

## DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SCIENCES

# Family Times

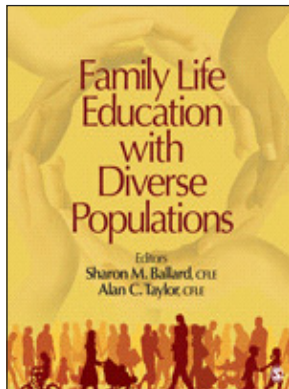
JANUARY 2012 • VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 1



## Faculty Publications

**F**amily studies faculty member Dr. Nerissa Gillum published the article “Review of research on Black families who formally adopted Black children” in *Families in Society*, and co-authored the article “Cognitions of Black mothers who adopted Black children from the public foster care system” in *Adoption Quarterly*, both in 2011.

Also in family studies, Dr. Shann Hwa (Abraham) Hwang published the book chapter “Family Life Education with Asian Immigrant Families” in *Family Life Education with Diverse Populations*.



## Department Recognitions

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) has awarded our department four certificates for our Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) program offerings. The programs recognized were:

- Child Development (undergraduate)
- Child Development (graduate)
- Family Studies (undergraduate)
- Family Studies (graduate)

TWU is the only university in the nation to receive this many awards for CFLE program participation from NCFR.



***Classes begin January 17th  
Have a great semester!***

## Programs:

- Child Development / Early Childhood Education
- Counseling and Development
- Family Studies / Family and Consumer Sciences
- Family Therapy
- Family Sciences Center: Counseling and Family Therapy Clinic

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Articles are presented without bias to individuals but are presented by faculty/staff, former students and current students. Faculty articles are presented by scholarship (books and articles by publication date), teaching, service and professional development.

*Our mission is to provide quality academic education in the scientific study of family, thereby stimulating students' intellectual curiosity; developing their research and leadership skills and their personal and civic responsibilities; and promoting diversity and respect for multiple family forms.*

## Seminar Day Update

This past August we again hosted Graduate Seminar Day featuring keynote speaker Dr. Amanda Martin, TWU family therapy graduate. This event ushered in a few big changes including the addition of undergraduate students, student poster displays and a decision to offer this event for the fall and spring semesters only.



**Dr. Joyce Armstrong facilitates seminar day**

Because of the inclusion of undergraduates, we feel the event name should be reflective of that, so we will now call this event simply "Seminar Day".

Six students presented their research at Seminar Day, including Perry Green, YoLanda Sanders, Jennifer Hooks, Felicia Murray, Hilary Hernandez and Chia Jung Yeh. Poster presentations were provided by students Kit Herrington and Juana Lotfipour.



**Juana Lotfipour stands in front of her poster**

Other sessions included "APA and Scholarly Writing", "Grad School 101", "Professionalism and Grant Writing", as well as professional

network opportunities and a session on taking online courses.



**Kit Herrington stands beside her poster display**

The next Seminar Day will be held Friday, January 13, 2012 for the spring term. Sessions will include topics on learning how to prepare to present a poster or lead a discussion at Seminar Day, learn what it means to be a "Federated" graduate student and learning the latest techniques, strategies and tools for taking and succeeding in online courses and more.

## Students Receive Recognition

Jennifer Carter, lead counselor at Crownover Middle School, was recently named the 2011 Middle School Counselor of the Year by the Texas School Counselor Association (TSCA). Amy Lawrence, a counselor at Guyer High School, also was named the TSCA's 2011 High School Counselor of the Year.

Ms. Carter was recognized for building a positive climate at Crownover, helping assist the transition of fifth-grade students to middle school and for developing a data-driven anti-bullying and cyber-bullying prevention program. She is a current member of the Crownover Campus Leadership Team and is in her 10th year working as a student counselor.

Ms. Carter is a graduate of the University of Texas at Tyler where she received her bachelor's degree in journalism and her master's in school counseling. She currently is working on her doctorate at TWU.

## Graduate Gets Published...Again

Dr. Bridget Walsh recently had the second half of her dissertation called "Exploration of How Spanish and English Noneliciting Questions Affect the Novel Vocabulary Acquisition of Hispanic Dual Language Learners Enrolled in Head Start" published by the *Early Childhood Education Journal*. This gives Dr. Walsh two publications from her dissertation work done here at TWU! Well done, Bridget.

## Graduate Receives Award

Dr. Shelia Lumar was presented an award for Outstanding Student Research at the annual College of Professional Education ceremony. This award is nominated by faculty for outstanding work in any the following areas: dissertation, thesis, professional paper, master of art in teaching (MAT) portfolio, seminar in literacy research project, research seminar papers, student author published article (student is first author), conference papers/conference proposals or other culminating papers or projects. Dr. Lumar was hooded at the winter convocation with her Ph.D. in family studies. Congratulations, Shelia!

*Visiting with your adviser will help you stay on track to graduation!*

## Fall 2011 Doctoral Graduates

The department congratulates all of our graduates from our undergraduate and master's programs, but in particular, we wish to extend special recognition to the following doctoral graduates, their committee chairs and committees.

