



CFRN Fall Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

CFRN Highlights

- > Over 70 faculty members from 19 departments currently comprise the network.
- > CFRN has a database of current courses for training graduate students
- > CFRN has an up-to-date event calendar of campus events relevant to the network.
- > Search the CFRN database for current research projects or member's interests and expertise.

What is CFRN?

The UNCG Child and Family Research Network was recently launched by the University as a vehicle for facilitating interdisciplinary research on children and families. Faculty from diverse disciplines, including education, nursing, psychology, sociology, social work, and biology, are working together to address issues and problems that impact children and families locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Network provides resources to support faculty scholarship and provides opportunities for faculty to share ideas and collaborate.

Faculty are involved in addressing issues such as teen parenting, family policy, child and adolescent health, and immigrant families.

CFRN has targeted adolescent risky behavior, including drug and alcohol use, delinquency, and risky sexual behavior, as one set of problems that has a significant impact on the community and is hosting several activities over the coming year to highlight UNCG's work in this area.

The Network is also actively working to establish partnerships with various agencies in Greensboro to help solve some of the more challenging problems facing children and families in our community.

CFRN WEBSITE:

<http://cfrn.uncg.edu>

Want to Join CFRN?

Visit our website:

CFRN.UNCG.EDU

Following links to:

Join CFRN

Adolescent Risk Conference—January 29 & 30

CFRN is sponsoring an interdisciplinary working conference titled "Translating Biobehavioral Models of Adolescent Risk to Prevention Science: From Development to Implementation." The two-day conference is aimed at exploring basic genetic, biological, and behavioral models of adolescent psychopathology and substance abuse in the hope of generating ideas for developing and implementing unique approaches to prevention and intervention efforts. Speakers representing diverse disciplines and approaches to these

problems will present their research on Day 1 (speakers include Laurence Steinberg, David Reiss, Linda Spear, Betty J. Casey, Bruce McEwen and Terrie Moffitt); Day 2 will be a working session devoted to intervention and prevention (discussion leaders include Daniel Romer, Andrea Hussong, Rob Turrisi, Kenneth Dodge, Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, and Jane Costello)

For more information and to register visit the CFRN web-site
<http://cfrn.uncg.edu>

CFRN—Co-Sponsored Events

During the 2007-2008 academic year, CFRN co-sponsored several campus activities.

2007-2008 CFRN co-sponsored events:

October: Stephanie Coontz, “Courting Trouble? The Historical Transformation of Marriage, Love and Family Life” (Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Department of History, the School of Human Environmental Sciences – Office of the Dean, the Graduate School)

February: SOE Access and Equity conference, “The Evolving Meaning of Diversity: Access, Equity And Activism in the New Century” (School of Education)

April: Carol Trivette, “How to identify evidence based practices” (Department of Specialized Education Services and School of Education)

April: Nicki Crick, “Childhood Aggression and Gender: Boys will be boys, but what about girls?” (Department of Psychology)

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

CFRN Lunches



CFRN sponsors monthly lunches in the Kirkland Room of the Elliott University Center. CFRN lunches are open to faculty researchers. Topics change monthly and guest speakers are often invited.

Join us for lunch this year in the Kirkland Room at the EUC—11:30—1:00 pm.

Tuesday, September 16
Thursday, October 23
Thursday, November 20
Tuesday, February 17
Thursday, March 19
Wednesday, April 15

Grad Students

Refer to the CFRN event calendar for a list of all relevant campus events at CFRN@UNCG.EDU.

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.

Are you a Graduate Director?

We are compiling a course listing for the Spring 2009 semester. Go to cfrn.uncg.edu and follow the link to Graduate Courses. Complete the online form to update the Graduate course database.

Researcher Highlight - Stuart Marcovitch



Dr. Stuart Marcovitch studies cognitive development, particularly the conscious control of behavior in childhood and across the lifespan. Dr. Marcovitch currently

holds an RO3 Award from NICHD. The DUCK (Development and Understanding of Children's Knowledge) lab is co-directed by Dr. Marcovitch and Dr. Janet Boseovski.

At the DUCK lab, Dr. Marcovitch and Dr. Boseovski conduct studies of cognitive and social development in infants and children, as well as in preschools and local schools. Their research provides basic developmental processes and these findings have important implications for educational policies and programs that are aimed

at improving children's lives.

Dr. Marcovitch is also a co-investigator in the NICHD funded Cognition, Affect, and Psychophysiology (CAP) Project, and the NICHD funded School Transitions and Academic Readiness (STAR) Project.

