

THE SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

VOL. XXV, NO. 2, SPRING 2018



GREETINGS! – SGS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEWS AND UPDATES

Greetings SGS members and friends,

This edition of the Southern Gerontologist is but a small sampling of the many exciting adventures SGS has had over the past few months! Much of this edition focuses on the wonderfully successful annual conference partnered with the Georgia Gerontology Society at the stunning venue of the Legacy Lodge Resort and Conference Center in Buford, Georgia from April 11 through April 14, 2018. The conference welcomed a total of 334 participants over the four days of conference content. This conference was successful in so many different ways but we are especially delighted with the diversity of conference attendees which included students, academic gerontologists, practitioners, people living with dementia, and many local area older adults. There were so many dynamic sessions and excellent programming. For those of you who attended, we thank you for joining us and hope you left the conference having gained new skills, knowledge, and colleagues!

This edition of our newsletter includes pictures and highlights of the annual conference and other important information related to recent changes to the SGS Bylaws, the launch of our SGS Legacy Project by the SGS student committee, an introduction to our new incoming Student Representative Elect, and information about our SGS State Ambassador program. This edition also details the contents of future editions of the *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. We hope that you will take a few minutes to scan the 2019 Call for Presentations information. With thanks to our S'more newsletter platform we can now include attachments in the newsletter and have subsequently added a pdf download for both the 2019 Call for

Presentations and a special welcome flyer for students, detailing why the SGS annual conference is a great place to attend and present.

In closing, I would like to once again thank all of those who helped to make this year's conference such a resounding success. We have already commenced planning for the 2019 40th "Ruby" Anniversary and Annual Conference which will take place at the newly renovated and stunning Sheraton Bay Point Resort in Panama City Beach, Florida from April 9 through April 13, 2019. This is a venue perfect for an amazing family getaway. Our conference will start with a number of options to include pre-conference intensive workshops and service opportunities. Should you wish to be involved in helping with local area arrangements, with program development, or would like to know more ways in which you can support this conference, be sure to reach out directly to me and I'll be happy to help make that happen.

As always, it is my absolute pleasure to continue to serve the society and all of its members. In the five years I have served as the manager/director of SGS, I have witnessed the power of enthusiastic people and how the passion for gerontology can facilitate amazing collaborations and good works. I thank each of you who are engaged and active and extend a welcome to anyone wishing to be more involved.

Sincerely,
Lee Ann S. Ferguson
SGS Executive Director

BYLAWS CHANGES PASSED AT SGS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

One month prior to the annual meeting, members of SGS were sent a copy of proposed Bylaws changes. These changes were then voted on at the annual SGS meeting on Friday, April 13, 2018. All of the Bylaws changes were passed. The summary of changes to the SGS Bylaws are as follows:

- 1) Any reference made to "the elderly" is to be changed to "older adult."
- 2) The "Joint" (married) category of membership has been removed.
- 3) "Emerging Scholar" will be a new membership category option. The Membership Committee has been tasked with detailing the qualifications for this membership category. Once approved by the board of directors, this category will go into effect.
- 4) The name of the "Seniors" Committee has now been changed to the "Encore" Committee. In addition, references to "retiree" and "retired" have been changed to "Encore" or "Encore Committee" as appropriate.

5) Regarding the composition of who may be engaged in "Encore" Committee activities, the vote was approved to change "other members appointed by the Chairperson" to "all SGS members in good standing who are age 65+ before the first day of the annual meeting."

6) Regarding the composition of who may be engaged in "Program" Committee activities, the vote was approved to change the "minimum of ten (10) members" to "minimum of five (5) other members."

7) Regarding the composition of who may be engaged in "Publication" Committee activities, the vote was approved to change the "and eight (8) members" to "a minimum of eight (8) members."

The Bylaws Committee will be working to construct a revised version of SGS Policy and Procedure and Bylaws. This revision will be distributed to all members and published on the SGS website once completed.



SGS BY-LAWS UPDATE

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS (COPS)

COLUMN



2018 SGS ANNUAL MEETING CLOSING SESSION

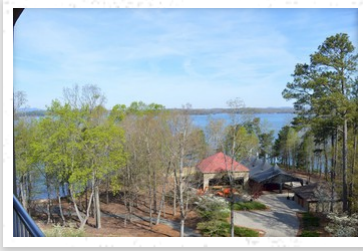
Respectfully submitted by: Christy Jensen, Council of Past Presidents Committee Chair

Wow, what an amazing 39th Annual Meeting! The Council of Past Presidents, affectionately known as COPs, was pleased to be invited to organize the Closing Session on Saturday morning, April 14th.

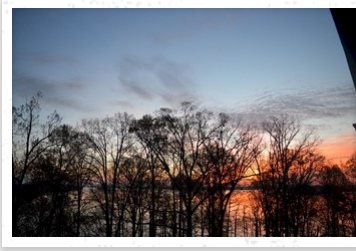
The session titled “What’s the Southern Experience? Aging in the South in the 21st Century” represented a culmination of months of productive discussion by SGS Past Presidents. The purpose was to build on the SGS 2017 Closing Session, weaving in key themes such as power of place, gerontological literacy, and applied gerontology. Moderator Larry Polivka, Director, Claude Pepper Center, provided an update on the Older Americans Act and its programs. He challenged us to consider why these programs are declining when the population of older adults is increasing. He explained that Southern states are especially affected by policy changes, funding reductions and cuts to services. Dr. Polivka led a discussion with 3 panelists, all from the host state of Georgia, who spoke about the challenges and opportunities they are experiencing within their agencies and why political advocacy is so critical for the aging network. Panelists included: Kathy Floyd, Executive Director, Georgia Council on Aging; Eve Anthony, Executive Director, Athens Community Council on Aging; and Michelle Lineberry, Director of Residence Services, Lanier Village Estates.

As the COPs look ahead to the 40th Anniversary Meeting in Panama City, Florida, we are considering how we build on the 2018 Closing Session while recognizing our productive past. Plans are to address the “southern aging agenda” (a concept proposed by Past President Graham Rowles) and to feature as many Past Presidents and representatives of the states within the SGS primary territory as possible. Planning calls will soon commence and we welcome input from all SGS members so that the COPs session is meaningful, engaging and empowering.

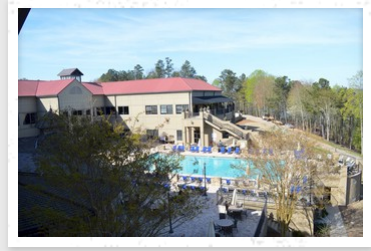
LAKE LANIER MEMORIES



LEGACY



LODGE



BEAUTY



**PAYNE
LECTURE**



**S'MORES
NIGHT**



**COLLEGIALITY
AND
FRIENDSHIP**

2018 BARBARA PITTARD PAYNE LECTURESHIP IN GERONTOLOGY

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. The 2018 Annual Meeting Payne Lecture was delivered by Dr. Tamara Baker and sponsored by the Georgia State University Gerontology Institute. The title for Dr. Baker's presentation was "If we are all created equally, then why am I treated differently? Conceptualizing diversity, disparities, and health determinants collectively."



