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Nominate Colleagues for GSA’s Awards!
GSA recognizes outstanding individuals of all disciplines and career levels through a host of awards. Nominations for a number of GSA’s prestigious 2018 awards are due March 31. Full descriptions of nomination requirements are available at www.geron.org/membership/awards. Questions may be addressed to GSA’s awards manager at awards@geron.org.

Register for New GSA Webinars
All members are invited to participate in the upcoming second and third installments of GSA’s three-part webinar series on using the Health and Retirement Study (HRS): a March 27 webinar will focus on cognition data and an April 24 webinar will focus on biomarkers data. All previous offerings are archived at www.geron.org/webinar, including January’s “The Road to Boston: Mapping the Steps for GSA 2018 Abstract Submission.”

GSA Presidential Candidates Issue Statements

Maria P. Aranda, PhD, FGSA
GSA has an indisputable tradition of fomenting pioneering discoveries in gerontology, geriatrics, and interdisciplinary aging research, while also championing knowledge dissemination, policy advocacy, education, and training.

So what does a GSA-of-the-future look like? First, with the accelerated pace and global scale of knowledge generation, our society must promote strategic innovations in public-private partnerships to address the complexity of today’s aging society in a bipartisan era.

We could break new ground by exploring extreme climate change and its effects on social determinants of health, the built environment,

Kathryn Hyer, MPP, PhD, FGSA
For decades, GSA has nurtured my research and academic activities. I am honored to be nominated to serve as your president after years of active commitment, service, and research. During those years, I have been inspired and enriched by the work of the giants, as well as by our ESPO scientists.

GSA’s foundation and future progress relies on our members’ continuing contributions to theory, basic and applied research, and advocacy. We have enormous potential to increase international membership and to broaden mentorship opportunities.

While unprecedented numbers of long-living adults will challenge health and social services,

Gates to Deliver Boston Meeting Keynote; Abstracts Welcomed

GSA has selected filmmaker, cultural critic, and historian Henry Louis Gates Jr., PhD, as the keynote speaker for this November’s Annual Scientific Meeting in Boston Massachusetts.

Gates is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. He has authored or co-authored twenty-one books and created fifteen documentary films. His “Finding Your Roots” genealogy series is now in its third season on PBS. His six-part PBS documentary series, “The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross” (2013), which he wrote, produced executive, and hosted, earned the Emmy Award for Outstanding Historical Program—Long Form, as well as the Peabody Award, Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, and NAACP Image Award.

GSA President David J. Ekerdt, PhD, FGSA, said he expect Gates’ message will be a perfect fit with the 2018 GSA meeting theme of “The Purpose of Longer Lives.”

“One of the outcomes of longer lives is more elders among us, people with long experience to share. How should we best take advantage of this? It is a perfect question to put to a historian,” Ekerdt said. “In his distinguished career as a literary critic, author, and filmmaker, Gates has encouraged a keen appreciation of lives, the stories and tales to be discovered within them, and the revelations that can flow from them and enrich our common humanity.”

The recipient of fifty-five honorary degrees and numerous prizes, Gates was a member of the first class awarded “genius grants” by the MacArthur Foundation in 1981, and in 1998,
Scholars in All GSA Sections Can Play Role in Addressing ADRD

By James Appleby, BSPharm, MPH • jappleby@geron.org

Did you catch the terrific finale of GSA’s recent three-part Need to Know webinar series? We concluded with a program titled “NIA Outlook for 2018.” If you missed it, I encourage you to go back and check it out (along with others in the series) at www.geron.org/webinar.

This last installment was noteworthy for a few reasons. It was led by long-time GSA fellow Dr. Marie Bernard, who serves as deputy director of the National Institute on Aging. And we welcomed as participants leaders from all four NIA program divisions (Behavioral & Social Research, Neuroscience, Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology, and Aging Biology) as well. As NIA is the primary U.S. federal agency conducting and supporting aging research, it’s an honor for GSA to be a valued partner with them.

This webinar featured a discussion about recent funding increases for research on Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD) and how scientists whose scholarship may be outside this arena may be able to participate in contributing to the research base. In the last two years, Congress has approved several hundred million dollar budget increases for NIA to fund this kind of research. GSA has helped to promote many of the available grants in the Funding Opportunities section of this newsletter, and we will continue to do so. And as the webinar speakers pointed out, a wider range of scientists may be eligible for funding than are currently aware. I encourage you to consider how your research interests intersect with expanded funding opportunities in the ADRD arena.

At GSA, we believe the intersection of research across disciplines and scholarly domains is the best way to foster ingenuity, achieve the greatest impact, and promote healthy aging. And the available funding opportunities from NIA in the ADRD arena reflect this. Dr. Felipe Sierra, a GSA fellow who heads the NIA’s Division of Aging Biology, authored an excellent blog post recently (bit.ly/2hu2A00) explaining how researchers in basic biology can make use of such funds. He and the other division heads elaborate further in GSA’s webinar.

The NIA, as part of the National Institutes of Health, is currently gearing up for its third-ever Alzheimer’s Research Summit (bit.ly/2CRVnUo), taking place March 1 and 2. GSA will send representatives, and if you can’t make it in person, they’re offering the chance to participate via videocast.

Also in this topic area, GSA recently partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association on the release of their 2018 Dementia Care Practice Recommendations. We’re publishing a February supplement to The Gerontologist that contains a total of 56 recommendations across 10 content areas, grounded in the fundamentals of person-centered care. The Gerontologist devotes an article to each content area, providing evidence and expert opinion supporting each recommendation. The Alzheimer’s Association is planning a February 14 Capitol Hill briefing on the new recommendations, many of which were contributed by GSA members. GSA Visiting Scholar Katie Maslow is among them, and not only will she be among the featured speakers at the briefing, she’ll also be discussing GSA’s KAER Toolkit, which outlines a four-step process for detecting cognitive impairment and earlier diagnosis of dementia.

