

# THE SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

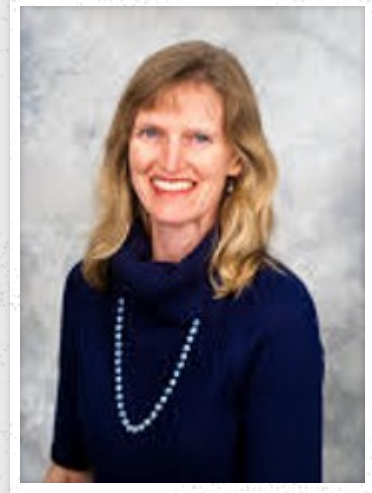
VOL. XXIV, NO. 3, FALL 2017



## HELLO FELLOW SGS MEMBERS!

I have to tell you that I'm getting really excited about this joint meeting with GGS. We have so many fun and engaging things planned. We have two fantastic speakers – Dr. Tamara Baker from University of Kansas and Dr. Phil Taylor from Federation University in Melbourne, Australia – engaged to speak with attendees on important topics such as inequality, ageism and advocacy. We have co-chairs engaged for all eight tracks. So instead of our usual one or two program chairs for the annual meeting we have approximately 16 dynamic and engaged members stewarding the organization, content and engagement of the overall tracks. We have incredibly engaged and dynamic committee engagement across the board but particularly including program, development, senior (encore) committee, student committee and more. In addition to top-notch content, we also have some fun and engaging networking opportunities scheduled including a conference-long networking lounge, poster sessions, a presidential beach party (Jen2 will host – Jennifer Beamer and myself), and we are bringing back JAM-A-PA-LOOZA – So don't forget your musical instruments! I cannot possibly list all the great content but if you haven't had a chance, please visit the website and look at the Call for Abstracts. There is also a link to the webinar we did to orient the memberships to the changes we are making to accommodate the joint conference. Please listen to that and reach out to Lee Ann or myself if you have further questions or to get involved in committee work. Happy Fall Y'all. I cannot wait to see you all this Spring at Lake Lanier. Get those abstracts in, nominate your colleagues for awards, book your hotel rooms and register. This is going to be an SGS for the record books.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW JAG EDITOR: DR. JULIE ROBISON



I am honored to have been selected for this important post and thrilled at the prospect of leading the *Journal of Applied Gerontology* into its next phase. In recent years, I have become intensely aware that JAG is one of only a few journals in the field truly committed to publishing gerontological research with a distinctly applied or policy focus. JAG is therefore uniquely positioned as the premiere venue for the growing body of work evaluating aging-related interventions and demonstration programs in healthcare, caregiver support, social integration, technology, housing and other areas, both in the US and internationally.

I completed my Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies, with a focus on gerontology and older families, at Cornell University in 1995. Next, I did a post-doctoral fellowship at the Yale School of Public Health in the epidemiology of aging. I have been on the faculty of the Center on Aging at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine since 2000, and am now a full professor.

I conduct evidence-based health services research and intervention studies focused on aging families, long term services, supports and policy, dementia and health disparities using quantitative and qualitative research methods. My applied gerontology research findings have been published regularly in a wide variety of gerontology and other health services journals since 1993. I regularly review articles for many of these journals as well. I have attended every GSA meeting since 1992 and am also active in AcademyHealth, where I currently chair the Long Term Services and Supports Interest Group. I have extended networks among colleagues across the field of gerontology and look forward to continuing Joe Gaugler's great work raising JAG's visibility and expanding the editorial board through these channels. I have spent my career in the Northeast and really look forward to getting better acquainted with SGS and its members as well.

As Editor-in-Chief of JAG, I am excited for the opportunity to support my colleagues by helping to select and polish the presentations of the best applied research in gerontology!



SOUTHERN  
GERONTOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

*40th*  
*Ruby Anniversary*  
Mining the Gems,  
Investing in Our Future



SAVE THE DATE  
April 9 to April 12, 2019  
Sheraton Bay Point Resort  
Panama City Beach, Florida  
[southerngerontologicalsociety.org](http://southerngerontologicalsociety.org)

## AN INVITATION

The *Southern Gerontological Society* (SGS) and the *Georgia Gerontology Society* (GGS) invite you to attend and participate in the 39th Joint Conference, April 11th – 14th, 2018. This exceptional meeting will be held at the beautiful lakeside Legacy Lodge Resort and Conference Center in Lanier Islands in Buford, Georgia.

As presidents of the Southern Gerontological Society and the Georgia Gerontology Society, we, Jennifer Craft Morgan and Jennifer Beamer, would like to extend an invitation to you to attend and contribute to our joint meeting to be held April 11th -14th at the beautiful Lanier Islands. This beautiful resort setting offers all sorts of fun and family friendly activities. We encourage you to bring your family members and extend your stay before or after the conference to get the most out of the location (and the low room rates)!

This year we are doing quite a few innovative things in bringing together the two organizations for a joint conference.

