

THE SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

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GREETINGS! - SGS ASSOCIATION MANAGER NEWS UPDATES

Greetings SGS Members and friends of SGS!

We are just at one month until our fantastic conference at the beautiful Legacy Lodge Resort and Conference Center. For those of you staying with us, be prepared to be immersed in a beautiful location. SGS has been so fortunate to have been able to work in such close partnership with Georgia Gerontology Society (GGS) over this past year to make this joint annual conference a reality. I am so grateful to Amanda James, GGS' Executive Director, for being such an exceptional partner in this process. As a professional who strongly believes in the importance of working collegially among and across agencies, this joint conference is truly a testament to why that goal is an important one. The content for this year's conference bridges students, older adults, academicians and a very diverse group of practitioners. The conference content is packed full and includes just over 150 different presentations, from posters to panel sessions. Even with a few weeks still to go, preliminary estimates suggest that there will be well over 300 people in attendance. Our exhibit hall is full of incredible vendors this year with nearly 30 business in attendance.

In the next week, the full conference program will be published. This year we will also have a conference smart app through "EventMobi". This app will allow attendees to use their phones to navigate to sessions, connect with other attendees, and more. Be on the lookout for information about the app and about other general details about the conference.

Aside from the conference, SGS continues to march forward. Our membership number continues to grow and our committees continue to work on new and exciting projects. Included in this newsletter is a long list of our newest members. WELCOME!

Our student committee is launching the SGS Legacy Project which will focus on collecting interviews from our past SGS Presidents. These interviews will be used as a focus for our upcoming 2019 Ruby Anniversary conference. We are surprised ourselves, not even being through this year's conference, at already being VERY busy working on our 2019 40th anniversary! Please make sure to save the dates and plan to join us for a grand celebration at the Bay Point Sheraton in Panama City Beach, Florida from April 9-14th, 2019. Dr. Craft Morgan and I are delighted to welcome all who would like to be included in the planning of this very important conference. Be sure to connect with either of us if you would like to be on the program committee.

SGS was also a gold sponsor of this year's Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) conference in Atlanta. Thank you all who stopped by our exhibit booth. It was wonderful getting to see many familiar faces and getting to meet many new SGS friends.

And lastly, I'd like to thank all of this year's sponsors for being so generous in their support of our joint annual conference.

They include:

Premier Sponsor: Georgia State University, Gerontology Institute

Gold Plus "Diversity Breakfast" Sponsors: AARP Georgia, and the Georgia State University Research Foundation

Gold "Care" Sponsor: Riverside Health Systems, Virginia

Silver Plus "Wellness" Sponsor: Rosalynn Carter Institute and ComForCare

Silver "Living with Dementia" Sponsors: Virginia Center on Aging, RelayFy, and The Holbrook

Silver "Bag" Sponsor: The Golden Gourmet

Bronze Sponsors: Project Independence, GA Vision, American Therapeutic Recreation Association, Music and Memory, Alliant Quality, Mom's Meals, Nourishcare, and the Georgia Council on Aging

Thank you to all who participated in our SGS Research Priorities Survey. We will make a paper form of the survey available at the upcoming conference for those who were not

able to access it while it was online. All are welcome to complete the survey. The preliminary survey results will be discussed during the "Power of Place" panel symposium held on Friday, April 13th starting at 8:45am in Plantation Ballroom A.

I wish you all much happiness and well-being. It continues to be my privilege and honor to serve this amazing society and its members. SGS members, please be sure to place your electronic VOTE for our 2018 officer elections (link below) and please remember that there is ALWAYS a place for your involvement in SGS's continued forward momentum.

Sincerely,
Lee Ann S. Ferguson
SGS Association Manager





SGS 2018-2019 OFFICER ELECTIONS - PLEASE VOTE NOW!

Greetings current SGS members,

As of March 9, our annual SGS officer election cycle has commenced. Voting will remain open, in adherence with SGS policy and procedure, until March 26th, 2018. Voting for officers will close at midnight on March 26, 2018. This year, our SGS members are being asked to approve the nominee for President-Elect, choose an SGS Secretary, elect four members-at-large, and re-elect the current Retiree Representative to the Board.

