

GOOD NEWS

Friday, 4/3/2009

Every week we share with you all of the good things that are happening to HDFS faculty members, students, alumni, and friends. Please send us your **GOOD NEWS:**

Elite *Eight*, *seventh* place finish in the nation in wrestling, *six* weeks to go in the semester - the countdown to summer is near. We have plenty of other Good News to share...

Faculty Publications

Curator's Professor **Marilyn Coleman** and alumna Dr. **Shannon Weaver** of the University of Connecticut had a paper accepted for publication in the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*. Congratulations!

Weaver, S., & Coleman, M. (in press). Caught in the middle: Mothers in stepfamilies. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

Faculty Member Elected

Dr. **Christine Proulx** was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Research and Theory Section of the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). Congratulations, **Dr. Proulx!**

Diversity Lecturer Speaks During HES Week

Dr. Maria Kefalas, visiting sociologist from Saint Joseph's University, will give an open lecture on Monday, April 6th at 3:30 in Ellis Auditorium. Dr. Kefalas spent three years talking with low-income single mothers to learn how they think about marriage and family. Her work, published in the book *Promises I Can Keep*, presents an intimate perspective. A reception will follow in Gwynn Lounge at 5:00. For more information email doctoral student **Graham McCaulley** at gemwvd@mizzou.edu. This event is part of the **HDFS Diversity Lectureship Series** and is being brought to campus in part by Student Activity Fees. Thanks to **Graham** and **HDFS-GSA** for writing a proposal to pay for Dr. Kefalas' visit.

Also Next Week

On Wednesday, April 8th, at 12:00pm in Memorial Union S207, **Dr. Jean Ispa** will be the April presenter of the Diversity in Action: Bridging Research and Practice brown bag series. Dr. **Ispa** will be speaking on "Maternal Intrusiveness during Play with Toddlers and Young Children: Change across Time and Variations across Race/Acculturation Groups." There will be a 40-minute presentation followed by a Q&A session. This series of research-based presentations is designed to inform scholars, students, and practitioners of diversity-related research at Mizzou. Everyone is invited to attend.

Good Intentions Not Enough to Protect Older Women Who Live Alone, MU Researcher Finds

HDFS Affiliated faculty member Dr. **Eileen Porter** of the Sinclair School of Nursing was featured in a press release this week by MU. Here is the text of that press release by Emily Smith:

Older women who live alone are vulnerable to unwanted intrusions in their homes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Caregivers of older women often evaluate crime risk and home security, but fail to identify women's intentions to reduce intrusion risk. In a new study, a University of Missouri professor has found that in order to feel safe at home, older women need to recognize safety risks and perceive themselves as capable of preventing intrusions.

"Older women's intentions to ensure accessibility to their homes for family, friends, and neighbors can override their concerns about preventing intrusions," said **Eileen Porter**, professor in the Sinclair School of Nursing. "Health care providers need to engage older women in conversations about the risks they perceive and their intentions to reduce those risks."

Previously, researchers had not evaluated the use of intention as a component of home safety assessments. The findings of this study reveal the need for safety interventions to supplement basic safety tips, **Porter** said.

"To ensure that older people avoid victimization at home, health care providers often focus on providing recommendations such as locking the doors and installing security systems," **Porter** said. "However, it is not enough to ask if they are locking their doors, because the meaning of that term varies among people. Some women, who affirm that they are 'locking the door,' are locking their front door at night and during certain seasons of the year, but otherwise leaving front and back doors unlocked."

Older homebound women who express worry about intrusions can benefit from carrying a portable phone or subscribing to a personal emergency response system, **Porter** said. Women who own portable phones but do not carry them can benefit from conversations about why they choose not to carry phones and questions about how they would reach help quickly if potential situations arise.

"Caregivers and nurses should develop individualized safety interventions based on older women's intentions to protect themselves and reduce intrusion risks," **Porter** said. "Nurses should conduct multiple interviews and ask questions about safety perceptions, potential reasons for reaching help quickly and how to reach help immediately."

Porter interviewed 40 homebound women, ages 85 to 95 and living alone, about their perceptions of feeling safe at home and precautions to protect themselves. The women reported various intentions about reducing intrusion risk, perceived capabilities in intrusion situations, and frequency of carrying devices that enable them to reach help quickly. Their main intentions to reduce risks at home were keeping watch, keeping out of harm's way, preventing theft and vandalism, discouraging people who might want to get in, and keeping those people out. **Porter** says these issues are important to consider when developing assessment questions and safety interventions.

