

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Members of the Consumer and Family Sciences Community  
Faculty Partners of the Center for Families

From: Shelley M. MacDermid, Director of the Center for Families

Date: March 24, 2008

Regarding: Opportunities for faculty and graduate students in the Center for Families

The Center for Families is an organization within the College of Consumer and Family Sciences that works to improve the quality of life for families in Indiana, the Midwest, and beyond. The center targets its efforts toward four audiences, helping them to work more effectively with families: Extension educators and specialists, human service professionals, employers, and policymakers. The purpose of this memo is to invite you to become involved in the work of the center.

Founded in 1994, the Center for Families at Purdue University stands as a concrete reminder that families, in all their diverse forms, are the foundation of society. With research, education, and outreach, the Center for Families at Purdue University strengthens services provided to families. Specifically, the Center for Families:

- Conducts and translates research on families and children with implications for policy or practice into lay language.
- Increases access to research-based information relevant to families, family service providers, and policymakers through the use of mass media and technology.
- Is a visible information resource statewide and nationally on policies and practices concerning families and children for the Extension specialists and educators, social service providers, policymakers, employers, and the media.
- Increases and enhances collaborations among academics, practitioners, policymakers, corporations, and community advocates regarding the role of families and children in society.
- Advocates for the use of research to inform family policies and practices.
- Promotes the study of families and children from a cross-disciplinary, life course perspective.

Visit the center's Web site at [www.cfs.purdue.edu/cff](http://www.cfs.purdue.edu/cff) to learn more about the work of the center.

Faculty in the College of Consumer and Family Sciences, faculty partners of the Center for Families, and students from departments across campus are eligible to apply for these opportunities; I hope that you will consider taking advantage of them. Please contact me if you have any questions ([shelley@purdue.edu](mailto:shelley@purdue.edu)).



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY

### Faculty Fellowships

We anticipate awarding up to two faculty fellowships to support pilot research for proposals for external funding that will be affiliated with the Center for Families. Up to \$20,000 will be provided for each Kontos or Hancock fellowship. Specific programs are described below.

#### *Research Enhancement Awards*

The purpose of the research enhancement awards is to support student training and involvement in research. Up to three awards of \$2,000 will be given to investigators to fund graduate student travel to research or training opportunities, or to provide stipends for undergraduate members of research teams. Projects receiving research enhancement awards must be affiliated with the Center for Families, either at original submission or amended prior to disbursement of funds. Principal investigators of funded projects must be or become faculty partners of the Center for Families.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

### Van Scoyoc Fellowship

Outstanding graduate students are invited to apply for this fellowship. The recipient will engage in a program of scholarly activity, of his or her own design, that is related to the quality of life for children and families. A faculty member must supervise the work. This is a summer position carrying a stipend of \$500 per month for two months. The fellowship will be awarded based on the quality of the student's academic accomplishments and the fit of their work with the mission and ongoing work of the Center for Families.

### Graduate Internship: Family Policy (590 credit)

The Center for Families presents annual Family Impact Seminars to Indiana policymakers. These seminars educate state legislators about the implications for families of policy issues they are considering. Up to two interns will help to plan and execute the annual meeting of the advisory committee, assist in maintaining relationships among the organizations that collaborate to offer the seminars, publicize the seminars, help to plan and implement the upcoming seminar, and conduct library research on family policy. Available beginning summer semester.

### Graduate and Undergraduate Internships: Research with Families (390 and 590 credit)

Students who are interested in hands-on experience conducting research with families and/or children are invited to apply for research internships. Several large projects affiliated with the center are in the process of gathering, entering, and analyzing a variety of types of data. It may be possible for student interns to access data from these projects for honors projects, theses, or dissertations. These internships are available in any semester.

## ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Eligible applicants for faculty opportunities include faculty with graduate faculty status in research or clinical lines. **Preference will be given to faculty partners of the Center for Families, faculty who have not previously received Center for Families funding, and to proposals that will lead to external funding affiliated with the Center for Families.**
- **Proposals for the Kontos and Hancock fellowships must be accompanied by a COEUS (or whatever the new name is ☺) budget**
- Eligible applicants for student opportunities include junior or senior undergraduates (for research internships) or graduate students (for all other student opportunities) who are in good standing in degree programs.
- Applications for the Van Scoyoc fellowship must include a letter of support from a faculty member who agrees to supervise the fellowship work. A report summarizing the work completed during the fellowship

must be submitted by September 1, 2008.

- Proposals supporting the preparation of applications for external funding must specify the prospective funder and the anticipated date of submission of the application. When the external proposal is submitted, the transmittal sheet must indicate affiliation with the Center for Families.
- All publications or products completed with Center for Families support should acknowledge that support.

**Center for Families at Purdue University  
2008-09  
APPLICATION FORM**

**Applicant:**

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**Address, phone number, and e-mail:**

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**Project title:**

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**What resource(s) are you applying for?**

- i Van Scoyoc Fellowship (please include a letter from a faculty member indicating willingness to supervise the fellowship work)
- i Internship: Family Research (indicate whether 390 or 590 credit is desired)
- i Internship: Family Policy (590 credit only)

**For each resource you are requesting, please attach a memo no longer than three double-spaced pages in which you:**

- **Identify the resource you are requesting and how it will be allocated (i.e., if you are asking for money, how much and how will it be spent).**
- **Explain what you plan to accomplish using the resource (e.g., what work will you complete).**
- **Explain how the work you plan will help the Center for Families and its audiences.**
- **Summarize your qualifications — explain why you should be chosen as the recipient.**

**IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR A GRANT, A FELLOWSHIP, OR AN  
INTERNSHIP, PLEASE ATTACH A VITAE AND (IF YOU ARE A STUDENT) AN  
UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT TO YOUR APPLICATION.  
AWARDS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY MAY 15.**

**SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ELECTRONICALLY BY APRIL 25 TO:**

**SHELLEY MACDERMID  
shelley@purdue.edu**