The Leaders of Aging Organizations (LAO) — the eight member collaborative partnership that GSA co-founded to close the gaps between expert and public understanding of aging — has released “Gaining Momentum: A Communications Toolkit,” which is designed to help professionals in the field address ageism and shape a more productive public narrative around aging issues.

The toolkit, available at bit.ly/aging_toolkit, provides a collection of resources to “reframe” aging by using different language to help shift public attitudes. The website also contains links to the ongoing series of reports produced by the LAO, which explain the social science research behind the toolkit’s recommendations. The research, reports, and toolkit were developed by The FrameWorks Institute, a communications research group acting on behalf of the LAO. This work was supported by nine aging-focused foundations.

“I encourage our members to use these tools to take action that can change attitudes toward aging and eventually the systems that support well-being in later life,” said GSA Executive Director and CEO James Appleby, BSPharm, MPH. “Defeating ageism will take time and effort, but we now have empirically tested methods at our disposal.”

Continued on page 7
Honoring Our Mothers & Mentors While Strengthening GSA — Join Us!

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

This marks my 100th column in Gerontology News! It’s been my privilege for the past eight-plus years to use this space to share some observations and highlight items relevant to GSA members.

The recent GSA elections and call for committee volunteers reminds me how giving GSA members are with their time and energy, as well as how passionate you are about strengthening the field. As the chief staff officer at GSA, I’ve been thinking about an enduring way to support the Society beyond a regular contribution to the GSA Innovation Fund.

During a recent conversation with former GSA President Terrie Fox Wetle, I learned how she had established a scholarship at her alma mater, Portland State University. The scholarship is in memory of the founding dean of their School of Urban Affairs, Nohad Toulon, a mentor and friend. It enables several Portland State students to attend the GSA Annual Scientific Meeting each year. While the gift benefits both the school and GSA in addition to supporting careers in aging, Fox said the best part is getting to know the awardees at the meeting.

I loved this idea! My alma mater (a term our Latin-savy members know translates to “nourishing mother”) is the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, where I studied pharmacy following in the footsteps of both my parents. Given the number of issues older adults experience with appropriate use of their medicines, the next step was clear.

In the month of May when the nation is celebrating Mother’s Day, I am proud to announce that my family has made a financial gift to the University of the Sciences that establishes a scholarship and commencement award in honor of our mother. The scholarship will support pharmacy students with an interest in gerontology and geriatrics, enabling the recipients to participate in the GSA’s Annual Scientific Meeting. The first recipient will participate in the World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, as GSA is not hosting its own meeting this year. My goal is to cultivate new interest in scholarship at the intersection of medication use and aging.

In establishing the scholarship criteria, my family asked the university to place a premium on students who had demonstrated extraordinary resilience in their academic career. My five older siblings and I lost our father at an early age — leaving my mother to raise us, serve as our rural community’s only pharmacist, run a business, get us all through college, and provide a loving and caring environment all along the way. She’s been a mentor to us all and earned the title of most resilient person I know.

These days, the care that my mother provided to her six children is flowing back in her direction. As I have shared before, she is experiencing a progressive dementia among other chronic conditions. My sister lovingly acts as her primary caregiver with the other five of us in support.

As I reflect on what I’ve learned since I began my tenure here at GSA, the thing that’s probably made the most lasting impression is the nature and complexity of caregiving. I’ve gone from just an intellectual appreciation to a deep understanding of the emotional involvement associated with the everyday care of an aging loved one.

If you’ve been thinking about an enduring way to support GSA, one option is to set up a scholarship like the examples described above. It will strengthen the field and help the next generation of scholars get a start while recognizing a mentor or loved one.

Sincerely,

P.S. I’m happy to announce that I’ve launched a new blog on www.geron.org. It’s an interesting time for our field and there is a lot to share. My first entry focuses on the importance of fighting for research funding. Check it out. We’re encouraging members to leave comments!
In Memoriam

Rita Frantz, PhD, RN, FAAN, passed away at the age of 68. She was formerly the Kelting Dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Iowa, where she was a professor for 44 years. She was recognized internationally for her work in pressure ulcer treatment and prevention. As an extension of this work, Frantz served as a member of multiple government and professional expert panels. She worked collaboratively with practitioners in Iowa and across the nation to promote the transfer of research-based practice to care for elderly populations at risk for pressure ulcers. She was a recipient of the Collegiate Teaching Award at the University of Iowa. Frantz was serving as president on the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, a position she had held since 1997.

