

IN THIS ISSUE

Best of Family Focus, 2015-2019

Every 5 years, Family Focus highlights past articles that are as relevant today as the time when they were first published. The articles in this collection includes articles that concern racial justice; inclusion and diversity; and the make-up and daily processes of families.

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NCFR 2021: The Science of Families

Save the Date: Nov. 3-6, 2021
Proposal Submissions Due: March 1, 2021
ncfr.org/ncfr-2021

NCFR Olson Grant Announces Inaugural Recipients

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) and David H. Olson, Ph.D., are proud to recognize **Julie Poehlmann-Tynan, Ph.D., Pajarita Charles, Ph.D., Margaret Kerr, Ph.D., and Michael Massoglia, Ph.D.**, as the 2020 inaugural recipients of the NCFR Olson Grant: Bridging Research, Theory, and Practice. This new \$10,000 annual grant is available to NCFR members working to creatively contribute to the discipline of Family Science by effectively uniting research, theory, and practice in their work.

David H. Olson, Ph.D., the namesake of the grant, is renowned for his many contributions to Family Science as a scholar, teacher, therapist, and professional. He is an NCFR Fellow, professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota, and creator of the highly respected Circumplex Model of Couples and Families, which enables researchers and practitioners to examine a couple's relationship through the couple's flexibility, cohesion, and communication skills. Dr. Olson also established the PREPARE/ENRICH

program, used around the world for premarital education and marriage counseling.

The recipients' grant proposal,

Building Reflective Functioning, Cohesion, and Flexibility in Families with Incarcerated Parents Through Supported Visits, will test their own new relationship-based intervention for families with incarcerated parents. This intervention, the Enhanced Visits Model (EVM), integrates Olson's Circumplex Model and John Bowlby's attachment theory.

Having an incarcerated parent is a U.S. public health problem. More than 5 million children experience a resident parent's incarceration, with significant racial and economic disparities. Research by Dr. Poehlmann-Tynan and others

Olson Grant Recipients continued on page 22



David H. Olson



Julie Poehlmann



Pajarita Charles



Margaret Kerr



Michael Massoglia

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, Ruben P. Viramontez Anguiano, Jennifer L. Doty, Soyoun Lee, Shelley M. MacDermid Wadsworth, Robert Reyes, Roudi Nazarinia Roy, Joanne A. Roberts

Executive Director: Diane Cushman

News Editor: Trip Sullivan

Family Focus Editor:

Ted G. Futris, 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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VOTE & NOMINATE

Get Involved in the Leadership of Your Organization!

Jodi B. Dworkin, Ph.D., and Heather M. Helms, Ph.D., NCFR 2020 Elections Council Co-chairs

Get involved in the leadership of your organization!

The vitality of NCFR depends on its members' dedication to serve in leadership capacities at various levels of the organization. Leadership in NCFR offers many benefits and rewards, including

- The opportunity to share our knowledge and expertise in ways that will help to promote the welfare of families and children
- Status and recognition by local, state, national, and international audiences;
- Networking and professional development opportunities.

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.

1. Vote in Upcoming Elections (February 2021)

The Elections Council wants to encourage all members to vote in February 2021. We have submitted a nomination slate (ballots will be emailed to members in February 2021) for terms that will be filled at the end of the national meeting in November 2021. The nominees are as follows:

Board President-elect (2021–2023), President (2023–2025), 1 Position

Bethany Letiecq
Hilary Rose

Affiliate Councils President-elect (2021–2023), Affiliate Councils Board President (2023–2025), 1 Position

Lyndal Khaw
Amanda Williams

Elections Council (2021–2024), 2 Positions

Sharon Ballard

I. Joyce Chang
Vania Lazarevic
Christine Proulx

Fellows Committee (2021–2024), 3 Positions

Francesca Adler-Baeder
Katia Goldfarb
Lisa Moyer
Brian Ogolsky
Karina Shreffler
Kimberly Updegraff

Inclusion and Diversity Committee Member-at-Large (2021–2024), 1 Position

Edna Alfaro
Lover Chancler

Inclusion and Diversity Committee Students and New Professionals Representative (2021–2023), 1 Position

Chang Su-Russell
Sarah Mitchell

Students and New Professionals Board Representative-elect (2021–2022), SNP Board Representative (2022–2024), 1 Position

Brianna Routh
Veronica Barrios

2. Nominate Yourself or Others for February 2022 Slate (due January 31, 2021)

The Elections Council wants to encourage all members to nominate someone for the February 2022 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:

Eligibility for Nominations

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

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Thanks and Looking Forward

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

As 2020 comes to an end, I want to offer several thanks and a few updates on our antiracism efforts. I want to thank the 2020 Conference Chair, Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, and the Program Committee and NCFR staff for working tirelessly to move this year's conference online and to provide attendees with the best professional development experience possible. While I know many of us missed the face-to-face networking and dinners with friends and colleagues, the essence of the conference, providing the latest advances in Family Science research, practice, and teaching, was upheld.

On a different front, I want to thank the 66 members who attended the Board of Directors' Listening Sessions on Addressing Systemic Racism and Promoting Social Justice. The discussions were informative and instructive and will help structure the ongoing work of the organization as we tackle racism in our organization and discipline, as well as the places we work. Many specific ideas, changes, and actions were recommended, and certain themes emerged that should guide the work of not only the board but all NCFR entities, including the Certified Family Life Educator credential, sections, focus groups, and journals. Put concisely, here are the primary themes that emerged, in no specific order:

- Increase the organization's capacity for quicker response to social justice issues.
- Address pipeline issues for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) scholars and professionals.
- Address White supremacy in the organization and discipline and how whiteness is currently being maintained.
- Improve accessibility to resources and skills needed by members to do antiracist and social justice work in the places they are employed.
- Develop standards for promoting antiracism and social justice in our teaching, programming, research,

journals, and other organizational or disciplinary products.

This is a needed and challenging agenda and will take the efforts of not just the NCFR board and staff, but all members, as we prioritize and determine next steps. I want to let you know that as of the time of this writing in September, the board has initiated a few steps to address pipeline issues for BIPOC scholars and professionals.

We instituted the NCFR Student Access Grant which provided registration for this year's conference, as well as one year of membership, for BIPOC students. These grants were supported by member donations and I want to thank all of you who gave to this very valuable effort.

First, we instituted the NCFR Student Access Grant, which provided registration for this year's conference, as well as a 1-year membership, for students from historically marginalized racial or ethnic populations. These grants were supported by member donations and I want to thank all of you who gave to this very valuable effort. As the year goes on, we as an organization will need to find ways to support these grant recipients, many of whom are undergraduates and first-time attendees, as they explore the professional growth offered by NCFR.

The second step taken, in response to a request by members, was that NCFR

signed on to the American Sociological Association Statement on Student Teaching Evaluations (see bit.ly/ASA-teaching-eval). Research has shown that student teaching evaluations can be biased against faculty of color and female faculty and the statement makes recommendations on how to fairly integrate them into a holistic approach to teaching evaluation. We then forwarded this information to the Academic Administration and Leadership Focus Group to encourage its members to consider these data when reviewing privilege and tenure as well as merit decisions at their schools. By the time you read this article, I trust we will have identified and initiated additional steps to address the agenda laid out in the listening sessions.

With much gratitude and admiration, my final thanks goes to the members of the NCFR Board whose terms are ending at the close of 2020. Brian Ogolsky, April Few-Demo, Bethany Letiecq, and Andrea Roach have worked tirelessly on behalf of NCFR members over the past 3 years. They are each strong advocates for families, for our discipline, and for the organization, and it has been an honor to serve with them.

