



# GROVES CONFERENCE

## on Marriage and Family

### From the Desk of the President

Sharon M. Ballard, PhD, CFLE



Greetings!

I hope your new year is off to a great start! There certainly has been some extreme weather around the country with many of you experiencing extreme cold, snow, rain, and winds. This extreme weather along with the persistence of COVID continues to challenge us all! Wherever you are located, I hope that you are staying safe, healthy, warm, and dry.

I am very excited about this year's conference which will be an immersion experience into Lakota culture on Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. Thank you to conference planning committee of Kari Adamsons, Heather Sedges, Sandy Lookabaugh, myself, and our Groves manager Linda Vukelich. We are partnering with Amizade, which is a nonprofit organization that focuses on providing safe, ethical, and collaborative learning experiences

around the world. Registration closed on February 3rd, but we have room for just a few more participants. So you still have a few days to make your plans to join us for this stimulating conference, contact Linda Vukelich, (lmvukelich@gmail.com).

I am also pleased to announce our second annual book group! Please plan to join us for this virtual event on March 23rd (see more information and registration link in this newsletter). The virtual book group is a way for us to connect and engage in discussion about a book relevant to the conference theme. Our book this year is *The Inconvenient Indian* by Thomas King. Participation in this event is free for Groves members.

And speaking of membership, it is time to renew your Groves membership! Membership aligns with the calendar year so please renew for 2023! Your continued membership is vital to this organization! Look for more on our membership drive and a renewal link in this newsletter. I look forward to connecting and engaging with you over the coming year, particularly through our virtual book group in March!

Sharon

### 2023 February Newsletter

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## Membership Committee Report

Groves Membership Committee Chair, Karmen Smith, PhD



First and foremost, we want to thank you for your continued membership with Groves. Without your loyalty and support, we would not be able to continuously provide our members with

valuable benefits and actively develop our community. Put simply, you make what we do possible.

We hope you've been able to personally benefit from your membership with Groves. We're always open to suggestions and feedback from each valued member. Call me at 727-992-4929 or email me at [ksmith22@antioch.edu](mailto:ksmith22@antioch.edu) to share ideas for how to best meet your needs. As we embark on 2023, we sincerely hope that you will join us for another outstanding year of great programs and professional development.



Good news! There's still time to renew and it's as easy as ever. Click on this link, [\[www.grovesconference.org/membership\]](http://www.grovesconference.org/membership), and follow the prompts.

### Spread the word!

*Do you have colleagues who would benefit from Groves membership and participation? Please pass this information along to them.*

*"The small nature of Groves has allowed me to feel a connection to a professional organization unlike I've previously experienced. The Annual Conference Meetings are intimate, provocative, and enlightening. Groves is intentional about selecting relevant topics for our times and, therefore, for family scientists."*

**Who We Are:** 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. Our members are an interdisciplinary and interprofessional organization of faculty, researchers, students, and family professionals.

**What We Do:** Host annual conferences, offer access to quarterly newsletters, provide annual members-only scholastic and achievement awards, publish special edition monographs, and facilitate other events that support our members' professional and academic development

**Who We're Seeking:** Scholars, Professionals, and Students in Family Science, Family Life Education, Human Development, Marriage and Family Therapy, Sociology, Psychology, Social Work, Theology, Child Development, Health, Addictions, and Other Mental Health Professionals.

**Do you know someone who would be interested in joining?** Open up the Groves community to them – share this link [\[www.grovesconference.org/membership\]](http://www.grovesconference.org/membership) to become a member of Groves and learn more about the Groves Way!

## Groves Book Club – Thursday, March 23, 7:30-9:00pm – via zoom



The book that we have chosen is *The Inconvenient Indian* by Thomas King.

King's work is an account of the history of indigenous rights and treaties in North America. He notes the portrayal of indigenous peoples in popular media as having contributed greatly to public knowledge of North American Indians. The book ends on an optimistic note: "If the last five hundred years are any indication, what the Native people of North America do with the future should be very curious indeed."



The book discussion will be held on Thursday, March 23rd at 7:30-9:00 p.m. EST and facilitated by Dr. Sandy Lookabaugh.

Participation in this event is free for Groves Members but registration is required. ([Book Discussion Registration](#)) Non-members will also be able to register for a fee of \$25 (\$15 for non-member students). A registration and payment link will be made available for non-members, but members can register now!