New Books by Members

• “Evidence-Based Treatment with Older Adults: Theory, Practice & Research,” by GSA Fellows Nancy P. Kropf, MSW, PhD, and Sherry M. Cummings, PhD, MSW, MA. Published by Oxford University Press, 2017.
• “Couple Relationships in the Middle and Later Years,” edited by Jamila Bookwala, PhD. Published by the American Psychological Association, 2016.

Members in the News

• GSA Fellow Thomas Meuser, PhD, joined a panel of experts on “The Pulse of St. Louis” on KPLR on March 11 to talk about the impact Alzheimer’s disease has on caregivers.
• USA Today published an article on March 31 titled, “Boomerang Seniors: Aging Adults Move to Be Near Mom or Dad.” The piece quoted GSA Fellow Kathrin Boerner, PhD, as she discussed her 2015 research on the sandwich generation.

Colleague Connection

This month’s $25 amazon.com gift certificate winner: Edward L. Schneider, MD

The recipient, who became eligible after referring new member Leah Marie Schneider, 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: WeiWen Ng

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

Haley Named to Emerging Leaders Program

GSA Fellow William Haley, PhD, of the University Of South Florida School Of Aging Studies was named to the Advisory Board for the Tideswell Emerging Leaders in Aging Program. The program provides leadership development training for health professionals who are emerging leaders in clinical care, research, and education on aging, and is sponsored by the American Geriatrics Society, the Association of Directors of Geriatric Academic Programs, and the Tideswell Program at the University of California, San Francisco.

Bowers, King Earn Nursing Awards

Barbara Bowers, PhD, and Barbara King, PhD, have earned awards from the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS). Bowers, the associate dean for research and sponsored programs at the University of Wisconsin School of Nursing, received the MNRS Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her scholarship and leadership in nursing research, particularly in the area of long-term care. King, also at the University of Wisconsin, received the John A. Hartford Foundation Award for her work to optimize nursing care of hospitalized older adults.

Cummins Named Researcher of the Year in Ohio

Phyllis Cummins, PhD, a senior research scholar for Scripps Gerontology Center, was selected as Researcher of the Year by the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education. The award recognizes individuals in Ohio’s aging network whose research has improved services, advanced knowledge, or supported the expansion of research in the field of gerontology in Ohio or nationally. Cummins is also assistant director of research and adjunct associate professor in sociology and gerontology. Her research areas of focus include work force issues for older workers.

GSA Connect 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:

• Lynn Friss Feinberg, MSW: “Family caregiving can have a major impact on one’s current and future financial situation. Read the new blog from AARP Public Policy Institute’s to learn how much families spend on the out-of-pocket costs of caregiving, and which families are most at risk.”
• Amy Epting: “I chose a career in gerontology because I have great passion to ensure the elderly have optimal care, are treated with the utmost respect, and can live out the rest of their lives with dignity and comfort. I have been a geriatric dietitian for 11 years in nursing homes and one of my goals is to help people age in place.”
More than a year before our nation’s presidential election last November, I began a special project with GSA member Larry Atkins, PhD, a wonderful friend and colleague of more than 30 years. We set out to develop a progressive, fact-based, and balanced set of position papers on aging policy to share with the new administration. Larry is currently the executive director of the Long-Term Quality Alliance in Washington, DC. He also served as the editor for a recent issue of the journal *Generations* titled “A Message to the President on Aging Policy,” and so I sat down with him to get his updated perspective on aging policy in the context of the transformation we are seeing in the U.S. and around the world.

**Brian Lindberg:** Larry, thank you again for being a part of the GSA policy series at the Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans and for joining me today. Let’s start by putting this exercise of re-shaping U.S. aging policy in context.

**Larry Atkins:** Well, it is always a pleasure to attend GSA meetings and we have been a part of those sessions since our days on the Senate Special Committee on Aging. But to your question: it is not hyperbole to say that we stand at a crossroads in history — facing major challenges for our system of government and our social order. The major transformations that are underway are not unique to the U.S. though. They are global.

GSA members are leading the way in presenting the global phenomenon of population aging. It is driven by better health and longevity, lower birth rates, and a transformation in the nature of work, family structure, and social engagement. In the U.S. we have talked for years about the coming of the baby boom (which is now here) and its implications for the future. But that future has been a reality in Germany, Japan, and Italy; and will soon become a reality in many developed countries.