The study, "Reducing My Risk of Intrusion, An Intention of Old Homebound Women Living Alone," was published in October, 2008 in *Nursing Research*. The study, "Contemplating What I Would Do If Someone Got in My House, Intentions of Older Homebound Women Living Alone," was published in 2008 in *Advances in Nursing Science*. The studies were funded by a grant from the U.S. National Institutes of Health National Institute on Aging.

Spring Food Drive

The HDFS Department, led by our graduate student organizations and **Hailey Stout**, launched a spring food drive the week of March 6th that concluded on March 20th. During those 2 weeks we collected 500 pounds of food and \$1808 in donations. This is the equivalent of 36,660 pounds of food or more than 27,000 meals to needy Missouri Families. What an amazing effort on behalf of the students, faculty, CDL families, and the Center for Family Policy and Research. Congratulations to the Department and thanks to all who helped support the Central MO Food Bank! Kudos for **Hailey** and the other graduate students who organized this effort.

Quotable

Kim Allen was quoted in the April edition of Columbia Home and Lifestyle magazine. **Kim** spoke about the importance of education and what parents can do to help their children make healthy sexual choices in the article "Young Mothers Turning Plus Signs into Positives" by Nancy Yang. <http://www.columbiahl.com/2009/03/turning-plus-signs-into-positives/>

GOOD NEWS Friday, 4/10/2009

Every week we share with you all of the good things that are happening to HDFS faculty members, students, alumni, and friends. Please send us your **GOOD NEWS:**

Faculty Publications

Dr. **Marilyn Coleman** and doctoral student **Lynette Nickleberry** received news that their manuscript, "An evaluation of remarriage and stepfamily self-help literature," was accepted for publication in *Family Relations*. Congratulations!

Faculty, Student, and Alumni Presentations

Many HDFS folks presented last week at the biannual meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development in Colorado.

Cook, J. C., Rudy, D., & Beckmeyer, J. (2009, April). The moderating role of race in coparenting support: An examination of diverse families. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, Co.

Ispa, J. M., Csizmadia, A., Fine, M. A., Rudy, D., Krull, J., Bradley, R. H., & Cabrera, N. (2009, April). Longitudinal patterns of maternal intrusiveness during play with young children: Variations across cultural groups and associations with children's behavior toward mothers. In M. Davidov & **D. Rudy** (Chairs), Cultural differences and similarities in the effects of parenting on children: A search for underlying mechanisms. Symposium conducted at the meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.

Csizmadia, A., & Ispa, J. M. (2009, April). Biracial children's psychosocial development from kindergarten to 5th grade: Links to individual and contextual characteristics. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, Co.

Porter, N., & Ispa, J. M. (2009, April). A content analysis of Japanese and U.S. contemporary parenting magazines: What the experts are telling parents. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, Co.

Lambert, M.C., Mayfield, W.A., Thornburg, K. R., Hestenes, L., & Cassidy, D. J. (2009, April). Using IRT to evaluate the psychometric properties of the ECERS-R. In D. J. Cassidy (Chair), *Accountability in early childhood classrooms: The role of the ECERS-R*. Symposium conducted at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.

Dr. **Wayne Mayfield**, HDFS affiliated faculty member and senior researcher from the Center for Family Policy and Research, presented papers recently:

Mayfield, W. A., & Trumbower, E. (2009, March). *Impact of intentional instruction on phonological awareness development in preschoolers*. Presentation at the Early Reading First Program Conference, Seattle, WA.

Trumbower, E., & **Mayfield, W. A.** (2009, March). *Effective language/literacy practices with at-risk preschoolers*. Presentation at the annual Missouri Speech and Hearing Association Annual Meeting and Convention, Osage Beach, MO.

Locally, Posters in the Hall

As part of HES week, several graduate students and HDFS faculty presented posters along with those of other department in the halls of Gwynn and Stanley Halls. Those individuals will be recognized next week. Their posters were very cool.

Child Life Students on the Run

This past weekend, the **Child Life Student Association** participated in Mizzou's annual Relay for Life. The 13 team members (**Amber Amelung, Elizabeth Burkhalter, Kelley Carter, Bridget DeForest, Kathryn Holley, Katie Johnson, Anna Lorenz, Justine Marty, Melissa Moffitt, Kylie Noe, Katie Noll, Heidi Watkins, and Allison Wienke**) completed the 12 hour event, with the graduate students staying up until the closing ceremonies at 6:00 AM. Most importantly, the team raised \$400 to help support the American Cancer Society. Way to go, **Child Lifers!**

