



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

With open arms Little Rock and our Arkansas colleagues hosted the Southern Gerontological Society's 35th Annual Meeting this past April. Our gatherings are always energizing, powered by a terrific mix of practitioners, academics, students, policymakers, and other professionals. Looking towards "Building the Bridge to the Future," the 2014 meetings on the banks of the Arkansas River were particularly dynamic and exciting!

Speaking of excitement and the future, the 2015 conference promises to be truly outstanding. Pamela Pitman Brown at Winston-Salem State is leading the Program Committee this year and Christy Jensen with the Riverside Center for Excellence in Aging in Williamsburg is heading up the local arrangements team. They are hard at work and have great things planned.

Wednesday night we will receive a truly memorable welcome to the Colonial City from historical characters. Also, as you may have seen on Facebook, Thursday night after the dine-arounds SGS will host the first annual Jam-A-Palooza, so dust off your instrument and limber up your vocal chords. There are other special sessions and events in the works. Please be on the watch for announcements about new developments! Suffice it to say that I certainly hope you will make plans to participate in the 2015 Southern Gerontological Society meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia. Put another way:

WHEREAS it hath been duly ordained that the membership of our august society shall again congregate in the city of Williamsburg, Virginia, Wednesday, April 15th through Saturday, April 18th two-thousand and fifteen;

WHEREAS the 36th Annual Meeting will be held in the DoubleTree by Hilton;

WHEREAS the DoubleTree has offered a group rate of one-hundred and nine dollars per night;

WHEREAS this is a very good deal;

WHEREAS our regular convocation promises to be a joyful gathering of kind-hearted like-minded persons;

WHEREAS an intriguing program is developing around the theme, "Communities Engaging Aging: A Two-Way Street;"

WHEREAS our yearly congress presents students a singularly amicable venue to present research and to develop collegial relationships;

WHEREAS even on a slow horse, the place of the 2015 Annual Meeting is minutes away from Busch Gardens, Colonial Williamsburg, and a plethora of other attractions;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved, that all ye hearers are invited to make travel plans, submit presentation abstracts, and join with your friends and colleagues, attending and contributing to the aforesaid 36th Annual Meeting in Williamsburg.

Don E. Bradley, PhD
Department Chair, Associate Professor,
Department of Sociology
Howard College of Arts and Sciences, Samford University



Comments from the COPs* (*a.k.a. Council of Presidents)

James Peacock, Ph.D.
Appalachian State University
Council of Presidents

engage [en-geyj] v.

The 2015 SGS meeting's theme is "Engaging Communities: A Two Way Street." I thought it would be interesting to explore what it means to engage, so I turned to the root meanings of "engage." It means to pledge (Middle-French) or to redeem a pledge (Proto-Indo-European); to secure or guarantee (Proto-Germanic); security, a covenant, or to undertake (Old English). Almost all root meanings implied some form of pledge.

Indeed, SGS is making a pledge. We pledge to secure a better quality of life for our elders. We take on a covenant to work together across disciplines, between academics and practitioners, and between states and jurisdictions of the South. But like our 2015 theme implies, a pledge, covenant, or guarantee is not a one-sided effort. It is an agreement between parties.

This is our challenge in SGS and it is our strength. I look forward to another annual meeting where we are open to new ideas, new practices, and new explorations. I am excited to be renewed in our pledge to our elders and to each other. We have a lot of work to do, but by undertaking our covenant, our pledge, we are securing and guaranteeing a better tomorrow for the aged of the South.

Comments from the COPs is a new feature of the Southern Gerontologist. Each installment will have commentary from a past SGS President. This may be an op-ed piece, a research note, or even a challenge for the members of SGS. The Council of Presidents looks forward to this opportunity to be involved in this new way.

Communities Engaging Aging: *A Two-Way Street*

April 15-18, 2015

[Download the Meeting Program Now \(pdf\)](#)

[Click Here for to Register for the Annual Meeting](#)

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Williamsburg

50 Kingsmill Road
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185
Hotel Phone: 757-220-2500
Hotel Fax: 757-221-0653

Early Registration Deadline: **March 8, 2015**

[Click Here for Online Hotel Reservations](#)

SGS Questions? Contact Lee Ann Ferguson
866-920-4660
admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org



Not sure how to pack? Here's a link to Williamsburg weather forecasts:
<http://www.accuweather.com/en/us/williamsburg-va/23185/weather-forecast/336221>

Help Support SGS through the 2015 Silent Auction!