Next, there is a global political struggle underway between the forces of globalization and the nativist reactions of those left behind by a global economy. This nativism appears in the form of cultural insularity, religious fundamentalism, and economic protectionism, and the resurgence of the strong man in domestic politics with its corollary: the tradeoff of individual rights for greater security — in Russia, the Netherlands, Turkey, the Middle East, and now the U.S.

Although our own economy has been a great benefactor of the rise of a global economy and many U.S.-headquartered corporations are the world’s leading global corporations, the gains from the global economy are shared with an ever-declining portion of the population who accumulate vast and increasing portions of our national and global wealth. This leaves behind an increasingly disaffected middle class. This has come full circle to the point where, in the name of the much-neglected working population, some of the leading beneficiaries of this skewed wealth accumulation fund our political campaigns and have now taken over the reins of government.

**Brian:** In that complex framework, how is aging policy likely to fare?

**Larry:** We are not alone in the U.S. in facing these challenges, but we are new to having it create political and social turmoil in our own backyard. This “paradigm-shift” in American policy and politics is creating a period of uncertainty and turmoil for those who are the most vulnerable in our society including older persons. It will be difficult to advance much-needed aging policy in this environment, but we have to keep our focus on our policy agenda and look for opportunities to articulate facts and move evidence-based policy in pieces here and there — and we have to be more creative in looking for opportunities at the state and local level to advance new ideas. At the same time, we have to remain vigilant to protect older adults as some of our long-standing programs are put at risk.

**Brian:** For example, the recent and continuing attacks on people who are poor, old, and disabled through the Affordable Care Act repeal efforts?

**Larry:** Exactly, you can see the blueprint for this in the American Health Care Act that was at least temporarily stalled in the House. It unabashedly put forward big cuts in Medicaid and greater state flexibility to roll back the entitlement; a big shift in health insurance subsidies from older people and people with disabilities to young, healthy people; and a big cut in taxes, transferring over $200 billion to wealthier Americans. Not to mention potential shift of costs to Medicare.

**Brian:** My editor is going to reject this piece because it is too dark and gloomy for a May column.

**Larry:** Believe it or not, I am essentially an optimist. Whenever there is an upheaval in “business as usual,” there is an opportunity. So as many of GSA’s members work through research, evidence-based practice, education, and advocacy to protect those who are most likely to be hurt in this transition — and don’t get me wrong, there is a lot of that work to be done — I urge us to keep one eye open for those opportunities and to keep a clear focus on our collective mission and the goals you are committed we are committed to for the long-run.

**Brian:** Where do you see these opportunities — tax reform, Medicaid, Medicare?

**Larry:** OK, just a few thoughts on opportunities that may afford themselves in the months ahead. Take retirement income. Let’s think of new ways to provide individual savings vehicles that fit better with the employment patterns of the 50 percent of the workforce that has traditionally been considered “unpensionable.”
In healthcare, let’s take the opportunity to look again at costs. Some in Congress want to rely more on private markets. Well, if we are moving in that direction, markets won’t work if we don’t have greater price transparency and an end to market segmentation and price discrimination. So, let’s get consumers the information they need on value, on price, and create a more-level playing field for all purchasers and payers.

As you know, my current favorite issue is addressing long-term care financing. I believe the opportunity lies in working for integrated, capitated health plans that integrate long-term services and supports (LTSS) in “whole life plans,” not only for duals but for Medicare-only beneficiaries and eventually other people with health insurance coverage. I believe some amount of LTSS can be incorporated in plans without a huge increase in premiums by capturing the resulting health care savings.

This will also be an excellent time for us to have a more intense local focus, building public-private collaborations to work on innovations in population health, housing plus health, in-home services technology, healthy aging, encore careers and more. Of course, all of these areas are addressed in our “Message to the President.”

Brian: I think for GSA members it’s critical that we step up and take on the challenges to the need for and value of services and programs for older adults, but also adapt to the environment and look for innovations within the changing paradigm that you have described.

Larry: Yes. What can we do individually in our own work and collaboratively to advance a positive vision of aging and make this time of change truly the beginning of a new era of possibilities? I know that GSA is playing a major role in the “reframing aging” project and in so many issue areas your GSA colleagues are doing the cutting-edge research and practice change. It is going to be particularly important to be nimble enough to play a role in this transformational period while continuing the longer-term research that will be the foundation for the science and programs of the future. I look forward to a continued role with you in protecting and innovating during these turbulent times.

