Call for Applications: Editor-in-Chief

Families in Society (FIS), the first journal of social work research, invites applications for editor(s)-in-chief. Published for over 100 years, FIS focuses on micro and macro practice that fosters whole-person well-being and helps individuals, families, and communities to thrive.

Stewarded by Social Current (formerly Alliance for Strong Families and Communities) and published by SAGE Publishing, FIS is a core journal in social work scholarship. Applications are being accepted for a three-year term starting in early 2022.

Mary E. Richmond created FIS in 1920 to capture the first systematized methods of social work. This intersection of art, science, and practice endures, with a focus on biopsychosocial and systemic factors that affect functioning, well-being, and opportunity across the lifespan. Included are analysis, theory, and investigation; quantitative and qualitative studies; direct-practice issues; and service delivery/management. Content might be explanatory, instructive, reflective, or provocative.

WHAT YOU OFFER

You need not be a leading researcher in the field, but do possess a robust scholarly record, experience in academic and community leadership roles, and a clear vision and commitment to the field. This means you value and nurture teamwork, inclusiveness, creativity, critical thought, solid methodological and statistical aptitude, rigor and accountability, business acumen, and, importantly, a passion for social justice and advancing equity.

The editor-in-chief (EIC) also need not be one person: alternative leadership could be a team of two or three EICs with separate but complimentary skills and responsibilities, and/or work in tandem with associate/section editors.

Overall, the EIC(s) is expected to advance journal performance and work toward upholding—and even raising—the journal’s high intellectual and methodological standards. Specifically, the EIC(s) will:

• collaborate with FIS stakeholders (Social Current and SAGE staff, editorial board, reader panels) on the journal’s action plan to raise the profile and influence of FIS in the United States and internationally;
• lead the editorial board and designate associate/section editors’ assignments;
• expand the pool of readers, authors, reviewers, and editorial board members;
• solicit, review, and make final decisions on submissions to the journal;
• ensure the timeliness, relevance, and caliber of the peer review process; and
• manage editorial office functions that include parts of the review process and publication workflow.

WHAT WE OFFER

We help you advance journal goals while fostering your professional accomplishment and personal fulfillment. An editorship allows you to directly influence new inquiry and knowledge development for the field, as well as challenge dated concepts and beliefs. Become part of a vibrant and diverse collective of scholars, clinicians and practitioners, community members, and a national network of social sector organizations.

Other benefits and support include:

• leadership and oversight support from Social Current;
• assigned peer review assistant and production support from SAGE;
• certain covered travel costs and conference registrations;
• a stipend to help offset time spent on editorial office duties; and
• access to Social Current resources such as a comprehensive library, learning opportunities, and events.
In a spirit of scholarly reciprocity, there is an expectation that the institution(s) that hosts the EIC(s) will also provide support for you and the editorial office responsibilities. Your application should indicate the expected level of institutional support, which might come in the form of additional faculty release time, summer salary, office space, utilities, the use of computers and other office equipment, student workers, and/or other basic expenses.

TO APPLY

Applications, nominations, and requests for additional information should be sent to Kirstin Anderson, Director of Content Strategy at Social Current, at kanderson@social-current.org. Please put “FIS Editor Application” in the subject line of your email and submit materials as a PDF attachment.

DEADLINE: December 31, 2021 • APPOINTMENT: February 2022

All applications will be reviewed and interviews carried out by members of the FIS editorial board, Social Current staff, and a practice advisory committee.

Application Checklist:

- Letter of application which includes your vision for the future of the journal.
- Description of your qualifications for the editorship.
- Copy of your CV.
- Documentation indicating prospective institutional support.
- Email contacts of two colleagues able to comment on your organizational skills, leadership, and/or promotion of the values and competencies listed in this call for applications.

If proposing a multiple EIC leadership team:

- Letter of application jointly authored which includes the vision for the future of the journal.
- Explanation of the EIC leadership structure and distribution of responsibilities.
- Description of the team’s qualifications for the editorship.
- CVs for each team member.
- Documentation indicating prospective institutional support.
- Email contacts of two colleagues per team member able to comment on their organizational skills, leadership, and/or promotion of the values and competencies listed in this call for applications.

For more information about FIS, see https://journals.sagepub.com/home/fis.

The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities and Council on Accreditation have joined to form Social Current. Together with thousands of social-sector leaders, we will activate the power of the sector to create a unified, intrepid, just, and purposeful network so that all people can thrive. We are partners working toward a common goal to ignite change for an equitable society.

SAGE believes passionately that engaged scholarship lies at the heart of any healthy society and that education is intrinsically valuable. This means playing a creative role in society by disseminating teaching and research on a global scale, the cornerstones of which are good, long-term relationships; a focus on our markets; and an ability to combine quality and innovation.