I warmly welcome Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth, Roudi Roy, and Ruben Anguiano as they begin their terms on the board. I speak for the entire board when I say we approach 2021 with hope and determination for continued progress toward racial justice. I know that many sections and groups in the organization are taking steps to address systemic racism. My hope is that in 2021 we develop a coordinated approach that sees ongoing action on many levels to make our field and our organization more socially just. We continue to welcome your feedback and your participation in this effort. Please continue to reach out to the board through the Contact the Board link on the bottom of any page on the NCFR website. Here's to a happy, healthy, and just 2021! ✨



Good News to Share From 2020

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

Despite the awful year the world has experienced with the pandemic, violent storms, destructive fires, and tragic deaths of People of Color at the hands of law enforcement, I have found some solace in NCFR's role of helping our members and the families they serve to cope with these tragedies. This year NCFR helped family scholars and professionals by temporarily opening its collection of online educational content to everyone. NCFR has found ways to be relevant and timely, such as offering free webinars on nonacademic jobs for Family Science grads and creating new resource collections on a variety of topics. Thank you to all the members who have stepped forward to contribute in so many ways.

2020 Conference Overcomes Challenges

I am relieved to report that after months of uncertainty, NCFR and the St. Louis hotel that was to host the conference have reached agreement on the contract's impossibility clause: NCFR will not be penalized for moving its 2020 conference online and out of the hotel. Thank you to everyone for the many months of work to put together the virtual conference. We are so pleased that we were able to offer a number of innovations this year as we experimented with Whova and Zoom to reach out to well over a thousand conference attendees, many of whom took advantage of the dramatically reduced pricing and global availability to attend the conference for the first time.

In particular we want to acknowledge the wisdom and leadership of our Board of Directors for creating the first NCFR Student Access Grant. As of early October, over 200 students from historically marginalized racial or ethnic populations qualified for the grant funded by the generous donations of 30 NCFR members and counting. NCFR's commitment to redressing systemic racism continues with board leadership and involvement by NCFR sections, focus groups, and other entities like the students and new professionals.

Through creative conference pricing and the Student Access Grant, NCFR has gained more than 300 new members who bought a membership when they registered for the conference. To these new NCFR members, we warmly welcome you to your new home of fellow family scholars and practitioners. NCFR veterans can expect to see many new members in their sections. We encourage everyone to find new ways to engage with each other and make NCFR a place where all can grow and thrive in the discipline.

NCFR has found ways to be relevant and timely, such as offering free webinars on nonacademic jobs for Family Science grads.

Advancing Family Science Update

We continue to make progress on the Advancing Family Science (AFS) initiative, formerly the Future of Family Science project. You'll now find a more complete description of Family Science at ncfr.org/family-science, including an explanation of why Family Science is considered a discipline and how NCFR supports it, which is required by the global ends of our policy governance (see sidebar). For those interested in finding the history of Family Science and its foundational publications all in one place, we have a Family Science bibliography (ncfr.org/bibliography-family-science-discipline). Oftentimes programs in human development and Family Science are called on to demonstrate their value in academia, so we have put together resources that prove the value of Family Science.

Many universities have recently changed the name of a program or department to include Family Science, which continues to give the discipline credibility and visibility. If your college is considering a similar name change, NCFR has fact sheets and letter templates you

can bring to the attention of administrative personnel, as well as a glossary of terms you may find useful in your marketing materials.

As you can see, we started our work by focusing on academic programs. We did this because the majority of NCFR members at this time are in Family Science academic programs. We will expand the coverage over time to include the diverse practice areas represented by NCFR members.

Allison Wickler, who formerly served as NCFR's director of marketing and communications, is our lead staff member on this initiative and can be reached at allisonwickler@ncfr.org. Member input and feedback has been integral to the progress on this project and the creation of resources that are of value to NCFR members.

Looking Ahead to 2021

It is difficult to imagine what the future holds for us all after having lived through 2020.

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Global Ends Policy #3

NCFR will represent the scholars and professionals in Family Science by establishing standards for research, education, and practice and by advocating for the development and advancement of the discipline and the professions of Family Science.

- A. NCFR will develop and monitor standards for Family Science programs and Family Life Educators.***
- B. NCFR will infuse inclusion and diversity and international perspectives into all aspects of its mission, governance, programming, and professional practices.***
- C. NCFR will advocate for Family Science professionals.***
- D. NCFR will provide information and resources on career options and opportunities to its members.***



Getting the Most Out of Being a CFLE-Approved Program

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

Since 1996, NCFR has been reviewing and approving academic Family Science programs for the inclusion of Family Life Education content. Most programs seek approval through NCFR's Academic Program Review to provide their graduates with a streamlined way to pursue the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential without having to also take the CFLE exam. CFLE-approved programs provide students with a checklist of preapproved courses that meet the criteria for the CFLE credential. Students who satisfactorily complete all the courses on the school's checklist will qualify for the provisional CFLE credential and can apply for the certification through the CFLE-approved program application process upon graduation. Graduates that have completed relevant work experience in Family Life Education also can obtain full certification status by submitting documentation of their work experience and employer verification and assessment. Being able to offer students the ability to obtain a nationally recognized credential upon graduation can provide an important marketing advantage to a college or university. Graduating with the CFLE credential in addition to a Family Science degree is a great advantage for the graduate.

Meeting a National Standard. CFLE-approved family programs can market themselves as providing a curriculum that meets a nationally recognized standard. The thoroughness of the Academic Program Review process ensures not only that the program includes coursework relevant to the 10 Family Life Education content areas but also that the rigor of the learning objectives, assignments, and reading materials are appropriate for the course level. Programs that receive CFLE approval have truly demonstrated that they meet nationally recognized and respected standards.

School and Program Promotion. CFLE program approval provides schools with opportunities to promote both the school generally and its Family Science program. CFLE-approved programs are identified as such in the Degree Programs in Family Science section of the NCFR website, where schools can also provide more detailed information about their program as well as their CFLE checklist. CFLE-approved programs are also recognized at the University Receptions during the NCFR Annual Conference and through announcements of program approval and renewal in NCFR's Zippy News and the CFLE Network newsletter.

CFLE program approval provides schools with opportunities to promote both the school generally and its Family Science program.

Access to Resources. CFLE approval can provide programs with access to resources to enhance teaching and learning. CFLE-approved programs qualify to receive discounts on classroom pricing for NCFR's webinar program. The CFLE contact from each CFLE-approved program has access to the Academic Program Review discussion group, which offers opportunities to network with other CFLE-approved program faculty and administrators. Additionally, there are opportunities to meet with other approved and aspiring program representatives at special sessions at the NCFR Annual Conference.

Promoting CFLE Approval to Students

Each school's support for and promotion of the CFLE credential directly influences the number of applications from graduates seeking CFLE approval. We have found that

it is very important for program faculty and administrators to support and promote the CFLE credential and the availability of the CFLE-approved program application process. Having a strong CFLE advocate or "booster" can make a big difference in the number of graduates who pursue the CFLE credential. What do CFLE boosters look like?

- They promote their own CFLE status by including the CFLE designation after their name on their email signature, in course syllabi, and on business cards.
- They reference a program's CFLE approval in the syllabus of each approved course (e.g., "This course meets the requirements for the Internal Dynamics of Families content area of the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential") to help familiarize students with the CFLE credential early on in their family coursework.
- They are able to converse with students about their program's CFLE approval and what that means, and can properly advise students on the substitution process, transfer credit policy, and the CFLE-approved program application in general.
- They are familiar with the Step-by-Step Guide to the CFLE-Approved Program Application slideshow (<https://bit.ly/3c1oIQp>) and share it with students interested in applying for the CFLE.
- They distribute to current and potential students (and parents and community employers) the CFLE brochure, which can be ordered through the NCFR website at no cost.
- They have taken to heart advice shared in Dr. Lee Bidwell's article "What I Wish I Knew: Tips for Promoting CFLE Approved Programs" (<https://bit.ly/2ScN4bH>).
- They are familiar with or have accessed resources on the NCFR website that are

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development, Family Science, marriage and family practice, sociology, and related professions.