To access the ballot, please visit the following link:

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ef57zucrjdn7dki/start>

Emails will be collected when votes are submitted so that active and current membership of voters can be verified upon close of the ballot. This data, however, is seen only by our nominations chairperson and deleted immediately upon membership verification.

Results of the election will be shared with the introduction of new officers at the SGS Annual Business Meeting to be held on Friday, April 13th, at the Legacy Lodge in Buford, Georgia, with breakfast starting at 7am.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to connect with me.

Happy voting!

Lee Ann S. Ferguson, SGS Executive Director

SGS MEMBERS: IMPORTANT BYLAWS AMENDMENTS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SGS members are hereby notified that some proposed Bylaws amendments have been recommended by the Board of Directors and will be voted upon at the 2018 annual meeting. The rationale for each amendment will be presented at the Business Meeting.

We encourage your participation by joining us at the Business Meeting Friday, April 13, 8:00am-9am in Grand Ballrooms B & C at the Legacy Lodge.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS (COPS) COLUMN

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENTS' POOR KNOWLEDGE OF AGING DEMONSTRATES NEED FOR GERONTOLOGICAL LITERACY

By LaVona Traywick, PhD, UCA; Terry Griffin, PhD, KSU

Society as a whole is aging, and there are not enough health care providers in any health related field, including Occupational Therapy, to meet the current or expected needs of the senior adult population (Eldercare Workforce Alliance, 2011). According to the Administration for Community Living (2016), the senior adult population makes up 14.5% of the population in the United States. This number is expected to increase to 21.7% by 2040. Data from the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (Ashman, 2015) found that the rate for medical office visits of senior adults aged 65 and over was more than twice the rate for adults aged 18-64 and children under age 18 years. The current literature shows the increasing need for medical health professionals to work with the aging population.

A study was conducted with the first year, first semester students of the University of Central Arkansas Occupational Therapy graduating class of 2018 to determine their knowledge of aging. After gaining IRB approval, Qualtrics software was used to administer the online survey of the modified version of Erdman Palmore's Facts on Aging Quiz (Breytspraak & Badura, 2015). There was a 100% response rate that consisted of 48 students, 43 females and 5 males, with a mean age of 24. Results showed that 9 participants want to work in geriatrics, 4 want to work with adults, 16 want to work in pediatrics, 5 want to work with all populations, 5 want to work with special populations (such as spinal cord injuries), and 9 were undecided.

The students' knowledge of aging was poor, average of 33/50 (66%). The data was analyzed numerous ways, but in summary, knowledge about senior adults was poor regardless of the students' preferred population, year of birth, undergraduate degree, or duration of testing.

There was no significant difference in the test scores for the students who wanted to work in geriatrics as compared to any other population. It was hypothesized that students who desired to work with the senior adult population would have a greater knowledge of aging, but this was not the case. This fact is disconcerting because these students are not understanding the difference between normal aging and the disease process. The data results have brought a

heightened awareness to the need to teach aging throughout the entire lifespan, including end-of-life issues.

Additionally, one-third of the entering OT class desires to work with solely pediatric populations. This is of concern due to the increasing need of therapists with the geriatric population. A previous study by Carmel, Cwikel and Galinsky (1992) showed that increasing knowledge alone as indicated by their scores on Palmore's Facts on Aging Quiz was not enough to change attitudes about aging or the desire to work with the senior adult population. When knowledge of aging is not enough to encourage students to want to work with senior adults, it is even more important for course instructors to create opportunities for students to interact directly with senior adults. As there are limited fieldwork options for students enrolled in therapy programs in general, opportunities for positive interactions with senior adults can be accomplished through Service Learning avenues.

In general, therapy programs in graduate schools are striving to teach as much material as possible in a condensed amount of time in order to stay competitive. As there was no significant difference in test scores based on undergraduate degree, this suggests that more emphasis needs to be placed in gerontological literacy in undergraduate programs in all disciplines. It could also be argued that prerequisites for incoming therapy students include a basic gerontology or lifespan development course.