Regardless of the primary focus of your research, GSA will continue to help you be successful in 2018, continuing to bring you all you “need to know.” And right now the next item on that list is abstract submission for our November Annual Scientific Meeting. If you’re visiting the GSA webinar page, also take a look at January’s “The Road to Boston: Mapping the Steps for GSA 2018 Abstract Submission.” Be mindful of the March 15 deadline!
In Memoriam

Joshua M. Wiener, PhD, FGSA — a distinguished fellow at RTI International who just started his term as editor-in-chief of GSA’s Public Policy & Aging Report journal on January 1 — passed away on January 9. He was involved in studies of dementia care programs, patient centered medical homes, and Medicaid home and community-based services. He was also the co-director of the Administration for Community Living-funded National Alzheimer’s and Dementia Resource Center. Wiener led the development of the first comprehensive long-term care microsimulation model in the U.S. He also previously held positions at the Urban Institute, the Brookings Institution, the Health Care Financing Administration (the predecessor to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Congressional Budget Office, the New York State Moreland Act Commission on Nursing Homes and Residential Facilities, and the New York City Department of Health.

Todd “T.J.” McCallum, PhD, FGSA, passed away on December 5, 2017, at age 50. He graduated from The University of Southern California with a PhD in Clinical Psychology in 2002. McCallum began teaching at Case Western Reserve University later that year, where he earned tenure as an associate professor in the Psychology Department, being the first African American to hold the position. His research focused on aging and caregiving, as well as Alzheimer’s prevention through The Brain Emporium, a computer lab for older adults in the Cleveland area to exercise their brain through cognitive-enhancement programs.

New Books by Members

• “Demographic and Socioeconomic Basis of Ethnolinguistics,” by Jacob Siegel, MA, FGSA. Published by Springer, 2018.
• “Long-term Outcomes of Military Service: The Health and Well-being of Aging Veterans,” by Avron Spira, PhD, FGSA; Richard Settersten, PhD, FGSA; and Carol Aldwin, PhD, FGSA.

Members in the News

• On September 29, Kathrin Boerner, PhD, FGSA, was interviewed by the New York Times in an article titled “A Child’s Death Brings ‘Trauma That Doesn’t Go Away.’” She discussed dealing with a child’s death at an older age.
• Stephen Shuman, DDS, was interviewed by Our Parents for a November 3 piece titled “Aging and Your Teeth: What’s Normal, What’s Not.” The piece focused on myths and misconceptions about older adults’ oral health.

Colleague Connection

This month’s $25 amazon.com gift certificate winner: Celia Lastic, BA
The recipient, who became eligible after referring new member Augustus St. Jean was randomly selected using randomizer.org. For more details on the Colleague Connection promotion visit www.geron.org/connection.

Member Spotlight

GSAs website features monthly Q&A sessions with distinguished members.
The current spotlight shines on: Kenzie Latham-Mintus, PhD, FGSA
Visit www.geron.org/membership to ask questions and read previous interviews. Connection promotion visit www.geron.org/connection.

Harris-Love Recognized by Mayo Clinic

The Mayo Clinic Physical Therapy Alumni Association has honored Michael Harris-Love, MPT, DSc, with its Dale Shaffer Outstanding Alumnus Award. Harris-Love previously served as a clinician-investigator at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. He is currently an associate clinical professor at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University and associate director of the Human Performance Research Unit at the Washington, DC, Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Harris-Love’s VA-funded research includes the study of health disparities in older adults secondary to muscle dysfunction, and exercise-based approaches to the management of chronic musculoskeletal conditions. He is also involved in multidisciplinary research to develop mobile imaging methods to assess sarcopenia and poor muscle quality in older Veterans. Harris-Love is part of the Geriatrics and Extended Care Service at his VA medical center and contributes to the VAs teaching mission as a founding co-director of a post-doctoral rehabilitation research fellowship program.

Cheng Bestowed with Inaugural Nursing Professorship

Yu-Ping Chang, PhD, FGSA, associate professor and associate dean for research and scholarship in the University at Buffalo (UB) School of Nursing, has been named the first School of Nursing Patricia H. and Richard E. Garman Professor. Chang’s research is in the areas of mental health, prescription drug misuse and addictions in older adults. She was recently awarded $1 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration to increase access to mental health care and substance abuse treatment among American Indian communities in Western New York through clinical training for graduate students in the School of Nursing and UB School of Social Work.

GSAS Connect Corner

• Martina Roess, MA, PhD, RN: “If you’re interested in international comparison checking on what we’re doing in Germany [regarding age friendly communities and social isolation] this fact sheet might be of interest. For example: living situations of older people in Germany.”
• Deborah Burton, MS: “I am trying to find information on any actions, policies, or legislation that states have taken to reduce the business/employer cost of employees who are caring for aging parents or spouses. I welcome any information you may be able to share with me.”
I would love to know how many of you watched the live Senate "action" on C-SPAN the weekend of the January federal government shutdown. You may not have even noticed the shutdown unless visiting an historic site managed by the feds was on your weekend itinerary. The National Institutes of Health didn't stop patient care, labs were not closed, geriatrics training continued, meals were delivered, and other community-based aging services were not halted. As this newsletter goes to press, an agreement was reached to fund the government through February 8, and until that time, Congress will continue its work on the final funding levels for defense and non-defense discretionary spending for the next two years, and the final appropriations levels for FY 2018. I could use this entire column and then some to discuss the politics and winners and losers of this shutdown skirmish, but the political junkies among us have likely already spent hours reading about how this may affect the 2018 elections, whether the Democrats gained ground on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA)/Dreamer issue, why the president was disengaged, etc.

As you read this, another shutdown may be in play, but let me use this opportunity to write about where we are in this election year and where we may be going. It is not news to you that the atmosphere on Capitol Hill has been caustic. Although civility has been on the decline for a while, it has become so bad that even optimists have a tough time seeing the upside. Nonetheless, I will give it the old college try.