- Knowledge and/or experience in leadership roles through sections, affiliate councils, focus groups, conference planning, publishing, public policy, or other committee work.

Definition of Diversity

When identifying members to run for office, consideration should be given to a slate that is diverse in its representation of members, for example:

- Ability and disability
- Aboriginal, mixed, immigrant
- Age
- Bilingualism and multiculturalism; English language learners
- Body size and condition
- Customs and traditions
- Educational, disciplinary, or career status
- Ethnicity, race, national origin, or cultural identity
- Gender, gender identity, and gender expression

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What is clear is that Family Science is increasingly relevant in a turbulent world that has been further fractured by the effects of the pandemic. Families have proved yet again their resilience in the face of unforeseen obstacles, whether separated from each other physically or bound together more closely. It is also clear that NCFR members will continue to have a professional home where they can draw strength and understanding from one another and collaborate to take the Family Science discipline to new heights. There is a profound need for scholars and professionals to work together to understand and strengthen families in the midst of these challenges and in the lasting aftermath of the events of 2020. ✨

- 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

[Note: The aspects of diversity are listed alphabetically, but not in any order of priority.]

Keeping this in mind, we invite self-nominations and nominations of others for the following positions for the slate to be elected in February of 2022. The terms for these positions will begin November 2022 at the end of the NCFR Annual Conference.

Board Member-at-Large (2022–2025), 2 Positions

NCFR board members are responsible for the overall governance of the organization on behalf of all NCFR members. They attend two in-person board meetings per year, along with having regular conference calls and email exchanges. They take responsibility of maintaining contact with the membership and reflecting the needs of all NCFR members.

Students and New Professionals Conference Program Representative (2022–2024), 1 Position

The representative serves a 2-year term as a member of both the Annual Conference Program Committee and the Student Award Committee, has several responsibilities at the annual conference, and assists in networking for students and new professionals.

Elections Council Members (2022–2025), 2 Positions

It is the responsibility of the Elections Council to prepare a slate of nominees for officers and members of the NCFR Board of Directors, Students and New Professionals board representative, Students and New Professionals program representative, Fellows Committee, Elections Council, 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 (2022–2025), 2 Positions

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

Inclusion & Diversity Committee Member-at-Large (2022–2025), 2 Positions

IDC members-at-large assist IDC in responding to the needs and desires of NCFR members. The members-at-large help the committee send updates on the work of IDC via website postings, NCFR Report publications, and other effective venues of communication.

Annual Conference Program Chair-elect (2022–2023), Program Chair for 2024 Conference, Bellevue, Washington

The NCFR Conference Program Chair-elect is appointed by the NCFR Board of Directors. The Elections Council is interested in your suggestions for potential program chair appointees. Please feel free to suggest names along with your other nominations.

Again, please consider becoming involved in the leadership positions of our organization and what kind of involvement you can offer. Send nominations to Rosemary Johnson at rosemaryjohnson@ncfr.org. For additional information, please review our website, www.ncfr.org. **Deadline for nominations is January 31, 2021.** ✨



2020 NCFR Virtual Conference Preparations Leading Up to the Live Event

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

The first ever NCFR Virtual Annual Conference was a success! It was an amazing experience with fabulous sessions and networking opportunities. And it was a process to get to this place of success.

Diane Cushman, NCFR’s executive director, wrote about the decision to move to a virtual conference (see bit.ly/fall2020-exec-review) in light of COVID-19 in the fall 2020 issue of NCFR Report. I last wrote about the conference in the summer 2020 issue about the initial development of the conference program and how we were proceeding during unprecedented times (see bit.ly/summer2020-fsr).

In this article, I provide an update on how we moved the face-to-face conference to a virtual conference. It took a lot of planning

and redesigning of the conference with many daily decisions.

As many of you know, universities and the economy at large have been hit hard by the pandemic. We heard almost immediately

In addition to meetings not overlapping with academic sessions, many of the meetings were open to people regardless of conference registration.

about how university budgets were frozen, recruitments were suspended, faculty were put on required furloughs, and others experienced a loss of employment. People

were uncertain of flying or staying in hotels. Many across the world were (and still are) working from home, including the NCFR staff. We all knew this was going to have an impact on the conference. Many barriers emerged, and we knew we needed to reduce the barriers to participating in the conference while safeguarding the health of our members.

Conference Pricing

With such a hit on the economy, we wanted to minimize the conference registration cost as a barrier to attending the conference. We were able to create a “COVID Year” discount across all registration levels. The TCRM preconference registration was included in the full conference registration pricing this year. The early-bird registration rate was extended by 3 months into September. A conference registration and membership bundle was created that was cheaper than just registering for the conference as a nonmember. The NCFR Board of Directors also created the NCFR Student Access Grant to support students from historically marginalized racial or ethnic populations to attend the conference and obtain 1 year of free NCFR membership.

Conference Program Schedule

Many NCFR members are parents who are now integrating family with work unlike ever before (e.g., distance learning for children, not having access to child care or choosing to not send your children to child care), myself included. Many of you were unable to focus on the conference this year and needed to continue to engage in regular work and family responsibilities. Many of you are international members—or members who live across North America—and live in different time zones. Attendees needed more flexibility to participate in the conference. Combining these new realities with Zoom fatigue, we needed to reimagine a program schedule.

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helpful in informing prospective or current employers about the CFLE credential (<https://bit.ly/30AetZR>).

- They have incorporated activities shared by Deb Gentry, Ed.D., CFLE, former Academic Program Review liaison, such as:
 - Inviting someone from your area or state to talk face-to-face or virtually with students at a student organization meeting or classroom session about the value the credential has had to them. This is sometimes more meaningful than hearing such a message from a faculty member.
 - Having students develop a concise explanation (elevator speech) of the CFLE credential and why it could be helpful, and then having them practice it aloud as they might share it with a prospective internship site supervisor or future employer (or even a family member or friend).

- Setting aside bulletin board space for CFLE news and promotion, and featuring an area professional with the CFLE credential with a photo, info about their place of employment, and a testimonial about the value of the CFLE credential in his or her view.

This is just a sampling of efforts that CFLE boosters can do to have a positive impact on the number of graduates who go on to apply for the CFLE credential through the CFLE-approved program application process. In a future Directions column, I intend to interview the CFLE contact from the top five CFLE programs with the most graduates who have gone on to pursue the CFLE credential. I will share the secrets of their program’s success.

If you are interested in pursuing CFLE program approval, visit the NCFR website (CFLE-Approved Program Application) or contact the APR liaison Claire Kimberly, at APRLiaison@ncfr.org. ✨

With these new realities, several changes were made to the schedule:

- No meetings overlapped with the academic sessions.
 - Business meetings were scheduled the week prior to the conference week.
 - Section and focus group meetings were largely held after academic sessions from 4 to 5:15 p.m. CT.
 - Receptions were scheduled after all meetings at 6:30 p.m. CT.
- Academic sessions were limited to 3 days rather than 4 days (no Saturday sessions this year).
- The hours of academic sessions were condensed to between 10 a.m. CT and 3:45 p.m. CT.
- All sessions were recorded to watch on demand.
- Posters were available at the beginning of the conference week.

