

## RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT TEMPLATE

### Work and Family Researchers Network: Committee to Connect Research, Policy and Practice

The research spotlights are envisioned to be highly practitioner-oriented with a focus on the implications of the research. The goal is for the spotlights to be concise, provocative and targeted at *how the findings can be applied*. The full article should be approximately 1200 words, or less.

The outline for the spotlights is as follows:

- ❖ **Introduction** – introduction to the topic and the researcher
- ❖ **Research Questions and Design** – primary research questions being studied and the research approach (briefly)
- ❖ **Research Highlights** – very brief summary of the research findings
- ❖ **Implications of Research** for 1) employers, 2) policy makers, 3) families, 4) individuals, and 5) committees – this section should be a major part of the write up. Researchers may choose to address the implications for some or all of the stakeholder groups listed above.
- ❖ **Potential Future Research Questions to Explore** – this section highlights other potential research questions and approaches that would add to the knowledge base of the topic
- ❖ **Research Links** – a description of other research and/or researchers addressing this topic

In developing an approach for creating the research spotlight series, Committee members piloted the first several editions which included interviewing the researcher(s) and writing up the spotlights. With multiple examples as reference, we are transitioning the process so that WFRN researchers do a first draft of the spotlight which committee members will subsequently edit and adapt for a practitioner and media audience. As part of this process, we hope that new assistant professors and others new to this field will submit their work for inclusion. Below we have shared the interview questions we used in case they may be helpful in thinking about approaching packaging your research in a highly-applied fashion.

- What were you hoping to learn from your research? What were the primary research questions?
- What methodologies did you use to conduct your research? What was your approach?
- What were your major findings? What, if anything, surprised you about what you discovered through your research? Encouraged you? Discouraged you?
- How does your research inform the work-life discussion? How can it be applied? (Researcher may choose just one – or all three - of the following questions to address in discussing how their research findings can be applied).
  - How can those seeking to drive change in organizations benefit from your research?
  - How can your research inform the thinking of individuals (women and men) regarding managing work-life issues?
  - How can your research inform public policy decisions related to work and family management?
- What other research questions would you most like to explore, see explored that are related to your topic? What are the implications of your research for other researchers/ academics in the field?
- Who are some other researchers/ other research studies that speak to this topic? What has been some of the most provocative/ interesting/ valuable research you have seen on this topic?

Questions? Please contact Lisa Levey at [l.levey@comcast.net](mailto:l.levey@comcast.net).