Return to Regular Order

I think we are gaining ground. Senator John McCain (R-AZ) called to the nation’s attention the notion of regular order during last year’s debate on the Affordable Care Act. During a dramatic floor speech, he rejected the partisan, closed process that had created the repeal and replace legislation and rebuked the Republican leadership for not following the “regular order” of holding public hearings, committee mark-ups, and the like.

We saw a similar lack of regular order during the development of the tax reform bill, but this is often the case in the House, where Democratic members’ votes are rarely needed to win a majority. The appropriations process is a different animal. Although the House Republicans can and do pass many of their 12 appropriations subcommittee bills without the support of the Democrats, the Senate needs to overcome a 60-vote threshold to end debate and pass an appropriations bill. That challenge often leads to more bipartisanship during the subcommittee and committee work. Last month, most Senate Democrats and four Republicans joined forces to reject the House-passed continuing resolution (CR), thereby closing the government down. It was one more example of a broken annual appropriations process that does not follow the regular order where bills would be passed in each chamber, sent to a conference committee where differences would be worked out, and then back to each chamber for final passage before being sent to the president. Instead, Congress has relied on last minute CRs and then massive trillion-dollar omnibus bills with too little opportunity to scrutinize their content. The process wastes time, creates uncertainty, and is difficult for federal agencies that run our defense, research, national parks, provide grants and services, and maintain the many other roles of government. We can hope that the challenge presented by McCain, the bad press around backroom deals, and the recent shutdown and resulting compromise may be shifting the momentum back toward regular order.

Return of Bipartisan Moderates

Back when I worked in the Senate, there were true moderates in both parties who often shaped policy and created a comfortable middle ground for all senators as needed. You may recall from an earlier column that I am a fan of Senator Susan Collins (R-ME). During the recent shutdown she stepped up and facilitated a bipartisan group (of 25) in her office or, as they called it, “little Switzerland,” a neutral place where, according to one senator, they could talk to each other not “at each other.” It has been reported that they passed a stick and a ball to one another to keep order and prevent interrupting each other. Sounds like a good use of an old preschool tactic.

The process seemed to have worked to end the stalemate and possibly create a powerful block of senators who are able to work together. Can such a group force the extremes from each party to compromise or will the block fall apart when the senators get to the fine points of immigration, health insurance reforms, and spending priorities? At this point, they are a bright spot and the best hope we have, particularly in an election year.

Little Victories

Although the administration and the majority party in Congress did about as much as humanly possible to derail the Affordable Care Act, the enrollment period that ended on December 15 signed up 8.8 million people, 96 percent of last year’s figure. This is a major accomplishment, considering that the enrollment period was shorter, the budget for advertising was cut, grant funding for the navigator program was curtailed, and the administration stopped reimbursing insurers for providing cost sharing reductions, a discount that lowers deductibles, co-pays, and coinsurance. It has been reported that five of the seven state-based exchanges that have completed open enrollment have experienced small enrollment increases.

The RAISE Family Caregivers Act was signed into law by President Donald Trump on January 22, 2018. This law directs the secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a national strategy to “Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage” family caregivers.
caregivers. A Family Caregiving Advisory Council composed of caregivers, federal and local program officials, health care professionals, community leaders, individuals with disabilities, employers, and older adults with long-term care needs will be convened to advise the secretary, identify best practices, and develop an action plan for the nation. The RAISE Act was introduced in the Senate by Collins and by Representative Gregg Harper (R-MS) in the House. See more below on a GSA-hosted caregiver briefing on Capitol Hill that helped push for RAISE passage.

Funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is extended for six years as part of this CR. CHIP provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid. In some states, CHIP covers pregnant women. Each state offers CHIP coverage and works closely with its state Medicaid program. According to a PBS News Hour report, “Nationwide, 2.7 million grandparents are raising grandchildren, and about one-fifth of those have incomes that fall below the poverty line, according to census figures.” Republicans were very strategic to include CHIP funding in this CR, which made it quite difficult for supporters of CHIP to vote against the bill.

Another very positive note is the passage of the bipartisan Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act, which the president signed into law in October. The law increases the ability of the federal government to address cases of abuse and exploitation of older Americans through training prosecutors, improving data collection, and designating an Elder Justice Coordinator in each Federal Judicial district.

The Road Ahead

Members of the Senate and House have an extensive to-do list. First, they need to agree on how much money they will spend on defense and non-defense programs over the next two years. One of the primary issues is the Democrats’ insistence on parity between any increases for defense spending and non-defense discretionary spending. Once they have those spending caps, they can finish work on the final omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2018. It is likely that one or more CRs will be necessary before they complete that work. By then the president will have submitted his FY 2019 budget proposal and the process starts anew.

This year there are many issues that are tied to these budget/appropriations negotiations. They include: parity, DACA, the Trump wall and border security, another disaster relief proposal (about $81 billion) and the health insurance market stability proposals in a bill by Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Patty Murray (D-WA). Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has promised to bring up a DACA in February, as well as the Affordable Care Act insurance market stabilization proposals of Senators Alexander, Murray, Collins, and Bill Nelson (D-FL). Also expected is work on a major infrastructure proposal; a “health extender” bill that would likely address the Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy Program; Medicare therapy caps; the Medicaid Money Follows the Person Program; beneficiary enrollment notification; and new rules for policing sexual harassment on the Hill. Beyond that, Democrats and many advocacy groups are preparing for attacks on entitlement programs.

There is some hope that more regular order, renewed bipartisanship in the Senate, some small victories, and a few issues that seem to be attracting bipartisanship will put us in a positive place in advance of the 2018 elections. And whether House Democrats are correct that they “lost the skirmish, but not the war” on DACA and immigration is something to discuss at GSA’s Annual Scientific Meeting in Boston after the November elections.

Recent GSA Policy Actions

GSA signed on to a letter from the Infectious Disease Society of America urging Congress to include new antimicrobial research and development (R&D) incentives as they begin development and consideration of the reauthorization of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act. The President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, United Nations, and other expert bodies and individuals have documented the urgent crisis of antimicrobial resistance and called for investment in antimicrobial R&D.