Brian: Thank you, Larry.

Make the Senate Great Again: An Editorial

I believe our democracy is great, but we could improve some of the flaws in our political system — the cost of running for office, the influence of special interests, gerrymandered districts, our growing national debt, and much more. And I do believe that we need to make the U.S. Senate great again. Over the years we have seen intellectuals, statesmen, parliamentary wizards, strategic geniuses, compassionate policy-makers, world-class orators, and the inventors of the art of the deal.

There have been true profiles in courage and that is what we need today: senators willing to take political risks. This means willingness to question their states’ parochial interests, work with the other party, speak out against popular (or not) presidents, identify deleterious policies, all in the name of doing what is best for our nation, not poll numbers and reelection chances.

Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), chair of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, falls into the “profiles in courage” category. Collins usually hits the mark with her thoughtful analysis, understanding of her Mainiacs, and her blend of compassion for those in need and a pragmatic approach to the role of government. She recently held a hearing titled “The Arc of Alzheimer’s: From Preventing Cognitive Decline in Americans to Assuring Quality Care for those Living with the Disease,” and once again, she impressed me and many in attendance.

During her statements and witness questioning she clearly articulated her strong opposition to the president’s proposed cuts to the National Institutes of Health, geriatric education, and specifically the Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (topic of my March column). She and Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), the ranking Democratic member on the committee, brought together witnesses, including Maria Shriver, who shared both the devastation that families face and the work needed to reach the next miracles of science.

Collins and one of the witnesses, Christopher Callahan, MD, of Indiana University, engaged on the growing demand for health care professionals and nurses who have training in geriatrics. She called on all committee members to sign a letter to the president rejecting cuts to NIH and geriatric education. Yes, Collins is savvy politician, a bit of a policy wonk, and a very compassionate senator, but she is also one of our few profiles in courage.

Recent GSA Policy Actions

GSA responded to the National Institute on Aging’s request for information on planning for its FY 2019 Alzheimer’s Disease Bypass Budget (ADBB). The agency’s staffers use this information to fulfill the National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease. GSA provided recommendations to prioritize research on multiple etiology (mixed) dementia, multimodal treatments, clinical management of dementia and co-existing medical conditions, and non-pharmacological interventions to maintain cognition, functioning, and quality of life in persons with dementia.

GSA signed on to a letter of support of the Reinvigorating Antibiotic and Diagnostic Innovation Act (READI) from the Infectious Diseases Society of America. The READI Act is modeled after the Orphan Drug Act and would provide a new tax credit for new antibiotics or antifungals that treat a serious or life-threatening infection and address an unmet medical need and for new rapid diagnostic tests, which are essential for appropriate antibiotic use.

GSA participated in a workgroup that produced the recently released “National Blueprint: Achieving Quality Malnutrition Care for Older Adults.” It calls for a range of strategies to be implemented across the healthcare institution and community spectrum, with four primary goals: improving quality care practices, improving access, generating research, and advancing public health. The full report can be found at www.defeatmalnutrition.today/blueprint. GSA Senior Director of Professional Affairs and Membership Patricia “Trish” D’Antonio represented GSA on the workgroup.
Continued from page 1 – Innovation in Aging Editor Sheds Light on Unique Format

from presenting results in static two-dimensional formats. For example, presentation of results may include visualization of multiple processes simultaneously interacting. Description of methods could include visual presentations of experimental procedures to increase accurate translation of methods across studies.

Topically, I expect that we will moving away from research that focuses on single systems. Instead, research in 20 years will be describing interaction between complex systems. For example, we are likely to see more research that describes the complex interplay between biological, social, and environmental influences on aging. In addition, I expect we will see more international teams working together to tackle global challenges and opportunities of aging.

How would you describe Innovation in Aging in three words?

• Innovative — because the journal seeks to attract research that describes original principles, implements novel methods, assesses emerging technology, and describes innovative care pathways.
• Interdisciplinary — because we will consider scientific articles representing expertise from multiple disciplines.
• Immediate — because we strive to make a first decision within 30 days of submission and an article will be published online as soon as it is typeset. Also, the open access model allows immediate online and free access to articles for every interested reader.

