WFRN Spring 2013 Update

Here's the latest news from the WFRN.

1) Call for Papers

The Work and Family Researchers Network (WFRN) invites submissions for our 2014 Conference, *Changing Work and Family Relationships in a Global Economy*, to be held **June 19-21, 2014** at the Millennium Broadway Hotel in New York City. We seek fresh and innovative scientific contributions on work and family issues from investigators in diverse disciplines. We value all disciplinary perspectives on the issues, including, but not limited to, anthropology, business and management, economics, family studies, political science, psychology, public health, social work, sociology, and related fields. The voices of all stakeholders are needed to understand and address work and family issues to advance knowledge and practice. We also encourage policy advocates, policy makers, and work-life practitioners to submit evidence-based contributions. New for 2014 is the addition of practitioners to the program committee, in an effort to encourage practitioner and policy-oriented submissions and promotion of researcher and practitioner/policy maker collaboration. Also new is organizing the meeting to kickoff with a preconference of meetings of Early Career Scholars, WFRN officers, committees, and member volunteers on June 18.

The 2012 inaugural conference was a huge success! There were over 750 presenters and 125 sessions that discussed the latest work and family research from around the world. Approximately 30% of the attendees were from outside the U.S., and represented more than 30 countries. Like the 2012 conference, we expect that the 2014 conference will draw many global attendees in addition to providing numerous opportunities for networking and sharing ideas with colleagues.
Speakers for the 2014 Conference include:

Lotte Bailyn, MIT * Marian Baird, University of Sydney (Australia) * Shelley Correll, Stanford University * Pearl Dykstra, Erasmus University Rotterdam (Netherlands) * Jeffrey Greenhaus, Drexel University * Dan Henry, Bright Horizons * Jeff Hill, Brigham Young University * Arlie Hochschild, University of California Berkeley * Sue Lewis, Middlesex University (UK) * Phyllis Moen, University of Minnesota * Natalia Sarkisian, Boston College * Jennifer Swanberg, University of Maryland * Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth, Purdue University * and more!

Submission links will be available shortly. Deadline is October 18, 2013. More information is here.

2) WFRN 2014 Program Committee

Below are the members of the 2014 Committee:

- Ellen Ernst Kossek, Purdue University, Chair
- Joseph G. Grzywacz, Oklahoma State University, Co-chair
- Anne Bardeol, Monash University
- Orfeu Buxton, Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Laura den Dulk, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Lucy English, Horizons Workforce Consulting
- Jennifer Glass, University of Texas at Austin
- Jeffrey Greenhaus, Drexel University
- Jerry A. Jacobs, University of Pennsylvania
- Erin L. Kelly, University of Minnesota
- Susan Lambert, University of Chicago
- Maureen Perry-Jenkins, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Marcie Pitt-Catsouphes, Boston College
- Jane Waldfogel, Columbia University
- Kim Wells, U.S. Office of Personnel Management
3) Early Career Scholars Program Application Deadline: June 1, 2013

We are currently seeking applicants for the 2013-2014 Early Career Work and Family Scholars Program. Fifteen scholars will be selected for the program. We appreciate your assistance in getting the word out to potential applicants, or consider applying. To date, 50 scholars have benefitted from resources provided through this program.

To be eligible, candidates must have received their doctorate in 2010 or later, and have yet to progress into tenured or secure senior level positions. Those anticipating receipt of their doctoral degree by June 2013 are eligible to apply. Application is not restricted on the basis of location. Recipients of the award will be expected to become members of the WFRN. To apply for the Early Career Scholars Program, go here.

Questions about the program can be addressed to the program director, Stephen Sweet. The deadline for receipt of applications is June 1, 2013.

4) Outreach/External Affairs Committee Survey Results

Thank you to the 91 individuals who completed the committee survey! Here’s some of the findings:

- Most of the respondents (89%) were academics.
- The vast majority (96%) want to share their research findings broadly – with other academics, journalists, policymakers, work-life practitioners and/or advocates.
- Most (93%) want to use WFRN research to keep abreast of key issues/trends or to help inform their own research (89%).
- Most (97%) want to receive research summaries in “Research Spotlights,” with interest in webinars (35%), live Q & A and online chats (16% and 15%).
- A number of great ideas were offered for how and where content could be shared outside of academia including social media, conferences,
workshops and webinars in addition to ideas for growing connections with journalists and the press.

- Thirty percent have posted to the Work and Family Commons and 20% have posted to the News Feed.
- Many are reading the member-only weekly News & Events email (91%) and monthly Work and Family Commons update (87%).

The committee will be meeting to determine next steps for moving forward.

5) What **WFRN Committees** Are Doing

The **Communications committee** held their inaugural meeting and will meet again shortly.

The **International committee** has created their [mission statement](#). In addition, committee members are going to host some recorded presentations from the July 2013 International Community Work and Family Conference in Sydney at their local institutions to help spread information from that conference.

The **Membership committee** has developed their [mission statement](#). They also created stickers to distribute at conferences and other work and family events. Stickers say, "Ask me about WFRN" and "Interested in work and family issues?" Companion stickers for inquiries include, "I asked about WFRN" and "I'm interested in work and family issues." The committee will also be distributing the updated WFRN [brochure](#) at events. If you are going to a conference this summer or fall, and would like to recruit possible WFRN members or publicize the June 2014 conference, please [contact us](#).

Jennifer Kohler is now the co-chair of the **Outreach/External Affairs committee** with co-chair Jennifer Swanberg, **WFRN Secretary-Treasurer**.

Members of the **Repository committee** participated in a website tutorial to learn more about the Work and Family Commons, the WFRN repository. In addition, members have provided input about repository features, and have developed their
mission statement. Current initiatives involve using survey data collected by the Outreach/External Affairs committee to inform education and awareness initiatives aimed at increasing membership involvement in contributing website content to the Work and Family Commons.

6) 2013 Membership Dues

Thanks to all who have paid their 2013 membership dues. As WFRN is an organization moving towards sustainability, your dues are critical to our success. Please go here to renew or join WFRN.

7) How Can YOU Contribute to WFRN?

- Submit a paper for the 2014 conference
- Write a blog and post it to the WFRN News Feed
- Deposit a research conference paper to the Work and Family Commons
- Share an interesting research finding with the WFRN Linkedin Group or our Twitter feed

What will you do?

Thanks for your support of WFRN and have a great summer!

Best,

Judi Casey, Director