GSA published a proceedings report from its November Capitol Hill briefing, “Congressional Stories of Family Caregiving: Challenges, Rewards, and a Call to Action.” This paper reports on the proceedings of the Capitol Hill Briefing convened by The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) with support from The John A. Hartford Foundation and in partnership with AARP, the Alzheimer’s Association, and the National Alliance for caregiving in November 2017. The briefing was convened by GSA with support from The John A. Hartford Foundation and in partnership with AARP, the Alzheimer’s Association, and the National Alliance for Caregiving. It highlighted issues facing family caregivers today; six members of Congress shared their personal stories of family caregiving, illustrating that the caregiving experience and the challenges that accompany it are shared by Americans of all levels of income, employment, and education. For more information on the briefing and GSA’s efforts to continue to amplify and move the report recommendations toward implementation, visit GSA’s Family Caregiving webpage, bit.ly/NASEMCaregiving.

GSA Senior Director of Professional Affairs and Membership Patricia D’Antonio has been elected to serve as secretary for the Friends of National Institute of Aging (FoNIA), a broad coalition of organizations committed to the advancement of health sciences research. It supports the research and training missions of the NIA, and serves as a bridge between the NIA and supportive organizations to promote and advocate for the NIA’s initiatives as public policies in health and research take shape.
Officer Candidates Unveiled for 2018 Elections

Ballots for the elections of GSA's next officers will be sent by e-mail to all members on March 1. Reminders will be sent again prior to the voting deadline of March 31. Please make sure GSA has your correct email address on file by checking your member profile at www.geron.org. If you do not receive your ballot or wish to receive a paper ballot, please contact ballots@geron.org. The full biographical sketches and personal statements of all candidates running for GSA office can be viewed online at www.geron.org/elections.

GSA President
Maria P. Aranda, PhD, FGSA
Kathryn Hyer, MPP, PhD, FGSA

GSA Treasurer
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Janet M. Wilmoth, PhD, FGSA

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Richard A. Settersten, Jr., PhD, FGSA

BSS Section Member-At-Large
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Social Research, Policy, and Practice (SRPP) Section Chair
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Robert Weech-Maldonado, PhD, MBA, FGSA

Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization (ESPO) Chair
Heidi Moyer, PT, DPT
Darina V. Petrovsky, PhD, RN

ESPO Secretary
Krystal R. Kittle, MA, MS
Jacquelyn A Minahan, MA

ESPO Communications Chair
Briana N. Sprague, MS
Anna Zaia, BA

new resources

Resource Guides Available to Support Providers Serving Older Adults
The Lewin Group, under contract with The U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office, developed three resource guides intended to support providers and health plans serving older adults and their caregivers. The resource guides include two on managing behaviors associated with dementia, located at http://bit.ly/2rWvYVa, and one for involving and supporting family caregivers, located bit.ly/2nuAjtb.

LEAD Produces Brief on Medicaid, Dementia
The Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer’s Disease (LEAD) Coalition recently released an issue brief showing the vital role of Medicaid in providing essential medical and support services for individuals and families impacted by Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. The brief notes that people living with dementia often require and count on Medicaid for services that Medicare and private insurance do not cover. This includes long-term care, transportation, and respite for caregivers, making it indispensable for many individuals with significant health care needs. The LEAD Coalition has five main recommendations: maintain the current Medicaid funding system to ensure that the program is able to meet the needs of an expanding aging population and growing number of people living with Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia; do not impose Medicaid funding limits or per capita caps and do not restructure Medicaid into a block grant program for states; continue to assist states to “rebalance” their Medicaid programs to encourage greater utilization of home and community-based services and reduce premature institutionalization; increase options for individuals and families to self-direct their home and community-based services to better meet their needs; and enhance support for family caregivers within Medicaid, including assessment of caregiver needs and access to evidence-based family support programs. Access the brief at bit.ly/MedicaidandDementia.

AARP Explores Technology Platforms Designed for Family Caregivers
Family caregivers can benefit from technology designed to meet their specific care needs, according to an AARP report recently issued that details how technology can help caregivers and their care recipients. The report, “Designing Technology for Caregivers: Understanding What Works and What Doesn’t,” includes insights from the results of three recent pilot tests of how technologies can help caregivers overcome three identified challenges: care coordination, emergency alerting, and selecting and hiring in-home aides. Family caregivers were recruited from across the U.S. to participate in the research and were given a technology product to use for up to six weeks — either a care coordination platform, a personal emergency response system device, or an online screening tool for hiring paid caregivers — and reported on which aspects of the technology they found most useful, desirable, and necessary. The report’s findings indicate that there is a need in the marketplace for technology products that support family caregivers. It is available for download at bit.ly/2E13r5M.
Meet Your ESPO Leaders: Ready and Willing to Serve in 2018!

**Chair: Shani Bardach, PhD**
Shani received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in psychology from Wesleyan University and PhD in gerontology from the University of Kentucky. Currently, she is a research assistant professor in gerontology at the University of Kentucky and serves as the director of outreach and recruitment for Alzheimer's disease clinical trials at the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging. Shani's research interests focus on better understanding outreach, educational, and communication strategies to promote health and quality of life. Shani's goals as chair are to support the continuation of existing mentoring and networking opportunities as well as establish new opportunities at the Annual Scientific Meeting. She said she is also looking forward to being involved in GSA's assessment process and hearing from ESPO members to identify other ways to support their needs.

**Chair-Elect: Jamie Justice, PhD**
Jamie is an assistant professor in gerontology and geriatrics – internal medicine, and works at the Sticht Center on Aging at Wake Forest School of Medicine. She completed her graduate and first postdoctoral training in integrative physiology at the University of Colorado Boulder. Jamie's research interests are in the integrative mechanisms that mediate age-related functional decline and interventions to improve healthspan. She has served as a devoted member of GSA by presenting research, chairing symposia, and organizing panel discussions at Annual Scientific Meetings, and leading a joint ESPO/National Institute on Aging webinar. The cornerstone of her commitment to GSA was serving as Biological Sciences Section representative and now as chair-elect. Jamie's goals are to engage cross-discipline networks and improve communication between scientific sections, to champion service within ESPO, and to support student and transitional members' progress toward independence.

