

# Newsletter

CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



Diane Follingstad, Ph.D., has been Director of the Center since 2014 and the Women's Circle Endowed Chair since 2008.



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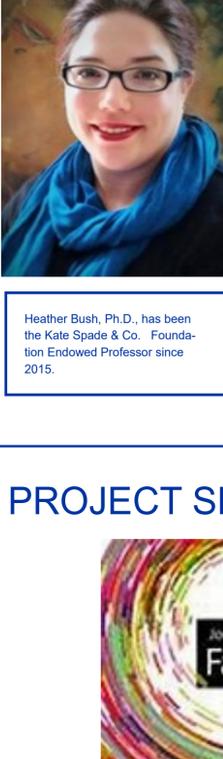
As I write this opening for our newsletter everything, our university included, is closing down in response to coronavirus disease (COVID-19). We are continuing with any of our research that can be done remotely or that does not require direct contact with participants, but we have one project at our local shelter, Greenhouse17, that has raised some interesting questions and issues. Our project is the evaluation of the effects when residents participate in therapeutic horticulture above and beyond receiving the programs and services that the shelter provides to all residents. The shelter instituted their farm project a number of years ago when they moved from an urban setting to horse farm country in the area surrounding Lexington, KY. We have been collecting evaluation data for a couple years now with at least one more year left.

Recently, as has been happening everywhere, the university began to close in stages, at first thinking that keeping students off campus for two weeks following their Spring Break would be an important move, but within days of watching the predictions for the pandemic, the UK administration decided against having students return to campus for the semester. Considerations of whether some people should work off campus quickly led to closing the campus down, so that justifications for why people could work off campus changed to requiring justifications for why someone would need to be on campus at all. University research offices began publishing guidelines for shutting down most research and also clinical trials, unless they were essential for patient health, in order to limit human contact. Cities have also become quite shuttered and the number of people on the streets has dwindled.

So, what do battered women's shelters do in this situation? They are service agencies with clients with complex needs. Some women live in a shelter for significant periods of time and do not have a living space they can return to. In addition to the fears of the pandemic, the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic are certain to further complicate the lives of women in need of these services. And, most worrisome, the effects on relationships from job loss, prolonged confinement, and increased substance abuse in response to stressful events are a toxic recipe for an increase in intimate partner violence. This is especially true when no one knows how long these conditions will remain in place. Thus, our local shelter is remaining open while instituting as many safety precautions as possible. And, they have decided that they definitely want to keep the therapeutic horticulture (i.e., farm) project going because they see it as a steady force as well as a helpful mode for distraction from the pandemic anxieties. They may also need some of the products from the farm to help keep the shelter fed during this time, and they feel that the stipends from the research project that are paid to the women working on the farm will be of some help during these strained financial times.

We are happy, of course, that the shelter values their farm project such that they plan to keep it going for as long as they are able during these uncertain times. Our project staff, therefore, has had to become very creative in order to figure how to keep the evaluation research going while not having a physical presence there. The shelter staff have "stepped up" to take over certain tasks, such as making the payments for farm participation or taking surveys. Our program manager has made arrangements to do many things by phone or email, e.g., "attending" case review meetings by phone, upon identification of eligible residents for aspects of the project handling informed consent and participant recruitment over the phone, and sending email links to a staff member who can arrange for residents to take the designated survey on the project computer. These are trying times, but it is heartening to see how our local shelter keeps working and how beneficial a researcher-practitioner partnership can be to all involved. We are indebted to the shelter for their commitment to their clients which, in turn, allows us to honor our institutional mission, not simply to be the University of Kentucky, but the University *for* Kentucky.

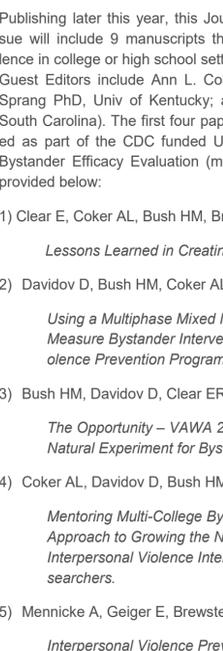
## FACULTY



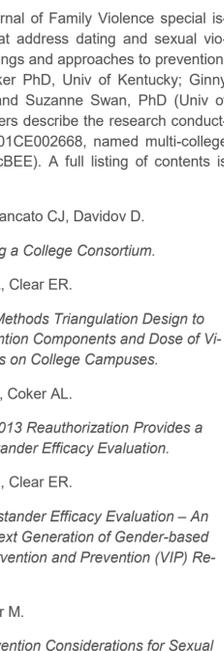
Ann Coker, Ph.D. has been the Verizon Wireless Endowed Chair since 2007.



