Greetings, and welcome to an all-new TFP! This brief issue introduces our new look — and brings you a summary of upcoming convention activities.

We hope you’ll join us in Toronto, August 6 – 10 for the celebration of our 25th anniversary and bring your voice to the important discussions taking place across several new Society venues. As the needs and work-lives of our membership evolve, the Society for Family Psychology develops as well, diversifying toward globalization, technological outreach, and a widening scope of influence.

Stay tuned for more developments. Look for an enhanced website and more TFP articles online. Whether you work in practice, advocacy, public policy, research, or teaching, look for invitations to talk with us about issues of relevance to you.

As always, we hope you’ll stay in touch.

Society for Family Psychology

Celebrating our Past and Crafting our Future

Thomas Sexton, Ph.D., ABPP

This year is the 25th anniversary for Family Psychology as a Division of the American Psychological Association. Over these years Family Psychology has grown into a specialized knowledge base and practice domain within the larger discipline of Professional Psychology. We have a substantial research base that focuses on clinically significant processes of change, a diverse practice that is both systematic and creative, and as a profession that is recognized as a “specialty” in the American Psychological Association.

Now it’s time to celebrate our distinguished past by starting a dialogue within the Society. It’s time to ask critical questions of research, practice, policy/diversity, and education/training. It’s time to chart the course of our future by linking what we do with the larger context of professional psychology.

Here is a summary of key discussions that have been taking place all year, along with a list of the activities planned for this year’s convention. We hope you’ll plan to attend our events in Toronto, join in our online discussions, and be part of the synergy that is shaping our Society in 2009.

Discussion Forum.

This year in TFP we begin a series of “visions” of the profession. These featured articles are intended to bring forward discussion and ideas about who we are and where we need to go as a profession and as a society.

Family Psychology Clearinghouse.

We began development of a web based clearinghouse to become a resource for family psychologists in research and practice settings. Sections will include:

• A scientific clearinghouse for studies, specific findings, and our EBP recommendations.
• A practice innovations section for clinical inspirations, applications of family psychology in unique settings, and other practice tips.
• A educational section through which workshops are provided along with suggestions for syllabi, family course content, and ways to meet program and accreditation requirements for APA.
• A continuing education section where online CE opportunities are provided.
• An advocacy section in which current information is provided about political and social issues such as health

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care reform and interpersonal violence.
• A diversity section offering ideas, studies, and other information for culturally relevant family psychology practice.

Membership Initiatives.
Membership in the Society remained steady despite overall drops in APA and in many other divisions. In an effort to increase membership among new professionals and students, the Board developed two membership enhancement programs.

a. Targeted “new member” sponsorship: Members can volunteer to both identify and sponsor one new member. The new member will receive the normal free membership during the first year. The sponsor will then donate the Society membership fee for the second year.

b. Regular “new member” sponsorship: Members can volunteer to sponsor a new member from within a pool of potential new members who respond to an invitation to join this special program. A committee of the membership chair, the president elect, and the student member to the board will choose new members to receive board sponsorship.

Annual Convention: August, 2009, Toronto

The Program Committee developed series of innovative activities intended to promote opportunities for discussion, debate, and social connections among members and interested others. The activities are focused around the theme “Celebrating our Past and Crafting our Future.” Please join your colleagues in these activities.

1. Convention within a Convention
In collaboration with Divisions 16, 37, and 54, we have a Family Psychology track within the convention: “Translating Research into Practice to promote Innovations in the Practice of Child and Family Psychology.” In this track, we’ll focus on the innovative translation of research into practice — and practice into research.

- Level of Evidence: Making Evidence Clinically Relevant in Family Psychology, Thomas L. Sexton, Ph. D.
- Translating Psychological Research into Practice in Pediatrics, Anne Kazak, Ph. D., Lamia Barakat, Ph. D.
- Generating Culturally and Contextually Relevant Evidence-Based Practices in Schools and Communities: Application of Mixed-Method Research Designs, Bonnie K. Nastasi, PhD.
- Research in Practice Situations: How to Improve Outcomes with Feedback From Clients, Len Bickman, Ph. D., 11-11:50, 713B, Toronto Convention Center. *Each program is in room 713B of the Convention Center beginning at 9 am on Saturday August 8th. CE credits are available.

2. Innovations in the Practice of Family Psychology (Invited Presidential Program): International Family Psychology
International applications of family psychology represent one of the future challenges for Family Psychology in regard to research, cultural, ethnic, and racial diversity, training, and methods of practice. The Invited Presidential Program is intended to focus on the challenges and implications of international settings for our future practice, theory, and research activities.
- Family Psychology Around the World: A Rapidly Moving Kaleidoscope
- Family Psychology in the Philippines
- Family Psychology in the Netherlands
- Family Psychology in Italy
- Family Psychology in Bosnia

3. Fellows Address: Honoring new Fellows of the Society for Family Psychology (Saturday 3 – 4:30)
- Honoring Current Fellows. We will reinstate the Fellows presentations providing our current Society Fellows to discuss their work and its implications on the future of the field and the Society