1) We are using the theme to drive session creation in ways that ensure that researchers, practitioners, policy advocates and older adult consumers create linkages in terms of networks, sharing ideas and moving forward the agenda to contribute to older adults' quality of life and reduce inequalities.

2) We are organizing the conference into eight tracks. You will notice there is a bit of overlap between the themes. This is done purposefully so that those who normally remain in silos have the opportunity to hear a multitude of perspectives on any given issue. We will have a

feature symposium in each of the eight tracks that will be chosen and developed by the respective track chairs.

3) We are implementing some new ways of integrating both well being and older adults themselves into our conference. There will be a room set aside for mini-workshops (e.g. LaughActive, Meditation, Yoga, Caregiver Resources) that will be appropriate for older adults who are not professional gerontologists and conference attendees who want a break during sessions. So, if you'd like to bring a parent, friend, neighbor or grandparent along to the conference who are 60 or older, this could be a great option for you.

4) We will be promoting networking between the organizations in more formal ways with a joint awards luncheon, an older adult luncheon, and a networking lounge with the poster sessions. We are hoping to build lasting linkages between the two societies so that each can benefit from the strengths of the other and reengage when meetings are geographically closer to either group of attendees.

I hope you will join us and share your important work at the Lake Lanier meeting. For additional conference information and links for abstract submission please visit:

[www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org](http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org).

Sincerely,

**Jennifer Craft Morgan and Jennifer Beamer**

## **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DATES**

**SGS/GGS Conference Registration opens: October 1, 2017**

**- Early registration pricing ends on March 11, 2018**

**- Regular pricing starts on March 12, 2018**

**Cancellations for registration after March 12 – non-refundable**

## **BECOME A SPONSOR**

Increase your visibility - Become a sponsor for the 2018 Lake Lanier Annual Conference [Click here for details.](#)

**PLEASE SHARE YOUR WORK AT OUR 39TH ANNUAL SGS MEETING. CALL FOR ABSTRACTS REMAINS OPEN UNTIL 12/15/17.**

The Call for Abstracts will remain open until December 15, 2017. The SGS Program Committee will notify authors of acceptance status no later than January 19, 2018.

Please see the attached information for full details about the conference theme, location, conference tracks, session formats, travel and reservation details, instructions for abstract submission, special details about SGS membership, and our student awards and scholarships.

SGS welcomes all submissions and values the work of all who work in the field of aging, both SGS and non-SGS members alike. For additional information about abstract submission click on the link below:

<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting-abstracts.html>

For any questions, please contact us at:

[admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org](mailto:admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org)

or call us at: (866) 920-4660.

Best regards,

SGS Program Committee



## **SGS ANNOUNCES THE ELECTION OF CAROLINE S. WESTERHOF AS RETIRED REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE SGS SENIOR COMMITTEE**

Caroline S. Westerhof Ph.D.'s career has spanned senior management and policymaking positions in academia, business, government and politics. As a research professor at the University of South Florida, she specialized and served elders through a research grant from the Retirement Research Foundation, in conjunction with two colleagues. She designed and chaired a new management college degree program as a tenured full professor at the City University of New York. Her graduate degree is in public administration, with minors in business management and political science.

She was a recipient with two colleagues of a \$200,000 Retirement Research Foundation Grant, wherein she trained caregivers who serve patients who have Alzheimer's disease. She has presented at the American Society of Aging and the Southern Gerontological Society and has written for aging periodicals. She was the head of an aging program which also trained caregivers for home and hospital care and was the director of public relations for another.

Dr. Westerhof ran for the Alabama State Senate and initiated the ouster of an entrenched segregationist. Dr. Westerhof was also on the board of the Trenholm State College and Institute in Alabama.

She was the first female visiting professor at the U.S. Air War College and a political analyst for ABC-News. In cooperation with the U.S. Department of State, she set up public and business management programs in Ghana, West Africa.

She was a weekly writer for the McGraw Hill Contemporary Learning POWERWEB series and served as an advisory consultant to the U.S. Presidential Task Force on Regulatory Affairs. Dr. Westerhof has negotiated national and international regulatory requirements for domestic and global corporations, co-founded the Living Learning Institute at the University of Tampa, and is the author of *The Executive Connection*, the first management study on press secretaries to elected chief executives. Her latest book, *LETTERS TO CHARLYE*, wherein she coined the word: PETOLOGY, is on pet grief.

Dr. Westerhof has taught at the undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate levels, and in addition, edited a national economics curriculum for an international organization. She presently heads The GW CORPORATE TRAINING INSTITUTE, and presented a new management concept at the Oxford Round Table (UK). She is an international speaker, particularly lecturing on healing, anger management, communication and decision making inherent in corporations, academia and in all aspects of the public and private sectors. Intuition, channeling, degenderization, ethics, human resources, management and decision making are all affected by higher consciousness and one's inner awareness.

