

Greetings WFRN Members and Friends - A Message from WFRN President Ellen Galinsky



I practice a form of science called civic science, which uses science to assess and respond to problems faced by citizens, to draw on citizens' experience and wisdom, and to collaborate throughout the scientific process. In civic science, the subjects of a study become its co-creators. Over the years, I've found that this approach can unearth unique issues of societal significance and addresses them in potentially powerful ways.

So, it's natural when it was time to select a theme for our upcoming conference, I turned to civic science, inviting each of the seven WFRN Past Presidents to be interviewed. I told

them.....

1. I'd like to begin with a wide lens—what is your view of the state of the work-family field(s) that you've been so instrumental in creating? What are its strengths, weaknesses?
2. What are your hopes for the future of the field(s)?
3. Given this vision for the field(s), how does the conference fit in? What do you hope it accomplishes?
4. What do you hope I can accomplish as President?

You wouldn't be surprised by how insightful these interviews were. Each of the Past Presidents was deeply engaged in pursuing some very big questions about how we live and work today and about what tomorrow will bring. That's it, I thought—this is the theme!

So, here are the cutting-edge, global not-yet-answered BIG QUESTIONS that our conference will address:

1. CHANGES IN WORK - What are the meanings of work at different life stages, for different groups, and in different kinds of jobs? How is work organized? What is the future of work and for whom?
2. CHANGES IN FAMILY LIFE - How are families and family experiences changing around the globe and what changes might we expect? For example, fertility rates

- are declining in high-income countries and there are reports of an epidemic of loneliness. What other changes are evident and what are the implications?
3. CHANGES IN WORK-LIFE INTEGRATION: What theories, concepts, and measures best explain new and emerging intersections between work and family?
 4. THE LIFE COURSE - How do changes in work and family impact children and their capacities to enter adult roles, for adults to successfully navigate transitions, and for older populations to age well?
 5. SOLUTIONS AND PROMISING PRACTICES - What are the most promising solutions in policy and practice in the global north and south? What are the challenges and best opportunities for advancing equity and social justice?

We've also decided:

- The conference's objective will be to chart an agenda for the future of work-family research, policy and practice.
- In addition to sharing new research and seeking answers to the big questions, this will be a working conference, fostering active participation and connectivity among diverse groups.
- There will be numerous events to connect a global community of scholars with thought leaders in media, philanthropy, practice, policy, and social change.
- These big questions will be the theme for the next two years, not just the conference, and will include podcasts and other activities.

We look forward to your joining more than 500 work-family colleagues in Montreal in June 2024 and to your participation in a dynamic program centered on meaningful exchange.

Submissions are now open. To learn more about the 2024 conference and submit your paper or session proposal, please follow this link <https://wfrn.org/2024-work-and-family-researchers-network-conference/>.

See you in Montreal!

Virtual Events in 2023 - A Message Vice President Jennifer Hook



I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead the Virtual Conference Series (VCS) and carry on the amazing work of past VP Sarah Damaske and Board Member Richard Petts, who created and nurtured this series.

Richard Petts, Jaeseung Kim, and I are excited to share the news about our next event on September 8th. In collaboration with the Center for Families at Purdue University and the Boston College Center for Work and Family, it will feature finalists for the 2023 [Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family](#)

[Research!](#)

And while we hope you can join us "in person" for our VCS events, one goal of the VCS is to promote accessible and inclusive engagement. In support of this goal, you'll find [recordings of our past events](#) on our website.

Video recordings include our most recent event in June featuring Amy Raub, Principal Research Analyst at the [WORLD Policy Analysis Center](#) and co-author of the new, open access book [Equality within Our Lifetimes](#), sharing information about the WORLD's free data resources. Amy showcased how the data enable in-depth and comparative analysis of the laws and policies that matter to caregiving responsibilities across the life-course for all 193 UN member states. You'll also find a recording of our May event - a dynamic panel discussion, "Work-Family Justice for LGBTQ+ Individuals: Identifying and Overcoming Barriers to Inclusivity in Practice and Research."

We hope to see you at our next VCS event!

Planning the 2024 Conference - A Message From Executive Officer Stephen Sweet

Did you know that the planning for a WFRN conference begins approximately 4 years before the event happens? First comes conference venue selection, then securing reception venues, negotiating discount room blocks, and finding reasonable audio-visual services. Approximately a year in advance of the conference, childcare providers are located, insurance policies are secured, web pages are constructed, submission platforms are programmed, and on and on. To manage this, I have an excel file that has nearly 200 big tasks identified (Is the program cover art created?



Are nursing facilities secured? What awards committees still need to be formed? Are the menus selected? What ribbons need to be printed?), each of which commonly involves many different smaller tasks.

