The latest journal impact factor metrics are in, and according to the Journal Citation Reports, GSA’s publications have further solidified their position ahead of their peers.

In Journal Citation Reports: Social Sciences Edition’s Gerontology category, The Journals of Gerontology, Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences took first place on the list of 32 publications for the sixth consecutive year, while The Gerontologist climbed one position to place third. The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences again ranked fifth, a spot it first claimed last year.

In Journal Citation Reports: Science Edition’s Gerontology and Geriatrics category, The Journals of Gerontology, Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences ranked fourth and The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences ranked 19th out of 49. The Gerontologist is not ranked in this edition.

“The aging of the U.S. population has spurred on outstanding research in all areas of gerontology,” said Peter A. Lichtenberg, PhD, chair of GSA’s Publications Committee. “GSA and our journal editors lead the way in providing the highest quality outlets for cutting edge science on basic, applied and clinical gerontology and geriatrics. The high quality research is reflected in the continual increase in our journals’ rankings and impact factors and reflect the outstanding membership of our Society and partnership with our publisher, Oxford University Press.”

Impact factor is a measure of the frequency with which articles in a journal have been cited during the two preceding years.

GSA, Mars Petcare to Examine Pets’ Roles in Healthy Aging

GSA is partnering with leading petcare provider Mars Petcare to advance research in the area of human-animal interaction (HAI) among older adults.

GSA convened an April workshop in Washington, DC, to begin to develop a roadmap for this emerging field of study. The meeting included experts in the fields of human-animal interaction research and aging research. The participants addressed methodological challenges of researching the effectiveness of HAI in older adults and key areas. They also discussed the potential future role of HAI in older adults in mitigating loneliness, social isolation, and depression, and enhancing mobility, cognitive impairment, and other clinical conditions.

“Recent research and education has concentrated on the role of pets in childhood and adolescence,” said GSA Executive Director and CEO James Appleby, BSPharm, MPH. “However, there is a growing need for dedicated research on the aging adult and the impact of pets on overall quality of life. Thanks to GSA’s new partnership with Mars Petcare, we will establish a multidisciplinary, expert workgroup to advance our knowledge of HAI.”

This new GSA-led workgroup will help guide the organization in developing valuable, credible, and trusted resources to provide
From the Executive Director

GSA’s Big Meeting Prepares to Descend on the Big Easy

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

Most of what you’ll find in New Orleans — the food, the sights, the culture — has a distinctive flavor, and GSA’s Annual Scientific Meeting there this November will be no exception. You’ve got a lot to look forward to!

Registration is now open with an early-bird discount available, and you can get a special conference rate by booking your hotel in advance. The abstract notifications are going out in early July, the same time we begin accepting abstracts for the Late Breaker Poster Session (which has a submission deadline of September 13). All the information you’ll need is at www.geron.org/2016.

The program content itself has a lot of unique offerings. As announced in the January issue of Gerontology News, we’ve lined up journalist and author David Bornstein as the keynote speaker. He’s a renowned expert on social innovation — dedicated to exploring and analyzing potential solutions to major social problems — which makes him a perfect fit with our meeting theme, “New Lens on Aging: Changing Attitudes, Expanding Possibilities.”

And the pre-conference workshop lineup (on Wednesday, November 16) is particularly robust this year. With funding from the National Institute on Aging, we’re continuing our Accelerating Translation of Knowledge to Community Practices for Older Adults series, this time with a workshop centered around career policies and advocacy efforts for optimal aging. GSA is supporting the New Orleans community through off-site events, too. This year, the Gerontologists Giving Back Service Event will allow attendees to volunteer with the St. Bernard Project, a community-based nonprofit organization headquartered in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, which suffered catastrophic damage in hurricanes Katrina and Rita. On Wednesday, November 16, you will have the chance to work on rebuilding family homes in the parish. And on the evening of Saturday, November 19, GSA’s annual Bo Diddley outing will take us to Rock ‘n Bowl, a famed music venue that combines blues, zydeco, R&B, and dance lessons with bowling.

