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Thanks to all...

for an excellent annual meeting. New ideas were shared and hopefully we got a boost of energy toward our common goal of providing in our myriad ways for elders in the South. Plans for next year's meeting are already well underway under the solid leadership of our new President, Dr. LaVona Traywick. I look forward to seeing you all in Little Rock, Arkansas on April 3-6, 2014. Below are my opening comments at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

James R. Peacock, Ph.D.

President's Opening Remarks

SGS Annual Meeting 2013

This year's theme is Transitions. By definition, transitions mean movement, passage, or change from one position, state, stage, subject, or concept to another. Loosely defined, the following areas tap into these defining terms that are well represented in our presentations this year:

Transitions in *position* might include transitions in academic, professional, and practical occupations in the field of aging. Such as undergraduate student to graduate; junior faculty to senior faculty; then, perhaps role exit. Or topics may address position transitions within gerontology: academic to/from non-academic careers; teaching to/from research; paid to/from nonpaid. Or practitioner transitions: for-profit to/from non-profit.

Transitions in *state* might reflect transitions within aging in the South. They may

(Continued on page 4)

Seeking Nominations For SGS Annual Awards

It's time to start thinking about nominations for the SGS Annual Awards and the Gerontologists Rooted in the South Hall of Fame! These awards are presented each year at the SGS Annual Meeting. Remember to nominate your colleagues, community partners and students. Go to <http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/awards.html> to see a description of each award, the required materials and the deadlines.

If you have any questions, please drop a line to either Co-Chair of the Awards Committee:

Dr. Jennifer Craft-Morgan, Gerontology Institute, Georgia State University, jmorgan39@gsu.edu,

or Dr. Wayne Moore, Joint MSW Program, North Carolina A&T State University, wmoore@ncat.edu

“Transitions” from the 34th SGS Meeting...

Those who attended the 34th Annual Southern Gerontology Society conference in Charlotte, North Carolina were not disappointed. It was an exciting conference from the opening to the closing session. Dr. Kyriakos S. Markides—the Annie and John Gnitzyng Distinguished Professor of Aging and Director of the Division of Sociomedical Sciences of the Department of Prevention Medicine and Community Health at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston—opened the conference on Thursday with his keynote on “Hispanic Paradox in Mortality, Aging and Health.” This was followed by the inclusive Student Poster Session. It was wonderful to see such a large grouping of students together presenting their work. The quality of the posters was excellent and it was nice to see the enthusiasm about their work.

Friday’s schedule was jam-packed with symposia, workshops, and paper sessions every concurrent session. The joint poster session inspired much interaction between the presenters and the attendees. The only complaint I heard was that people wished the time allotment was longer. Friday night ended with the Presidential Gala where everyone mingled, ate good food, and listened to great music.

Saturday’s highlight was the Awards Luncheon. Numerous awards were given highlighting some of our best and brightest members of SGS. (To see the list of award winners, visit our website at www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/2013_meeting.html) [\[more\]](#)

With at least one symposium, three workshops and two paper sessions per concurrent session, it was hard deciding

which session to attend—they were all first-rate.

Those who left early missed a real treat Sunday morning. The Council of Presidents Symposium did not disappoint. A panel of SGS members and past presidents—Ed Rosenberg, Ed Ansello, Lorin Baumhover, Jim Mitchell, Graham Rowles, and Jan Wassel—shared their views on teaching about retirement for numerous years now to be faced with the pending transition themselves. Their honest and open discussion—sometimes with conflicting opinions—made for both an entertaining and enlightening session. [\[more\]](#)

The conference came to a close with the presentation of the GRITS award. Gerontologist Rooted in the South (GRITS) is the highest honor SGS bestows on a member. The 2013 GRITS honorees are Drs. Lorin Baumhover, Constance Coogle, Jim Mitchell, and Graham Rowles. [\[more\]](#)

Overall the 34th Annual SGS Conference in Charlotte, NC was a huge success. Professional development, learning new skills, networking, presenting and mentoring are just some of the many benefits you may have reaped if you attended. If you were not there, are you feeling left out? Join us in 2014 in Little Rock, Arkansas for the 35th Annual SGS Conference. [\[more\]](#)

LaVona Traywick, PhD
2013-2014 SGS President and
Associate Professor—Gerontology
University of Arkansas Division of
Agriculture



...to the 35th SGS Meeting in Arkansas 2014!

