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**AMBER VENNUM**


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The School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University  
 212 Campus Creek Complex, Manhattan, KS 66506-7500  
 785-532-1489, avennum@ksu.edu

**Education**


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- Ph.D. 2011 Marriage and Family Therapy, The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
- Certificate in Educational Measurement and Statistics
  - Dissertation: Understanding Young Adult Cyclical Relationships
  - Major Professor – Dr. Kay Pasley
- M.A. 2007 Marriage & Family Therapy, University of Houston-Clear Lake, Clear Lake, TX
- B.A. 2003 Psychology, Rice University, Houston, TX  
 School for International Training Semester Abroad- Tibetan Studies
- Independent Study Project- Tradition versus the west: The corporal punishment debate in a Tibetan exile community

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**ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**


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**Faculty Positions**


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- 2011-present Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy, School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.
- Courses taught: Clinical Theory & Practice, Family Therapy, Advanced MFT Research Methods: Structural Equation Modelling 2, Practicum in Marriage & Family Therapy.

**Graduate Research Assistantships**


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- 2009-2011 Graduate Research Assistant, Family and Child Sciences, FSU
- Supervisor: Dr. Kay Pasley
- 2007-2009 Graduate Research Assistant, Family and Child Sciences, FSU
- Supervisor: Dr. Robert E. Lee

**Graduate Teaching Assistantships**


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- 2009-2011 Family and Child Sciences, FSU: administered and graded online courses
- CHD 4615: Public Policies Affecting Children and Families
  - FAD 3220: Individual and Family Life Span Development
- Summer 2008 Family and Child Sciences, FSU: sole instruction for on-campus FAD 2230: Family Relations
- 2007-2009 Family and Child Sciences, FSU: Project RELATE
- A 5-yr., federally funded project to develop a national model of relationship education (PI, Dr. Frank Fincham; Co-PI, Dr. Kay Pasley).
  - Delivered 2-3 experientially-based recitation sessions ( $N = 30$ ) per week and evaluated student progress.

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**SCHOLARSHIP & ENGAGEMENT**


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\*Co-authors are starred if they were students when the bulk of the paper was written or presentation was created.

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**Peer-reviewed Publications**


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- \*Brown, C. C., \*Conner, S. & **Vennum, A.** (2017). Sexual attitudes of classes of college students who use pornography. *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*, 20, 463-469. doi: 10.1089/cyber.2016.0362
- Vennum, A.**, \*Monk, J.K., Pasley, B. K., & Fincham, F. D. (2017). Emerging adult relationship transitions as opportune times for tailored interventions. *Emerging Adulthood*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1177/2167696817705020
- \*Clifford, C., **Vennum, A.**, \*Busk, M., & Fincham, F. D. (2017). Testing the impact of sliding versus deciding in cyclical and non-cyclical relationships. *Personal Relationships*, 24, 223-238. doi: 10.1111/per.12179
- \*Berryhill, B. & **Vennum, A.** (2015). Joining forces for child success: Bringing parents and schools together. *Contemporary Family Therapy*, 37, 351-363. doi: 10.1007/s10591-015-9357-3
- Vennum, A.**, \*Hardy, N., \*Sibley, D., S., & Fincham, F. D. (2015). Dedication and sliding in emerging adult cyclical and non-cyclical romantic relationships. *Family Relations*, 64, 407-419.
- Johnson, M. D., Nguyen, L., Anderson, J.A., Liu, W., & **Vennum, A.** (2015). Shame proneness and intimate relations in mainland China. *Personal Relationships*, 22, 335-347. doi: 10.1111/per.12083
- \*Sibley, D. S., Springer, P. R., **Vennum, A.**, Hollist, C. S. (2015). An exploration of the construction of commitment leading to marriage. *Marriage & Family Review*, 51, 183-203. doi: 10.1080/01494929.2015.1031424
- \*Hardy, N. R., **Vennum, A.**, Anderson, J. R., Johnson, M. D., Lee, S., Liu, W. (2015). Associations between attention to warning signs, marital confidence, and interactional problem-solving among emerging adult couples in mainland China. *Emerging Adulthood*, 3, 194-203. doi: 10.1177/2167696814551385
- Johnson, M. D., Nguyn, A., Anderson, J. R., Liu, W. L., & **Vennum, A.** (2015). Pathways to romantic relationship success among Chinese young adult couples: Contributions of family dysfunction, mental health problems, and negative couple interaction. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 32, 5-23. doi: 10.1177/0265407514522899
- Vennum, A.**, & \*Johnson, M. D. (2014). The impact of cycling on early marriage. *Family Relations*, 63, 439-452. doi:10.1111/fare.12082
- \*Monk, J. K., **Vennum, A.**, Ogolsky, B. G., & Fincham, F. D. (2014). Commitment and sacrifice in emerging adult romantic relationships. *Marriage & Family Review*, 50, 416-434. doi: 10.1080/01494929.2014.896304.