Her diverse background would add to the strength of the Board and our organization. Last year she wrote the "In Memoriam" for our esteemed member, Dr. Shanta Sharma, who had suddenly passed away from a stroke.

## **MEET OUR NEW STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ELECT--AKSHAYA PARTHASARATHY**

I am a student of the Master of Arts in Gerontology program at Georgia State University and an international student from India, Chennai.

In addition to my personal interest and orientation towards elders, my acquisition of a bachelor's degree in Sociology (Honors) has given me a widened perspective and knowledge of the various institutions and systems that play a major role in society. What really gave me a further experiential knowledge and understanding of the fundamental reality was my master's program in Social Work in Mental Health at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai) where I had the opportunity to be part of an organization called Dignity Foundation. They worked along the lines of elder abuse, dementia care, and elders suffering from loneliness and depression and ensured social and financial security of elders through the schemes provided by the government. They also networked with the High Court in Mumbai to take care of laws pertaining to the care of elders, elders' welfare, and property disputes that elders are often displaced and left homeless.



My experience as a social work student at the Dignity Foundation and its Dementia Day Care Center moved me to conduct a qualitative research study, as part of my master's thesis, titled, 'Understanding Experiences and Challenges of Caregivers of Persons with Dementia'. This was an intervention-based research project, which made me further aware of mental health issues faced by elders along with other issues, such as social undermining, stereotypes, financial dependence and elder abuse.

My experiences so far as a graduate student in the Gerontology program at Georgia State University have been so colorful and warm. I have been welcomed into the folds of the close-knit family at the Gerontology Institute where learning across different cultures and societies is encouraged and appreciated. As a graduate research assistant, I also have been granted the opportunity of being trained with relevant skills associated with research that will help me step out into the world as a confident professional in the field of aging.

I am looking forward to serving as the future Student Representative in SGS starting from July 1, 2018.

## **SGS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES NEW STATE AMBASSADOR OPPORTUNITIES**

SGS is excited to announce the debut of the new State Ambassador Program. State Ambassadors will play an important role in the growth and future of SGS, as well as the development and utilization of programs and services. The mission of State Ambassadors is to increase SGS awareness, membership and participation among practitioners, academics and students in their state.

SGS State Ambassadors are appointed by the Membership Committee and report to the Membership Committee Chairperson. Ideally, each state will be represented by a team

consisting of at least one academic and one practitioner. State Ambassadors commit to a two year term which may be extended at the discretion of the Membership Committee.

While volunteer State Ambassadors will contribute their time and expertise toward these organizational efforts, there are a number of potential rewards for participating. They include:

- Increased networking opportunities with professionals in the field of aging at local, state and regional levels;
- Leadership experience and personal development opportunities;
- Reduced rate for SGS annual meeting attendance.

Responsibilities of the SGS State Ambassador position include:

- Become familiar with SGS, its membership benefits, volunteer and leadership opportunities and other resources;
- Develop an annual state activities plan and report progress during monthly Membership Committee calls;
- Build SGS awareness, membership and reciprocal relationships by attending local and regional meetings, conferences and presentations;
- Encourage submission of articles to SGS-related professional gerontological publications: Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG), Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine (GGM) and Southern Gerontologist Newsletter;
- Attend and promote attendance and participation in annual SGS meetings;
- Initiate and coordinate local SGS initiatives and activities appropriate to your state.

To be qualified, a member must be in good standing, exhibit strong interpersonal and communication skills, be comfortable speaking to groups, and have the time and ability to dedicate to the responsibilities listed above.

If you are interested in becoming more involved and want to learn more about the new SGS State Ambassador position, contact SGS Membership Co-Chairs Denise Scruggs at [scruggs.dr@lynchburg.edu](mailto:scruggs.dr@lynchburg.edu), or Sherry Lind at [lindsr@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:lindsr@MiamiOH.edu).

## **SHARE YOUR RESEARCH AND/OR PRACTICE INTERESTS WITH SGS MEMBERS**

Continuing our mission to make SGS a more comprehensive resource for our members, while growing connections between members who focus their research and service working in similar areas, we have recently begun identifying ways to link them. One way we can all contribute to these linkages is for members to access their member profiles on the SGS website, update them and make them more detailed by including research interests and expertise. These updates will allow us to begin to form interest groups and encourage our students to become and continue to be members of SGS. It will also support already established relationships and person to person contact at our annual meetings.



PLEASE take a moment to update your member profile so that you can make connections with other members with interests in similar areas to yours.

## **OBSERVATIONS FROM THE GEORGIA COUNCIL ON AGING--COALITION OF ADVOCATES FOR GEORGIA'S ELDERLY OCTOBER LUNCHEON**

As the newly elected Student Representative (my term begins July 1, 2018), I would like to share with you my experience, my observations and how I linked them to the experiences from my country.