Don't forget to send or pack your Silent Auction donations! Our Silent Auction is a fun and successful fundraiser and it provides great shopping without leaving the hotel.

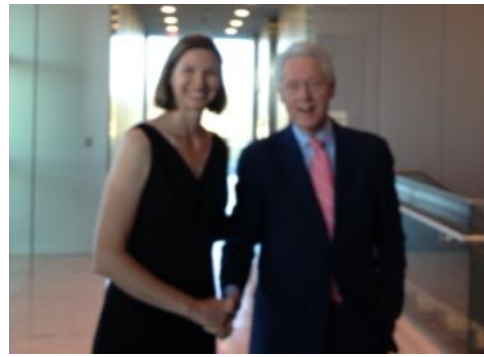
Bring anything you think will appeal to SGS meeting participants. Some popular items are: books (autographed ones are nice), jewelry, chocolates, college/university items, collectibles, gifts for children, handmade crafts, gift cards from national store chains (especially bookstores), items that represent your state or region, or anything with an aging theme. Sometimes we even have a donation of a weekend at a beach condo! You will receive a receipt for your donations that you can use to deduct the full, fair-market value of the item on your income taxes.

Bring your items during set-up Wednesday, April 15, 2-6 p.m. or anytime during the meeting. (The sooner the better for more bidding!) Someone will check in your items and give you a receipt.

When you visit the exhibits or take a coffee break, browse the Silent Auction and place your bids. The donated items are displayed on tables, with a bid sheet beside each item. When you find an item you like, write down your bid, making sure your bid is above the required minimum. Thursday and Friday, periodically check your bid. If someone is bidding against you, raise your bid! In the end, the highest bidder wins the item.

Final bids are due by 4:50 p.m. Friday. The Silent Auction will close promptly at 5 p.m. Bidders, please try to be at the auction closing or arrange for someone to be there for you. As each table is sequentially "closed," take the items you won to the cashier to pay (cash, checks, MasterCard & VISA). If you miss the closing, check at the SGS registration desk later to see if your bids were successful. Unclaimed items will be auctioned off live before our Closing Session on Saturday.

Let's make this event a great success!
Questions? Email Lee Ann Ferguson at admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org



Positively Presidential

The 35th Annual SGS Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas "Building the Bridge to the Future: 21st Century Families" was educational as well as fun. As requested, President Bill Clinton did make a cameo appearance at the Presidential Gala at the Clinton Presidential Library where the University of Arkansas President Dr. Don Bobbitt made the keynote address. For those who missed the event, there were a lot of Presidents!

In addition to Dr. Bobbitt who gave us the academic perspective on "Building the Bridge to the Future," we had other wonderful highlighted speakers: Dr. David Lipschitz provided the medical perspective, Ms. Becky Com-et addressed the lay-person perspective and Dr. Karen Roberto emphasized the research perspective on the role of families in aging. The number of older adults in the United States is increasing every day and we, in the field of gerontology, must be prepared. This includes guiding our up and coming gerontologists, and this year we had three mentoring sessions to try and do just that.

After thirty-five years, SGS is still here even when many other gerontological societies have folded or been absorbed by other, larger organizations. In this anniversary year we did as our conference theme suggested, and we looked forward to the future. Our founding members of SGS saw this organization as a "bridge between research and practice, translating and applying knowledge in the field of aging." As society changes, our Society must also change to meet the needs of our members, as well as attracting new members, all the while maintaining the vision of the organization. As we move forward and are planning for the 36th Annual Meeting in Williamsburg, remember that change—even positive change—is "A Two Way Street." I hope to see you all in April 2015, if not before.

LaVona S. Traywick, Ph.D.
2013-2014 SGS President

Editorials

Notes from the Editors:

The theme of the 2015 SGS Annual Meeting is Communities Engaging Aging: A Two Way Street. This theme is open for interpretation for conference presenters and attendees and may be explored from vantage points of academia, industry, community-based organizations, as well as elders and their families serving and being served by scholarship and services. All of these institutions and individuals are entities that are communities or part of communities engaging aging.