The 2014 Southern Gerontological Society Conference will be April 3- 6 in Little Rock, Arkansas. For those of you who have never visited Arkansas, or who haven't been in a long time, I think you will be pleasantly surprised at all there is to see and do here in my home state. The DoubleTree hotel is right downtown, only a few blocks away from the River Market District. If you don't want to walk, you can catch a trolley for \$1. To provide an opportunity to see some of the sights of Little Rock and the surrounding areas, we are pleased to provide pre-conference educational tours. You can take a bicycle tour of the historic landmarks in Little Rock (it doesn't matter if you haven't been on a bike in years, Bobby's Bike Hike will get you fitted and ready to ride), a guided walking tour of Garvan Woodland Gardens in Hot Springs (wheelchair accessible, if needed), or explore Heifer Global Village and learn about their international work with beginnings right here in Arkansas.

The conference will be full of great speakers and entertainment—even the evenings are planned! You won't want to miss the opening session Thursday night where the Hallelujah Handbells from Benton, AR will impress you with their musicality. They are even going to let me play! Friday night is the Presidential Gala so bring your cocktail attire. The Presidential Gala will take place at the Clinton Presidential Library with the President of the University of Arkansas System, Dr. Don Bobbitt, as the Keynote. Dr. Bobbitt will speak on the future of higher education, then the library will be open for tours. Saturday night are the dine-a-rounds. If you have never been on a dine-a-round, this year is the year to start. The selection of restaurants range from posh to laid-back, southern fired to gourmet. There is something for everyone's taste buds right down town.

The Program Committee is working on some special sessions this year. The short-list includes student/young professional workshops, women in science presentation, Council of Presidents Symposium, and Arkansas Gerontology Society Symposium. More details later—I don't want to spoil all the surprises. Do you have a presentation idea? Abstracts are being accepted now. *

Sincerely,

LaVona S. Traywick, PhD

SGS President

- Abstracts can be submitted online until Oct. 23, 2013: http://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting_call_abstract.html

Opening Remarks... (Continued from page 1)

include things like new directions in policy, programming, rural/urban issues, the political arena, budgeting/funding issues in the new economy, geography of retirement, and aging migration.

Transitions in *stage* may focus on in the stages of the life course: The Baby Boomers are here! Topics might include economics, marriage/family/partner relationships, work vs. retirement vs. “productive aging,” Boomers as caregivers and care recipients, generational legacy issues, and more.

Transitions in *subject* may best relate to transitions in the topics of aging. Such may include new directions in intergenerational programming, new services for an aging population, the impact of technology (assistive devices, communications, robotics, falling and nanotechnology), generational equity, the political economy of aging, and other topics.

Transitions in *concept* may best relate to transitions in the meaning of aging. These areas may include the question of how Boomers and younger generations perceive aging, the impact of boomers on retirement amenities, and much more.

We have so many topics, ideas, and designs in the direction of *transitions* for this year’s meeting. Let’s face it ... we are all smarting from the effects of the economy. We’re all expected to do more with less even at a time when we struggle to maintain the quality standards of our professional efforts. It’s hard to imagine that we can tighten our belts any more without causing serious internal injury.

But, alas, this is the reality. It does little to bemoan the fact. This is NOT the end of the world ... December 21st, 2012 came and went ... and we’re still here.

We must recognize the reality -- accept it. In doing so, we must set the foundations for change – for transition – in the way we look at our myriad

jobs, tasks, and careers on an individual level and in the way we explore new ways of development, programming, and affecting our services to our aging population.

SGS has a rich tradition of merging the needs of the front lines – the day-to-day efforts of direct service to elders – with the research and scholarship of the academy. We have always stood for the healthy dialogue between these two (often very different) worlds. I would even venture to say that SGS has been ahead of the game in this regard – recognizing early on the importance and opportunity of merging research and practice.

The key word here is “opportunity.” Our purpose remains. Where then do the opportunities rely? We need to look at how we “do” SGS. Some things work great! Some things may need a bit of a transition. We recognize that we – like the world around us – are in transition. Let us embrace this. Let us see it as an opportunity to explore new ways of providing for the needs of the elders of the South. Let us look toward the opportunities that still exist, and perhaps more importantly, the opportunities that MAY exist. We must explore new ways of providing for our elders. We must foster new visibility of our unique approach. Indeed, we must think differently about what we do in a different world from the past.

That being said, I encourage you to involve yourself deeply in this weekend’s unique opportunity of the blending of academics and practice. Talk to the students – our future gerontologists. Step out of your comfort zone. Foster the dialogue between academics and professionals. We are great people – all focused on the best ways to provide for our elders today and tomorrow.