**GREAT
OPENING
ATTENDANCE**



**DR. TAMARA
BAKER**



**DISCUSSING
HEALTH
DISPARITIES**

PRESENTATIONS

A SAMPLING OF PHOTOS

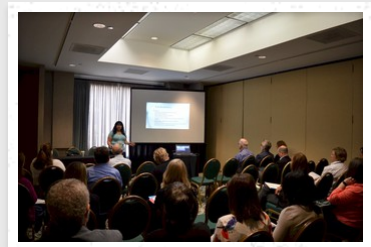
The following galleries represent a small sampling of pictures taken throughout the 4 days of conference. For additional photos, please be sure to visit either the SGS website at www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org or like us on our Facebook page @southerngerontologicalsociety.



**DR. FAYRON
EPPS, GSU**



**GAYLE
ALSTON, RCI**



**PAMELA
CORSENTINO,
LBDA**



**DR.
ELIZABETH
BURGESS, GSU**



**PRESIDENT
CRAFT
MORGAN
MAKING
EVERYONE
FEEL
WELCOME**

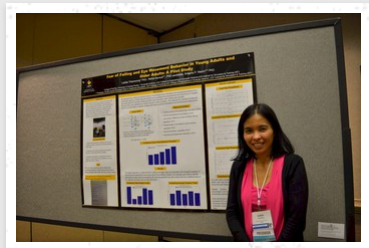


**ONE OF THE
MANY
FABULOUS
WELLNESS
SESSIONS**

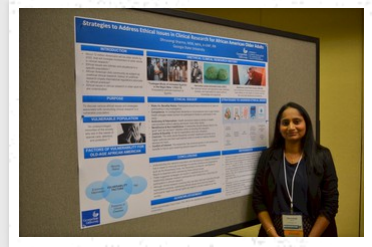
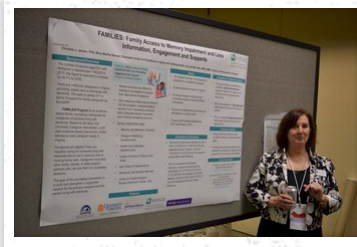
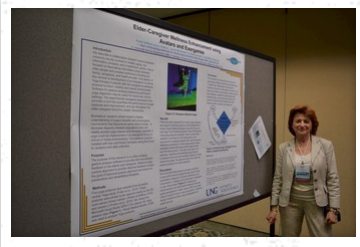
DAY 1 STUDENT POSTER SESSION



DAY 2 PROFESSIONAL POSTER SESSION



DAY 3 FINAL PROFESSIONAL POSTER SESSION



FOR ADDITIONAL PHOTOS OF THE 2018 SGS ANNUAL MEETING, YOU MAY GO TO:

<https://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org/photos-2018.html>

2018 SGS ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS

**GORDON STREIB DISTINGUISHED
ACADEMIC GERONTOLOGIST AWARD--
LUCILLE BEARON**



SGS offers the Streib Award to recognize an outstanding academic gerontologist who has focused their research on enhancing quality of life of older people.

This year's awardee, Luci Bearon of North Carolina State University, has been in the field of aging for over 40 years. She is the 2011 recipient of the SGS Applied Gerontologist Award, is a Fellow of the AGHE, and has many other distinguished honors for her work with grandfamilies. She was also instrumental to the development of the NC strategic plan for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. With numerous publications in journal articles and book chapters, Dr. Bearon is published in the areas of grandparenting, caregiving, nutrition, elder abuse, gerontological literacy, and attitudes, beliefs and expectations about aging, to name a few. She is well known for the vast amount of curriculum she has developed and delivered to family caregivers and extension agents as well as other service providers.

RHODA JENNINGS DISTINGUISHED OLDER ADVOCATE AWARD--ALTHEA TAYLOR-JONES



The Rhoda L. Jennings Older Advocate Award is presented to an individual who is 65 years of age or older who has demonstrated effective advocacy and leadership among older adults in the Southern region. This year's awardee, Dr. Althea Taylor-Jones, has been an advocate for aging through her work at Winston-Salem State University for years as she trained and helped young students develop skills and expertise to become leading figures in the aging field after

they graduated with their gerontology degrees. She has served in the North Carolina Senior Tarheel Legislature, eventually taking their leadership position. She has been a Lead Legislative Advocate for NC AARP as well as having served on their Executive Council. Althea's devotion to advocacy for aging is a personal mission and as the wife of a minister, she still does many hours of work with older adults who need assistance maneuvering in the complex system of services for their needs.

Dr. Taylor-Jones' comments are included below:

I count it an honor to have been nominated for, as well as granted the 2018 Older Advocate Award, from the Southern Gerontological Society. Although I retired from official academic responsibilities as a Professor of Gerontology and Program Director in 2009, my momentum in the field of aging continued and has intensified.

As a child, I was reared with and observed the belief that "to whom much is given, much is expected and/or required." Additionally, our 'precious seasoned citizens' paved the way for us and certainly deserve to age with dignity and style, aging in place or in the least restrictive environment.

I practice the "paying it forward" principle (doing something good for someone in response to a good deed done on my behalf, or a gift I received). Therefore, when Saint Peter comes for me, to take me to my final resting place, he will need to bring a posse or host of angels with him. Reason being, I plan to be so engaged in advocacy on behalf of others, especially older adults, that it will be very difficult to locate me, to end my tenure in this earthly life!

APPLIED GERONTOLOGIST AWARD-- SUDHA SHREENIWAS



Previous

The Applied Gerontologist Award goes to an individual with a sustained record of leadership in the field of aging, including involvement at the local, state or regional level. This year the Applied Gerontologist Award goes to Dr. Sudha Shreeniwas from the Department of Human Development and Family Studies of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Shreeniwas' applied gerontology takes the form of community engagement and practice-based research across the span of adulthood. She has partnered for the past 7 years with the Creative Aging Network of NC and is the founder of Kiran, Inc., a NC organization that provides domestic violence/crisis services to people with ties to the SE Asian community as South Asians are the largest Asian subgroup in NC. She brought a number of students to the conference and is considered a wonderful mentor.

MEDIA AWARD



SGS offers the Media Award to recognize an outstanding media contribution to further understanding of aging in the region and to the mission of SGS. Media of all kinds are considered for this award. Think of the importance of the Media Award...how did you get the information about this conference? Somehow, media was involved through a newsletter, website, Facebook post, or flyer. Information is all around us. Shifting through to the good information, the award winning information, is what this award is all about.

The SGS Media Award this year goes to Mine's Eye Production "Care" documentary. Which asks us some hard questions:

We want our loved ones to age with dignity, but who will pay for the care? And who will care for the caregivers?

"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." <http://caredocumentary.com/>

SGS BEST PRACTICES AWARD



The Best Practices Award is given to recognize organizations or individuals who have demonstrated evidence of significant contributions to the field of aging and the development of gerontology in the Southern United States.

This year the Best Practices Award was presented to Denise Butler of the Riverside Center for Excellence in Aging and Lifelong Health for her leadership of the Williamsburg Memory Café.

The goal of the Williamsburg Memory Café is to provide a safe, comfortable, engaging environment where people with memory loss and their care partners can laugh, learn and remain socially engaged with others traveling the same journey. The Café has grown substantially in the past two years, and now two different groups are meeting in the community. There are a number of volunteers who have contributed to the success of the program and many other communities are inquiring about how to start their own Memory Café.

STUDENT PAPER AWARD

The student paper award is awarded to an SGS student member who is the lead author of a paper which was submitted in advance of the conference to be reviewed by the Awards Committee. The research ideas must be substantially those of the student with an emphasis in gerontology. The student's faculty advisor must write a letter of support. This year there

were three papers that rose to the top. As each paper had its merit, it was a very difficult process for the reviewers to select a winner.

