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Welcome from the *AGHExchange* Editor



It's hard to believe that it's been about a month since the GSA Annual Scientific Meeting. I hope you were all able to participate in some of the live sessions and meetings that took place and have watched some of the pre-recorded on-demand sessions via the Meeting Program Portal. Remember that registered attendees for the GSA 2021 meeting have access to the [Meeting Program Portal](#) through December 31, 2021, so take advantage of these last couple of weeks in December to peruse some sessions of interest!

In this issue, we offer some reflections from the Annual Scientific Meeting as well as key updates from a few of our colleagues about the work they've been doing on behalf of a committee or AGHE more broadly. Judy Howe, who has served as our leader since 2017, shares her thoughts about her time as chair. We are also pleased to include reflections from Candace Brown on her well-deserved Rising Star Early Career Faculty Award, as well as a full list of this year's wonderful AGHE award winners.

We offer an update from the AGHE Academic Program Development Workgroup (APDW) about their important work done over the past year+ and an announcement from Tamar Shoali and

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Marilyn Gugliucci about the updated AGHE *Gerontology and Geriatrics Curricular Standards and Guidelines in Higher Education* (7th edition) that is soon to be released. An exciting announcement is also provided about a new, free Dementia and Sexuality online module developed by the Behavioural Supports Ontario (BSO) Sexual Expression and Dementia Working Group. Finally, in our program spotlight series, we are pleased to profile the PhD program in Applied Developmental Science at Colorado State University.

If you have an article about gerontology education, an announcement, or other research or program news you would like to share with your AGHE colleagues via this newsletter, please reach out to me (borrerol@uindy.edu) and/or Aaron Guest (Aaron.Guest@asu.edu) with your ideas and any questions you may have.

A very happy holiday season to you all!

Lisa

Navigating Choppy Waters

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When I became president-elect of AGHE, with a term beginning in 2017, I knew that I was in for a bit of a bumpy time -- but not quite the ride I have had during the last five years. Fortunately, several people helped me chart the course, including Nina Silverstein, Marilyn Gugliucci, Dana Bradley, Harvey Sterns, Janet Frank, and James Appleby. I know I am leaving off some key individuals here, but most importantly, I would like to thank the collective AGHE community who supported me.

At the last freestanding AGHE meeting in Atlanta in March 2018, the integration with GSA was presented by AGHE and GSA leadership to AGHE institutional members at the annual Business Meeting on March 2nd. Months of planning went into that meeting given the importance of relaying a clear message to the AGHE membership about the details of the transition and the

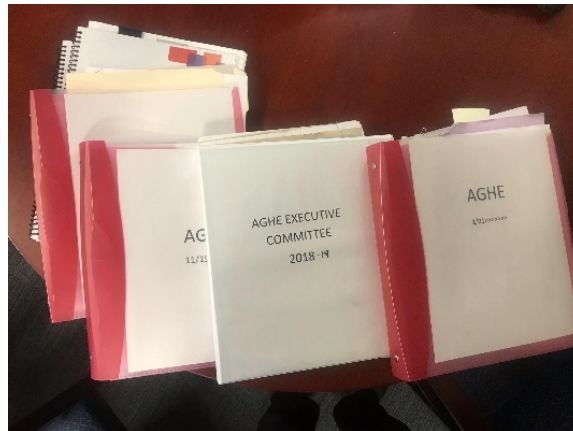


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ultimate benefits to AGHE members. The meeting ended with a vote to integrate – 57 voted yes, and two abstained...A BIG sigh of relief.

It was indeed a complicated time and there was pushback from some members since AGHE had been a long-term independent organization. However, our situation was not sustainable. Sometimes I felt a bit overwhelmed with all my meetings, phone calls, and figuring out the details of the integration. Moreover, this was happening at the exact same time as the GSA governance restructuring in 2018. I knew that it was important to keep the “spirit” of the AGHE community alive and that was foremost in my mind. Gena Schoen, who became the GSA liaison for AGHE, was instrumental in smoothing the transition, full of insights, experience, and a dry sense of humor. I still have a mountain of binders in my office with detailed notes, reports, plans, and agendas to keep track of all of the balls in the air.