James R. Peacock, PhD
Appalachian State University

2013 GRITS Honorees

(Gerontologists Rooted in the South)

At the close of the Annual Meeting in Charlotte, NC this past spring, four members of the Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) were honored by induction into the *Gerontologists Rooted in the South (GRITS) Hall of Fame* for 2013. The *Hall of Fame* seeks to recognize individuals who have made important contributions to SGS and to the field of gerontology through their commitment to such activities as research, teaching, administration, advocacy or applied practice.

In the past, the GRITS Awards Committee has chosen three recipients to be recognized and inducted into the *GRITS Hall of Fame* from names submitted, however this year a fourth honoree was added. **Dr. Lorin Baumhover**, Professor Emeritus at Appalachian State University (ASU), and current Chief-of-Staff to the President of ASU, was the featured speaker for this year's brunch. He regaled the audience with the history of SGS from its inception in 1978 along with recounting the developmental milestones as SGS evolved to meet challenges in gerontology funding, research, and practice over the last 35 years. He was one of the original subscriber's to the original Articles of Incorporation of SGS filed in Florida in 1979. The GRITS Committee wished to honor Dr. Baumhover for his long time patronage, service, and support of SGS, as well as his contributions to the advancement of the field of gerontology.

The other 2013 honorees were **Dr. Constance Coogle** who serves as Associate Director for Research at the

Virginia Center on Aging, and Associate Professor of Gerontology, at Virginia Commonwealth University. She was recognized for her leadership and commitment to SGS and its members, and contributions to the field of gerontology through research, administration and service to the practice community.

Dr. James "Jim" Mitchell, Professor of Sociology, East Carolina University (ECU), also serves as director of ECU Center for Diversity and Inequality Research. In addition to his service to SGS, Dr. Mitchell was recognized for being the ideal role model for future generations interested in the advancement of knowledge and practice in aging through research and publication.

Dr. Graham Rowles currently serves as Director of the Graduate Center for Gerontology and Chair of the Department of Gerontology at the University of Kentucky. He was honored for his dedicated service to SGS and his commitment to gerontology through research, teaching, administration and advocacy.

The GRITS Committee would like to thank those who submitted nominations for consideration this past year and invites letters of nomination or completion of nomination forms for the 2014 *GRITS Hall of Fame*. See the SGS web site for further details or forward your question to Dr. W. Richard Moore at wmoore@ncat.edu.

What We Learned From the COPS

2013 Council of Presidents Symposium (aka "COPS") "Retirement Taught vs. Retirement Lived" Ed Rosenberg — Appalachian State University

Gerontology educators can talk the talk, but can they walk the walk? They teach about the life course, about the traditional "linear life plan" where retirement follows the working years, and about evolving conceptualizations of whether work "ends", of "successful aging", and of "active aging".



Driven by the enactment of Social Security in 1935, retirement became part of the life course, an American "social institution". But given societal transitions (the theme of the 2013 annual meeting) and the advent of the eligibility of the Baby Boom generation for the traditional "old age" and "retirement" labels, how accurately is "retirement" - or whatever comes after working, even if it's more work - being taught? Are retired gerontology educators practicing what they'd preached, are they exceptions that prove the rule, or is there no longer any "rule"?

This was the focus of reflections by a panel of SGS past presidents: Ed Ansello, Lorin Baumhover, Jim Mitchell, Graham Rowles, and Jan Wassel. (The session was organized and moderated by past president Ed Rosenberg.)

Ansello (Virginia Commonwealth University) discussed the "thin membrane between aging taught and aging lived", and proposed that how we teach gerontology is "phenomenologically different in later life." He said, "This membrane between being younger and being older has been pierced and be-

ing on the other side somehow colors or deepens my own understanding of the subject matter." He also noted the difference between "working and searching", and said that "as maligned as it was, disen-

gagement theory is highly relevant to me, for it posits that it is mutually beneficial to society and the individual for each to step back from the all-consuming dance called work life. Disengaging enables the individual's reflection and, sometimes, a search for meaning." Ansello concluded that "the inescapable reality is that retirement lived is affected by events that retirement taught cannot fully predict."

