

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## *The Many Faces of Adoption in Today's World*

**Third International Conference on  
Adoption Research (ICAR3)  
11th – 15th July, 2010**



**Leiden University  
Centre for Child and Family Studies and  
Adoption Triad Research Centre  
Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences  
Wassenaarseweg 52, 2333 AK  
Leiden, the Netherlands**



***A multi-disciplinary conference aiming  
to bring together the worldwide  
community of distinguished and  
emerging adoption researchers***

In the Golden Age, Leiden was the second most important city in the Netherlands with all of its wealth and academic fame. It is in this atmosphere that the sociable, authentic "Leidener" has been living alongside the equally sociable student in the charming, historic inner city lined with canals.

The conference builds on the success of two previous meetings; the International Conference on Adoption Research (ICAR) hosted by the University of Minnesota (USA) in 1999 and the Second International Conference on Adoption Research (ICAR2) hosted by the University of East Anglia (UK) in 2006.

# Introduction to the conference

The adoption of children is a phenomenon of interest to scholars in numerous fields and across the globe. However, opportunities to meet and exchange ideas with other people studying adoption are limited. At ICAR3:

- the WHOLE PROGRAM is devoted to adoption research
- international researchers from all relevant disciplines are welcome.

The goal of the conference is to bring together distinguished and emerging adoption researchers, to enable sharing of research findings and theoretical perspectives, and to encourage interaction and debate about the future research agenda. Conference participants will be drawn from a wide range of disciplines such as psychology, psychiatry, medicine, pediatrics, family studies, sociology, anthropology, social work, history, social policy and law. The number of conference attendees will be limited to 200, to maximize interaction and retain focus. If pressure on places requires us to do so, we reserve the right to give priority to people actively involved in adoption research.

## Conference topics

The conference aims to draw together the most important messages from research about adoption as a psycho-social phenomenon. Debate will be encouraged about methodological and conceptual challenges and the future direction that research into adoption should take.

The primary topic areas will include (but will not be restricted to):

- developmental and health outcomes for adopted children (in infant, special needs and international adoptions)
- the needs and experiences of adopted adult persons
- openness in adoption
- curiosity and information seeking about one's adoption (includes issues related to reunion and the impact of the internet on information gathering)
- cultural-racial socialization in international and transracial adoptions
- family dynamics in adoptive families
- historical and cross-cultural comparisons in adoption practice
- international adoption from the perspective of sending and receiving countries
- Hague Convention and consequences for practice
- alternatives to adoption: permanent foster care, concurrent planning
- nature and nurture: the impact of genes and environment on adopted children's/person's development
- the needs of birth relatives
- adoptive parent recruitment; infertility, loss and adoption
- (international) special-needs adoptions.

# Presentation categories

We welcome proposals for the following presentation formats:

- Poster presentations
- Paper symposia
- Papers
- Workshops.

We expect that conference delegates will take an active role by presenting their research in one form or another. You are invited to submit an abstract about your work and to indicate in which format you would like to present. We anticipate that about one third of delegates will be able to present in a paper symposia or workshop, and two-thirds in a poster format. While the main focus of the conference is adoption research, we will also consider proposals to present other material relevant to adoption research, e.g. descriptions or analyses of adoption policies or practice.

## ***Poster presentations***

Posters will be displayed during designated sessions, and presenters are expected to be available during this period to discuss their poster with participants. Posters will remain on display for a further period outside of this formal session.

Poster presentations are suitable to display a range of content, including:

- completed or interim research findings
- practice evaluations or innovations
- novel methodologies.

## ***Paper Symposia***

Paper symposia are the preferred method for paper submission. Paper symposia will consist of the presentation of 3 or 4 linked papers and 30 minutes active discussion between presenters and the audience. Symposia will be chaired and the chair will lead and manage the discussion. Symposia that can include different perspectives on the same topic will be preferred to those where all presenters report from the same perspective.

Submissions for an organised symposium should be made by one lead person only (the symposium convenor) on behalf of all presenters. Symposia must include 3 or 4 papers on a related topic. The symposium convenor is responsible for:

- Submitting the individual abstracts of each of the 3 or 4 presenters, each including the name, affiliation and contact details of all presenters
- Submitting a symposium abstract summarising the theme and content of the symposium
- Chairing the session or identifying the chair/discussant.

