



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON FAMILY RELATIONS

ETHNIC MINORITIES SECTION

SPRING 1993 NEWSLETTER
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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR:

Happy Spring (and the end of another academic year) to all Section members!!! The Section has been very active this year, and I wish to thank all those members who have participated in reviewing abstracts for the annual program, answering queries from the national office, organizing section activities, and otherwise contributing to making the Ethnic Minorities Section a vital link to researchers and practitioners in the area of families of color. Special thanks to Gladys Hildreth, John McAdoo, Andrea Hunter, Norma Burgess, Velma McBride Murry, Patricia Wilson for reviewing abstracts for the 1993 annual program meeting. Tammy Henderson has been an outstanding Student/New Professional Representative (see her goals for the section in a later part of the newsletter), and Geraldine Brooks continues to provide a great service as Newsletter Editor.

I attended the NCFR Spring Board meeting in Minneapolis at the end of April, and want to report that we have an outstanding program planned for the fall conference. ALL SECTION MEMBERS SHOULD PLAN TO BE IN BALTIMORE ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1993. Many activities that day will focus on families of color. Andrew Billingsley will present the opening plenary, Leanne Boulin Johnson will present the Marie Peters Award address, our two major Symposia entitled "Moral Discourse, Ethnic Minorities Families and the Social Construction of Race/Ethnicity, Gender and Class: Implications for Research, Theory and Public Policy" organized by Andrea Hunter, will be presented, all on that Friday. We will host a second fund-raising dance on Saturday evening, and our section meeting and oral history will be held on Sunday. Patricia Bell-Scott will be the oral history presenter for this year.

The Planning Committee for the 1994 International Year of the Family Conference also met during the NCFR Board Meeting. This conference, to be held July 29-August 1, 1994 at the Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina. Our section can recommend participants for this working conference, bringing together international family scholars concerned about the social, economic and environmental impact of change on families worldwide. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at your earliest convenience so that your name may be submitted.

I have been asked to serve on the Affirmative Action Committee for NCFR. Any thoughts or recommendations you might have for this committee would be most appreciated.

Serving as Ethnic Minorities Section Chair has thus far been an exciting and provocative experience. Thanks again to all who have been a part of this co-leadership. I look forward to seeing everyone in November!

SECTION HELP WANTED!

1. Members to help coordinate the Saturday evening dance. Please be in contact with the Chair and/or Patricia Wilson, Arizona State University, 2415 Shawnee Drive, Chandler, AZ. 85224, 602-965-4307.
2. Members interested in serving on the Nominations Committee. Elections for new officers will be held in 1994 and a Nominations Committee must be constituted at our fall business meeting. Express your interest to any of the Section officers.
3. Assistance with the reception following the Section business meeting on Sunday. We need to share the responsibility of this activity.
4. Those willing to meet and greet new members or potential members at the NCFR Annual Conference First-Timers Reception (held early Friday morning) should please inform the Chair.

Dispatch From The Editor:

My the year has gone by quickly! I apologize for getting this Newsletter to you rather late but, as is the case with most us, I have too many competing demands. It is my hope that you will use the Newsletter as a vehicle for communicating to your colleagues. This has been a very successful year for many of us. I hear of new appointments, publications, and generally wonderful triumphs. It would be great if this information were formally recorded. Thus, I am requesting that you send to me information about your accomplishments and activities that can be shared with a broad audience. It is another way to have your voice heard throughout the larger body of NCFR. While I realize that E-Mail has created another outlet for your daily communication, please don't be reluctant to share with a wider audience through **your** Newsletter.

Best wishes for a restful and productive summer!

Geraldine

SAVE THESE DATES!!!!

Marie Peters Awards Committee Meeting: Friday, November 12, 1993, 6:15 p.m.

1993 NCFR Annual Conference: November 10-15, Baltimore Maryland

Groves Conference on Marriage and the Family: March 16-20, 1994, San Jose, Costa Rica

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR MARIE PETERS AWARD

Alice Conner-Edwards, Chair of the Marie Peters Awards Committee, has forwarded this letter to the NCFR national office for publication in the fall NCFR Report. Here is an advanced copy for section members so that you can begin to think about outstanding nominees:

Dear NCFR Colleagues:

Once again it is time to recognize an outstanding individual who has contributed to the field of ethnic minority family scholarship, and leadership in the National Council on Family Relations. We are requesting that you take a moment out of your busy schedule to consider scholars whom we might evaluate for this distinction and honor. As you do so, please submit the name (s) to:

Alice Conner-Edwards, DSW
Chair, Marie Peters Award Committee
1825 Sudbury Lane, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20012

For your information, the Marie Peters Award was established in 1985 for the purpose of recognizing distinguished scholars, researchers and practitioners who have made a significant contribution in the area of Ethnic Minorities families. The award is presented in memory of Marie F.

Peters who was herself a distinguished scholar, researcher and practitioner as well as an illustrious member of NCFR and the Ethnic Minorities Section.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. Hope to see you in Baltimore this fall.

Regards,
Alice Conner-Edwards, Chair
Marie Peters Awards Committee

STUDENT/NEW PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE NEWS

Tammy Henderson, Ethnic Minorities Section Student/New Professional Representative, recently submitted a report to the NCFR S/NP Board representative Linda Alrsmen. Tammy's report included several excellent suggestions, including changes in the dues structure of NCFR to facilitate S/NP participation, specific programs that could be integrated into the existing annual conference and would be helpful to S/NP members, and specific recommendations for the Ethnic Minorities and Family Policy Sections, in which she holds membership. Following is an excerpt from her report.

What specific kinds of services and/or information would you like your section to provide?

To help prepare ethnic minority graduate and undergraduate students for presentations of forums, poster sessions or round tables. To maintain the informal mentoring system that is already in place, but to make it more formal. That is, to systematically (but not rigidly) involve more of the scholars in mentoring others. Scholars should be encouraged to invest in students who are not in their academic programs or professional environments.

WHO'S WHO IN THE SECTION

Patricia Bell-Scott is soaring to new heights...

Dr. Patricia Bell-Scott co-chaired The 1993 Groves International Conference on Marriage and the Family at Orange Beach, Alabama. The conference theme, "Colors of the Heart," highlighted the significance of increasing cultural diversity in North American society. Conference participants/attendees described the experience as stimulating, thought provoking, and as an avenue to openly discuss issues of race, culture, and class boundaries in caring relationships. Key-note addresses, round-table sessions, panel discussions, informal interchange, and elegant meals made up for the "Blizzard of 93," which blew into Orange Beach the second day of the conference.

In addition to co-chairing the Groves Conference this year, Dr. Bell-Scott was awarded the Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Publication Prize for her book, Double-Stitch: Black Women Write About Mothers and Daughters. Her book ranks among the top five non-fiction titles by African American authors or about African American subjects. **Congratulations Pat!**

Minutes of the Ethnic Minorities Section Business Meeting November 7, 1992

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson, Dr. Harlan London. Minutes of the business meeting held at the 1991 annual meeting were accepted as written. Newly elected officers were introduced and Dr. Edith Lewis, the incoming section president, presided over the remainder of the meeting. Updated treasury report was given by Dr. Patricia Wilson. The section has \$694.49 on hand, after paying for the reception (\$43.62) and copying materials for the business meeting (\$7.00). Other outstanding expenditures include cost for renting equipment for the Gator Bash Dance.

Old Business

A report of the status of fundraising efforts was given by Suzanne Randolph. The logo design for printing T-shirts and posters was approved by the NCFR Board November 6, 1992. Dr. Randolph also reported that the loan request for \$400 from NCFR as start-up funds to initiate the fundraising project was approved. Members then broke up into subcommittee sections to discuss directions for the future.

Newsletter

The section president complimented Dr. Geraldine Brookins for a wonderful job on the release of the Ethnic Minorities Section Newsletter.

Subcommittee Reports

Fundraising - report by Dr. Patricia Wilson. The following ideas emerged from this committee as: (1) have a quilt raffling at the 1993 NCFR Conference; (2) Have T-shirts, mugs, totebags, available at a display booth for sale at the 1993 conference; (3) Request permission to host another dance during the 1993 conference; (4) Have an advertisement in the NCFR journals regarding items that the Ethnic Minorities Section have for sale. The committee was charged with completing these tasks.

Program Planning - report by Dr. Patricia Bell-Scott. This committee proposed having a two-part symposium for the 1993 NCFR conference. Suggested topics included issues related to family, class, males, and gender-relationships. It was also suggested that the Ethnic Minorities Section consider having co-joint sessions with the Feminists and Family Studies sections.

Long-range Planning - report by Dr. Gladys Hildreth. Ideas emerging from this committee include (1) finding ways to become a financially independent section; (2) exploring ideas of writing and publishing a book regarding teaching ethnic minorities; (3) promoting ethnic minorities in leadership roles; (4) establish time lines for having various tasks accomplished that the section has planned; and (5) establish a clearinghouse for the subcommittee reports.

Memberships - report by Dr. Norma Burgess. Section membership has increased from 151 to 190 over the past year. Our section's average is 170 members. Suggested ideas for increasing enrollment (1) have a section day, to promote membership - display materials about the section; (2) emphasize that this section is open to all; (3) conduct a survey assessing the needs of individuals regard ethnic minorities issues; (4) broaden the representation of ethnic minorities and solicit other ethnic minorities membership.

Marie Peters Award - report Dr. Alice Conner-Edwards. The primary discussion of this subcommittee was finding ways to endow this award. This committee also made a motion that the Marie Peters Lecture be awarded in 1993 and offer the next award in 1994. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously in favor. Another suggestion was that section consider institutionalizing the Marie Peters award by offering a session, poster, panel, etc. in her honor each year. It was motioned and seconded that the section offers a session entitled the Marie Peters Session on odd years and offer the lecture even years. Motion was carried. Dr. Conner-Edwards also announced that a new slate of officers for the Marie Peters Award committee will be necessary for 1993.

New Business

Section President Lewis read a letter sent to the section from Dr. Pat Kain Knaub emphasizing the need for NCFR to have an agenda that reflect diversity. President Lewis response indicated that the Ethnic Minorities Section committee members will continue to focus on issues of diversity.

Announcements

Committee members were encouraged to submit publications to Journal of Marriage and the Family. Members should submit names for the nominating committee. Dr. Margaret Crosbie, chair of the Theory Construction Section, encouraged section members to submit papers for the 1993 NCFR pre-conference. Members were reminded of the 1993 conference application deadline.

Oral History

This year's oral history was presented by Ms. Hattie Fields.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m. The annual reception was held immediately afterwards.

Respectively submitted,

Velma McBride Murry, Ph.D.
Section Secretary

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