Every step of the way, we are thinking about the following.

First - what events and experiences will make the most impact and enriching experiences? In 2024, President Ellen Galinsky has set a vision for meaningful exchanges focused on five big questions, orientation to the Canada context (which has very interesting work-family experiments occurring), and inclusion of a stellar group of plenary speakers.

Second - How do we foster community? President Galinsky is designing a program that has expansive opportunities to share ideas, observations and perspectives. We will have networking dinners, a gala reception, coffee breaks, and possibly even lunches provided. In addition to keeping everyone fed, the events will help members get to know one another, forge friendships and establish collaborations.

Third - How do we make the event affordable? Treasurer Krista Lynn Minnotte is working hard to determine the lowest possible registration fee that will enable the WFRN to remain sustainable. This requires anticipating how many people will come, how much each element of the conference will cost, and how revenues map onto ongoing expenses (such as maintaining the WFRN website). We are actively seeking (and successfully attaining) sponsorships, which in turn translate to lower member registration costs. This is the first year the WFRN is hosting its conference at a university venue and we anticipate that will translate to a remarkable value for our members.

Fourth - How do we foster inclusion and expand our access to our community? The generous donations from WFRN members make it possible to provide discounted registrations to students and emeriti members. We anticipate providing many grants in the form of waived registration fees to scholars in economic need, including those from the global south. We have also secured very low-cost student housing on the Concordia University campus, in addition to the discounted rooms that will be available at the Sheraton Hotel.

We are looking forward to Montreal and be sure to submit your paper or session proposal. [Submissions are now open!](#)

Supporting Minority and Economically Disadvantaged Members - A Message from Board Member Sabrina Speights



I am proud of the commitment to inclusive scholarship and advocacy by the WFRN. I have personally heard conversations and seen direct action towards highlighting and elevating members of underrepresented groups and the global south. These efforts have extended through our Early Career Fellowship program, executive board elections, award nominations processes, to creative and critical thinking to expand the broader WFRN membership. The commitment of the WFRN is also seen through the formalized subcommittee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion who hosted a virtual conference in March of 2023. As a new member of this subcommittee, I am inspired by the thought, care, and consideration of this group that will shape how the organization operates in the future in important ways.

Our conference in 2024 will be in Montreal, Canada. The conference is guided by [big questions](#) and we need *all* perspectives to address them. We highly encourage individuals from the global south and those who are Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous to share your work, insights, scholarship, advocacy, and experience. For those for whom the conference is a financial strain, the WFRN offers scholarships to those with economic need to offset the registration costs. Scholars in need of support can write directly to the [Executive Office](#) to request assistance.

Mark your calendars for June 20-22, 2024.

We are excited to see you there!

The WFRN is Pleased to Announce the Continuation of Its Popular Early Career Work and Family Fellowship Program - A Message from Lindsey Trimble O'Connor

The [Early Career Work and Family Fellowship Program](#) provides professional development, integration into the WFRN community, and financial support to recent doctoral recipients engaged in work-family scholarship. The goal of the Fellowship program is to cultivate the next generation of promising work-family scholars. The Fellowship program began in 2007 and has since supported 140 up-and-coming scholars. The Fellowship is interdisciplinary and global—Fellows come from a variety of disciplines, including sociology, psychology, business, economics, social work, and public policy, and from across the world.



The Fellowship period is one year in length and will begin with attendance at a day-long preconference on June 19th, 2024, the day before the regular conference (June 20th-22). The purpose of the preconference is to facilitate networking, research and teaching collaborations among the Fellows, and to engage in professional development on topics of interest to scholars in the early career stages. After the Conference, Fellows meet an additional five times throughout the year of the Fellowship. The focus of these virtual meetings is to participate in professional development, as well as provide support and guidance to one another. Additionally, Fellows are encouraged to meet in small groups with other Fellows in their time zones to provide additional support to one another (e.g., writing groups, accountability groups, etc.).

To be eligible for participation in the Fellowship, candidates must have recently received their doctorate. The Fellowship provides Fellows with a 2024 WFRN membership, registration to the biannual 2024 WFRN conference, and a \$250 stipend to help defray the costs of attending the conference. **You can learn more about the Fellowship Program and apply [here](#)**, or email the Director of the Early Career Fellowship, Dr. Lindsey Trimble O'Connor at lindsey.oconnor@csuci.edu.

Featured Scholar

Have you seen the WFRN featured scholar on our home page? Each month we select a new member to interview, highlighting the accomplishments of our diverse community.



[Read the interview with this month's scholar Yang Hu.](#)

Nominate Someone (Including Yourself) for Elected Office

The WFRN seeks to keep its leadership diverse and draw in new leaders from our multidisciplinary global community. If you are interested in being considered for a leadership position, please contact nominations committee chair Clare Kelliher clare.kelliher@cranfield.ac.uk. This year the WFRN will elect a new secretary and two new board members. Information about WFRN governance and leadership can be found in our [bylaws](#).