Baumhover (Appalachian State University), a self-described three time "serial retiree", believed (incorrectly, he acknowledged) that the latter two times had ushered him into traditional retirement, perhaps the "reflection" and "search for meaning" Ansello spoke of, perhaps to focus more on voluntary activities, family, etc. Yet he admitted he "never fully disengaged from university life". Theories such as disengagement, if not "debunked", are at least outdated; the information age and, most recently, social media allow us to simultaneously disengage yet remain engaged. Retirement - a relationship between the individual and society - can be likened to an interpersonal relationship, he said, noting similarities like testing the waters, negotiated roles, and how sometimes it just doesn't work out. When all is said and done, Baumhover

concluded, all retirement may really mean is a “change in where the check comes from.”

Mitchell (East Carolina University) focused on the dynamics of the decision to retire, and began by describing how life as an academic gerontologist has changed over the past 35 years. When he began his academic career, he found “a spirit of optimism in a climate of programmatic support.” That is no longer the case. Austere budgets and more direct application of a business model to higher education may be the norm for young faculty. For Mitchell and his cohort, however, there is “an experiential basis for comparison that for many is a retirement ‘push’.” He believes the retirement decision is “also influenced by opportunities that arise through the cultivation of ‘multiple selves’,” and that this “may serve as individual ‘pulls’ in the direction of retirement.” He views retirement as he does other life stages - as a decision made “in light of opportunity and choices.”

Rowles (University of Kentucky) addressed the “paradox of retirement in gerontology”: that just “when we can begin to talk about the topic with some degree of insight and authority, our culture suggests that we retire from the academy.” His response is that we should “completely recast the way in which we think, talk and teach about retirement.” He described, to use Mitchell’s terms, several push and pull factors regarding retirement, then focused on reasons he doesn’t want to retire. In part due to the convergence between who he is becoming and what he is teaching about, he enjoys teaching more than ever. Generalizing that point, he advocated both for the importance of gerontology education and “gerontological literacy” and for the advantages of having “experienced and older educators” provide those, not merely as teachers but also as role models.

Wassel (University of North Carolina - Greensboro) would retire now if she could, echoing Mitchell’s dissatisfied reaction to how the role of the academic gerontologist has changed over the past few decades. Channeling disengagement theory - “blasphemy from a gerontologist, I know” - she said “there is a time for older professors to move on to make way for those younger.” But to Wassel, retirement is “living a different lifestyle” and looking for new challenges.

Thanks Again!

Thank you to the many people who contributed their time and resources to the 2013 Annual Meeting in Charlotte.

Program Committee

LaVona Traywick, Lee Ann Ferguson, Toby Woodson, Dana Bradley & James Peacock.

Local Arrangements

Dena Shenk and Cynthia Hancock

Site Selection - Ed Ansello

AV - Sara Acker

Silent Auction - Dave White

Awards Committee - James Peacock

"GRITS" - Wayne Moore

Student Mentoring Moments

Urmila Tokekar and Brittany Watson

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Kenneth Cook

Editorial: Is Infantilization Ethical? An Ethical Question

Stephen M. Marson, Ph.D., Senior Editor

Since 1982 I have been observing health-care professionals, including social workers, interact with elderly residents in a syrupy and infantile manner. As a supervisor I never felt comfortable with this type of interaction—but at the time—I did not have the skills to wrap coherent words around the behavior. As a doctoral student and a practicing social worker I made a Herculean effort to conceptualize the interaction within a theoretical framework. I thought that if I had a theory I would have the effective words to modify the interaction I was observing in nursing homes.

My first effort was to employ Goffman's Dramaturgical and Framework Analysis. Yes, indeed, as a doctoral student I wrote a research paper on this subject. I recently reread this paper I wrote in 1982 through my hopefully *now* more objective eyes and I can honestly admit it was a grossly inadequate work. I understand why my professor did not like the paper. As a consequence I gave up on the idea until the paper resurfaced in the fall of 2012. I still believe the idea of conceptualizing infantilization is an important practice concept and decided to rewrite the paper with the help of a colleague. This updated paper was accepted as a presentation at a gerontology conference.

In the process of writing the paper I came across the brilliant work of Salari (2005). She makes a profoundly convincing argument that infantilization of the elderly constitutes elder abuse. The critical issues are threefold: 1) professionals are currently interacting with elderly persons in an infantile manner; 2) professionals do not believe this style is harmful, but rather a demonstration of warmth; and 3) infantilization is harmful whether it is intentional or unintentional. I have been asking policymakers in my state, "Does infantilization of elderly persons constitute elder abuse?" The reply: "This is a difficult question to answer."