**Past-Chair: Kristen E. Porter, PhD, MS, MAc, LAc, JP**
Kristen received her PhD in gerontology and a certificate in survey research from UMass Boston. She served as a postdoctoral fellow at ACRIA's Center on HIV and Aging in New York. Her gerontological research focuses on resilience in sexual- and gender-minority older adults and those aging with HIV. She is currently writing about intersectionality in transgender and gender non-conforming aging adults with HIV for Springer's upcoming volume. During her chair year, together with the Special Task Force, a peer-led dissertation writing group program she previously developed was adapted into a Skype-based format, piloted, and evaluated. The Dissertation Writing Group Program was formally accepted as an ESPO member benefit, a legacy she said she is proud to leave behind.

**Secretary: Heidi Moyer, PT, DPT**
Heidi graduated from Northern Arizona University with her BS in exercise science and from Angelo State University with her doctor of physical therapy (DPT) degree. Her DPT thesis related to fall risk assessment in nursing home, assisted living, and green-house style dementia care populations. She continues to spread awareness and educate others proper falls management in the clinic through her role as clinical liaison for the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy's Balance and Falls Special Interest Group. As secretary, she said she looks forward to promoting ESPO events through the newsletter.

**Communications Chair: Allyson T. Brothers, PhD**
Ally completed her PhD at Colorado State University in human development and family studies with specialization in adult development and aging. Her research focuses on understanding attitudes toward aging and their influence on health and health behaviors. Outside of research and teaching, she enjoys collaborating with community members to promote healthy aging, and she is currently co-leading a project that aims to help individuals and families learn about local aging-related resources. Ally's priorities as communications chair are to coordinate the exciting new Dissertation Writing Group program that is free to ESPO members, and to advertise opportunities about professional advancement for all ESPO members.

**Past Communication Chair: Salom Teshale, PhD**
Salom is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington and received her doctoral degree in social and developmental psychology from Brandeis University. She is interested in aging policy, program evaluation, and strategies older adults can use to achieve goals and improve well-being. Salom's goals for the year are to promote ESPO-related events using GSA Connect and other social media platforms, and to help ESPO members utilize GSA Connect.
GSA is deeply indebted to the following agencies, corporations, foundations, and individuals for their contributions to the Society and its activities during 2017.

**GSA Innovation Fund**
- Andy Achenbaum
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- Deborah T. Gold

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- Eleanor Krassen Covan
- Cassandra Ford
- Cindy Garcia
- Linda George
- Deborah T. Gold
- Rhonda Hamborsky
- Thomas Hess
- Ellen Idler
- Elianne Irani
- Yoshiko Ishioka
- Catheryn Koss
- Suzanne Kunkel
- Ashley Langston
- Kenzie Latham-Mintus
- Corinna Loeckenhoff
- Sara Moorman
- Laura Sands
- Donna Schafer
- Judith Sugar
- Susan Whitbourne
- Janet Wilmoth
- Rosemary Wilson
- Barbara Yee

**Social Research, Policy, and Practice Section Designated Fund**
- Gretchen Alkema
- Marla Berg-Weger
- Barbara Berkman
- Letha Chadiha
- Robert Eckardt
- John Feather
- Lisa Gwyther
- Brian Hofland
- Nancy Hooyman
- Kathryn Hyer
- Berit Ingersoll-Dayton
- Shanthi Johnson
- Kimberly Johnson
- Marshall Kapp
- Julie Kaufman
- Kathryn Kietzman
- Eric Kingson
- Nancy Kropf
- Amanda Lehning
- Nathan Linsk
- John Migliaccio
- Rajean Moore
- Carmen Morano
- Margaret Neal

**Health Sciences Section Student Travel Fund**
- Elaine Amelia
- Donna Anderson
- Candace Brown
- Mary Dellefield
- Karen Graham
- Natalie Leland
- Nancy Malay
- Toni Miles
- Mary Milidonis
- Anne Mitchell
- Karen Moss
- Terrence Murphy
- Annie Nguyen
- Lyubov Slashcheva
- Tina Stander

**Biological Sciences Section Nathan Shock Award Fund**
- Patricia D’Antonio

**Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Award Endowment Fund**
- Barbara Harrison

**Carol A. Schutz Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization Scholarship Fund**
- Kara Dassel
- Linda George
- Deborah T. Gold
- Anthony Sarmiento
- Carol Schutz
- Judith Sugar
- Nancy Wilson

**Joseph T. Freeman Award Endowment Fund**
- David Chiriboga
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“Respiratory Disease in Older Adults: Focus on RSV” Webinar
- Novavax

“Aging and Immunity: The Important Role of Vaccines” White Paper
- GlaxoSmithKline

“Adult Immunization: Successful Programs Leading the Way to Higher Rates” Briefing
- GlaxoSmithKline

The GSA KAER Toolkit: A 4-Step Process to Detecting Cognitive Impairment and Earlier Diagnosis of Dementia
- Lilly

“What’s Hot: “Oral Health — An Essential Element of Healthy Aging”
- GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare

“Interprofessional Solutions for Improving Oral Health in Older Adults: Addressing Access Barriers, Creating Oral Health Champions” White Paper and Symposium
- GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare

“What’s Hot: “Reducing the Risk of Mobility Disability in Older Adults with Osteoarthritis”
- Sanofi Biosurgery

“Your Guide to the Benefits of Pet Ownership” Infographic
- Mars Petcare/WALTHAM
- Caring People

Research Award in Human-Animal Interaction
- WALTHAM

GSA Journal Issues
- AARP
- National Institute on Aging/National Institutes of Health
- Rush Medical Center
- The John A. Hartford Foundation

Margret M. and Paul B. Baltes Foundation Award in Behavioral and Social Gerontology
- The Margret M. and Paul B. Baltes Foundation

Maxwell A. Pollack Award for Productive Aging
- The New York Community Trust through a generous gift from the Maxwell A. Pollack Fund

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Learn how your support can help GSA advance research, education, and practice in the field of aging at www.geron.org/donate.
Continued from page 1 – Aranda

and cellular aging. We could address sexual harassment and abuses of power and their implications in terms of the intersectionality of multiple identities: older people, sexual minorities, and communities of color.