## **Papers**

You may submit an abstract for a short paper presentation. The conference committee will group together 3 (20 minute) or 4 (15 minute) papers on linked topics into symposia. One person per group will be designated to chair the session. Discussants will be invited to be a part of these symposia sessions as they are available. The designated chair will organize and send papers from symposia members to the assigned discussant, if available, for review.

## **Workshops (90 minutes)**

Workshops should be presented by one person or a small number of presenters (usually no more than 2 or 3) and the emphasis should be on a presentation that encourages an exchange of ideas and experiences. Active discussion between the presenters and the audience should take place. If a workshop is based around an empirical investigation, it should have an additional focus on interesting methodology or practice issues. Other topics suitable for workshops could include the demonstration of practice tools or methods derived from research, or research methods, tools or findings using video, CD-ROM or DVD material. Your proposal must indicate what audio-visual equipment you will require (all rooms will have PowerPoint projection facilities available).

## **The review process**

Abstracts will be reviewed by the conference academic committee and you will be notified of the outcome by Friday, 29th January 2010. The committee will judge abstracts by the following criteria:

- fit with the conference themes
- coverage of the range of conference topics
- relevance of the topic to an international, multi-disciplinary audience
- clarity of abstract.

Members of the Conference Academic Committee: Professor Gretchen Miller Wrobel (Bethel University, USA, Committee Chair), Professor Harold D. Grotevant (University of Massachusetts – Amherst, USA), Dr. Elsbeth Neil (University of East Anglia, UK), Professor Jesús Palacios (University of Seville, Spain), Trudy Rosenwald, Registered Psychologist (Asia Pacific International Adoption Forum, Australia), Dr. Wendy Tieman (Leiden University, the Netherlands).

***Deadline for submissions:***

***December 14th 2009***

# Abstract Submission Instructions

1. The submission deadline is **14<sup>th</sup> December 2009**. Abstracts submitted after this date will not be considered.
2. Authors are required to prepare abstracts in a Ms-Word document and submit them by email to ICAR3-proposals@bethel.edu
3. Abstracts for ***workshops, papers and posters*** should contain:
  - Title
  - Main author name, affiliation and contact details
  - Name and affiliation of any co-authors/presenters
  - 500 word MAXIMUM summary of your proposal
  - Clear indication of which format you prefer (i.e. poster, paper, workshop)
4. Abstracts for ***paper symposia*** should be submitted by the convenor as ***one*** MS-Word document containing:
  - Title of symposium
  - Convenor name, affiliation and contact details
  - Name and affiliation of discussant (if this is not the convenor)
  - 500 word MAXIMUM abstract of whole symposium
  - 500 word MAXIMUM abstract of each paper with the title of paper, name, affiliation and contact details of each presenter.
5. Correspondence will be sent to the main author only, at the email address provided by the author.
6. You may only submit one abstract as the main author.
7. The Conference Committee will select submissions for papers, paper symposia, workshops and posters, and will inform all applicants of the outcome by email by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Presenters must pay the full appropriate delegate rate. We encourage authors to register by April 2010 in order to take advantage of the Early Bird registration rate.
8. The official language of the conference is English, and all abstracts must be presented in English.

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## **SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

**Notification of acceptance of abstracts: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**Early bird registration opens: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010**

**Early bird registration closes: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010**

**Registration closes: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

**Dates of conference: 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

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Conference chair: Femmie Juffer, Professor of Adoption Studies

**E-mail address for questions about ICAR3 2010:**  
**[ICAR3info@fsw.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:ICAR3info@fsw.leidenuniv.nl)**

**E-mail address for submissions:**  
**[ICAR3-proposals@bethel.edu](mailto:ICAR3-proposals@bethel.edu)**

An ICAR3 website will be available soon ([www.ICAR3.eu](http://www.ICAR3.eu)).

The Centre for Child and Family studies at Leiden University ([www.childandfamilystudies.leidenuniv.nl](http://www.childandfamilystudies.leidenuniv.nl)) is organizing ICAR3 2010 together with the Adoption Triad Research Centre (ADOC; [www.adoptionresearch.nl](http://www.adoptionresearch.nl)). The Chair on Adoption Studies is supported by Wereldkinderen ([www.wereldkinderen.nl](http://www.wereldkinderen.nl)).

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