The bottom line is this: Professionals who are interacting with elderly persons in a syrupy and infantile manner have good intentions. On a practical level, identifying this style of interaction as elder abuse becomes problematic. However, the taxonomy of elder abuse that I learned included the concept of "unintentional psychological abuse." I personally believe that infantilization fits well with the concept of unintentional psychological abuse. What do you think? Is infantilization elder abuse and therefore unethical? Send your thoughts to smarson@nc.rr.com. Please include a statement giving me permission to publish!

Reference

Salari, S. M. (2005). Infantilization as elder mistreatment: Evidence from five adult day centers. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 17(4), 53–91.

Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics, Volume 10, Number 1 (2013) Copyright 2013, Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)

Gaugler Accepts Second Term as JAG Editor!

At the annual board meeting in April, the SGS Publications Committee was thrilled to recommend Dr. Joseph Gaugler, Editor in Chief for the *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, for a second three-year term when his current term ends in June 2014. He has performed admirably working on the back log and pursuing our inclusion on MEDLINE. Bethany Gerdin has continually provided able assistance, and the Committee is grateful to both of them for doing such a wonderful job. Another three years will certainly see the continuation of those and other new initiatives to keep the journal vibrant and strong.

Because the journal is so central to the Society, the Committee would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone in SGS how they can make individual contributions in support of the journal. Below are a number of suggestions that would go a long way in growing and nurturing our journal:

- 1) Please check with your local institutional library and make sure they have an up-to-date subscription to *JAG*.
- 2) When you incorporate journal articles in the classroom, send your students a link to the full-text journal articles rather than posting or sending around a PDF. By sending a link you help increase *JAG*'s article download counts and usage on your campus.
- 3) On your website or in your CV, link your articles published in *JAG* to the full-text articles to increase the journal's search engine results and article downloads.
- 4) Make sure you are staying on top of the latest research published in *JAG*. Go to <http://online.sagepub.com/cgi/alerts> to register for table of contents or subject matter alerts.
- 5) Mention or link to *JAG* articles on your Facebook page or Twitter.
- 6) Cite the journal in your manuscripts when appropriate, and take a moment to be sure you have the latest or all the relevant articles from *JAG*.

Constance L. Coogle, Ph.D.
SGS Publications Committee Chair

Contact the editors of the Southern Gerontologist to share news or article ideas or provide feedback. We also welcome member and event news.

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Stand Up To Falling

Amy F. Hosier,
Assistant Professor of Family Sciences
University of Kentucky

The University of Kentucky's Stand Up to Falling Cooperative Extension program focuses on ways to prevent individuals from falling. While preventing falls should not be limited to older adults, as the young and old are at risk, it is an astounding statistic that one out of three older adults, age 65 and over, experiences a fall each year (CDC, 2012). The fall prevention Extension curriculum therefore targets individuals age 65+ but aims to help people of all ages identify risk factors of falls in order to prevent a fall and fall-related injury and death. Research demonstrates that a multi-component fall prevention program can save people from injury creating an estimated health savings of \$18,000-21,000/person (CDC, 2012; KSPAN, 2011).

Content for the **Stand Up to Falling** program is based on a conceptual prevention model from the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC) that highlight 4 preventable risk factors (physical activity, healthy vision, medical management and safe home environment).

The entire peer review curriculum includes:

- 7 peer reviewed Extension publications
- 1 Facilitator guide
- 4 Activity worksheets
- 1 PowerPoint presentation
- 1 Facilitator script
- 1 Post Evaluation Instrument questions
- 6 Featured Program Agent Questions
- 1 Example success story statement
- 1 Logic Model
- 5 Information Releases
- 8 Radio Consumer Tips
- 1 fall prevention/healthy aging DVD
- 1 Educational/Marketing Poster
- Program training materials
- 1 recorded webinar training

Since July 2010, this program has served over 8,000 Kentucky Homemakers and 1,408 Family Consumer Sciences (FCS) participants (Kentucky Extension Homemakers (KEHA) Management and Safety Reports; Kentucky Extension Reporting System-KERS, 2013). This program also aims to encourage participation in *A Matter of Balance*, a national 8-week evidenced

based program that FCS supports; 581 Kentucky Homemakers have taken part.

According to the 2012-2013 program evaluation data (n=1,329), **100%** of the participants reported a better understanding of ways in which to reduce the risk of falling; **62.3%** reported that they anticipate protecting their vision by seeing an eye doctor; **67.8%** anticipated making appropriate changes to their home; 68.5% anticipated reviewing their medication with a doctor or pharmacist; **64.7%** anticipated becoming more physically active; and **75.1%** learned how to safely get up from a fall.

