FSA
family science association

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

August 2026 Volume 10, 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.

Summer Reflections

Welcome, Family Science Association members, to our (end of) summer newsletter! I hope that you all had an enjoyable and productive summer, whether that meant a focus on rest and self-care, travel and family time, teaching summer classes, or getting ahead on projects for the new academic year. I find summer to be a wonderful time to reflect on the innovative work happening in our field and to connect with fellow professionals dedicated to understanding and supporting families. Many of you are already starting the academic year, and we share your **hope and excitement** for the impactful work that lies ahead in educating the next generation of family scientists.

Thinking back to the beginning of the summer, I am happy to share about the success of our **Teaching Family Science Conference which was held in Wilmington, NC**. Building on that momentum, we're excited to announce that planning is already well underway for our **2027 TFS Conference**, and you can see that announcement below, as well as get to know our 2027 Conference Co-chairs a bit more. Read on to discover professional development opportunities, member spotlights, and valuable resources designed to enrich your practice and expand your professional knowledge.

~ Kate Riera, President

FSA Board News & Involvement Opportunities

Call for Teaching Family Science 2028 Conference Chair(s)

Are you interested in hosting the 2028 Teaching Family Science conference? Do you have a location you think would be a great fit for the conference? This is a great leadership opportunity for those who like event planning! Please put your self-nomination in as soon as possible, as we anticipate confirming the selection in early fall.

Opportunity to join Editorial or Web Team

Interested in learning the editorial process? Work with the team who keeps the Family Science Review and/or the FSA website running! Bring your editorial and/or web expertise to the team OR bring your desire to learn about both to the team. This is a great opportunity to gain experience. There is a lot to do and we need your help!

If you are interested in any of these positions or would like to learn more about them, please reach out to kriera@udel.edu. Keep an eye out in the future for additional opportunities!

POST-CONFERENCE WRAP-UP: 2026 Teaching Family Science Conference

Our 2026 conference in Wilmington, NC was an enriching and informative experience for all attendees! Seventy of us gathered to learn from each other and re-connect while focusing on the conference theme of Teaching Family Science amidst Growth and Change. During the conference there were 23 presentations, two wonderful poster sessions, a mindfulness workshop, business meeting, and some fun Wilmington related

trivia opportunities with prizes! There was also ample time for questions, conversation, and sharing ideas and resources with each other. One of the highlights was our river and dinner cruise on Monday evening down the Cape Fear River at sunset! Meeshay Williams-Wheeler, Ph.D. and Teresa Brooks Taylor, M.A., CFLE did an outstanding job as our conference co-chairs. Thank you, Meeshay and Teresa, for the wonderful attention to detail and providing a thoughtful and unique conference experience that made us all feel refreshed and inspired in our work. Thank you, too, for all who attended and presented for sharing your expertise, ideas, and experiences. Presentations will be available on the Resource Nexus on the FSA website later this fall. See the photo below taken right before the river cruise. Additional conference photos can be found on our website.



[Conference attendees at the Wilmington, NC waterfront]

2027 TEACHING FAMILY SCIENCE CONFERENCE:
Waves of Innovation: Positively Teaching Family Science for a Changing World



[Asilomar Conference Center]

We are excited to announce that the 2027 TFS Conference will be held at the beautiful Asilomar Hotel and Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, California on June 13-15, 2027. The conference will be co-chaired by Rob Weisskirch and Katie Dyer. We are already looking forward to this retreat-like environment!

Details about proposal submission and hotel reservations will be posted on the FSA website this Fall.

Questions and Concerns, Contact Program Chairs Rob rweisskirch@csumb.edu and kdyer@csufresno.edu

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT FSA BUSINESS MEETING
Monday, October 12th 12:00pm – 1:00pm (EST) on Zoom

All are welcome to attend our FSA Business meeting in October! We hope meeting on Zoom will make the meeting more accessible and allow more of us to attend and connect. Please use this link to join (https://udel.zoom.us/j/95087679929).

Journal News: Family Science Review
CALL FOR REVIEWERS

Family Science Review is seeking reviewers to help evaluate and review manuscripts submitted for publication consideration. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide service to the organization, further the discipline of family science, and support innovative original research and the scholarship of teaching and learning within family science. For more information, please contact our Editor-in-Chief, Karen Lee Doneker (kdonekermancini@towson.edu or journal@familysciencereview.com).

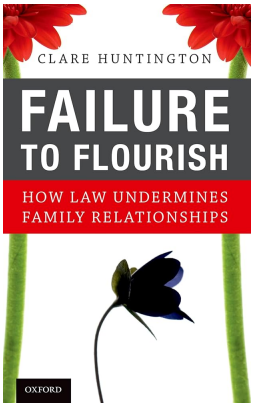
NEW ISSUE- Coming soon!

A new issue of the Family Science Review is nearing publication, with several excellent articles. Stay tuned in September for the publication announcement.

Good News Corner
Share your good news with FSA!

As part of a new initiative a survey link was shared at our June conference to solicit member and attendee good news on any accomplishments that they would like to share, so that we can celebrate them together in a future newsletter or social media post. These can be professional or personal.

FSA Book Club Updates.
Spring Book Club a success- New fall selection!



The FSA Book Club enjoyed digging into *Teaching with AI: A Practical Guide to a New Era of Human Learning* this past spring, with two of our conference presenters referencing the chosen book! The fall Book Club selection is *Failure to Flourish* by Clare Hungtington. Book club will meet on zoom approximately three times for discussion. Contact our SNP representative Ellie Wroten (ewroten@mcneese.edu) if you are interested in joining the fall book club.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Meet our 2027 Conference Co-Chairs!
Rob Weisskirch, Ph.D.

Position: I am a Professor of Human Development and the Chair of the Human Development and Family Science Department at California State University, Monterey Bay.

How long have you been a member of FSA? I have been an FSA member since 2022.

What do you enjoy most about being a member of FSA? I have really enjoyed the focus on teaching excellence and the inspiring ideas brought forth from colleagues.



What is one thing you are looking forward to doing this summer? This summer, I am looking forward to cleaning up my garden that got neglected at the end of the academic year. In addition, I am traveling to Washington DC for a conference and am touring the FBI while there (cellphones have to be on airplane mode while inside).

What is one fun fact about you that will help people get to know you better? I was on the board of our local chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers--hence I have dragonfruit, ubajai, olallieberries, pixwell gooseberries, mountain papaya, rose apples, multi grafted apple, plum, and peach trees in my backyard.

Katie Dyer, Ph.D.



Position: Katie Dyer is a Professor of Child Family Science at the California State University, Fresno. She completed her PhD in Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri, Columbia in 2001. She teaches undergraduate courses, including parent education, research methods in HDFS, and critical thinking about children and families. She has written a parenting education textbook and a research methods textbook. Her research areas include parenting and infant sleep, as well as the pedagogy of critical thinking in higher education.

What is one fun fact about you that will help people get to know you better? Dyer is the mother of four daughters, and has recently welcomed a granddaughter into the family. So many girls! The greatest joy of grandparenting, so far, is to see all of her daughters exhibit tenderness and kindness toward their beloved daughter/niece.

Don't forget to look for us to connect on our newest platforms!

Instagram: @familyscienceassociation
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/family-science-association
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FamilyScienceAssociation

NEW IDEAS?

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

CONTACT US

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