Claire Renzetti, Ph.D., has been the Judi Conway Patton Endowed Chair since 2010.

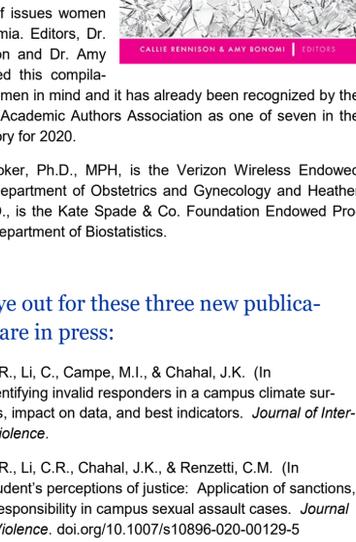


Heather Bush, Ph.D., has been the Kate Spade & Co. Foundation Endowed Professor since 2015.



Charles Carlson, Ph.D., has been the Robert H. and Anna B. Culton Endowed Professor since 2008.

## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



### UKY Faculty, Ann Coker, Ph.D. and Ginny Sprang, Ph.D. Guest Edit Journal of Family Violence Special Edition.

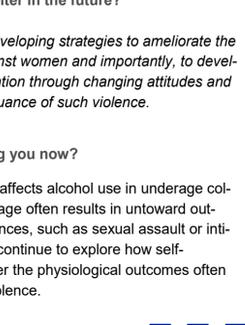
Publishing later this year, this Journal of Family Violence special issue will include 9 manuscripts that address dating and sexual violence in college or high school settings and approaches to prevention. Guest Editors include Ann L. Coker PhD, Univ of Kentucky; Ginny Sprang PhD, Univ of Kentucky; and Suzanne Swan, PhD (Univ of South Carolina). The first four papers describe the research conducted as part of the CDC funded U01CE002668, named multi-college Bystander Efficacy Evaluation (mcBEE). A full listing of contents is provided below:

- 1) Clear E, Coker AL, Bush HM, Brancato CJ, Davidov D.  
*Lessons Learned in Creating a College Consortium.*
- 2) Davidov D, Bush HM, Coker AL, Clear ER.  
*Using a Multiphase Mixed Methods Triangulation Design to Measure Bystander Intervention Components and Dose of Violence Prevention Programs on College Campuses.*
- 3) Bush HM, Davidov D, Clear ER, Coker AL.  
*The Opportunity – VAWA 2013 Reauthorization Provides a Natural Experiment for Bystander Efficacy Evaluation.*
- 4) Coker AL, Davidov D, Bush HM, Clear ER.  
*Mentoring Multi-College Bystander Efficacy Evaluation – An Approach to Growing the Next Generation of Gender-based Interpersonal Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Researchers.*
- 5) Mennicke A, Geiger E, Brewster M.  
*Interpersonal Violence Prevention Considerations for Sexual Minority College Students: Lower Campus Connection, Worse Perceptions of Institutional Support, and More Accurate Understandings of Sexual Consent.*
- 6) Pinchevsky, GM, Magnuson AB, Augustyn MB, Rennison CM.  
*Sexual Victimization and Sexual Harassment among College Students: A Comparative Analysis.*
- 7) Nemeth JM, Viveiros N, Lynch K, Andersen TS, Fisher BS.  
*Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Coercion: Measurement Invariance in a Population-Based Sample of Male and Female High School Students.*
- 8) Badour CL, Bell SC, Clear ER, Bush HM, Coker AL.  
*Sex Differences in Problem Alcohol Use in High School as a Function of Recent Sexual Violence Victimization or Perpetration*
- 9) Kollar LM, Peng L, Ports KA, Shen L.  
*Who Will be a Bystander? An Exploratory Study of First-Person Perception Effects on Campus Bystander Behavioral Intentions.*

## PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT

### CRVAW Faculty Drs. Bush and Coker contribute to "Women Leading Change in Academia."

Center for Research on Violence Against Women faculty, Dr. Ann Coker and Dr. Heather Bush, co-authored an important chapter about work-life balance in the new text book, "Women Leading Change in Academia." The book was published early this year, and includes personal anecdotes, research, and strategies to understand and address a broad range of issues women face in academia. Editors, Dr. Callie Rennison and Dr. Amy Bonomi created this compilation with all women in mind and it has already been recognized by the Textbook and Academic Authors Association as one of seven in the College category for 2020.