Do you think there are misconceptions regarding the journal? If so, what?

Innovation in Aging adopted the fully open access model of publishing. Two features distinguish the open access model from traditional subscription journals. First, readers have free, unrestricted online access to articles. Second, the journal does not have subscription fees; instead, the journal's costs are covered by author publication charges.

Research societies have widely adopted the open access model in the past decade. The most common open access journals in which GSAs members publish include the BMC, PLoS ONE, and Frontiers journals. However, some scientists continue to have concerns about this model.

The first concern is that open access journals may be predatory. Qualities that distinguish reputable open access journals from predatory journals are:

• The journal is included in reputable databases.
• The journal is owned by a scientifically reputable company or research society.
• The editorial board includes scientific expertise required to thoroughly review manuscripts relevant to its mission.
• The peer review process is clearly articulated and easily accessed.
• The policies for human and animal subject requirements and conflict of interest are clearly stated.
• The journal has a Creative Commons Attribution License.

Another concern about open access journals is that authors pay a publication fee. Innovation in Aging will waive the author publication fee for the first 200 accepted articles. Thereafter, GSA members will receive a discounted rate for author publication fees. A case study of an open access journal launched by Oxford University Press in 2014 (Open Forum Infectious Diseases) revealed that only 19 percent of authors requested waivers for author publication fees. A market survey commissioned by GSA revealed that of respondents who published in open access journals, nearly half had their author publication fees covered by institutional funding.
Professional conferences such as the upcoming IAGG World Congress in San Francisco can be great opportunities to position yourself to land a job in the near or long term. Here are ten tips to take full advantage:

#1: Prepare
Identify your personal and professional goals for the meeting, review the online program, and practice your elevator speech. Watch the 2015 webinar on networking archived at www.geron.org/webinar.

#2: Tell everyone you meet your status and professional goals
Share with each person you meet at the conference where you are in your academic process and where you hope to end up. Even if you are not actively seeking a job, share what type of position you eventually would like to obtain and when you think you will be on the market.

#3: Bring professionally-printed business cards
Handing over a professional business card makes a better impression than jotting your contact information on a cocktail napkin. Tell your advisor you need business cards in plenty of time to get them printed. If your department cannot provide cards, order some from a campus print shop or online printing service. Include your full name, credentials, university affiliation, email, and phone number. You can also include a few keywords about your research interests.

#4: Go to posters by people or schools you are targeting
Posters are perfect for one-on-one interactions. Use the search function of the online meeting planner to find posters by people at institutions where you would like to work. If you have applied or will apply for jobs at their institutions, let them know and express your hope to have the opportunity to work with them in the future.

#5: Ask smart and positive questions of presenters
Presentations are opportunities to show off your social and critical thinking skills. Listen carefully and craft a question that contributes to moving the research forward. A great question is succinct, begins with positive acknowledgement, briefly identifies your perspective, and then prompts the presenter to elaborate or reflect. Don't drone, interrupt, or criticize in a hostile way. Remember, you are demonstrating what kind of colleague you might be.

#6: Mingle before and after presentations
Arrive a few minutes early, introduce yourself to the people around you, and inquire about their interests in the topic. Afterward, let others know you appreciated their comments or questions. Introduce yourself to presenters and ask for copies of their papers.

#7: Go to interest group meetings
Interests groups are about building your academic community. They tend to be informal gatherings of like-minded researchers, all of whom were once in your shoes. Remember tip #2.

#8: Don’t spend the entire conference with other students from your program
It is okay to spend some time with your friends, but make sure you have plenty of opportunities to implement tip #2.

#9: Follow up with your new contacts
Once home, send a brief, professional thank you email or handwritten note to individuals you met. Give a gentle reminder of your interaction, including when and where you met and a line or two about what you discussed. If you use professional social media channels (professional accounts only!), connect with others so that you can stay in touch on a more regular basis.

#10: Relax and have fun!
Although it can be intimidating to approach senior leaders and faculty, try to relax and have fun! You have worked hard to reach this point in your career. View the meeting as an opportunity to share your accomplishments and research interests with future colleagues.

FrameWorks’ empirical approach to developing and testing frames yielded provocative insights and practical recommendations like these:

• A call for justice beats a plea for sympathy:
A controlled experiment found that one of the most effective ways to build support for greater inclusion of older people is a reminder that a just society treats all members as equal participants.

