

# Institute for Advanced Biometrics and Social Systems Studies (IABS3)

## January 2009: Featured Researcher

For each month of 2009, the IABS3 staff will highlight an individual who represents the caliber of researchers that the Institute partners with on collaborative initiatives. For January 2009, we feature one of our PARET Project principal investigators.

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### FEATURED RESEARCHER

**Dr. Jay A. Mancini** is Professor of Human Development and the Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Society, Culture and Environment at [Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University](#).



Dr. Mancini has been working with the Institute for Advanced Biometrics and Social Systems Studies (IABS3) as a Principal Investigator on the *Providing Access to Resilience-Enhancing Technologies for Disadvantaged Communities and Vulnerable Populations* (PARET) Project. His role in the PARET Project was to consult on community social organization and community capacity building. His research and theorizing on community systems focuses on community and family support systems, health and well-being, and prevention of intimate

partner violence. Dr. Mancini will present the PARET Project research findings at the 2009 World Conference on Disaster Management in Toronto in June of 2009.

Dr. Mancini's current research focuses on sustaining community-based programs for at-risk families, the effects of deployment on youth in military families, and on social exclusion and homelessness among veterans. He also recently consulted with social service professionals in New Orleans and Mississippi on sustaining family support programs in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He conducts cross-national research with colleagues in the United Kingdom. All of his research and theoretical work concerns vulnerable families and communities.

Dr. Mancini is a Fellow of the National Council on Family Relations, and a Fellow of the World Demographic Association. He received the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Service Award from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Research Award from the College of Human Ecology at Kansas State University. He is the editor (with Karen A. Roberto) of *Human Development Across the Lifespan: Antecedents, Processes, and Consequences of Change* (Lexington Books).

2008 Institute for Advanced Biometrics and Social Systems Studies.