**Join us virtually March 23 to connect with other Groves members!**  
([Book Discussion Registration](#))



### ***Calling all Groves members!***

Have you valued your Groves membership and wondered about getting more involved? Have you considered service on the Groves Board? Contact Groves President Sharon Ballard ([ballards@ecu.edu](mailto:ballards@ecu.edu)) to learn more and share ideas.

## Deadline Extended!

The deadline for the Special Issue of Journal of Marriage and Family Review on the Discipline of Family Science has been extended until March 1.

Submission website: [https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special\\_issues/discipline-family-science/](https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/discipline-family-science/)

Podcast episode featuring Anthony James and Kathleen Dyer discussing their vision for this special issue: <https://www.profajames.com/podcasts/a-discussion-about-the-mfr-special-issue-the-discipline-of-family-science/>

## 2023 Dues Renewals

***[Click here to renew your Groves membership for 2023.](#)***

**Thank you in advance for your continued membership and participation!**

Groves members are our most valuable asset! Help us spread the word to your colleagues. Please go to the Groves website at [www.grovesconference.org](http://www.grovesconference.org) for nomination information and dues renewals. Thank you!

## Groves 2023 Board Election Ballot includes Bylaws Amendment Vote

Groves Members are asked to vote for 1 Groves Conference on Marriage and Family Board position with the term starting in May 2023 after the annual conference.

- Groves Member-at-Large (2023-2025) (uncontested) Colleen Murray, PhD
- Groves members are also asked to consider and vote on the following proposed Bylaws changes. Proposed changes are **highlighted**. Key – **Red type** = additions, **Blue** = deletions, **Green**= rationale

**Voting is open!** [Click here for the Groves 2023 Bylaws Amendments & Board Election Ballot](#)

### BYLAWS

#### Groves Conference on Marriage and Family

##### I. Name and Status

- A. The name of this organization shall be Groves Conference on Marriage and Family (also referred to as Groves or Groves Conference).
- B. This organization shall be a not-for-profit corporation, located in and governed by the statutes and regulations of the State of Connecticut.

##### II. Purpose

- A. The mission of this organization shall be to continue the model of professional exchange and interaction established by its founder Ernest R. Groves, through timely and provocative discussions with diverse and flexible foci, in a manner that allows for the exploration of issues in depth as well as free exchange of ideas, information, and experience among scholars and other professionals from the various disciplines concerned with families.
- B. The objective of the organization shall be to work on the leading edges of theory development and empirical research in the field.

##### III. Membership

- A. Categories
  1. Regular members of Groves include full members and student members. Regular members must pay annual dues to retain membership.
  2. Honorary members of Groves include Lifetime members and Groves Academy members. Honorary members retain dues-free memberships for life.
- B. Selection Criteria
  1. Full members are professionals from any field who are involved in determining the future of scholarly, professional, and public policy developments in the field of marriage and family.
  2. Student members of Groves are ~~advanced doctoral~~ **graduate** students in family science and allied disciplines, with demonstrated achievement in research, teaching, and/or service to families and promise of continued achievement and leadership.  
**Rationale – we sometimes have Masters students join Groves as student members so do not want to limit to doctoral students only.**
  3. Lifetime members are Groves members who have made notable contributions to the Groves Conference.
  4. Groves Academy members are members of Groves Conference who have been selected in recognition of the extraordinary quality of their scholarly work in the field of marriage and family.
- C. Selection Procedures
  1. The number of members shall not exceed 400, counting all categories of members.
  2. Prospective regular members may self-nominate or be nominated by a current member of Groves. The membership chair shall act on behalf of the Board of Directors to make a decision about membership of those nominated.
  3. Selection of lifetime members shall be made from the membership of Groves Conference. Election shall be made by the Board of Directors. No more than one person is to be selected as a lifetime member during one 3-year presidential term of office.
  4. Selection of Groves Academy members shall be made from the membership of Groves Conference. Election shall be made by the entire membership of the Academy. If there are fewer than four members of the Academy at any given time, the current and past presidents of Groves (in reverse order of date of

service up to a total electorate of four members) shall make the selection. No more than one person is to be selected as an Academy member during one 3-year presidential term of office.

5. Student members who continue to pay dues will be automatically designated as full members upon submission of evidence of graduation by the student member to the membership chair.