New Leadership in MU Council on Family Relations

Elected this week to leadership positions for next year for MUCFR were

President: **Claire Cook**

Vice President: **Tyler Jamison**

Secretary: **Ashlie Harris Lester**

Treasurer: **Linley Snyder**

Member Chair: **Tami Coon**

Social/Philanthropy Chair: **Rachel Gordon**

Undergraduate Representative: **Andrea Piel**

Faculty Advisor: Dr. **Marilyn Coleman**

Kefelas Lecture a Success

The Fourth Annual Diversity presented Dr. Maria Kefalas, Associate Professor of Sociology at Saint Joseph's University (Philadelphia), was a huge success. Her lecture was entitled, "Why do poor women put motherhood before marriage?" Over 200 students, faculty, and community members listened to her presentation. Dean **Stephen Jorgensen**, Dr. **Larry Ganong**, and Noel English of the Diversity Office offered welcoming comments prior to the lecture, which was part of HES week. The Diversity Lecture committee consisted of Dr. **Duane Rudy**, Dr. **Teresa Cooney**, **Graham McCaulley**, **Jonathon Beckmeyer**, **Ashlie Harris**, and **Claire Cook**. **Graham McCaulley**, with some help from his friends, secured a grant from the MU Student Services Organization that helped fund this lecture. Thanks to the committee and to **Graham** for this excellent lecture.

G'Die Mite (say it out loud)

Latanya Lewis will be leaving July 14, 2009 for six months of study in Australia. She will be participating in a Study Abroad program through the Council on International Educational Exchange. **Latanya** will enroll in two courses and will have an internship experience at Macquarie University. Safe travels, **Latanya!**

New HDFS Fellow

The Graduate School announced that incoming doctoral student **Greg Brooks** will receive a Huggins Fellowship. Congratulations and welcome to Mizzou, **Greg!**

GOOD NEWS

Friday, 4/17/2009

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Sorry for the delay in sending this missive - it was not for lack of good things happening - I blame the weather, my allergies, and computer problems on the road.

Faculty Publications

van Eeden-Moorefield, B., & Proulx, C. M. (2009). Doing feminist research on gay men in cyber-space. In S. A. Lloyd, A. Few, and K. R. Allen (Eds.), *Handbook of Feminist Family Studies* (p. 220-233). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

HES Week Posters

During HES week faculty and grad students were asked to share recent posters presented at national or international conferences. Here are the ones displayed by HDFS faculty, affiliated faculty, and graduate students. Nice work!

Chang, C., & Fine, M. (2009, April). Perceived social support, stress, and psychological well-being in low-income women.

Ispa, J. M., Csizmadia, A., Fine, M. A., Rudy, D., Krull, J., Bradley, R. H., & Cabrera, N. (2009, April). Longitudinal patterns of maternal intrusiveness during play with young children: Variations across cultural groups and associations with children's behavior toward mothers.

Coleman, M., & Nickleberry, L. (2009, April). An evaluation of remarriage and stepfamily self-help literature.

Jamison, T. (2009, April). "We're not living together:" Informal cohabitation in emerging adults.

Sharps, P., & Bullock, L. (2009, April). Coping among pregnant, rural low-income women facing intimate partner violence.

They are Devoted to Writing and Learning, They are Faculty Members, They are Being Honored

At 1:00 PM on May 1, 2009 at Conley House Dr. Jean Ispa and Marilyn Coleman will be among the faculty honored for having devoted 20 years and 20 semesters to Writing Intensive courses and to the WI program at MU. They will be recipients of the Campus Writing Program 20/20 Awards. These two distinguished faculty members were among the early adapters of WI, and Dr. Coleman created the Principles of Human Development lab experience to employ WI principles in large lecture courses. This course has been a mainstay of the department curriculum for at least 20 years.

(Baby) Milestones

Congratulations to Dr. Christine Proulx and her husband, Jamey Smith, who are expecting their first child in the fall. Finally, a chance to apply all of that HDFS training!

Speaking of applying HDFS-knowledge, alumna and doctoral student Jacqui Benson and her husband, Bill Reschke, became parents on Friday with the birth of Gweneviere Elise Benson-Reschke. GEB-R weighed 5 lbs 10 oz and was 20.5 inches long. Congratulations, Jacqui and Bill!

Elected

HES Dean and Professor of HDFS Stephen Jorgensen was elected Chair-Elect of the Great Plains IDEA, a consortium of 11 universities that have joined forces to offer several online graduate degrees. HDFS offers masters' degrees in Gerontology and Youth Development, as well as three certificate programs, as part of the Great Plains IDEA. Congratulations, Dean Jorgensen!

HDFS alumna Dr. Elizabeth Sharp was elected to be the Chair-Elect of the Feminism & Family Studies Section of the National Council on Family Relations. Congratulations, Elizabeth!