With this theme in mind, we felt that it would be appropriate for this newsletter issue to include two brief editorials from nonprofits in our regional community that are themselves engaging aging in partnership with other organizations and individuals, old and young. They each experience and demonstrate exchange with the communities being served and in partnership for a greater good. The nonprofit Warm Hearth, located in Blacksburg, Virginia, is a unique continuing care organization that thrives through ongoing exchange with surrounding universities and health professions, as well as by staying in touch with the community it serves that spans all socioeconomic brackets. Warm Hearth was started as an intentional gift symbolic of the

gratitude of Mr. and Mrs. Kroontje, including a nonprofit design and 100 year plan resulting from an exchange of ideas and initiative from Holland to the United States. The nonprofit JCA Heyman Interages Center, located and functioning in Montgomery County, Maryland, is a community engaging aging through facilitation of programs across generations, with meaningful exchange between old and young on this two-way street. Interages also facilitates this generational two-way exchange across cultures through its Bridges mentoring program.

Whether we also work in community-based efforts, innovate in industry, or channel our efforts across teaching and research in an academic context, there is always room to learn and understand about the many examples of groups engaging aging in our community. We anticipate that this close examination of community and intergenerational reciprocity in our own region will enhance our opportunities for partnerships, effective interventions and research in gerontology.

Here's to continuing to create opportunities for two-way community engagement! We look forward to seeing you in Williamsburg!

Warm Hearth Village: An Overview

Heather Gearhart, LNHA, MLTCA

Warm Hearth Village is a non-profit senior living community nestled in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia's New River Valley. Warm Hearth Village provides seniors with a wide range of services and healthcare amenities encompassing the continuum of care from independent living, assisted living, through long-term and skilled nursing care.

Warm Hearth Village is the direct result of the vision and many years of hard work by Wybe and Marietje Kroontje. The Kroontjes, natives of the Netherlands, survived occupation by the Nazis in World War II and were rescued by the Allied forces. Their contribution of Warm Hearth was to be their expression of gratitude to the American people for their liberation. Warm Hearth Village and its presence in the New River Valley is the culmination of their vision, determination, and tenacity. Part of the Kroontjes' intention behind Warm Hearth was to create environments in which elders of all income brackets can reach and maintain their maximum potential, dignity and self-worth. Warm Hearth Village is also committed to providing research, teaching, and training programs to the surrounding community and

local institutions of higher education. The programs and services offered to the community, the staff involvement in the community and our commitment to successful partnerships with the community make Warm Hearth Village an exciting and rewarding place to live, work, or volunteer.

One of the many unique features of Warm Hearth Village is the presence of a 100 year plan. Warm Hearth Village is currently in year 41 of the plan and right on target to meet or exceed each goal. Guided by our founders' vision of creating a better version of health care, Warm Hearth Village staff follow the 100 year plan by taking one step at a time into a better future for all residents within the community. In summary Warm Hearth Village is a retirement community with a hand on our rich and inspiring past, one hand poised to grasp the future with our 100 year plan, and both feet planted in the present to provide quality care and service for all our residents within the community.

Engaging a Generation to Respond to the Needs of a Changing Community

Tricia Wilson, Assistant Director,
JCA Heyman Interages Center

We hear about a generation. Baby Boomers – the generation of 77 million people born between 1946 and 1964 – represent a potential boost to the volunteer world, not only because of the sheer size of the generation but also because of its members' high levels of education, wealth, and skills. Propelled largely by the Baby Boomers, the number of volunteers age 65 and older in the U.S. is projected to reach 13 million by 2020, compared to just under 7 million in 2007. If you're an organization helping kids, this is good news. Studies show that the second most popular type of volunteer organization for Baby Boomers (after religious organizations) is educational or youth service organizations, and retention rates are 70.3% for Boomers whose volunteer activities include tutoring, mentoring, and coaching.

We hear the statistics. Millions of American children reach fourth grade without learning to read proficiently. An alarming 66% of fourth graders in public school were reading below the proficient level in 2013. English Language Learners – students for whom English is a second language – are among the most likely to drop out before the 12th grade. In the 2010-11 school year, nearly half of states graduated less than 60% of students with limited English proficiency.