These results were recently published in the *The Forum for Family and Consumer Issues Spring/Summer 18(1)*. The peer reviewed Extension program publications include:

How to Prevent Falls

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/fcs7/fcs7198/fcs7198.PDF>

Physical Activity, Exercise and Fall Prevention

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/fcs7/fcs7189/fcs7189.pdf>

Medications and Fall Prevention

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/fcs7/fcs7190/fcs7190.pdf>

Home Safety and Fall Prevention

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/fcs7/fcs7191/fcs7191.pdf>

A Matter of Balance

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/fcs7/fcs7193/fcs7193.pdf>

What to do When You Fall

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/fcs7/fcs7206/fcs7206.PDF>

References:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2012). *Falls: Older adults*. <http://www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalafety/falls/index.html>
- Kentucky Safety and Prevention Alignment Network. (KSPAN). <http://www.kspan.uky.edu/home/Welcome.html>

Member News

SGS Member Barbara Monty, Office on Aging Director, Knoxville, TN passed away on May 26, 2013.

** * **

Dr. Sandra L McGuire, Assistant Dean and Professor of the Caylor School of Nursing at Lincoln Memorial University was named a Fellow in the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education at the Annual Conference this year in March.

** * **

Dr. Christine Jensen's implementation of "Caring For You, Caring For Me", a program of the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving, was recently awarded a first place Best Practices Award by the Commonwealth Council on Aging in Virginia. This award includes a \$5000 contribution to support ongoing efforts with this caregiver program. Christy is Director of Health Services Research at the Riverside Center for Excellence in Aging and Lifelong Health in Williamsburg, VA.

** * **

Polly Cox, MSW is proud to say that she graduated May 11th with her Masters of Social Work from North Carolina A&T State University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She is also in the process of publishing an article she co-authored entitled "The Oppressed Death: Barriers faced by LGBTQ older adults within the healthcare system."

** * **

The Honorable Dorcas R. Hardy, former Commissioner of Social Security and Director of the White House Conference on Aging (2005) was recognized by Elder Care Advocacy of Florida with the presentation of the Diamond Service Award at Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on May 15, 2013. Austin R. Curry, Executive Director made the presentation in honor of her decades of beneficial service to American Elders. She has continued the legacy of her Father, C. Colburn Hardy, former legislator, and pioneer Elder Advocate by awarding the C. Colburn Hardy Elder Advocate each year to a Florida Senior selected by a diverse committee. Ms. Hardy still is an active professional consultant in the Washington, DC area and continues to be a force in Elder Concerns in our Nation. The Diamond Service Award is given in recognition to those individuals or organizations with a known record of efforts for Seniors for more than 50 years in solid results in America by Elder Care Advocacy of Florida

** * **

Austin R. Curry, Executive Director at Elder Care Advocacy of Florida is pleased to share that his organization was chosen to be the host of the Medicine Evaluation Education Training (MEET) program to be launched from Tampa, Florida for implementation throughout the U.S. in the coming year. This innovative program has successfully operated in Europe and is now being introduced in America to meet the need for increased information on medicines, processes, and advanced innovation essential to patients and the general public.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

OCTOBER

2013 RCI National Summit and Training Institute

“Honoring the Mission: Supporting Caregivers Through Information, Skill-Building and Hope”

October 24-25, 2013

Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, GA

<http://www.rcisummit.org>

64th Annual Convention and Expo of the American Health Care Association and the National Center for Assisted Living, October 6-9, 2013

Phoenix, AZ

<http://s4.goeshow.com/ahca/Annual/2013/index.cfm>

LeadingAge Annual Meeting and Expo

October 27-30, 2013

Dallas, TX

www.leadingage.org

National Association for Home Care and Hospice Annual Meeting and Exposition

October 31 - November 3, 2013

Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, MD

www.nahc.org

NOVEMBER

Gerontological Society of America

Annual Scientific Meeting: “Optimal Aging Through Research”

November 20-24, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans & New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, LA

<http://www.geron.org/annual-meeting>

Now Appearing in JAG...

