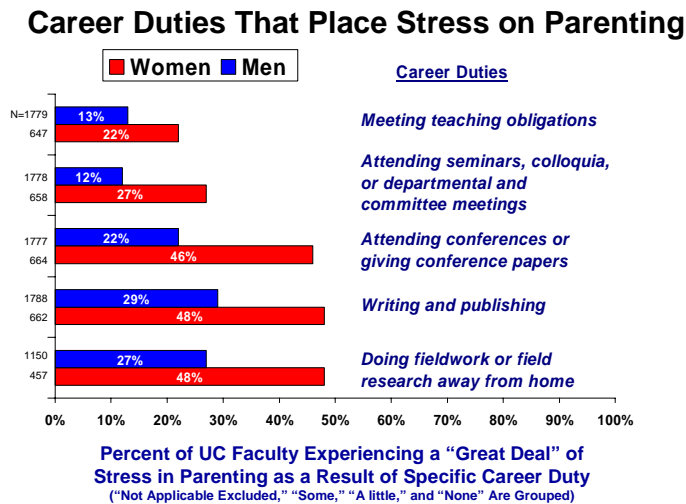


## Dependent Care Travel Funding

Data from the 2002-2003 University of California (UC) Faculty Work and Family Survey demonstrate that attending conferences and doing fieldwork away from home are some of the most likely sources of parental stress for faculty with children. Among UC faculty parents, faculty mothers are the most likely to indicate that these duties cause them a great deal of parental stress.



In addition to the parental stress associated with travel, faculty mothers and fathers may find that professional travel proves costly because of the need to pay for additional care for their children (or faculty with adult dependent care responsibilities may find they must pay for additional help). UC and federal grants do not allow travel funds to be used for caregiving expenses related to travel. We recommend, therefore, that funds be allocated to provide infant or child care for parents who bring them to meetings or conferences, or to pay for care when a child or dependent is left at home.

### UC Faculty Parents Discuss Travel-Related Difficulties

*The travel required in my work was hard to arrange given child care responsibilities.*

*... I turn down most things that involve any travel, because as a single parent, I don't have the option of leaving my daughter.*

*Professors travel a lot. My partner is also a professor. One program I would love to see would be babysitting services, co-paid by the university, with sitters drawn from the student body. This would alleviate the burden of single-parent babysitting when the other parent is traveling.*

*I am gone on travel a couple times a month which causes a lot of strain on juggling two careers with child care, child pick-up, homework etc.*

Source: UC Faculty Work and Family Survey, 2002-2003