Then came the pandemic. However, instead of derailing AGHE, it empowered us. We showed our mettle by pivoting quickly and leading the way with virtual events to support members to teach online and adapt clinical placements and service-learning experiences. We put together support resources, such as Teaching Tips and Biblio Briefs, and published articles about virtual teaching methods in *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education*. We were active in the GSA COVID-19 Task Force and led the way with the Age-Friendly University powerhouse initiative, developing and disseminating product after product. All during a global pandemic. I think that the new kid on the GSA block made its mark for sure.

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I have been proud of how everybody stepped up and became engaged despite the challenges with the integration and the pandemic. I know that we are in safe hands with the new leadership team of Dana Bradley, Joann Montepare, and Tina Newsham. I will serve as the past chair in 2022 and will remain involved in that role. And, of course, I will always remain devoted to and involved in AGHE.

I want to leave you with a photo from the AGHE pool party at the annual meeting in Miami in 2017, which epitomizes the AGHE spirit in so many ways. It has hung on my office bulletin board since that meeting.



I wish all of you the merriest of holiday seasons!

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(Re)introducing the *Gerontology and Geriatrics Curricular Standards and Guidelines in Higher Education*

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The 7th edition of the AGHE *Gerontology and Geriatrics Curricular Standards and Guidelines in Higher Education* will be digitally available soon! In this edition, we respond to the evolution of the field of aging demanding increased breadth and depth of content in both gerontology and geriatrics education. Through AGHE's leadership, gerontology education is now competency-based, as have been the health professions programs. All chapters in this edition have been comprehensively rewritten to include the standards and guidelines for competency-based education (CBE). This publication offers tools to identify and implement CBE in programs and to develop students' skills and abilities needed in our workforce. This document is an integral resource for colleges and universities, including technical schools and community colleges, nationally and internationally.

Program directors and coordinators, faculty, deans, and administrative leadership at educational institutions will find these guidelines essential when implementing and revising programs in liberal arts, the sciences, and health professions education. The curricular standards and guidelines also serve to guide existing programs through academic or institutional reviews for Program of Merit (POM), providing matrices for mapping health professions and gerontology competency-based education and documentation. Look for forthcoming announcements in the coming months about how to obtain a copy of this essential document.

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A Round of Applause! Recognizing AGHE Award Winners

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One of the important traditions of AGHE is our rich awards program which recognizes colleagues, students and administrators for their contributions to the field of gerontology and geriatrics education. Award selection is carried out by AGHE's Award Review Panel comprised of a number of volunteers who review and evaluate award applications. In 2021, the award review process was led by Kara Dassel and several reviewers (Judy Howe, Katie Nikzad-Terhune, Heidi Ewen, Marilyn Gugliucci, Tamar Shovali, Maria Claver, Pamela Elfenbein, Andrea Zakrajsek, Lauren Bouchard, and Yan-Jhu Su).

The recipient of the Clark Tibbitts Award was Dr. Kathryn Hyer of the University of South Florida, who passed away on January 1st, 2021. The Clark Tibbitts award is given each year to an individual or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of gerontology and/or geriatrics education. This year's recipient was very involved with AGHE and leaves a lasting memory on many of us. Debra Dobbs, a close colleague, provided a moving tribute and award lecture in Dr. Hyer's honor.

The recipient of the Hiram J. Friedsam Mentorship Award was Dr. Pamela Elfenbein, of the University of North Georgia. This award recognizes an individual who emulates Dr. Friedsam's excellence in mentorship. Dr. Elfenbein gave a lecture that honored her own mentors throughout her career and her philosophy on mentoring her current students.

The Rising Star Early Career Faculty Award recognizes new faculty whose teaching and/or leadership stands out as impactful and innovative. The recipient of this award was Dr. Candace S. Brown, of the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. Dr. Brown provided an inspirational lecture about her instructional strategies in the classroom and the audience got to participate in a break-out room activity used by Dr. Brown in her classes.

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Nationwide, reliance on part-time and/or adjunct faculty to teach gerontology and geriatrics courses is very high. AGHE formally honors these contributors to the field through the Part-Time/Adjunct Faculty Honor. This year's honor goes to Katie Kutcher of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and Karon Phillips of the University of Maryland Baltimore County/University of Maryland Global Campus.

