

UNIVERSITY-BASED CHILD AND FAMILY POLICY CONSORTIUM

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Introducing the Initiative for Evidence-Based Early Childhood Policy and Practice

A new project to connect Consortium resources and expertise to state early learning departments.

The University-Based Child and Family Policy Consortium is excited to begin work on its Initiative for Evidence-Based Early Childhood Policy and Practice. This initiative stems from the growing recognition of the need for comprehensive data systems to track children's development in early childhood and beyond. The Consortium will strive to help states as they build, improve, and expand their early childhood efforts such as the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge and multiple others.

The Consortium plans to provide high quality, high impact expert guidance to the data infrastructure work underway and to bring strategic support to state early learning endeavors.

The collective experience and expertise of Consortium members are crucial to the success of this initiative. Key goals include supporting existing collaboration and generating new interaction among early childhood scientists and policy experts across the country. Support for both is needed from Consortium members as the initiative moves forward.

If you have questions, comments, or would like to become more involved in moving forward with the Initiative for Evidence-Based Early Childhood Policy and Practice, please contact Consortium Director [Jenni Owen](#).

Save the Date: 2012 Council on Contemporary Families Conference

Co-Sponsored by the Consortium

The Consortium is collaborating with the Council on Contemporary Families (CCF) on CCF's 7th annual conference. Scheduled for April 27-28 in Chicago, this conference will provide Consortium members with an exciting opportunity to come together to meet and interact with other members of the Consortium.

The conference theme is "Crossing Boundaries: Public and Private Roles in Assuring Child Well-Being." It will be a small conference with numerous opportunities to network with other scholars who conduct policy-relevant research and to engage in thought-provoking dialogue about new research findings.

The conference program and registration information are available and the call for papers for the poster session is open until March 30th.

Highlights of the conference include:

* Sessions with engaging panelists and audience discussion including several representatives from Consortium member institutions (including Jill Korbin and Jim Spilsbury from the Schubert Center for Child Studies at Case Western Reserve University; Joel Rosch from the Center for Child and Family Policy at Duke University, Bob Goerge and Cheryl Smithgall from Chapin Hall, John Eckenrode from the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research at Cornell University, and Duncan Lindsey from the Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities at UCLA).

* An evening reception at the Jane Addams Hull House museum will feature a keynote address by Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University on "The Politics of Racial Disparities in Child Welfare."

* A keynote address by Vivian Tseng, Vice President for Programs at the William T Grant Foundation, about the process through which research evidence informs policy and practice affecting youth.

*CCF experts will run workshops to help you build your skills in interacting with media and policy audiences.

* Opportunities to attract media attention to your work through CCF's Unconventional Wisdom series, which is

disseminated to the media shortly before the conference and through opportunities to share new research in a refereed poster session.

* Consortium member centers and programs who cover the costs of sending one or more of their faculty, staff or students to the conference will be listed in the conference materials as sponsors. Please contact [Rachel Gordon](#) if you are interested in doing so.

CCF is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to providing the press and public with the latest research and best-practice findings about North American families. CCF's members include demographers, economists, family therapists, historians, political scientists, psychologists, social workers, sociologists, as well as other family social scientists and practitioners.

The Consortium/CCF collaboration capitalizes on the overlapping goals and some joint members between the organizations. The collaboration also provides an opportunity for the Consortium to both support and benefit from CCF's annual conference simultaneous with an opportunity for Consortium members to convene in person.

If you have questions about the conference, please visit the [conference website](#), or contact [Rachel Gordon](#).

Interest Group Updates

New Careers Interest Group Leadership

Stephanie Curenton (Rutgers University) was granted a sabbatical beginning December 2011, thus she is stepping down from her position as the Careers co-chair. Consortium Steering Committee member Anna Johnson (Georgetown University) has assumed the co-chair role joining ongoing co-chair Sara Benning (University of Minnesota). The Careers Interest Group and the Consortium overall greatly appreciate Stephanie's service and welcomes Anna!