Second, we will need to address “experiential equity” issues among our emerging scholars and newest members to ensure they have knowledge of — and are provided with — the countless benefits of GSA membership.

Lastly, with decades of involvement in GSA, I understand the organizational assets as well as the unique challenges of our society and its multiple stakeholders. As director of a leading aging research institute, I have the requisite leadership skills, passion, and vigor that are required to serve as president.

Maria Aranda, PhD, FGSA, is an associate professor at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work and the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, and executive director of the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging. Aranda was one of the first researchers to develop culturally-tailored psychosocial interventions for families affected by Alzheimer’s disease, and has served on four consensus committees of the National Academies of Sciences. Her research on the physical and psychological health of older adults with medical and psychiatric illnesses has received funding from NIA, NCI, PCORI, NIDRR, the Southern California-CTSI, The John A. Hartford Foundation/GSA, the Alzheimer’s Association/HRSA, L.A. County Department of Mental Health, and the California Community Foundation. As a GSA member for over two decades, she has served on several committees and programs (Awards Committee, SRPP committee, Hartford Scholars Program, Task Force on Minority Issues, and Minority Predoctoral Leadership Development). Aranda specializes in bringing innovative long-term care services and supports to persons facing health disparities in the U.S. and abroad. Her work is widely published in peer-review journals including The Gerontologist, The Journals of Gerontology, and The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry. She has served as reviewer on several NIH study sections.

Continued from page 1 - Hyer

GSA has never had more opportunities to capitalize on members’ knowledge and capacity to contribute to positive social change. In the spirit of the resilience and adaptability we promote, GSA must continue to advance groundbreaking interdisciplinary research, convene compelling international forums, develop new business and technology partners, and seek opportunities to translate our members’ contributions to advance the well-being of all older adults.

I am committed to preserving the value our members expect, while also positioning GSA to advocate for research funds and to promote timely contributions that shape policy, enhance clinical care, and address the challenges of a rapidly aging world.

Kathryn Hyer, MPP, PhD, FGSA, is a professor in the School of Aging Studies and director of the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging at the University of South Florida. She earned her MPP at the Kennedy School of Harvard University and PhD from Arizona State University. Active in GSA since 1987, she is both an AGHE and GSA fellow. She’s on the editorial boards of The Gerontologist, Gerontology & Geriatrics Education, Journal of Aging and Social Policy, and JAMDA. She served on GSA’s Task Force on Technology; Membership, Executive, and Finance Committees (AGHE’s Treasurer from 2008 to 2012); and multiple interest groups. As chair of the Social Research, Policy, and Practice (SRPP) Section, she helped formalize SRPP’s Carroll Estes Rising Star and The Elaine Brody Thought Leader Awards and student presenter awards. She also added the SRPP late-breaker poster session. Her scholarship focuses on the quality of care in long-term services and supports, disaster preparedness, curriculum development and educational evaluation. She is the PI on USF’s Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) funded by HRSA. She has published 100+ articles and book chapters. After Hurricane Irma, she testified before the Senate Special Committee on Aging presenting Foundation and NIA-funded research that calculated the morbidity and mortality effects of nursing home evacuation versus sheltering in place.

Ballots for the elections of GSA’s next officers will be sent by e-mail to all members on March 1. Reminders will be sent again prior to the voting deadline of March 31. Please make sure GSA has your correct email address on file by checking your member profile at www.geron.org. If you do not receive your ballot or wish to receive a paper ballot, please contact ballots@geron.org. The full biographical sketches and personal statements of all candidates running for GSA office can be viewed online at www.geron.org/elections.

Continued from page 1 – Gates to Deliver Boston Meeting Keynote; Abstracts Welcomed

he became the first African American scholar to be awarded the National Humanities Medal.

The GSA Annual Scientific Meeting will take place from Wednesday, November 14, to Sunday, November 18. Gates’s talk will take place on the morning of Thursday, November 15.

Abstracts for the meeting are being accepted until March 15. GSA recently presented a webinar, “The Road to Boston: Mapping the Steps for GSA 2018 Abstract Submission,” which is archived at www.geron.org/webinar.

Meeting sessions will take place at the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, Sheraton Boston Hotel, and Boston Marriott Copley Place; these properties are all connected by indoor walkways. GSA will offer discounted lodging starting in June. Early-bird registration rates will be available from June until mid-September. Visit www.geron.org/2018 for details.
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OPENING PLENARY SESSION
Transforming the Business of Aging through Training, Education, and Skills Development

As the Global Silver Economy grows to over $15 trillion, an “aging strategy” that leverages market opportunities presented by today’s rapidly aging societies is key to business success. Global Coalition on Aging (GCOA) Chief Executive Officer, Michael Hodin, offers insight for winning business strategies that create flexible career models and support older adults in today’s quickly aging societies. Through training and education in school or online, companies can gain competitive advantage, add value to society, and effectively navigate the Silver Economy. We are just at the beginning of what can be a positive relationship between aging and economic growth.

Lois Reitzes, the longest-running voice on Atlanta radio, will add her distinctive voice as host of the Opening Plenary Session.