Dr. Ann L. Coker, Ph.D., MPH, is the Verizon Wireless Endowed Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Heather M. Bush, Ph.D., is the Kate Spade & Co. Foundation Endowed Professor in the Department of Biostatistics.

### Keep an eye out for these three new publications that are in press:

- Follingstad, D.R., Li, C., Campe, M.I., & Chahal, J.K. (In press). Identifying invalid responders in a campus climate survey: Types, impact on data, and best indicators. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
- Follingstad, D.R., Li, C.R., Chahal, J.K., & Renzetti, C.M. (In press). Student's perceptions of justice: Application of sanctions, guilt, and responsibility in campus sexual assault cases. *Journal of Family Violence*. doi.org/10.1007/s10896-020-00129-5
- Chahal, J.K., Li, C.R., Follingstad, D.R., & Renzetti, C.M. (In press). Are college students' attitudes related to their application of sanctions for campus sexual assault cases? *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

## PERSONNEL SPOTLIGHT

### Charles Carlson:

Since his appointment in 2008 as the first Robert H. and Anna B. Culton Endowed Professor, Dr. Carlson's expertise has been invaluable to the University of Kentucky's Center for Research on Violence Against Women (CRVAW). His talents range from administration, to instruction, to research, to consultation, to service. As a member of the executive team for the CRVAW he has been instrumental as one of the five faculty to help UK implement CATS, a major initiative concerning campus safety that was intended to provide foundational information guiding programs and policies of the University. Dr. Carlson has also played important administrative and clinical roles at UK as the previous Chair of the Psychology Department, in the role of the Director of the University of Kentucky Doctoral Internship Consortium in Clinical Psychology, and as the Director of Behavioral Medicine and Research at the Orofacial Pain Center in UK's College of Dentistry. Dr. Carlson was recently named Distinguished Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, which is a fitting testament to his performance at UK across the range of skills demanded of faculty. This Distinguished Professor Award is given to one faculty member in the entire College and is accompanied by a release from teaching in order to focus on research. Further, he received a College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award in 2016. Most recently he was selected as a Clinical Scholar by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. We have appreciated his role at the center for many years and are so sorry that when he retires at the end of June we will lose him as a faculty member at the Center. For these reasons and many more I am pleased to introduce the interviewee and subject of our personnel spotlight for this edition of our newsletter, my colleague and friend, Dr. Charley Carlson.

Introduction by Diane Follingstad

How did you first get involved with CRVAW and why?

My first contact with the Center was as the Chair for the Department of Psychology. After several years of working with Center, the Director of the Center, Carol Jordan, approached me regarding joining the Center as an Endowed Professor when she discovered my longstanding interest in how head and neck pain are linked to exposure to interpersonal violence. The professorship was endowed by Robert and Anna Culton who generously funded the position that I now hold. Over time, I extended my work on self-regulation with pain patients to develop a research program examining the links between religiosity and underage drinking as well as a program designed to help women handle stressful life circumstances such as potential interpersonal violence.

What have you seen happen over the years?

I have seen the Center become established as a key national player in researching the scope of problems faced by this country and abroad when it comes to the issue of violence against women. We have assembled a cohort of nationally-recognized scholars and developed a series of strategies to help shape the research initiatives that are needed to guide changes associated with the culture of violence in this country.

What has been your favorite or main reason for identifying with CRVAW?

Working with professors from a range of disciplines to address violence against women has been a unique opportunity that demonstrates we need the collective wisdom of all of us to address this issue in effective ways.

What do you hope for the Center in the future?

Continued progress towards developing strategies to ameliorate the consequences of violence against women and importantly, to develop initiatives focused on prevention through changing attitudes and behaviors that foster the continuance of such violence.

Where is your research taking you now?

I am working on how religiosity affects alcohol use in underage college students because such usage often results in untoward outcomes with enduring consequences, such as sexual assault or intimate partner violence. I also continue to explore how self-regulation skills training can alter the physiological outcomes often set in motion by exposure to violence.

