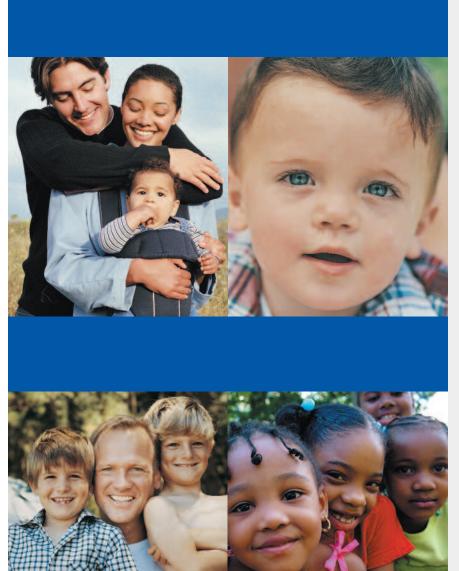


AFCC NEWS

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONCILIATION COURTS

Volume 27, Number 1 Winter 2008



www.afccnet.org

45th Annual Conference Think Globally in Vancouver

"Where else can one attend so many workshops presented by internationally recognized experts on family court issues?" —Cherie Simmers, Bartow, Florida

AFCC's 45th Annual Conference, May 28-31, 2008 in Vancouver, British Columbia, will convene 190 presenters from Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, Israel, New Zealand, South Africa, Taiwan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The conference features 80 sessions including *new* three-hour advanced workshops.

Fitting the Forum to the Family: Emerging Challenges for Family Courts will take place at the Westin Bayshore Resort, which is walking distance to downtown Vancouver and features breathtaking mountain and harbor views.

The 2007 AFCC Annual Conference sold out, so register early to ensure your place!

Four Conference Plenary Sessions

The conference kicks off Wednesday evening with an exciting opening session that will explore preliminary outcomes from the AFCC and NCJFCJ Domestic Violence and Family Court Project. *Domestic Violence, Differentiation and Family Court: Tensions, Terminology and Collaboration,* will be presented by Clare Dalton, J.D., LL.M., Northeastern University School of Law; Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D., Corte Madera, California; Nancy Ver Steegh, J.D., M.S.W., William Mitchell College of Law; and moderator, Hon. Emile R. Kruzick, Orangeville, Ontario.

Thursday morning's plenary session, Domestic Violence in Separating Families:

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AFCC is an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to the resolution of family conflict.

Mission

To improve the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

Vision

A justice system in which all professionals work collaboratively through education, support and access to services to achieve the best possible outcome for children and families.

Values

- Collaboration and respect among professions and disciplines
- Learning through inquiry, discussion and debate
- Innovation in addressing the needs of families and children in conflict
- Empowering families to resolve conflict and make decisions about their future

Views expressed in the AFCC News are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of AFCC.

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AFCC News

Vol. 27, No. 1 Winter 2008

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AFCC News is a publication of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and is published four times a year. Deadlines for news items and advertising are January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

AFCC News Advertising

	AFCC	Non-
	member	member
Full page	\$425	\$600
Half page	\$300	\$450
Quarter page	\$150	\$250

President's Message

Setting foot on a college campus on a crisp autumn day has always evoked a sense of optimism in me. A sense of things possible—of expansive thinking and the possibility of creative solutions to old, seemingly intractable problems. Last November, I had such an opportunity in my home state of Indiana as a participant in an interdisciplinary working conference titled, For the Sake of the Children: Advances in Family Dispute Resolution. The conference was co-hosted by the Indiana University (IU) School of Law and Department of Psychology and Brain Sciences. It brought national (and one international) experts in family

Yet there we were, at a major traditional research university, working with researchers and scholars from highly traditional disciplines who were, perhaps without realizing it, developing a program resembling AFCC's interdisciplinary model.

dispute resolution together with local practitioners, judges and law and graduate students. (Full disclosure: an added incentive was that also taking place on the IU campus that weekend was the football season finale pitting my alma mater—Purdue University—against archrival Indiana).

The conference organizers were IU faculty members Amy Applegate (law) and Jack Bates, Amy Holtzworth-Munroe and Brian D'Onofrio (psychology and brain sciences). They deserve great credit for bringing together an outstanding multiprofessional group to help them generate ideas for research

and projects on which their departments can collaborate.

What the IU faculty members may not have realized as they assembled their invitation list and agenda, was that they were planning something that resembled a small AFCC conference. A series of presentations addressed mediation, parent education programs, triaging court services, parenting coordination, domestic violence screening, unified family courts and more. Participants included many longtime AFCC members such as Jay Folberg, Andy Schepard, Peter Salem, Sandy Braver, Bob Emery,

Jennifer McIntosh, Connie Beck and Jana Singer.

Frankly, the chance to see these colleagues, hear their presentations and engage in discussion with them was nothing new for me. I've been attending AFCC conferences for nearly 20 years. What was new for me, however, was the context and what I think it means.



Hon. William C. Fee AFCC President Angola, Indiana

For years, AFCC has been viewed by many as an innovative niche group. Our mission and our work have been viewed by some as important, but not necessarily mainstream. Yet there we were, at a major traditional research university, working with researchers and scholars from highly traditional disciplines who were, perhaps without realizing it, developing a program resembling AFCC's interdisciplinary model.

