



GROVES CONFERENCE

on Marriage and Family

From the Desk of the President
Sharon M. Ballard, PhD



Greetings!

As we are settling into our third academic year affected by COVID-19, we have all been challenged to change and adapt in many ways. But, along with the challenges, the pandemic has presented us with opportunities too. We have had the opportunity to take different perspectives, to stop and reflect, and to move forward in new ways. For example, we showed strength and resiliency as an organization by embracing technology to hold our 2021 annual conference in a virtual format. This move to online not only provided us with the opportunity to connect and learn from each other but to connect with members who haven't been able to travel to our in-person conferences in recent years. Thank you to Liz Dolan and Irene Leech who chaired the conference. Check out their article in this newsletter sharing conference highlights.

In the spirit of hope, there is information in this newsletter about the upcoming 2022 conference planned for the Bahamas, a destination that is not new to Groves. Raeann Hamon and Chloe Merrill, our 2022 conference chairs, are planning a fantastic conference and we are optimistic that we will be able to come together in person to connect, share, and learn. The theme of the conference is "Families as a source of strength, healing and hope." Our Groves family has always been a source of strength, healing, and hope and we need this now more than ever! A key to this is connection. Roger Rubin, a long-term Groves member, said that "Socializing to build personal relationships serves as a crucial element comprising the 'Groves way'" (Settles, Rubin, & Sibbison, 2012, p. 18). As president, I want to focus on increasing connection and engagement with our members so that we can continue to support each other and to share ideas even at times that we are unable to gather in person.

The recent death of Roger Rubin (see tribute in this newsletter) has prompted me to reflect upon the "Groves way" and learn more about the rich history and traditions of Groves. Roger and Barbara Settles edited volume 2 of the monograph series on the history and impact of Groves on Family Science. This volume highlights the importance of the Groves family as a source of strength, healing, and hope over the years. If you do not already own a copy of this volume, I encourage you to purchase one (see page 3 for information on ordering).

As always, family science is front and center of so many issues in the world right now and Groves continues to have an important role to play. Indeed, "The primary mission of Groves is to foster critical thinking about issues in the area of family science and to promote social action and social justice." Groves has always addressed cutting edge issues and has not been afraid to tackle new ideas. These times require the initiative and grit that we celebrate as an organization.

As we move forward, we also need to celebrate and embrace diversity within our membership. I want to thank Past Groves President Maresa Murray for her leadership, her positive energy, and her reminders to let racial equity and social inclusion "freely dances its way into the quiet and ignored crevasses of Groves." Let's continue to build on Maresa's work to infuse positive social change of inclusion and racial equity into Groves.

I hope for a productive and healthy year for everyone in our Groves family and look forward to connecting with you in the Bahamas!

Sharon

2021 Year End Newsletter

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Groves 2021 Conference

A Virtual Conference on

Family Advocacy and Family Policy: Caring for Families in the Exo- and Macro-Spheres

Program Chairs: Liz Dolan & Irene Leech

Groves 2021 Virtual Conference Highlights, by Liz Dolan

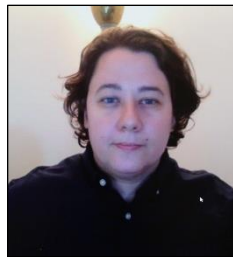
At the 2021 virtual conference, “*Family Advocacy and Family Policy: Caring for Families in the Exo- and Macro-Spheres*,” participants learned about the art and practice of family advocacy and policy. We learned about the art of advocacy from several speakers, including members of the AAMFT family/advocacy team who presented “*Advocacy 101 & where to start.*” The Executive Director of the Scholar Strategy Network talked about bridging the gap between research and policy. We also heard from a lobbyist, a state representative, and a congressman about strategies for advocating for change. On the practice side, we learned about policies related to elders, children with disabilities, marginalized families, and families under stress. The Sussman Award was presented to Dr. Rachel Moskowitz, Trinity College, for her paper entitled: *Policies for Aging Americans: A Look at Public Opinion and the Role of Government*. Participants were also treated to an historical perspective of Groves in which a number of Academy and Lifetime members participated.



Familiar Faces



Creative and Fun Social Connections



A Very Special AM/LM Recognition & History Event

Thank you, Liz Dolan!