This year, the SGS First Place Student Paper Award went to: **Amanda Thomas Dawson** from UNCC, under the direction of Dr. Michael J. Turner, based on her paper “Intergenerational Programming on a Multi-Generational Play Park and its Impact on Older Adults”



Of the close contenders this year, we had two students that were worthy of Honorable Mentions.

Saruna Ghimire from the University of Nevada Las Vegas with Faculty Mentor Francisco Sy, submitted the paper titled “Decline in Telomere Length by Age, Gender, Allostatic Load and Comorbidities in National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (1999-2002).”

Kyle L Bower from the University of Georgia with faculty mentor Denise Lewis submitted the paper “Generativity Among Sexual and Gender Minorities: Building Foundations of Self-Acceptance.”

Congratulations to our student paper winners!

STUDENT POSTER AWARDS



**EMILY
NELSON**



**CHEYANN
KAZEMIAN**



**CAROL
JACOBS**

Any SGS Student Member submitting scholarly work for presentation at the SGS Annual Meeting in poster format as the primary author is eligible for the Student Poster Award. Although students must submit their application for the award prior to the conference, the judging takes place at the conference. Criteria includes poster appeal—how it looks, content—the research, analysis and results, and presentation—how well did the student present their poster to the judges.

First place was awarded to **Emily Nelson** for "Nursing Home Vulnerability Attributable to Physical Location."

The second place award went to **Cheyann Kazemian** for "Pressure Ulcers Awareness and Prevention among the Elderly."

Carol Jacobs was awarded third place for "Care Givers Care--Who cares for you, while you are caring for your loved one?"

2018 ANNUAL MEETING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Three students were granted scholarships to help to defray travel costs associated with attending and presenting at the Annual Meeting:

Amounts awarded were as follows:

Saruna Ghimire (\$1,000)

Marc Aaron Guest (\$500)

Kaliegh Ligus (\$500)

Student scholarships are awarded each year. Students are required to be active members of SGS, have been accepted to present during the 2019 annual conference, and to complete an application that is reviewed by members of the SGS Awards Committee. This year's applications for scholarship (and other awards) will open on the SGS website on December 1, 2018 after acceptance for presentations are completed.



**SARUNA
GHIMIRE**



**MARC AARON
GUEST**



**KALEIGH
LIGUS**

SGS 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS RESPOND

SARUNA GHIMIRE WRITES:

I am Saruna Ghimire, a third-year doctoral student in Public Health, with a concentration in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, at University of Nevada Las Vegas. My research focuses on healthy aging. The 2018 Southern Gerontological Society and Georgia Gerontology Society 2018 joint Annual Meeting at the Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier, Georgia was memorable in many aspects, and I want to thank the Southern Gerontological Society for providing me with a Student Travel Scholarship which made my participation in this conference possible. The Southern Gerontological Society has a proud history as one of the pioneer organizations advocating for older populations. Therefore, it was the perfect platform to disseminate the findings of my research, with an audience who share similar interests.

Research conducted as a student researcher is always special because it reminds you, in the future, of all the struggles faced in the early days of research; it also provides a basis for measuring accomplishments. My current research is the foundation upon which I aim to build my career, and it was an honor to be able to share it at this conference with a diverse and expert audience. It was also truly humbling to receive two recognitions in the meeting: A Student Travel Scholarship and an Honorable Mention for the Southern Gerontological Society Student Paper Award. As an international Ph.D. student from Nepal, a low-income country, such awards are unexpected and extremely appreciated, and inspire me to strive for excellence.

One favorite aspect of the conference was the 2018 Barbara Pittard Payne Lectureship by the extremely motivating and inspiring Dr. Tamara Baker. Dr. Baker had us all take a vow to work for making a better place for our aging population and I am committed to keeping my promise. My long-term research goal is to provide new insights and directions for aging research to promote healthy aging and longevity worldwide.

Overall, this conference provided me with an opportunity to meet esteemed researchers and fellow students, as the environment fostered networking. I developed friendships with many fellow students from Georgia State University, Emory University and the University of North Carolina. I was also exposed to the diversity of contemporary research in the field of aging. I attended as many conference sessions as I could; each one enriched my knowledge of aging. I was particularly touched by listening to the lived experience of people with dementia and age-related conditions. Additionally, I benefitted from some sessions on the scientific publication process, and discussions on the challenges faced in designing research studies. All of these experiences will ultimately build up my confidence and ability to become an independent researcher.

My overall conference experience description would be incomplete if I did not mention how much I was impressed by the overall logistics. The hospitality from the conference organizers and the catering were remarkable. Each of the events was well-planned to the minor details.

The organizers must be recognized for selecting such a breathtakingly beautiful location for the conference. I must say my conference excitement started right from the Atlanta Airport after seeing so much green and beautiful spring colors, which we lack here in Las Vegas. Lake Lanier was peaceful and beautiful, a truly perfect setting for both learning and relaxing activities. Hats off to the organizers!!!

In conclusion, I came back to Las Vegas with good memories, new friends and inspired to carry on! I want to thank everyone who made this experience possible.

MARC AARON GUEST WRITES:

The Southern Gerontological Society Annual Meeting: Collaboration, Dissemination, & Activism

As an emerging scholar of southern rural aging inequities, I must admit I was ashamed I had never attended an SGS Scientific Meeting. It was not that I was unaware of SGS – in fact, I have been a member for several years. Plus, when Graham Rowles is on your dissertation committee, you are bound to have the Society come up in a conversation or two. Unfortunately, as with many of my student colleagues, university support of graduate students continues to erode. The SGS Travel Scholarship afforded me the opportunity to attend the joint SGS-GGS meeting. In doing so, I was able to connect with like-minded scholars and discover new ways to integrate my own research with the needs of the communities I seek to help.

The gathering of academics, professionals, and activists interested in aging issues at the Annual Meeting provides a fertile opportunity to link research with practice. The travel scholarship allowed me to not only attend SGS, but to also present. During my first presentation, a workshop on *Dementia Speaks*, a community-based dementia education program for African-American caregivers, I had the opportunity to discuss with insurance executives, primary care providers, and community activists the need for dementia education as well as to hear their challenges to involvement in such programs. We were able to share best practices in engaging with and integrating into communities as outsiders. At the same time, we heard from providers their need to be able to easily access such training and to have training accredited by the appropriate agencies so they can justify their use. During my oral presentation on the needs of aging lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Kentuckians, I was thrilled to find myself presenting with several projects focusing on similar populations. My fellow presenters and I were able to share best practices and findings not only amongst those in attendance, but also with one another. For me, the opportunity to present also allowed me, somewhat inadvertently, to locate a mentor in my own academic specialization – network theory among older individuals. There are not too many network theorists working on aging issues. To run into one while presenting on a very different topic is completely happenstance. However, our shared interest in southern and rural aging brought us together at SGS and provided a conduit for us to meet. Throughout the conference, we were able to discuss some of the historic trends in aging network theory, as well as where the future might take us. These conversations have continued. Attending SGS provided me the opportunity to meet and connect with this individual.

Of course, the meeting also afforded me the opportunity to explore new areas of research. Philip Taylor's work on anti-ageist approaches challenged me to rethink many of the common beliefs we hold as aging professionals. It pointed towards innovative ways of thinking and engaging older adults in the global economy. Likewise, the lecture delivered by Dr. Tamara Baker reminded me why I originally sought out a career working with older adults.

