

Contents

- 3 **NICHD
Project Update**
- 3 **CYD In Action!
In Print
In the News
In Person**
- 4 **Upcoming
Conferences**
- 4 **NCCFS
Training
Academy
Presentation:
Bruce Perry, M.D.**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

New People / New Projects at the 4-H CYD

by **Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D.**

IN MID-DECEMBER the 4-H CYD invited the California 4-H Foundation and the California 4-H Youth Development Program staff to join us for our holiday gathering. Only half of the people had been in their positions more than a year - and only 3 for more than 5 years. Talk about change!

Every time I write the Director's Notes I am amazed at how much things are changing - seems like all I ever write about is change. The budget situation is a big change that is unsettling. On the bright side, we have lots of new energy at the 4-H CYD - new people who are taking on new collaborative, innovative projects. After a long transition period, we have reached a stable point in terms of

staff at the 4-H CYD. A new staff researcher, **Katherine Heck**, brings wonderful experience and skills to the 4-H CYD - we are so happy to have her here. She is leading several new initiatives, including the Rural Youth Project, which we are kicking off this spring. Several UCCE Advisors are involved - if you interested, contact Katherine.

In addition to research staff, **Lenna Ontai-Grzebnik** has officially become faculty in the 4-H CYD, and we are working to integrate the expertise she brings in the area of early childhood and families into our work and thinking. One small example: we've renamed the eBulletin (to the "4-H CYD Youth and Families eBulletin"). Lenna is working

(continued on page 2)

RESEARCH PROFILE

New Researcher Contributes Child Health Expertise

HELLO, MY NAME is Katherine Heck, and I'm the newest member of the 4-H CYD research team. I joined the Center as an Associate Specialist in November and I'm very excited to be here! The projects I will be doing here at the Center are still developing, but will include work on rural youth and civic engagement.

My background is in maternal and child health research. I spent the past seven years as a research fellow and then a health statistician with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), in the Infant and Child Health Studies Branch. I worked for four years at NCHS in Hyattsville, Maryland, and then for the past three years as an NCHS employee



*Katherine E. Heck, MPH
Associate Research Specialist*

but on site at the California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Branch, in Sacramento.

(continued on page 2)

with us to think of ways that we can focus on FCS Advisors and their work in all our communications and publications. Let us know what you think.

Two new items that we have started include a report series and our new online video library. First, the video library is an online listing of the videos owned by the 4-H CYD. If any are of interest we will check them out and mail them to you. We hope that this can grow to be a useful way to share these resources. Second, you should have already received the new *4-H CYD Report*, a companion to our *Monograph* series. While the *Monograph* is a synthesis of an area of research related to youth and family development, *4-H CYD Reports* will share programmatic summaries or preliminary findings of research or program evaluations. This might be a particularly useful outlet for UCCE ANR workgroups to share their goals and results as a precursor to publication in journals. The first *4-H CYD Report* told the story of the California CYFAR Project. Don't forget that we welcome suggestions for topics, and contributions from Advisors for our publications.

Finally, with new projects and staff, we continually ask ourselves how we can be accessible to the people we want to be our primary collaborators: UCCE County Advisors. We work with Advisors on grant-funded research projects (such as the Parenting Practices study featured here), program evaluations (such as the TWIGS program evaluation), through the workgroup structure, on 4-H CYD-initiated projects (such as the Rural Youth Project), and as they contribute to our publications. Let us know how you'd like to collaborate to deepen our understanding of youth and family development.

Best regards for the winter,



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



Welcome: Katherine Heck (Cont'd from page 1)

My research has focused on socioeconomic and racial/ethnic health disparities, in areas such as breast cancer, breastfeeding, and low birth weight. One recent paper (currently under review) found that both maternal and paternal education were very important predictors of a mother's likelihood of breastfeeding, more so than family income or maternal or paternal occupation. The finding of the importance of paternal education is new and has implications for health care services; involving fathers in prenatal care and decision-making around the time of birth might improve the chances that mothers breastfeed.