The year 2021 has marked many changes. For Groves, one of those changes is longtime Groves Treasurer Liz Dolan's departure from the role of Groves Treasurer. In the spring, she announced that she would be resigning the role she has held since 2013. The Groves Board sincerely appreciates her many contributions to the role over the years.

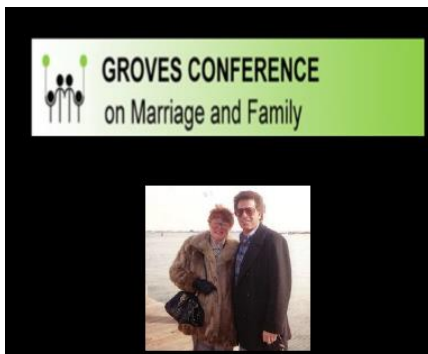
In 2013, it was Liz who suggested a new discounted dues rate for students and new professionals, and the membership overwhelmingly voted to secure the new dues rate. If you joined as student or new member starting in 2014, you saw a discount on your dues, and can thank Liz. She has gone above and beyond to increase member numbers and actively recruit new and renewing members.

Thank you, Liz, for your many contributions as treasurer over the years. We appreciate you!

Long-time Groves member, Roger Rubin, remembered.



Groves Conference organizers were pleased that Roger joined us earlier this year for the special AM/LM History Event.



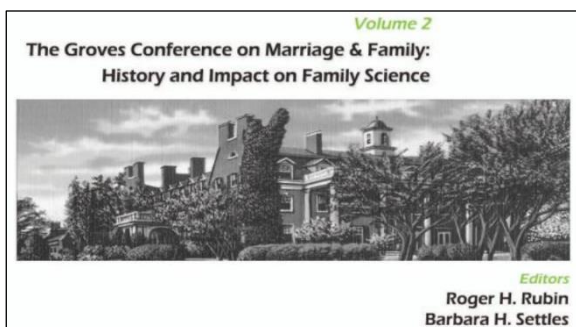
TRIBUTE TO ROGER RUBIN 2021

Barbara H. Settles, Ph.D.

Professor of Human Development & Family Sciences

University of Delaware

Click here to [view](#) a tribute prepared by Barbara Settles.



Groves Monographs on Marriage and Family (Volume 2) – *History and Impact on Family Science*

Hard Copies available.

Contact Groves to order yours. \$22 (free mailing).

This rich work was edited by Roger Rubin and Barbara Settles.

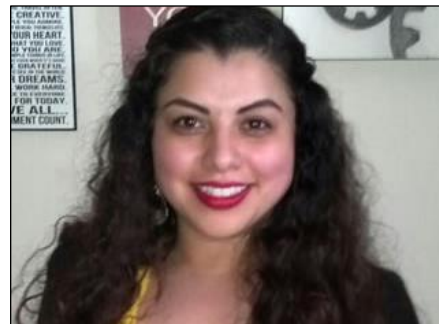
Order yours today! Contact Linda Vukelich, L.Vukelich@comcast.net or call 651-278-4241.

Yuliana Rodriguez-Vongsavanh, PhD, CFLE, will serve as Treasurer

Groves members will recognize Yuliana's name as a member of the board and in her role as Groves Membership Chair. A Groves member since 2017, Yuliana is a consistent contributor and always brings energy and a positive attitude to every interaction. She is excited to serve and is prepared to fill the position, especially noting Liz Dolan's mentorship.

Yuliana earned her PhD in Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and now serves as a clinical assistant professor in HDFS and Applied Developmental Science and Special Education (ADSSE) programs in the School of Education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In her position in the Institute for the Study of Americas, her work focuses on the sociocultural factors influencing well-being in vulnerable populations, family and couple experiences of immigrant groups, and marital and relationship education.

The Groves Treasurer serves as the organization's point person on finances, recordkeeping and reporting, and financial resource management. The treasurer advises and reports to the board and members to maintain Groves' fiduciary integrity and transparency. Thank you, Yuliana!



Annual Dues Campaign Coming!

Watch for Groves membership renewal information in January. Is there someone you've been thinking of nominating? Please help us spread the good work of by inviting others to join. New members are welcome to apply all year long. Go to the Groves website at www.grovesconference.org for nomination information.

In the meantime,

As you plan your end-of-year giving, please consider Groves!

Sussman Award – Feldman Award – Goeble-Macklin Award

Groves members are our most valuable asset! Thank you!