In addition to meetings not overlapping with academic sessions, many of the meetings were open to people regardless of conference registration. For example, all section and focus group meetings were open to their members, and the NCFR annual business meeting was open to all NCFR members.

We were also able to schedule an additional learning opportunity after the conference, NCFR Member Town Hall: Navigating the Future of Family Science, on Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020, (see ncfr.org/familyscience-townhall). We hope to schedule more events like this in 2021.

Live or Pre-recorded

Another direct result of our new realities is that presenters needed more flexibility in how they could present. Several new options became available through a virtual format.

- Sessions could be pre-recorded and provided on demand with live discussion during a scheduled time and asynchronous discussion throughout the conference. This was helpful for presenters and attendees living in other time zones or who had other obligations.
- Sessions could be presented live. This was particularly beneficial for our plenary sessions, invited sessions, and interactive sessions.

- Live sessions could be facilitated through Zoom Meeting and Zoom Webinars depending on the type of session. Zoom Meetings allowed smaller interactive sessions and workshops and Zoom Webinars worked well for our high-profile sessions with large audiences.
- The resource exchange and poster presentations were able to share files of their resources and record a brief presentation of their materials. There was also synchronous and asynchronous discussion available to meet everyone's needs.

Conference Platform

With the decision to move to a virtual conference, we had to learn how we could successfully plan a virtual conference. Many staff worked tirelessly researching the various elements of virtual conferences. One area that several staff spent the summer (and beyond) researching was possible virtual conference platforms. We reviewed several platforms and landed on Whova as our conference platform.

This platform provided us with many benefits. It allowed us to

- integrate with Zoom for our sessions—a bonus considering most people are familiar with Zoom;
- post recordings of sessions, resources, posters, and more before, during, and after the conference;
- provide a community area for attendees to interact and to create virtual meet-ups;
- have sponsorship and exhibit opportunities; and
- allow attendees to access conference session abstracts and recordings for 12 months following the conference.

Rewriting Conference Instructions

Once the conference platform was decided on, it was time to write all new conference and session-specific instructions. This entailed having many discussions, attending other conferences to learn about how virtual sessions were

conducted, and doing the research to learn best practices. We now have new presenter instructions, session-specific instructions (e.g., interactive papers, workshops, traditional papers, symposia, special sessions, posters, and plenary instructions), which include best practices for presenting virtually but can be applied to in-person conferences. The instruction also included how to record videos and create materials that are ADA compliant. We then had to develop a method for submitting all conference materials to staff to upload in the conference platform before the conference. Others spent time writing new instructions for how to access the conference and to attend a virtual conference.

The Future of the NCFR Conference

We have certainly learned a lot since March 2020 and throughout the conference. Will these changes influence the future of the NCFR conference? Very likely. We are living in historic times, and the changes made also present an opportunity for the future. "Necessity is the mother of invention," is a phrase that has come up repeatedly in NCFR staff and committee discussions this past year. It is hard to commit to specific changes without knowing the future of COVID-19 and how it will affect our lives, yet we look for possible silver linings in the changes we were forced to institute this year. Inevitably, though, the many things we have learned this year will allow us to reimagine future conferences too. Above all, we will continue to put the health and safety of all conference participants first. ✨



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Fatin Asnan, PhD student
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Felix Berardo Scholarship Award for Mentoring

Tammy Henderson

Tammy L. Henderson, Ph.D., CFLE, is the 2020 recipient of the Felix Berardo Scholarship Award, which is given to NCFR members for excellence in mentoring junior colleagues or students.

Dr. Henderson is a professor in the Department of Family Consumer Sciences at Lamar University. She received her doctorate from Oregon State University, and her master's and bachelor's degrees from Louisiana State University. Dr. Henderson conducts research in the area of family policy, law, and diversity. She is the author of numerous research reports, translational briefs, book chapters, and articles in scholarly journals.

Dr. Henderson is an established leader at NCFR and is the conference chair for the 2021 NCFR Annual Conference. She has served in many capacities including as chair of the Diversity Task Force, and as an elected member of the board, chair of the Family Policy Section, and member of the Elections Council. She has also served as a member of the editorial boards of *Journal of Family Theory & Review*, and *Family Relations*.

Dr. Henderson is recognized by her students and peers alike as being endlessly compassionate, caring, and resourceful and for always going the extra mile to mentor others, particularly women of color and

international students adjusting culturally to an American university environment. Dr.

Henderson has created monthly mentorship meetings that include students and professionals across the country, many of which never had her as a professor.

Felix Berardo, the namesake of this award, was a beloved professor at the University of Florida who went beyond expectations in his mentoring of many students who became leaders in the family field. ✨



Tammy L. Henderson

Margaret E. Arcus Outstanding Family Life Educator Award

Bridget Walsh

Bridget A. Walsh, Ph.D., CFLE, is the 2020 recipient of the Margaret E. Arcus Outstanding Family Life Educator Award, which recognizes NCFR member(s) who have made significant contributions to the field of Family Life Education through research, theory, publication, practice, program development, and/or training.

Dr. Walsh is an associate professor in the Human Development and Family Studies program at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she teaches courses on lifespan human development, research, and Family Life Education. She is passionate about conducting research on family involvement and engagement; home visiting; and vocabulary acquisition in the context of shared storybook reading. Dr. Walsh earned her doctorate in child development from Texas Woman's University, and her master's degree in experimental psychology from Villanova University. She is co-chair of the

NCFR Home Visiting Focus Group and a member of the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) Exam Committee.

Dr. Walsh has served tirelessly as ambassador to Family Life Education (FLE) and the CFLE credential both through her campus and on the national stage. She has presented at conferences, and through webinars and information sessions on FLE; written articles and book chapters; and even created a "CFLE Option" for graduate students at her university.

Margaret E. Arcus, the namesake of this award, made remarkable contributions to Family Life Education during her career. She helped create the NCFR Certified Family Life Education program, setting standards for the field. ✨



Bridget A. Walsh

Letters to the Editor

You may submit letters to the editor to *NCFR Report* on topics and activities relevant to NCFR member interests. The following guidelines apply:

- Only letters submitted by members will be accepted.
- Length is limited to 250 words; letters may be edited for space and clarity.
- Letters must be signed and include author contact information; submissions are verified.
- Letters that are deemed libelous, malicious, or otherwise inappropriate will not be published.

Email letters to the editor to:

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Feldman Outstanding Research Proposal for Research in Family Policy

Mary Anne Gunter

Mary Anne Gunter, M.S., LPC, LMFT, is the 2020 recipient of the Feldman Outstanding Research Proposal for Research in Family Policy Award, which recognizes a graduate student or new professional who has demonstrated excellence in research and potential contribution to family policy studies, particularly in the areas of gender/women's issues or poverty.

Ms. Gunter is a doctoral candidate at the University of Louisiana Monroe. Her dissertation topic is on ecosystemic issues surrounding trauma, self-efficacy, and exposure to rehabilitative programs, such as parenting support, education, and mental health counseling of incarcerated

mothers and their children. She earned her master's degree in marriage and family therapy from Harding University. Ms. Gunter is dually-licensed in the state of Arkansas as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and is a certified family trauma professional.

The award is presented in memory of Harold Feldman and Margaret Feldman, NCFR members and pioneers in the field of family policy. ✨



Mary Anne Gunter

Jessie Bernard Outstanding Research Proposal from a Feminist Perspective

Lauren Smithee

Lauren Smithee is the 2020 recipient of the Jessie Bernard Outstanding Research Proposal from a Feminist Perspective Award, which is given to a graduate student

or new professional who has demonstrated excellence in research and potential contribution to feminist scholarship. Her project is titled "Emotional Intimacy and Transition: Transgender-Cisgender Romantic Relationships."