**Sheryl Anne Alden**, B.A., M.S., Major: Child Development (Chair: Katherine Rose, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** Teachers and Parents' Perspectives on the Role of "Screen Time" for School Readiness

**Russell Floyd Bartee**, B.S., M.Ed., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Glen Jennings, Ed.D.)

**Dissertation:** Exploring the Relationship among Marital Satisfaction, Level of Faith Development, and Differentiation of Self

**Christina Renee Branham**, B.A., M.S., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Glen Jennings, Ed.D.)

**Dissertation:** Birth Mothers' Perceptions of What Parents Need to Know to Educate their Pre-adolescent Child about Human Sexuality

**Yung-Chen M. Chou**, B.S., M.Ed., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Glen Jennings, Ed.D.)

**Dissertation:** First-year Counselors Who Work with Male Domestic Violence Offenders

**Irene Denise Evans-Jackson**, B.A., M.S., Major: Family Studies (Chair: Joyce Armstrong, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** The Role of Technology in Family and School Partnerships

**Felicity Cruz Grandjean**, B.A., M.Ed., Major: Early Child Development & Education (Chair: Sharla Snider, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** A Conceptual Approach to Encourage Quality Child-Adult-Technology Interaction: Exploring the Receptivity of Guam Parents to the Storying with Technology Approach

**Leslie S. Griffin**, B.S., M.S., Major: Family Studies (Chair: Joyce Armstrong, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** Resolving Infertility: An Exploratory Study of the Experiences of African American Couples

**Lace lee Reedy Gray Koffi**, B.A., M.Ed., Major: Child Development (Chair: Karen Petty, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** Adolescents' Perceptions of Fathering Factors that Influence Identity Development

**Audrey Ellen Kteily**, B.A., M.A., Major: Family Studies (Chair: Joyce Armstrong, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** A Descriptive Study on Internalized Homophobia in Lesbians and Impact on the Family: An Ecological Review

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## Advising Matters

As our department continues to grow, we have become aware of the need for more advising services to help both students and faculty. In response to this, the advising services of our program coordinator, Mr. Harry Winn, will be expanded. Beginning this spring, Mr. Winn will advise all freshmen and sophomores, as well as process DARS verification forms for all seniors. As students move to junior class, Harry will assign them to a faculty member in their program. Graduate students will continue to be advised as usual.

## Twas the Season...

The Student Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (SAMFT) sponsored a unique fundraising opportunity during the Christmas season by offering a visit by Santa Claus to homes for children and grandchildren and holiday parties. Santa went to a number of homes and heard children's Christmas wishes and delivered wrapped gifts.



**Santa visits with Dr. Karen Petty at the department luncheon**

Santa brought smiles to many faces while raising funds for SAMFT. Santa was portrayed by Perry Green, who is a master's student in family therapy. Perry is a second generation natural bearded Santa who has seven children and fifteen grandchildren of his own.

## Continued from Page 3

**Shelia E. Lumar**, B.S., M.S., M.S., Major: Family Studies (Chair: Linda Ladd, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** Exploring the Implications of Ex-offender Reentry on Family Member Functioning Utilizing the Double ABCX Model of Family Stress in a Mixed Methods Approach

**Cynthia Evans Nelson**, B.A., M.S., M.Ed., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Linda Brock, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** The Lived Experiences of Older Voluntarily Childless Couples

**Amy Sue Ott**, B.B.A., M.S., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Linda Ladd, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** The Experience of Chronic Sorrow in Parents Who Have a Child Diagnosed with a Significant Disability: Investigating Chronic Sorrow Across Parental Life

**Terri Anne Price**, B.S., M.H.R., Ph.D., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Linda Brock, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** The Lived Experiences of Asian Indian Immigrants Adapting to Life in the United States

**Kimberlee Jones Spencer**, B.A., M.A., Major: Child Development (Chair: Katherine Rose, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** The Effects of Military Deployment on the Parent-Child Relationship between the Military Member and their Child Less than Six Years of Age

**Bethany A. Toppert**, B.S., M.P.A., Major: Family Studies (Chair: Joyce Armstrong, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** Experiences of GSA Employees Involved in the Re-establishment of Federal Operations after the Bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building: A Qualitative Work-Family Study

**Nedra Yvonne Washington**, B.B.A., M.B.A., Major: Child Development (Chair: Lin Moore, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** How are African American Parents Involved in their Children's Education, Prekindergarten through Sixth Grade?

**Robin Washington-White**, B.S., M.A., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Linda Brock, Ph.D.)

**Dissertation:** Desiring Marriage: A Qualitative Study of College-educated African American Women's Challenges in Never Being Married

**Pamela H. Weber**, B.S., M.Ed., Major: Family Therapy (Chair: Linda Ladd, Ph.D.) **Dissertation:** A Comparison of Parental Stress and Marital/ Couple Satisfaction as Reported by Parents Raising Children Diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorder: An Online Mixed Methods Study

*It's important to note that the Family Sciences Department hooded eighteen (18) new doctors this semester - the most we've had in many years. It represents 29% of all Ph.D. graduates for the fall commencement!*

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Summer and Fall 2012 Early Registration

**Graduate Students**

**April 03, 2012**

**Seniors and Post Baccalaureates**

**April 10, 2012**

**Juniors**

**April 17, 2012**

**Sophomores**

**April 24, 2012**

**Freshmen**

**May 01, 2012**

### Spring 2012 dates of interest:

**MLK Day (no classes)**

**Jan. 16**

**Late registration**

**Jan. 17 - 20**

**Last day to file for graduation**

**Last day to drop a class with refund**

**Feb. 1**

**Last day to drop a class with a "W"**

**Feb. 23**

**Spring break**

**March 18 - 25**

**Last day to drop a class**

**April 5**

**Spring semester ends**

**May 10**

### New State Mandated Immunization Requirement

Effective January 1, 2012, the state of Texas requires that all new and transfer college students must receive a vaccination or booster against bacterial meningitis. This applies to both undergraduate and graduate students. Students who were previously enrolled at TWU but not enrolled during the fall 2011 term are also required to receive the vaccination to enroll for spring 2012.