- ◆ Increasing Social Activity Attendance in Assisted Living Residents Using Personalized Prompts and Positive Social Attention by Courtney Allyn Polenick, Stephen Ray Flora
- ◆ You Can Teach an Old Dog New Tricks: A Qualitative Analysis of How Residents of Senior Living Communities May Use the Web to Overcome Spatial and Social Barriers by Vicki Winstead, William A. Anderson, Elizabeth A. Yost, Shelia R. Cotten, Amanda Warr, Ronald W. Berkowsky
- ◆ Attendance in Adult Day Care Centers of Cognitively Intact Older Persons: Reasons for Use and Nonuse by Esther Iecovich, Aya Biderman
- ◆ The Role of Religious Coping and Race in Alzheimer’s Disease Caregiving by Grace Jeongim Heo, Gary Koeske
- ◆ Skill Acquisition With Text-Entry Interfaces: Particularly Older Users Benefit From Minimized Information-Processing Demands by Georg Jahn, Josef F. Krems
- ◆ Attitudes of Older Adults Regarding Disclosure of Complementary Therapy Use to Physicians by Thomas A. Arcury, Ronny A. Bell, Kathryn P. Altizer, Joseph G. Grzywacz, Joanne C. Sandberg, Sara A. Quandt

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2013 Award Recipients

*Dr. Malcolm Cutchin from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill received the **2013 Gordon Streib Academic Gerontologist Award**. This award is presented to an individual educator or researcher, affiliated with an academic institution, whose work has contributed to the quality of life of older people. Awardees demonstrate significant contributions in all of the following: involvement in educating or training students, educators and/or service providers; publications; and leadership in professional organizations and organizations which serve older people.*



Dr. Cutchin receives Gordon Streib Academic Gerontologist Award from Awards Chair James Peacock

*Ms. Evelyn Newman received the **2013 Rhoda Jennings Distinguished Older Advocate Award**. This award is given to an SGS member who has a sustained record of leadership in the field of aging including innovative programs that link research and practice, all of which have clear impact on the quality of life of older persons.*

*Dr. Amy Hosier from the University of Kentucky received the **2013 Applied Gerontologist Award**. This award is given to an SGS member who has a sustained record of leadership in the field of aging including innovative programs that link research and practice, all of which have clear impact on the quality of life of older persons.*



Dr. Amy Hosier received the 2013 Applied Gerontologist award from James Peacock

*LaVona Traywick, Jessica Vincent, Rosemary Rodibaugh, and Julie Thompson received the **2013 Media Award**. Title: "Endless Gardening" This award honors a contribution, in any medium, that furthers understanding of aging in the region and contributes to the mission of SGS.*



Karen Olivia Moss (center) with her adviser, Dr. Ishan Williams (left) and Awards Chair James Peacock.

*Ms. Karen Olivia Moss from the University of Virginia received the **2013 Student Paper Award**. Title: "End-of-Life Preferences in Afro-Caribbean Older Adults: A Systematic Literature Review." Her faculty adviser is Dr. Ishan Williams. Since 1999, SGS has presented a Student Paper Award each year to recognize academic excellence.*

Alix Unwin from York College of Pennsylvania received the **2013 1st Place Student Poster Award**. Poster Title: "Transitions, Teachable Moments, and Transformations: Walking a Mile in Their Shoes." Her faculty adviser is Kelly Niles-Yokum, PhD.

Wendy Myers from Georgia State University received the **2013 2nd Place Student Poster Award**. Poster Title: "Pathways to Homelessness of Older Adults Living in Extended Stay Hotels." Her faculty adviser is Terri Lewinson, PhD.



Ivette Valenzuela from Virginia Tech received the **2013 3rd Place Student Poster Award**. Poster Title: "Promoting a Longer Life Expectancy with a Better Quality of Life: Baby Boomers and Chronic Diseases." Her faculty advisers are: Rosemary Blieszner, PhD, Kerry Redican, MPH, and Kathy Hosig, PhD.

Dr. Wendy Myers (center) with her adviser, Dr. Terri Lewinson and Awards Chair James Peacock

For more information about past winners and the nomination/application process, visit: <http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/annualmeeting/awards/index.html>

GRITS – Gerontologists Rooted in the South Award Winners

Marking the third year for this award, SGS recently recognized four of our distinguished GRITS - Gerontologists Rooted in the South. At the Closing GRITS Brunch of the annual meeting in Greensboro, Lorin Baumhover, Ph.D., Retired Provost, Appalachian State University; Constance Coogle, Ph.D., Associate Director of Research, Virginia Center on Aging at Virginia Commonwealth University; Jim Mitchell, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, Eastern Carolina University; and Graham Rowles, Ph.D., Professor of Gerontology at the University of Kentucky, were inducted into the SGS Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame seeks to recognize individuals who have made important contributions to SGS and to the field of gerontology through research, teaching, administration, advocacy or applied practice. The Hall of Fame was established to honor past and present members who serve as role models for future generations interested in the advancement of knowledge and practice in the field of aging.