As educators, we know the importance of support of our programs from our institutions' leaders. With this in mind, the Administrative Leadership Honor was established to recognize administrators on AGHE member campuses who have made exceptional efforts in support of gerontology and/or geriatrics education. This year's recipient of this honor was Dr. Maria Henke of the University of Southern California.

Student involvement in AGHE is an important way to engage student leaders. Through our work, we help nurture future gerontology and geriatric educators. The first of two student awards is the Student Leadership Award. This award is given to a student member whose leadership has advanced the goals and mission of AGHE as well as the respective goals of his/her AGHE-affiliated institution. Nominees exemplify a commitment to scholarship and advancing the cause of gerontology and/or geriatrics among their peers. The recipient of this year's award was Ms. Lauren M. Bouchard of Concordia University in Chicago. The Graduate Student Paper Award recognizes excellence in scholarly work by a student at an AGHE member institution who presents his or her work at the GSA Annual Meeting. This year's award was presented to Ms. Susan Brilliant of California State University, Long Beach, for her paper, "Physical Activity and Aging: Exploring Motivations of Masters Swimmers."

AGHE would not be in existence today without the dedication, commitment and hard work of so many people over the past 45+ years. We value our colleagues who have elevated the field through their contributions, leadership and support of gerontology and geriatrics education. We recognized three such individuals, Dr. Jan Abushakra of Portland Community College, Dr. Jennifer Mendez of Wayne State University, and Dr. Harvey Sterns of The University of Akron, by presenting them with the Mildred M. Seltzer Distinguished Service Honor. This honor is presented annually to colleagues who are near retirement or recently retired.



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AGHE, in conjunction with Taylor and Francis, instituted the David A. Peterson Award for the Best Article in the volume of *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, the official journal of AGHE. The purpose of this award is to recognize excellence in scholarship in academic gerontology. This year's award goes to Dr. Julie B. Miller of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Ms. Carley Ward of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Chaiwoo Lee of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Lisa D'Ambrosio of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Dr. Joseph F. Coughlin of Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the article "Sharing is Caring: The Potential of the Sharing Economy to Support Aging in Place".

Through a generous planned-giving gift for AGHE, the James McKenney Student Travel Award was established to support U.S. or international undergraduate through post-doctoral students interested in gerontology/geriatrics. Among the benefits recipients receive each year are funds to attend the GSA Annual Scientific Meeting and a one-year membership in AGHE/GSA. This year we received 37 application for this award and ten students were selected. Past AGHE president Marilyn Gugliucci, whose friendship with James McKenney brought about this wonderful award, announced the recipients, who were:

- Mrs. Daphne Chakurian, University of Missouri
- Ms. Valery R. Crespo-Matos, University of South Florida
- Ms. Morgan Inman, University of Prince Edward Island
- Ms. Rachel Kunkle, University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Ms. Christine Lee, University of New England
- Ms. Danielle Llaneza, University of Houston
- Ms. Xin Yao Lin, Brandeis University
- Ms. Meghan McDarby, Washington University in St. Louis
- Professor Austin Oswald, CUNY Graduate Center
- Mr. Anthony Villalba, The University of Akron

Congratulations again to all of the award and honor recipients! I would like to thank the awards review committee members as well as those who submitted nominations.



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A Moment of Reflection

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In this moment of reflection, I am sincerely honored to be the recipient of the AGHE Rising Star Early Career Faculty Award. My presentation was from the heart as I am thankful for those who nominated me for the award, those teachers who came before me, and the gerontologists I've met up to this point in life. I do believe that paths are set before us and we get to choose the path we're going to take. I am glad my path led me to the discipline of gerontology because I am in a career that will always be needed. I am glad my path led me to AGHE because I have a connection with others who also care about how our world is shaped for older generations. I am glad my path led me to UNC Charlotte because I am at a program where the program director supports the work I do and encourages me to try new things in the classroom. Thank you, Cynthia Hancock, for the space to be me (because I know I am a lot sometimes- lol).

AGHE's Academic Program Development Workgroup (APDW) Reflects on Accomplishments and Looks Ahead for 2022

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We hope that like us, you feel energized (okay, maybe a little exhausted too) after GSA's annual meeting. We enjoyed seeing and reconnecting with so many of our GSA-AGHE colleagues! AGHE's Academic Program Development Workgroup (APDW) has had a busy year. Our biggest accomplishment was the completion of the 7th Edition of the AGHE *Gerontology and Geriatrics Curricular Standards and Guidelines in Higher Education* (edited by Marilyn Gugliucci and Tamar Shovali).