My experience at IU last fall was special, because it suggests that AFCC has really arrived. Even though many of the people and topics were familiar to me, it was by no means a regurgitation of previous AFCC experiences. It was special because it brought together my colleagues from AFCC with my colleagues in the Indiana judiciary; it was special because we saw graduate and law students learning about the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration (a lesson I hope they will carry with them as they enter the professional world); it was special because of the realization that this type of activity is growing independent of AFCC and that our mission and message is spreading; and it was special because I made some new friends, our IU colleagues who previously had only a passing knowledge of AFCC, are now members looking forward to future collaborations.

As I departed the Bloomington campus last fall I thought of the new and exciting work being done by the IU law school and psychology and brain sciences department, and of the energy and creativity that a new generation of students and scholars would bring to our work.

And even though we had just watched a last-second field goal propel Indiana to a 27-24 season-ending victory over my beloved Purdue, the sense of optimism I felt when I arrived on campus just a few days earlier was affirmed.

MEMBER PROFILE

AFCC Member, Julie Macfarlane, Ph.D., LL.M.



Julie Macfarlane Kingsville, Ontario

Julie Macfarlane is an AFCC member from Kingsville, Ontario. She is a Professor of Law at the University of Windsor. Julie devotes half of her career to her academic role and half to her consulting and training practice. She is an experienced mediator, having mediated more than 400 disputes involving business, workplace, organizational, contract, tort and public administrative matters. In 2005, she was the first Canadian recipient of the International Academy of Medi-

ators' Award of Excellence, presented annually to an individual mediation practitioner. Julie will be a plenary presenter at AFCC's 45th Annual Conference, May 28-31, 2008 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

What does your current position entail?

I am a tenured professor at the Faculty of Law at the University of Windsor. However, about ten years ago I moved to a half-time appointment in order to do what I describe as "guilt-free consulting." This way I can pursue my mediation and consulting practice in half my time without feeling that I am letting my students down. The other development over the last ten years is that I have been frequently "bought out" of my teaching entirely by a government or other research funder, so that my teaching now takes something of a back seat to my research and mediation practice. What has evolved is a work combination that is fascinating and fun, and I feel extremely lucky to be in this position.

How did you first learn about AFCC?

I worked for a while with the remarkable Justice Jim Williams at the National Judicial Institute. Jim is a longtime AFCC member and supporter, and it was he that first got me involved in an AFCC conference.

What aspect of your work do you enjoy the most?

Having one foot in the world of academe and one in the world of practice allows me to constantly reflect on the relationship between theory and practice, and to try to enrich my understanding and knowledge of both. This is a constant source of inspiration to me, as are the people I work with—whether as research subjects, mediation clients or students.

What are the biggest changes in our field that you have observed since you began your career?

I have just completed a book, The New Lawyer: How Settlement is Transforming the Practice of Law, published by UBC Press in January 2008, which is an effort to synthesize the empirical research I have been doing for the last ten years. This has focused on the ways in which lawyers and their clients are adjusting and adapting to new dispute resolution processes such as court based mediation, collaborative law, restorative justice and so on. The book describes the many changes within the profession and external pressures for change, including the need to resolve conflicts in a timely and practical way instead of fighting to the last breath. I see the evolution of a new model of client service which is characterized by what I call, "conflict resolution advocacy," instead of the old takeno-prisoners/warrior mentality. I think that the role of lawyers alongside other conflict resolution practitioners will continue to evolve and change and that clients will increasingly demand that their lawyers become effective and hands-on conflict resolvers.

The other big change I have seen is closely related to this. Twenty years ago those of us who proposed teaching negotiation and mediation skills in the law schools were regarded as the lunatic fringe by our colleagues and many of our students. Today, law students are demanding more dispute resolution training and although we still have a lot of work to do on the law school curriculum, we are seeing a lot of new courses and a wider acceptance of this orientation. It's bittersweet though—in a way I rather miss being seen as part of the lunatic fringe.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I am an avid equestrian. I have several horses (probably too many, in the opinion of my husband, Bernie Mayer, also an AFCC member) and I ride almost every day. I take enormous pleasure in the relationship a rider builds with her horses, being outdoors in all weathers, and the company and support of those with whom I ride (including two of my three daughters).

What is your proudest personal achievement?

Working as hard as I do is not an easy equation for a committed parent. I take great pride in the fact that these days I have more control over my work schedule and can spend more time with my kids than I could when I was first building a career. This means that my youngest daughter (age 8) gets to see a lot more of me than my two older girls (ages 20 and 15) did growing up—but they also grew up understanding and supporting my work in conflict resolution. My three girls are my proudest achievements.

GLOBAL ISSUES

New Research on Less Adversarial Trial and Child Responsive Program

by Hon. Graham Mullane

New South Wales, Australia

This is Part I of a two-part article. In July 2007, a report by Family Transitions—a clinical, research and training consultancy based is Victoria, Australia—was submitted to the Family Court of Australia regarding the Child Responsive Program operating within the Less Adversarial Trial. The report entitled, The Child Responsive Program Operating within the Less Adversarial Trial: A follow up study of parent and child outcomes, is authored by AFCC member Dr. Jennifer McIntosh and Ms. Caroline Long. The 26-page report can be accessed in its entirety at the Family Court of Australia Web site at www.familycourt.gov.au and clicking the "Publications" link.

Less Adversarial Trial

The Family Court of Australia introduced a series of significant changes to its role in response to post-separation parenting disputes. The first of these major initiatives is the Less Adversarial Trial (LAT), formerly known as the Children's Cases Program. The LAT is a supportive Court process for separating parents, aiming to maximize early and effective dispute resolution without full adversarial processes. It involves the same judge hearing all stages of the litigation, limiting and defining the issues for trial and nominating the witnesses and the issues on which each will give evidence. The LAT is less formal and, on the first day, provides each party an opportunity to personally address the judge about what they want to achieve for the child.