The Georgia Council on Aging held the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (CO-AGE) October meeting at the Athens Community Council on Aging. Following this meeting, the Georgia Council on Aging hosted an anniversary luncheon at the Classic Center to celebrate 40 years of advocacy for and with older Georgians. Videos with messages from Governor Deal, Lieutenant Governor Cagle, Speaker Ralston, and Commissioner Crittenden were showcased to the attendees.

One presentation showed the collaboration of multiple professionals who made a difference in the field of aging, but one part that impressed me the most was the collaboration among professionals belonging to different organizations working in the same field. I was impressed by the positive and supportive atmosphere among different organizations to work together on social issues because in India, my home country, unity and integrity among different organizations are not seen. It inspired and motivated me to foresee a possibility and not just a utopian wish for my country. Another presentation highlighted the 40-year celebration of involvement of different members at CO-AGE and the progress of CO-AGE from starting with struggles and obstacles to involving diverse stakeholders to work together for the aging population.

The luncheon acted as a major platform for professors from different universities and practitioners belonging to different organizations or government bodies, including the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, to come together to interact and network with one another. CO-AGE led by the Georgia Council on Aging displayed their works on issues pertaining to elder abuse and Alzheimer's disease. They also worked along the lines of advocacy during seniors' week: elders from Georgia went to the Capitol and expressed their relevant needs and requirements to their Senate representatives who put their needs and requirements in the bills and movements in Atlanta, Georgia. That is, the Senate gets the first-hand review of the current situation directly from the older adults. For this to happen, I felt that the participating organizations must have pushed or lobbied and advocated a lot. I observed that this context worked as a forum where different organizations, individuals, consumers, and providers interested in age-specific and intergenerational issues could network together to broaden the scope of influence and target certain areas to focus their work.

When trying to propagate information about SGS, the authorities there were not exactly forthcoming, citing the reason being that the forum was practitioner-focused, making it

difficult to draw in an audience that would be interested in submitting proposals and abstracts. However, we still did our best, spotted a professor from the University of Georgia and put in a word and handed over some documents to her so that she may pass them on to her relevant students and fellow professors. We also submitted SGS documents to the manager, David, who was overseeing the proceedings of CO-AGE, and he said that he would disseminate them to relevant people who would be interested in the upcoming research conference.

**Akshaya Parthasarathy**

## **LEADINGAGE, VCU GERONTOLOGY LAUNCH #DISRUPTAGEISM VIDEO PROJECT**



*Picture caption: VCU Gerontology students Rachel Andricosky and Annie Rhodes are collaborating with Dr. Tracey Gendron on the project.*

LeadingAge and Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Gerontology are tackling ageism with a joint video training project they hope will stamp out negative stereotypes, assumptions and judgements about older people.

The training video, designed for health care professionals, will discuss why ageism is detrimental to quality care delivery, how stereotypes are perpetuated and how to be a leader against ageism. VCU Gerontology began filming in August at the Lifelong Learning Institute in Chesterfield.

Dr. Tracey Gendron, associate professor in the Department of Gerontology in the School of Allied Health Professions at VCU, is working with two master's degree candidates to bring the LeadingAge and VCU Gerontology project to the screen. Dr. Gendron said, "Bridging our work represents a significant effort to raise awareness of our ageist language and actions within our own professional culture. This partnership is raising the bar for how we educate about aging and advocate for older individuals."

"This unique collaboration enables us to impact aging services by developing a resource that educates people about ageism," said Katie Smith Sloan, LeadingAge president and CEO, in a press release. "We need more tools to facilitate important discussions about ending ageism."

VCU Gerontology master's degree students Rachel Andricosky and Annie Rhodes are the students collaborating with Dr. Gendron on the project. The training video, funded by LeadingAge, is expected to be available in Summer 2018.

# **VCU GERONTOLOGY ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAM ON TRACK TO OFFER NEW SPRING CLASSES**



*Picture caption: VCU Gerontology Professor Jennifer Inker, Karen Skaff, and Jennifer Pryor, Co-Program Director of the Assisted Living Administration Concentration, just after receiving final approval at the NAB's June meeting in Salt Lake City.*

The Department of Gerontology in Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Allied Health Professions began their first official academic year of accreditation for their Assisted Living Administration in August and will offer courses in the subject in the Spring 2018 semester.

The Assisted Living Concentration provisionally received academic accreditation from the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) in November 2016, with final approval award at the organization's June 2017 meeting in Salt Lake City.

"This accreditation has opened VCU Gerontology's door to students across the country who want to become licensed assisted living administrators, by providing them a quality educational experience that has been endorsed by those who create the national standards," said Co-Program Director of the Assisted Living Administration Concentration Jennifer Pryor.

The final accreditation makes VCU Gerontology the only NAB accredited program in Virginia, and the first-ever accredited program in Assisted Living Administration. The NAB is the nation's leading authority on licensing, credentialing, and regulating administrators of organizations along the continuum of long term care.