Ms. Smithee is a doctoral candidate in the marriage and family therapy program in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at Virginia Tech. She is studying the experiences of transgender youth and their families and transgender adults in romantic partnerships. She seeks to better tailor mental health interventions for gender minority populations. She will use her experiences in the MFP to inform better systemic mental health treatment for gender minority populations and their family members.

This award is presented in memory of Jessie Bernard, former NCFR Board Member and pioneer in the field of feminist family studies. Jessie Bernard declared herself a feminist in 1970 and is known for her celebrated description of "his" and "her" marriages. She was a board member of the American Sociological Association, the Groves Conference on Marriage and Family, and NCFR. ✨



Lauren Smithee

John L. and Harriette P. McAdoo Dissertation Award

Azucena Verdin

Azucena (Suzie) Verdin, Ph.D., is the 2020 recipient of the John L. and Harriette P. McAdoo Dissertation Award, which provides support for the recipient to complete an approved doctoral dissertation with a focus on issues impacting ethnic minority families. Her paper is titled "Mothering While Brown: Latina Borderland Mothers' Experiences of Epistemic Injustice."

Dr. Verdin is a visiting assistant professor of child development/child life at Texas Woman's University and a postdoctoral research associate at the University of North Texas, where she conducts research on the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters. She earned her doctorate in human development and Family Science from the University of North Texas, and her Master of Education from Harvard University.

Dr. Verdin's research interests are to promote the well-being of historically vulnerable children and adults through strengths-based developmental and family research that reflects a lifespan approach to growth and resilience; to develop and apply critical methodologies to examine the contextual factors leading to educational disparities for racial and ethnic minority families.

John L. and Harriette P. McAdoo, the namesakes of this award, made significant contributions to the scholarship on ethnic minority families, especially our understanding of African Americans' familial experiences. ✨



Azucena Verdin

Ernest W. Burgess Award

Thomas N. Bradbury

Thomas N. Bradbury, Ph.D., is the 2020 recipient of the Ernest W. Burgess Award, which recognizes an NCFR member's outstanding scholarly achievement in the study of



Thomas N. Bradbury

families. The recipient is chosen in recognition of continuous and meritorious contributions to theory and research in the family field.

Dr. Bradbury is a distinguished professor of clinical psychology at UCLA. He earned his doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, and then moved directly into a faculty position in the Department of Psychology in 1990, where he advanced to tenure after four years, and became a full professor after another four years. Dr. Bradbury specializes in

Thomas Bradbury continued on page 19

Reuben Hill Award

Elma I. Lorenzo-Blanco, et al.

Elma I. Lorenzo-Blanco, Alan Meca, Brandy Piña-Watson, Byron L. Zamboanga, José Szapocznik, Miguel Ángel Cano, David Cordova, Jennifer B. Unger, Andrea Romero, Sabrina E. Des Rosiers, Daniel W. Soto, Juan A. Villamar, Monica Patarroyo, Karina M. Lizzi, and Seth J. Schwartz are the 2020 recipients of the Reuben Hill Award, which is given to the author(s) of an outstanding article or book that combines theory and methodology to analyze and interpret a significant family issue.

Their article is titled "Longitudinal Trajectories of Family Functioning Among Recent Immigrant Adolescents and Parents: Links With Adolescent and Parent Cultural Stress, Emotional Well-Being, and Behavioral Health." It was published in *Child Development* in 2019.

The review committee found the study's combination of a longitudinal design and the Family Stress Model applied to parent-adolescent dyads of recent Latino immigrants, made its conclusions about family functioning particularly robust.

First author Elma I. Lorenzo-Blanco, Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the Department of Human



Elma I. Lorenzo-Blanco

Development and Family Sciences at the University of Texas at Austin. She earned her doctorate in clinical psychology & women's studies at the University of Michigan. Dr. Lorenzo-Blanco's research investigates how issues related to culture, ethnicity, gender, family, and media come together to influence the health and well-being of Latino(a) youth and families in the U.S. and Latin American countries.

The award is given in memory of Reuben Hill, who had a distinguished career as a university professor and pioneered the scholarly study of family. Dr. Hill is remembered for his determination to promote high-quality research and advance theory about families with the intent of producing practical benefits for families. ✨

Ruth Hathaway Jewson Award

Farin Bakhtiari

Farin Bakhtiari, M.A., is the 2020 recipient of the Ruth Hathaway Jewson Award, which funds the best dissertation proposal submitted by a doctoral candidate in Family Science. Her research is titled "Alcohol use among Latina/o adolescents: The role of immigration, family, and peer stressors" and has received federal funding from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Ms. Bakhtiari is a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin in Human

Development and Family Sciences, and a predoctoral fellow at the National Institutes of Health. She earned her master's degree in general experimental psychology and bachelor's in psychology at California State University Northridge. Ms. Bakhtiari's research interests focus on neighborhood, family, peer, and school climate in relation to substance use, academics, and well-being of children, adolescents, and emerging adults, particularly those from immigrant and under-represented families.

Ruth Hathaway Jewson, the namesake of this award, was NCFR's second executive director. While working full-time at NCFR, she earned her master's and doctorate degrees, writing her dissertation in the 1970s on what was at the time a small group: "The Retired Professional Woman." ✨



Farin Bakhtiari

NCFR Student Award

Anna Olsavsky

Anna L. Olsavsky, Ph.D., is the 2020 recipient of the NCFR Student Award, which is given to an NCFR graduate student member who has demonstrated excellence as a student and shows great potential for contributing to Family Science.

Dr. Olsavsky is a postdoctoral researcher at Nationwide Children's Hospital. She graduated in 2020 with NCFR Student Honors, earning her doctorate in Human Development and Family Science at Ohio State University, where she also earned her Master of Science. She earned her bachelor's degree at Central Michigan University (CMU) and served as the president of the university's NCFR student affiliate.

Dr. Olsavsky began her impressive career in family research as an undergrad at CMU as a coauthor on research and presented her results at conferences including at NCFR and the Society for Research in Child Development. Since that time, she has only continued to impress her professors and fellow colleagues and as so far published six peer reviewed articles (four as the first author) in scholarly journals and two book chapters (one as first author).

Dr. Olsavsky has earned admiration on the work of her dissertation which focuses on a newer assessment of attachment that applies it to interpersonal relationships from a Family Science perspective. Her innovative approach which includes fathers, along with

mothers and other potential caregivers, will have far reaching implications for family researchers and practitioners.



Anna L. Olsavsky

In his letter of recommendation, Dr. Theodore Waters writes that Dr. Olsavsky's work "signals the emergence of a highly productive and efficient scholar." He goes on to write that the approach of her dissertation "has the potential to elevate attachment research and Family Science to another level and should, in my mind, become the new standard in the field." ✨

Jessie Bernard Outstanding Contribution to Feminist Scholarship Paper

Veronica Barrios

Veronica Regina Barrios, Ph.D., is the 2020 recipient of the Jessie Bernard Outstanding Contribution to Feminist Scholarship Paper, which is given to a graduate student or new professional who has demonstrated excellence in research and potential contribution to feminist scholarship. Her paper is titled "Future Directions in Intimate Partner Violence Research: An Intersectionality Framework for Analyzing Women's Processes for Leaving Abusive Relationships."

Dr. Barrios is an assistant professor in the Department of Family Science and Social Work at Miami University. She earned her doctorate in Family Science and human

development at Montclair State University and her master's degree in forensic psychology and counseling at the College of Saint Elizabeth. Dr. Barrios is certified in program evaluation and is a co-chair of the NCFR Latino(a) Research Focus Group.