The LAT is about focusing the trial on the child and the child's interests, rather than the interests of the parents or the topics of their conflict. In addition, the LAT involves a social science specialist, called a Family Consultant (FC), to provide expert evidence to the Court as well as assistance to the parties and their lawyers by advice and mediation in negotiations.

The first day of the LAT is a separate event and often, before the trial proceeds further, a report may be obtained from an expert, such as a FC, psychiatrist, pediatrician or psychologist specializing in the child abuse area. The parents may also be required to complete a parenting course, parenting after separation course or other intervention before the trial continues. Research from the *Children's Cases Pilot Project*, published in March 2006 and accessible on the Family Court of Australia Web site, suggests that the LAT gives better outcomes for parents and their children than the traditional mainstream adversarial process.

Child Responsive Program

The Child Responsive Program (CRP) is the second

major initiative of the Court. It provides an improved screening and support intervention to quickly engage parents in supported consideration of their children's experiences and needs regarding the parents' dispute. CRP is intended to assist pretrial settlement where possible and where trial is required to compliment the LAT.

With CRP, an FC is allocated to each case from commencement of the proceedings for the life of the Court's involvement. Parents view an education DVD and then each has individual time with the FC to discuss history and current concerns regarding the dispute and the children's well-being and future care. The FC explores each parent's personal views and their respective needs, intent, maturity and capacity to focus on productive dispute resolution. There is an early private consultation with each school-aged child. The child is not placed in a decision making role or expected to communicate directly with the parents. The brief assessment explores the child's psychological adjustment, attachment relationships and views about care options.

The children's assessment is summarized in a preliminary report by the FC and discussed with the parents and their legal representatives in a feedback session. If the proceedings aren't resolved by agreement in pretrial interventions, a written report of the FC is available to the judge at the first day of the trial. This process is intended to help focus on the needs of the children and their views. The FC continues to accompany the matter—being present in Court on the first day to hear the parties' statements, providing expert evidence orally as needed in the court room, mediation assistance to the parties in settlement negotiations and ultimately, if requested by the judge, a detailed family report.

The role of the FC can also continue beyond the final orders to include meeting with the children to explain the orders to them, and a follow-up interview with the parents to ensure they understand the orders and to provide assistance for them with referrals to services to provide support to the parents and the children. There may also be an order for the FC to supervise the compliance of the parties with the Court's orders and assist the parties in that regard.

Summary of the First CRP Evaluation Findings

The first evaluation of CRP was reported in the Child Responsive Program Evaluation in 2006. The findings from 49 parents whose proceedings had finalized at that time were encouraging and included the following:

- Increased willingness to cooperate with each other immediately following the CRP intervention.
- 70% found the FC supportive and helpful.

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Advanced Issues in Parenting Coordination and Abuse and Alienation Trainings in Texas

AFCC is offering a *new* intensive two-day training program to help parenting coordinators manage the most challenging issues presented by high conflict divorcing parents. *Advanced Issues in Parenting Coordination: Functional Coparenting for High Conflict Families*, will be presented by Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D., February 18-19, 2008 in Dallas, Texas. Professionals who have taken parenting coordination trainings previously with AFCC will not want to miss this advanced training.

On February 20-21, 2008, Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D. will present *The Battle Between Abuse and Alienation: Assessment, Diagnosis and Interventions*. This training program will teach participants techniques to distinguish between alienation and abuse and will highlight current research and best practices. Judges, lawyers, custody evaluators, mediators and others who work with high conflict families are encouraged to attend.

The trainings take place near the Dallas Fort Worth airport for easy fly-in, fly-out access. A block of rooms is being held until January 27, 2008 at the Wyndham DFW Airport North in Irving, Texas at the special rate of \$119 per night. For hotel reservations, call (972) 929-8181 and ask for the AFCC special rate. Each training is eligible for 13 hours of continuing education for psychologists, LPCs, MFTs and Social Workers, and is accredited for 12 CLE hours in Texas. AFCC members receive a \$70 discount on each training.

The training program brochure and registration form is available at www.afccnet.org/training/. For more information, please contact AFCC at afcc@afccnet.org or (608) 664-3750.

Family Law Writing Competition

AFCC and Hofstra University School of Law are sponsoring the annual Family Law Writing Competition. The competition is run in cooperation with the editorial staff of *Family Court Review*. The subject of entries may be within any area of family law. Topics that focus on international or interdisciplinary subjects of family law are especially encouraged. Articles should concentrate on a current legal issue and must have a strong foundation in legal research. Submissions must be received by March 14, 2008. First prize includes \$500 and consideration for publication of the article in *Family Court Review*. For further information, please contact the Managing Editor of *Family Court Review* at lawfor@hofstra.edu.

Free AFCC Membership Winner

Diane Vodrey of Sacramento, California won a free AFCC membership by providing AFCC with her email address. All AFCC members with an email address in the AFCC membership database were included in the drawing.

Does AFCC have your email? Make sure AFCC has your email address so you receive AFCC's bi-monthly e-newsletter, AFCC eNEWS, which features interdisciplinary topics on new programs, services, international news, research and more.

AFCC also sends email announcements only once or twice a month to members on time-sensitive issues, such as hotel rooms selling out soon and early bird

registration dates.

Login to the AFCC Member Center at www.afccnet.org and click "Update Your Email" to make sure we have your most current email or to provide a new email address. Or send an email to afcc@afccnet.org and we'll get you set up!

AFCC will never distribute or publicize your email address beyond listing it in the AFCC Membership Directory, available only to AFCC members.