Whenever I travel to academic conferences I always return home recharged and re-activated. Despite how tired and miserable I may feel during a conference (late nights and early mornings do take a toll), I always return to my work with a new vigor and appreciation. Whether it is through being able to network within individuals who share your specific passion or being challenged and reminded why you became a gerontologist in the first place, there is just something about being surrounded by people who share your interest and passion. I found all of that during the SGS-GGS Annual Meeting. I only wish I had attended the Annual Meeting sooner. Without the assistance of the travel scholarship, I am sure it would have been even longer before I had the chance to do so. Now that I have attended, I look forward to returning year-after-year to recharge with others who want to improve our aging experience in the South.

KALEIGH LIGUS WRITES:

My First Exposure to SGS

First of all, thank you for the opportunity to attend such a well-organized and broad conference. From first entering the grounds of Legacy Lodge, I was impressed by the beauty of the venue and the surrounding lake area. The conference registration check-in was smooth and cheerful, and the lodge staff were kind and accommodating. After I settled in my picturesque villa, I was anxious to attend the *Barbara Pittard Payne Lectureship in Gerontology* presented by Dr. Tamara Baker. The reception prior to the event was low-key and inviting. Being my first exposure to the conference attendees, I introduced myself to many people I had heard of or talked to before the conference. It was so nice to put faces to names! The conversations flowed between groups who mingled and were genuinely elated to see one another. I had the chance to interact with professors and students from prestigious universities in the south. Due to the atmosphere of the conference, I didn't feel overwhelmed or intimidated by their presence. Dr. Baker's speech on the social determinants of health and its connection to the older adults we serve was poignant and timely. Her passion for this subject and its effect on research participants and those who need services and supports was so authentic. I was also impressed by her ability to make this speech jovial. Instead of being talked at, Dr. Baker's demeanor was one of motivation and action—each attendee wanted to change the world!

On Wednesday morning, I was able to attend several sessions. There were so many good subjects to choose from and therefore had to split my time between a few. My favorite morning session was, *The Power of Place: Breaking Down Silos and Learning from Each Other* with Graham, Lois, Abby, and Debra. I was able to catch Abby and Lois' talks and the Q&A segment. It was invigorating to hear the grassroots initiatives of rural aging research and service. One of the best takeaways from this session was the number of community events in the area. I was so moved by the awards luncheon. First off, my fellow tablemates were so encouraging of those who won awards, and we had a great conversation about the historical

meaning of the awards and recipients. I was so thankful to see how genuinely engaged the SGS and GGS members are in their communities and helping older adults. That night, I was able to attend the student reception on the patio. This reception again promoted the camaraderie of the society.

One of my favorite pieces of the entire conference was the *Aging Better Together* luncheon. Our table was engaged in the conversations and respectful of each other. We shared perspectives from work, education, and family experience. Civic dinners are pertinent to society today – having open conversations with those of a different educational background, life experience, and family history will only aid the mission of SGS to make aging a positive experience for all.

Being from New England, I anticipated the conversations regarding aging initiatives to be specific and particular to the thirteen southern states. However, the conversations had such broad reach to other US states and beyond! Other conferences, while they may be larger, often have an atmosphere of identifying faults and making appearances. However, this conference was encouraging and congratulatory to the gerontology community in the South. I certainly plan on attending future conferences and look forward to being a productive member of the Southern Gerontological Society!

Kaleigh Ligus | Clinical Research Assistant II

Center on Aging | UConn Health

2018 SGS Student Scholarship Recipient

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR STUDENT WINNERS!

**“ARE YOU RECORDING THIS?” WELCOME
TO THE SGS LEGACY PROJECT**



During the 2018 annual conference, the SGS Student Committee embarked upon a project to capture SGS's lengthy and successful history by recording interviews with key figures who have leadership positions during SGS's 40-year history. The interview project kicked off with eight of the past SGS presidents interviewed while at the 2018 conference at Legacy Lodge. The project has started with a focus on interviewing SGS's past presidents, but we have come to realize there are quite a few people who have contributed to SGS' success in other roles and who have helped to ensure SGS's continued and growing success. It is the intent of the members of this project to complete the interview process and use material from both it and our SGS archives to develop a compilation video to be shared at the 40th Ruby Anniversary Conference and celebration in Panama City Beach, Florida.

To say that it was a little unnerving to have a video camera AND an SGS past president together in one room might be an understatement, but once the interview commenced it didn't take long for everyone in the room to start to feel more comfortable. As students, starting such a project was a little daunting. Fortunately, experienced ethnographer Dr. Dana Burr Bradley was willing to help guide us through the process. We sought and received IRB approval after having created an interview guide filled with open-ended questions that could easily fill the 45-minute interview sessions. For the students involved in this project, the opportunity to sit down with the leaders in our field proved to be a wonderful experience. It is a rare privilege to have such candid conversations with the people who wrote our textbooks or who have crafted the research we learn about throughout our coursework. Everyone was receptive and supportive, and the conversations felt natural. This opportunity is but one reason why SGS is such a great place for students. Our Past Presidents have had some amazing adventures. We heard many interesting stories and learned some experiences will forever remain private ("I can't talk about that- I was sworn to secrecy!"). They have given incredible amounts of time

and energy to growing this organization and it is great fun to watch them reflect on their experiences. We can't wait to share the video with you!

The Student Committee will continue to conduct interviews throughout the coming months before settling into editing of interviews into a seamless compilation. The footage may also be used in future promotional work and it has been suggested that we consider a longer piece that could potentially be released for public television. This is a new area for SGS and there seems to be a wide variety of applications for the information garnered from this project.

If you are a student or professional who would like to get involved with The Legacy Project, please reach out, we'd love to have your help. The next scheduled meeting of the SGS Student Committee is June 20 at 1pm. Meeting access is through either phone or internet access. The meeting link is as follows:

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482754162>

Or iPhone one-tap:

+1(773)2319226,,1482754162#

Or Telephone:

Dial: +1 (773) 231 9226

Meeting ID: 148 275 4162

Sincerely – Debby Yoder

FRIDAY – APRIL 13 – THE PRESIDENTIAL GALA AT LEGACY LODGE

The grand event to conclude the final evening of the conference was fun for all ages. Held lakeside at Legacy Lodge's Legacy Point, SGS and GGS conference guests were treated to a fabulous meal and music.



TOGETHER AGAIN

LaVona Traywick, Christy Jensen, Jan Wassel, and Dana Burr Bradley - all former SGS Presidents



SGS LEADERSHIP

Ishan Canty Williams (2018-2019 President Elect), Jen Craft Morgan (2017-2019 President), Lee Ann Ferguson (SGS Executive Director), and Christy Jensen (President 2015-2016)



KICKING UP THEIR HEELS!

Past Presidents can dance! (from left to right): Christy Jensen (VA), Graham Rowles (KY), Ed Rosenberg (NC), Jan Wassel (NC), Jen Craft Morgan (NC), LaVona Traywick (AR), Dana B. Bradley (KY), Lorin Baumhover (NC), Joann O'quin (MS, GRITS awardee), and Ed Ansello (VA).



CHEERS TO SGS AND GGS

Lee Ann Ferguson (Exec Director SGS), Jennifer Beamer (GGS President), Amanda James (Exec Director GGS) and Jen Craft Morgain (SGS President) celebrate a successful partnership.



FUN FOR ALL GENERATIONS

The night included dining and dancing. This is one of our favorite pictures of SGS members, Steven Studebaker and Elizabeth Tait, dancing with their grandchild.



A LOVELY NIGHT TO BE LAKESIDE.