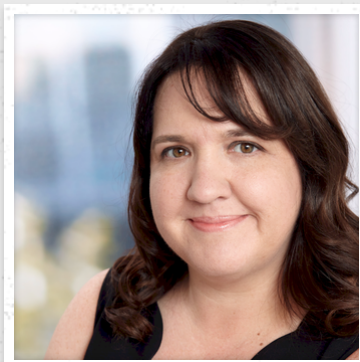
In conclusion, the students' knowledge of aging was poor, and their desire to work with senior adults was low. It would be beneficial to the current students as well as the older patients if educators could incorporate more positive senior adult interaction opportunities along with teaching on aging. Future studies should look at other ways besides knowledge gain to change attitudes towards aging. Future studies should also look at the benefit of undergraduate education in gerontology for preparation of health care workers.

References

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**JENNIFER
CRAFT
MORGAN**



**JENNIFER
BEAMER**

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.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Craft Morgan and Jennifer Beamer

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DATES

SGS/GGS Conference Registration opens: October 1, 2017

- Early registration pricing deadline extended to March 16, 2018

- Regular pricing starts on March 17, 2018

Cancellations for registration after March 12 – non-refundable

Be sure to make your reservation at the Legacy Lodge before March 20th. The conference room rate is \$169. Be sure to access the reservation system through the SGS website at

<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/lodging.html> for access to group rates and reservations. The roommate and rideshare locator document is also available at the bottom of this webpage.

CEUS AND CMES

CEUs and CMEs for Social Work, Nursing, and other specialties will be available throughout the conference.

BECOME A SPONSOR

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

CONFERENCE THEME

The 2018 Program Committee welcomes a diverse compilation of abstracts from academic and applied professionals and students. Authors are encouraged to submit their work for consideration by the committee, even if they do not see their specific topic or project represented in one of the tracks below as tracks are written with the intention of being highly inclusive, not exclusive. Sessions that describe, theorize, and/or integrate ideas related to care partnerships are welcome. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

CONFERENCE TRACKS

TRACK 1: PARTNERSHIPS FOR CARE

Program Track Chairs:

~ Dr. Candace Kemp, Georgia State University

~ Dr. Leisa Easom, Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving

The need for care is universal. Over a lifetime, everyone will need care, and most will provide it to others. While the work of care falls disproportionately to women and vulnerable minority and immigrant groups in the U.S., wide ranging partnerships are needed to enable a growing number of older adults to live well into older ages. Sessions that describe, theorize, and/or integrate ideas related to care partnerships are welcome. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 2: LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

Program Track Chairs:

- ~ Walter Coffey, Leading Age GA
- ~ Robert Bowles, Dementia Spotlight Foundation
- ~ Kim McRae

As the numbers of people experiencing dementia increase, it is increasingly necessary to address the stigma, social isolation and lack of resources available for people living with dementia. Further, it is important to push beyond the medical aspects and empower people living with dementia and their care partners to live more fully. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 3: POWER OF PLACE: AGING IN THE SOUTH

Program Track Chairs:

- ~ Dr. Graham Rowles, University of Kentucky
- ~ Lois Ricci, Kennesaw State University

As regional and state-based organizations focused on aging and older adults, we need to consider the influence of place, specifically region and the legacy of history and social institutions on older adults in our communities. Submissions that discuss the social history, diverse culture(s) or identity of the region with particular attention to the meaning of place (including housing and transportation) are welcome. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 4: ADVOCACY FOR AND BY OLDER ADULTS

Program Track Chairs:

- ~ Marylea Boatwright Quinn, Alzheimer's Association
- ~ Dr. Christopher Kelly, University of Nebraska

Organizations like Georgia Gerontology Society and Southern Gerontological Society play an important role in creating evidence, developing policy agendas and advocating for and with older adults. States and communities also have roles to play around advocacy. Submissions that discuss policy and advocacy agendas, state aging plans or grassroots efforts are welcome. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 5: WELLNESS, WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Program Track Chairs:

- ~ Dr. Fayron Epps, Georgia State University
- ~ Dr. Chivon Mingo, Georgia State University

