EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Activities - Prior Year

a. Scholarly Activities: The following is a list of the scholarly activities associated with the CYD this past year:

- Dr. Langer was a Presenter and Panel Member - Symposium on “HIV Prevention Research: Advances and Challenges into the Third Decade of AIDS,” FIU, March 30, 2001.
- Dr. Langer was an Evaluator/Consultant/Presenter for the Office of Tobacco Control Summer Leadership Institute on Evaluation, Coral Springs, Florida, June 28th-30th, 2000.
- Langer, L.M., Warheit, G.J. & Stuart A. Teen Tobacco Court: An evaluation of the short-term outcomes of judicial processes with teens engaging in tobacco possession Accepted for presentation to Addictions 2000 Conference, Prevention of Substance Use Problems: Directions for the Next Millennium, Cape Cod, MA, September 22-24, 2000 (although accepted, airline scheduling prevented Dr. Langer from presenting this poster presentation in person).

b. Published research: The following is a list of the published articles, articles in press, or articles under revision which are associated with the CYD this past year:


• Langer, L.M., Warheit, G. J., & Torres, G. (Under revision) Police citations, court appearances, and family factors a correlates and predictors of tobacco use changes among a sample of juvenile tobacco offenders.

• Langer, L.M. & Warheit, G.J. (In progress) An Examination of How Peer Factors And Family Factors Influence Risky Sexual Practices among a Multi-racial/ethnic Sample of Young Adults.

• Langer, L.M., Girard, C., & Gaffin, L. (In progress) Is suicidal ideation a normal stage of adolescent development or an early indicator of mental health problems?


• Lee, D. & Langer, L.M. (In progress) An epidemiological study of racial and ethnic differences in tobacco use among adolescents.


Other CYD activities:

Promoting the CYD among community-based organizations is another on-going activities of the administrators. This past year we have had several meetings with administrators, staff and social-workers at public health agencies in order to establish alliances and structure opportunities to collect data from their clients. These sites have been spread across the county and extend from Miami Beach to Homestead. While contacting data collection sites and traveling to them was time-consuming, we have considered this a most rewarding and worthwhile activity of the CYC. Without these alliances, the type of research with which the CYD is involved would be impossible.

In addition to the ongoing research- and funding-related activities of the CYD, during the past year, Dr. Langer has attended numerous planning meetings with the administrators of the Division of Sponsored Research and Training (DSRT) in order to design future office space for the CYD in the new research
building that is being erected on campus. Although this activity was somewhat time-consuming, it was an enjoyable one in that we will have space to expand the CYD so that offices will be available for graduate students, new faculty associates, and post-doctoral fellows associated with the center.

Two new associates were recruited into the CYD this past year. These are Dr. Avison, who is now a full-time faculty member of our Sociology/Anthropology Department, and Dr. Douglas Feldman, a medical anthropologist who was extended an affiliated appointment in the Sociology/Anthropology Department.

The CYD has continued to organize and participate in research forums in conjunction with DSRT in order to further multi-disciplinary research at FIU and across universities; this is a primary mission of the CYD. These forums have included some of our affiliated faculty (e.g., Dr. William Darrow), others have included Dr. Langer’s participation and presentation at a recent HIV seminar held at Biscayne Bay Campus. It is gratifying that the activities and reputation of the CYD appear to be expanding. Current plans are being made for the Fall schedule of research forums. An effort is being made to have the forums be conducted as a joint effort with the Metropolitan Center at FIU. Dr. James Rivers, who is an affiliated faculty member of our department and the Director of the Metropolitan Center is working with the CYD on this endeavor.

c. External funding:

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<th>Granting Agency:</th>
<th>State of Florida - Department of Health</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title of Project:</td>
<td>Evaluation Study of State of Florida</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tobacco Programs</td>
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<td>Role on Project:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status of Project:</td>
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<td>Amount:</td>
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<th>Granting Agency:</th>
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<td>Title of Project:</td>
<td>Kids’ Tobacco Community Partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Role on Project:</td>
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d. Public recognition by the mass media:
• The activities of the year 2000-01 have been successful with regard to the conduct of research on substance abuse, including tobacco use. The state-funded tobacco studies performed by the CYD has made the CYC highly visible with regard to tobacco and youth nationwide.

• Miami Herald Interview. Dr. Lilly Langer, CYD Director, was interviewed at length by Ms. Holly Step, Education writer for the Miami Herald. An article about the CYD is pending and will be published in August, 2001.

• Psychology Minute Interview. Dr. Lilly Langer, CYD Director, was interviewed by Dr. Roger Klein, of the University of Pittsburgh, regarding the Teen Tobacco Court study conducted by CYD. Dr. Klein is the host of a radio show called “Psychology Minute” that transmits findings from research which Dr. Klein deems would be interesting for the general population. July, 2001.

  e. Integration of faculty into center activities: Among the associates of the CYD are faculty members of FIU, University of Miami, and graduate students at FIU. In addition to faculty, the graduate students have had opportunities to attend professional meetings, present papers, and co-author publications. CYD aims at funding graduate tuition and providing stipends in the future. The research activities of the CYD have provided opportunities for graduate students to obtain “hands on” training in the various aspects of conduct of research, including the co-authoring of publications while using CYD data for their thesis.

  A new affiliated faculty member Dr. Douglas Feldman, Medical Anthropologist, will be an associate in the CYD and, if funded, PI on the NIH grant in Zambia.

2. Activities - Coming Year

  a. Proposed research and scholarly activities. The State of Florida has been an excellent source of funding for the CYD in recent years, and has given us the opportunity to be a major participant in the statewide effort to reduce tobacco use among minors. In addition, these state-funded tobacco studies have strengthened our ties with the other state universities as well as University of Miami. We will continue to seek state-funded grants, however, our major efforts in the future will be to obtain federal funding as well. Although we understand the difficulty in obtaining federal funding, we plan to continue our efforts and will be active in securing funding for the major grant on Unmarried Motherhood and for the Risk reduction grant with out-of-school youth in Zambia.
In addition to the grants we have submitted, we have plans to submit a training grant for pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows. However, this proposal will have to follow on the heels of a federally-funded grant.

Concurrently with seeking funding, publication efforts will continue and seek to involve graduate students.

b. Teaching and training activities: As noted above, training obtaining federally-funded training grants will be a priority with regard to the research efforts of the CYD.

Our commitments for Federal funding are pending and therefore, we must hold the funding of graduate students in abeyance. Nonetheless, there will be training opportunities for graduate students who access CYD data for theses and dissertations. Faculty at the CYD, will continue to assist students who show an interest in learning about the various aspects of the conduct of research and to sit on thesis and dissertation committees.

c. Service and outreach: The CYD is highly involved in planning collaborative activities with faculty of various departments throughout FIU and other state (e.g. FSU) and private (e.g. UM) universities. In addition, we have established ongoing collaboration with judges, officials at community-based organizations (e.g., American Cancer Society), private research consulting firms, NIH (e.g. NIAAA and NIDA grant review committees). A great deal of time and effort was put forth to establish working arrangements for community-based public health clinics as sites for data collection. These were successful endeavors and to date, have secured agreements with three public health clinics in Dade County.

d. Opportunities for students: see comments under “b” above.

e. Integration of faculty into center activities: We have successfully recruited senior research medical sociology and anthropology faculty and, with their participation, we are optimistic about building a multidisciplinary research team that will be instrumental in efforts by FIU to maintain Research I status.

As noted under ‘e’ of prior year’s activities, the CYD is structured in a manner that facilitates and depends on the integration of faculty into center activities.