Erin Bumgarner Awarded Dissertation Grant

In October, Careers Group Intern [Erin Bumgarner](#) received the [Child Care Research Scholars dissertation grant](#) from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). This grant will support Erin in completing her dissertation at Columbia University, where she will examine how early care arrangements, and the languages spoken within them, impact the school readiness of Latino children. *Congratulations, Erin!*

Calendar

Starting this month, the Consortium is moving from monthly conference calls for every interest group to once-a-month all-Consortium calls, each of which will feature one or more interest group focus areas (research, engagement, and careers). This new arrangement will allow for more participation and more interaction among members.

Upcoming monthly calls:

Friday, January 20: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. (EDT)

- Speaker: Neal Horen, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development

Monday, February 20: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. (EDT)

- Speaker to be announced

Friday, March 16: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. (EDT)

- Speaker to be announced

To join one or more Consortium interest groups and to receive information about the monthly calls, please contact Shannon Smith: shannon.smith@duke.edu or (919) 613-9303.

Resources

Grants & Fellowships

Science and Practice for Effective Children's Services (SPECS): Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

In the context of a post-doctoral research fellowship in the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine/Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC), candidates are sought for a program that specializes in translational research at the university and community (efficacy-effectiveness) interface. The program trains clinical-researchers in the skills necessary to design and conduct treatment dissemination/implementation trials in "real-world" settings. For more information, please click [here](#).

American Psychological Foundation: Esther Katz Rosen Graduate Student Fellowship

The Esther Katz Rosen program funds one-year graduate fellowships of up to \$25,000 for work in giftedness of children. This program was established in 1974 for the advancement and application of knowledge related to gifted and talented children and adolescents. The Rosen fellowship supports graduate students whose work centers on the psychological understanding of gifted and talented children and adolescents. The program's goals are to advance the understanding of gifted children for the ultimate purpose of enabling and enhancing development of their talents and to encourage promising graduate students to conduct research in this area.

See the official announcement on the [APA website](#).
Applications must be submitted by March 1, 2012.

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Invites Applications for Dissertation Fellowships in Education

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation created its dissertation fellowship program in 2010 to advance its understanding of the factors and contexts that help low-income students overcome personal adversity and challenging socioeconomic circumstances to excel academically. The foundation plans to use this knowledge to design programs and interventions that help more low-income students identified as high-achieving in their primary and secondary school years to sustain their achievement levels through college and beyond.

The fellowships are intended to support doctoral students for work done after the successful defense of their dissertation proposals. Although applicants must be candidates for a doctoral degree at a graduate school in the United States, they need not be U.S. citizens. Applications are encouraged from a variety of disciplines, including but not limited to education, sociology, economics, psychology, statistics, and psychometrics.

The fellowship is a one-time award of up to \$25,000, which may be used for a period of not less than nine months and up to eighteen months. Four fellowships will be awarded.

Complete program information and the application form are available at the [Cooke Foundation Web site](#).

Call for Submissions

The Journal of Pediatric Psychology is seeking submissions for its Special Issue on Innovative Treatment and Prevention Programs for Pediatric Overweight and Obesity
This issue aims to highlight innovative approaches to the

treatment or prevention of pediatric overweight and obesity. A broad range of research methodologies will be considered for the special issue, and regardless of methodology, a premium will be placed on the manuscript's demonstration of innovation. For more information, please click [here](#). *The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2012.*

Conference

National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies' National Child Care Policy Symposium

March 6-10, 2012, Washington, DC

"Child Care and Education: Unequal Opportunities"

The National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) will be hosting their annual symposium in Washington, DC this March. This year's meeting will focus on the unequal opportunities in child care and education, and include sessions on research and advocacy, professional development of early childhood workers, and a preliminary session involving presentations from states awarded funds from the Race to the Top Early Learning competition. Registration for the symposium is now open on the [NACCRRA website](#).

Upcoming Newsletters

We are always looking for Consortium news, resource information, and other relevant material to highlight in the newsletter. Please send suggestions to [Emily Smith](#).

The Consortium is a national, interdisciplinary member organization of university-based child and family policy research centers, institutes, and programs.



This is a periodic newsletter of the Consortium.

We welcome your feedback and submissions for inclusion in future issues.