Register at aghe.org/register
UNG Establishes Center for Healthy Aging
The University of North Georgia (UNG) recently approved the founding of a Center for Healthy Aging, with a mission to provide a community-based organization that will offer quality education and services to older adults in the north Georgia region. It will foster the development of UNG students and faculty by encouraging scholarly inquiry and service through mentorship and partnership with aging adults in the north Georgia community. The center’s goals are to promote wellness and disease prevention through active research and intervention in older adults; promote leadership through partnerships and mentorships between UNG students and faculty and older adult community leaders; foster an environment of healthy aging through service and research with community partners serving the older adult community; and influence healthy aging through innovative programs and research that address the physical, social, psychological, environmental, and spiritual needs of the target population. During its first year, the Center for Healthy Aging’s main focus will be to develop a strategic plan that aligns with UNG’s mission, including a community assessment in the areas where UNG has a campus. It is the goal of the center to address the unique needs of senior adults in each of the communities by offering programs and services that promote healthy aging.

USI to Add “Tiny” House for Multigenerational Model
The University of Southern Indiana (USI) and the USI Foundation are partnering with gerontologist Bill Thomas, with support from AARP and AARP Indiana, on a year-long pilot project aimed at creating a cultural transformation related to aging in community. The Multi-Ability, multi-Generational, Inclusive Community (MAGIC) Project will create a housing model for both students and older adults. The pilot project uses participatory design to include campus and community partners and will kick off with design and construction of a USI MAGIC Model House, a demonstration home that will showcase accessibility, smart-home connectivity and innovative modular, prefabricated construction developed by Thomas’ new Minka project. Minkas are intended by Thomas to create an affordable housing platform that can be adapted to meet the needs of people of different ages and abilities. The compact Minka dwellings are designed to maximize independence and well-being through the application of smart-home technology integrated with community and home based supports and a minimalist ethos. The pilot MAGIC Model House, which will be located on or near the USI campus, will serve as an educational environment to drive innovation for future design, functionality and connectivity of similar units that would be used to build MAGIC housing.

Federal Funds Slated for Research on Underactive Bladder
A funding opportunity announcement issued by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases invites applications that propose basic, clinical, or translational research on underactive bladder (UAB) and detrusor underactivity (DU) and its consequences in aging and in older persons. Applications should focus on the biology, etiology and pathophysiology of DU or UAB in animal models and/or older adults; translation of basic/clinical research into clinical practice and health decision making; diagnosis, prevention, management and clinical outcomes of UAB in older adults; and/or epidemiology and risk factors for the development of DU/UAB with advancing age. Research supported by this initiative should enhance knowledge of DU/UAB and its consequences in older adults and provide evidence-based guidance in the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of DU/UAB in older persons. The earliest submission date is May 5. Obtain further information at bit.ly/2nseE4K.

Research Sought on Mobile Alzheimer’s Technology
A new Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) funding opportunity announcement issued by the National Institute on Aging seeks to stimulate research on and development of wearable, mobile-based, or other technology (software applications, etc.) to collect continuous data on variables assessing functions of daily activities in individuals at risk for or with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD). Mobile technology now affords an opportunity to enhance the sensitivity and utility of IADL/ADL data in dementia research and particularly in research focused on interventions for ADRD using unobtrusive, direct, objective, multi-domain, continuous, and real-time measures. New Small Business Innovation Research/STTR standard due dates apply. The full announcement can be viewed at bit.ly/2mLcJeN.

NIA Grants Focus on Emotional Function, Regulation
The National Institute on Aging is inviting grant applications that expand on foundational research demonstrating generally improved emotional function and emotion regulation with aging, to further clarify the trajectories of change in emotion processing and linked neurobiological factors in adults who are aging normally, as well as in individuals with mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD). The goal is to advance understanding of normative maturational shifts in emotional processes; how dysfunction in the integrative neural-behavioral mechanisms of emotional function might manifest in MCI and the early stages of ADRD; and/or how such dysfunction might account for any of the neuropsychiatric symptoms observed in ADRD. Such studies may identify novel targets for interventions or prevention efforts, or provide clues to intervention strategies that might be applied to normalize emotion dysregulation or strengthen emotional resilience at different life stages in normal aging or disease stages in MCI and ADRD. The first application due date is March 29. See bit.ly/2E2tf1d for details.

The University of Southern Indiana (USI) and the USI Foundation are partnering with gerontologist Bill Thomas, with support from AARP and AARP Indiana, on a year-long pilot project aimed at creating a cultural transformation related to aging in community. The Multi-Ability, multi-Generational, Inclusive Community (MAGIC) Project will create a housing model for both students and older adults. The pilot project uses participatory design to include campus and community partners and will kick off with design and construction of a USI MAGIC Model House, a demonstration home that will showcase accessibility, smart-home connectivity and innovative modular, prefabricated construction developed by Thomas’ new Minka project. Minkas are intended by Thomas to create an affordable housing platform that can be adapted to meet the needs of people of different ages and abilities. The compact Minka dwellings are designed to maximize independence and well-being through the application of smart-home technology integrated with community and home based supports and a minimalist ethos. The pilot MAGIC Model House, which will be located on or near the USI campus, will serve as an educational environment to drive innovation for future design, functionality and connectivity of similar units that would be used to build MAGIC housing.
Earn a Master’s degree from the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology

The USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology is the oldest institution dedicated to aging research in the nation. We offer the most comprehensive selection of gerontology degree programs found anywhere, and we are a pioneer in distance learning education. Our mission is to increase the quality of life for all older adults via research, service and education.

All of our Masters’ programs are available in their entirety to distance learning students online and also to those who are able to attend classes on campus. We also award $500,000 to students in scholarships annually.

Master of Science in Gerontology
The Master of Science in Gerontology, our flagship and most popular graduate program, positions graduates to pursue their passion for policy and research while studying the mechanics and mysteries of longevity, aging and population health. Additionally, this program offers an internship as well as research methods and grant writing in

Master of Arts in Gerontology
The Master of Arts in Gerontology is geared toward busy professionals who already have five or more years of experience in the field of aging, but were educated in other areas. The MAG program will supplement their education so graduates can better accommodate the special needs of older adults.

Master of Aging Services Management
The Master of Aging Services Management provides the opportunity for current and future aging services managers to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to respond to a rapidly growing population of older people. Students will be prepared to utilize their skills and respond effectively to changes in the economic, legal and regulatory environments in which they are employed.