Great music, great food, great conversations!

FIRST TIME CONFERENCE ATTENDEES REVIEW THE SGS 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

MY FIRST CONFERENCE BY JOE KLEID

It was my first time, and I was in heaven! It did not take long for the realization to hit me upon entering the 2018 Southern Gerontological Society Conference: I'm surrounded by the brightest minds in the field of Aging!

Professionals, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners that are all passionate about how to best help older adults navigate the aging process were suddenly all under the same roof. All with talents and knowledge that they are ready to network and share with one another. The ultimate goal was that we begin to break down the individual and organizational silos of information and share what is working in other states and communities. It was a Disneyland for Gerontology!

I attended every possible workshop about my personal and professional interests of choice: Alzheimer's, Dementia, and Memory Care. This brought me to learn about topics like

- Structured Dementia Education for Caregivers
- Living With Dementia
- Health Promotion & Prevention for Individuals Living With Dementia
- At-Risk Adult Abuse
- Age Advocacy
- Hoarding
- Dementia-Friendly Communities
- Memory Cafes
- The Georgia Alzheimer's Project
- Ambiguous Loss with Dementia Caregivers and
- The Georgia Alzheimer's & Related Dementias (GARD) State Plan.

But that was just *my* interests! Others attended workshops for their passions of advocacy, research, policy, senior hunger, diversity, therapy and so many more topics. It was truly a conference that can sharpen your professional tool boxes, no matter your niche.

The networking opportunities to speak with so many influencers was my most favorite part. To hear their ideas, their experiences, and a consistent energy of collaboration was incredible.

I look forward to many follow-up conversations with my new friends over this next year until we all meet again in 2019!

Joe Kleid, President of "The Dementia Guide", Certified Dementia Practitioner, and Gerontology Student at Kennesaw State University

FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE BY SIERRA NICELY

As a first time attendee to the 2018 SGS/GGS conference, I had prepared myself for a standard conference experience: meetings, small talk, and more meetings. While there were a number of wonderful speakers, the talk was not small. With a combination of academic and non-academic attendees, the conversations in and out of the sessions were filled with fresh ideas.

Most of my time was spent volunteering behind the registration desk where, I am quite certain, Lee Ann Ferguson and Amanda James slept. They worked tirelessly to ensure that SGS and GGS members had a memorable conference experience. As my first time volunteering at a conference, I now have a much deeper appreciation for how much behind the scenes work goes into it.

The conference experience was overwhelmingly positive. It was filled with groups of people actually looking to learn from one another and work together. Rooms filled with people talking about how to raise the standard of living for older adults. Specifically, people spoke about the best ways to treat dementia patients, innovations in long-term care, and support systems for caregivers.

I have recently been given the opportunity to be the caregiver for an aging family member. After being at the conference, I feel like a part of a community of people who are working in similar situations. I no longer see this experience as having to be one of isolation. I now feel more prepared to face this challenge.

Sierra Nicely

MY SGS EXPERIENCE--THE SECOND YEAR - BY DANA GRAEFE

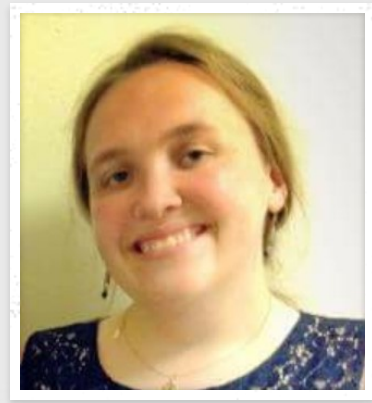
At this year's conference, I had the opportunity to attend and present. Having gone the previous year to Asheville, I made it a goal to present at the conference this year, and I was very happy I did. Everyone I met was open to hearing about my project and had thoughtful questions about the process of the project and future possibilities. After a year and a half of hard work on my research project, it was very rewarding to have such a positive response conversing with attendees during the poster session. As a student it can seem a bit intimidating to ask a well established researcher or professor about details of their work, but everyone at SGS is friendly and open to discussing their work and hearing out new ideas from students. The workshops are very informative and cover multiple tracks, so no matter what your interests, there is always a workshop to attend. The conference allows for great networking opportunities as well, and I am still in touch with the people I met in Georgia. As a student, I felt valued, and I felt my work was valued at the conference. SGS does take the time to involve students into the conference and to listen to their concerns. Joining the Student Committee also became a possibility through this year's conference, and I look forward to attending next year's conference. I will highly recommend others to attend SGS in the future!

Dana Graefe

MEET OUR INCOMING 2018-2019 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE --SIERRA NICELY

How I Became Interested in My Area of Study

As an undergraduate student, I was always interested in studying people and why they “did what they did.” I initially thought this would lead me to a career in history. These dreams quickly fell by the wayside after my first Sociology course at the University of Montevallo. I fell in love with the subject and its way of looking at the world.



The next year I transferred to the University of Alabama at Birmingham which had a much bigger Sociology department. At UAB I was lucky enough to work on Dr. Shelia Cotton's project focusing on computer and internet technology as a way to bridge social and spatial barriers for the elders. In full honesty, it was the first time I had really considered how computer and internet technology could be useful to someone living in an assisted or independent living community. I was able to gain experience interviewing with the older adults in the study. Their experience as immigrants to the digital age was always interesting.

The study at UAB ended as I graduated and left for graduate school at Georgia State University. The end of my undergraduate career and the beginning of my time in graduate school was marked by the death of several very dear people. These losses fueled my interest in death, dying, and grief. It was suggested to me by Dr. Erin Ruel that I could use this interest as an academic subject matter. Due to my previous experience in Gerontology and the connection with death and gerontology, I decided to pursue the Gerontology program at GSU. After much persistence, I was able to begin working in the Gerontology department at GSU. It is here that I have found a renewed appreciation for research. Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan and Dr. Elizabeth Burgess have offered more than research opportunities in a field that I have come to love. They have offered a supportive environment where the research is meant to be read by more than a few similarly inclined academics. The projects we work on are meant to help bring a dignity to aging in a culture where we do all we can to avoid it.

My interest in Gerontology is based on its honesty and its devotion to a radical idea that people are worth more than their current level of production. I look forward to being involved in this field for many years to come.



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

CALL FOR PAPERS AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



2019 call for papers and sponsors.pdf

For a downloadable pdf file of the Call for Presentations which includes details about the conference content, please click here to access.

[Download](#)
1.7 MB

*Mining the Gems—
Investing in our Future*

*Celebrating
Our 40-year
Ruby Anniversary
1979–2019*

Annual Meeting
April 9–13, 2019
Sheraton Bay Point Resort
Panama City Beach, Florida

**CALL FOR
PRESENTATIONS
AND
SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES**

*Call for Presentations:
August 1, 2018 –
November 2, 2018*

*Deadline for Sponsorships
and Exhibits:
February 4, 2019*

About Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) and the 2019 Ruby Anniversary & Conference

What is the Southern Gerontological Society?

The Southern Gerontological Society (SGS), established in 1979, is a network of the South's most respected gerontology professionals. SGS members are educators, aging network personnel, researchers, health professionals, policy makers, and students. SGS bridges research and practice, translating and applying knowledge in the field of aging.

What is the purpose of the 2019 Annual Conference?

In 2019, SGS will celebrate its 40th conference anniversary by, once again, bringing together academics, practitioners, students, and others engaged in work within the field of aging to attend and/or present their latest research. Join us as we celebrate 40 years of success! In addition to the celebration, SGS will host conference content to include keynote speakers, panel symposia, workshops and both paper and poster sessions.