• Names matter:
An experiment that probed associations with current terms of reference — like “elderly,” “senior citizen,” and “older adults” — led to some surprising findings and the recommendation that the field shift to the term “older people.”

• A new metaphor, building momentum, dramatically shifts perceptions of aging:
FrameWorks researchers found that by comparing the process of aging to building momentum, communicators open a new way to think and talk about aging — something counter to currently available cultural idioms such as “fighting” aging or the importance of “staying young.” An innovative test of how messaging can affect people’s implicit associations showed that this metaphor reduced ageist attitudes by 30 percent.
GSA congratulates the following candidates:

**Society-Wide**

- **GSA President-Elect**
  S. Michal Jazwinski, PhD

- **GSA Secretary-Elect**
  Yuri Jang, PhD

**Behavioral and Social Sciences Section**

- **Chair-Elect**
  Eileen M. Crimmins, PhD

- **Secretary**
  Elisabeth O. Burgess, PhD

- **Member-At-Large**
  Chivon A. Mingo, PhD

- **Member-At-Large**
  Sara M. Moorman, PhD

- **Member-At-Large**
  Roland J. Thorpe Jr., PhD
Results Are Here!

Results Are Here! The new officers, who will take their offices in November.

Biological Sciences Section

Chair-Elect
Matt R. Kaeberlein, PhD

Secretary
Dudley W. Lamming, PhD

Health Sciences Section

Chair-Elect
Elsa S. Strotmeyer, PhD, MPH

Secretary
James S. Powers, MD

Social Research, Policy, and Practice Section

Chair-Elect
Bob A. Harootyan, MA, MS

Secretary
Debra J. Dobbs, PhD

Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization

Chair-Elect
Jamie N. Justice, PhD

Secretary
Heidi S. Moyer, PT, DPT

Communications Chair
Allyson T. Brothers, PhD
Careers in Aging Week increases the awareness and visibility of gerontology-related vocational opportunities. It is sponsored every April by GSA and its educational unit, the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). Universities and colleges participate by hosting events at their schools or in their communities. These activities may include guest speakers, career fairs, poster sessions, video presentations, panel discussions, and receptions. GSA and AGHE would like to thank the participating institutions and commend the imaginative ways they promoted gerontology on their campuses.

Careers in Aging Are Important Because...

The gerontology community has been asked to help spread the word why they feel careers in aging are important. Nearly 200 people have participated so far in a social media campaign to share their messages. Below are some of the most inspiring entries!

“Sometimes aging can take a toll and we can help when it does.”

“We can gain better insight by working together across all ages and disciplines.”

“Caring for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors.”

“Everyone deserves to age well.”

“It provides the opportunity to improve resources and services to ensure and improve quality of life as we age.”

“Ageism is a real issue!”

View more pictures from Careers in Aging Week events held at other institutions on GSA’s Facebook page. The photo album is available at bit.ly/2017CIAW

Congratulations to the Recipients of the 2017 Careers in Aging Week Awards!

These awards provide $400 to support events that raise the awareness about the exciting opportunities that careers in aging provide.

Bethune-Cookman University
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
Kansas State University
Northern Kentucky University
Oklahoma State University
Saint Louis University
San Jose State University
St. Cloud State University
Stockton University
The Ohio State University
University of Manitoba
University of Maryland Baltimore County
University of Southern California
Western Illinois University
Western Oregon University

GSA Innovation Fund

Careers in Aging Week is supported by the GSA Innovation Fund.
AN IN-DEPTH LOOK
Western Illinois University
Submitted by Robert C. Intrieri, PhD, and Maria L. Kurth, BS

Careers in Aging Week is a celebration of all the reasons that we have a gerontology/aging studies minor. We partnered with several businesses that provide an array of service to our rural West Central Illinois community of about 20,000 people. We designed a program that highlighted the various aspects of “thinking big” in gerontology. One speaker highlighted the entrepreneurial aspects of Careers in Aging stating that we have to be more innovative in our thinking about how to solve the practical problems of aging in the 21st century. Another offered practical tips on networking for success. We also had a component of our program that involved providing a biographical reflection related to a series of four interviews they conducted with a community-dwelling older adult. The students took the information derived from the interviews and fashioned it into an “as if” biography of themselves. They made connections between the experience they had interviewing the older adult and potential pathways to a career in aging. Finally, we provided information about careers in aging and a table-top presentation to several academic departments.