- Vennum, A., \*Lindstrom, R., \*Monk, K., & \*Adams, R.** (2013). "It's complicated": The continuity and correlates of cycling in cohabiting and marital relationships. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 31*, 410-430.
- Vennum, A., & Vennum, D. C.** (2013). Expanding our reach: Marriage and family therapists in the public school system. *Contemporary Family Therapy, 35*, 41-58. doi: 10.1007/s10591-012-9226-2
- McWey, L., Pazdera, A., **Vennum, A.**, & Stevenson Wojciak, A. (2013). Breaking intergenerational patterns of maltreatment in families as risk for foster care. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, 39*, 133-147. doi: 10.1111/j.1752-0606.2012.00289.x
- Vennum, A., & Fincham, F. D.** (2011). Assessing decision making in young adult romantic relationships. *Psychological Assessment, 23*, 739-751. doi: 10.1037/a0023287
- Lee, M. M., & **Vennum, A. V.** (2010). Using critical incident journaling to encourage cultural awareness in doctoral marriage and family therapy students. *Journal of Family Psychotherapy, 21*, 238-252.
- Lee, M. M., Lee, R. E., & **Vennum, A. V.** (2010). Voices of foster parents of Sudanese refugee youths: Affirmations and insights. *International Social Work, 53*, 807-821. doi: 10.1177/0020872809358396

### Non-Refereed Publications

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- Lindstrom, R., Monk, J. K., **Vennum, A.** (2014, Winter). Together again: The emerging trend of on-again/off-again relationships. *National Council on Family Relations Report Magazine, 59*, F5- F6. Retrieved from <https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-report/focus/family-focus-dating-and-mate-selection>

### Manuscripts in Progress

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- \*Dharnidharka, P., **Vennum, A.**, Anderson, J., Johnson, M., & Liu, W. L. (in progress). "We are (never ever?) getting back together": Relationship cycling among emerging adults in urban China.
- Vennum, A.**, \*Scroggs, B., \*Bridges, J., & \*Busk, M. (in progress). Risk and resiliency factors predicting satisfaction trajectories of newlyweds with a history of premarital relationship cycling: A joint probability model.
- \*Sibley, D. S., **Vennum, A.**, \*Knapp, D. J., \*Brown, C. C., \*Mallory, A., (in progress). "We're just talking": Exploring a new trend in emerging adult romantic relationship formation.
- \*Kanter, J., **Vennum, A.**, \*Conner, S., \*Deitz, S., & \*Taylor, L. (in progress). Factors impacting the type of romantic relationships young adults desire in their 30s.
- \*Sibley, D. S., & **Vennum, A.** (in progress). Exploring the theory of resilient commitment in emerging adulthood: A qualitative inquiry.
- Vennum, A.**, \*Torgerson, C., \*Jones, D., & \*Busk, M. (in progress). Preliminary results for the effectiveness of Working on What Works at increasing student engagement and teacher efficacy.