Transitions

Dr. Raeven Faye Chandler, WFRN's Network Coordinator and Assistant Research Professor/ Director of the Pennsylvania Population Network at Penn State University, has moved on to the next stage in her career. Beginning in August, Raeven will be the Demographic Program Manager within Applied Population Lab at the University of Wisconsin Madison. Best wishes Raeven, we will miss you!

Publication Opportunities

Teaching Publications

The WFRN has been a leader in developing and disseminating innovative pedagogies and curricula that help students in multiple disciplines learn about work-family concerns. Teaching activities, curriculum designs and syllabi can be emailed to the Executive Office at info@wfrn.org.

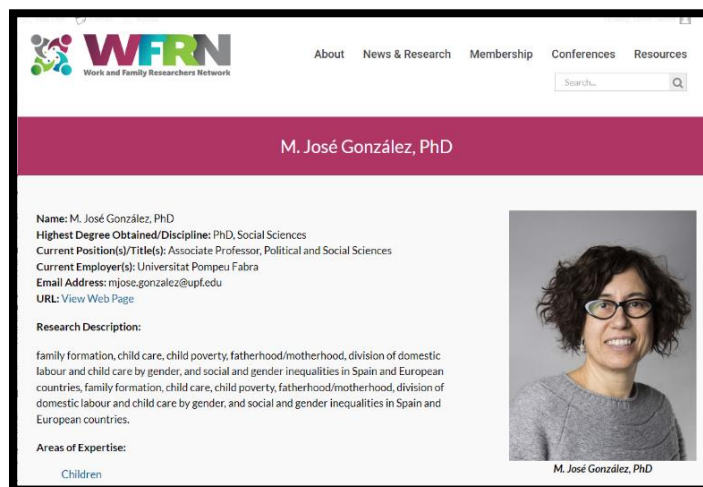
WFRN Information Resources

The WFRN website offers numerous means to disseminate work-family scholarship to our members and wider communities. These include the Work and Family Encyclopedia, Work-Family Glossary, Fact Sheets, and other resources. If you are interested in contributing an entry, or leading efforts to curate future resources, contact the Executive Office at info@wfrn.org.

Are You Getting the Most Out of Your Membership?

Have You Joined the Experts Panel?

The goal of the WFRN Experts Panel is to help WFRN members receive recognition for their research and to help them secure opportunities as consultants, collaborators, and as experts for media interviews. Currently 68 WFRN members are on the panel, are you? This resource provides visibility to current WFRN members, showcasing research foci, areas of expertise, contact information, and links to personal webpages. Whenever the WFRN staff receive media inquiries, this is our go-to resource. See: <https://wfrn.org/search-experts/>.



Any current WFRN member can request being listed on the Experts Panel by [logging into their WFRN account](#) or by contacting the Executive Office at info@wfrn.org. The WFRN Executive Office staff is identifying and contacting journalists who cover work-family concerns, making them aware of this resource. We have also contacted more than 6000 stakeholders with interest in work-family issues, alerting them to the contributions expert panelists can potentially provide.

Are You Receiving the News/Research Feed?

Interested in knowing the newest research publications? How about new opportunities such as calls for papers and conferences? Are you receiving your WFRN News and Research Feed? Every week, the Executive Office monitors leading academic journals that cover work-family issues and posts new citations and abstracts to the WFRN website. Any visitor to the WFRN website can view new posts to the News Feed, but only WFRN members will receive these feeds directly to their email as a weekly digest. Latest postings can be found at <https://wfrn.org/news-feed/>.

SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW OPEN

WFRN Conference June 20-22, 2024 in Montreal Canada



We are delighted to announce that submissions are now open for the 2024 WFRN Conference that will be held at Concordia University in Montreal Canada June 20-22, 2024. To submit your paper, follow this link: <https://wfrn.org/2024-work-and-family-researchers-network-conference/>.

IMPORTANT Travel/Visa Guidance

Are you coming to Montreal but are not a Canadian citizen? Check your passport now, as you will need it to enter the country (including from the United States). For information on travel requirements to Canada, please see these websites.

<https://travel.gc.ca/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada.html?outside>

WE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT VISAS FROM SOME COUNTRIES CAN TAKE A VERY LONG TIME TO PROCESS. IF YOU NEED A VISA, PLEASE APPLY IMMEDIATELY.

CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES DO NOT NEED A VISA BUT THEY NEED TO TRAVEL WITH A VALID PASSPORT. CHECK YOUR PASSPORT EXPIRATION DATE.