America's persistent attention on disease-focused treatments often misses key aspects of quality of life that include physical, mental and spiritual health, meaningful activity, prevention, social engagement, happiness and enjoyment/pleasure. Submissions that address research, best practices, policy agendas/commentaries and local examples of community programming are welcome. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 6: DIVERSITY AND AGING

Program Track Chairs:

- ~ Dr. Ishan William, University of Virginia
- ~ James Moorhead, DAS

Inequality across many social cleavages (e.g., race, ethnicity, class, sex, sexuality, immigrant status), and the intersection of these differences have implications for older adults in almost all facets of their lives. As the U.S. grapples with an aging society, individuals and their communities are faced with unequal and scarce resources in older ages. Submissions that address research, best practices, policy agendas/commentaries and local examples of community resilience are welcome. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 7: GEORGIA SHOWCASE

Program Track Chairs:

- ~ Jennifer Beamer, Atlanta Regional Commission
- ~ Amanda James, Executive Director GGS

The Georgia aging network, advocates and policymakers have made great strides in recent years in the development of state plans, working groups, programs and services to serve older Georgians. This track highlights the best of these for dissemination throughout Georgia and into neighboring regions with similar persistent problems. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.

TRACK 8: TECHNOLOGY AND AGING

Program Track Chair:

~ Brad Fain, GTRI

Technology has changed the way we live and will certainly continue to influence the way we age. This track offers insight into not only the new tech products and services created by innovative people to meet challenges associated with aging but also to reflect on the balance needed between human touch and relationships and increased efficiency and convenience created by technological advancements. Sessions that integrate two or more perspectives: research and evidence, policy and advocacy, community and programming and/or consumer voices will be prioritized.



2018 BARBARA PITTARD PAYNE LECTURESHIP IN GERONTOLOGY SPONSORED BY GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Guest Speaker: Dr. Tamara Baker

Title: If we are all created equally, then why am I treated differently? Conceptualizing diversity, disparities, and health determinants collectively.

Date: Wednesday, April 11 | Reception: 6:00-7:00 pm | Lecture: 7:00-8:00 pm

Location: Legacy Lodge and Conference Center, Lake Lanier, Buford, Georgia at the Peachtree Point Pavilion

The Barbara Pittard Payne Lectureship was established in 1990 in honor of Dr. Barbara Payne-Stancil, founding director of the Gerontology Center (now the Gerontology Institute) at Georgia State University. The lectureship is a tribute to Dr. Payne-Stancil's distinguished career and contributions to the field of Gerontology.

This event is included in the full conference registration, and no additional ticketing is necessary. However, as this event is free to the public, those who are not attending the full conference are asked to RSVP.

<https://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting-event-payne-lecture.html#!form/PayneLecture>



LAKE LANIER CANOPY TOURS

Wednesday, April 11 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Organized activities at Legacy Lodge will include opportunities for attendees to experience the lovely outdoor setting (weather permitting). Come zip line, ride a horse, or enjoy a nature walk.



GEORGIA STATE SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Thursday, April 12 | 7:30 am

Start the day with breakfast and Georgia's many aging services and accomplishments. This is a great session to explore ways in which other states may be able to adapt new methods to achieve similar successes.



MOVIE SCREENING: CARE

Thursday, April 12 | 4:00 pm

From the filmmaker - "Care pulls back the curtain on the poignant and largely hidden world of in-home elder care. Beautifully shot and deeply moving, the film reveals the complex nature of the work, the intimate bonds that form between care workers and elders and the cracks in a system that is poorly serving both". The screening will be followed by a discussion and reception with the filmmaker, Deirdre Fishel.



AWARDS LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 12 | 11:30 am

Come and help celebrate the accomplishments of both GGS and SGS awardees.



NETWORKING ROUNDTABLE LUNCHEON: AGING DONE BETTER, TOGETHER

Friday, April 13 | 11:30 am

This lunch will partner researchers, students, older adults, and practitioners together for an enriching networking opportunity. Tables will be arranged by specific and special interests.