In Montgomery County, MD, which lies just to the north of Washington, D.C. and has a population of a little over one million people, we're experiencing a transformation. The Maryland Department of Planning projects that by 2020 the senior population (age 60 and over) in Montgomery County will comprise nearly a quarter of the county's population. In addition, minorities have become a majority in Montgomery County over the past decade. Barely 49% of the county's residents are non-Hispanic whites, down from almost 60% in 2000 and 72% a decade before that.

With the county undergoing such dramatic changes in demographics, we're fortunate that Austin Heyman had the foresight nearly 30 years ago to see the importance of connecting the young and the young-at-heart through meaningful intergenerational programs. He founded JCA Heyman Interages Center as a nonprofit organization with the mission of fostering intergenerational cooperation and exchange, and reducing age segregation and tension. Since 1986, the JCA Heyman Interages Center has worked to harness the talents of people age 50 and better by providing them with rewarding volunteer opportunities which connect them with local students from pre-kindergarten through high school.

One program which is nearly as old as Interages itself is Intergenerational Bridges. Bridges connects Interages volunteers with students enrolled in the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program at their schools. Many of the students are recent immigrants to

the U.S. and some have been in the country only a few months before they join the program. The goals of Bridges are to help students adjust to life in America, to support students' development of English skills, and to boost student self-esteem.

Bridges mentors meet one-on-one with the same student for the length of the school year. The program takes place immediately after school. Students and volunteers spend their time talking, reading, and playing games in English. Because it is a group setting, with student/mentor pairs all meeting in the same place on the school campus, the program also allows for group activities, which increase socialization between students and mentors alike.

The success of the Bridges program is truly attributed to the compassion and dedication of the volunteers. They come from a variety of professions – former teachers, scientists, lawyers, journalists, just to name a few – with an amazing span of experience working with kids – some never having had children of their own and others being parents and grandparents. However, no matter their backgrounds, they all have the same desire: to contribute their skills and wisdom to help a student succeed in school and life.

Although Interages' program coordinators are onsite every week with books, magazines, art supplies and a carload's-worth of games, the mentors always make an effort to get to know their students and discover what is going to get that child most engaged in the program. Volunteers and students have worked together to create newspapers about the students' home countries, write and star in puppet shows, and even build their own instruments and put on a musical performance. As long as they're working together and communicating in English, there is no limit to what the pairs can do. The rewards are certainly not all one-sided, with only the students benefitting from the program. Joey Potter, a Bridges mentor for 18 years who recently "retired" from volunteering, could often be heard telling other Interages volunteers, "This is the best thing I ever did for myself!"

As demographics continue to change in communities across America, programs like Intergenerational Bridges could be a natural fit for places looking to engage the talents of the Baby Boomer generation in programs supporting immigrant students. An intergenerational program such as this one is certainly a win-win for all involved as it allows participants to create connections across generations and cultures, building a community which is a great place to grow up and grow old.

i www.nationalservice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/boomer_research.pdf

ii www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/07_0307_boomer_report.pdf

iii www.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-2014kidscountdatabook-2014.pdf

iv www.takepart.com/article/2013/06/25/english-language-learners-struggle-public-schools

v www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OMB/Resources/Files/omb/pdfs/fy13/psprec/senior.pdf

vi www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/02/09/AR2011020904310.html



Applications now being accepted for late-breaking poster session at SGS annual meeting

You still have time!

Gerontological graduate students and professional gerontologists have until **March 21** to submit a poster for 2015 Williamsburg, Virginia annual meeting. To enable more graduate students and professionals to participate in the 2015 annual meeting, to be held April 15-18 in Williamsburg, Virginia, SGS is sponsoring a special late-breaking poster session.

Submissions for this session are due March 21, 2015, and notifications of selection decisions will be sent by April 1.

Student submitting a late breaker poster abstract for consideration are also encouraged to submit separate applications for the SGS *Student Travel Scholarship* before its March 21 application deadline. This application form can be located on the Southern Gerontological Society's website.

Although the names of participants in this poster session will not be included in the printed convention program due to its late-breaking nature, they will appear in the online conference program and in a printed program addendum.