#### IV. Officers and Board of Directors

##### A. Composition

1. Elected members of the Board of Directors shall be a president, a president-elect (for one year before term as president), the immediate past president (for one year following term as president), a secretary, a membership chair, student/new professional representative, and three at-large members.
2. Other members of the board shall be a treasurer, an awards chair, two program chairs (one for the previous or current conference and one for the next conference), the monograph series editor, a parliamentarian, and a corporate representative.
3. All members of the board except the parliamentarian shall serve as voting members.

##### B. Selection and Terms of Office

1. The president will appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of a chair and at least two other members. Members of the Nominating Committee shall be announced at the annual general business meeting. Nominations for elected officers shall be sought by the Nominating Committee from the full membership. The Nominating Committee shall submit a proposed slate of officers to the Board of Directors. Upon approval by the Board of Directors the proposed slate of officers will be submitted to the full membership for election.
2. The president-elect shall be elected by the voting membership to a 1-year term immediately preceding a 3-year term as president. The retiring president shall serve one additional year on the board as immediate past president.
3. The secretary, membership chair, and three at-large members of the board shall be elected by the voting membership for 3-year terms.
4. The student/new professional representative shall be elected by the voting membership for a two year term.
5. The terms of the president, secretary, and membership chair shall be staggered so that each year a new term begins for one of these officers. The terms of the three at-large members also shall be staggered so that one new at-large member of the board begins each year.
6. The treasurer shall be selected by the Board of Directors, as a member of the Board of Directors, for a one-year term.
7. The corporate representative shall be selected by the Board of Directors, as a member of the Board of Directors, for an indeterminate term. The corporate representative must be a resident of the State of Connecticut.
8. The awards chair shall be appointed by the president, as a member of the Board of Directors, for a 3-year term coinciding with the term of the president.
9. The program chair(s) shall be selected by the Board of Directors no later than the year before the chaired conference. The program chair shall serve on the board during the year before the chaired conference and the year immediately following the chaired conference. (Planning responsibilities may begin earlier.) If program co-chairs are selected, only one program chair shall serve as a voting member of the board.
10. A monograph series editor shall be appointed by the president, as a member of the Board of Directors, for a 3-year term coinciding with the term of the president.
11. The parliamentarian shall be appointed by the president, as a *non-voting* member of the Board of Directors, for a 3-year term coinciding with the term of the president.
12. The regular election of officers and board members shall be concluded by the end of January each year. The term of office will begin at the end of the next annual ~~conference~~ business meeting. **Rationale – the business meeting may not always coincide with the conference (see proposed amendment in V. B).**
13. Nominees for all offices must be full members in good standing of Groves at the time of the election. The nominees for the student/new professional representative must be student members or full members in good standing at the time of the election.

##### C. Board Member Replacements

1. Any board member who misses two consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors shall be replaced. In the case of extenuating circumstances, an exception can be made if (a) the board member has been active in carrying out board responsibilities in other ways, (b) The board member provides a written explanation of absence from board meetings and requests retention on the board, and (c) the request is approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors.
2. If the president vacates that office before the completion of the 3-year term, the immediate past president shall assume the office of president until a new president can be elected. An election shall be held as soon as possible to elect a new president to complete the unexpired term.
3. If an elected member of the Board of Directors other than the president vacates a position before the completion of the term to which that member was elected, at the next regular election the position shall be filled by election of a replacement for the remainder of the unexpired term. The president may, with the approval of the Board of Directors, appoint another person (who may or may not already be a member of the Board of Directors) to carry out the responsibilities of the position during the interim period (until the next regular election).
4. If more than one position on the Board of Directors is vacated within a given year (other than by expiration of the term of office), the Board of Directors may develop a plan whereby replacements are elected for terms other than 3-years in length, in order to maintain a system of board continuity through staggered terms. Approval of such a plan requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Board of Directors.

#### V. Meetings

- A. There shall be at least one general business meeting of the membership each year.
- B. The business meeting shall be scheduled by the program chair to occur during the annual conference or by the president to occur virtually within one month of the annual conference.  
**Rationale:** The annual conference is not always conducive to a business meeting and a virtual meeting is likely to yield better attendance.
- C. There shall be at least two meetings of the Board of Directors each year.  
**Rationale:** There currently is nothing in the bylaws regarding board meetings.