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This was a major undertaking (during a pandemic, no less) that began in October 2019. For this edition, all chapters were comprehensively rewritten to reflect competency-based standards and guidelines integrating the *AGHE Gerontology Competencies for Undergraduate and Graduate Education*, including the addition of curricular matrices in the appendices for both gerontology and health professions programs. Chapters cover a wide range of programs and credentials at the undergraduate and graduate levels in liberal arts, sciences, and health professions as well as continuing education.

The APDW sponsored symposium—Standards and Guidelines for a New Decade, in *T. E. Shovali (Chair), (Re)introducing the Gerontology and Geriatrics Curricular Standards and Guidelines in Higher Education*— provided expert recommendations for program development through mapping AGHE’s gerontology competencies to programs in higher education. Despite being scheduled on the last day of the annual meeting, in the last time slot, the symposium was well attended and generated much interest and excitement about the new guidelines. The guidelines are currently in press and should be available very soon. APDW plans to host some virtual events in the coming year to encourage GSA and AGHE members to use the guidelines to develop new or revise existing programs. Also on our agenda for the new year is the Teaching Institute linking arts and humanities to gerontology, teaching briefs on “unconventional” teaching activities, new Program of Merit evaluations, and continued ESPO-APDW collaboration. Keep an eye out for further announcements!

Free, Accessible, Online Module on Dementia and Sexuality Now Available

The Behavioural Supports Ontario (BSO) Sexual Expression and Dementia Working Group is pleased to release the first e-module in its ‘Dementia and Sexuality’ learning program. This free e-module, developed with the support of the Regional Geriatric Program-Central, is available on the ‘Geriatric Essentials E-Learning’ Website (formerly, Frailty E-Learning) at: <https://geriatricessentialslearning.ca/>

‘Dementia and Sexuality: An Introduction’ presents four cases scenarios, inviting learners to understand how people living with dementia may express their sexual and intimacy needs. Along with debunking myths and stereotypes about sexuality and aging, this e-module explores practical strategies to support people living with dementia across various settings.

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E-Module Features:

- Content and narration available in English and French
- Interactive exercises are included in each case study
- Flexible pause points with the option to save one's progress
- Opportunity to participate in pre- and post- surveys
- Option to download a certificate of completion
- Accessible on computer, tablet, and smartphone devices
- Free of charge!

The introductory e-module is the first of a four-part series, each addressing complex themes about the sexual and intimacy needs of people living with dementia.

BSO Sexual Expression and Dementia Leadership Team

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Program Spotlight: Colorado State University (CSU)

Program Name: Ph.D. program in Applied Developmental Science

College/Department: College of Health and Human Sciences/Department of Human Development and Family Studies

Degrees Offered: Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Science (with a master's degree completed toward the Ph.D. degree)

Program Highlights: The Ph.D. program in [Applied Developmental Sciences \(ADS\)](#) prepares graduate students for academic and applied positions focusing on the quality of life for



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individuals, families, and communities. Students may enter the ADS program with or without a master's degree. Students entering the program with a bachelor's degree are required to complete a master's degree in [Prevention Science](#) or [Marriage and Family Therapy](#). Students receive training in theories, basic and applied research on human development, and application to concepts in real-world settings. In the department of Human Development and Family Studies, there are 18 research faculty, with six faculty focusing on issues related to adult development and aging (AD & A). Faculty members whose work focuses on AD & A are interested in the promotion of healthy aging through intervention, cognitive aging, family relationships, methodological issues, neuroscience, and social-emotional development. Graduate students in ADS are supported through research and teaching assistantships.

Additional Information: In 2021, [CSU became an Age-Friendly University](#), an honor given to universities endorsing 10 age-friendly principles with dedication towards educational opportunities for older adults and research addressing issues on aging. CSU is home to the [Columbine Health Systems Center for Healthy Aging](#) which includes over 60 faculty affiliates known for their innovative research addressing various aspects of healthy aging. Finally, engaged research and education at CSU bring students enrolled in the undergraduate [gerontology interdisciplinary minor](#), graduate students, and older adults and community members together for the [Healthy Aging Speaker Series](#).

For questions or more information, please contact:

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