Her primary scholarly work focuses on understanding and exposing the culture of nondisclosure of sexual violence. Dr. Barrios works with survivors of sexual violence and clinical practitioners to develop clinical tools that facilitate disclosure of sexual violence and elucidates family dynamics and socially mandated rules involved in silencing practices. Her secondary research area revolves around Latinx families and

the educational experiences of Latinx students.

This award is presented in memory of

Jessie Bernard, former NCFR Board Member and pioneer in the field of feminist family studies. Jessie Bernard declared herself a feminist in 1970 and is known for her celebrated description of "his" and "her" marriages. She was a board member of the American Sociological Association, the Groves Conference on Marriage and Family, and NCFR. ✨



Veronica Barrios

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Member Group Committee Awards

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Social Justice Award for Contributions to Family Science

Anthony G. James, Ph.D., CFLE, Miami University

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CFLE Special Recognition Award

Heylene Ingrid Frederick, Ph.D., CFLE, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2020 Affiliate Councils Recipients

Affiliate Grant Awards

Montclair State University

NCFR Affiliate Councils Award for Meritorious Service

Maureen Blankemeyer, Ph.D., CFLE, Kent State University

2020 Section Award Recipients

Advancing Family Science Section

Wesley Burr Graduate Student Scholarship Award

Amanda Capannola, M.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Wesley Burr Student Scholarship Award Undergraduate

Sydney Cohee, Towson University
 "Promoting Success and Reducing Barriers to Learning in Family Studies Classrooms: Evidence-Based Implications for Classroom Practice"

Emerging Mentor/Teacher Award

Anthony Ferraro, Ph.D., CFLE, Kansas State University

Education and Enrichment Section

Student Proposal Award

Emily Charvat, M.S., University of Missouri
 "Improvements in Relationship Satisfaction and Coparenting Quality Following Relationship Education: Examining the Spillover Hypothesis Among Step-couples and Non-Step-couples"

Families and Health Section

Outstanding Professional Paper/Publications Award

Antoinette Marie Landor, Ph.D., University of Missouri

"Skin-Tone Trauma: Historical and Contemporary Influences on the Health and Interpersonal Outcomes of African Americans"

Outstanding Student and New Professional Paper Award

Christine E. McCall, M.S., Purdue University
 "A part of our family? Effects of psychiatric service dogs on quality of life and relationship functioning in military-connected couples"

Outstanding Ph.D./NP Poster Award

Darcy Sullivan, M.A., University of Kansas
 "Women With Disabilities: Attitudes, Desires, and Intentions Regarding Children"

Outstanding Undergrad/Masters Student Poster Award

Theresa Schinkowitch, B.S., University of Wisconsin-Madison
 "Girls vs. Boys with Autism: Differences in the Parent-Child Relationship Quality"

Excellence in Professional/Clinical Practice Award

Tai Mendenhall, Ph.D., LMFT, University of Minnesota

Family Policy Section

Feldman Internship Award

Elizabeth C. Coppola, M.S., Purdue University

Feldman Best Conference Proposal Award

Kathryn Cherry, M.A., and **Emily Gerstein, Ph.D.**, University of Missouri-Saint Louis

"Children's Early Emotion Regulation: Do Changes in Maternal Socioeconomic Risk Matter?"

Family Therapy Section

Best Research Paper Award – Student

Emily Charvat, M.S., University of Missouri
 "Stress and Couple Relationship Satisfaction: Fondness as an adaptive process"

Best Research Paper Award – New Professional

Taimyr Strachan-Louidor, Ph.D., University of West Georgia Counseling Center

"Predictors of anxiety and depression in African American Emerging Adults"

Feminism and Family Studies Section

Alexis Walker - Lifetime Achievement in Feminist Family Studies

Anisa M. Zvonkovic, Ph.D., East Carolina University

International Section

Jan Trost Award

Yan Ruth Xia, Ph.D., CFLE, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section

New Professional Best Paper Award

Joy R. Lile, Ph.D., Washington State University

"Tofa Saili: Findings From a Community-Based Research Partnership to Support Pacific Islander Students and Families"

Student Best Paper Award

TeKisha M. Rice, Ph.D., CFLE, and **Jacqueline Lee**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

"That's Not My Narrative": How African Americans' Evade and Reject Negative Stereotypes About Black Relational and Family Functioning

Religion, Spirituality, and Family Section

Outstanding Paper Award

■ **Group 1: Tommy M. Phillips, Ph.D.**, Mississippi State University; Coauthors: Loren Marks, Ellie Kimball, Mary Allison Page, Brandan Wheeler, Michael Goodman, Trevan Hatch, Jennifer Smith, and Sterling Wall

"Family Home Evening: Challenges and Benefits"

■ **Group 2: Michael Goodman, Ph.D.**, Brigham Young University; coauthors: Justin Dyer, Mikel Cressman, Anjelica Jerez, Kelsey Johnson, Emily Purtschert, and Joseph Sheen

"LGBTQ Adolescent Suicidality: Religious Salience and Family Flexibility"

Student and New Professional Outstanding Paper Award

Woosang Hwang, Ph.D., Joonsik Yoon, Merrill Silverstein, and Maria Brown, Syracuse University

“Multidimensional Typology of Religiosity in Three Generations”

Research & Theory Section

Best Abstract by a Student and New Professional Award

Renée Wilkins-Clark, M.S., CFLE, Kansas State University

“Meaning Making and Sibling Closeness Among Emerging Adults”

2020 Focus Group Awards

Family Financial Well-Being Focus Group

Best Student Paper Award

Ashley LeBaron, M.S., University of Arizona
“Feminism and Couple Finance: Power as a Mediator Between Financial Processes and Relationship Outcomes”

Best Family Financial Well-Being Paper of the Year Paper

Jennifer Rea, Ph.D., Sharon Danes, Ph.D., Joyce Serido, Ph.D., Lynne Borden, Ph.D., University of Minnesota; and **Soyeon Shim, Ph.D.,** University of Wisconsin
“Being Able to Support Yourself: Young Adults’ Meaning of Financial Well-Being Through Family Financial Socialization”

Issues in Aging Focus Group

Issues in Aging Focus Group Award – Students and New Professionals

■ **Kaitlin Roselius, M.S., Julie Tippens, Kara Kohel, Irene Padasas, Gulie Khalaf, and Izdihar (Vian) Sheikh,** University of Nebraska–Lincoln
“Older Adult Yazidi Refugee Women’s Coping and Resilience in the Midwest U.S.”

■ **Nusroon Fatiha, M.A., and Tai Mendenhall, Ph.D.,** University of Minnesota
“Diabetes Management and Family Support For Older Population: A Systematic Review”

Issues in Aging Focus Group Award – Professional

■ **Jacqueline Gahagan, Ph.D.,** Dalhousie University; **Áine M. Humble, Ph.D.,** Mount St. Vincent University;

Marco Redden, Ph.D., Mount St. Vincent University; **Erin S. Lavender-Stott, Ph.D.,** South Dakota State; **Steffany Sloan, Ph.D.,** University of Missouri; **J. Kale Monk, Ph.D.,** University of Missouri; **TeKisha M. Rice, Ph.D., Brian G. Ogolsky, Ph.D.,** and **Ramona Faith Oswald, Ph.D.,** University of Illinois
“SPECIAL SESSION: Still Here, Still Queer: Qualitative Research on LGBTQ Aging Symposium”

■ **Kandauda Wickrama, Ph.D., Tae Kyoung Lee, Ph.D., and Catherine O’Neal, Ph.D.,** University of Georgia
“Couple BMI Trajectory Patterns During Mid-Later Years: Socioeconomic Stratification and Later-Life Physical Health Outcomes”

Men in Families Focus Group

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

Daniel J. Laxman, Ph.D., Utah State University

“Predictors of Attrition and Attendance in a Fatherhood Education Program”

