

# Advisory Board Notes

April, 2005

## Presentations—

**Assistant Professor Fabienne Doucet** displayed her poster “Preparation for school? Young children’s everyday activities at home and in childcare in the United States, Brazil, and Kenya”. The poster was presented by her former advisor, Jonathan Trudge at the 2005 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA, on April 10.

**Assistant Professor Fabienne Doucet** presented “My ‘Academy’ is not good enough to go to college”: Racial and Ethnic Identities, Tracking, and the Academic Aspirations of Immigrant Youth”, at the American Educational Research Association’s annual meeting in Montreal, Canada, on Friday, April 15.

**Associate Professor Anita Garey** presented “Multi-Institution Team Approaches and Family Policies” at the Public Policies for working Families Mini-Conference, and she also presented “Doing Family in Family Court” at the Eastern Sociological Society’s annual meeting in Washington D.C., on March 18-20.

**Professor Sara Harkness and Dean Charles M. Super** represented the School at the Joint Meeting of the Society for Psychological Anthropology and the American Ethnological Society, which was held in San Diego, April 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting, Sara gave a presentation, which was in collaboration with Charlie, as well as **Giovanna Axia, Barbara Welles-Nystrom, Jesús Palacios and Olaf Zylicz**, and was entitled “Culture, Temperament, and the ‘difficult child’: An emic/etic approach to the study of parental cognition”.

The May 2005 graduating **Honors Scholars Erika Burke, Lauren Elizabeth Fogarty, Stephanie H. Parade, and Stephanie L. Stolzenbach** had their posters accepted for exhibition at Frontiers, the University-wide Undergraduate Research Poster Presentation sponsored by the UConn Office for Undergraduate Research on **April 15-16, 2005**.

**Beth Shoshana Russell, Doctoral Candidate** presented her oral defense, “Increasing Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness”, on April 15. The members of her Advising Team are **Major Advisor, Preston Britner, Ph.D.; Associate Advisors, Maureen T. Mulroy, Ph.D., and Charles M. Super, Ph.D.**

Diane Bengston (Class of 1977) and her husband Timothy have made a generous gift to the School to support the Bengston Family Scholarship for graduate study. This gift will enable the recipient to focus his or her energies on developing as a scholar and professional, and is an important contribution to our growing strength at the graduate level.

## Noteworthy—

**Associate Professor Preston Britner** was interviewed as a child welfare and attachment expert for a *Hartford Courant*, *Northeast Magazine* article on international adoption (January 23, 2005; Sujata Srinivasan; “For Adopted Children, Risks, and Hope”).

**Associate Professor Preston Britner** submitted testimony at a legislative hearing on March 22 at the State Capitol in support of Bill 6954, “An Act Concerning Early Childhood Research and Policy Partnerships”, which would establish an Early Childhood Research and Policy Partnership. The specific functions of the partnership, as outlined in the Bill, represent an important step forward for early childhood education, health promotion, and poverty reduction efforts in the state.



Britner has worked with multiple state agencies on data-sharing projects focused on topics like school readiness and supportive housing for families recovering from substance abuse.

The Early Childhood DataCONNECTIONS project, a partnership of the Child Health and Development Institute and the Department of Social Services, along with seven other state agencies, UConn, and others, among other tasks, has just completed a report: “*Putting Administrative Data to Work: A Toolkit for State Agencies on Advancing Data Integration and Data Sharing Efforts to Support Sound Policy and Program Development.*”

*Noteworthy-*

**Ronald Rohner, Director of the Ronald and Nancy Rohner Center for Parental Acceptance & Rejection**, has been invited to help organize the First International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection to be held in Istanbul, Turkey during the late Spring or early Summer of 2006. The Congress is being developed in recognition of the international contributions of the Rohner Center to research, outreach, and practice on the of issues of acceptance-rejection, especially parental acceptance and rejection.

**Professor Steven Wisensale** has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for the spring 2006 term. He will be based at Charles University in Prague, the Czech Republic, where he will teach and conduct research on comparative family policy and aging societies.

**Upcoming Events—**

The **Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development** presents its Spring 2005 Colloquium Series.

Speakers& dates:

- **4/21-** Lee Pachter, D.O.- “Effects of parenting styles, maternal depression, neighborhood and poverty on children of diverse ethnic groups”.

HDFS Honors Students Poster Exhibit & Reception- **HDFS students** who are graduating this year will present the results of their honors theses in a poster session. Everyone is invited to come and see what these students have been doing and talk to them about their work. Date: **Tuesday, April 19**. Time: **4:00 p.m.– 5:30 p.m.** Reception to follow **in the Deans’ Lounge**.

All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the oral defense “Children’s Creativity: European-American and Serbian Parents’ Perspectives”, presented by **Danijela Korom, Doctoral Candidate**. Date: **Monday, April 25**. Time: **1:00 p.m.– 3:00 p.m.- in the Deans’ Lounge**.

**“WE ALL SCREAM FOR...**

Come to the SFS Ice Cream Social.

Date: **Wednesday, April 27**. Time: **2:30 p.m.- in the Deans’ Lounge**.



**Registration is limited!**

The School of Family Studies **Alumni Society** invites you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Juvenile Justice Conference, “Leading Change: Rethinking Juvenile Justice”. Date: **Tuesday, May 10**. For more information contact [conferece.DCF@po.state.ct.us](mailto:conferece.DCF@po.state.ct.us).

**SFS Alumni Society** will have a meeting on **Wednesday, May 4 at the home of former president, Lorraine Wetherell**. Anyone interested in sending alumni news or questions about the Society, should send a message to Merrilyn Cummings, Corresponding Secretary, at [mercummi@nmsu.edu](mailto:mercummi@nmsu.edu).

**Recent Publications—**

**Britner, P. A., Marvin, R. S., & Pianta, R. C.** (2005). Development and preliminary validation of the caregiving behavior system: Association with child attachment classification in the preschool Strange Situation. *Attachment & Human Development*, 7(1), 83-102.

**Super, C. M.** (2005). The globalization of developmental psychology. In D. Pillemer & S. H. White (Eds.), *Developmental psychology and social change* (pp. 11-33). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Save The Date—**

- 4/19-** HDFS Honors Poster Exhibit
- 4/21-** CHHD Colloquium Series
- 4/27-** Ice Cream Social
- 5/4-** SFS Alumni Society Meeting
- Commencement Ceremonies-
  - 5/7-** Graduating Masters & doctoral Students
  - 5/8-** Undergraduate Students
- 5/10-** Juvenile Justice Conference
- 6/9-** SFS Annual Meeting/Dinner

Please submit any SFS “happenings” (interesting news, upcoming events, announcements, etc.) ASAP for next month’s issue of this newsletter.

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