NCFR members. If you have ideas, please email them to me (rls693@vols.utk.edu).

NCFR 2020

Thank you to those of you who submitted proposals to the Research and Theory Section, as well as those of you who have signed up to review proposal abstracts for the conference! It is going to be an outstanding conference program! ✨

Meet Our 2020 Elected Officers

Continued from page 1

The membership of the National Council on Family Relations voted in February 2020 and elected the following officers to take office beginning in November 2020, following the Annual Conference. Thank you to everyone who voted, and congratulations to these members!

Board Members-at-Large (2020-2023)

Shelley M. MacDermid Wadsworth, Ph.D., CFLE, Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, and Director, Military Family Research Institute and the Center for Families

Dr. MacDermid Wadsworth was named an NCFR Fellow in 2005 and is the 2018 recipient of the Felix Berardo Scholarship Award for Mentoring. She served as program chair for the 2015 NCFR Annual



Shelley M. MacDermid Wadsworth

Conference; chair of the Research and Theory Section; and chair of the Feminism and Family Studies Section. She has been an NCFR member for 35 years.

"I have a longstanding interest in helping organizations to function well, which has been a focus of my research and past service to NCFR." Dr. MacDermid Wadsworth wrote in her candidate statement. "I will draw on my experiences as a center director to contribute to NCFR efforts to create and implement vibrant initiatives, including innovations to the annual conference, new media initiatives, and ways to promote the contributions of NCFR members."

Roudi Nazarinia Roy, Ph.D., CFLE

Associate Professor, Child Development and Family Studies, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, California State University-Long Beach

Dr. Roy has been an NCFR member for 14 years and served as chair of the Ethnic Minorities Section (now the Racial and Ethnic

Diversity in Families Section), chair of the Marie F. Peters Award Committee, and chair of the John L. and Harriette P. McAdoo Dissertation Award Committee.

"In my role as a section chair, I learned the importance of communicating with the NCFR Board and administration in an effort to ensure our section had a voice," Dr. Roy wrote in her candidate statement. "As a board member, I will work with all NCFR members and section officers to facilitate an inclusive environment within NCFR. Without inclusion, we will never have a true understanding of the lived experiences of all families."

Ruben P. Viramontez-Anguiano, Ph.D., CFLE

Professor and Chair, Department of Human Development and Family Relations, University of Colorado Denver

Dr. Anguiano has been an NCFR member for 25 years and is the founding president of the Rocky Mountain Council on Family Relations. He has also served as president and vice president of the Ohio Council on Family Relations; Students and New Professionals representative for the Ethnic Minority Section (now the Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section); and served on the NCFR Qualitative Member's Survey Review Committee.

"As an NCFR Board Member, I would be dedicated to supporting inclusion, equity and diversity throughout the organization," Dr. Anguiano wrote in his candidate statement. "I have committed my career to



Roudi Nazarinia Roy



Ruben P. Viramontez-Anguiano

supporting diversity and I believe that NCFR can be a home for different individuals who believe in family diversity and social justice."

Elections Council (2020-2023)

Jessica N. Fish, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Family Science, University of Maryland School of Public Health

Kevin M. Shafer, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology, Brigham Young University; Affiliate Professor of Health, Aging, & Society, McMaster University

Inclusion and Diversity Committee

Member-at-Large (2020-2023)

Denzel L. Jones, Ph.D., LMFT, Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy at Antioch University New England

Tera R. Jordan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Studies, Iowa State University

Elif Dede Yildirim, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Auburn University

Students and New Professionals Program Representative-Elect (2020-2022)

TeKisha M. Rice, M.S., CFLE, Doctoral Student & NSF Research Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Section Officers (2020-2022)

Advancing Family Science Section

Silvia Bartolic, Chair-Elect

Patrick Cheek, Secretary/Treasurer

Alice C. Long, Students and New Professionals Representative

Education and Enrichment Section

Alan C. Taylor, Chair-Elect

Alisha M. Hardman, Secretary/Treasurer

Evin Winkelman-Richardson, Students and New Professionals Representative

Families and Health Section

Jeremy B. Yorgason, Chair-Elect

Daphne C. Hernandez, Secretary/Treasurer

Myles Maxey, Students and New Professionals Representative

Sarah Feeney, Communications Specialist

2020 Officers continued on page 18

Congratulations to Our New Certified Family Life Educators

The following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs) designated between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2020.
Provisional unless otherwise noted.