Who will be participating in this conference?

This annual meeting will focus on advances in gerontological research and applied practice. Throughout the conference, an anticipated 300 meeting attendees will select from numerous continuing education and professional development presentations, networking opportunities, and engaging events that present unique marketing opportunities for supporters to interact with attendees.

The program theme tracks for the 2019 conference will include:

- (1) Partnerships for Care
- (2) Living with Dementia
- (3) Power of Place: Aging in the South & Florida Spotlight
- (4) Advocacy For and By Older Adults
- (5) Wellness, Well-being, and Quality of Life
- (6) Diversity and Aging
- (7) Gerontological Education
- (8) Technology and Aging

Sponsorship at this anniversary conference provides an opportunity to enhance your organization's visibility and promote services, products, or research to gerontologists who represent the Southeastern Region of the United States.

Top Reasons to consider sponsorship of the 2019 SGS Anniversary Conference in Florida:

SGS has an extensive history of joining together professionals from all fields of aging, including researchers, practitioners, students, and older adults.

- This conference makes sponsors a top priority with a highly visible exhibit space within the newly renovated conference center at Sheraton Bay Point Resort in Panama City Beach, Florida.
- Further increasing visibility, this conference schedules breakout snack sessions within the exhibit space.
- Sponsors are able to engage with the dynamic and collegial attendees during exhibit sessions.
- Sponsors are listed in the Conference Program Book and placed on the SGS website.
- There are sponsorship levels and exhibit packages that can be tailored to fit ANY budget.
- Sheraton Bay Point Resort is a beautiful, family-friendly getaway.



Step into the sand at Sheraton Bay Point Resort

**Sheraton Bay Point Resort
Panama City Beach, Florida**

The 40th Ruby Anniversary and Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society will be held at the gorgeous, newly renovated Sheraton Bay Point Resort in Panama City Beach, Florida. The conference room block rate for attendees is **\$149 per night**. Attendees have access to the conference discounted rates from April 8 through Sunday, April 14, 2019. The resort fee for our attendees has been waived and attendees staying on property will enjoy free internet in their guest rooms and conference center. Guests who would like our help in locating a roommate are encouraged to contact us.

In order to secure the room block guarantee rate, reservations must be made by March 9, 2019 by 5pm. Reservations for rooms may be made through the "Lodging & Transportation" link on either the SGS website at www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org



Sheraton Bay Point has scenic boardwalks, dockside dining, fishing and bay access with pontoon, jet skis and paddle boards rentals. The resort also has on-site boat pick up for fishing and scuba excursions. A lovely boardwalk leads to a private beach – this resort has everything.

Enjoy not one but two championship golf courses and yes, they have **golfboard rentals**! Guests have access to the full service **Serenity Spa**. If that's not enough – it is just a quick trip to **St. Andrews State Park**, one of Florida's most visited state parks, or go swim with the dolphins at **Gulf World**.

Come and celebrate 40 years with us and treat yourself and your family to some much needed relaxation and fun!



**40th Anniversary Annual Conference Theme:
Mining the Gems, Investing in Our Future**

CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING TRACKS

The 2019 Program Committee welcomes a diverse compilation of presentations from academic and applied professionals, students and older adults. Program tracks are written with the intention of being highly inclusive, not exclusive – we will help presenters find their best fit. 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.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR CARE

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 live well into older ages.

LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

As the numbers of people experiencing dementia increases, 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.

POWER OF PLACE: AGING IN THE SOUTH & FLORIDA SPOTLIGHT

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 welcomed.

ADVOCACY FOR AND BY OLDER ADULTS

Organizations play an important role in uncovering 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 welcomed.

WELLNESS, WELL-BEING, AND QUALITY OF LIFE

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 welcomed.

DIVERSITY AND AGING

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 welcomed.

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION

As the population ages globally, there is a pressing need to educate undergraduate and graduate students in preparation for a multiplicity of careers that would either benefit from gerontological expertise or directly address the needs and preferences of older adults. Sessions in this track will offer insight into pedagogical strategies that bring gerontology to the classroom and/or serve bridge gerontology students from education to practice. Sessions that actively demonstrate teaching and learning strategies are encouraged.

TECHNOLOGY AND AGING

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.

**40th Anniversary Annual Conference Theme:
Mining the Gems, Investing in Our Future**

PRESENTATION FORMATS

The Annual Meeting of SGS promotes innovation and interaction in sessions that engage participants. While traditional papers may be submitted, we enthusiastically encourage presentations in poster, symposium, and workshop formats to foster active interaction between practitioners, academics, and students.

POSTER PRESENTATION

Posters are the visual display and summary of research, interventions, or programs. Authors are present during designated sessions to discuss their work. Project activities and/or results are displayed in graphs, tables, pictures, and text. Poster boards are approximately 4' high by 8' wide. Push pins to mount pictures and graphs will be provided. Authors have an opportunity for in-depth discussion of their work with conference attendees. Abstracts for posters should include: (1) a short statement of the specific problem or topic, (2) a description of methods or approaches used, (3) a summary of results or findings, and (4) a statement of conclusions and implications. The SGS conference conducts multiple poster sessions throughout the conference including student-only poster sessions. Electronic posters, displayed on a laptop device or tablet, cannot be accommodated at this conference.

PAPER PRESENTATION

Scientific or professional papers may be submitted. Where possible, topics should relate to the conference theme or session tracks. Paper presentations are normally 15 minutes in length, with those on similar subject matter grouped together in paper sessions. All presenters must allot time for discussion. Abstracts for papers, as for posters, should include: (1) a short statement of the specific problem or topic, (2) a description of methods or approaches used, (3) a summary of results or findings, and (4) a statement of conclusions and implications. Paper sessions are designed to include time for response to audience questions. Paper sessions are permitted 90 minutes of session time and typically include 3-4 paper presentations per session.

PANEL SYMPOSIUM

Symposia sessions include three or four coordinated topical presentations. Symposia organizers introduce sessions, moderate discussion, encourage audience participation, and integrate the presentations. Symposium submissions must include a summary abstract as well as brief abstracts describing each presentation. Symposia sessions are given 90 minutes of session time. Panel presentations submitted must clearly define panelists and discussion topics. These sessions are best organized directly through the SGS Program Committee. Please connect with the SGS Executive Director for further instructions at admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org

WORKSHOP

In a workshop, one or two leaders organize the exchange of ideas or conduct a demonstration or application of techniques and/or skills. Workshops provide an opportunity to involve participants in demonstrations, lectures, case studies, and role plays. Abstracts for workshops must include the topic, its significance, and the workshop goals. Workshops may vary in time allotments but typically run in 90 minute increments. Workshop sessions may include more than one presentation should the program committee feel that presenters and content will complement each other in a single workshop session.

Submit Abstracts through the SGS website starting August 1, 2018 and through November 2, 2018.
SGS membership is not required to present or attend this conference.
Members DO receive significant discounts and year-round benefits.

We invite you to become part of the Southern Gerontological Society membership network.

TO SUBMIT A PRESENTATION PROPOSAL

A wide variety of topics will be considered, including presentations reporting innovative research, research/practice collaborations, model programs for the future, and public policy discussions. Students are highly encouraged to submit abstracts for consideration.

SIMPLE ON-LINE SUBMISSION:

Submission on-line is quick and easy. Those wishing to submit their work for consideration will need to create a user account through the MIRA Software portal. This process starts from the Southern Gerontological Society's website. A link to our abstract portal will be posted on August 1, 2018.