GOOD NEWS

Friday, 4/24/2009

Every week we share with you all of the good things that are happening to HDFS faculty members, students, alumni, and friends. Please send us your **GOOD NEWS:**

We might as well enjoy the heat wave as the school year winds down. There are two more weeks of classes if you are keeping track, and who is not? A lot of interesting good news follows.

Changes in HDFS Undergraduate Curriculum

The department will send out emails explaining a more simplified curriculum for family studies and human development students who are not majoring in child life or child development and education. The faculty worked hard to devise a curriculum with more flexibility, more choices, and that is easier to understand than the current degree sheets for HD and FS students. We even gave it a catchy new name, Family and Lifespan Development. Stay tuned, undergraduates.

MU Council on Family Relations Wins

MUCFR President **Hailey Stout** was informed last week that **MUCFR** won the 2009 Chancellor's Excellence Award for the Most Outstanding Small Organization! This award comes with a \$300 honorarium for the organization, which has been involved in many activities this year. Congratulations to **MUCFR** members! We are very proud of you!

Tyler Jamison Wins

Keeping alive what appears to be a tradition in HDFS, doctoral student **Tyler Jamison** won one of the two Donald K. Anderson Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards this week. This prestigious award goes to only one or two graduate teaching assistants each year for the entire campus (there are hundreds). **Tyler's** nomination packet had supporting letters from past undergraduate students she has taught in HDFS 1610, graduate student peers with whom she has worked, and the department co-chairs. In addition to a certificate, **Tyler** receives a nice check as an honorarium. **Tyler** is the third HDFS graduate student within the past decade to win this award (**Jason Hans** and **Scott Tobias** were the others). We also have had two Donald K. Anderson

Graduate Research Assistant Awards as well in recent years (**Adriana Umana-Taylor** and **Jason Hans**). Congratulations, **Tyler**! HDFS is very proud of you!

Tyler is also a good researcher – this week she was asked to review a manuscript in her research area for the *Journal of Family Issues*. Some journals have mentoring programs for new scholars to help them learn to review for journals, but **Tyler** was asked to review as a regular reviewer (not a reviewer-in-training). This means she is being recognized for her scholarly work. Congratulations, again, **Tyler**!

Making Lemonade out of Lemons; CDL Wins

CDL Director **Jessie Darko** writes, “This may seem small but to us it is a big deal. We had three dead trees cut down in our playground yesterday. They accidentally broke our tiny sandbox when a limb fell on the sandbox. Fortunately for us, the men agreed to find some material to build us a new sandbox. I figure the actual cost of the new sandbox, materials and labor to be close to \$2000 dollars. They did it for free! We had been planning to rebuild the sandbox and make it much bigger but now we can use that money for other playground improvements. It is fabulous and if you get a chance come by and check it out.” Too bad the trees did not crush some of the other playground equipment in need of repair – ah well, we celebrate what we can! Thanks for sharing this, **Jessie**, and thanks to the workmen!

There are Jobs!

Doctoral candidate **Scott Tobias** informs us that he accepted a position as the newest professor in the Family and Consumer Studies department at Kent State’s Stark Campus for this fall. Now, in his words, **Scott** “just has to finish off the last bit of the dissertation...” Congratulations, **Scott**!

Graduate Program Success

Curator's Professor Dr. **Marilyn Coleman** announced that we have at least 12 new graduate students that will be joining us in the Fall. Of these, 25% received MU Fellowships (all that we nominated received them), and 2 received HES Fellowships. That means that we have good students coming in and that **Dr. Coleman** and the faculty write good nomination letters ☺. Our on-campus graduate students are busy – they hold 28 teaching assistantships, 13 research assistantships, and 10 outreach/extension assistantships, in addition to going to school full-time. **Dr. Coleman** also informed us that this past year we have accepted 19 new part-time students through our online masters' degree programs in Gerontology and Youth Development.

Dr. Morrison Leads

The Campaign for U.S. Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is a national effort undertaken by the World Organization of Early Childhood (OMEP). **Dr. Johnetta Morrison** is the national secretary of OMEP and a leader in early childhood issues.

Another Consortium

HDFS is part of the **Great Plains IDEA**, an online education consortium of 11 universities (our online masters' degrees are part of the **Great Plains IDEA**). Department Co-chair **Jean Ispa** and **CDL** Director **Jessie Darko** are going to a meeting next month in Lincoln, NE., to establish a new consortium of university-based child development lab schools so that faculty may be aided in pooling their research efforts. This will be an exciting new development for HDFS.