

## CFRN Highlights

- > Over 90 faculty members from 19 departments currently comprise the network.
- > Over 20 community members and organizations are part of the network
- > CFRN has an up-to-date event calendar of campus events relevant to the network.

## What is CFRN?

The **Child and Family Research Network (CFRN)** is a group of faculty members and researchers from the UNCG community whose scholarship and teaching reflects a core concern for the welfare of children and families. The goal of the Network is to facilitate collaboration among these

faculty and other individuals interested in children and families, and to enhance scholarship, teaching, and service within the local, regional, national and international community.

**Visit CFRN's Website at:**

**<http://CFRN.UNCG.EDU>**

## Adolescent Risk Conference—January 29 & 30



CFRN held a two day working conference on Adolescent Risk on January 29th and 30th at the Elliott University Center. Entitled "Translating Biobehavioral Models of Adolescent Risk to Prevention Science: From Development to Implementation", CFRN brought together ten experts in their respective fields of Adolescent Research. The conference took an interdisciplinary perspective on the problem of adolescent risk behavior, both in terms of the formal presentation by the guest speakers and by the involvement of faculty from participating institutions representing a wide range of disciplines and perspectives.

The first day of the conference focused on biobehavioral models representing

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human and animal biological and genetic research with direct implications for psychopathology and substance use. On the second day, working sessions were led by experts in prevention/intervention work. Participating faculty brainstormed with session leaders to critique models of risk, discussed viable evidence-based programs, and suggested ways of overcoming barriers to development and deployment of such programs.

The conference drew faculty and graduate students from UNCG, Wake Forest, Duke, Chapel Hill and Virginia Tech. Representatives from several Guilford County non-profit organizations were on campus for the event. One of CFRN's goals is to facilitate interdisciplinary research on and off campus and to build collaborations that will enable faculty to address some of the larger issues facing children and families in the community.

## Want to Join CFRN?

Visit our website:  
[CFRN.UNCG.EDU](http://CFRN.UNCG.EDU)

**Follow links to:**

**Join CFRN**

## CFRN—Co-Sponsored Events

During the 2008-2009 academic year, CFRN co-sponsored several campus activities.

### 2008-2009 CFRN co-sponsored events:

**February 14:** SOE Access and Equity Conference, “The Evolving Meaning of Diversity: Access, Equity And Activism in the New Century” (School of Education) Sullivan Science Building

**March 23:** Dr. Alba Ortiz, “The Education of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities; Historical and Contemporary perspectives.” Curry Building

**April 6:** Dr. Silvia Koller, “Ecological Engagement: A methodological approach to work with at-risk population.” 186 Stone

**April 7:** Dr. Silvia Koller, “Violence within families and communities: from precursors to prevention” Nussbaum Room, Greensboro Public Library

### Are you hosting a Campus Event?

Send us a flyer. We'll put it on the CFRN event calendar and email your flyer to our CFRN Members.

### Need support for a campus event?

Contact CFRN at:

CFRN@uncg.edu

## GCS Chief of Staff, Nora Carr attends CFRN Lunch in February



Each month CFRN sponsors lunch at the Elliott University Center. CFRN lunches are open to faculty researchers.

In February, Nora Carr, Chief of Staff with

Guilford County Schools attended the CFRN lunch. She spoke to the CFRN members about building a mutual beneficial relationship between UNCG researchers and the Guilford County Schools.

Several CFRN members spoke about their experience working with students and teachers at the local schools. Several suggestions were made to offer tutoring or other activities that would benefit the classroom teacher as well as the students.

CFRN's fall lunch schedule will be available this summer.

## Grad Students

Each semester, CFRN compiles a list of courses relevant to the interdisciplinary training of graduate students from departments across campus. Check out the Graduate Course listing from the CFRN home page. Contact the department to sign up for classes.

### GRADUATE DIRECTORS:

We are compiling a course listing for the Fall 2009 semester. Go to [cfrn.uncg.edu](http://cfrn.uncg.edu) and follow the link to Graduate Courses. Complete the online form to update the Graduate course database.