SGS suggests that the first author (or lead presenter) prepare and submit the abstract information. Prior to beginning the on-line submission process, please have all of the **contact information for all authors** available. For the **first author**, provide the full name, degree, institution/organization, mailing address, e-mail, and phone number. If there are co-authors, information for each author may be added as "additional authors". For each **additional author/presenter**, provide the full name, degree, institution/organization, and email.

To help us with the formatting of all the abstracts, we require the abstracts to be submitted in plain text. If you would like to cut-and-paste from a word processing application such as Microsoft Word or Apple Pages, the unwanted formatting added by these applications must be removed. To do so, please follow the instructions below.

- From Microsoft Word (or any other Windows application,) first copy-and-paste from Word into Notepad, then copy-and-paste from notepad into the text box provided in the abstract window.
(To open Notepad, press and hold the windows key, then press the 'r' key. Type Notepad, then press Enter.)
- From Pages (or any other Mac application,) first copy-and-paste from Pages into TextEdit. Then copy-and-paste from TextEdit into the text box provided in the abstract window.
(To open TextEdit, it can be found in the Applications folder.)

The submission will be considered complete when all of the following information is provided and saved: **Title of Abstract, Abstract text, Conference Track Preference, Session Type** (e.g. Poster), **Learning outcomes, Lead Presenter's brief biography and credentials, Author/Co-Author information.**

The body of the presentation proposal should not exceed 250 words. Write the proposal to appeal to a very diverse audience. If you experience technical difficulties submitting your application on-line, or have questions about the abstract submission process, please contact Lee Ann Ferguson in the SGS office at (866) 920-4660 or admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org

ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION

Registration is required of all who intend to attend and participate in the conference. When a participant submits a proposal and it is accepted, he or she makes a commitment to be available in Panama City Beach, Florida from April 9-13, 2019 and to present at the time designated.

SGS is not responsible for transportation, lodging, or any other associated expenses for program participants.

Registration fees and event registration will open online by October 1, 2018. The registration fee includes the cost of all events, meals, and refreshments listed in the final program. Significant discounts for conference registration fees are available to active Southern Gerontological Society Members. Conference fees are also discounted for students, with verified current academic enrollment, and for retired gerontologists. Single daily conference rates are also available. Organizational and corporate members may register up to three persons at member rates.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

LEVEL	AMOUNT	EXHIBIT BOOTH	CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS	RECOGNITION/ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	SPECIAL MARKETING
PREMIER RUBY Hall of Fame Sponsor	\$6,000	✓ (premium location)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Featured on conference signage & during ALL major events Full page/inside cover in program Marketing materials in attendee bags 	"Special Thanks" ad in 3 issues of IAG & one year of Southern Gerontologist newsletters Conference app banner ad
DIAMOND Student Support Sponsor	\$5,000	✓ (premium location)	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Featured on conference signage & at all student events Full page ad in program Marketing materials in attendee bags 	Conference app banner ad
PLATINUM Awards Luncheon Sponsor	\$4,000	✓ (premium location)	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition at Awards Luncheon Conference signage & award-related events Full page ad in program Marketing materials in attendee bags 	
GOLD PLUS Diversity Breakfast Sponsor	\$3,000	✓	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage in breakfast area One-half page ad in program Marketing info at breakfast tables 	
GOLD Documentary Sponsor	\$2,000	✓	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage specific to the documentary, reception & Q/A with the Director/Producer One-half page ad in program 	
SILVER PLUS Wellness Events Sponsor	\$1,500	✓	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage at/for Wellness Event room Listed as Sponsor in program One-quarter page ad in program 	
SILVER "Living with Dementia" Speaker Sponsor	\$1,000	✓	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Acknowledgment Signage on "Living with Dementia" sessions Listed as Sponsor in program One-quarter page ad in program 	
BRONZE PLUS Networking Lounge Sponsor	\$750	✓	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage at/for Lounge Listed as Sponsor in program Business card size ad in program 	
BRONZE Exhibit + Conference Registration	\$500	✓	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage at Registration Listed in program 	
Exhibit Booth Only	\$300	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in program as exhibitor 	

***All exhibit booths will be photographed and featured on
The SGS websites and social media pages!***

ADDITIONAL ADVERTISING AVAILABLE

Would you like to increase your visibility?

Consider purchasing additional ad space:

- DEADLINE to submit artwork and secure space in the program is **February 4, 2019**.

Sponsorships, Exhibit Booths, and Advertisements can be secured either through the SGS website or by contacting us directly at admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org or by calling (866) 920-4660.

Full Page Ad	\$400	Live area: 6.375" x 9.625"
Half Page Ad	\$250	Live area: 6.625" x 4.25"
1/4 Page Ad	\$150	Live area: 3.125" x 4.25"
1/8 Page Ad	\$75	Live area: 3.125" x 2"

The Best Time to Join SGS is NOW!

With 40 years of success as a regional organization, SGS membership is the right investment for all who work in the field of aging. SGS members make a difference by providing professionals in the aging network with access to the latest research and a forum to discuss practical issues related to older adults.

SGS committees are member-friendly and provide an excellent opportunity to enhance professional development. For those wanting to develop leadership skills, SGS has numerous opportunities to help members gain experience through committee engagement. It is through our members, we not only grow but we also gain momentum. Become a part of our exciting and invigorated network of members.

As part of your membership benefits, you will receive two excellent publications: the *Journal of Applied Gerontology* and the *Southern Gerontologist*. Reflecting the Society's commitment to practitioner/academician dialogue, these publications provide articles of interest to a wide variety of professionals. The *Journal of Applied Gerontology* (JAG) is the official journal of SGS. It is devoted to the monthly publication of manuscripts that focus on the application of knowledge and insights from research and practice to improve the quality of life of older persons. Particular emphasis is placed on manuscripts and editorials that enhance dialogue among researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners. The *Southern Gerontologist* is a newsletter that complements JAG by providing updates on applied projects, current activities and emerging issues, and informing members of new books and videos about aging. There are more advantages to membership! Information about additional advantages of membership is available at <http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Lee Ann Ferguson, Executive Director
Southern Gerontological Society
PO Box 160
Taylorsville, North Carolina 28681
Phone: 866-920-4660 • Fax: 866-920-4649
admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org
<http://www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org>



Fellow Students 2019 flyer.docx

To access our 2019 "Welcome Students" flyer, please click here. This is a great flyer to post in departments and give to classes.

[Download](#)
62.3 KB

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, please contact the SGS State Ambassador Coordinator at lindsr@MiamiOH.edu. For those interested, the Ambassador application form is attached below and, once completed, can be returned via email to Sherry Lind at the above email address.



SGS Ambassador Application Form fillable 4.11.18.pdf



Download
112.4 KB

WELCOME NEW SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS!

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

Meredith Breen, Charleston SC, Breen Consulting

Jennifer Hughley Williams, Atlanta GA, Georgia State University

Dhruvangi Sharma, Cumming GA, Georgia State University

Arlene Fitts Winfrey, Stone Mountain GA, Independent

Ginger Heidbreder, Dunwoody GA, Georgia State University

M. Queen Bailey-Brooks, , LCSW Austell GA, A Wholistic Approach, LLC

Laurel Holland, Lawrenceville GA, Georgia Gwinnett College

Asmita Karanjit, Lilburn GA, Georgia State University

Pam Cushenan, Marietta GA, SOFT Smiles, LLC
Patrick A. Dillon, Flemingsburg KY, University of Kentucky Graduate Center for Gerontology
Teresa Wallace, Atlanta GA, Student
TimMarie Williams, Savannah GA, Georgia Southern University-Armstrong Campus
Laura Baillie Jones, Atlanta GA, Georgia State University Dept of Communication
Sierra Colleene Nicely, Avondale Estates GA, Georgia State University
James "Jay" Bulot, Suwanee GA, Navigant Consulting
Lee Higgins, Atlanta GA, Dementia Spotlight Foundation
Linda DeMarlo, Atlanta GA, Dementia Spotlight Foundation
Peggy Kavelage, Atlanta GA, Dementia Spotlight Foundation
Emmy Katherine Ballard, Huntersville NC, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Corrie Phillip, Decatur GA, Teepa Snow's Positive Approach to Care
Cheryl Conley, Toledo OH, MemoryLane Care Services
Martha H. Bramlett, PhD, RN, Davidson NC, Pfeiffer University
Julie Hicks Patrick, Morgantown WV, West Virginia University
Judith Crocker Corbin, Thomasville GA, GGS

We look forward to seeing them at our 2019 Annual Meeting and their continued involvement in SGS.



UPDATE FROM THE JOURNAL OF APPLIED GERONTOLOGY

This year, *Journal of Applied Gerontology* is publishing several Special Issues as well as Focused Topics within most regular issues:

Mar: Focused Topic: Options for Community Living

April: Special Issue: The Long Term Services and Supports Workforce

May: Special Issue: Innovations in Care for People Living with Dementia

June: Focused Topic: Get Moving!

July: Special Issue: Health Care Services and Well-Being

August: Focused Topic: Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation

Sept: Focused Topic: Falls: Risks and Reactions

Oct: Focused Topic: Cognitive Training

The SGS/GGS Annual Conference featured a lively “Meet the Editor” session with Dr. Julie Robison and Kaleigh Ligus from the UConn Center on Aging and Jessica Lipowski from SAGE publishers, sharing guidelines and pointers and fielding questions about submitting articles to *Journal of Applied Gerontology*.

UPCOMING IN JAG – VOLUME 37, ISSUES 8, 9, 10:

Table of Contents for Volume 37, Issue 8 (August)

FOCUSED TOPIC: ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION

Resident Aggression and Abuse in Assisted Living

Gilbert Gimm, Syeda Chowdhury, Nicholas Castle

Nurses’ Encounters With Older Adults Engaged in Self-Neglectful Behaviors in the Community: A Qualitative Study

Tova Band-Winterstein

Associations Between Social Support, Social Networks, and Financial Exploitation in Older Adults

Scott R. Beach, Richard Schulz, Rodlescia Sneed

- **ARTICLE**

Smoking Cessation and Changes in Body Mass Index among Middle Aged and Older Adults

Andy Sharma

- **BRIEF REPORT**

Me & My Wishes: Lessons Learned From Prototyping Resident Centered Videos About Care Preferences

Gail L Towsley, Susan L Beck, Lee Ellington, Bob Wong

- **BOOK REVIEW**

The Gerontological Imagination: An Integrative Paradigm of Aging

Kenneth F. Ferraro

Review by: Carrie Henning-Smith

Table of Contents for Volume 37, Issue 9 (September)

FOCUSED TOPIC: FALLS; RISKS AND REACTIONS

- **SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

Poor Sleep and Risk of Falls in Community-Dwelling Older Adults: A Systematic Review

- **ARTICLES**

Falls Risks and Prevention Behaviors Among Community-Dwelling Homebound and Non-Homebound Older Adults

Carri Casteel, Jennifer Jones, Paula Gildner, James M. Bowling, Susan J. Blalock

An Exploratory Survey of Older Women's Post-Fall Decisions

Caroline D. Bergeron, Daniela B. Friedman, S. Melinda Spencer, Susan C. Miller, DeAnne K. Hilfinger Messias, Robert McKeever

Arthritis, Depression, and Falls Among Community-Dwelling Older Adults: Evidence From the Health and Retirement Study

Lien T. Quach, Jeffrey A. Burr

- **SYSTEMATIC REVIEW; FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION MEASURES**

A Systematic Review of Financial Exploitation Measures in Prevalence Studies

Shelly L. Jackson

Table of Contents for Volume 37, Issue 10 (October)

FOCUSED TOPIC: COGNITIVE TRAINING

The Effects of Integrated Attention Training for Older Chinese Adults With Subjective Cognitive Complaints: A Randomized Controlled Study

Cheng Pak Wing, Linda Lam Chiu Wa, Sheung-Tak Cheng

- **BRIEF REPORT**

A Case Study of the Long-Lasting Effects of Cognitive Training on Similar Tasks in Alzheimer's Disease

Marco Cavallo, Chiara Angilletta

- **ARTICLES**

Satisfaction of Discharged Nursing Home Residents

Nicholas Castle, John Engberg, Aiju Men, Judith A Sangl

The Impact of Community Support and Services on Quality of Life Among the Elderly in China: A Longitudinal Study

Yongkang Zhang, Valerie A. Yeager, Shengtian Hou

Meaning in Life in Earlier and Later Older-Adulthood: Confirmatory Factor Analysis and Correlates of the Meaning in Life Questionnaire

D. J. Hallford, D. Mellor, R. A. Cummins, M. P. McCabe

- **TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE**

Baby Boomers and the Long-Term Transformation of Retirement and Volunteering: Evidence for a Policy Paradigm Shift

Susan M. Chambré, Ellen Netting

Helpful hint: If you want to share a JAG article with colleagues, please send the link to the article rather than attaching a pdf. Clicking the link will bring them to the website where they may find other relevant articles and it also helps the Journal's metrics!

http://info.sagepub.co.uk/q/15Y19rt65j5YR4bY4D/wv?variant_id=1926

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:

Post Conference (Spring) Edition:

Deadline for news: May 10, 2018

Distribution by June 1, 2018

******Newsflash******

SGS is adding an additional edition of SOGE. We will, as of 2018, also publish a Summer edition.

The deadlines for that edition are:

Deadline for news: July 10, 2018

Distribution by August 1, 2018

Look for it in your mailboxes!

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

June

International Dementia Conference

June 7-8, 2018

Mission Impossible? Truth & Lies in the Age of Choice

Hilton Sydney, Australia

<https://www.dementiaconference.com/>

July

Healthy Aging Summit

July 16-17, 2018

Washington, DC, USA

<https://www.eventscribe.com/2018/ACPM-HAC/>

3rd International Conference on Aging & Gerontology

July 18-19, 2018

Interventional Innovations for a better Aging Care Management

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

August

International Federation on Aging: 14th Global Conference on Ageing

August 8-10, 2018

Towards a Decade of Healthy Aging: From Evidence to Action

Toronto, Canada

<https://www.ifa2018.com/>

Florida Council on Aging 2018 Conference

August 13-15, 2018

Tampa, Florida

<http://fcoa.org/Conference>

Please be sure to send your calendar's events to us to include and be sure to post them on our membership forum as well!

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

Proposals/resumes may be sent to us via email at: admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org



SGS Anniversary logo_v2.pdf

Please feel welcome to include our 40th anniversary logo on your own personal stationary or signature lines.

 [Download](#)
416.4 KB

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.

 PO Box 160, Taylorsville, NC 28...

 admin@southerngerontologica...

 (866) 920-4660

 southerngerontologicalsociety...