AFCC Thanks Trainers and Partners

AFCC thanks the following academic institutions and trainers for partnering with AFCC for the 2007 training programs.

- Christine A. Coates, M.Ed., J.D.
- · Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D.
- · Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D.
- · Nancy W. Olesen, Ph.D.
- Loyola University Chicago School of Law's Child and Family Law Center
- Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
- University of Baltimore School of Law's Center for Families, Children and the Courts

AFCC offers training programs in collaboration with universities that are open to the public and can also provide on-site training and consulting for agencies and organizations. Thanks again for making the 2007 training programs a huge success!

Indiana University Law School and Psychology Department Co-Sponsor Interdisciplinary Working Conference

by Amy G. Applegate

Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Family and Children Mediation Clinic, Bloomington, IN

One of the most exciting aspects of teaching at a great research university is the opportunity to combine practice with research. The Family and Children Mediation Clinic at the Indiana University Bloomington (IU) School of Law and Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences has been doing just that in its collaboration over the past year—looking for ways to help families resolve conflict with a focus on their children's best interest. The collaborative approach reflects AFCC's mission to improve the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

In November 2007, IU Psychology Department faculty members Amy Holtzworth-Munroe, Brian D'Onofrio and Jack Bates, and IU School of Law faculty member Amy G. Applegate co-sponsored a two-day conference, For the Sake of the Children: Advances in Family Dispute Resolution. The conference featured a free public forum for attorneys, psychologists, social workers, alumni, students and other professionals in the community, as well as a series of private seminars for interdisciplinary experts in the field.

The public forum featured presentations on the following topics:

- Divorce Mediation versus Adversary Settlement: The Current Status of Social Science Research, by AFCC member Robert Emery, Ph.D.;
- Kramer v. Kramer Revisited: Ethical and Practical Considerations for Lawyers and Judges in High Conflict
 Cases for Represented and Self Represented Parents,
 by AFCC member and Family Court Review editor
 Andrew Schepard: and
- Views from the Bench: What Works, What Does Not Work and What Else Should the Family Law and Psychology Community Be Developing? moderated by AFCC President Hon. William Fee, and panelists Hon. Teresa D. Harper, Hon. Francis G. Hill, Hon. E. Michael Hoff, Hon. Frank M. Nardi, Hon. David L. Welch and Commissioner Bret Raper.

The public forum was preceded by smaller private seminars featuring a group of twelve outstanding scholars, most of whom are AFCC members working in the legal, psychology and policy arenas. The seminars included a roundtable discussion that featured presentations and brainstorming sessions for the experts to share research and practice concerns to help develop better interventions for families in conflict.

Participants from the legal and policy perspective included AFCC members Jay Folberg, University of San

Francisco; Andrew Schepard, Hofstra School of Law; Jana Singer, University of Maryland School of Law; AFCC Executive Director Peter Salem; IU Professor Applegate; and Ed Seidman, Senior Vice President of the William T. Grant Foundation.

Participants from the social science perspective included AFCC members Robert Emery, Director of the University of Virginia Center for Children; Sandy Braver, Arizona State University; Jennifer McIntosh, Clinical Director of Family Transitions, North Carlton, Australia; Connie Beck, University of Arizona; Sharlene Wolchik, Arizona State University; and IU Professors D'Onofrio, Holtzworth-Munroe, and Bates.

The collaboration between the Law School and the Psychology Department is expanding through its work together and experience at the conference. The Psychology Department is initiating a new program called the Collaborative Parenting after Separation Program (CPAS). CPAS is a 12-week group skills-based program designed to assist separating or divorcing

The collaborative approach reflects
AFCC's mission to improve the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

couples with becoming successful co-parents. Program leaders, including psychology department faculty and graduate students, will work with parents to reduce parental conflict and teach parenting skills to improve parents' relationships with their children.

Professors Holtzworth-Munroe, D'Onofrio, and Applegate are making plans to conduct domestic violence research in the context of the Family and Children Mediation Clinic. The professors are also working with University of Arizona Professor Beck to set up an appropriate research program, considering research goals as well as the needs and interests of the parties and student mediators. The goal is to eventually review and reconsider how domestic violence is screened in the clinic's mediation cases, and how that information is used in the mediation process.

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45th Annual Conference

continued from page 1

Debates and Dilemmas in Developing Appropriate Parenting Plans, will be presented by Nicholas Bala, LL.M., Queen's University; Peter G. Jaffe, Ph.D., University of Western Ontario; Janet R. Johnston, Ph.D.; San Jose State University; and Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D., Family Transitions.

Two plenary sessions will take place Friday morning. Fitting the Forum to the Family: the Evolution of Family Dispute Resolution will examine the changes and challenges in dispute resolution practice in the private and public sector. Panelists include Julie Macfarlane, Ph.D., LL.M., author, The New Lawyer, University of Windsor Faculty of Law; M. Jerry McHale, QC, Ministry of Attorney General; Janet Walker, Ph.D., University of Newcastle upon Tyne; and moderator Woody Mosten, J.D., author, Complete Guide to Mediation.

Fitting the Forum to the Family: Meeting the Needs of Families in a Changing World will provide critical ideas, perspective and information for administrators, direct service providers and anyone working with the public. Presenters include Hon. Anita Josey-Herring, Presiding Family Court Judge, District of Columbia Superior Court; Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, J.D., LL.M., Representative for Children and Youth; Sujata Warrier, Ph.D., Bloomfield, New Jersey; and Hayne Wai, M.A., Vancouver, British Columbia.

