SIRC 4th Annual Conference

SIRC will host its 4th Annual Conference on April 21, 2006 in the Memorial Union at Arizona State University. The theme is “Transcending Boundaries in Drug Abuse Research: Cross-cultural Generalizability”, which highlights the culturally-based prevention research emphasis of the center. Conference activities include plenary sessions, three concurrent breakout sessions and our traditional graduate students’ poster session covering a wide range of topics in Intervention Research and Methodology.

The keynote address, “Lessons from Mexico: Epidemiological and Psychosocial Studies in Drug Abuse Research”, will be delivered by Dr. Maria Elena Medina-Mora. Dr. Medina-Mora is the Chief Director of Social and Epidemiological Research at the Instituto Nacional de Psiquiatria in Mexico City and is a frequent contributor to publications from the World Health Organization on mental health and substance abuse.

Several of our community partners, along with other non-profit organizations and other departments and units from ASU will co-sponsor the event and will actively participate in the conference playing a variety of roles. Colleagues from other NIDA funded centers under the social work research infrastructure initiative will attend and share their expertise with the participants. All are invited but due to space constraints we encourage early registration.

For more information, please visit the conference web site at:
http://sirc.asu.edu/2006-SIRC.html

Welcome Dr. Mary Gillmore

SIRC would like to welcome Dr. Mary Gillmore as the Director of the School of Social Work effective January 15, 2006. Dr. Gillmore comes to ASU from the University of Washington. Her areas of specialization include Adolescent Sexuality, Adolescent Substance Use, AIDS and STD Prevention and Teen Pregnancy.

ASU Downtown Phoenix Campus

The College of Public Programs, including the School of Social Work, will be moving to the new ASU Downtown Phoenix Campus in time for the Fall 2006 semester. ASU will create a full-service campus over the next few years that will serve 15,000 students with academic buildings, cultural programs as well as student and regular housing. For more information on the ASU Downtown Campus visit:
http://www.asu.edu/downtownphoenix/

Fall/Winter Grant Submissions

Go Grrl Power

Based on earlier work on a universal prevention program for adolescent girls (Go Grrls), this study examines whether gender-specific intervention is more effective than mixed-gender interventions. It compares Go Grrls with a Model evidence-based program to examine the outcomes of substance abuse, mental health, and positive functioning over a 2-year follow up period. PI: Dr. Craig LeCroy. Status: Under review.

School of Social Work

The Galicia Project

This international collaboration between Arizona State University and the University of Santiago de Compostela will refine and test a proposed adaptation model for interventions in ways that address the tension between specific cultural groups and fidelity to core program elements. It will apply a Cultural Adaptation model to modify an efficacious U.S. prevention intervention (keepin’ it REAL) for use with middle school students in Spain. The team will assess the performance of the model for the creation of adaptations. The study also examines variations in program efficacy and adaptations concerns among culturally diverse subgroups in Spain (e.g. immigrant and native-born youth; youth with different cultural orientations).

ASU Co-PIs: Dr. Flavio Marsiglia, Dr. Felipe Castro, Dr. Stephen Kulis.
USC : Dr. Maria Angeles Luengo
Status: Under review.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SIRC 4th Annual Conference
April 21, 2006
ASU Memorial Union
Tempe, AZ

WHO IS SIRC?
• 26 Faculty Research Associates
• 20 Graduate Students
• 21 Community Partners
• International Scientific Advisory Board
• Funded by NIH/NIDA R24DA13937 and ASU

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Male Batterers & HIV

This exploratory pilot will examine sexual behaviors and attitudes among Mexican-American men with a history of intimate partner violence (IPV), with a specific emphasis on how these behaviors and attitudes relate to gender norms, ethnic identity, perceived discrimination, and acculturative stress associated with changing social norms in the American Southwest. This study explores the context and consequences of these attitudes and behaviors within their sexual relationships, and provides the formative research necessary to develop a culturally-specific, evidence-based HIV/AIDS intervention that can be used with Mexican-American communities affected by both intimate partner violence and HIV/AIDS. This has been submitted as an R21, and currently is under review.

PI: Yasmina Katsulis

HIV/AIDS

Secondary Data Analysis

This study is a community-based collaboration exploring cultural dimensions of HIV/AIDS prevention. Partners include TERROS Behavioral Health Services and Concilio Latino de Salud. PI: Dr. Flavio Marsiglia & Dr. Jennie Kronenfeld. Status: SIRC Pilot, R-01 and R-21 applications in development.

Project Corazón

This R01 proposes a 5-year study that seeks to extend the capacity of the Corazón pilot study in understanding early life and current determinants of drug dependence and effective recovery from illicit drug use by screening, admitting, and tracking a cohort of 200 non-Hispanic white males and 600 Hispanic males who received substance abuse treatment from project Corazón. Fatemah Dili is the new Project Coordinator assisting Dr. Castro. Chicanos Por la Causa continues to serve as the community partner for both the pilot and this study. ASU PI: Dr. Felipe Casas. Status: SIRC Pilot, R-01 applications in development.

Drug Resistance Strategies: keepin’ it REAL for 5th Graders

This NIDA funded R01 study is a 5-year longitudinal randomized trial of an adapted and enhanced version of keepin’ it REAL involving 7 Phoenix school districts, 32 schools, 96 teachers, and over 2000 students. Study aims are: (1) to describe the development of ecological risk and resiliency factors as Mexican/Mexican American students transition from 5th to 9th grade and undergo acculturative processes; (2) to enhance the existing 7th grade keepin’ it REAL multicultural intervention (a SAMSHA model program) by increasing the dosage adding acculturation related material, and by examining the most efficacious age of intervention, 5th versus 7th grade; and (3) to examine ecological risk and resiliency factors, such as parental monitoring, perceived discrimination and acculturation stress, as moderators of prevention effects. Surveys are conducted at several points in time, including a pre-test and 6 post-tests, with the last occurring in the 9th grade. ASU PI: Dr. Flavio Marsiglia & Dr. Stephen Kulis. Status: Funded NIH/NIDA R-01 with Penn State University, Dr. Michael Hecht, PI.

Ecological Factors and Drug Use of Native Hawaiian Youth

An outgrowth of SIRC’s original American Indian Youth project, this study will advance knowledge on “pan-Native” drug prevention principles. It is based on the identification of core norms toward substance use that are shared by Native Hawaiian and American Indian youth, as well as those that maybe be unique to each group. PI: Dr. Scott Okamoto. Status: Recent K Award

Youth Social Acceptance Related to Substance Abuse

This study investigates phenotypic differences in the substance use attitudes and behaviors of Mexican-origin high school adolescents to determine if and in what ways cultural orientation (i.e., acculturation) mediates the relationship between phenotype and substance use. PI: Dr. Verna Keith, Status: SIRC pilot, R01 application in development.

Mining Town Isolation: Economic Influences on Youth Risk Behaviors

This pilot partnered with school districts to study protective structures of youth residing in mining towns in Arizona, surveying a total of 844 students in the 5th—12th grades in two separate communities. The questionnaire addressed specific issues regarding: economic challenges and stress; the extent of support received at school, from their families, communities; peer dynamics in the school setting; students’ aspirations and goals for the future; and substance use issues, as reported by the students. PI: Dr. Karen Miller-Loessi. Status: R01 under development.