HDFS DEVELOPMENTS

The latest updates in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign brought to you by the HDFS Undergraduate Ambassadors

Publicist: Molly Harmon; Junior Publicist: Kristen Herdegen

Explore ACES 2016:

HDFS faculty, advisors, and students volunteered at this year’s ExploreACES. Prospective students from around the state learned about the College of ACES and its majors including Human Development and Family Studies.

UIUC Undergraduate Research Symposium 2016

The following HDFS students presented their research projects at this year’s Undergraduate Research Symposium. For more information or for a look at the program, please visit www.undergradresearch.illinois.edu.

- Samantha Addante, junior
- Sydney Beck, senior
- Alexis Cirrincione, senior
- Danette DeWeese, senior
- Daria Gonzalez, senior
- Molly Harmon, senior
- Kristen Herdegen, junior
- Ashley-Tate Hollis, senior
- Erin LePoire, senior
- Amy Malinowski, junior
- Sonia Marinez, senior
- Thelma Maxon, senior
- Anita Oladunni, senior
- Alexandra Oliva, sophomore
- Rachel Smith, junior
- Nicole Yaklich, junior
- Jinwen Ye, senior

New Adult Development Minor Offered to Undergraduate Students

The Adult Development minor provides undergraduate students from all disciplines with the opportunity to expand their understanding of issues faced by adults, particularly as they age into later life. The required coursework covers content relating to health issues, social services, and family roles. The minor requires a minimum of 18 credit hours completed from the following three categories: adult development and aging, adult roles in families, and adult capabilities and challenges. Students planning on pursuing careers related to or involving health/social services would benefit from having a thorough understanding of adult development when applying for graduate/professional school or entry-level positions. To obtain more information about the required coursework, please contact Academic Advisor Barbara Anderson at banders9@illinois.edu.
Graduate Student Spotlight

Katherine Magerko

Katherine “Katie” Magerko is an HDFS doctoral candidate who will be completing her dissertation and Ph.D. this summer. She also will be finishing up her first year as a medical student in the Medical Scholars Program. Katie’s research advisor is Dr. Angela Wiley. Together, their research focuses on cardiovascular health in family child care environments. Specifically, they want to learn how interventions could promote health among family child care providers and children. In addition to this research, Katie Magerko is also a clinic manager at Avicenna Community Health Center. She will be moving into a position on the board of directors in May. In the fall, Katie will begin her second year of medical school and prepare for the US Medical Licensing Exam Step 1. She has three more years (of this seven year journey) toward earning her M.D./Ph.D. Afterward, she plans to pursue a pediatric residency program. Katie will still be around the Champaign-Urbana area working on publications based on her research projects and hopes to still see many of the wonderful HDFS students and faculty. Katie would like to thank everyone in HDFS for the supportive environment that gives students the ability to excel. Best of luck to you Katie! You will be missed!

Research Lab Highlight

Dr. Barbara Fiese’s Research

Dr. Barbara Fiese, Director of the Family Resiliency Center at UIUC since 2008, is a professor in HDFS as well as an affiliated professor of Pediatrics and Psychology. Currently, Dr. Fiese is working on two cutting-edge research and instructional projects. The first, “Developing STRONG Kids—From Cells to Society” will provide unique insights into how individual biology interacts with the family environment to promote healthy eating habits in young children. The second project, Transdisciplinary Obesity Prevention Research Sciences (TOPRS), gives undergraduate students the opportunity to view recorded mini-lectures (that feature a wide range of experts) on obesity prevention and professional development. In the classroom, students have opportunities to develop research, leadership, and team-building skills related to the mini-lectures. The ultimate goal of this curriculum is to increase the number of individuals prepared to enter the workforce and graduate schools as members of teams that address issues associated with obesity. Dr. Barbara Fiese is a prolific scholar and valuable member of the HDFS Department. We look forward to hearing about her future research.

Ambassador Student Spotlight

Jinwen Ye, HDFS Senior

Graduating senior and HDFS Ambassador, Jinwen Ye, was recently accepted to Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education, Program in Human Development and Psychology. After completing the one-year Master’s program, she plans to work in an existing parenting program in the United States or other developed countries to learn more about children’s social-emotional development. Her ultimate goal is to design a parenting program to promote Chinese parents’ understanding about children’s social-emotional development in China. When asked what she will miss most about the University of Illinois, she said “Literally everything! The beautiful campus, CRCE and ARC, libraries, corn, different restaurants, the nice friends and classmates, the outstanding faculty members, and the adorable children at the ECDL and CDL.” Jinwen is especially grateful for the research experiences she gained at the University of Illinois. Her favorite experience as an HDFS student was working at the ECDL and CDL, which provided her with valuable insights about child development, which will be beneficial for her future career. We’ll miss you Jinwen!

HDFS Ambassadors - Graduating Seniors 2016

Pictured from left to right with a description of future plans: Back row: Molly Harmon (University of Connecticut), Erin LePoire (University of Washington), Daniel Goldfine (Undecided), Front Row: Jasmine Brown (University of Illinois at Chicago), Vanida Vesuntia (Northwestern University), Tate Hollis (Disney College Program & Child Life Internship)

Not Pictured: Danette DeWeese (University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana), Jinwen Ye (Harvard University)

For more information and giving opportunities visit http://hdfs.illinois.edu