Alabama		Illinois		Missouri		Quebec	
Laura Bloom	FULL	Mikaela Nancy Manzella		Casey Marie Campo		Stephanie Mitelman	FULL
Angelique Long-Hill		Indiana		North Carolina		Tennessee	
Rachel Renay Sullivan		Denise Bain	FULL	Kervins Clement	FULL	Demetria Ryan Serfas	
California		Kelsey Anne Carr	FULL	Jennifer Edwards		Texas	
Rocio Romero		Elissa Thomann Mitchell	FULL	Peyton Overbee		Suzanna Elisa Austin	FULL
Colorado		Louisiana		Nevada		Brandan Joel Cruz	
Ruth Anderson	FULL	Darriell D Hinton	FULL	Hector Guillermo Garcia		Bryan Evans	
Florida		Madison Bruce		Ohio		Rachel Steele Herrera	
Julia Nicole Kroeker	FULL	DeAndre S. John		Amber Beth Otten		Bayleigh LaBarr	
Georgia		Michigan		Oklahoma		Riley Sizelove	
Maegan Franco		Madeleine Claire Lamb		Ruth LeFan		Utah	
Indiana		Abbey Reimer		Sharon Beattie		Terri Nicole Sawyer	FULL
Haylee Flint-Baker		Minnesota		Oregon		Melinda F. Bowers	
		Chun Zhang Creaser	FULL	Heather Lee Leap		Catherine Hanson	
		Madisen Marie McKenzie		Heather Webb		Virginia	
		Leah M. Persky, PhD				Berkeley Rae Elliott	

2020 Officers continued from page 17

Family Therapy Section

Nathan Hardy, Chair-Elect

Kevin C. Hynes, Secretary/Treasurer

Candice Maier, Students and New Professionals Representative

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section

Shardé McNeil Smith, Chair-Elect

Sarai Coba-Rodriguez, Secretary/Treasurer

Ijeoma Opara, Students and New Professionals Representative

Lorena Aceves, Students and New Professionals Representative

Sadguna Anasuri, Communications Specialist ✨

New Online Communities Help Professionals Work and Teach Remotely

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced professionals to shift their work activities away from offices and classrooms and into their homes. To help family researchers and practitioners navigate these challenges, NCFR has created **three new online networking communities** all focused on aspects of continuing work from remote locations.

Anyone who creates a free NCFR account may join and participate in the following three communities. This includes all NCFR members and Certified Family Life Educators.

- Managing Your Research Online:** Discuss data collection; working with the research participants; graduate student participation; basic, applied, pedagogical, and other types of research; and more around maintaining a research program online.
- Teaching Online in an Academic Setting:** Exchange ideas about quickly transitioning from a face-to-face classroom to completely online, offering online classroom activities, managing your online classroom, using digital technologies, or other online-teaching topics.
- Online Family Life Education:** Share suggestions for taking Family Life Education practice online: transitioning from face-to-face meetings to online meetings, conducting online activities, managing online groups, implementing digital technologies, facilitating group discussions, and more.

To join these communities, visit groups.ncfr.org, go to community page you wish to join, and click the **"Join Group" button** (you may be prompted to log in).

It is the hope of NCFR that these communities provide a great place for family researchers and practitioners to meet colleagues, make professional connections, share ideas, and get answers to pressing questions around managing work remotely.

See page 13 for more details on how to get started using NCFR's online communities. ✨



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University of Missouri



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- Child Life
- Family and Lifespan Development

ONLINE GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

- Youth Development Specialist
- Youth Program Management & Evaluation
- Gerontology

ONLINE PROGRAMS

- Youth Development (MA)
- Family and Community Services (MA)
- Gerontology (MA)
- Early Childhood Education in a Mobile Society (BS)

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