Men in Families Focus Group – Best Research Article Award

Abigail H. Gewirtz, Ph.D., University of Minnesota

“Effects of the After Deployment: Adaptive Parenting Tools (ADAPT) intervention on fathers and their children: A moderated mediation model”

Men in Families Focus Group – Diversity and Inclusion Research Article Award

Todd M. Jensen, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“A Typology of Interactional Patterns Between Youth and Their Stepfathers: Associations with Family Relationship Quality and Youth Well-Being”

Military Families and Children Focus Group

Military Families and Children Focus Group – Outstanding SNP Proposal Award

Meredith Farnsworth, University of Georgia

“Military Stressors, Parent-Adolescent Relationship Quality, and Adolescent Adjustment”

Military Families and Children Focus Group – Outstanding Professional Proposal Award

Leanne Knobloch, Ph.D., University of Illinois

“Suspicion About a Partner’s Deception and Trust as Roots of Relational Uncertainty During the Post-Deployment Transition”

Qualitative Family Research Network Focus Group

Anselm Strauss Award for Qualitative Family Research

Áine M. Humble, Ph.D., CFLE, Mount Saint Vincent University, and M. Elise Radina, Ph.D., CFLE, Miami University
“How Qualitative Data Analysis Happens: Moving Beyond ‘Themes Emerged’” ✨

Thomas Bradbury continued from page 15

using interviews and in-home observations to examine how intimate relationships develop and change.

The recipient of the American Psychology Association’s Distinguished Early Career Award, Dr. Bradbury has published more than 200 research articles to scholarly journals, edited books including *The Psychology of Marriage* and *The Developmental Course of Marital Dysfunction*, and co-authored books including *Intimate Relationships*. He served as associate editor for *Journal of Family Psychology* and has been an editorial board member of numerous scholarly journals including *Journal of Marriage and Family* and *Family Relations*.

Dr. Bradbury’s publications have been widely cited. His most highly-cited empirical work, “Neuroticism, marital interaction, and the trajectory of marital satisfaction and observed couple communication,” has been cited 955 times. The first author on this paper, NCFR member Benjamin R. Karney, was Dr. Bradbury’s graduate student at the time. This paper received the Reuben Hill Award from NCFR in 1997, an honor Dr. Bradbury has received a total of three times.

Ernest W. Burgess, the namesake of this award, cofounded NCFR and was the organization’s fourth president. He was a pioneer in his contributions to marriage and family research. ✨

Research and Theory Section Update

Anthony G. James Jr., Ph.D., CLFE, Section Chair-elect, anthony.g.james@miamioh.edu; and Yolanda T. Mitchell, Ph.D., Section Chair, yolanda.mitchell@unt.edu

Dr. Thomas Bradbury receives Ernest W. Burgess Award

It is with great pleasure that we announce Thomas N. Bradbury, Ph.D., as the winner of the Ernest W. Burgess Award. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement during the course of a career in the study of families. The recipient of this award is chosen in recognition of continuous and meritorious contributions to theory and research in the family field. Dr. Bradbury gave the Burgess Award Address at the 2020

NCFR Annual Conference on Friday, Nov. 13. Those who registered for the conference can watch his Burgess Award Address (session #301) on demand for 12 months following the conference. Go to bit.ly/ncfr2020app and search in the agenda.

Renee Wilkins-Clark, M.S. receives Best Abstract by a Student/New Professional Award

Renee Wilkins-Clark, M.S. received the 2020 Research and Theory Section's Best Abstract

by a Student/New Professional Award for her paper entitled "Meaning Making and Sibling Closeness among Emerging Adults." Her outstanding paper was authored with Melinda S. Markham, Emily Koochel, Jessie L. Piper, and Sarah Emanuels. Those who registered for the 2020 conference can access Ms. Wilkins-Clark's presentation (session #232-03) for 12 months following the conference. Go to bit.ly/ncfr2020app and search in the agenda. ✨

Ushering in New REDF Leadership

The Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families (REDF) Section would like to recognize our section's leadership by acknowledging outgoing officers and welcome incoming officers. We want to thank the outgoing leadership for all the time and energy they have spent over these past 2 years ensuring our sections visibility among the membership. These past few months have been difficult on all of us for various reasons, but together we have adapted and continue to be resilient. We know that this section serves as a homecoming for many members and allows them to be fully and authentically themselves in such a diverse organization.

Outgoing Officers

- Yolanda Mitchell, Ph.D., Chair
- Anthony James, Jr., Ph.D., CFLE, Chair-Elect
- Lorena Aceves, Ph.D., Communications Specialist
- Shardé Smith, Ph.D., Secretary/Treasurer
- Jeneé Duncan, Ph.D., CFLE, Students and New Professionals Representative
- Sarai Coba-Rodriguez, Ph.D., CFLE, Students and New Professionals Representative

- Roudi Roy, Ph.D., CFLE, Past Chair

Thanks for your service to our section members and the profession.

Incoming Officers

Anthony James, Jr., Ph.D., CFLE, Chair

Anthony James Jr. is an associate professor in the Department of Family Science and Social Work, director of the Family Science program, and interim vice president for institutional diversity at Miami University. His scholarly work uses an interdisciplinary approach to understanding social interactions and human development, with an expertise in positive youth development, religion and spirituality, diverse family systems, family processes, and program evaluation. Dr. James is also the incoming editor-in-chief of *Marriage & Family Review*.

Shardé Smith, Ph.D., Chair Elect

Shardé Smith is an assistant professor of HDFS at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Smith is finding ways to contribute to the reduction of mental health disparities for African Americans. She does this by examining racism, social support, and

mental health in the family context. She also investigates the barriers to, and facilitators of, mental health treatment among African American youth and their families.

Sarai Coba-Rodriguez, Ph.D., CFLE, Secretary/Treasurer

Sarai Coba-Rodriguez is an assistant professor of educational psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Coba-Rodriguez's research focuses on school readiness and family involvement among low-income Latino and African American families and preschool teachers, including their beliefs and practices that promote young children's successful transition to kindergarten.

Ijeoma Opara, Ph.D., Students and New Professionals Representative

Ijeoma Opara is an assistant professor of social work at Stony Brook University (NY). Dr. Opara is also visiting faculty at Yale University School of Public Health in the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS. She is an expert on youth empowerment, community-based participatory research, youth substance use prevention research, and utilizing families in prevention work with

urban youth. Dr. Opara's program of research involves highlighting racial and gender health disparities and investigating social, familial, and cultural protective factors for substance use, HIV/AIDS, and STI prevention among adolescents.

Lorena Aceves, Ph.D., Students and New Professionals Representative

Lorena Aceves is an AAAS/SRCD federal policy postdoctoral fellow at the Office of Head Start at Administration for Children and Families. Dr. Aceves's research seeks to understand how family, culture, and individual domains come together to influence Latinx youth's academic experiences and long-term educational attainment. Her goal is to use developmental, family, and education research to inform the implementation of programs and policies that target the success of Latinx students.

Sadguna Anasuri, Ph.D., CFLE, Communications Specialist

Sadguna Anasuri is an associate professor



From left: Sarai Coba-Rodriguez, Jeneé Duncan, Lorena Aceves, Anthony James, Shardé Smith, Roudi Roy, and Yolanda Mitchell

and coordinator of HDFS at Alabama A&M University. Dr. Anasuri's research has focused on diversity among children and families, resilience across the life span, impact of media on families, grandparents raising grandchildren, childhood poverty, distance

learning and teaching methods, childhood obesity, and trends in human development.