The accreditation journey began in 2014, led by Pryor. She and VCU Gerontology Professor Jennifer Inker appeared at the June NAB meeting to review the final steps taken by VCU during the accreditation process. These include three new courses within the specialty area added within the department.

"We're eager to continue the important work of preparing students for this dynamic field," Pryor added.

For more information about the Assisted Living Administration Specialty Area and VCU Gerontology, visit [www.sahp.vcu.edu](http://www.sahp.vcu.edu).

## **VCU GERONTOLOGY STUDENT HELPS LAUNCH ELDER ABUSE FORENSIC CENTER**

While deciding on a field practicum project for her master's degree program at Virginia Commonwealth University's Gerontology Department, Stephanie Edwards came across a big idea. At the University of California Irvine, a group of professionals across disciplines combined forces to form an Elder Abuse Forensic Center. Could she replicate it in Virginia?

Edwards, a Family Services Specialist at York-Poquoson Social Services in Virginia's Peninsula region, took the idea to the Department Chair Dr. E. Ayn Welleford. "When I first approached Dr. Welleford I said, 'I have a big idea and I'm afraid to tell you what it is.' But she loved big ideas and really encouraged me to go for it."

In partnership with forensic nurse Beth Walters at the Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News and with support from supervisor Kendall Perry and Newport News Commonwealth's Attorney Howard Gwynn, Edwards managed to put together a six-jurisdiction team named the Peninsula Elder Abuse Forensic Center.

By bringing together a group comprised of adult protective services, law enforcement, a forensic accountant, geriatrician, neuropsychologist, mental health and domestic violence providers, Edwards said the goal is to give complex issues involving elder abuse the right expertise.

"Let's say Adult Protective Services has this complex financial exploitation case -- they're not accountants. We do the best we can obviously, but really you need an expert in that such as a forensic accountant to find out if there's misappropriation," Edwards says.

With a memorandum of understanding agreed to by all parties in October and cases now working their way forward, Edwards said the next step is to find funding. As the coordinator of the center, she will maintain the organization going forward. And momentum has been strong: the idea went from proposal to implementation in six months.

"It has been an awesome experience to see so much collaboration, and so many entities coming together to help elders," Edwards adds.

Dr. Welleford said VCU Gerontology helps encourage its students to always seek new ways to tackle the issues they're passionate about.

"Stephanie's amazing idea is exactly why we encourage students to design their own practicum projects," Dr. Welleford said. "We trust our students to follow their instincts about what innovations are needed in the field. We couldn't be more proud of her success."

## **GREATER RICHMOND AGE WAVE ANNOUNCES SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

A group of VCU Gerontology master's degree students have been named as the first Greater Richmond Age Wave Scholars. The Age Wave Scholar program connects students with opportunities to impact the community, contribute gerontological expertise, and expand their professional network and portfolios.

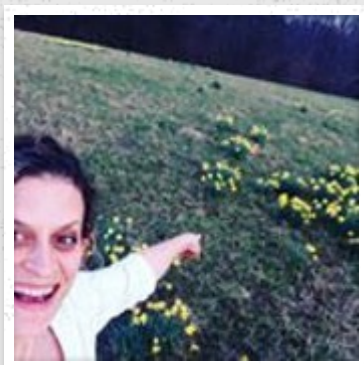
Emily Daidone, Age Wave Community Advocate Scholar, is utilizing her gerontological expertise to develop evaluations, criteria and reports on the topic of social isolation by identifying locations that government/advocates identify as places that would benefit from analysis. Emily's work will also emphasize transportation and advocacy opportunities.

Annie Rhodes, Age Wave City Council Scholar, is working with Richmond City Councilwoman Cynthia Newbille on budget planning related to aging in place and medical/wellness issues for seniors, as well as thought leadership on policy and practices.

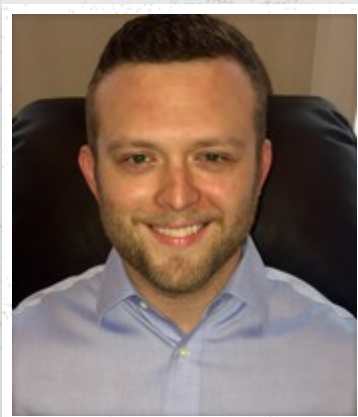
Raleigh Priddy, Age Wave Community Planning Scholar, is collaborating with Homeward and Age Wave in developing a regional taskforce to connect homeless service systems with the aging services network. The project will identify senior housing resources, pathways, and prevention strategies to synthesize solutions for older adults experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

Sara Morris, Age Wave Transportation Liaison Scholar, is embarking on a research project about transportation needs and opportunities in our region. She'll be surveying individuals and helping Age Wave develop a transportation policy agenda and advocacy platform. She'll be an integral part of Neighborhood Livability's advocacy planning.

To read more about the program, visit [agewellva.com](http://agewellva.com).