Pre-Conference Institutes

Six challenging full-day institutes take place Wednesday, May 28 featuring the following topics:

- Advanced Institute on Parenting Coordination, with Patricia M. Bond, LL.B., Barbara J. Fidler, Ph.D., Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D. and Arnie Shienvold, Ph.D.
- Advanced Mediation Practice Strategies, with Larry Fong, Ph.D., Hon. Nancy A. Flatters and Nina Meierding, M.S., J.D.
- Cross-Examination and Expert Testimony in Parenting Disputes, with Clare E. Burns, LL.M., Lorraine Martin, M.S.W., Hon Arline Rotman (ret.), Andrew Schepard, J.D. and Phil Stahl, Ph.D.
- Handling Clients with Borderline and Narcissistic Personality Traits and their Abused and Alienated Children, with William A. Eddy, LCSW.
- Triaging Court Services: Fitting the Forum to the Family, with Debra Kulak, M.S., Marsha Kline Pruett, Ph.D., Dan VanderSluis, M.A., Carole McKnight, B.A. and Tony Francis.

New 3-Hour Advanced Workshops

AFCC is offering six three-hour advanced workshops designed for professionals with substantial experience. Workshops include:

 Listening to Children's Views in Disputed Custody and Access Cases

- The New Lawyer: Advanced Legal Practice in the 21st Century
- · Children and the Mediation Process
- Beyond Wingspread: Domestic Violence and Differentiation
- · Advanced Issues in Psychological Testing
- Advances in Child Development Research Applied to Scientifically Informed Parenting Plans

Networking Opportunities

Friday night features AFCC's Tenth Annual Silent Auction, which will offer many unique items including original artwork, fine wines, weekend hotel packages, sports memorabilia and many one-of-a-kind items. Auction proceeds will help support AFCC's special projects and programs. If you would like to donate an item, please contact AFCC Marketing and Development Manager Dave Vigliotta at dvigliotta@afccnet.org or (608) 664-3750.

The AFCC Annual Banquet will take place immediately following the auction and features live music, dinner and dancing. Each morning you are invited to meet your colleagues in the lobby and start your day bright and early with a morning walk or jog through beautiful Stanley Park. AFCC's signature Hospitality Suite will be open for informal networking and refreshments each evening.

Accommodations

The AFCC block of hotel rooms at the Westin Bayshore Resort may be sold out on several nights during the conference. Please call the resort at (800) 937-8461 or (604) 682-3377 to make your reservations and ask to be put on a waitlist, as there are often cancellations leading up to the conference.

AFCC has secured a limited number of additional hotel rooms at the Pacific Palisades Hotel, located on Robson Street and just a few blocks (less than half a mile) from the Westin Bayshore. The Pacific Palisades is offering AFCC conference attendees one bedroom suites at a rate of CAD \$181 per night, single or double. You can make reservations by calling Pacific Palisades reservations at (800) 663-1815 or emailing reservations@pacificpalisadeshotel.com and request the AFCC special rate. Rooms are limited so please book early. AFCC has also developed a list of lodging options in a variety of price ranges, which can be found on the AFCC conferences page on the AFCC Web site at www.afccnet.org.

Registration

Online registration is now available and can be accessed on the AFCC Web site at www.afccnet.org. Register by March 7, 2008 to receive the Early Bird Rate and register at the lowest conference rates. If you have any questions, contact AFCC at afcc@afccnet.org or (608) 664-3750. Last year's conference sold out, so register today!

Top Ten Places to Visit in Vancouver

In 2005, Vancouver was named the best city to live in the world and it was selected to host the winter Olympic Games in 2010. This multicultural city will be the perfect setting to interact with your colleagues and network with



AFCC members from around the globe. The conference takes place at the Westin Bayshore Resort—nestled along historic Stanley Park and steps from downtown Vancouver.

- Stanley Park: Adjacent to the Westin
 Bayshore Resort! The 1,000 acre park provides endless walking, jogging, biking and rollerblading trails. The park contains an outdoor theater, five restaurants, numerous horticulture displays and the world famous Vancouver Aquarium.
- Robson Street: A stone's throw from the Westin Bayshore, you'll find Vancouver's most famous shopping street. This three block stretch contains high-end fashion stores, chic boutiques, fine dining and day spas. www.robsonstreet.ca
- Gastown: See where Vancouver began! A short walk from the hotel, this district combines a step back in time with its cobbled streets and 19th century architecture along with the buzz of upscale restaurants and nightspots. www.gastown.org
- Whale Watching: If you've never been whale watching there may be no place more beautiful than the Gulf Islands. The tour will give you the opportunity to see killer whales, Dall's porpoises, sea lions, bald eagles, seals and other amazing wildlife. www.vancouverwhalewatch.com
- Granville Island: Formerly an industrial area, it is now home to many local artisans and performers. Browse some of the unique shops filled with locally crafted items, sample a treat from the market or take in a play at one of the theaters. www.granvilleisland.com
- Capilano Suspension Bridge
 The 450 foot suspension bridge sways 230 feet above the Capilano River. After you walk across the bridge, get a "squirrel's eye" view of the beautiful West Coast rainforest on a series of suspended platforms on the Treetops Adventure. www.capbridge.com

Yaletown: It's been called the Soho of Vancouver, this artsy bohemian neighborhood has a little of everything: shops, boutiques, cafes, restaurants, salons and spas. Lots of exciting fashion and quality food! www.myyaletown.com

Vancouver Art Gallery: The gallery's permanent collection contains nearly 9,000 works representing the region as well as other Canadian and international artists. The gallery owns the largest collection of works by modernist landscape painter Emily Carr. Be sure to check the Web site for changing exhibitions! www.vanartgallery.bc.ca

Whistler: Located an hour and a half north of Vancouver. Getting there is half the fun—take the train or drive along the breathtaking "Sea-to-Sky" highway (BC Hwy 99) featuring spectacular moun-



tain and coastal views. From a sightseeing ride on the gondola to a white water rafting adventure there is something for everyone! www.tourismwhistler.com

Victoria: Take a ferry to the southern tip of Vancouver Island and you will find British Columbia's capital city, Victoria. Victoria boasts many historic buildings and some of the most fascinating museums in Canada.

www.tourismvictoria.com

Helpful Tourism and Travel Links

The official tourism site of Vancouver: www.tourismvancouver.com

Interactive maps of Vancouver: www.tourismvancouver.com/visitors/maps

Vancouver Virtual Visitors Guide: http://vancouver.creeldigitaledition.com

Vancouver Smartvisit Card: Offers free entry to over 50 attractions; free guide book and maps; plus special offers on many activities. www.seevancouvercard.com

Don't Forget Your Passport!

All U.S. citizens traveling to and from Canada are now required to have a valid passport. Passports can take up to six months to be processed so please plan ahead. Information on applying for or renewing passports can be found at the U.S. Department of State Web site at http://travel.state.gov/passport/.

AFCC Thanks Contributors

AFCC's Resource Development Committee would like to thank AFCC members for their generous donations in response to this year's Annual Appeal. More than \$20,000 has been raised so far. AFCC member donations will make the following possible:

- Thirty scholarship recipients will attend AFCC conferences this year;
- Court Services professionals, international practitioners, graduate students, chapter members and professionals working in the conference host community will be designated scholarships;

 Two international professionals will receive a scholarship including a \$1,000 travel stipend; and

 AFCC will continue to influence the practice of family law and dispute resolution through outreach programs to support the initiatives of the Domestic Violence and Family Courts Project.

There is still time to contribute! AFCC needs your help to continue and expand these important projects. If you have not yet contributed to this year's fund, please consider making a donation today. You can mail your donation payable to AFCC or donate online at www.afccnet.org.

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Contributor

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AFCC Member Receives Equal Justice Works Fellowship

Laura Daly, AFCC member and Student Managing Editor of Family Court Review from Long Beach, New York, was awarded an Equal Justice Works Fellowship to advocate for the educational needs of children living in foster care in New York City at Lawyers for Children. Laura is a Child and Family Advocacy Fellow in her third year at Hofstra Law School. After completing an internship at Lawyers for Children this past summer, she worked with the agency to shape a fellowship proposal in an area of law that is often unmet for children in foster care. The sponsoring law firm for her Fellowship is the Morrison & Foerster Foundation, an organization tied to the international and multi-practice firm, which places a strong emphasis on pro bono work for children's issues. Starting in the fall of 2008, Laura will represent children in foster care and be the in-house expert on the numerous educational problems that arise for children placed in care at Lawyers for Children throughout the Fellowship.

AFCC Member Preserves Maine's Court Mediation History with New Book

Donald N. Kimmelman, AFCC member from Sorrento, Maine, has written The History of Court Mediation in Maine: Empowering Litigants to Resolve Their Disputes, marking its thirty year anniversary. Court mediation in Maine began in August 1977 and the book illustrates the history of court mediation in Maine in two parts. Part I is a detailed account of court mediation from its origins in the mid 1970s until the death of the program's first director in 1988. Part II highlights the important events that followed and summarizes the expansion of court mediation into the Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Service. The book is also intended to capture Maine's court mediation history by interviewing early Maine practitioners and archiving important documents. If you would like to purchase a copy or for more information, please contact Donald at donaldkimmelman@yahoo.com.

AFCC Member News

Hon. Justice Stuart Fowler, AM, AFCC member from Sydney, Australia was appointed judge of the Family Court of Australia on November 16, 2007. Prior to the appointment, he specialized in the practice of family law as Principal of Stuart Fowler and Partners in Sydney. He is the founding and current co-chair of the World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights. Justice Fowler will be co-presenting the workshop, *Innovative Case Management Approaches to Child Abuse Allegations*, at AFCC's 45th Annual Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

John Lande, AFCC member and University of Missouri School of Law Professor from Columbia, Missouri, was presented with an award by The International Institute for Conflict Resolution and Prevention (CPR) for the best original article written by an academic or professional in 2007 that advances understanding in the field of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). CPR made the award on January 17 at its annual meeting, held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The article, "Principles for Policymaking about Collaborative Law and Other ADR Processes," was published in the *Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution*. This article suggests a set of principles for policymaking about ADR to promote development of multiple dispute resolution processes, choices in dispute resolution processes and sound decision-making.

Nola Risse-Connolly, AFCC Program Coordinator, her husband John and daughter Bronwen celebrated the birth

of their baby, Linnea Joy Risse-Connolly, on November 2, 2007.

Dave Vigliotta, AFCC Marketing and Development Manager, and his wife Angela celebrated the birth of their baby, Andrew Willits Vigliotta, on October 25, 2007.

AFCC Members Write On

Julie Macfarlane, AFCC member from Kingsville, Ontario, has written *The New Lawyer: How Settlement Is Transforming the Practice of Law.* Published by University of Washington Press, the book analyzes an emerging major shift in legal practice toward more collaborative and constructive approaches. Julie will be presenting three conference sessions at AFCC's 45th Annual Conference, May 28-31, 2008 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Where to find it? AFCC's Online Member Bookstore! More than 100 books written or edited exclusively by AFCC members are available on AFCC's Web site. Go to www.afccnet.org/shopping/ and click "Online Bookstore."

Have you written a Book? We want to let others know about new books in the field by AFCC members. Please send information to David Vigliotta, Editor, *AFCC NEWS*, at editor@afccnet.org.

AFCC Chapter News

Colorado

The AFCC Colorado Chapter has elected its Board of Directors and executive office. Board members include: Shelley Bresnick, President; Hon. Randy Arp, Vice President; Susan Elkins, Secretary; Jack Gardner, Treasurer; Hon. Kathy Delgado; Betsy Duvall; Craig Eades; Jennifer Feingold; Bill Fyfe; Steve Gimple; Magistrate Elizabeth Leith; David Rolfe; and Michele Tipple.

The Chapter held its first half-day conference on January 11, 2008 at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. The conference, *Evaluators Under Fire: A Critical Discussion of the Limitations and Value of CFI & APR Recommendations and Evaluations*, featured local presenters William G. Austin, Steve Epstein, Bill J. Fyfe and Hon. Carol Glowinsky.

Florida

The AFCC Florida Chapter held its Annual Conference, *Moving from Conflict to Harmony: A Medley of Opportunities*, November 2-3, 2007 in Orlando, Florida. In conjunction with the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA), the Chapter offered a unique educational experience for magistrates and hearing officers on the first day of the conference. The OSCA magistrates and hearing officers group attended their own track of training and were given the opportunity to attend the conference on the second day. The response was overwhelmingly positive and the Chapter is hopeful that OSCA will continue this arrangement at future conferences. The keynote speaker was Andrew Thomas, who spoke on the topic *Power of Forgiveness*. The next conference will be in Tampa, Florida in February 2009.

Massachusetts

The AFCC Massachusetts Chapter Annual Conference will take place April 11, 2008 at Regis College in Weston, Massachusetts. The conference theme is *Children's Realities: The Truth About Children and Divorce* and features keynote speaker Robert E. Emery, Ph.D., author, *The Truth About Children and Divorce*. For more information, please contact Karen Henell at khenell@verizon.net or (413) 296-0389.

Missouri

The AFCC Missouri Chapter is preparing for its Annual Conference in St. Louis, March 6-7, 2008. The conference features Marsha Kline Pruett, Ph.D., who will discuss Father Involvement: From Overnights to Alienation. The Chapter has created a Parenting Coordinator Task Force, with representatives from the judiciary, legal, legislative, mental health and mediation communities that will disseminate information and promote the practice of parenting coordination throughout the state. The Task Force's first meeting is scheduled to take place in January in Columbia,

Missouri. The Chapter continues to promote regular brown-bag lunch forums on a variety of topics, with Lunch and Learns scheduled in both St. Louis and Kansas City throughout 2008.

New Jersey

The AFCC New Jersey Chapter hosted a dinner program, The Evolution of Parenting Coordination in NJ: Where Are We Now?, at the Sheraton at Woodbridge Plaza, on January 23, 2007. Chapter President Sharon Ryan Montgomery was the moderator and panelists included Frank Weiss, Ronald Silikovitz, Linda Schofel, Gina Bellucci, Hon. Glenn Grant and Hon. Karen Cassidy. The focus of the program was on ethical and practice management issues in the parenting coordination process. The chapter co-sponsored the 2007 Child Custody Conference of the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education. December 8, 2007 at the New Jersey Law Center. The Parenting Coordination Roundtable continues to meet once every six weeks. Topics covered include the status of the NJ pilot program on parenting coordination, consistency in the content of court orders and retainer agreements and proposed parenting coordinator training.

The Ethics Committee of the New Jersey Supreme Court issued an opinion in mid-2005 allowing for the formation of collaborative law groups. Since the ruling, many collaborative law groups have formed throughout the state. The Chapter has appointed a Committee to help facilitate the collaborative law process in New Jersey consisting of Frank Weiss, Barbara Worth and Phil Sobel.

Texas

The AFCC Texas Chapter Annual Conference is scheduled for October 3-4, 2008 in collaboration with the South Texas College of Law in Houston. The Chapter is sending out requests for presentation proposals to complement its keynote speaker, Bruce Perry, M.D., Ph.D. of the Child Trauma Academy. Proposal submission forms and more information on the conference can be found at http://texasafcc.org/afcc_conferences.html.

The Texas Chapter publicly thanks Scott Clarke, its long serving Treasurer, who retired from that position in December 2007. Scott came to AFCC with a "can do" attitude and rapidly established himself as a stellar team member, both for the Chapter Board and amongst the broader collaborative law community.

AFCC Now Accepts American Express and Discover

AFCC is pleased to announce that we now take American Express and Discover credit cards in addition to Visa and Mastercard.



Global Issues

continued from page 5

 47% reported a positive experience and outcome for their children from the CRP children's interview.

- Most found the feedback about their children's needs and views to be highly influential and insightful.
- Reduction in minor conflict, acrimony and distrust was evident immediately after CRP.
- High levels of satisfaction reported after CRP with children's living and visiting arrangements decided during the process.
- 90% left CRP with a strong sense of how to manage their separation and dispute.
- FC's experienced CRP as a powerful and preferred way of working with families pre-Court.
- An important screening role was identified for CRP in early detection of children who need child protection involvement, or therapeutic services, and of parents who required early specialist services to assist the management of their separation, particularly those with personality or mental health disorders.