So steer your browsers to www.geron.org/2016, where you can register, submit a late-breaker poster, take advantage of hotel and travel discounts, and discover the value you and 4,000 colleagues will find in New Orleans.

World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics
July 23 to 27, 2017
www.iagg2017.org

Next dates to remember:
July 15, 2016 Abstract submission period ends
December 15, 2016 Abstract notifications sent; registration opens; call for late-breaking abstracts issued
In Memoriam

GSA Fellow Gabe J. Maletta, PhD, DMD, passed away on May 18 at the age of 77. After completing his residency in psychiatry, Maletta served as director of the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center and later as its associate chief of staff for geriatrics and extended care. He was also a longstanding clinical professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School. In addition to GSA, he was a distinguished fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a fellow of the American College of Psychiatrists. He co-authored the widely used textbook “Principles and Practices of Geriatric Psychiatry.”

New Books by Members


Members in the News

• The Queensland Times interviewed GSA Fellow Bob Knight, PhD, for an article published on April 14. The piece, titled “Aging Population Presents Challenge,” profiled what the University of Queensland is offering students to train them to enter the field of gerontology.

• The Richmond Times-Dispatch quoted Tracey Gendron, PhD, in an article titled “VCU Department is on Mission to Fight Ageism” published on April 28. The piece outlined how Gendron is teaching students to combat ageism and discrimination of older adults.

• Kelly Carney, PhD, was interviewed by The Philadelphia Inquirer for an article titled “Rehab Program Lets Dementia Patients Do What They Enjoy” on April 24. It profiled Carney’s evidence-based practices in dementia care.

Colleague Connection

This month’s $25 amazon.com gift certificate winner: Pamela Toto, PhD

The recipient, who became eligible after referring new member Amanda Scott, PhD, was randomly selected using randomizer.org.

For more details on the Colleague Connection promotion visit www.geron.org/connection.

Member Spotlight

GSA’s website features monthly Q&A sessions with distinguished members. The current spotlight shines on: Christine Jensen, PhD

Visit www.geron.org/membership to ask questions and read previous interviews. Connection promotion visit www.geron.org/connection.

Suitor Gives TED Talk on Sibling Relationships with Parents

GSA Fellow J Jill Suitor, PhD spoke at TEDxPurdueU in April. She discussed the effects of status transitions on interpersonal relations, particularly between parents and adult children and among adult siblings. Suitor is an associate editor of The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Science and Social Sciences and is a member of the editorial board for The Gerontologist. TEDxPurdueU is intended to nurture a culture of innovation by sharing state of the art ideas developed by Purdue students, faculty, and alumni with the global TED community.

Watson Receives 2016 Educator of the Year Award

The Ohio Association of Gerontology Education honored Wendy Watson, PhD, with its Educator of the Year Award at the organization’s 40th annual conference at Youngstown State University. Watson, an associate professor of gerontology, is the coordinator of the undergraduate and graduate programs in gerontology at Bowling Green State University. She also serves as the primary graduate faculty adviser and provides mentoring and guidance regarding courses, theses, and other graduate-level projects. The award recognizes individuals in Ohio’s educational institutions at any level and/or from Ohio’s aging network who have either used educational programs to improve services to older adults in Ohio or advanced gerontological education and training for students and practitioners.

GSAConnect Corner

Below are highlights from recent discussions on the GSA Connect online networking platform. Join the conversation at connect.geron.org! Here’s what members are talking about:

• Fei Sun, MSW: “June 15 is the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) this year. The purpose of the WEAAD is to present an opportunity to recognize the efforts of communities around the world to promote an understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the political, cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.”

• Lisa Brown, PhD: “Great article in the NYT today calling attention to a growing problem — older homeless people. The author does a wonderful job of putting stories to statistics to bring key issues to light. A concern we have is a new wave of older people who are contending with housing instability problems as a result of inadequate retirement planning. New tailored programs need to be developed to meet the needs of all older homeless people as their challenges are unique from their younger counterparts.”
It would be biased to say that all weeks in the nation’s capital are above average like Garrison Keillor’s children of Lake Wobegon — but a recent week in June, when participants in the John A. Hartford Foundation Change AGEnts Initiative came to town for the annual Policy Institute, certainly fit the description.

Our simple objective for the institute is to share with our participants everything they always wanted to know about policy, politics, and process and aren’t afraid to ask (in just two days). We started the institute with (coincidentally) last month’s Gerontology News Policy News interviewee, Robert “Bob” Blancato, who shared his reality check on what actually has a chance of becoming law this Congress and how the politics of an election year are playing out on Capitol Hill.

Although one may think that Congress does not work very much during election years, there is always plenty to discuss, but he focused more on the political world. Bob referred to an article headline in The Washington Post reading “Clinton’s Challenge: Become a Change Agent in Year Shaped by Voter Fury,” the unpredictability of this election year, its importance for aging policy, and the fact that the oldest candidate (Bernie Sanders) attracted the youngest voters. Also, he spoke about the big aging issues that Congress will put off until next year, and the need to get aging policy into the campaign through greater voter education and engagement.

It was also the week of the California primary and subsequent endorsements for Hillary Clinton by President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, and Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren. Not to mention the widely covered visit to the White House by Bernie Sanders. All that, and the Democratic Platform Committee was holding a policy hearing downtown. What a week for political and policy junkies!

Budget Negotiations: In the Domain of the Committees

Speaking of an action-filled few days, that was just the beginning. The Senate seems intent this year on doing their funding job and has now passed eight of its twelve spending bills, and on Tuesday and Thursday that week, the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies and then the full Appropriations Committee passed the bill that funds the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and most aging programs. The results were not perfect, but during the Policy Institute, we were all reminded that the politics and the process need to be in line (which they were) and that policy is often the least important element in getting a bill passed. Institute participants took advantage of the timing and actively engaged in advocating for increased funding for research and aging programs during their Hill office visits.

Here are a few of the details from the bill which has not yet gone to the Senate floor at this writing. The bill is bipartisan this year and passed the full Committee by a vote of 29 to 1. It includes cuts of more than $1 billion, but has increases as well, which leaves the bill about $270 million short of FY 2016 levels. The NIH received a $2 billion increase, which brings its total up to more than $34 billion for FY 2017. The NIA was funded at $2,067,138,000, which is up from $1,598,246,000 in FY 2016. That amount includes approximately $1,391,000,000 for Alzheimer’s disease, which is an increase of $400,000,000. With regard to another GSA favorite, the committee report stated: “The Committee provides $38,737,000 for Geriatric Programs. The Committee recognizes the importance of geriatric training programs incorporating culturally sensitive training programs and encourages HRSA [Health Resources and Services Administration] to work to ensure training programs are collaborative, interdisciplinary, and culturally competent.” This is the same amount provided in FY 2016, but it is not a cut.

The Medicare appeals process received $112.4 million, an increase of $5 million, to help reduce long waiting lists, and the bill provides an $80 million increase (total of $541.5 million) for mental health services. There is also a $2 million increase (from $8 million to $10 million) for the Elder Justice Initiative. Most Older Americans Act programs are funded at FY 2016 levels for FY 2017, but the State Health Insurance Assistance Program funding was eliminated, programs for older Native Americans were cut by $5 million, and senior employment programs under the Older Americans Act programs are collaborative, interdisciplinary, and culturally competent. This is the same amount provided in FY 2016, but it is not a cut.

The House Appropriations Committee has not acted, so we are a long way from completing this complicated process. The budget pundits are still guessing whether the end of the year will bring us an omnibus appropriations bill (that puts many of these 12 individual bills together) which could include both increases and cuts (similar to the Senate bill) or a continuing resolution that would be likely to keep the same FY 2016 funding levels for FY 2017. We do know the fiscal year ends on September 30, and a government shutdown prior to an election would be a dangerous maneuver for both political parties. For more of the details, including the bill text, report language, and other relevant documents, go to the Senate Appropriations Committee website.

The Older Americans Act was also covered by two of our Policy Institute speakers: Edwin Walker, the deputy assistant secretary of aging, and Sophie Kasimow, staff director of the Subcommittee on Primary Health & Retirement Security of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Walker, who has spent his career directing programs for older adults at the state and federal levels,
Advocacy in Action

I was fortunate to participate in a very interesting meeting with one of our Policy Institute attendees, Evelyn Clingerman, PhD. I also had the pleasure of working with her in the policy consultancy session of the institute where each Change AGEnt has the chance to polish her/his presentation and get advice from colleagues on challenges they are facing with their change project. Clingerman and I met with Representative Fred Upton (R-MI), the chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Although one of the most powerful men in DC, he was both approachable and in tune with the views, needs, and programs in his district. He spent a good bit of time engaging with us on our issues, which centered around the Elder Justice Act and special needs trusts. His staff then met with us in the hallway for another 15 minutes getting the specifics of the issues and how the chair could help. We have both followed up with him since. From my lobbyist’s point of view, there is nothing better than doing Hill visits with a constituent of the person with whom you are meeting, particularly when that constituent knows the issues and is able to explain what is happening back home to the member.

We heard lots of other great stories in our post-Hill visit debriefing. Several Change AGEnts were offered a congressional letter of support for funding future research or programs. A number of Change AGEnts met with staff from the executive branch as well. The Policy Institute included a session on knowing and using the power of regulation. This session had applicability for both the state and federal levels of government and is quite important particularly in times when the legislative branch is not passing much legislation.

One of our speakers, Tam Perry from Wayne State University, shared her experiences in building coalitions and doing grassroots activism to protect seniors living in housing that is being renovated and converted to fair market prices, which they can’t afford. She also used her visit to meet with other advocates and government officials at the national level who could help with her efforts in Detroit. It was inspiring to hear what she and her colleagues have done — not at their jobs, but as volunteer advocates.

Other training sessions included ways to frame one’s issue for policy makers and techniques to help ensure successful meetings with officials, colleagues, or the press. Since the federal government does not have all the answers or the ability to solve many concerns of older adults, one speaker laid out a plan for developing a strategy for state-level change projects. Another speaker, who teaches new members of Congress how the system works, gave us the nitty gritty of knowing and using the legislative process to reach our goals. Knowing the process is as important in success as aligning the politics and policy. Our congressional expert knows how to move a bill through the process as well as how to stop the bill; it all depends on who is asking for the advice. The OAA is just such an example. Kasimow had to work with members and staff who agreed with her one day but opposed her on the next, yet she persevered, knowing that sometimes one settles for something rather nothing at all.

There are a few additional examples of the kinds of education and advocacy the Change AGEnts were doing while in Washington, DC. Mike Malone, MD, visited the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to secure support for current procedural terminology codes to pay for primary care physicians who are caring for older adults released from the emergency room. Evelyn Duffy, DNP, AGPCNP-BC, FAANP, carried the banner for legislation that would allow advanced practice nurses to prescribe and coordinate home health care. Debbie Dyjak, BSN, met with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and others to secure support for access to traditional tribal foods for Native American elders in long-term care facilities. Christine Mueller, PhD, RN, FAAN, worked to improve the quality of care in nursing homes by ensuring that there are registered nurses (RNs) in the facilities 24 hours each day. Daniel Wherley came to town to share with others a very successful dementia care training program for care coordinators in California with the goal of having other state dual (Medicaid-Medicare) programs adopt it. Other AGEnts worked on various elder justice proposals including an emergency room response protocol, an awareness raising postage stamp, and funding for the Elder Justice Act. All in all, the breadth and depth of knowledge would have been quite impressive to policy wonks everywhere. The Institute, we hope, gave them the tools to use their knowledge and experience to move their change forward.

I hope that you have the opportunity to speak with some of our institute stars in person and hear in more detail about the substance, experience, the sense of being a part of process, and even their twilight monument tour, all part of becoming a better Change AGEnt, from the inspirational to nitty gritty!