The SGS poster sessions are held in two separate sessions. Students selected to present their posters will be featured during the Opening Presidential Reception on Wednesday, April 15 from 8pm until 9:30pm. Professionals selected to present posters will be featured on Thursday, April 16 from 8:30am until 10am.

Presenters are required to register for the conference in order to present their work and can do so online at www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org until April 6, 2015. Anyone wishing to register after the online registration date of April 6 is welcome to do so at the conference site.



How to Apply

Submit an abstract of no more than 200 words (text only; no tables/figures) by email to the SGS Program Committee at: pamelapitmanbrownphd@gmail.com. Poster submissions will be reviewed by members of the Program Committee.

Application materials must be received electronically on or before 5 p.m. (EST) on March 21, 2015.

You may need to email your completed PDF and/or Word file attachments in more than one email due to size limitations. The size of files attached to any one email must be less than 10MB. SGS's email system blocks files that are 10MB or larger. If you try to send an email including attachments with a total that is larger than 10MB, your email may not be received. All applicants will be notified of selection decisions via email by April 1, 2015. Be sure to keep a copy of all submitted materials for your records.

Member News

Dr. Douglas Beach, a former president of SGS, was chosen to serve as the next Chief Executive Officer of the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging. His new role began October 13th, 2014. SGS wishes him all the best as he applies his extensive career expertise to this next great leadership role.

Dr. Kenneth Cook, a past president and director of SGS, passed away on October 28th, 2013, at age 82. His distinguished service in gerontology through AGHE and AARP will be remembered.

What an extraordinary opportunity... and honor to serve as a student representative in the Southern Gerontological Society. I spent my undergraduate years at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, and am looking forward to meeting you in Williamsburg at the 36th SGS Annual Meeting. I cannot promise that we will see President Clinton this year, but I would not be surprised to bump into Benjamin Franklin or Thomas Jefferson on the streets of colonial Williamsburg! Make sure to book your calendars for this event. I highly encourage students to attend this conference, as there really is no substitute for the innate ability of this organization to warmly welcome and embrace budding professionals in the field of gerontology. There are various opportunities throughout the conference to meet different people that provide time to hold meaningful conversations, rather than quick introductions and a handshake. The hospitality of SGS members truly provides a unique experience that one cannot find at other conferences. The only way to find out is to join the experience. We look forward to seeing you in April!

Lacy Will
SGS Student Representative Virginia Commonwealth University

Lee Ann S. Ferguson SGS Association Manager

Greetings SGS Members! I'm proud to introduce myself as the newly hired Southern Gerontological Society Association Manager. I have been an active member of SGS for nearly a decade and I am truly excited and genuinely honored to have been put at the helm of this fantastic organization.

Throughout my career, I have worked extensively with aging adults, aging services, and caregivers of aging and/or adults with disabilities. In 2000, I earned my M.A. degree from Appalachian State University mentored by Dr. Lorin Baumhover, Dr. W. Edward Folts, and Dr. Ed Rosenberg. Since graduation, I have also received a Master's Certificate in Public Health Concepts from the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. My work in gerontology includes time spent as a Social Services Director in long term care, as a Marketing Director in a continuing care retirement center and currently, as a lecturer in the Department of Sociology back at my Alma Mater, Appalachian State University, in Boone, NC.

My husband, Andrew, our daughter, Audrey, and I live in Taylorsville, North Carolina on a farm of 17 acres along with 22 Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats, 4 turkeys, 9 rabbits, 3 dogs, 2 cats, 1 speckled leopard gecko, and too many chickens to count. We love our time outside with our little herd of creatures and have found great success in running a small handcrafted soap making business. We also own and operate an airsoft and paintball center that has been open and running since 1987.

But enough about me! There are some amazing things that SGS members can look forward to in the upcoming months. The program, local arrangements, and development committees are VERY BUSY pulling together the details of our 36th Annual Meeting "Communities Engage Aging: A



Two Way Street" scheduled for April 15-18th, 2015 in Williamsburg, Virginia. We are always looking for members who would like to join committees to help out!

Our SGS website is now updated with the details of our conference and lodging, and we now have live feeds on the site from both our Tweets and our Facebook page updates. PLEASE like our Facebook page – search for "Southern Gerontological Society" and make sure to follow us on Twitter - @sgsmgr. Our LinkedIn profile is in the works and links to it will be posted soon.

