

Contents

- 2 **4-H CYD
 In Print
 In the News
 In Person**
- 3 **CYFAR Project
 Update**
- 3 **4-H CYD
 Welcomes
 New Researchers**
- 4 **Upcoming
 Conferences**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

New Research Staff Join 4-H CYD

by Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGE has been taking place at the 4-H CYD as we head into the fall quarter. **Ella Madsen** and **Sally Stanley** are both no longer with the 4-H CYD, after 10 combined years working in UCCE. It has been a hard transition for all of us; we wish them all the best in their new endeavors.

We are still working to hire a senior Research Specialist, and hope to make that announcement soon. However, we are pleased to announce that two new research staff have joined the 4-H CYD: **Stacey Ngoc Doan** and **Michael (Mike) Brockman**. Stacey will spend most of her time on 4-H CYD projects, and will be working part-time with the Applied Developmental

Science workgroup. Mike has been hired to work on two grant-funded projects—Building Partnerships with Youth, and the Latina Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project. Stacey and Mike are exciting new additions to our team; we will introduce them to you in future issues of the *Update*. Meanwhile, in this issue we tell you more about **Aarti Subramaniam**, the 4-H CYD Graduate Research Assistant who began working with us at the end of the summer.

We are continuing to make changes to our communications and publications. The first issues of the 4-H CYD *eBulletin* went out by e-mail in early September. As we said in the introductory letter, the *eBulletin* is

(continued on page 2)

RESEARCH PROFILE

Aarti Subramaniam Brings a New Perspective to 4-H CYD

AARTI SUBRAMANIAM has recently joined the 4-H Center for Youth Development as a graduate research assistant. She is a second year student in the Human Development graduate program and has a long-standing interest in applied research. Her interests lie in the area of community-youth development, program evaluation, experiential education, and service learning and studying resources for low income, at-risk and minority youth and their outcomes.

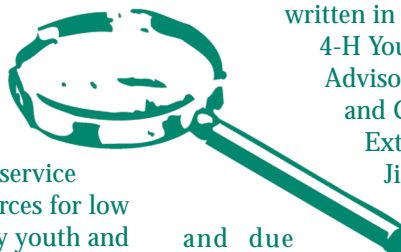
Aarti has completed her B.A. in psychology and her M.A. in clinical Psychology at the University of Pune, India. Her master's thesis focused on

the relation between emotional intelligence, social adjustment and personality in young adults.

As a graduate student at Davis, she has contributed to a paper on garden-based learning for basic education,

written in collaboration with 4-H Youth Development Advisor Dan Desmond and Cooperative Extension Specialist Jim Grieshop. This paper is in press

and due to be published by the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP). ■



DIRECTOR'S NOTES *(continued from page 1)*

designed as a resource that you can pass on to your collaborators—other youth-serving organizations in your community. We hope that you will find it useful yourself and also share it with others. Feedback is always welcome. Thanks to **Shelley Murdock** for her support in getting it going. Thanks also to **Nicole Polen, Nhu Tran, and Aarti Subramaniam** who helped conceptualize and design the project. We will keep an archive of the *eBulletin* on the Web site for one year.

The new 4-H YD Program mission talks about “advancing the field of youth development,” and there are many exciting things happening now that are moving the field forward. Most of you will have heard about the William T. Grant Foundation’s request for proposals in the area of youth

development, as well as the announcement of their new Youth Development Award. These developments reinforce the call for high quality research that strengthens our understanding of youth in the contexts of their families and communities. I’m excited to welcome new staff to help us carry out this mission.

Best regards for the fall,



Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D.,
Director
4-H Center for Youth
Development,
Department of Human and
Community Development,
UC Davis



4-H Center for Youth Development

“The 4-H Center for Youth Development fosters collaborations in research and evaluation among UC Cooperative Extension professionals and UC campus-based scientists that deepen our understanding of youth development in the contexts of family and community.”

Hours:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
3325 Hart Hall (Third Floor)
Department of Human and
Community Development
<http://fourhcyd.ucdavis.edu>

Director

Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D.
Adolescent Development,
Youth and Families at Risk
(530) 752-7069

Specialists

Marc T. Braverman, Ph.D.
Adolescent Health Promotion,
Program Evaluation & Educational Research
(530) 752-7003

Lenna L. Ontai-Grzebik, Ph.D.
Child and Family Development
(530) 752-6410

Richard C. Ponzio, Ph.D.
Science & Technology
(530) 752-8824

Research Associates

Michael S. Brockman, M.A.
Post Graduate Researcher
(530) 754-8433

Ramona Carlos, M.S.
Associate Researcher
(530) 754-8435

Stacey Ngoc Doan, B.A.
Post Graduate Researcher
(530) 754-8434

Anne K. Driscoll, Dr.PH
Assistant Researcher
(530) 754-6537

Aarti Subramaniam, M.A.
Graduate Research Assistant
(530) 754-8856

CYFAR Project

Robyn Caruso, MSW
CYFAR Project Coordinator/Evaluator
(530) 752-2766

Administration

Carolyn McCain
CYD Assistant/Production Coordinator
(530) 754-8433

Colin Perez
Research Assistant
(530) 754-8432

4 - H C Y D I N A C T I O N !

