Mid-Atlantic Council on Family Relations will once again sponsor student poster presentations during the 2006 Building Strong Families Conference. The poster presentations are scheduled for 8:30 – 9:00 am and 11:15 – 11:30 am during the conference.

Poster presentations are an alternative to the traditional presentation method as a way of allowing a person to communicate to an audience the work in which the researcher is currently engaged or has completed. Research presented in your poster must be focused on families; however, it need not be directly related to the theme of the conference.

The poster is on display during the conference. During the presentation times, the presenter stands by the poster and is able to enter into one-on-one or small group conversation with conference attendees in order to answer questions and expand on the details and implication of the work presented. The presenter may have handouts as well.

Generally, the success of the poster presentation is dependent on the quality of the research and the effectiveness of the presentation style. Direction and feedback regarding the quality of the research is the responsibility of the faculty research mentor with whom you have chosen to work. Complete guidelines for the posters and poster presentations will be sent with confirmation of acceptance of your poster.

Generally, the information presented in the poster presentation includes one or more pages for each of the following sections:

- Title, author, college or university, faculty mentor, and date
- Abstract – 120 words that summarize the poster contents
- Background including research question and relevant literature
- Methodology used in conducting the research
- Research questions
- Findings – usually presented in tables and charts
- Discussion of the results
- Implications of the research
- References

A $50 cash prize will be given to the poster awarded first place. Second and third place ribbons will also be awarded. All awards will be announced during the luncheon. Undergraduate and graduate posters will be judged separately, and awards given in each group.

Criterion for judging posters:
Clearly articulated purpose; thorough presentation of information including title, method, abstract, references; well organized; visually appealing (font size, neat, papers attached securely, etc.); relevant findings and discussion of results; professional demeanor of presenter.

Submit your poster proposal via e-mail using the proposal presentation application form. You will be notified of acceptance of your poster by October 1, 2006.