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Support Networks for Mothers in University Faculty

Megan Hils
University of Dayton, stander@udayton.edu

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Support Networks for New Mothers in University Faculty
Megan Hils
Advisor: Rebecca S Whisnant, PhD

Demands and Challenges
• Tenure Track
• Research
• Balancing Work and Family Time

Sources of Support
• Academic Department
• Other Mothers
• Husbands
• Family

Deciding Factors in Career and Family
• The “Right” Time
• Academic Fulfillment
• Being a Better Mother

Summary
• An important part of motherhood is having a network of support. For women in university faculty, this is especially important but also especially challenging due to the nature of their work and the general circumstances of working in a field dominated by men. Through firsthand accounts of mothers on the University of Dayton’s faculty, this paper explores the experiences of new mothers and the importance of establishing a support network in raising a family and succeeding in their careers. Through these experiences, opportunities to improve the circumstances for mothers in a university faculty setting and to provide them support can be examined.