Thank you for being a part of this amazing society of members and for allowing me to help carry SGS forward into a bright and successful future. I am here to make certain that SGS members get the most value from their participation in SGS. I welcome feedback, comments, and suggestions at any time and can be reached by email at admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org or by phone at (866) 920-4660. Please note that the society's address has changed to: PO Box 160, Taylorsville, North Carolina 28681.

I hope to see you all in Williamsburg!

SGS Contact Information

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Thank you Lora Gage!

The Southern Gerontological Society would like to extend warm thanks to Lora Gage for years of her dedicated service as Administrator of SGS. Her communication outreach has supported the organization to thrive over time, and her behind-the-scenes support has continued during this year as the organization welcomed a new Administrator, Lee Ann Ferguson. We thank them both for creating a seamless transition across administrative leadership.

Seeking Nominations for 2015 SGS Annual Awards

It's time to think about nominations for the SGS Annual Awards and the Gerontologists Rooted in the South Hall of Fame! The **nomination deadline for all awards is March 15th**. 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.

GRITS Hall of Fame*

(Gerontologists Rooted In The South)*



Dr. Edward F. Ansello

Director of the Virginia Center on Aging, and Director of the Virginia Geriatric Education Center, Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond

Mrs. Priscilla Perry

(Posthumously)

She played a leading role in the planning and development of the Southern Gerontological Society (SGS); Director of the Center for Urban and Regional Studies; founding Director of the Institute for the Study of Aging, University of Miami [Florida]

Dr. Leonard Poon

Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus in Gerontology, Public Health, and Psychology at the University of Georgia

- ◆ Seeks to recognize individuals who have made important contributions to the Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) and to the field of gerontology through research, teaching, administration, advocacy or applied practice.
- ◆ Seeks to maintain and stimulate interest in the history of SGS, perpetuate the legacy of past and present members, their achievements in the field of gerontology, and their contributions to enhancing the lives of elders in the SGS region.
- ◆ Seeks 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.

2014 SGS Awards

Jennifer Craft Morgan and Wayne Moore presented the 2014 SGS Awards to recipients.

SGS offers the **Media Award** to recognize an outstanding media contribution to further understanding of aging in the region and to the mission of SGS. There were two media awards provided in 2014.

Dr. H. Wallace Goddard, Dr. James P. Marshall and Candace Carrera for “Getting our Hearts Right” University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture Research & Extension. This multi-media program, provided in both English and Spanish, focuses on reducing conflict and increasing positivity in inter-generational and other relationships.

Amy Natt, the founder of OutreachNC stated, “OutreachNC was a product of sitting in doctor’s offices with clients and picking up publications that were targeted to the boomer population, yet featured very little relevant information or even photographs of what I would consider real older adults. This prompted me to start a publication (OutreachNC) targeted at community awareness, showing aging in a positive but realistic light and educating the general public (older adults, adult children, grandchildren, service providers, neighbors – it touches us all) to issues related to aging and living your best everyday but dealing with the challenges as they present in life.”

The **Student Paper Award** went to an excellent workshop implemented by **Celeste Greene**, from Georgia State University’s Gerontology Institute. The workshop was humorous and engaging, with a senior-targeted workout drawing on strength, balance and endurance exercises.

The **Student Poster Award** went to **Amy Correll** for her poster entitled, “Older Kenyan’s views of geriatric health care services” – an undergraduate honor’s project at the Western Kentucky University under the direction of Dana Bradley

The **third place Graduate Student Poster Award** went to **Joyce Morgan**, Walden University, for her poster entitled “The barrier effect of long-term care insurance medical underwriting policies on older U.S. adults: a descriptive study.”

The **second place Graduate Student Poster Award** went to **Lacy Will**, Virginia Commonwealth University, for her poster entitled “Enhancing family and professional caregiver well-being through a psychoeducational skills training program” under the direction of Christi Jenson.

The **first place Graduate Student Poster Award** went to **David Watkins**, Georgia State University, for his poster entitled “Older adults, alcohol use disorder and depression: Analysis of the 2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health” under the direction of Jennifer Craft Morgan.