What are the elements of a successful event?
Robert: To have a successful event, there has to be planning, organization, and creativity. Planning for this event starts sometime in the fall when we start to develop a list of the types of information that we want to share with the university community. We have found that very few people have a great awareness of the career possibilities that are available through the study of aging. Finally, we incorporate some creativity every year that we hold a CIAW event. This year we incorporated discussions on networking and entrepreneurial thinking.

Maria: As a student I think the first element of a successful event is having a team of people who work well together. Second, start the planning well in advance. Third, have clear expectations about who is going to do what and to have equitable division of labor to take care of all the details. There has to be adequate advertising and promotion on campus and in the community. Communications involve outlets such as social media, word of mouth, printed flyers, and event posters. Another variable in a successful event is support from the masses (e.g., the university administration). Having support from other departments was essential in spreading the word about the CIAW programs and can generate interest in gerontology.

How do you see your specific events supporting careers in aging?
Robert: We developed three programs that we believed would best represent Careers in Aging Week. Dr. John K. Holton from Concordia University discussed career development and the entrepreneurial spirit. He argued that solving the problems of aging in the 21st century will need innovation and creativity. We also had a “nuts-and-bolts” presentation on networking for a career in aging. Finally, Introduction to Gerontology students presented biographical information from a series of interviews they held with an older adult.

Maria: The program on networking and professional development was impactful. The presentation provided information on two important skills that will be useful throughout the rest of my career and life — learning how to “dress for success” and present yourself during an interview is critical for career development. I also learned that preparing a simple “three-minute elevator speech” can be the critical difference in impression formation when someone asks you to explain your work or career aspirations. Second, Dr. Holton impressed upon the students the need for background knowledge in aging, if they are to be marketable to future employers. Finally, the gerontology student presentations reminded me why I wanted to develop a career in aging; older adults have a wealth of information, and their sharing may teach us how to live a better life.

What are the benefits of hosting an event?
Robert: The greatest benefits to hosting the CIAW event is that allows the faculty that are associated with the Gerontology/Aging Studies Program the opportunity to place the expanding population demographics into perspective for the rest of the university community. For example, it allows us to discuss the aging process and how it proceeds from midlife through late life. We provide information to the normative changes associated with physical, cognitive, and social development. CIAW also allows us to address concerns related to aging stereotypes and biases to potentially reduce aging myths and emphasize the positive aspects of aging.

Maria: The greatest benefit to hosting an event is promoting a cause that you feel passionate about. I am very passionate about learning new things related to aging and age-related processes, and having the opportunity to plan an event that furthered this cause was reward enough for me. I take it upon myself to educate others about why gerontology is an important career path to consider.

Visit www.careersinaging.com to sign up for e-mail alerts and more information!
The Gerontological Society of America, in collaboration with the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics Humanities and Arts Workgroup, is proud to present The Age Stage at the IAGG 2017 World Congress. This new programming will highlight the many ways creativity plays a role in aging. At The Age Stage, enjoy three days of entertainment, music, dance, fashion, visual arts, and more performed by people of all ages including adults 60 years and older.

Sunday, July 23

12:40 to 1:20 p.m. • The Artist Over Time
Presenters: Phyllis J. Meltzer, Elizabeth Wu, and Evelyn Meyer
A gerontologist comedian, a theater artist, and a painter will tell their stories of emergence and development as artists.

1:30 to 2 p.m. • Even Me Documentary Film Screening
Presenter: Megan Ebor
HIV-positive people of color in Los Angeles share their brutally honest stories of living and aging with the disease.

2 to 2:30 p.m. • Portrait of a Caregiver
Presenter: Jackie Eaton
Experience how an ethnodrama created in partnership with 22 family caregivers ignited dialogue through performances produced by Walk Ons, Inc.

2:40 to 3:10 p.m. • Quicksilver
Presenter: Brandi Rose
Watch how a dance company of older adults creates and performs improvisational pieces that actively engage audiences and embody a refined artistry that comes with life experience.

3:10 to 3:40 p.m. • Joyful Singing, Healthy Living
Presenters: Sylvia Sherman and Maria Cora
Singing in a choir provides elders with many personal, social, artistic, and quality of life benefits along with sheer joy.