## 2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE POSTPONED

### Campus Responses to Sexual Misconduct: Changing the Culture on Campus

Our third national conference focused on Campus Responses to Sexual Misconduct, planned for this fall has been postponed until September 2021 in response to the continued threat of COVID19. While this cancellation is disappointing to us and many who regularly attend, the vitally important work that unites us will be better achieved at this time if do what we can to ensure everyone's health and wellbeing.

However, there is plenty to look forward to in 2021. Our next National Conference will address campus sexual misconduct at a "meta" level, looking at interventions that are designed to change campus culture. The event will convene the voices of leading national researchers and practitioners addressing sexual assault, sexual harassment, and bullying, as well as evaluation methods for broad-based programs. This conference provides information relevant to student life staff, college administrators, researchers, Title IX, advocates, counseling personnel, and others interested in topics related to campus sexual misconduct.

### Other Conferences

#### Conference | Family Research Laboratory

International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference. This research-focused conference offered a unique opportunity for researchers and scientists/practitioners from a broad array of disciplines to come together for the purpose of sharing, integrating and critiquing accumulated science on violence.

<https://cola.unh.edu/family-research-laboratory/conference>

#### 17th Hawaii International Virtual Summit on Preventing, Assessing, and Treating Trauma Across the Lifespan

Registration Deadline: Friday April 10th, 2020 at noon PST  
<https://www.ivatcenters.org/hawaii-summit>

## IN THE NEWS

### Guest Lecturer Danielle Davidov



Dr. Danielle Davidov, assistant professor at West Virginia University College of Public Health visited the University of Kentucky February 3-4, 2020. On February 3, 2020 she presented a graduate student lunch and learn titled "A Researcher's Informal View of Working with Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence to Improve Healthcare System Response," in Patterson Office Tower. On February 4, 2020 Dr. Davidov gave her Colloquium "Improving the Healthcare System Response to Intimate Partner Violence: Lessons Learned from Survivor and Stakeholder Engagement," to approximately 40 students, faculty and staff at in Rosenberg Law Building.

The Center for Research on Violence Against Women co-sponsored her visit in collaboration with Depts of Public Health and Sociology, to raise the profile of advances in this field which impact the health and welfare of many Kentuckians.

In addition to her assistant professorship in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences Dr. Davidov holds a secondary appointment in the WVU Department of Emergency Medicine. She teaches Intervention Design, Qualitative Research Methods, Social Determinants of Health and Public Health Prevention and Intervention and she uses qualitative and mixed methods to address intimate partner and sexual violence in home visitation, healthcare and college settings. She is currently the co-leader for a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded project aimed at improving the healthcare system's response to intimate partner violence in West Virginia and collaborates with researchers at the University of Kentucky on the Multiple College Bystander Efficiency Evaluation (McBee) project, which is focused on understanding which violence prevention. Director, Diane Follingstad, Ph. D. says of Dr. Davidov, "She is an important collaborator with CRVAW and the intention for her visit was to provide a vehicle to connect with and inform across disciplines, the next generation of researchers, healthcare providers, and policy makers in this field."

### Mini Grant Program: Advancing Research on Violence Against Women.

Funds have been approved for a pilot of a mini-grant project available to assistant and early associate-level professors who are interested in working on projects that research violence against women. A total of \$25,000 will be awarded between two or more applicants for a project period of 18 months. The RFP will be issued in the coming months. Please continue to check the CRVAW website for the most updated information.

### What is Justice?

Should Institutions of Higher Education ensure that students on judiciary panels which hear cases of campus sexual assault receive training regarding rape myths? CRVAW researchers, Diane Follingstad, Claire Renzetti, Caihong Li and Jaspreet Chahal published their findings on college students' perceptions of justice applied to hypothetical cases in which students designated sanctions and determined blame and responsibility of the perpetrator and victim. These findings are expected to provide insights into this important question and the application of Title IX.

Follingstad, D.R., Li, C.R., Chahal, J.K. et al. Students' Perceptions of Justice: Application of Sanctions, Guilt, and Responsibility in Campus Sexual Assault Cases. *J Fam Viol* (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-020-00129-5>

## CONTACT US

151 Bowman Hall  
151 Washington Ave  
Lexington, KY 40506-0059