

# FSA

family science  
association

# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

July 2021 Volume 4, Issue 3

The Family Science Association (FSA) is an independent organization of family science professionals and students who have joined together to strengthen and enhance the Family Science profession.

## NEW PRESIDENT'S WELCOME!

While the close of the Teaching Family Science Conference in June marked the end of Dr. Bethany Willis Hepp's term as President, it began my own. My involvement in FSA began over a decade ago as a graduate student and over the years I have become increasingly committed to FSA. This organization is comprised of a unique group of faculty, professionals, practitioners, and students that share common ground within the discipline of Family Science. I am honored to work alongside the Executive Board and look forward to a productive and engaging two-year term serving FSA as we continue to grow.

– Nikki DiGregorio

## MEET YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

**Congratulations to the following new Executive Board members!**

- President (2021 – 2023): Nikki DiGregorio, PhD – Georgia Southern University
- Vice-President (2021 – 2023): Laura Evans, PhD – Penn State Brandywine
- 2022 Conference Co-Chairs – Silvia Bartolic, PhD and Jennifer Reinke, PhD, LMFT, CFLE

## CONFERENCE WRAP-UP: Teaching family science online in 2021

The virtual 2021 Teaching Family Science Conference was a great success and included more than 30 paper presentations, resource exchanges, roundtables, and posters. Conference co-chairs Nicole Graves, PhD and Erin Lavender-Stott, PhD gracefully adapted their plans for an in-person event due to the Covid-19 pandemic and hosted a fantastic virtual Teaching Family Science conference this past June; thank you, Nicole and Erin!

## 2022 TEACHING FAMILY SCIENCE CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

**Conference Theme – Supporting the Holistic Student**



("Garden of the Gods," 2021, via gardenofgods.com)

We are happy to announce plans for an in-person Teaching Family Science conference in 2022! Held June 13-14, 2022 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the 2022 conference will focus on Supporting the Holistic Student. Conference co-chairs Silvia Bartolic, PhD, and Jennifer Reinke, PhD, are seeking proposals that address how educators can effectively support students' holistic lives in and out of the classroom and how principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion can be used to inform best practices in this area (proposal deadline January 15, 2022). Reservations at the conference hotel, Great Wolf Lodge – Colorado Springs, are now open; please book early as we have a limited number of rooms available at the conference rate. More information about the call for proposals, conference registration cost, and accommodations can be found [here](#).

## **FSA WEBSITE UPDATE: Greetings from the Website Team!**

While the journal and its pages are our main focus right now, we are continually updating the [FSA website](#) with new information and features. We are indebted to Symone Osikeo, a doctoral student at Texas Woman's University, who has been integral in building out individual pages for each issue of *Family Science Review*. These pages will gradually go live over the summer, starting with most recent issues and working backwards chronologically. We are also laying the foundations for an updated Members Area, which will serve as a home for past and future Teaching Family Science conference materials, resource exchanges, and more. We are as excited as you are to see the website grow into a valuable place to further our profession. As always, if you have questions or feedback, you can reach Catherine and Jenn at [webmaster@familyscienceassociation.org](mailto:webmaster@familyscienceassociation.org)

## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: NEW VICE PRESIDENT**

### **Laura Evans, PhD**

**Position:** Associate Teaching Professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Penn State Brandywine

**How long have you been a member of FSA?** I have been a member since 2017 and was immediately drawn to the people and the organization.

**What do you enjoy most about being a member of FSA?** FSA has connected me to colleagues who are conducting quality research that is not only advancing the field of family science, but is also changing and improving how we engage with teaching about families, relationships, and well-being. I value all I learn from these collaborations, and I know that they make me a more effective and compassionate educator.



**What is one thing you are looking forward to doing this summer?** This summer I'm camping in Mammoth Cave National Park – I'm looking forward to exploring a new place with friends and family, and it will be my first visit to Kentucky!

**What is one fun fact about you that will help people get to know you better?** When I was in seventh grade we had to create an anthology about an interest of ours. I remember struggling to choose a topic, but eventually created an anthology on family. After that I moved through high school and college without thinking about that project again until I was considering graduate school. As an undergrad I majored in Psychology, but continuing in Psychology for graduate school didn't feel quite right. As I was exploring graduate programs I discovered Couple and Family Therapy, and later Family Science, and it seemed like the right fit. I'm grateful that my seventh grade self planted this seed, and that I have been able to turn my curiosity about families and relationships into a career.

## **PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP – YOUR DUES MAKE A DIFFERENCE:**

**Your membership dues help us continue to increase access and dissemination of the great work of our organization!** Please visit the [new website](#) to renew your membership, with special rates for students and professionals. Membership comes with discounts on the annual conference registration fees, members-only access to previous conference presentations (including sample syllabi, evidence-based teaching strategies, and rubrics), voting rights, opportunities for professional advancement, and community-building around teaching Family Science! Relatedly, the *Family Science Review* submission fee is going to increase from \$20 to \$30 for members (\$50 for non-members). The increase is commensurate with other journals and will cover the costs of copy-editing accepted publications.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT BUSINESS MEETING AT NCFR 2021: Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 11:15am (CST)**

Due to the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Council on Family Relations will be hosted on a virtual platform again in 2021. We will host the FSA business meeting for members and those interested in becoming members using their electronic virtual platform. We will update everyone with logistics and log-in information once it becomes available.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: STUDENT/NEW PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

The FSA Executive Board is seeking nominations for the position of Student/New Professional (S/NP) representative. The S/NP position provides graduate students and new professionals within family science with an opportunity for involvement on the Executive Board of a national organization, as well as to serve as a representative for students and new professionals within the organization. If you would like to nominate yourself or a colleague, please email FSA president Nikki DiGregorio at [ndigregorio@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ndigregorio@georgiasouthern.edu).

### *Family Science Review – Editor’s Corner*

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Dear *Family Science Review* authors, reviewers and readers,

The pandemic has been a difficult period. For many reasons, the publication of *Family Science Review* was slowed. However, with every challenge comes an opportunity and the journal is implementing new practices to help ensure that manuscripts move through the review process in a timely manner. There will be much more to come in the future, but I was very excited to see so much support for an “online first” publication option for *Family Science Review* at our last FSA business meeting in June! An online first publication will allow authors to select this option first and then have their manuscript represented in an identified issue once the issue is fully complete. The goal is to maintain the quality and availability of research in *Family Science Review*, as well as to use technology to support an efficient publication process.

Regards,  
Karen Mancini, Editor – *Family Science Review*

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### *Special Issue Update: Pedagogy in the Wake of a Pandemic*

Thank you to those who submitted manuscripts for publication consideration in the forthcoming special issue of *Family Science Review*, “Pedagogy in the Wake of a Pandemic.” Similarly, a very special thank you to those who served as reviewers for this issue (and those that have already re-reviewed some of the revised manuscripts!). I am happy to report that revised manuscripts are being processed as they are received. I am making a concerted effort to be gracious with those authors who are still working to revise their manuscripts and look forward to moving this issue to press as soon as possible.

Sincerely,  
Nikki DiGregorio, Guest Editor – *Family Science Review*  
President – Family Science Association

## LOOKING FOR MORE?

If there is something you would like to see in the Family Science Association quarterly newsletter, let us know!

### Contact Us

#### Family Science Association

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