## Researcher Highlight - Lauren Haldeman



Dr. Lauren Haldeman's research interests are in the design of theory-based nutrition interventions for low-income families. She has a strong interest in focusing on the effects of food insecurity and health beliefs, attitudes, and barriers on eating behaviors and dietary quality as well as examining health disparities among minority groups.

She has received funding from the USDA Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program, Southern Rural Development Center and the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program to carry out her research.

Additionally, Dr. Haldeman collaborates with a multidisciplinary group of faculty researchers representing Economics, Public Health Education, Human Development and Family Studies and the Center for New North Carolinians as well as community agencies.

Dr. Haldeman's current research includes:

- Development of nutrition interventions and materials for low income Latinos and African American caretakers of young children
- Evaluation of recent changes in Universal Free and Eligibility-Based School Breakfast Programs in Guilford County, North Carolina.

Contact Dr. Haldeman:

Stone 313  
(336)256-0311  
[lahaldem@uncg.edu](mailto:lahaldem@uncg.edu)

## Researcher Highlight - Chris Ruhm



Dr. Chris Ruhm has served on the faculty at UNCG since 1991 and as the Jefferson-Pilot Excellence Professor of Economics since 1997. Dr. Ruhm is also a Research Associate in the Health Economics, Health Care Policy, and Children's Programs of the National Bureau of Economic Research and a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor and the Employee Benefits Research Institute.

Dr. Ruhm has conducted extensive research on the determinants of health and risky behaviors, effects of job displacements and mandated employment benefits, transition into retirement, and the causes and the economic consequences of alcohol and illegal drug policies. .

Dr. Ruhm's current research includes:

- *Work Family Policies and Child and Family Wellbeing:* Investigating how government work-family policies affect mothers' and fathers' decisions about work in the labor market, care arrangements for their children, and child and family well-being.

- *Obesity:* In particular examining trends in the prevalence of severe and extreme obesity for both youths and adults .
- *Early Childcare and School Outcomes:* Analysis through the fifth grade with particular attention to the interaction between early child care experiences and the classroom environments in which the children are placed.

Contact Dr. Ruhm:

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## 2009—CFRN Spring Lecture Dr. Silvia Koller



Dr. Silvia Koller is a Professor and Chair of the Center for Psychological Studies on At-Risk Children, Youth, and Families in the Institute of Psychology at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil. Dr. Koller conducts her research on the well-being of children and youth in Brazil, but

her expertise and reputation extends far beyond Brazil. Her work has been funded by the Kellogg Foundation, the World Childhood Foundation, the World Bank, and by major funding agencies in Brazil.

Dr. Koller visited UNCG as part of the International Visiting Scholar program sponsored by the School of Human Environmental Sciences. She spent several days on campus meeting with students and professors, attending classes and giving presentations both on and off campus. On April 6th in the Stone Building, she gave a presentation entitled, “Ecological Engagement: A

methodological approach to work with at-risk populations”.

On the evening of April 7th, CFRN’s Spring Lecture was held at the Nussbaum Room in the Central Greensboro Public Library. Dr. Koller’s presentation focused on violence within families and communities. Students, faculty and community members attended this very informative and enlightening discussion.

For more information about Dr. Koller’s research, email her at: [silvia.koller@pq.cnpq.br](mailto:silvia.koller@pq.cnpq.br)

## Guilford County Schools Liaison Committee



CFRN has formed a Guilford County Schools (GCS) liaison committee to facilitate communication between Guilford County Schools and UNCG researchers. Julie

Mendez, Cheryl Buehler, Shelly Brown-Jeffy and Julia Jackson-Newsom will meet over the next few months with the goal of coordinating research efforts between UNCG and GCS.

If you are currently doing research in any of the Guilford County Schools, CFRN is compiling a database of researchers who are currently working in the school district. Please let us know by emailing: [cfrn@uncg.edu](mailto:cfrn@uncg.edu)

## CFRN Executive Committee

Contact the CFRN Executive Committee with ideas, information, questions or suggestions.

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