### Peer-reviewed Presentations

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- Toews, M., & **Vennum, A.** (2017, June). *Strategies for success: Working together to develop and implement a sustainable adolescent pregnancy prevention program*. Workshop presented at the FYSB Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grantee Conference.
- \*Conner, S., **Vennum, A.**, Kanter, J., \*Deitz, S., \*Washburn-Busk, M., \*Tran, K., \*Morrison, K., \*Taylor, L., & \*Super, K. (2016, November). *Understanding young adults' inclinations towards relationship education*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Minneapolis, MN.
- Vennum, A.**, \*Dharnidharka, P., Shilts, L., \*Torgerson, C., \*Clifford, C., & Berryhill, B. (2016, September). *Working on What Works: School-based systemic change*. Workshop presented at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family, Indianapolis, IN.
- McMillan, B., \*Sibley, D. S., Springer, P. R, **Vennum, A.**, (2016, September). *Investigating deciding factors of commitment leading to marriage*. Formal research poster presented at the 2016 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- \*Potempa, R., \*Sibley, S., & **Vennum, A.** (2016, September). *The construction of commitment during emerging adulthood*. Formal research poster presented at the 2016 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- \*Torgerson, C., **Vennum, A.**, \*Dharnidharka, P., \*Grant, D., \*Van, K., & \*Gonzales, N. (2016, September). *WoWW: Impact of solution-focused classroom interventions*. Formal research poster presented at the 2016 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- \*Lyon, S. E., Stith, S. M., **Vennum, A.** (2016, July). *Dating violence and the stay/leave decision of young women in college*. Poster presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference in Portsmouth, NH.
- \*Conner, S., & **Vennum, A.** (2016, April). *Exploring young adults' preferences for mobile relationship education*. Poster presented at the International Society for Research on Internet Interventions Annual Conference in Seattle, WA.
- \*Conner, S., & **Vennum, A.** (2016, April). *Sounding board on integrating mental health care components within a relationship education app*. Sounding board presented at the International Society for Research on Internet Interventions Annual Conference in Seattle, WA.
- \*Deitz, S.L., **Vennum, A.**, \*Kimmes, J., \*Conner, S., \*Dharnidharka, P., & \*Tran, K. (2015, November). *"For this achievement you get three hearts": Relationship focus group findings*. Poster Presentation at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.
- \*Dharnidharka, P., & **Vennum, A.** (2015, November). *From friends to romantic partners: An exploration of non-arranged romantic relationship development among young adults in India*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

- Vennum, A., \*Dharnidharka, P., \*Clifford, C., & \*Brown, C.** (2015, November). *Emerging adult patterns of relationship quality*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.
- \*Clifford, C., **Vennum, A., & \*Busk, M.** (2015, November). *The impact of relationship uncertainty and sliding in emerging adult relationships*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, Canada.
- \*Hardy, N., Anderson, J., **Vennum, A., \*Conner, S., \*Deitz, S., \*Busk, P., \*Busk, M., \*Peters, N., & \*Casteel, M.** (2015, November). *Self-development in marriage and relationship education*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.
- \*Conner, S., **Vennum, A., \*Kimmes, J., \*Deitz, S., \*Dharnidharka, P., \*Bialas, M.** (2015, November). *Expanding tools for wellness through mobile health (mHealth)*. Roundtable presented at the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.
- Vennum, A., Shilts, L., \*Bird, N., \*Berryhill, M., \*Clifford, C., & \*Dharnidharka, P.** (2015, September). *Working on what works: School-based systemic change*. Workshop presented at the annual conference of American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Austin, TX.
- \*Conner, S., **Vennum, A., \*Deitz, S. L., \*Kimmes, J., \*McVey, K., \*Cook, E.** (2015, September). *Promoting relationship health through technology*. Poster presented at the annual conference of American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Austin, TX.
- \*Hardy, N. & **Vennum, A.** (2014, November). *Patterns of stability and marital satisfaction in newlywed couples*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- \*Sibley, D. S., \*Springer, P., **Vennum, A., & Hollist, C. S.** (2014, November). *An exploration of the construction of commitment leading to marriage*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- \*Dharnidharka, P., & **Vennum, A.** (2014, November). *Relationship cycling among emerging adults in China*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- \*Sibley, D. S., \*Springer, P., **Vennum, A.** (2014, October). *An exploration of the construction of commitment leading marriage in young adult couples*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the annual meeting of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Milwaukee, WI.
- \*Berryhill, B., **Vennum, A., \*Clifford, C., \*Dharnidharka, P.** (2014, September). *School-based family therapy: bridging the gap for student success*. Workshop given at the fall workshop of the Kansas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Newton, KS.
- Rambo, A., **Vennum, A., Sebung, K., Collins-Ricketts, J.** (2014, June). *Removing social/emotional barriers to achievement*. Workshop given at the annual meeting of the American School Counselor Association, Orlando, FL.