Part II of this article will be published in the Spring 2008 issue of AFCC NEWS. It will report the current study, which is a follow-up study of parents four months after

completion of their parenting litigation. AFCC's 45th Annual Conference, May 28-31, 2008 in Vancouver, British Columbia will feature a presentation on the implementation of the Child Responsive Program.

Congratulations New Chapter Presidents!

AFCC welcomes and congratulates the following new Chapter Presidents.

· Arizona: Laura Belleau

· California: Sherrie Kibler-Sanchez

· Florida: Nancy Blanton

· Massachusetts: Alexander Jones

· Missouri: Jane Rippeto

· New Jersey: Sharon Ryan Montgomery

New York: Steve AbelTexas: Martha Musselman

AFCC Chapters provide an outstanding opportunity for members to network on a local level. If you would like to join an AFCC Chapter or for more information, please view www.afccnet.org/membership and click the "AFCC Chapters" link.

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ACR Awards AFCC Members

Jim Melamed, AFCC member from Eugene, Oregon was awarded the John Haynes Distinguished Mediator Award at the Association for Conflict Resolution's (ACR) Seventh Annual Conference, October 24-27, 2007, in Phoenix, Arizona. Jim will be presenting at AFCC's 45th Annual Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Sharon Press, AFCC member from Tallahassee, Florida was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for her outstanding contributions to ACR.

Save the Date

Bridgewater State College Division of External Affairs is hosting the First National Research Conference on Child and Family Programs and Policy, July 10-11, 2008 in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. For more information, please visit www.bridgew.edu/ExternalAffairs/.

Indiana University Law School

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The professors are also exploring the possibility of working with Jennifer McIntosh and mediators in Australia to add child-informed mediation practices into the Family and Children Mediation Clinic. This would involve psychology specialists (faculty and graduate students from the psychology department) conducting interviews of children in some families and bringing the children's voice into the mediation process.

Finally, plans are in the works to explore ways to collaborate with AFCC. As the first step in this process, Professor Holtzworth-Munroe will serve as the guest editor for the July 2009 edition of *Family Court Review*. Professors Holtzworth-Munroe, D'Onofrio, and Applegate, as well as other participants in the conference, will be writing articles about presentations from the conference, research, work and the future.

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Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

Call for Presenters

Eighth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

Albuquerque, New Mexico September 25-27, 2008 Albuquerque Marriott \$122/night single or double

AFCC's Eighth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations will offer a wide range of preconference institutes, workshops and plenary sessions addressing practice skills, professional issues and advanced applications. The Symposium is designed for custody evaluators, judges, lawyers, mediators and anyone who works with separated and divorcing families.

Proposed topics may include:

Hybrid evaluation and creative intervention models Drafting orders for custody evaluations The evaluator as parenting coordinator Managing stress and avoiding burnout Ethical considerations in evaluations Psychological testing The ethics of reviewing custody evaluations The role of the litigation consultant Interviewing skills Working with high conflict families Assessing allegations of child abuse and neglect Effective use of collateral sources Domestic abuse and custody evaluations Alienated children Multi-disciplinary perspectives on custody evaluations Testifying and cross-examination

Deadline for workshop proposals is May 1, 2008

AFCC is accepting proposals for ninety-minute workshop sessions including, but not limited to, the topics listed above. If you are interested in presenting a workshop, please send via email: (1) a description outlining the program of no more than one page (12 pt. font); (2) a 75-100 word abstract and workshop title for the program; (3) three learning objectives for your workshop; (4) resumes for all proposed presenters; (5) complete contact information for all proposed presenters; and (6) two professional references. **Maximum of four presenters per workshop.**

Send to afcc3@afccnet.org in Word or Wordperfect. *Electronic submissions are strongly preferred*; however, you may also send your proposal to AFCC, 6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719. Please identify the person who will be coordinating your workshop. AFCC offers a reduced registration fee for conference presenters. AFCC is unable to reimburse travel and related expenses. AFCC is unable to consider late or incomplete proposals. *If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your proposal within one week of submission, please contact us by telephone at 608-664-3750.*

Upcoming AFCC Conferences and Trainings

AFCC Trainings

Advanced Issues in Parenting Coordination: Functional Co-Parenting for High Conflict

Presenter: Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D. February 18-19, 2008 Wyndham DFW Airport North

Dallas/Irving, Texas www.afccnet.org

The Battle Between Abuse and Alienation: Assessment, Diagnosis and Interventions Presenter: Leslie M. Drozd. Ph.D.

February 20-21, 2008 Wyndham DFW Airport North

Dallas/Irving, Texas www.afccnet.org

AFCC Conferences

AFCC 45th Annual Conference Fitting the Forum to the Family: Emerging Challenges for Family Courts

May 28-31, 2008 Westin Bayshore Resort Vancouver, BC, Canada www.afccnet.org

AFCC Eighth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

September 25-27, 2008 Albuquerque Marriott Albuquerque, New Mexico www.afccnet.org

AFCC Eighth International Congress on Parent Education and Access Programs

September 26-27, 2008 Albuquerque Marriott Albuquerque, New Mexico www.afccnet.org

AFCC Chapter Conferences

Arizona Chapter Annual Conference

February 8-10, 2008 Hilton Sedona Hotel & Spa Sedona, Arizona

California Chapter Annual Conference

February 8-10, 2008 Sheraton Delfina Santa Monica, California

Missouri Chapter Annual Conference

March 6-7, 2008 Crowne Plaza St. Louis Airport Bridgeton, Missouri

Massachusetts Chapter Annual Conference

April 11, 2008 Regis College Weston, Massachusetts

www.afccnet.org

