

Professor takes the lead on subject of bullying

Special education professor Dr. John Hoover, a nationally known expert on the subject of bullying, has taken the lead and developed a national conference on the topic. "Bye-Bye Bullies: Under the Midnight Sun" is scheduled for June 20-22 in Anchorage, Alaska.

It's the first conference of its kind in the nation, according to the organizer.

The nine or more people who have agreed to share their expertise at the conference have national reputations. One example is Dr. Andy Horne, the principal investigator of an anti-bullying grant at the University of Georgia. He co-authored two highly regarded books, "Bully Busters" (2000) and "Bully Busters in the Elementary School" (1999). Dr. Horne has a particular interest in violence prevention in boys.

Hoover himself is frequently interviewed by television, radio and newspaper reporters from around the country. His particular interests are in the area of student perceptions of victimization, bullying and risk behavior, and bullying in rural schools. He has published three books and more than 30 papers and chapters on the topic. During the last five years, he has also presented more than 50 bullying prevention workshops to educators and parents. Hoover serves as chair of the Department of Special Education at SCSU, his alma mater.

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