**EMILY  
DAIDONE**



**RALEIGH  
PRIDDY**



**SARA  
MORRIS**

## **AWARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Southern Gerontological Society has a history of recognizing outstanding gerontologists in the field of aging. As members of SGS, the committee would like to encourage you to nominate individuals who have made an impact on you or your community.

The SGS academic award categories range from student awards—where the individual is in the beginning of their career—to the Gordon Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist Award—

where the individual has established themselves in their career as a leader in the field. However, the SGS awards are not limited to academics. The SGS awards also recognize older adults/retirees who are striving to better the lives of others. The Best Practice Award is for an organization/business/advocacy group/program for their work in supporting older adults. There is also an award for outstanding media, which ranges in scope from newsletters to videos to tweets.

The nomination process is simple. Go to [southerngerontologicalsociety.org/awards](https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/awards) for more information.

**LaVona Traywick and Christine Jensen, Awards Co-Chairs**

## **ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATION GUIDELINES**

The Southern Gerontological Society has a history of recognizing outstanding gerontologists in the field of aging, and this year will not be an exception. Nominations are being accepted until February 10th, 2018. The process is fairly simple: state why you believe this person or organization is worthy of the award, and ask two other individuals to write a brief letter supporting the nomination. My and others' experiences of the nomination process have been that your colleagues and friends will be more than happy to write a letter of support for the nominee and wonder why they didn't think of nominating that person or organization themselves. I encourage all SGS members to seriously consider nominating someone for the awards.

The SGS award academic categories range from student awards—where the individual is in the beginning of their career—to the **Gordon Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist Award**—where the individual has established themselves in their career as a leader in the field.

The **Rhoda Jennings Distinguished Older Advocate Award** was created to recognize an older adult/retiree who is living their life striving to better the lives of others. This award was named after Rhoda Jennings, an extraordinary advocate for older adults. The recipient of the Older Advocate Award does not need to be a member of SGS. I would hope that all SGS members have an older adult that stands out in their minds as an example of “what I want to be when I grow up.” Why not recognize this person by nominating him/her for this award?

The **Best Practice Award** is for an organization/business/advocacy group/program to be recognized for their work in supporting older adults. I know that I have certain organizations or groups I refer older adults and their family members to because of their great work. Do you? If so, show your appreciation by nominating them.

To nominate, go to the awards pages located at: [southerngerontologicalsociety.org](https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org)

**LaVona Traywick, Awards Chair**

## MEMBER NEWS

Haley Williford (Barton College 2017, BA Psychology and Gerontology) began working with Community & Senior Services of Johnston County as the Community Services Specialist in January 2017.

Britt Cusack, DNP, ANP-C, APN (Vicky B. Gregg Endowed Chair of Gerontology, Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga) has an article coming out in *Geriatric Nursing* this fall titled "'Frailing" or Failing? Defining frailty syndrome vs adult failure to thrive for clinical practice." The web address for the direct link to the article in ScienceDirect is <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gerinurse.2017.08.010>. It is already available at that web address in a PDF format.

Sandra L. McGuire recently had an article published entitled "Aging Education: A Worldwide Imperative" in *Creative Education*, Vol.08 No.12 (2017) <https://doi.org/10.4236/ce.2017.812128>. Additionally, she had another article published last year titled "Early Children's Literature and Aging" in the same journal. Dr. McGuire also published an article titled "Growing Up and Growing Older: Books for Young Readers" in *Faculty Publications and Other Works--Nursing* (2016) <http://library.lmunet.edu/booklist>

## WELCOME NEW SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS!

Please help us welcome our newest members who have joined the organization since our last Newsletter:

Jennifer A Heuer, Georgia State, Mercer University, Alzheimer's Association, GA

Britt Cusack, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga TN

Jennifer Shore, UNC Greensboro, NC

Elizabeth Thomas, UNC Greensboro, NC

Sarah Jones, Georgia State University, GA

Matt Hudson, Hope Healthcare, FL

Lois J Ricci, Consultant, GA

Pamela Manley, Georgia State University, GA

Steven Paquet, Adventist University of Health Sciences, FL

Cassandra Germain, UNC Greensboro, NC

Deborah Ferris, Music and Memory, TN

Cheryl Sherrard, UNC Charlotte, NC

Ranell Mueller, University of Kentucky at Lexington, KY

Kerry Hughes Thomas, Georgia State University, GA

Tomika Williams, East Carolina University, NC

Julie Robison, University of Connecticut, CT

Kaleigh Ligus, University of Connecticut, CT

Frankie Brown, UNC Charlotte, NC

Brenda Bradrick, UNC Charlotte, NC

We look forward to seeing them at our 2018 Annual Meeting and their continued involvement in SGS.