#### VI. Amendments

- A. Proposed amendments to these bylaws must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- B. After approval by the Board of Directors, proposed amendments must be presented to the Groves membership with mailed ballot. Final approval requires assent by a majority of votes received.
- C. Editorial revisions (with no substantive change) in these bylaws must be approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- D. Editorial revisions approved by the Board of Directors must be announced to the membership at the annual meeting.

#### VII. Rules of Order

- A. Standard parliamentary procedures shall be followed for all meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors to ensure adequate notice and fair opportunity for debate.
- B. A suspension of the bylaws must be approved by a majority vote of the board of directors.
- C. For matters not covered by these bylaws, the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed.  
*Proposed Revisions Approved by the Board November 16, 2022, Current Version Approved March 2, 2018*

### Candidate for At-Large Board member



#### Member-at-Large (uncontested) Colleen Murray, PhD

**Bio:** Professor of Sociology and Social Psychology; Adjunct Professor of Human Development and Family Science; Affiliate Faculty in Public Health, Justice Management, and Gender, Race and Identity Programs at the University of Nevada, Reno. Fellow in Thanatology, Association for Death Education and Counseling. Current projects include a longitudinal study of university students before and during the COVID-19 pandemic; experiences of mixed-document status immigrant families from Mexico and Central America; and the intersection of technologies, relationships, and identity. Scholarly

interests include grief and loss in family, mass media, and culture; and the intersection of social psychologies of health and justice in loss, families, adolescents, and technologies. I joined Groves at the encouragement of my

advisor, Pat McKenry, and gave my first presentation in Newport, Rhode Island. I am currently finishing a term as a Member-at-Large, and in the past I served as a member of the Groves Annual Program Planning Committee.

**Platform Statement:** Groves provides a unique environment that encourages taking risks by thinking beyond the norm and addressing timely sensitive issues. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue as a Member-at-Large and use my interdisciplinary background to support the Groves' focus on bridging disciplines to stimulate new perspectives on families.

**Voting is open!** [Click here for the Groves 2023 Bylaws Amendments & Board Election Ballot](#)

**Call for Manuscripts! Groves Monograph: *Families as Sources of Strength, Healing and Hope***

**Co-Editors:** Raeann R. Hamon, Ph.D., Messiah University ([rhamon@messiah.edu](mailto:rhamon@messiah.edu)), Chloe D. Merrill, Ph.D., Transformational Symmetry Consulting ([transformationalsymmetry@comccast.net](mailto:transformationalsymmetry@comccast.net))

This monograph will elaborate on the theme of the 2022 Groves Conference on Marriage and Family held in Paradise Island, Bahamas. We encourage those who presented at the conference to submit their work but invite additional scholars to submit their manuscripts on the theme, as well.

Families serve as an essential source of strength, healing and hope during times of challenge and hardship. For this monograph, 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?

Please submit your full manuscript by March 15, 2023. We plan to review manuscripts as they come in, providing feedback to authors. We anticipate a publication date by December of 2023. If you have an idea that you would like to discuss for the monograph, please contact Raeann or Chloe.

Manuscripts can be emailed to [rhamon@messiah.edu](mailto:rhamon@messiah.edu).

## 2022-2023 Board of Directors

**President (2021-2024)** Sharon Ballard (East Carolina University)

**Treasurer** Yuliana Rodriguez (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill)

**Secretary (2021-2024)** Helyne Frederick (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill)

**At Large Members** Chloe Merrill (2022-2025) • Colleen Murray (2020-2023) • Karen Doneker (2021-2024)

**Membership Chair (2021-2024)** Karmen Smith, PhD (3H Counseling, LLC)

**Parliamentarian** Brian Masciadrelli

**Groves Monograph Series Editor** Kevin Lyness (Antioch University)

**Awards Chair** Barbara Settles (University of Delaware)

**Nominations Chair** Anisa Zvonkovic (University of Georgia)

**2022 Program Chairs** Raeann Hamon (Messiah Univ), Chloe Merrill (Transformational Symmetry Consult.)

**2023 Program Chair:** Heather Sedges, PhD, CFLE (University of Tennessee)

**Student/New Professional (2022-2025)** Carrie Bergeson (East Carolina University)

**Corporate Representative** Kari Adamsons (University of Connecticut)

**Groves Manager** Linda Vukelich [grovesmanager@yahoo.com](mailto:grovesmanager@yahoo.com) - [L.Vukelich@comcast.net](mailto:L.Vukelich@comcast.net)



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