Yolanda Mitchell, Ph.D., Past Chair

Yolanda Mitchell is an assistant professor of educational psychology and coordinator of the family policy and program administration program at the University of North Texas. Dr. Mitchell's research centers on the impact of race and racism among Black families with expertise in mixed race identity development and monoracial parent racial socialization of mixed-race children through a lens of critical multiracial theory.

To the incoming leadership, we have some huge shoes to fill. Let's be courageous and caring in our decision making and continue to do the work to help section members self-actualize as individuals and professionals. We acknowledge both the great gains that have been made as a result of past leadership, and fully accept the responsibility of work that still remains. ✨

In solidarity,
Yolanda Mitchell, REDF Chair
Anthony James Jr., REDF Chair-Elect
Roudi Roy, REDF Past-Chair

**NCFR Student Access Grant Donor as of Sept. 30, 2020.*

Thank You, NCFR Donors

July to September 2020

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Families and Health Section Update

Kimberly Greder, Ph.D., CFLE, CFCS, Section Chair, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Iowa State University, kgreder@iastate.edu

The Families and Health (FH) Section had a great presence at the 2020 NCFR Annual Conference, with 117 submitted and 85 accepted proposals, and a special session focused on promoting health and resilience through expanding our understanding of individuals with disabilities. Among the accepted proposals were one workshop, six symposia, 12 papers, six interactive papers, and 60 posters. The FH Section's invited presenter symposia focused on a review of family gerontology research, theory and methodology, mental health and well-being of grandfamilies, and social determinants of health and obesity across the life span.

Olson Grant Recipients continued from page 1

has found that children with incarcerated parents experience risk for behavior problems, health and mental health concerns, poor family relationships, and academic difficulties, and incarcerated parents experience risk for recidivism. Dr. Poehlmann-Tynan and her colleagues have also discovered that few interventions exist for children with incarcerated parents, and even fewer have been empirically investigated.

Given these issues, the primary goals of the EVM are: (1) to improve child well-being and increase secure attachments, (2) to increase reflective functioning in parents and caregivers through visit coaching so that they are better able to understand the child's visit experiences and point of view and (3) to attain more balanced family cohesion and flexibility through improved family communication. There is great interest in the EVM among incarcerated parents and their families and among corrections facilities, especially now when in-person visits have been eliminated because of COVID-19.

In their decision, the selection committee praised the recipients for "undertaking an intervention project designed to address the

At the FH Section meeting, the following section awards and their recipients were recognized:

- The inaugural Excellence in Professional/Clinical Practice Award: Dr. Tai Mendenhall, associate professor, Department of Family Social Science, University of Minnesota
- Outstanding Student/New Professional Paper Award: Christine E. McCall, M.S., graduate student, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University
- Outstanding Professional Paper Award: Antoinette Landor, associate professor, Department of Human Development and

Family Science, University of Missouri

In a future newsletter, recipients of the poster awards will be announced.

Thank you to those of you who submitted papers and posters for awards, as well as those of you who reviewed proposal abstracts for the conference. Make sure to start planning now for the proposals you would like to submit to the FH Section for the 2021 NCFR Annual Conference.

Free 1-year trial section memberships have been extended to individuals who came to the FH Section meeting and were not previously FH section members. ✨

challenges of mass incarceration for parents and their children."The committee went on to note, "The study will focus on building family strengths within a vulnerable population – a value of both NCFR and Dr. Olson's work. We believe this research study will be successful in journal submissions, conference presentations, and future citations."

Dr. Poehlmann-Tynan and her colleagues will

present findings of the intervention at the 2021 NCFR Annual Conference, scheduled to take place in Baltimore, Maryland.

The NCFR Olson Grant will accept proposals again in 2021 with an application deadline of March 31, 2021. Find complete details about the grant, eligibility criteria, and application process and requirements at ncfr.org/ncfr-olson-grant. ✨

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.

Congratulations to Our New Certified Family Life Educators

The following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs) designated between July 1 and September 30, 2020. Provisional otherwise noted.

July

Ingrid Fernandez Arguelles
 Michaela Benoit
 Cicely W. Brantley FULL
 Miranda Brister
 Tanisha Butler
 Elyse Christian
 Anna Elizabeth Colby
 Shauntia Lashay Cook
 Traci Day
 Savannah Findley
 Sarah Marie Gebert
 Lynn M. Gilbert FULL
 Destiny Nijay Henry
 Jamye Hunter
 Diana Lynn Lang FULL
 Cristina Lopez
 Caitlyn Leigh Mayer
 Stephanie Melendez

Moreen Meng
 Hana Gabriella Mukadam
 Peter Ndiang'ui FULL
 Rachel Beth Nordfelt
 Kianah Pena FULL
 Caroline Noel Pipes
 Kesan Gilana Clara Samuel
 LaRonda Kay Savoy
 Kaitlynn Ivie Skinner
 Annalise Katherine Dyer Steele
 KaSondra D. Toney

August

Brittany Aguilar FULL
 Lindsey Louise Almond FULL
 Khyla Barnes
 Nicholette Driggs FULL
 Kendall Leigh Graves
 Elizabeth Blair Harison
 Nia Ladelia Jones

Kwangman Ko
 Katie F. Laubender
 Shaylie Ledbetter
 Carlee Elizabeth Leonhardt
 Heather A. Love
 Amanda Mitby
 Jennifer Neal
 Marisa Pollastrini
 Brenda Rodriguez
 Joy Rodriguez FULL
 Kirsten L. Sample
 Ashley M. Sehr FULL
 Shannon M. Warren
 Robin Machele Watts FULL
 Thowana Weeks
 Jennifer Zorotovich FULL

September

Danielle Albertina FULL
 Stephanie E. Birmingham
 Dawn Michelle Bouton
 MaKenna Jo Cabe
 Mackenzie Carroll

Hannah C. Clark
 Mitchell Douglas Cochran
 Elizabeth M. Elliott FULL
 Birney Joshua Fish FULL
 Aariyana Green
 Becky Grelle
 Josiah Harmes
 Charlene Harris FULL
 Autumn Nicole Hollingsworth
 Kori Ann Kidder
 Anna Jane Talbert Kuhn
 Emily Milius
 Kimberly Huhn Murphy
 Lisa Thi Nguyen FULL
 QueenElla R. Pringle FULL
 Hannah Zane Radloff
 Olivia Pauline Raff
 Cassandra Marie Rebeor
 Leslie C. Sanford
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Free Resources From NCFR: Career Options in Family Science

Explore how Family Scientists make a meaningful impact through diverse careers in practice, research, policy, teaching, and more:

Careers in Family Science Booklet

Features numerous career options at each level of academic degree, plus profiles of 18 Family Scientists in a variety of careers: ncfr.org/careers-booklet

Careers in Family Science Infographic

A quick visual snapshot of the many career settings and roles you can pursue in Family Science. Share digitally or print as a poster: ncfr.org/careers-infographic

Webcast: Preparing Bachelor's and Master's Students to Advance Their Careers in Family Science

A webcast for faculty and students of strategies for finding career opportunities, marketing your Family Science degree, and gaining knowledge and skills to be competitive in today's job market. Presented by Erica Jordan, Ph.D., CFLE. Watch at ncfr.org/careers-webcast





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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2021 NCFR Annual Conference

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National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) 2021 Annual Conference

Wed.–Sat., Nov. 3–6, 2021 (*preconference workshops Tues., Nov. 2*)

Baltimore, Maryland | Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel

Proposal Submission Deadline:
11:59 p.m. PST
March 1, 2021

Program Chair:
Tammy L. Henderson, Ph.D.
Professor, CFLE, Consultant,
Lamar University



Conference Theme

The Science of Families: Nurturing Hope, Happiness, & Health