Master of Long Term Care Administration
The Master of Long Term Care Administration program is the perfect solution for the working professionals who have not had formal education in aging. The curriculum blends an exploration of the social, psychological and biological aspects of aging with training in the administration and management of long term care organizations.

Graduate Certificate in Gerontology
The Graduate Certificate in Gerontology provides an opportunity to obtain a greater understanding of gerontology theory and research. The program consists of 16 units of study in gerontology designed to offer a broad range of knowledge, which relate to professional practice.

The priority application deadline for the Fall 2018 term is March 15, 2018. We will continue to review applications on a rolling basis after this deadline until classes start in August.

For inquiries email Lisa Huynh - lisahuyn@usc.edu or call (213) 740-5426

For more info visit us @
gero.usc.edu

USC Leonard Davis
School of Gerontology
GSA Now Offers Author Resource Guide

GSA has partnered with its publisher, Oxford University Press, to develop a GSA Author Resource Guide that will provide accepted authors with guidance about how they can promote their article to ensure their work reaches the broadest audience possible. The GSA Author Resource Guide is a helpful tool for authors to share their science via Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. The goals of the social media efforts are to promote, connect, and engage. The guide will automatically be sent to authors of accepted papers.

GSA Issues Open Call for Journal Cover Images

The Gerontologist and Public Policy & Aging Report are seeking cover images for its journal issues. The images will need to be high quality (300 dpi) and should respectfully depict older adults in any stage of aging. Photographers are credited for their images and will be published along with a short caption. There is no monetary compensation. Photographers will need to complete a cover art license form if their images are selected to appear on an issue cover. If you are interested in providing cover images, please send your image to Karen Jung, managing editor of The Gerontologist, at kg@geron.org, or Megan McCutcheon, managing editor of Public Policy & Aging Report, at ppar@geron.org.

Rand is pleased to announce the 25th annual RAND Summer Institute (RSI), which will take place in Santa Monica, CA, July 9-12, 2018.

The RSI consists of two conferences addressing critical issues facing our aging population: a Mini-Med School for Social Scientists (July 9-10) and a workshop on the Demography, Economics, Psychology and Epidemiology of Aging (July 11-12). The primary aim of the RSI is to expose scholars interested in the study of aging to a wide range of research being conducted in fields beyond their own specialties.

We invite all interested researchers to apply to attend the 2018 RSI. Applicants may apply for fellowship support to pay for registration, travel, and accommodations.

Both the Mini-Med School and the workshop are described more fully at our web site: http://www.rand.org/labor/aging/rsi/.

For additional information, please contact Cary Greif (cary_greif@rand.org).

RSI is sponsored by the National Institute on Aging and the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research at the National Institutes of Health. RAND is an Equal Opportunity Employer Minorities/Females/Vets/Disabled.

Altmetric Data Available for All GSA Journal Articles

The online versions of articles appearing in GSA’s journals include Altmetrics — metrics and qualitative data that are complementary to traditional, citation-based metrics. They can include (but are not limited to) discussions on research blogs, mainstream media coverage, bookmarks on reference managers like Mendeley, mentions on social networks such as Twitter, and citations on Wikipedia and in public policy documents. Altmetrics are diverse and include:

- A record of attention: This class of metrics can indicate how many people have been exposed to and engaged with a scholarly output. Examples of this include mentions in the news, blogs, and on Twitter; article page views; and downloads.
- A measure of dissemination: These metrics (and the underlying mentions) can help you understand where and why a piece of research is being discussed and shared, both among other scholars and in the public sphere. Examples of this would include coverage in the news; social sharing and blog features.
- An indicator of influence and impact: Some of the data gathered via altmetrics can signal that research is changing a field of study, the public’s health, or having any other number of tangible effects upon larger society. Examples of this include references in public policy documents; or commentary from experts and practitioners.

For an introduction to Altmetrics, watch a short video at bit.ly/2jNnJXo or visit www.altmetric.com.

Series B Adopts Rapid Publication Model

A rapid publication model has been put into action for The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences. This new model, also launched in The Journals of Gerontology, Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences last year, enables authors’ articles to publish online soon after they have been accepted for publication and well ahead of their appearance in the printed journal, thus greatly reducing publication times. A PDF of an accepted paper will be placed on Advance Access with the label “Accepted Manuscript.” After copyediting and typesetting, the author is given the opportunity to view their paper one final time before publication. Once the typeset version is approved, the “Accepted Manuscript” label will be replaced with the “Corrected Proof” label. Advance Access versions of papers that have been incorporated into issues will continue to be available online via the paper’s Abstract or Full Text pages. Advance Access papers are fully integrated into the journal’s online system. Abstracts and titles are searchable and accessible within the journal’s web pages, the entire HighWire archive, and PubMed. Appearance in Advance Access constitutes publication and establishes publication precedence. The official publication date appears beneath the title of each article just before its Digital Object Identifier (DOI). Additional information about how the new rapid publications model works can be found at bit.ly/2CLKMqz.
Hackensack University Medical Center

One of a few selected by CMS to help test the Accountable Health Communities model

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has announced an Accountable Health Communities model to address a critical gap between clinical care and community services in the current delivery system.

At Hackensack University Medical Center, the Geriatrics Program is among a select few in the country chosen to test whether increased awareness of and access to services addressing health-related social needs will impact total health care costs and improve health and quality of care for Medicare and Medicaid patients.

Leading-edge care is one reason why our Geriatric Program has been recognized by U.S. News & World Report among the Top 50 Geriatrics Programs, 2004-2015, and High Performing in 2016 and 2017.

To learn more about our program, visit HackensackMeridianHealth.org/HUMC/Geriatrics

Hackensack Meridian Health
Hackensack University Medical Center
GSA 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting Call for Abstracts Opens February 1

Share your research with more than 3,500 professionals in gerontology and geriatrics from around the globe.

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT BY MARCH 15, 2018, AT 11:59PM EDT

www.geron.org/gsa2018