Please read more about these leaders and their legacies at:

<http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/grits.html>

Nomination Guidelines

The selection committee requests a letter of recommendation [two to four pages] which describes the significant and innovative contributions made by the nominee to the Southern Gerontological Society and field of gerontology. This may reflect one or more areas of service through teaching, administration, research, advocacy, applied practice or leadership positions within SGS or both. Further information, and the online nomination form is available on the SGS website. The committee requests nominations for 2013 Hall of Fame be submitted by Dec. 30, 2012. Please forward questions or concerns to Dr. W. Richard Moore at wmoore@ncat.edu.

Bylaws Committee

The SGS Bylaws Committee is charged with soliciting, developing, and presenting to the Board of Directors proposed changes to the Society's bylaws (and, as necessary, the Policy & Procedures Manual).

Any SGS member is entitled to propose Bylaws changes. If you wish to do so, please send the proposed change, with your rationale, to Bylaws Committee chair Dr. Ed Rosenberg, Department of Sociology, Chapell Wilson Hall, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608, or email it to RosenbergE@appstate.edu.

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Student Reflections Urmila Tokekar, MHA (c2013)

“Transition” from being a college student to a professional is always difficult for everyone. To ease this transition and make students aware of the opportunities, be it career wise or further studies, a special session was organized at the SGS conference “Student Mentoring Moments”. The aim of this session was to provide students an opportunity to meet and interact with professionals working in the field of aging. This was an informal session which included professionals from various backgrounds (academics, nursing homes, caregivers). Mentors shared their career paths and professional experience with the students.

Students got a chance to have a one on one conversation with the mentors to find out the future prospects. We had mentors who travelled different cities especially for this event. Some of our mentors for the session were Lillian Jeter who is a consultant for elder abuse cases internationally, Dr Victor Marshall, a professor at the University of North

Carolina at Chapel Hill, Dawn Gartman who is Senior Aging Program Specialist at Centralina Council of Governments, Area Agency on Aging in Charlotte, NC and Sonya Barsness a consultant and principal of Sonya Barsness Consulting LLC with over 20 years of experience in aging.

Maximum students took advantage of this opportunity to learn about aging from the professionals. This also provided a networking opportunity for those seeking jobs and careers in the field of aging. It also helped the students to bridge the gap from student life to professionals.

Urmila Tokekar, MHA (c2013)
Student Representative to SGS Board
Head Graduate Assistant
Western Kentucky University—Aging

Welcome, New Members!

Sarah Boehl - OH

Polly Cox - NC

Joaquin Hechavarría - FL

Teresa Hoover - NC

Amy Hosier - KY

Ching Yi Kuo - NC

Jasmine Nicole Lowery-NC

Karen Moss - VA

Christian Pihet - France

Rose Tankard - NC

Brittany Watson - NC

Laura Wehner - AR

Vicki Winstead - AL

Elizabeth Yost - AL

SGS Membership Benefits

SGS Annual Conference & Meeting:

Leadership & Professional Networking; Continuing Education. Members receive a deep discount on registration fees for the annual meeting.

Publications: The Journal of Applied Gerontology, The Southern Gerontologist Newsletter. A free subscription to the **Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG)**, the official journal of SGS is included with membership. The Journal is devoted to the publication of contributions that focus explicitly on the application of knowledge and insights from research and practice to improvement of the quality of life of older persons. Particular emphasis is placed on manuscripts and editorials that enhance dialogue among researchers, policy makers, and practitioners. In addition, members receive the **Southern Gerontologist**, a quarterly newsletter that complements JAG by providing updates on applied projects, member activities and emerging issues, and informing members of new books and videos of interest to the

field of aging.

Student privileges: Membership discount, Conference registration discount, Networking & Leadership opportunities

SGS Committees are member-friendly and provide an excellent opportunity to enhance one's professional development. By adding your voice to SGS you can help ensure that dialogue and cooperation maintain the balance between research and practice, through the guiding principle of SGS-- the alliance of practitioners and academicians to enhance the lives of our elders.

For more information contact **Lora Gage**, SGS Executive Director, at Lgage4sgs@aol.com.

She will gladly send you an application and information. Don't miss the opportunity to become a member of a group of the South's most respected gerontology professionals.

NOT YET A MEMBER?! JOIN TODAY! ONLINE!!

[HTTP://WWW.SOUTHERNGERONTOLOGICALSOCIETY.ORG/JOIN.HTML](http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/join.html)