The **Applied Gerontologist Award** award is given to SGS members in the fields of applied gerontology in the South. Award winners have a sustained record of leadership in the field of aging, are recognized in their fields, and generally, have positively impacted the quality of life of older persons through developing innovative programs such as applications of findings/approaches to research, education, management or services delivery.

The recipient of the Applied Gerontology Award was **Dr. Rosalie Otters**, Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Dr. Otters received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of North Texas in 2005 and joined the faculty at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2007. Dr. Otters is known for being very active in the community as well as in published scholarship. She is an active member of the Arkansas Gerontological Society, serving on the Board and sub-committees as needed. Dr. Otters has also served on the SGS board and was chair of the local arrangements committee in 2014.

The **Gordon F. Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist Award** is named after a true pioneer of social gerontology who, over a six decade career in sociology and gerontology at Cornell University and the University of Florida, has made major and lasting contributions to both fields. This award is given to an SGS member who has shown excellence and leadership in aging, has a strong record of scholarly publications, and has had significant engagement with students.

This year’s Gordon F. Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist Award went to **Dr. Candace Kemp**, Associate Professor in the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University. Dr. Kemp received her Ph.D. in Sociology from McMaster University under the direction of Carolyn Rosenthal and went on to complete two post-docs. The first at Western University in London Ontario and the second a Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada- funded post-doc to start her career at the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Publications Updates

The Southern Gerontologist

The Southern Gerontologist has two new co-editors, Chih-Ling Liou and Kelly Munly. They would like to extend their thanks for support in transition to the prior editing team Luci Bearon, Connie Coogle, and Christy Jensen. Jenni Mathews continues to provide newsletter layout support.

Chih-ling (Ling) Liou is an Assistant Professor at Kent State University at Stark. She comes from Taiwan, a country with a high proportion of the population reaching advanced ages and increasing number of older people needing assistance with personal care and daily activities. Liou received her B.A. in History from National Chung Hsinh University in Taiwan in 2002, M.A. in history from National Chung Hsinh University in Taiwan in 2005, M.S. in Gerontology from University of North Carolina in 2008, and Ph.D. in Human Development from Virginia Tech in December, 2011.

Her research interests include long-term care services, environmental psychology, social support systems, and retirement. Liou's dissertation research looks at how the physical and social environments of two different types of adult day care centers influence interactions between staff and clients. With an international background, Liou would also like to do research on cross-cultural comparison to enhance the knowledge of aging worldwide. She currently conducts a cross-cultural study examining college students' attitudes toward aging in Taiwan and the U.S.

In her free time, Liou likes to exercise, play ping-pong, go hiking, watch movies, explore new restaurants, and travel. Her dream is to visit all of the national parks of the U.S.

Kelly Munly, M.S., is a doctoral candidate at Virginia Tech in Human Development, with expertise in Adult Development and Aging studies. She has studied and worked with a range of gerontological issues, from elder substance abuse prevention and treatment to adult foster care solutions. Prior to her doctoral work, she assisted a team on projects related to the implementation of NIH-funded alternative health approaches to prevention of cognitive decline and hypertension among elders. She also served in recreational therapeutic settings with adults diagnosed with dementia and mental illness. As part of recent graduate studies, she worked as part of a Virginia Tech Gerontology Certificate practicum training in an adult foster care setting, with significant time spent caring for and documenting the health and interpersonal experience of an elder experiencing disabilities. Her doctoral dissertation project focuses on experiences of adult foster care providers in the context of state systems. Kelly has served as a graduate instructor for introductory Adult Development and Aging and Family Relationships courses at Virginia Tech. Outside of the academic context, Kelly has over ten years of public health consulting experience for government-funded and NGO settings. She loves to hike, explore both cities and small towns, and cook for herself and friends while listening to great music.

Contact the Editors

We would welcome member news & events, article ideas, news and feedback.

Chih-ling Liou, Ph.D.

Human Development and Family Studies
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Journal of Applied Gerontology

JAG Managing Editor

On behalf of the Southern Gerontologist, we would like to thank the departing managing editor of the Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG), Bethany Gerdin. The prior years of editing staff have very much appreciated working with her to keep SGS members informed of upcoming content to be released from JAG. Such efforts contribute greatly to supporting members to be active participants in the latest developments in gerontology and applications in the field. The current editing staff welcomes new managing editor, Ashley Lyle, and look forward to working with her to continue supporting our membership's connection to JAG's efforts and accomplishments.

Let's Continue to Nurture our Journal

- 1) Confirm that your local institutional library has 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, utilizing your institution's subscription, rather than posting or sending around a PDF. This will help increase *JAG*'s article download and usage counts on your campus.
- 3) On your website, or in your CV, link your articles published in *JAG* to the full-text articles. This increases the journal's search engine results and article downloads count.
- 4) To stay on top of the latest research published in *JAG*, register for table of contents or subject matter alerts at <http://online.sagepub.com/cgi/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*.

Currently in JAG

- ◆ Markus Wettstein, Hans-Werner Wahl, Noam Shoval, Frank Oswald, Elke Voss, Ulrich Seidl, Lutz Frölich, Gail Auslander, Jeremia Heinik, and Ruth Landau. (2015) Out-of-Home Behavior and Cognitive Impairment in Older Adults: Findings of the SenTra Project.
- ◆ Roman Kaspar, Frank Oswald, Hans-Werner Wahl, Elke Voss, and Markus Wettstein. (2015). Daily Mood and Out-of-Home Mobility in Older Adults: Does Cognitive Impairment Matter?
- ◆ Carolyn M. Parsey, Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe, and Gregory Belenky. (2015). Sleep and Everyday Functioning in Older Adulthood.
- ◆ Elyssa Besen, Christina Matz-Costa, Jacquelyn B. James, and Marcie Pitt-Catsoupes. (2015). Factors Buffering Against the Effects of Job Demands: How Does Age Matter?
- ◆ Eun Sun So and Kwang Soo Yoo. (2015). Waist Circumference Cutoff Points for Central Obesity in the Korean Elderly Population.
- ◆ Tamara D. Homnick, Kim M. Henning, Charlene V. Swain, and Douglas N. Homnick. The Effect of Therapeutic Horseback Riding on Balance in Community-Dwelling Older Adults: A Pilot Study.

SGS In The Press

Check out the "[SGS in the Press](#)" tab on the SGS website. We showcase articles featuring our members and their work, or any article that mentions our organization or the Journal of Applied Gerontology. Please forward contributions to admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org.

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CONFERENCE CALENDAR

March 23-27, 2015

Annual Conference of the American Society on Aging

Chicago, IL

www.asaging.org/aia

May 15-17, 2015

Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS)

National Harbor, MD

http://www.americangeriatrics.org/annual_meeting/attendees/

June 18-23, 2015

American Aging Association 44th Annual Meeting

Marina del Rey, CA

<http://www.americanagingassociation.org/meeting>

July 18-23, 2015

Alzheimer's Association International Conference

Washington, D.C.

<http://www.alz.org/aaic/>

October 28-30, 2015.

2015 Grantmakers in Aging (GIA) Annual Conference

Washington, D.C.

<http://www.giaging.org/programs-events/annual-conference/>

November 5-6, 2015

Aging and Society: Fifth Interdisciplinary Conference

Washington, D.C.

<http://agingandsociety.com/the-conference>

November 11-14, 2015

National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

<https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-2015>

November 18-22, 2015

68th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA)

“Aging as a Lifelong Process”

Orlando, FL

<https://www.geron.org/meetings-events/gsa-annual-scientific-meeting>

[Presentation abstracts are due by Thursday, Mar. 5, 2015](#)

Join more than 4,000 of the brightest minds in the field of aging and participate in over 400 scientific sessions including symposia, paper, and poster presentations.

Welcome, New Members!

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SGS Membership Benefits

SGS Annual Conference & Meeting

Members receive a deep discount on registration fees for the annual meeting which provides leadership and professional networking and continuing education.

Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG)

A free subscription to 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.

Southern Gerontologist

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, and networking & leadership opportunities.

SGS Committees

Our 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.

Don't miss the opportunity to become a member of a group of the South's most respected gerontology professionals. For more information contact [Lee Ann Ferguson, SGS Association Manager](#). She will gladly send you an application and information. Or you may sign up online at <http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/Join.html>.