I have also done some on bridging the transition from and death certificate data. The systems is statistically challenging about the health and well-being adults, who are one of the fastest-



methodologic analyses recently single-race to multiple-race birth transition to multiple-race data but will allow us to learn more of multiracial children and growing groups in California.

In addition to conducting data analyses, I helped coordinate an ongoing statewide survey of new California mothers, called the Maternal and Infant Health Assessment. I also was involved for several years in an annual interagency Federal report on child well-being, "America's Children." ("America's Children" is available on the Web at <http://childstats.gov>).

I'm a native of Oakland and grew up partly in the Bay Area and partly in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. I have an A.B. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an MPH (master's degree in public health) from the University of Washington in Seattle. I'm happy to be here at UC Davis and look forward to meeting and working with all of you. ■

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

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

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

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

Katherine E. Heck, MPH
Associate Research Specialist
(530) 754-8755

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

Administration

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

Colin Perez
Research Assistant
(530) 754-8432

Todd Nebeker
Research Assistant
(530) 754-8432



Project Update

Focus groups of parenting practices across ethnic groups

by **Anne K. Driscoll, Dr.P.H. & Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D.**

STEPHEN RUSSELL and ANNE DRISCOLL, with colleagues from the University of Nebraska, have been carrying out a study of how parenting practices vary across families from different racial/ethnic backgrounds and how these differences affect adolescents' behavior and emotional well-being. This project is in its second of three years of funding from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). As part of this research, a series of focus groups are being conducted with Asian and Latino teens from specific national backgrounds. Most research lumps Asian and Latino youth from various national and cultural backgrounds together, ignoring the important differences within these pan-ethnic categories. This study will provide

unique information on youth from different subgroups by conducting separate focus groups and exploring the differences and similarities across groups. So far, teens of Mexican, Chinese and Filipino backgrounds have participated; the focus groups have been conducted in the Bay Area in collaboration with Faye Lee, San Francisco County 4-H YD Advisor. In the near future, teens of Puerto Rican and Cuban backgrounds will also participate in the project.

The goal of the focus groups is to gain an in-depth understanding of what parental support and control mean to young people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Many of the questions used in surveys of youth to create measures of parenting practices were developed for middle-class white teens. Preliminary results of the focus groups done to date suggest that these

measures may not have the same meaning for Chinese-, Filipino- and Mexican-American teens. Moreover, a large proportion of Latino and Asian adolescents live in immigrant families – that is, they are being raised by immigrant parents; a significant proportion are immigrants themselves. Thus, language and cultural factors play important roles in how young people view their parents and how parents express their support and guide their children's behavior. In addition, the teens are asked to discuss their understanding and views of depression, anxiety and self-esteem, key facets of emotional well-being which are being studied in this project. Analyses will soon reveal whether there are differences in how teens from various backgrounds view these concepts. ■

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

IN PRINT



KATHERINE HECK co-authored "America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2002," with members of the Reporting Committee of the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. <http://childstats.gov/americaschildren/>

STEPHEN RUSSELL and HINDA SEIF. (2002) "Bisexual Female Adolescents: A Critical Analysis of Past Research, and Results from a National Survey." *Journal of Bisexuality*, 2:73-94.

IN THE NEWS



In December, STEPHEN RUSSELL was quoted in the *New York Times* in an article entitled "A New Dimension in Snapshot of Gay Teenagers." <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/12/24/science/24gay.html>

In December, STEPHEN RUSSELL was featured in a story called "Queer as Youth" for the National Radio Project, which aired on public radio in the Bay Area.

IN PERSON



In October, STEPHEN RUSSELL, JEFF SWEAT, and CAITLIN RYAN presented "Gay-Straight Alliances in High Schools: Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities" at the National Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) Conference in Los Angeles.