Contact Dr. Marcovitch:

Eberhart 277
(336) 256-0020
s_marcov@uncg.edu

Researcher Highlight - Tracy Nichols



Dr. Nichols' interests are focused on women's health and development across the lifespan; investigating ways in which biological and social transitions interact with daily health practices and perceptions. Dr. Nichols is primarily interested in the design, development, evaluation and refinement of gender-responsive health promotion programs for women and girls. The most exciting and relevant intervention strategies to her work are those that can be implemented during critical transition points (i.e. puberty, pregnancy/postpartum periods, perimenopause/menopause) within a woman's lifespan, thereby making

health behavior change more salient; and programs that address significant relationship elements, such as mother-daughter bonding.

Dr. Nichols is committed to the promotion of research that includes the intersectionality of gender, race and class; the meaningful inclusion of women's concerns in all aspects of health-related research and program development; increasing the scientific dialogue on the meaning of gender differences and its importance in research; as well as promoting solutions and interventions that encompass a holistic view of wellness and that are salient to the social contexts in which women live.

Dr. Nichols is currently involved with three projects:

BRIGHT (Building Relationships Involves Growing Healthy Together). The purpose of this study is to understand the experiences and perceptions of urban mother-daughter dyads in order to develop

effective and meaningful family-based health promotion interventions.

Women's Ways, Women's Days:

This project examines the everyday experiences of mothers to understand how daily practices are experienced and understood by women in terms of health. This study examines the challenges that arise when caring for others while caring for one self and identifies the strategies that women employ to meet these challenges.

Good Fit (Promoting After-School Activity Among Urban Adolescents)

The aims of this mixed-method study are to refine and test a theoretical model of physical activity participation among urban adolescents and using adolescent participation, develop a gender responsive physical activity promotion program to be used in community organizations that serve multi-ethnic urban youth during the after-school hours.

Contact Dr. Nichols:
437 HHP Building
336-334-5389
trnico2@uncg.edu

2008—CFRN Spring Lecture Dr. Elizabeth J. Susman



In April, CFRN sponsored a public lecture featuring Dr. Elizabeth Susman. Dr. Susman is an internationally recognized expert on the biology of adolescent risk. She delivered a talk entitled “Risky Business: The Psychobiology of Adolescent Antisocial Behavior.” Dr. Susman argues that adolescent delinquency, violence, and drug use can best be understood by studying the way that biological changes of pu-

berty lead to changes in the way adolescents think and feel as they interact in changing peer and school environments. Dr. Susman’s lecture will be followed by a two-day Adolescent Risk working conference sponsored by CFRN to be held at UNCG (January 29th and 30th, 2009) on developing interventions for adolescents that incorporate biological theories of substance use and delinquency.

CFRN Interest Groups

To facilitate small group interaction around special topics, CFRN has formed several interest groups. Each group is headed up by a CFRN Member.

Our goal for the coming year will be to provide an opportunities for networking within the individual interest groups.

Feel free to contact these members for more information.

Welfare of Children (Adoption Issues, Foster Care, Policy Issues) - Chris Ruhm, cjruhm@uncg.edu, 334-5148.

Child/ Adolescent Health - Debbie West, dgwest@uncg.edu, 334-9842.

Adolescent Risk Tracy Nichols, trnicho2@uncg.edu, 256-5389.

International/Immigrant/Refugee Issues

Jon Tudge, jonathan_tudge@uncg.edu, 256-0131.

Early Childhood

Danielle Crosby, dacrosby@uncg.edu, 334-4671.

Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting

Marion O’Brien, m_obrien@uncg.edu, 256-0361.

2009—CFRN Spring Lecture—Silvia Helena Koller

CFRN’s Spring Lecture, which is open to the community, will feature Dr. Silvia Helena Koller. Dr. Koller is a Professor and Social Policy Agent and Chair of the Center for Psychological Studies on At-Risk Children, Youth, and Families in the Department of Psychology at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Dr. Koller will be visiting UNCG as part of the International Visit-

ing Scholar program sponsored by the School of Human Environmental Sciences. Dr. Koller is known for her research on the well being of the child and youth. Her expertise extends far beyond Brazil, and her work has been funded by the Kellogg Foundation, the World Childhood Foundation, the World Bank, and by major funding agencies in Brazil.

Find more information about this event on the CFRN website:

cfrn.uncg.edu

CFRN RESEARCH PROJECTS

CFRN compiled project information from all CFRN members in the fall of 2007. Those projects are in a database that can be searched on the website. Add new projects to the CFRN website by filling out the online form on the website. Follow links to CFRN Projects from the home page.