PRESIDENTIAL NIGHT UNDER THE STARS AT LEGACY POINTE

Friday, April 13 | 6:15 pm

Enjoy Legacy Pointe, a lovely outdoor, tented space with a beautiful view of Legacy Lake. This evening will feature some fun entertainment, food, drink and fun. Come and join us for a wonderful night at the Pointe.



DIVERSITY & AGING PANEL SESSION & BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 14 | 8:00 am

This session will feature experts in research, policy, and practice who will discuss key issues related to older adult minorities community from an intersectional perspective, exploring the complex role of sexual and gender identity, race/ethnicity, and region on the aging experience.



STAY & TRAIN OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, April 14 | times vary - see schedule

Option to stay and train will include focus training sessions such as:

- Alzheimer's & Dementia NCDDP Care Training*
- Elder Exploitation & Abuse Update
- LaughActive Yoga, Train the Trainer*
- Mental Health 101 Training*

*Additional fees apply.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN LAKE LANIER

In the area – April 1-15, 2018

Entertainment:

April 12-29 Damn Yankees – Sylvia Beard Theater, Buford GA (7.5 mi)

Tickets \$27-35

April 10-21 The Odyssey – UNG Gainesville Ed Cabell Theater (14.5 mi)

Tickets \$12-20

April 14 Davina & the Vagabonds – The Arts Council Smithgall Center Gainesville (20 mi)

Tickets \$35

April 13-16 Fuente Ovejuna (Murder by Everyone and No One) Brenau Theater on the Square Gainesville (20 mi)

Tickets Free

April 13 Departure (Journey Tribute band) – 37 Main Buford (6 mi)

April 14 Yacht Rock Schooner (70's & 80's) – 37 Main Buford (6 mi)

April 12, 13 Gwinnett Braves (minor league baseball) – Cool Ray Field Lawrenceville (14 mi)

Shopping:

Buford - Browse Buford's downtown shops for a unique dining experience. Nostalgia fills the streets of downtown, where the turn-of-the-century buildings have taken on new lives as art galleries, studios, shops and restaurants.

Mall of Georgia - The largest shopping mall in both the Atlanta Metropolitan Area and the state of Georgia, consisting of more than two hundred stores on three levels.

Flowery Branch - Established in 1874 when "cotton was king," the central core of Flowery Branch is steeped in history with turn-of-the-century buildings, including the historic train depot, antique shop and art shop.

Dining:

Nearby - Coastal Breeze, Twisted Oar, Big Creek Tavern, Cracker Barrel (plus many more on state road 347)

Mall of Georgia area – PF Changs, Cheesecake Factory, Tin Lizzy's, Smokey Bones, and many more

Downtown Buford – Sperata, Aqua Terra Bistro, Bare Bones Steakhouse, Rico's World Kitchen, Tannery Row Ale House



SOUTHERN
GERONTOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

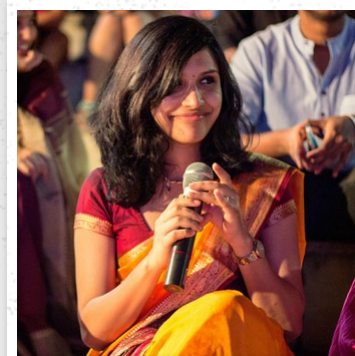
40th
Ruby Anniversary
**Mining the Gems,
Investing in Our Future**



SAVE THE DATE
April 9 to April 13, 2019
Sheraton Bay Point Resort
Panama City Beach, Florida
southerngerontologicalsociety.org

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ELECT--AKSHAYA PARTHASARATHY

I am a Master's student of Gerontology at Georgia State University as well as an international student from Chennai, India.



"Gerontology is the study of old people with particular problems, such as loneliness, depression, elder abuse, and dementia, to name a few." This is what I explain to someone from my home country to understand what I am in the process of pursuing in the USA.

Gerontology is such a novel discipline for my acquaintances, family and friends in India. The 'elderly' population is usually viewed as a 'soon to be dying' or 'usually sick' population that is viewed as neither economically nor personally contributing, but more as a medically expensive burden that does not have much autonomy to independently make decisions. The earlier conceptions of 'old is gold' and 'old are wise' have been quickly erased due to the wave of propagated stereotypes from popular mass media.