- Vennum, A.,** & \*Johnson, M. D. (2013, November). *The impact of premarital cyclical on early marriage*. Poster symposium presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.
- \*Nguyen, L., Johnson, M. D., Anderson, J. R., **Vennum, A.,** & Liu, W. (2013, November). *Family support influences relationship outcomes in Chinese couples*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the San Antonio, TX.
- \*Monk, K., **Vennum, A.,** & Ogolsky, B. (2013, November). *Commitment and sacrifice in emerging adult cyclical and non-cyclical romantic relationships*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, TX.
- Vennum, A.,** & Sebung, K. (2012, September). *School-based family therapy: Practical tips for success*. Seminar presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Charlotte, NC.
- Vennum, A.,** Pasley, K., & Fincham, F. D. (2012, July). *Exploring the role of sliding and uncertainty in young adult cyclical and non-cyclical relationships*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
- \*Lindstrom, R.L., \*Monk, K., \*Adams, R., & **Vennum, A.** (2012, July). *The impact of cyclical on cohabiting and married relationships*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
- Vennum, A.** & Fincham, F. D. (2011, November). *Assessing decision making in young adult romantic relationships*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Pazdera, A., Stevenson, A., **Vennum, A.** (2011, September). *Breaking intergenerational patterns of violence in families*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Fort Worth, TX.
- Vennum, A.,** Garneau, C. L., & Pasley, K. (2010, November). *Family influences on young adult romantic relationships*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- Vennum, A.** (2010, September). *Ethical challenges and clinical advantages of MFTs in schools*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Atlanta, GA.
- Vennum, A.,** & **Pasley, K.** (2009, November). *Signs the end is near: Causes of relationship breakups in young adults*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Francisco, CA.
- Vennum, A.,** & Vennum, D. C. (2009, October). *The experiences of MFTs in schools*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Sacramento, CA.
- Lee, M. M., Lee, R. E., Troupe, F. Y., & **Vennum, A.** (2008, October). *Voices of foster parents of Sudanese refugee youths: Affirmations and insights*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Memphis, TN.
- Vennum, A.,** Koenig-Reed, M., & Jalali, S. (2006, January). *The relationship between partner emotional intelligence and dyadic adjustment: A multi-method study*. Poster presented at

the annual conference of the Texas Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Houston, Texas.

### **Invited Presentations**

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**Vennum, A.** (2017, August). *Working on What Works*. Invited professional development presentation to staff at the Freshman Success Academy, Junction City, KS.

**Vennum, A.** (2017, April). *Trauma-informed schools*. Invited professional development presentations to staff at Manhattan High School, Manhattan, KS.

**Vennum, A.** (2017, February). *Trauma-informed schools*. Invited professional development presentation to staff at Junction City High School, Junction City, KS.

**Vennum, A.** (2017, January). *Trauma-informed schools*. Invited presentation to staff at the Freshman Success Academy, Junction City, KS.

**Vennum, A.** (2015, September). *Working on What Works*. Invited professional development presentations to staff at Manhattan High School, Manhattan, KS.

**Vennum, A.** (2014, June). *Systemic classroom interventions*. Invited workshop at A Camp to Enhance School Counseling in Kansas: An adventure in the Little Apple, Manhattan, KS.

**Vennum, A.** (2012, May). *Emerging adult romantic relationship development in the US*. Invited lecture given at Beijing Normal University-Zhuhai, Zhuhai, China.

### **Community Partnerships**

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2012-current	<p>Manhattan High School (USD 383) &amp; K-State Family Center Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase access to mental health services for students and their families through school-based multi-disciplinary teams.</li> <li>▪ Provide teacher trainings on student mental health issues and family system dynamics' impact on school success and classroom behavior.</li> <li>▪ Enhance teacher, student, and parent engagement through Working on What Works.</li> </ul>
2013-current	<p>Junction City Freshman Success Academy (USD 475) &amp; K-State Family Center Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase access to mental health services for students and their families through school-based multi-disciplinary teams.</li> <li>▪ Support teachers and school personnel in their efforts to reach their vision of a positive school climate through trainings and consultation.</li> <li>▪ Enhance teacher, student, and parent engagement through Working on What Works.</li> <li>▪ Support relationship education efforts as aligned with the school vision.</li> </ul>

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### **Grants & Contracts**

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#### **Internal Funding**

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2015-2016      **Vennum, A.** Kansas State University Mentoring Fellowship. Mentor: Dr. Frank Fincham. Amount: \$6,000