2022 Groves Conference on Marriage and Family Families as a Source of Strength, Healing & Hope Paradise Island, Bahamas • May 23-25, 2022

Conference Committee Chairs:
Dr Raeann Hamon, CFLE, & Dr. Chloe D. Merrill, CFLE

[CLICK HERE FOR 2022 CONFERENCE FLYER](#)

Call for Proposals

Families serve as an essential source of strength, healing and hope during times of challenge and hardship. For this conference, we'd like to focus on scholarship and professional practice which capture the role that families play in helping its own members and the larger society manage the vicissitudes of life. What family strengths are essential? How can relationships experience healing and reconciliation? What role does hope play in times of trouble?

By January 15, 2022, submit a 2-3 page [conference proposal](#).

Conference Cost: Registration includes three lunches, one dinner, Junkanoo Rush.

Early registration rates (before March 1, 2022)

- \$375 (US) for members
- \$475 for non-members
- \$300 for FT students.

For general questions contact:

- Dr. Raeann Hamon, CFLE, rhamon@messiah.edu
- Dr. Chloe D. Merrill, CFLE, cmerrill@weber.edu

Accommodations:

The conference will be held at Comfort Suites, Paradise Island, Bahamas.

- The junior suites include a parlor lounge with a pullout sofa bed and a main sleeping area (either king bed or two double beds).
- Enjoy free Wi-Fi, free parking, a complimentary full hot American buffet breakfast, as well as a beautiful outdoor pool.
- All guests receive complimentary access to the adjacent Atlantis Resort facilities including private beaches, 11 pools, 9 water slides, a mile-long tubing river (with waves and rapids), rock climbing, and waterfalls. (Daily admission to Atlantis Resort Water Park typically costs \$125 and is included in your Comfort Suites hotel charge.)
- Our conference rate applies for extended dates between May 19 and May 27, 2022. The daily rate per room is \$150 for single/double occupancy, \$190 for triples, and \$230 for quadruples. A two night minimum is required.
- Taxes and service charges are not included in above rate and are subject to change. Bahamian hotels charge additional room fees, including : 11.20% resort levy, \$5.00 per person per night for housekeeping gratuity and \$17.87 per person per night for utility surcharge; \$14.56 per person per night for hotel service charge; and \$1.60 per person per day for pool/beach gratuity; 12% VAT added to nightly total (excludes housekeeping & Pool/Beach).



There are 2 ways to reserve your room.

1. **Fill out the [Reservation form](#).** Please email the form to LBeneby@Comfordsuitespi.com or Reservations@Comfordsuitespi.com
2. **Call hotel reservations** toll free at 1-855-603-1105.

It is highly recommended that you reserve your room NO LATER THAN February 1, 2022 – hotel fills quickly.

[CLICK HERE FOR 2022 CONFERENCE FLYER](#)

Congratulations, to our newly-elected Board Members!

Membership Chair Karmen Smith (3 year term)

Student/New Professional Carrie Bergeson (2 year term)

At-Large Member Karen Donecker (2 year term)

2021-2022 Board Members

Sharon Ballard, President

Maresa Murray, Past President

Yuliana Rodriguez, Treasurer

Helyne Frederick, Secretary

Chloe Merrill, At Large Member

Colleen Murray, At Large Member

Karen Donecker, At Large Member

Brian Masciadrelli, Parliamentarian

Karmen Smith, Membership Chair

Kevin Lyness, Monograph Editor

Barbara Settles, Awards Chair

Anisa Zvonkovic, Nominations Chair

Liz Dolan, 2021 Program Co-Chair

Irene Leech, 2021 Program Co-Chair

Raeann Hamon, 2022 Program Co-Chair

Chloe Merrill, 2022 Program Co-Chair

Carrie Bergeson, New Professional

Kari Adamsons, Corporate Representative

Groves Members are invited to contact Groves to get involved and serve.



GROVES CONFERENCE
on Marriage and Family

The Groves Conference was begun in 1934 by the late Professor Ernest Groves, who was among the first academicians to give a course in marriage and the family in an established university, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The conferences began with the bringing together of a few teachers and students interested in serious study of the family. It evolved over the years into an interdisciplinary, interprofessional organization of limited invited membership. Its objectives are to work on the leading edges of theory development and empirical research in the field. The Groves Conference is timely and provocative with diverse and flexible foci.

Groves Conference on Marriage and Family
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