In comparison, I have constantly heard from my fellow colleagues, professors and SGS members ways of addressing elders as not a vulnerable population that requires uplifting but as one that is actively involved and engaged in society. This involvement and engagement happens naturally or via facilitation in the mature workforce or through elders' openness to new modes of learning, a second inning. I have observed so many elder self-advocates who are passionately involved in making an impact. This is such a liberating and motivating sight

to behold compared with the suppressed, victimized, or homeless elders who are unaware of their rights through the Constitution of India.

Such a positive atmosphere, awareness and empowerment facilitated through linking state agencies and elder citizens are products of forums addressing popular and diverse aging issues and dimensions. Research conferences such as the upcoming annual SGS conference held this April, 2018 at Lake Lanier is one such forum. The introduction of Gerontology as an academic discipline in educational institutions ensuring the appropriate training of future professionals is another means of providing an encouraging forum. Encouragement of active linkages between the classroom and the field, in the form of Senior Week, happened at the Capitol during the first week of February, 2018, and is another engaging means to make society more aware of the relevance of Gerontology as a discipline.

Thus, as the SGS student representative elect as well as an international student coming from India, I hope to take countless valuable lessons back home to begin seeing a positive change and a corrected lens for the vision of elders in India.

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, or Sherry Lind at lindsr@MiamiOH.edu.

WELCOME NEW SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS!

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

MaryLea Boatwright Quinn / Chamblee GA / Alzheimer's Association
 Tomika Williams / Greensboro NC / East Carolina University
 Ranell Mueller / Lexington KY / University of Kentucky
 Cheryl J. Sherrard / Matthews NC / Clearview Wealth Management
 Deborah Ferris / Columbia TN / Music & Memory
 Cassandra M. Germain / Durham NC / University of North Carolina at Greensboro
 Steven Paquet / Orlando FL / Adventist University of Health Sciences
 Kerry Hughes Thomas / Norcross GA / Georgia State University
 Pamela R. Manley / Buford GA / GSU Gerontology Institute
 Min Cole West / Covina CA / QUALITY OF LIFE GROUP
 David Russell / Boone NC / Appalachian State University
 Anastacia Schulhoff / Boone NC / ASU Department of Sociology
 Ruthie Brew / Cumming GA / Forsyth County
 Kay McGill / Atlanta GA / Project Independence/GA Vocational Rehabilitation Agency
 Heide Kraus / Murray UT / CaptionCall
 Brittany Kearney / Charlotte NC / University of North Carolina at Charlotte
 Tabitha Johnson / Dalton GA / Dementia Education & Consulting, Ltd
 Alynne C. Grace / Sugar Hill GA / Brenau University
 Saruna Ghimire / Las Vegas NV / School of Community Health Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
 Lena Richardson / Evans GA / Empowerment
 Amanda Weir-Gertzog / Durham NC / UNC Charlotte
 Sandi Lane / Concord NC / Appalachian State University
 Kyle L. Bower / Athens GA / University of Georgia
 Miriam Boeri / Waltham MA / Bentley University
 Gayle Alston / Americus GA / Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving

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



UPDATE FROM THE JOURNAL OF APPLIED GERONTOLOGY

In 2018, JAG will publish several issues with special topics including: Community Housing and Service Models, Dementia Care, Cognitive Training, and Physical and Leisure Activity. These topics will be covered in dedicated special issues or highlighted by multiple articles within regular issues. In March, JAG will publish a special issue of the Caregiving Workforce with a focus on those working in assisted living and nursing home settings.

The journal would like to extend a 'thank you' to the eleven Editorial Board members who ended their service in 2017. The contributions of these members have been pivotal in the growth of the journal over the last few years. JAG would also like to welcome two new Editorial Board members, Dr. Cynthia Gruman of the Lewin Group and Dr. Carrie Henning-Smith of the University of Minnesota. These two members bring experience in program evaluation and policy studies of both qualitative and quantitative methods. In the editorial transition, JAG will continue to seek out and invite Editorial Board members who can contribute to the mission and scope of the journal.

JAG has recently partnered with two editorial media websites: Publons and Figshare. Publons enables reviewers to publically share their activity by creating a personal profile and verifying their reviews. Figshare is a data management platform for authors to share extra research data and outputs with interested audiences. JAG is also looking forward to expanding the journal's social media presence through SAGE and SGS, especially through Facebook and Twitter. The journal asks that all readers share interesting JAG articles to their own social media to share the ever-growing reach of the journal!

The Journal of Applied Gerontology is edited by Julie Robison, PhD with assistance from Managing Editor Kaleigh Ligus (University of Connecticut, jag@uchc.edu). Jessica Lipowski (Jessica.lipowski@sagepub.com) is the main JAG contact at SAGE Publishing.

UPCOMING IN JAG - VOLUME 37, ISSUES 3, 4, 5, 6 AND 7:

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Transition and Adaptation to the Continuing Care Retirement Community From a Life Course Perspective: Something Old, Something New, and Something Borrowed

Liat Avalon

Perceptions of Older Residents and Their Adult Children Regarding Continuing Care Retirement Community Staff

Shiri Shinan-Altman, Liat Ayalon

Do Villages Promote Aging in Place? Results of a Longitudinal Study

Carrie Graham, Andrew E. Scharlach, Elaine Kurtovich

Office for the Study of Aging at the University of South Carolina: Promoting Healthy Aging Through Program Development, Evaluation, Education/Training, and Research for South Carolina's Older Adults

M. Aaron Guest, Margaret C. Miller, Macie P. Smith, Brenda Hyleman

Person-Centered Care Practices in Long-Term Care in the Deep South: Consideration of Structural, Market, and Administrator Characteristics

M. Lindsey Jacobs, A. Lynn Snow, Patricia A. Permelee, Juliet A. Davis

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Manuela Zambianchi, Maria Grazia Carelli

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"That Is So Common Everyday . . . Everywhere You Go"

Sexual Harassment of Workers in Assisted Living

Elisabeth O. Burgess, Christina Barmon, James R. Moorhead, Jr., Molly M. Perkins, Alexis A. Bender

Staff Empowerment Practices and CNA Retention

Findings From a Nationally Representative Nursing Home Culture Change Survey

Clara Berridge, Denise A. Tyler, Susan C. Miller

Work Life Stress and Career Resilience of Licensed Nursing Facility Administrators

Dennis R. Myers, Rob Rogers, Harold H. LeCrone, Katherine Kelley, Joel H. Scott

Double- and Triple-Duty Caregiving Men

An Examination of Subjective Stress and Perceived Schedule Control

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Care Challenges in the Bathroom

The Views of Professional Care Providers Working in Clients' Homes

Emily C. King, Pamela J. Holliday, Gavin J. Andrews

"Their Today Is Our Future"

Direct Carers' Work Experience and Formal Caring Relationships in a Community-Based Eldercare Program in Shanghai

Lin Chen, Minzhi Ye, Eva Kahana

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Julie Robinson

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Karen I. Fredriksen-Goldsen, Sarah Jen, Amanda E. B. Bryan, Jayn Goldsen

Outcomes of a Two-Component Intervention on Behavioral Symptoms in Persons With Dementia and Symptom Response in Their Caregivers

Karen M. Robinson, Timothy N. Crawford, Kathleen C. Buckwalter, David A. Casey

Design Recommendations for Recreational Systems Involving Older Adults Living With Dementia

Amanda Lazar, Hilaire J. Thompson, George Demiris

Managing Your Loved One's Health

Development of a New Care Management Measure for Dementia Family Caregivers

Tatiana Sadak, Jacob Wright, Soo Borson

Involving Caregivers of People With Dementia to Validate Booklets on Food-Related Activities

A Qualitative Think-Aloud Study

Iliatha Papachristou, Gary Hickey, Steve Iliffe

Developing a Non-Pharmacological Intervention for Individuals With Mild Cognitive Impairment