## **UPCOMING IN JAG - VOLUME 36, ISSUE 12:**

The article below was inadvertently left out of the newsletter's previous list of articles for **Volume 36, Issue 4** of JAG:

### ORIGINAL ARTICLES

#### **Managing Your Loved One's Health**

#### **Development of a New Care Management Measure for Dementia Family Caregivers**

Tatiana Sadak, Jacob Wright, & Soo Borson

### *Table of Contents for Volume 36, Issue 12*

### ORIGINAL ARTICLES

#### **Food Insecurity and Health Care Utilization Among Older Adults**

Vibha Bhargava, & Jung Sun Lee

#### **Impact of Driving Cessation on Trajectories of Life-Space Scores Among Community-Dwelling Older Adults**

Carrie Huisingh, Emily B. Levitan, Patricia Sawyer, Richard Kennedy, Cynthia J. Brown, & Gerald McGwin

#### **Dance as Prevention of Late Life Functional Decline Among Nursing Home Residents**

Katerina Machacova, Hana Vankova, Ladislav Volicer, Petr Veleta, & Iva Holmerova

### SYSTEMATIC REVIEW/META-ANALYSIS

#### **Psychosocial Links Between Internet Use and Mental Health in Later Life: A Systematic Review of Quantitative and Qualitative Evidence**

Anna K. Forsman, & Johanna Nordmyr

### BRIEF REPORT

#### **Effect of Long-Term Body-Mass-Based Resistance Exercise on Cognitive Function in Elderly People**

Sachi Ikudome, Shiro Mori, Satoshi Unenaka, Masashi Kawanishi, Takahiro Kitamura, & Hiroki Nakamoto



# VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF GERONTOLOGY RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

Gendron, T. L., Inker, J., & Welleford, A. (2017). "How Old Do You Feel?" The Difficulties and Ethics of Operationalizing Subjective Age. *The Gerontologist*.

Taylor, S. F., Coogle, C. L., Cotter, J. J., Welleford, E. A., & Copolillo, A. (2017). Community-Dwelling Older Adults' Adherence to Environmental Fall Prevention Recommendations. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*.

## SGS SEEKS STUDENT INTERNS

### Internship Description

Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) is looking for qualified interns to join our association management team for either the Spring or Summer of 2018. SGS is a network of the South's most respected gerontology professionals. SGS members are educators, aging network personnel, researchers, health professionals, students, and policy makers. SGS provides the bridge between research and practice, translating and applying knowledge in the field of aging.

The selected intern will work to help maintain daily SGS functions such as member communication, membership retention and recruitment, and work with social media campaigns. The intern will also be tasked with work related directly to the coordination of SGS's annual meeting program development, communication with program committee chairpersons, and the development of the program schedule and program marketing materials.

This intern should be prepared to work in a multi-tasking, independent environment, and will finish the internship having gained broad experience in various aspects of gerontology and non-profit management. This is an unpaid internship. The intern will be provided assistance with travel to the annual meeting based on current SGS reimbursement rates (and time of year in which the internship is completed). Hours of the internship are flexible and this internship will be managed through weekly virtual meetings, emails, and phone calls. Travel to the office of SGS is not necessary.

### Responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:

- Assist with communication to members of SGS through social media marketing campaigns.
- Assist with organization and execution of the SGS Annual Program to be held April 11th to April 14th, 2018 in Lake Lanier, Georgia or other upcoming meetings.
- Assist with the preparation and delivery of conference materials, including call for presentation, pre-conference brochure, conference program, and website promotional content.

- Assist in the creation of signage, circulars, mock ups, e-mail campaigns, online promotion, etc.
- Assist in the distribution or delivery of marketing materials.
- Enter membership, registration, exhibitor, and sponsorship information into contact management systems.
- Offer support in direct communication with the vast multi-state network of Southern Gerontological Society members to promote conference attendance, and membership recruitment and retention.
- Research and communicate with potential conference sponsors, exhibitors, and advertisers.
- Work with SGS student representative and representative-elect to coordinate special select student topics sessions to be held at the SGS annual meeting.
- Work with SGS student representative and representative-elect to coordinate special select student topics sessions to develop “student resources” website content for the Southerngerontologicalsociety.org website.

### **Requirements**

Southern Gerontological Society is looking for an undergraduate or graduate student who is focused, preferably, on Gerontology. This person should have excellent verbal and written communication skills, with extensive knowledge of Web and social media. PowerPoint, Access, Word and Excel experience is a bonus, and will be considered when choosing the best applicant for this internship position. Faculty support of a “remote-site” internship is necessary. Please discuss this option with your internship supervisor before applying to make certain you have their support.

### **Majors given preference for this internship include:**

Concentration in Gerontology preferred  
 Human Development and Family Studies  
 Healthcare or Business Administration; Non-Profit Management  
 Public Health  
 Sociology  
 Psychology  
 Marketing

To apply for this internship, please submit an internship proposal to include details about personal strengths and goals, and current resume, along with current contact information to:

**Lee Ann S. Ferguson, Executive Director**  
**Southern Gerontological Society**  
**PO BOX 160**  
**Taylorsville, NC 28681**  
**Fax: 866-920-4649**  
**For questions, please call 866-920-4660**

Proposals/resumes may be sent to us via email at: [admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org](mailto:admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org)

# SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

The Publications Committee is looking for ways to tighten the bond between the journal (JAG) and the newsletter. We can consider a piece on the most cited articles. Standard content of the newsletter includes: a President's Column, information about the Annual Meeting, upcoming articles in JAG, member news, a welcome to new members and membership info, a calendar to include upcoming conferences and programs, officers, and a Student Rep update.

