

Family Studies Advisory Board Notes

January 2005

Rohner Center News-

The **Rohner Center** is currently involved with two ongoing projects. The first is a collaboration with a group of clinical psychologists from the United Kingdom who are implementing a therapeutic program in Kabul, Afghanistan. **Maureen Mulroy Ph.D.** and **Ruth Freeman** of the Connecticut Parenting Educators Network have formed an alliance with this group to provide resources on grief and trauma counseling.

The Center is also involved in a research project on intimate adult relationships at 14 sites around the world

Awards and Honors-

Lara Descartes Ph.D. has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Institute for Community Research in Hartford.

Thomas Blank Ph.D. was recently appointed to the Steering Committee for the Cancer Special Interest Group for the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

Presentations-

Lara Descartes Ph.D. presented "Ethnographic Observation in Family Research: Rewards, Challenges, and Issues of Identity" to the NCFR roundtable at the NCFR Orlando Conference in November.

Thomas **Blank** Ph.D. presented "Internet Newsgroups as Outlets for Information, Support, and Self-expression for Breast and Prostate Cancer Survivors" at the November meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in Washington D.C.

Monica Idzelis presented a poster entitled "Building Better Futures for Families: A Parenting and Family Life Training Program for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Programs" at the 2004 NCFR Extension Pre-Conference in Orlando.

Preston Britner Ph.D. presented "Promoting student engagement in the classroom" at the Lunchtime Seminar Series for the Institute for Teaching and Learning at the University of Connecticut.

Steven **Wisensale Ph.D.** was an invited panelist at the International Conference on Social Policy at Adelphi University on November 11. He presented his paper "Population Aging and the Emerging Intergenerational Equity Debate. in Europe". He also presented a paper on

pension reform in Europe, and a poster on applying the Family and Medical Leave Act to long-term care of the elderly at the Annual Conference of the Gerontological Society of America on November 10th in Washington, D.C.

Jeanne Chadwick Ph.D. presented the preliminary results of her dissertation data at a talk entitled "Integrating Mindfulness into Medicine, Health Care, and Society" at the International Mindfulness Conference for Clinicians, Researchers and Educators at the University of Massachusetts in March. In February, she will be presenting this data at Columbia University's International Conference on Contemplative Education, and will also be speaking to a Columbia University graduate seminar class about Mindfulness research.

Recent Publications-

Boylin, W.M., & Anderson, S.A. (in press). Responsibility versus contribution in family therapy of substance abuse and other disorders. Journal of Family Psychotherapy.

Alpert, L.T., & Britner, P.A. (2004). [Review of the book. *Child protection and mental health services: Interprofessional responses to the needs of mothers.*] *Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal*, 28 (12), 1345-1347.

Russell, B.S., & Britner, P.A. (2004). [Review of the book. *The Shaken Baby Syndrome: A multidisciplinary approach.*] *Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal*, 28(12), 1343-1344.

Miscellaneous-

Meg Galante Deangelis recently completed a position as Assistant Guest Curator at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, P .A. **In** this capacity, she helped research, design, and create an exhibit dedicated to the lives and roles of children during the Civil War. For more information on this exhibit, visit the Museum's website at www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org.

The photographic talents of **Preston Britner Ph.D.** can be seen in the recently released UConn Alumni Life Member Calendar for 2005. Two of his photos are present.

George Washington University Men's Basketball Head Coach **Karl Hobbs** was recently the cover story subject in The Hartford Courant's December 14th "Courtside" section. GW beat Michigan State and Maryland to earn Top 25 National Rankings.