Juleen Rodakowski, Charles F. Reynolds, III, Oscar L. Lopez, Meryl A. Butters, Mary Amanda Dew, Elizabeth R. Skidmore

BRIEF REPORT

Developing a Non-Pharmacological Intervention for Individuals with Mild Cognitive Impairment

Juleen Rodakowski, Charles F. Reynolds III, Oscar L. Lopez, Meryl A. Butters, Mary Amanda Dew, Elizabeth R. Skidmore

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Ageing, Dementia and the Social Mind

Keith Anderson, Charlotte Siegel

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Trajectories of Leisure Activity and Disability in Older Adults Over 11 Years in Taiwan

Hsiao-Wei Yu, Tung-Liang Chiang, Duan-Rung Chen, Yu-Kang Tu, Ya-Mei Chen

Champions of an Older Adult Exercise Program: Believers, Promoters, and Recruiters

Christina Miyawaki, Basia Belza, Marlana Kohn, Miruna Petrescu-Prahova

BRIEF REPORT

Pilot Study for Implementing an Osteoporosis Education and Exercise Program in an Assisted Living Facility and Senior Community

Aparna P. Nanduri, Sally Fullman, Lori Morell, Steve Buyske, Mary L. Wagner

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Correlates of Worry About Healthcare Costs Among Older Adults

Namkee G. Choi, Diana M. DiNitto

Preparations for Old Age and Well-Being in Later Life in Thailand: Gender Matters?

Wiraporn Pathisiri, Nekehia T. Quashie

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Julie Robinson

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Timothy Hoff, Matthew DePuccio

**A Qualitative Approach to Increasing HIV Prevention in Primary Care Settings for Older Adults:
Perspectives from Primary Care Providers**

Tracy Davis, Pamela B. Teaster, John F. Watkins, Alice C. Thornton, Linda Alexander, Faika Zanjani

Health Shocks and Initiation of Use of Preventive Services Among Older Adults

Boon Peng Ng, Gail A. Jensen

Practical Care Support During the Early Recovery Period After Acute Coronary Syndrome

Alexandra M. Hajduk, Jacquelyn E. Hyde, Molly E. Waring, Darleen M. Lessard, David D. McManus, Elizabeth Braungart Fauth, Stephenie C. Lemon, Jane Saczynski

Development of the Older Adult Prescription Drug Assessment Questionnaire for Case Workers

Natalie D. Pope, Karen L. Slovak, Jarod T. Giger

Understanding Older Adult Use of Data Visualizations as a Resource for Maintaining Health and Wellness

Thai Le, Nai-Ching Chi, Shomir Chaudhuri, Hilaire J. Thompson, George Demiris

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 Programs 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

SGS 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

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.

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 welcome.

Chih-Ling Liou, Ph.D, email: cliou@kent.edu Office: 330-244- 3551

Kelly Munly, Ph.D, email: kam6832@psu.edu Office: 301-379- 2891

Sherry Lind, MGS, email: 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 15, 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

March

AGHE's 43rd Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference

The Global Business of Aging

March 1-4, 2018

Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta, GA

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

ASA's Aging in America Conference

March 26-29, 2018

[San Francisco, CA](#)

<http://www.asaging.org/aging-in-america>

April

2018 SGS/GGS Joint Conference

April 11-14, 2018

Moving Forward Together: Linking Research, Policy, Practice

Legacy Lodge and Conference Center, Buford, GA

<https://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting.html>

Environment for Aging

April 21-24, 2018

Savannah, GA

<https://www.environmentsforaging.com/conference/about-the-conference/>

The 29th Annual Virginia Geriatrics Society Conference

April 27-29, 2018

Hilton Richmond Hotel, Richmond, VA

<http://www.virginigeriatricsociety.org/2018-vgs-conference/>

May

2018 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS)

May 3-5, 2018

Orlando, FL

<http://meeting.americangeriatrics.org/>

July

3rd International Conference on Aging & Gerontology

July 18-19, 2018

Interventional Innovations for a better Aging Care Management

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

<https://aging.conferenceseries.com/>

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.

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.

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