After the day of Change AGEnt advocacy, I was fortunate enough to be sitting across the street from the Capitol building and its newly refurbished dome, enjoying a cold beverage with two bright and committed Hill staffers who on a daily basis struggle to make their own marks (change) on policy. Every so often one of the buildings or monuments in this city jolts me back to realizing what a remarkable place this is. That was one of those moments. It was an above average week in Washington but it was just another run of the mill week in the life of our participatory democracy, which offers Change AGEnts and all of us amazing opportunities to shape the future.
NIA Grants Seek to Address Health Disparities
The National Institute on Aging (NIA), through a new funding opportunity announcement, is looking to support research that addresses disparities in aging and health, including preclinical, clinical, social, and behavioral studies. The NIA is interested in basic research on aging to explore the biological mechanisms through which disparities influence age-related change; in behavioral and social science studies on disparities and aging that investigate environmental, sociocultural, and biological influences that delay or accelerate aging health disparities; and in research on geriatric conditions where disparities emerge in diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment, including palliative and end-of-life care. NIA health disparities populations include African Americans, Hispanic or Latinos, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, sexual and gender minority populations, persons with disabilities, and rural populations. Applications are due August 10. More information can be found at 1.usa.gov/1TjhMuI.

Funds Will Support Research on Human-Animal Interaction
The WALTHAM Human-Animal Interaction Research Programme has announced the availability of £240,000 (approximately $340,000 USD) in 2016 to fund high quality research into the roles that companion animals may play in facilitating healthy human aging. The available funds are intended to support a single three-year study. The application and instructions, including topics and methodologies, can be found by visiting the WALTHAM website at www.waltham.com/grants-awards/hai. The application deadline is August 15.

NIH-Wide Program Targets Methodology, Measurement in Behavioral and Social Sciences
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and several of its institutes and centers are inviting qualified researchers to submit grant applications aimed at improving and developing methodology in the behavioral and social sciences through innovations in research design, measurement, data collection, and data analysis techniques. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the scientific/research contact of the institute or center that most closely matches their research focus. The first due date is October 5. Visit 1.usa.gov/1Pp6BeV for more details and to view a list of the participating institutes and centers.

evaluation tools, is distributed by the Institute of Scientific Information, a division of Thomson Reuters.
A strong impact factor indicates the research published in a journal is being widely cited elsewhere, which is often a reflection of the quality of this research. This, in turn, encourages scholars to send their best material to the journal, thereby building on its status.
“The expanding reach and influence of the GSA’s journals is testament to the Society’s formidable efforts on behalf of its members, as well a recognition of the crucial impact that gerontological research is having on the daily realities and quality of life of aging populations worldwide,” said Oxford University Press President and Academic Publisher Niko Pfund.
The Journals of Gerontology, Series A saw the greatest improvement over the past year, with its impact factor jumping from 5.416 in 2014 to 5.716 in 2015. During the same period, The Journals of Gerontology, Series B decreased to 2.813 from 3.213 and The Gerontologist decreased to 3.168 from 3.231.
In The Journals of Gerontology, Series A, the most-cited article in 2015 was “Protein Ingestion to Stimulate Myofibrillar Protein Synthesis Requires Greater Relative Protein Intakes in Healthy Older Versus Younger Men” and the most-cited article to date is “Frailty in Older Adults: Evidence for a Phenotype” from 2001. In The Journals of Gerontology, Series B, the most-cited article of 2015 was “Impact of Cognitive Training on Balance and Gait in Older Adults” and the most-cited article to date is “Self-Ratings of Health - Do They Also Predict Change in Functional Ability” from 1995. In The Gerontologist, two articles tied for the most-cited in 2015: “Critical Perspectives on Successful Aging: Does It ‘Appeal More Than It Illuminates?’” and “Successful Aging and Its Discontents: A Systematic Review of the Social Gerontology Literature”; the journal’s most-cited article to date is “Assessment of Older People - Self-maintaining and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living” from 1969.
Journal Citation Reports further included five-year impact factors for the three publications: 5.017 for The Journals of Gerontology, Series A, 3.488 for The Journals of Gerontology, Series B, and 3.490 for The Gerontologist. The five-year impact factor is the average number of times that articles from the journal published in the past five years have been cited in a Journal Citation Reports year (in this case, 2015). It is calculated by dividing the number of citations in a Journal Citation Reports year by the total number of articles published in the five previous years.
GSA membership includes access to the complete back catalog of The Gerontologist and both Journals of Gerontology, as well as another GSA journal, Public Policy & Aging Report. Members can view the articles online by logging in at www.geron.org/publications.
GSA also is holding a symposium titled “How to Publish: Editor’s Confidential” at the Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, this November. It will provide an opportunity to meet with several editors of GSA’s journals and ask specific questions about getting published.
Writing a CV: What to Include?

By Adrian N.S. Badana, MPH, CPH, and Daniel J. Mick, BSN, RN

As members of GSA, students are able to become active both in the Society and ESPO. This provides excellent opportunities to access resources and make connections in the field, especially though the new GSA Mentor Match Program.

Getting the Most Out of Your Experience

Being a student and a scholar in gerontology means that you must seek out opportunities and engage in both university and organizational service. Leadership positions and experiences in teaching, stewardship, research, and reviewing scholarly works will provide excellent advantages not only for growth, but will also help beef up your curriculum vitae (CV).

Understanding the CV

A CV is a special kind of document that records all your academic related achievements, both scholarly and professionally. It acts as an autobiography to efficiently inform an audience about you and the scope of your accomplishments. The CV is a dynamic part of your professional career and it should be revised regularly to reflect your most recent work. Note that a CV is not a résumé—a résumé is a brief (1 to 2 page) document that includes highlights of your achievements to target a specific work position.

A CV should display your name, highest degrees/titles, and institutional address and contact information at the top or in the header. There is no standard CV format since sections can be arranged and tailored for the recipient. However, the usual sections should at minimum include education, professional experience, publications, manuscripts, teaching experience, research experience, grants/fellowships, honors/accolades, university and department service, organizational service, professional organizations, professional development activities, and related professional skills.

Every month, your CV should be updated to include your more recent accomplishments. Any outdated material should be removed to keep your CV streamlined. Your CV is a reflection of who you are as a professional, so take pride in how you present yourself.

GSA Expands Interest Group Offerings

JOIN TODAY!

**Directors of Aging Centers**
**Purpose:** Educates its members about policies and best practices for enhancing the functioning of Centers on Aging

**Geroscience**
**Purpose:** Convenes basic scientists and clinicians to allow for exchanges of ideas and priorities

**Human-Animal Interaction**
**Purpose:** Brings together aging researchers in all areas to explore the full value proposition for companion animals in providing a high quality of life for older adults

**Korean/Korean American and Aging**
**Purpose:** Brings together those who share a common interest in issues around aging for Korean people (for those living in Korea and the U.S.)

Interest groups offer GSA members and Annual Scientific Meeting attendees the opportunity to collaborate and network — in interdisciplinary groups — on topics that transcend boundaries of the Society's four membership Sections. GSA currently supports more than 40 interest groups, spanning a wide range of emerging and cross-cutting issues in gerontology.

Join interest groups by logging in and updating your member profile at www.geron.org.
Continued from page 1 – GSA, Mars Petcare to Examine Pets’ Roles in Healthy Aging

awarement of all aspects of HAI as it relates to aging, including a proceedings from the workshop held in April.

GSA has already formed an interest group on HAI, which will allow any interested scholars to discuss — online and in-person — the full value proposition for companion animals in providing a high quality of life for older adults. Its first meeting is scheduled at GSA’s Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, this November.

“The special bond between individuals and their companion animals deserves exploration for a means of improving human health in a rapidly aging world,” said GSA member Nancy Gee, PhD, who serves as the interest group’s primary convener. “The field of HAI research is a ripe one, ready for development and expansion, for gerontologists and other researchers interested in older populations.”

Gee currently is a research manager at Mars Petcare’s WALTHAM Centre for Pet Nutrition in the U.K. Waltham currently is soliciting applications for a funding opportunity that will support research into the roles that companion animals may play in facilitating healthy human aging (www.waltham.com/grants-awards/hai).

GSA’s other planned endeavors related to HAI include additional publications, symposia, and small grants.
Brown Team Joins Partnership to Aid Homebound Elders
The Gary and Mary West Health Institute, Meals on Wheels America, and a research group in the Brown University Center for Gerontology and Healthcare Research are collaborating on a two-year research program to investigate opportunities to improve the general health and well-being of homebound seniors by integrating health and safety screenings into daily meal delivery services. The research will be taking place in the following locations: Guernsey County Senior Citizens Center in Cambridge, Ohio; Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County in Fort Worth, Texas; Meals on Wheels of Wake County in Raleigh, North Carolina; Meals on Wheels of Greater San Diego, Inc., in San Diego, California; Fresh Meals of Sheboygan County in Sheboygan, Wisconsin; and Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels in Westwood, New Jersey. The aim of this two-year program, called More Than a Meal Phase 3, is to standardize reporting mechanisms and improve communication with healthcare providers to prevent an adverse health event. The assessment will help identify health, safety and social needs such as loneliness, depression, or fall risk. By providing volunteers with simple screening tools and user-friendly technology, the study is designed to improve care coordination across the medical and home community, informing providers and caregivers of changing conditions before a potentially catastrophic health event occurs.

WHO Agrees on Resolutions for Healthy Aging
Delegates at the recent World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization (WHO) agreed to implement two new health strategies that are closely aligned with WHO’s Sustainable Development Goals. One relates to women's children's and adolescents' health and the other to healthy aging. The delegates approved a resolution on the Global Strategy and Action Plan on Aging and Health 2016-2020. In May 2014, World Health Assembly asked the director-general to develop a comprehensive global strategy and plan of action to address the world’s rapidly aging populations. According to WHO, the proportion of the world’s population aged 60 years or over is predicted to double between 2000 and 2050, rising to 22 percent. A WHO report released in October 2015 revealed little evidence that older people today are experiencing better health than their parents did at the same age. Moreover, good health in older age is unequally distributed, both within and between countries. Most health problems are linked to chronic conditions, particularly noncommunicable diseases that can be prevented or delayed by healthy behaviours across the life-course. The aim of the strategy is for every country to commit to action on healthy aging. It calls for the development of age-friendly environments and the alignment of health systems to the needs of older populations. It envisages the development of sustainable and equitable systems of long-term care, and improved measurement, monitoring and research. It emphasizes equity and human rights, including the important role of involving older adults in all decisions that concern them.

India Launches Longitudinal Study on Aging
The Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI), a new initiative from that country's Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (HFW), will survey more than 60,000 older adults over the next 25 years. HFW Secretary Shri B.P. Sharma said the study will provide valuable data on the country's older population, its health needs, and the effects of changing social structures, as well as help design related policies. The International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, in collaboration with Harvard School of Public Health and University of Southern California, is undertaking the LASI under the aegis of the Ministry of Union Health and Family Welfare. LASI is jointly funded by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the U.S. National Institute on Aging, and the United Nations Population Fund-India. According to India's 2011 census, the 60+ population accounted for 8.6 percent of the country's total population, or 103.84 million older adults. With currently 1.3 billion people, India is projected to become the world's most populous country within a decade. There are several forces driving India's population growth and changing age structure, including an upward trend in life expectancy. Between 2011 and 2050, the number of oldest old people of age 75 and above is expected to increase by 340 percent. The LASI's work will contribute to India's newly launched National Program for Health Care for the Elderly and the social and economic security programs planned to be initiated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Purdue’s Center on Aging and the Life Course is a recognized leader in research and graduate training. The Center links the study of aging with a related academic department. Integrating the plan of study offers students a cutting-edge intellectual experience, which makes them valuable members of interdisciplinary research teams.

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DAVID J. EKERDT, PhD
Professor of Sociology and Director of the Gerontology Center at The University of Kansas

LAURA L. CARSTENSEN, PhD
Professor of Psychology, Director of the Stanford Center on Longevity, and the Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Professor in Public Policy at Stanford University

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