Periodic content includes: highlights from the Council of Presidents, editorials, updates from states, featured articles/books/websites, awards and nominations, and obituaries. The newsletter editors would appreciate contributions from the Board related to the latter items.

**Contact the editors of the Southern Gerontologist to share news or article ideas or provide feedback. Member news and events are welcomed.**

**Chih-Ling Liou, Ph.D**, email: [cliou@kent.edu](mailto:cliou@kent.edu) Office: 330-244- 3551

**Kelly Munly, Ph.D**, email: [kam6832@psu.edu](mailto:kam6832@psu.edu) Office: 301-379- 2891

**Sherry Lind, MGS**, email: [lindsr@miamioh.edu](mailto:lindsr@miamioh.edu) Office: 513-484-3829

## 2018 Newsletter Schedule

The *Southern Gerontologist* Newsletter will publish 3 times annually. Should you have information you wish to submit for publication, please note the 2018 newsletter schedule deadlines and publication dates are as follows:

### **Pre-Conference (Winter) Edition:**

Deadline for news: February 10, 2018

Distribution by March 1, 2018

### **Post Conference (Spring/Summer) Edition:**

Deadline for news: May 10, 2018

Distribution by June 1, 2018

### **Fall Edition:**

Deadline for news: October 10, 2018

Distribution by November 1, 2018

Past editions of JAG can be accessed by SGS members through the Sage website. The Southern Gerontologist can be found on the Southern Gerontological Society's website in the members' area. Past editions of the Southern Gerontologist are available on the website and are distributed to the membership via email.

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

October 12-14, 2017

## **The ICAA Conference and Trade Show**

*Ignite the Future of Active Aging*

Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Orlando, Florida

<http://www.icaa.cc/conferenceandevents/overview.htm>

October 18-20, 2017

### **Grantmakers in Aging (GIA) Annual Conference**

The Westin Copley Place, Boston, MA

<https://www.giaging.org/annual-conference/current-conference-info/save-the-date-2016-conference/>

October 25, 2017

### **2017 RCI National Summit and Training Institute**

*Honoring the Mission: Supporting Caregivers Through Education, Skill-building and Hope*

Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, GA

<https://www.gsw.edu/news/index/388-rci-national-summit-set-for-oct-25>

November 1, 2017

Join the **Greater Richmond Age Wave** for an educational event to learn about innovative and inspiring ideas that build inclusive communities. Meet the innovative neighborhood participants over drinks and pizza. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Triple Crossing-Fulton. Free. Register here:

<http://tinyurl.com/yc9m6qhj>

November 3-4, 2017

### **Aging & Society: 7th Interdisciplinary Conference**

*Social Inequalities, Exclusion and Age-Discrimination*

University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California

<http://agingandsociety.com/2017-conference>

November 15-18, 2017

### **National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference (NCFR)**

*Families as Catalysts: Shaping Neurons, Neighborhoods, and Nations*

Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL

<https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-2017>

March 1-4, 2018

### **Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) Annual Meeting**

*The Global Business of Aging*

Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta, GA

<https://www.aghe.org/events/annual-meeting>

March 15, 2018

### **The Future of Healthcare with Deborah Davis, CEO VCU Health System Hospitals and Clinics and Vice President for Clinical Affairs.**

The Greater Richmond Age Wave Coalition is sponsoring a free and open to the public event on the Future of Healthcare in partnership with the MCV Hospitals Auxiliary and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Richmond. This comprehensive overview of the state of health care legislation will cover its impact on hospitals and the American health care

system. Topics include the uninsured, insurance exchanges, health care workforce, health care quality and the future of health care. Thursday, March 15, 2018, 1 – 3 p.m. University of Richmond Ukrop Auditorium. This event is free, but registration is required:

<http://spcs.richmond.edu/osher/events.html>

*Please be sure to send your calendars events to us to include and be sure to post them on our membership forum as well!*

## SGS CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the Southern Gerontological Society, please contact the SGS Executive Director, **Ms. Lee Ann Ferguson**, at [admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org](mailto:admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org).

There are many opportunities for members to contribute to the organization and its progress in bridging those gaps that do exist between research and practice. Please let us know how we can include you!



## SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

 Facebook  @sgsmgr

A non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization established in 1979 for the purposes of bridging the gaps between gerontological research and practice.

 PO Box 160, Taylorsville, NC 2...

 [admin@southerngerontologic...](mailto:admin@southerngerontologic...)

 (866) 920-4660

 [southerngerontologicalsociet...](http://southerngerontologicalsociet...)