In October, STEPHEN RUSSELL presented "Adolescent Sexual Orientation, Risk, and Resilience: Evidence from Add Health at the Social Science Research Council, Sexuality Research Fellows Annual meeting in San Francisco.

In October, STEPHEN RUSSELL presented "Linking Problem Prevention and Healthy Development in the Emerging Field of Youth Development: the Case of Adolescent Sexuality" to the faculty of Agriculture and Extension Education, College of Agriculture, Pennsylvania State University, in State College, Pennsylvania.

In October, STEPHEN RUSSELL, PENNY SMITH (Washington State CE), and RIC MACDOWELL. (West Virginia University CE) presented "Educating Communities to Support LGBT Youth" at the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Association Annual Meeting in Norfolk, Virginia.

In October, STEPHEN RUSSELL presented "LGBT Youth: Risk and Resilience" at Pennsylvania State University LGBTQA Lecture Series, State College, Pennsylvania.

In October, MELANIE THOMPSON and HARTLEY HOBSON (Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development), and STEPHEN RUSSELL presented "Broadening, Strengthening and Linking the Fields of Youth Development and Civic Activism" at the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Association Annual Meeting in Norfolk, Virginia.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES ➔

California Workforce Association (CWA) Annual Youth Conference
February 11-13, 2003 • Palm Springs, California
<http://www.calworkforce.org> • phone (916) 325-1617

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://srcd.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>

2003 Priestster Conference
April 22-24, 2003 • Phoenix, Arizona
<http://www.nnh.org/newpriester/priester.htm>

2003 BAPPS Conference
Promoting Healthy Youth: Bridging Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Sexuality
April 25-27, 2003 • Phoenix, Arizona
<http://www.bapps.org/events/conference/conference.html>

CYFAR

HYATT REGENCY MINNEAPOLIS
1300 NICOLLET MALL
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403
PH: (612) 370-1234 /
(800) 233-1234

<HTTP://WWW.REEUSDA.GOV/4H/CYFAR.HTM>

The Northern California Children and Family Services Training Academy



UC Davis Extension presents:
Research to Practice

Impact of Trauma on Child Development

Presented by Dr. Bruce Perry on
March 25, 2003 in Sacramento, California and
March 26, 2003 in Redding, California

Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D.
is an internationally recognized authority on children in crisis.
Please call the Research to Practice hotline at
(530) 752-9726 for registration information or visit them online at
www.humanservices.ucdavis.edu/academy
For a mail-in registration form,
contact Lenna Ontai-Grzebik via email: lontagr@ucdavis.edu

4 - H C Y D I N A C T I O N ! (cont'd from page 3)

In November, STEPHEN RUSSELL presented "The 4-H Center for Youth Development: Who? What? Why?" at the Annual 4-H State Leaders' Conference, Pacific Grove, California.

In November, STEPHEN RUSSELL, KAREN HOFFMAN TEPPER, and MIKE BROCKMAN presented "Integrating Positive Youth Development and Pregnancy Prevention at the National Organization for Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting, and Prevention (NOAPPP) Conference in San Diego". ANNE DRISCOLL presented "Sexual Behavior of African American and Latino Youth" (with CLAIRE BRINDIS and WILHELMINA LEIGH).

In November, ANNE DRISCOLL presented "North Carolina's Latino Teens: Demographic Overview of the Reproductive Health of Latino Teens Southeastern U.S. Symposium: Teen Pregnancy Prevention for Hispanic/Latino Youth," in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

In December, ANNE DRISCOLL presented "Sexual and Reproductive Behavior of Latino Teens" at a conference entitled "It All Starts at Home: Hispanic Parents and Teen Pregnancy Prevention" in Miami, Florida (sponsored by AECF and NCPTP).

ON THE ROAD

LENNA ONTAI-GRZEBIK met with County Advisors in Fresno in October, in Hopland in November, and in Los Angeles/Riverside and San Diego in

December. She attended the National Family Relations Conference in Houston in December.

4 **cyd**
CENTER FOR YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT

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>