

Next semester St. John's University in collaboration with Montclair State University presents the 5th Biennial Adoption Conference. The conference is entitled, "Identity and the Adopted Teen: Surviving the Crucible of Adolescence." Please visit our website at <http://www.stjohns-montclairadoptionconferences.org>.

We are pleased to announce our call for papers.

We hereby invite professionals, researchers, scholars, practitioners and graduate students to submit papers and research manuscripts that address issues likely to affect adopted adolescents in their journey toward their identity formation. The topics should include comparison in identity formation between adoptive and non-adoptive adolescents and all members of the triad, including the biological and parents and biological and adoptive extended families, etc. Thus topics such as,

- \* Challenges to identity formation in international and transracial adoption
- \* Challenges to identity formation in transracial adoption
- \* Identity formation in an open versus closed adoption
- \* Differences in identity formation challenges in foster care vs. adoptive family setting
- \* Identity formation in a gay and lesbian context (whether the adolescent is adopted by a gay/lesbian parent or whether the biological parents may be gay/lesbian).
- \* Issues of search and reunion and how these issues impact on identity formation
- \* Discussions of specific factors in the adoption experience likely to impact on the final resolution of the identity formation
- \* Nature vs. nurture in the adopted self identity
- \* Factors in early childhood experience likely to impact on identity formation.
- \* Treatment and assessment issues

We would also like to announce the new Recognition Award for Outstanding Adoption-Related Dissertation and the Scholarship Award for Pre-Doctoral Adoption Related Dissertation Proposal.

In an effort to promote further research in Adoption, a scholarship and a recognition award will be given at the biennial conference. A scholarship will be given to a current graduate student who is conducting research on an adoption related topic and a recognition award will be given to a recent doctoral graduate (past 3 years) with a dissertation focusing on the same. An award will be granted to the selected research initiative and the dissertation recipient will be invited to present at the Adoption Initiative's annual meeting. For consideration please submit a 3 to 5 page summary of your planned work if you are a current student and a 5 to 10 page summary of your dissertation if you are a recent graduate. See website for additional instructions. Submit the summary using the form for proposals by May 1, 2008.

Visit our website to obtain the appropriate forms-

<http://www.stjohns-montclairadoptionconferences.org>

Submission deadline:

Please submit your proposal by May 1, 2008 via e-mail to Dr. Amanda Baden (co-chair) at badena@mail.montclair.edu and to Dr. Rafael Art. Javier at initiatives@stjohns.edu. Make sure to include your name, affiliation, and contact information. Acceptance notification will be sent by June 15, 2008. This deadline also applies to dissertation submission.