IN PRINT



RUSSELL, STEPHEN T. (2002). “Childhood Developmental Risk for Teen Childbearing in Britain.” *Journal of Research on Adolescence*, 12(3), 305-324.

RUSSELL, STEPHEN T. (2002). “Queer in America: Citizenship for Sexual Minority Youth.” *Applied Developmental Science*, 6(4), 258-263.

BERSAMIN, MELINA (2002). Thanks to the work of Melina Bersamin, Ph.D., UC Davis, the CYFAR Philosophy has been updated. The revised document provides current statistics on American youth as well as recent research on effective strategies for educational programs for children and youth. The paper reflects changes made by CYFERnet partners last year to organize around five National CYFAR Outcomes: Early Childhood, School-Age (K-8), Teens, Parents/Families, and Community. Still to be added are examples of effective CYFAR programs which exemplify the strategies cited from the research. References for statistics and research cited in the paper may also be useful in your CYFAR work.

<http://www.reeusda.gov/4h/cyfar/philosophy.htm>

IN THE NEWS



STEPHEN T. RUSSELL was quoted in an article entitled “To Be Young and Gay in America” in *Children’s Voice*, the magazine of the Child Welfare League of America, September/October 2002, pages 36-40. (The 4-H CYD is listed as a resource for additional information.)

<http://www.cwla.org/articles/cv0209younggay.htm>

IN PERSON



In June, STEPHEN T. RUSSELL presented “Adolescent Mental Health and Sexual Orientation in the United States” at the International Conference on Child and Adolescent Mental Health, Brisbane, Australia.

In July, ANNE K. DRISCOLL and STEPHEN T. RUSSELL presented “Ethnic Differences in Parenting’s Effects on Risk Behavior” (with LISA CROCKETT, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and BRANDY RANDALL, North Dakota State University) at the Add Health User’s Conference in Bethesda, Maryland.

CYFAR Project Update

by Robyn Caruso, MSW

WELL THE TIME HAS COME and our California CYFAR Project is winding down. While the project was officially supposed to end earlier this spring in May, we received a six-month no-cost extension, which pushed the official end date back to October 31, 2002. This additional time has enabled our project to continue serving our communities.

With the end of federal support for our three community projects nearing, we have been working on finding other resources to sustain the projects. To date, we have been successful in sustaining our San Francisco Project, College Bound, as well as our Santa Barbara Project, GreenNet. We anticipate that we will also be successful in sustaining the Orland Homework Club; securing continued funding for this project has proved more difficult due to the current budget crisis and its effect on education.

As we wrap up our CYFAR projects, we also begin to look forward to the next round of CYFAR Projects called New Communities Projects (NCP). The NCPs are very similar to CYFAR Projects and the intention of the projects is the same: to serve at-risk children, youth and their families. The NCP grants are also five years and multiple site.

Our statewide NCP theme is, "Healthy Lifestyles for Teens." A call for proposals for prospective sites was sent out in early August, and we received seven applications. An ad hoc committee met in late August to select three of the proposals to include in our California proposal, which is due in early December.

This fall will be busy for CYFAR staff as we close out our CYFAR Projects and work on our California NCP proposal. ■



SAN FRANCISCO
College Bound



ORLAND
Homework Club



SANTA BARBARA
GreenNet

On a final note, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge everyone who was involved in the CYFAR Project over the past 5 and a half years. This was a successful project that I am proud to have been a part of.

4-H CYD Welcomes New Researchers

Stacey Ngoc Doan, B.A.

HI! MY NAME IS STACEY DOAN. I am a new Assistant Specialist in AES at the 4-H Center for Youth Development. I recently graduated from Carleton College, a small private liberal arts college, located in Minnesota. At Carleton, I studied Psychology and English, was actively involved in the Multicultural Affairs Office and conducted a diverse range of research.

In the past few years I have studied cross-cultural monastic communities, explored educational theory in practice, examined the effectiveness of retention programs for students of color, and experimented with perception in pigeons, just to name a few. My curiosity and

desire to conduct research is driven by knowledge for the sake of knowledge and perhaps more importantly, a strong desire to improve our understanding of human nature in order that we may use that knowledge to benefit our most valuable resource, children. Thus, I am extremely excited to be working at the 4-H CYD.

My interest in youth development is based fundamentally in cognition and social development. I am very interested in the specific internal (i.e., personality) and external (i.e., having role models) characteristics that allow individuals to successfully deal with stressful situations. Not only am I interested in pinpointing these skills, I am interested in *how* they

work, and where and when we can effectively use that knowledge to build and improve support systems for youth. Furthermore, I am also interested in the way that these protective attributes may differ in importance as a function of socio-cultural factors, such as socio-economic status, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

Here at the Center, I will be working with 4 -H Youth Development Advisor Richard Enfield on the Asset Workgroup, and a variety of other initiatives for the CYD. As Dr. Russell is fond of saying, 'it is an exciting time for youth development' and I am thrilled to be a part of it. ■

Michael (Mike) S. Brockman, M.A., P.P.S.C.

MIKE BROCKMAN is one of the new Research Associates who has joined us this October in the Department of Human and Community Development at UC Davis. He will be spending his time working on two separate grant-funded

projects. Specifically, Mike's time will be shared between the CDC-funded Building Partnerships with Youth project and the Latina Teen Pregnancy Prevention UC CE statewide workgroup project.

Mike received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Philosophy from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and his Master of Arts in Educational Counseling from the University of

(continued on page 4)

UPCOMING CONFERENCES →

Healthy Communities Healthy Youth • Search Institute

November 7-9, 2002 • Minneapolis, Minnesota
<http://www.search-institute.org/hchy/hchy2002/>

30th Annual Association of Experiential Education International

November 7-10, 2002 • St. Paul, Minnesota
<http://www.aee.org/conferences/2002intlconf.htm>

Communities Connecting for Youth: Research, Trends and Innovations in Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention

The National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention, Inc. (NOAPPP) and California Alliance Concerned with School Age Parenting and Pregnancy Prevention (CACSP) • November 20-23, 2002 • San Diego, California
<http://www.noapp.org/services/Conference/conference.htm>

Strengthening and Building Partnerships for Workforce Development: A National Conference sponsored by the Workforce Development National Initiative and Its Partners

March 2-5, 2003 • Orlando, Florida
<http://srdc.msstate.edu/workforce/index.html>

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) National Conference

March 5-8, 2003 • Washington DC
<http://www.cwla.org/conferences/>

2003 National Extension Conference on Volunteerism

March 24-27, 2003 • Ferndale (near Little Rock), Arkansas • For more information, contact Chuck Graves, USDA-CSREES-F4HN (202) 720-3566, cgraves@reeusda.gov
<http://web.aces.uiuc.edu/lvd>

CYFAR 2003 Conference (more information in the next update)

May 14-16 • Minneapolis, Minnesota
<http://www.reeusda.gov/4h/cyfar/cyfar.htm>

4 - H C Y D I N A C T I O N ! (cont'd from page 2)

In August, ANNE K. DRISCOLL and STEPHEN T. RUSSELL presented "Changes in Parenting Practices and Adolescent Emotional Well-Being" (with LISA CROCKETT, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and BRANDY RANDALL, North Dakota State University) at the American Sociological Association 97th Annual Meeting, Chicago Illinois. STEPHEN T. RUSSELL also presented "Citizenship for Sexual Minority Youth: Challenges and Emerging Opportunities."

In August, STEPHEN T. RUSSELL and RAMONA M. CARLOS presented a talk on "The 4-H Center for Youth Development: Who, What, Why?" at the 4-H State Leadership Conference at UC Davis.

Welcome: Mike Brockman (Cont'd from page 3)

Redlands in Southern California. Mike's Master's project, which is currently being reviewed for publication in the *Journal of Resiliency Research*, is titled "Resiliency and Experiential Education: An examination of the effects of experiential learning on the resiliency of at-risk youth." With this study, Mike sought to shed further light on the relationship of resiliency and experiential learning in order to inform future research efforts aiming to elucidate the therapeutic effects of non-formal education with children.

Mike also holds a Professional Clear Pupil Personnel Services Credential conferred by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing authorizing school counseling, and he is an active member of a number of professional counseling and youth-serving organizations. As a helping professional, Mike is particularly interested in encouraging the development and implementation of effective peer-lead programs in which students help one another to learn and make informed, responsible decisions that will serve to better their lives and the lives of others.

Prior to joining the 4-H Center for Youth Development, Mike worked as a counselor during the 2001-2002 school year at Hiram W. Johnson High School in the Sacramento City Unified School District, and between 1998 and 2001, at CEDU Middle School in Southern California. Within these positions, Mike counseled groups and individual students regarding personal and social needs, academic progress, career options, and life plans. He also collaborated closely with teachers, parents, staff, and community members as an advocate for student success.

From the backdrop of his experiences in educational counseling, Mike asserts, "All youth must learn to see the dignity and worth within themselves and others so as to become confident and competent life-long learners who will work to make the world a better place." As a Research Associate at the 4-H Center for Youth Development, Mike hopes to see this fulfilled by supporting the development of programs which, in his words, "... help children, youth, families, and communities embrace and productively contribute to this diverse and rapidly changing world in which we live." ■



update

- Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D., Director
- Carolyn McCain, Publications Coordinator

4-H Center for Youth Development
Dept. of Human and Community Development
University of California
One Shields Avenue/3325 Hart Hall
Davis, CA 95616-8523

Phone (530) 754-8433
Fax (530) 754-8440
CYDdirector@ucdavis.edu
<http://fourhcyd.ucdavis.edu>