- 2013– present **Vennum, A.** *Needs assessment and prototype development of a relationship education smart phone app for emerging adults.* Kansas State University Small Research Grant program: \$3,500
- 2012 - present **Vennum, A.** *Evaluating the impact of school-based family therapy on student and family outcomes.* Kansas State University, College of Human Ecology: \$2,500
- 2012 – 2014 **Vennum, A.** *A pilot study on the effectiveness of school-based family therapy.* Kansas State University, University Small Research Grant program: \$3,000

### External Funding

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- 2016-2019 Toews, M. L., **Vennum, A.**, & Johannes, E. *Healthy REWARDS (Relationships, Expectations, Willpower, Aspirations, Reactions, Decisions, Self-Esteem): An evidence-based approach to sexual risk avoidance.* Administration for Children, Youth, and Families: \$1,290,636.
- 2016-2017 **Vennum, A.** *Relevate: Elevate Your Relationships.* Crowdfunded through Indiegogo.com: \$6,850.
- 2016-2017 **Vennum, A.** *Working on What Works: Testing the power of highlighting the positive.* Crowdfunded through Experiment.com: \$5,651.
- 2014-2017 Co-PI, *Family Advocacy Program research project.* National Institute of Food and Agriculture: United States Air Force: \$2,064,716.00.
  - PI: Sandra Stith, PhD. Co-PIs: Amber Vennum, PhD, Jared Anderson, PhD, & Jared Durtschi, PhD
  - Lead Researcher on the Meeting the Needs of Sexual Assault Survivors in the Air Force project
- 2014 –2015 **Vennum, A.** *Adaptation of Working on What Works to a high school context.* The Greater Manhattan Community Foundation: \$3,000

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## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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### Clinical Positions

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- 2011-present Kansas State University Family Center, Manhattan, KS.
  - Provide individual, couple, and family therapy to the community.
  - Supervise Masters and PhD students providing individual, couple, and family therapy.
  - Coordinate school-based family therapy partnerships
- 2010-2011 Lee's Place, Tallahassee, FL.
  - Provided individual, couple, child, and family therapy for the community around issues of grief, loss, and trauma.
- 2007-2009 Center for Couple and Family Therapy, The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.
  - Provided individual, couple, and family therapy to the community.



- Supervised visitations for court-ordered families through the Supervision Plus Program.
- 2006-2007 Marriage and Family Therapy Internship - Clear View Education Center, Clear Lake, TX.
  - Provided individual, group, and family therapy to students and families within Clear Creek Independent School District.
  - Conducted Solution-Focused classroom interventions.
- 2005-2006 Marriage and Family Therapy Practicum- University of Houston-Clear Lake
  - Provided couple and family therapy to the community surrounding University of Houston-Clear Lake.

### **Licensures & Certifications**

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- 2013-present AAMFT Approved Supervisor
- 2011-present Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (License No. 2320), Kansas
- 2011-present Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (License No. 4101006502), Michigan
- 2010-present Certified Family Life Educator
- 2007 Trainer, Within My Reach, PREP, Inc.

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### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

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#### **Editorial & Grant Review Boards**

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- 2017 – present Editorial Board Member for *Family Relations*
- 2014 – present Editorial Board Member for *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*
- 2011 – 2014 Member of the Kansas Department of Children and Families Grant Peer Review Panel

#### **Professional Affiliations**

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##### American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)

- Student member since 2007
- Clinical member since 2011
- AAMFT Approved Supervisor since 2013
- Conference Abstract Reviewer: 2012, 2013

##### National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)

- Member since 2007
- Secretary/Treasurer for the Family Therapy Section: 2016 - 2018
- Conference Abstract Reviewer: 2014, 2016

##### International Association for Relationship Research (IARR)

- Member since 2011

##### Society for Prevention Research (SPR)

- Member since 2014

Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA)

- Member since 2015

### **Awards**

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- 2015 Kansas State University Mentoring Fellowship
- 2015 Dawley-Scholer Award for Faculty Excellence in Student Development, College of Human Ecology, Kansas State University
- 2009, 2010 Florida State University Family Institute Robison Award
- 2007 Cora B. and Ross Evans Scholarship, Department of Family and Child Sciences, Florida State University

### **Honor Societies**

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- 2010-present Hortense Glenn Society
- 2009-present Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society in Human Sciences
- 2005-present Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology