ABSTRACT SUBMISSION PLANNING GUIDE

Authors must submit abstracts for The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting via www.geron.org/login. There is no limit to the number of abstracts you may submit. The abstract submission site opens on January 31, 2020, and you will be able to edit and resubmit your abstract as many times as necessary before the March 12, 2020 deadline.

GSA recommends that you use the worksheet (Appendix A) in this planning guide to collect materials for your abstract before entering them into the submission site. You can ease your abstract submission experience—and avoid disqualifying errors and rushing at the last minute—by becoming familiar with the abstract submission site now.

How to Log In to Submit:

- Go to www.geron.org
- Click the white “LOGIN” button on the top right corner of the home page
- Enter your GSA username and password*
  - If you have forgotten your password, select Forgot Password. You can also click the “Forgot Password” option below the login fields.
  - If you do not have an account with GSA, you will need to create one here.
  - If you still need assistance with logging in, email membership@geron.org.
- Once logged in, click the white “MY ACCOUNT” button on the top right corner of the home page
- Click “Abstract Central” to begin the submission process; (the abstract submission period begins January 31, 2020, and ends March 12, 2020)

*If you have previously been active with GSA, you should have an existing account. If unsure, click “Forgot Password” to see whether your email address is in the system.

SUBMISSION FEE

The submission fee is required for processing the abstract submission and is nonrefundable (regardless of acceptance). Once the abstract has been submitted, it is considered processed.

- **Professional Paper or Poster:** $35
- **Student Paper or Poster:** $20
- **Symposium:** $45

SUBMISSION CRITERIA

Abstracts must be based on original scholarship. Both empirical and theoretical/conceptual contributions are welcome. Abstracts must report realized results (not anticipated results) or educational activities and/or summarize major conclusions. The following items will be considered during the review process:
• Clear statement of research aims, scholarship, or educational objectives and the significance of this work
• Specificity and appropriateness of methods
• Specificity of key findings (results and/or major conclusions)
• Clarity of implications for theory, further research, education, or practice

GSA is committed to the Reframing Aging project. Within your submission, avoid categorical terms for older adults such as “seniors,” “the aged,” or “the elderly.” Review and respect the guidelines in Appendix B.

• Please Note: Late Breaker Poster Abstract submissions will open in mid-July. Late Breaker Poster Abstract submissions are reserved for submissions of compelling research results that were previously not available at the time of the general abstract submission deadline (March 12). Submitters will be required to include a statement of timeliness about why the poster abstract is late breaking.

Program Areas open for Late Breaker Poster Abstract submissions are: Behavioral and Social Sciences (GSA student and transitional members and non-member students only); Biological Sciences; Health Sciences; Social Research, Policy, and Practice; Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education

PRESENTATION TYPE

• Paper: 90-minute session composed of four to six individual paper presentations organized by session topic
• Poster: displayed on a board (sized 4 feet high by 8 feet wide) in the Exhibit Hall with 1 hour of dedicated face-to-face time to present to attendees visiting the posters in the session
• Symposium: 90-minute session organized by a chair; includes two to five individual symposium abstracts; individuals must be invited by the chair to be part of the symposium

SESSION TOPIC

Abstracts must be submitted with a session topic (Appendix C), which functions as a key phrase or word that closely aligns with the focus of your abstract.

• Two session topics are required and selecting a third topic is optional
• Abstracts are submitted, reviewed, placed in sessions, and scheduled according to the session topic chosen
• Session topics appear as a search feature in the meeting mobile app for accepted abstracts

PROGRAM AREAS

The program is organized around five sections of GSA—Behavioral and Social Sciences; Biological Sciences; Health Sciences; Social Research, Policy, and Practice; Academy for Gerontology in Higher
Education—as well as an Interdisciplinary category. When you submit an abstract, you are applying to one of these six program areas.

**Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS)**
The BSS Section seeks submissions that address topics related to the full range of behavioral and social science issues in gerontology. Proposed submissions should include multiple perspectives—and should cross disciplinary boundaries—on important scholarly and educational issues in gerontology. Submissions are encouraged from all levels of professionals and early investigators.

**Biological Sciences (BS)**
The BS Section seeks paper and poster submissions that report on mechanistic research relevant to the fundamental biological processes of aging, to lifelong health, and to age-related diseases. Submissions that are aligned with the already established symposia series topics are encouraged from early investigators, postdoctoral fellows, and students. See Appendix C for a list of symposium topics. If interested in submitting a symposium, contact Biological Sciences Section Vice Chair Stephen Helfand at Stephen_helfand@brown.edu.

**Health Sciences (HS)**
The HS Section seeks submissions that reflect a broad range of multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary clinical, health services, epidemiologic, and translational research and scholarship. Physicians, nurses, dentists, nutritionists, therapists, doctoral trainee scientists, and other professionals conducting clinical and population research and scholarship on the health of older individuals will present and discuss their work with a multidisciplinary audience. Submissions that cross disciplinary boundaries and submissions from early investigators are encouraged.

**Social Research, Policy, and Practice (SRPP)**
The SRPP Section seeks submissions that address scholarship on the social, political, environmental, and economic contexts of aging for diverse individuals, groups, organizations, communities, and societies. Symposium submissions that draw upon explicit theoretical perspectives that speak to policy, practice, and advocacy are valued. Abstract submissions that reflect scholarly collaboration among investigators at different stages of their careers and from different disciplinary and practice perspectives are encouraged.

**Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE)**
AGHE seeks submissions that address the promotion of research, curriculum and program development, evaluation of training and education programs, practice innovations, and related topics with educational implications for gerontology and geriatrics. Symposium submissions should contain multiple perspectives on an emerging area of scholarship or practice. Submissions that underscore the role of education and training in the design, implementation, and dissemination of research and those that present collaborative work between emerging and established scholars are particularly encouraged.

**Interdisciplinary (ID)—Symposium Only**
ID symposium submissions are abstracts that bring together perspectives from multiple distinctly
different fields—such as medicine, social science, and the humanities—to address a single overarching question. Authors should note that while many topics in gerontology are interdisciplinary to some degree, most submissions can find a best fit within one of the other existing sections. Therefore, symposium submissions that request consideration in the ID category must aim to address a theme of interest to members of two or more existing sections. Submissions that include early investigators are encouraged.

**INTEREST GROUPS**

**Interest Group Collaborative (IGC)—Symposium Only**

IGC symposium submissions are sought in which two to three GSA Interest Groups collaborate on a symposium topic with intersecting issues across the Interest Groups. Symposia that address the GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting theme, *Turning 75: Why Age Matters*, are strongly encouraged. More information is located [here](#).

**TITLE**

Limited to 100 characters (including spaces) and must be in title case format. Review the APA style guidelines before finalizing your title.

**OBJECTIVES**

Two specific and measurable objectives are required and a third objective is optional (50 words maximum for each objective). For example, “After attending this session, participants will be able to....” Use of active verbs, such as “define,” “summarize,” “demonstrate,” et cetera, constitute meaningful objectives.

**ABSTRACT BODY AND SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

- All abstracts should be in the form of a single paragraph; headings, tables, and figures are not permitted
- Paper and Poster Abstracts: maximum 250 words
- Symposium
  - Overview: maximum 250 words and must include a brief discussion of the individual symposium abstracts
  - Individual symposium abstracts: maximum 150 words

**PARTICIPANTS**

- For accreditation purposes for continuing education, all chairs, co-chairs, discussants (symposia only), and first authors (all submissions) will be required to upload their full CV in a .doc, .docx, or .pdf format
- First authors are required to submit a conflict of interest disclosure
- Symposium—Principal Roles
  - Chair: symposium organizer and main point of contact (required)
Co-Chair: can be attached to the program overview (optional)
Discussant: responsible for facilitating on-site discussion (optional)
Individual Symposium Abstract First Author

Paper or Poster—Roles
First Author: presents the abstract; will receive information and all communications regarding the Presentation Management Website
Co-Authors: up to seven co-authors can be attached to each abstract

PEER REVIEW
Abstracts will be peer reviewed and rated on a scale of 1 to 7, with a score of 1 being poor and 7 being excellent. The scores of reviewers will be averaged, and the average score will be used to determine acceptance status.

Are you a student whose first language is not English—and planning to submit an abstract? Submit your abstract in advance to GSA’s Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization (ESPO) for pre-review by February 13 (see Appendix D for further details).

CONFERENCE POLICIES
- Materials previously published or presented at any professional meeting may not be submitted, except in cases of substantial elaboration (e.g., additional findings) from the initial report.
- Submission of your abstract to GSA will not affect the publication of an article. Manuscripts submitted to peer-reviewed journals that have not yet published would still be eligible for abstract submission.
- Individuals may not invite public officials who are not GSA members or engage in fundraising activities without prior written approval from GSA.
- All individuals attending the meeting—including presenters—are required to register and pay the registration fee.

NOTIFICATION AND PRESENTATION
By mid-July, a notification will be emailed to the submitter. That submitting author is responsible for notifying all co-authors of the abstract decision. If the abstract is accepted, the notification will include the date and time of the presentation along with the final presentation type. GSA cannot guarantee that your abstract will be accepted in the same presentation type that you submitted. We strongly recommend that authors be willing to accept an alternative presentation type. There is no guarantee that authors will be scheduled in nonconflicting time periods. Owing to the volume of submissions, GSA cannot honor requests for scheduling changes. The decision of the Annual Scientific Meeting Workgroup is final and changes to abstracts will not be accepted after the submission deadline: March 12, 2020, at 11:59 PM EDT. All accepted abstracts will be published in a supplement issue of Innovation in Aging.
Abstract withdrawals must be submitted to abstracts@geron.org by July 22, 2020, to be removed from the printed materials.

Communication for uploading presentation materials for paper and symposia to the Presentation Management Website will be sent to chairs, co-chairs, discussants, and first authors in October.

**AWARDS**

GSA offers many travel stipends as well as paper and poster awards for abstracts accepted to the Annual Scientific Meeting. Self-nominations open July 1, 2020, and close July 31, 2020. For more information on eligibility and application requirements, please visit https://www.geron.org/membership/awards.
Appendix A. Abstract Submission Planning Worksheet

Use this worksheet to help prepare your paper, poster, and symposium abstracts for electronic submission.

Paper or Poster

Abstract Title (maximum of 100 characters; must be in title case format)

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Program Area (choose 1)

- Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education
- Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Health Sciences
- Social Research, Policy, and Practice

Session Topic (2 required, a 3rd is optional)

1. _________________________________________________________________________________
2. _________________________________________________________________________________
3. _________________________________________________________________________________

Abstract Body (maximum of 250 words; must be continuous paragraph and cannot contain any headings, tables, or figures)

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Objectives (2 required, a 3rd is optional; 50 word maximum for each)

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2. __________________________________________________________________________
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3. __________________________________________________________________________
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Please confirm you have read and reviewed the Reframing Aging Guidelines (Appendix B): _____

Participants: During the submission process, you may click the “Invite” blue button to trigger an automated email notification for participants (Co-Authors) to complete the information requested.

First Author (required)—a CV is required for upload to the submission site as a PDF

First Name: _____________________ Middle Initial: ________ Last Name: ________________________

Email: __________________________________________ Credentials (e.g., PhD, FGSA): ________________

Affiliation Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________

Affiliation City: _______________________________ Affiliation State: ___________________________

Affiliation Zip: _______________ Affiliation Country: __________________________________________

Primary Affiliation (position title, department, affiliation name):
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Secondary Affiliation, if applicable (position title, department, affiliation name, city, state, country):
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Is the author an early career scholar (in a mentored position AND/OR within 10 years of terminal degree)?

Yes  No

Is the author from an underrepresented population in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, or social sciences as defined by the NIH, Diversity in Extramural Programs?

☐ Yes, and I would like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.
Yes, but I would **not** like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.
- No

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure (required for First Author):**

In the past 12 months, have you (or an immediate family member) had a financial relationship with a commercial organization that produces, markets, re-sells, or distributes health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients? If so, you **must** complete the “Add a financial relationship” section.

- I have no real or apparent conflicts of interest to disclose.
- I (or my spouse/partner) have potential conflicts of interest to disclose.

If you reported relationship(s) above with a commercial organization that produces health care products or services: Does the educational content (over which you have control) involve the products or services of the commercial organization? **Yes** **No** **N/A**

**Add a financial relationship:**

Company Name: ___________________________________________

- Self
- Spouse/Partner
- Both Myself and my Spouse/Partner

**Type of Financial Relationship:**

- Advisory Committee/Board Member
- Consultant
- Educational Grant
- Employment
- Industry Grant Support
- Other: _______________________________________________________________________

**Co-Author (up to 7 optional)—a CV and disclosure are NOT required**

First Name: ________________ Middle Initial: ________ Last Name: ______________________

Email: _______________________________ Credentials (e.g., PhD, FGSA): ________________

Affiliation Mailing Address: _______________________________________________________

Affiliation City: ___________________________ Affiliation State: _______________________

Affiliation Zip: ____________ Affiliation Country: ____________________________________
Primary Affiliation (position title, department, affiliation name):
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Secondary Affiliation, if applicable (position title, department, affiliation name, city, state, country):
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Is the author an early career scholar (in a mentored position AND/OR within 10 years of terminal degree)? Yes No

Is the author from an underrepresented population in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, or social sciences as defined by the NIH, Diversity in Extramural Programs?
- Yes, and I would like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.
- Yes, but I would not like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.
- No

Additional Information
Does your submission relate to another theme? (Select all that apply)
- Abstract submission focuses on education
- Abstract submission contains international-related elements
- Abstract submission relates to minority issues in aging
- Abstract submission has a policy focus
- Abstract submission contains humanities and arts–related elements

Where did you hear about the GSA Call for Abstracts? (Select all that apply)
- Received something in the mail
- At a conference/trade show
- GSA Email
- GSA Journals
- GSA Member
- GSA Social Media
- GSA Website
- GSA Connect
- Colleague
- Other
Publication and Formatting Agreement
I am aware that if my research is accepted for the GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting, I confirm that the following information is correct and understand that it is as it will appear in online and printed meeting materials. GSA will format the provided content according to page layout formats specific to each submission type. I acknowledge:

☐ The spelling and capitalization of the abstract submission is correct
☐ The authors and affiliations listed are correct and are as they will appear in online and printed meeting materials
☐ My abstract submission follows APA title case guidelines
☐ I can edit submission details until the submission closing date (March 12, 2020—11:59 PM EDT)
☐ No additional edits can be made after the submission closing date (March 12, 2020—11:59 PM EDT)

Payment
Payment by credit card will be collected upon submission.
Symposium

Symposium Title (maximum of 100 characters; must be in title case format)

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Program Area (choose 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education</th>
<th>Behavioral and Social Sciences</th>
<th>Biological Sciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary</td>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>Social Research, Policy, and Practice</td>
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Session Topic (2 required, a 3rd is optional)

1. ________________________________________________________________________________
2. ________________________________________________________________________________
3. ________________________________________________________________________________

Symposium Overview (maximum of 250 words)

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Objectives (2 required, a 3rd is optional; 50 word maximum for each)

1. ____________________________________________________________________________
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2. ____________________________________________________________________________
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3. ____________________________________________________________________________
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Please confirm you have read and reviewed the Reframing Aging Guidelines (Appendix B): _____

Participants: During the submission process, the Chair/Symposium Organizer may click the “Invite” blue button to trigger an automated email notification for participants (e.g., Co-Chair, Discussants) to complete the information requested.

- Chair (required) – a CV in PDF format is required for upload to the submission site
- Co-Chair (optional) – a CV in PDF format is required for upload to the submission site
- Discussant (optional) – a CV in PDF format is required for upload to the submission site

First Name: _____________________ Middle Initial: ________ Last Name: _____________________

Email: ___________________________________________ Credentials (e.g., PhD, FGSA): ___________

Affiliation Mailing Address: _____________________________________________________________

Affiliation City: ____________________________ Affiliation State: ____________________________

Affiliation Zip: ________________ Affiliation Country: _______________________________________

Primary Affiliation (position title, department, affiliation name):

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Secondary Affiliation, if applicable (position title, department, affiliation name, city, state, country):

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Is the author an early career scholar (in a mentored position AND/OR within 10 years of terminal degree)?       Yes       No
Is the author from an underrepresented population in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, or social sciences as defined by the NIH, Diversity in Extramural Programs?

- Yes, and I would like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.
- Yes, but I would not like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.
- No

Conflict of Interest Disclosure (required for Chair, Co-Chair, Discussant):

In the past 12 months, have you (or an immediate family member) had a financial relationship with a commercial organization that produces, markets, re-sells, or distributes health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients? If so, you must complete the “Add a financial relationship” section.

- I have no real or apparent conflicts of interest to disclose.
- I (or my spouse/partner) have potential conflicts of interest to disclose.

If you reported relationship(s) above with a commercial organization that produces health care products or services: Does the educational content (over which you have control) involve the products or services of the commercial organization? Yes No

Add a financial relationship: Company Name: _____________________________________________

Self Spouse/Partner Both Myself and my Spouse/Partner

Type of Financial Relationship:

- Advisory Committee/Board Member
- Consultant
- Educational Grant
- Employment
- Industry Grant Support
- Other: ________________________________________________________________________

Additional Information

Does your submission relate to another theme? (Select all that apply)

- Abstract submission focuses on education
- Abstract submission contains international-related elements
Abstract submission relates to minority issues in aging
□ Abstract submission has a policy focus
□ Abstract submission contains humanities and arts–related elements

**Interest Group Sponsored Symposia:** If you would like your symposium considered for sponsorship by a GSA Interest Group, indicate the Interest Group below: <INSERT LINK TO LIST OF INTEREST GROUPS/DROP DOWN MENU in submission site>:

GSA Interest Groups have the option to select one symposium to highlight during the meeting. The highlighted symposium is noted in the Annual Meeting Program Book and Mobile App, bringing visibility to the symposium and to the interest group. Interest Group Collaborative submissions do not have to complete this step.

Is this symposium an Interest Group Collaborative submission?  Yes  No

**Where did you hear about the GSA Call for Abstracts?** (Select all that apply)

- □ Received something in the mail
- □ At a conference/trade show
- □ GSA Email
- □ GSA Journals
- □ GSA Member
- □ GSA Social Media
- □ GSA Website
- □ GSA Connect
- □ Colleague
- □ Other

**Publication and Formatting Agreement**
I am aware that if my research is accepted for the GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting, I confirm that the following information is correct and understand that it is as it will appear in online and printed meeting materials. GSA will format the provided content according to page layout formats specific to each submission type. I acknowledge:

- □ The spelling and capitalization of the abstract submission is correct
- □ The authors and affiliations listed are correct and are as they will appear in online and printed meeting materials
- □ My abstract submission follows APA title case guidelines
- □ I can edit submission details until the submission closing date (March 12, 2020—11:59 PM EDT)
No additional edits can be made after the submission closing date (March 12, 2020—11:59 PM EDT)

Payment
Payment by credit card will be collected upon submission.

Individual Symposium Abstracts (2 minimum, 5 maximum)

The symposium organizer must add the individual symposium abstract organizer to the participant list on the symposium. Once added, the symposium organizer may input the individual abstract information or send an automated email through the system for the individual abstract presenter to upload the details.

Abstract Title (maximum of 100 characters; must be in title case format)

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Abstract Body (maximum of 150 words; must be a continuous paragraph and cannot contain any headings, tables, or figures)

_____________________________________________________________________________________

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Participants

First Author (required)—a CV is required for upload to the submission site as a PDF

First Name: _____________________ Middle Initial: ________ Last Name: ________________________

Email: ____________________________ Credentials (e.g., PhD, FGSA): ________________
Affiliation Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________

Affiliation City: _______________________________ Affiliation State: ___________________________

Affiliation Zip: ______________ Affiliation Country: __________________________________________

Primary Affiliation (position title, department, affiliation name):
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Secondary Affiliation, if applicable (position title, department, affiliation name, city, state, country):
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Is the author an early career scholar (in a mentored position AND/OR within 10 years of terminal degree)?

Yes No

Is the author from an underrepresented population in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences as defined by the NIH, Diversity in Extramural Programs?

☐ Yes, and I would like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.

☐ Yes, but I would not like to be considered for a Biological Sciences Minority Scholar Travel Award.

☐ No

Conflict of Interest Disclosure (required for Individual Symposium First Authors):

In the past 12 months, have you (or an immediate family member) had a financial relationship with a commercial organization that produces, markets, re-sells, or distributes health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients? If so, you must complete the “Add a financial relationship” section.

☐ I have no real or apparent conflicts of interest to disclose.

☐ I (or my spouse/partner) have potential conflicts of interest to disclose.

If you reported relationship(s) above with a commercial organization that produces health care products or services: Does the educational content (over which you have control) involve the products or services of the commercial organization?

Yes No N/A

Add a financial relationship: Company Name: ________________________________

Self Spouse/Partner Both Myself and my Spouse/Partner
Type of Financial Relationship:

- Advisory Committee/Board Member
- Consultant
- Educational Grant
- Employment
- Industry Grant Support
- Other: ______________________________________________________________________

Co-Author (up to 7 optional)—a CV and disclosure are NOT required

First Name: _____________________ Middle Initial: ________ Last Name: ________________________

Email: __________________________________________ Credentials (e.g., PhD, FGSA): ____________

Affiliation Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Affiliation City: _______________________________ Affiliation State: ___________________________

Affiliation Zip: _______________ Affiliation Country: __________________________________________

Primary Affiliation (position title, department, affiliation name):
____________________________________________________________________________________
Appendix B. Reframing Aging Guidelines

In keeping with GSA’s commitment to the Reframing Aging initiative, the GSA Program Committee provides the following guidelines for individuals submitting abstracts for presentations at the Annual Scientific Meeting. These guidelines reflect expert recommendations on how to change the public’s misperceptions of the aging population. They also incorporate proposed changes to the APA style guide (already accepted by the AMA style guide) and NIH policy guidelines formulated by the Inclusion Across the Lifespan working group. Other members of the Leaders of Aging Organizations have also taken steps to implement changes (e.g., the American Geriatrics Society has modified its journal submission and call for abstracts policies with similar changes).

- To support a more inclusive image of aging, we ask that our meeting presenters adopt “older adult” or “older people” as the preferred terms for describing individuals aged 65 years and older as opposed to “seniors,” “the elderly,” and “the aged.”
- Presenters are encouraged to provide a specific age range (e.g., “older adults aged 75 to 84 years”) or to use specific qualifiers (e.g., “older Canadians,” “older American women 75 to 84 years of age”) when describing research or making recommendations about patient care or the health of the population.
- Given that much of gerontological and geriatrics research references disorders, diseases, or functional limitations that affect some older adults, this guidance highlights how not to talk about disabilities or disease. Authors should put the person first by avoiding descriptions of people as victims or using emotional terms that suggest helplessness (e.g., “afflicted with,” “suffering from,” “stricken with,” “maimed”).
- Avoid euphemistic descriptions such as “physically challenged” or “special.” This supports a person- and family-centered focus on the whole person and prevents defining an individual based on a disease or disability.

For information on the research underpinning the Reframing Aging initiative, please read Gauging Aging on the FrameWorks Institute website. For information on communication approaches, access the Gaining Momentum toolkit.
REFRAMING AGING GUIDELINES—EXAMPLE ABSTRACT
(Revisions to reframe communicating about aspects of aging are identified in bold underlined font.)

Unmodified version:
Depression, locus of control, and physical health: Examining arthritis-related pain in elderly women

Today’s society is experiencing a “silver tsunami,” which suggests an increase in the number of aged adults in general, and the number of seniors diagnosed with a chronic painful arthritic condition, in particular. Data show disparate rates of chronic pain reported between men and women. This is particularly relevant among women suffering from arthritis. The aim of this study was to determine the relationship between pain intensity, depressive symptoms, health locus of control, and various health and demographic characteristics in a sample of arthritic elderly Black women 50+ years of age (N = 181). Results from the statistical model showed that age, depression, and physical functioning explained unique variance in pain intensity (44%), suggesting that younger age and reporting more depressive symptoms were significant predictors of greater pain intensity among this sample of elderly women suffering from pain. These important findings demonstrate the need for more research documenting the underlying processes and risk factors for increased pain intensity. The potential benefits of this approach provide a basis for developing preventive models and pain management strategies for seniors who are physically challenged with a debilitating medical condition.

Modified version (reframed version):
Depression, locus of control, and physical health: Examining arthritis-related pain in older women

Data show a substantial increase in the number of older adults nationally and globally. While assessing the positive contributions of the older adult population, we find significant differences between men and women in the experience of painful chronic medical conditions. This is particularly relevant among women diagnosed with arthritis. The aim of this study was to determine the relationship between pain intensity, depressive symptoms, health locus of control, and various health and demographic characteristics in a sample of older Black women 75 to 95 years of age, diagnosed with arthritis (N = 181). Results from the statistical model showed that age, depression, and physical functioning explained unique variance in pain intensity (44%), suggesting that younger age and reporting more depressive symptoms were significant predictors of greater pain intensity among this sample of older Black women. These important findings demonstrate the need for more research documenting the underlying processes and risk factors for increased pain intensity. The potential benefits of this approach provide a basis for developing preventive models and pain management strategies for this population of older women.
### Appendix C. Session Topics

*Bold* indicates Interest Group (IG) Uses Code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acute Care</th>
<th>Bone (Arthritis, Osteoporosis)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Protection and Elder Abuse</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ageism</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aging in Place</td>
<td>Care Values and Preferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol and Addictions</td>
<td>Chronic Disease Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias</td>
<td>Civic Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment (including Geriatric Assessment,</td>
<td>Cognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functional Assessment, Functional Status</td>
<td>Cognitive Impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruments)</td>
<td>Communication and Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted Living</td>
<td>Critical Gerontology/Cultural Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitudes About Aging</td>
<td>Cross-Cultural/Cross-National Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biobehavioral Health</td>
<td>Death, Dying, and Bereavement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging</td>
<td>Delirium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Cell Non-Autonomous</td>
<td>Demography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanisms of Aging</td>
<td>Depression and Anxiety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Clinical Trials in</td>
<td>Disasters and Emergencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geroscience</td>
<td>Economics of Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Comparative Biology</td>
<td>Education and Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Non-Traditional Models of Aging</td>
<td>Education and Training: Program Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Complex Interactions</td>
<td>Education and Training: Workforce Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between Diet, Disease, and Aging</td>
<td>Emotions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Computational and</td>
<td>Employment and Older Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems Approaches to Geroscience</td>
<td>End-of-Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Genetic Variation in</td>
<td>Environment and Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aging</td>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Immunity and Aging</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Interventions</td>
<td>Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Mechanisms of</td>
<td>Family and Intergenerational Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive and Neurological Aging, Neurodegeneration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology of Aging: Targeting the mTOR Network</td>
<td>Frailty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friendship, Social Networks, Social Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Issues</td>
<td>Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geroscience</td>
<td>Primary Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Social Services Interventions</td>
<td>Rehabilitative Care/Physical and Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>Reminiscence/Life Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Promotion</td>
<td>Research Methods and Issues: Qualitative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Risk Behaviors</td>
<td>Research Methods and Issues: Quantitative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Respiratory Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Care Medicine</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Retirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human–Animal Interaction</td>
<td>Services and Interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities and Arts</td>
<td>Sexuality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunology and Vaccines</td>
<td>Sleep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer</td>
<td>Social Determinants of Health and Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Course and Developmental Change</td>
<td>Social Isolation and Loneliness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Care</td>
<td>Social Services: Policy, Financing, and Delivery Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Spirituality and Religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority and Diverse Populations</td>
<td>Successful Aging: Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility/Disability</td>
<td>Successful Aging: Theories and Concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Science</td>
<td>Technology: Research Application/Measurement/Devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition, Obesity, and Eating Disorders</td>
<td>Technology: Older Adult Interface and Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain Management and Palliative Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Activity and Exercise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D. ESPO’s Peer-to-Peer Abstract Review Program

GSA’s Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization (ESPO) is offering no-cost abstract reviews for GSA student and transitional members whose first language is not English and who plan to submit an abstract for the GSA Annual Scientific Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 4–8, 2020.

The abstract submission deadline for the conference is **March 12, 2020**. To be eligible for ESPO’s Peer-to-Peer Abstract Review Program, students or emerging professionals should send their abstracts to **espo@geron.org** by **February 13, 2020**; the abstracts will be returned by March 1 to allow time to incorporate any suggested edits before the **March 12** deadline. Please note that this program does not guarantee ultimate acceptance of the abstract by GSA. If you have any questions, please contact **espo@geron.org**.

**Process:**

This pre-review is limited to identifying grammatical errors, inappropriate word choices, and ensuring that the language tone is appropriate for an academic abstract submission. This program will not involve a critique of the scientific content or research methods, as this content will be reviewed during the main GSA abstract review process.

**Timeline:**

**February 13**—date by which ESPO members are asked to submit their abstracts for pre-review to **espo@geron.org**

**February 16**—ESPO volunteers receive their assigned abstracts by email

**February 23**—ESPO volunteers are asked to submit their edited abstracts (using Track Change option in Word) to **espo@geron.org**

**February 28**—date by which all reviewed abstracts will be returned to ESPO members

**March 12**—deadline for submitting abstracts to GSA for Annual Scientific Meeting