3:50 to 4:40 p.m. • Senior Fashion Show
Presenter: Yoonho Cho
Combining modern dress and Korean traditional royal attire, this show will feature a performance group of elders from Seoul, Korea.

Monday, July 24

8 to 8:25 a.m. • Giving Voice a Chance
Presenter: Emily Loynachan
A gerontologist and vocalist shows how elders with neurodegenerative disease can use specially developed oratory exercises to reclaim and revive their love of singing.

9 to 9:20 a.m. • Su Majestad “El Danzon”
Presenter: Maria Bermudez
Mission Neighborhood Centers Senior Dance Group is proud to partner with the Artistic Director of “Ensables Ballet Folklorico” Zenon Barron to present a Cuban dance: Danzon, which is a current part of the Mexican popular music scene.

9:30 to 9:50 a.m. • Colibri Arts: Lifelong Movement and Dance
Presenter: Eartha Robinson
Expressive arts through movement and dance should be available to us all lifelong, regardless of our age or physical limitations. View a video of a recent performance by Colibri Arts and hear from an instructor and a founder.

11:10 to 11:50 a.m. • Honoring Our Elders
Presenter: J. Michael Walker
Come see large-scale painted portraits of septuagenarians, octogenarians, and nonagenarians from an artist’s adopted home in northern Mexico.

11:50 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. • The Power of Stories
Presenter: Wendy Lustbader
Come hear teaching stories that engage the mind through emotions and vivid images, and be inspired to use stories of your own to convey visceral interest in the lives of elders.

12:40 to 1:30 p.m. • Dolls of Hope
Presenter: Cynthia Davis
Come hear Cynthia Davis, the founder of the Dolls of Hope Project, describe how the project now works internationally to bring together HIV+ women to share their stories, break the community’s silence, and educate at risk uninfected women and girls.

1:40 p.m. to 2:05 p.m. • Art (at) 101
Presenter: Susan Snyder and Carnell Rogers
Carnell Rogers (age 101) will portray the impact and value of becoming an artist later in life, telling how her participation in the Elders Learning Community made all the difference.

2:20 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. • Uhane
Presenter: Gail Steinberg
Seven unstoppable women over 60 deliver deeply rooted stories in a seamless weaving of gesture, emotion-driven movement, and choreography infused with the clarity of voice.
2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. • Light Years: Illuminating Our Images of Aging  
Presenter: Claire Panke  
View clips from an upcoming dynamic film that offers an antidote to our outdated notions of aging as its stories unfold with wisdom, humor, and a few surprises.

3:40 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Songwriting Works’ Life’s a Song  
Presenter: Judith-Kate Friedman  
Treat yourself to this uplifting multi-media concert celebrating the artistry, stories, and voices of rural elders and friends, age 12 to 103, in Washington State.

4:35 to 4:50 p.m. • Art Saves Lives: AIDS Health Foundation (AHF) Pop-Up Art Gallery  
Presenters: Joey Terrill and Thomasina DeMaio  
Popular AHF supported Art Saves Lives gallery in the Castor and Mission districts of San Francisco exhibits the artwork of older persons living with HIV/AIDS who come to the art gallery on an ongoing basis for classes.

Tuesday, July 25
8 to 8:25 a.m. • There is a Place: The Power of Music During the End of Life  
Presenter: Tania Ku  
This short documentary follows a musician sharing his gift of music with dementia care communities around the San Francisco Bay area.

8:30 to 9:10 a.m. • The Age of Love  
Presenter: Steven Loring  
This independent documentary offers a playful yet profound exploration of the time-tested, still-hopeful hearts of a group of 70- to 90-year-olds who attend a first-of-its-kind Senior Speed Dating event.

9:10 to 9:50 a.m. • Bodies Mapping Time  
Presenter: J. Michael Walker  
Photographic portraits honor and celebrate women’s later lives will be shown by the photographer as he depicts the dignity with which each woman had a hand in choosing the images that best represent her.

11:10 to 11:40 a.m. • Dancing With Crow’s Feet  
Presenter: Debra Campbell  
Inspired by narratives of older women and ancient crow folklore, this intergenerational and interactive play features female experiences of aging.

11:40 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. • In the Moment: Living Well with Dementia  
Presenters: Mary Jane Knecht and Cara Lauer  
Seattle’s new community-wide movement — termed Momentia — rejects the tragedy narrative and embraces life in the moment for people living with dementia.

12:20 to 12:40 p.m. • The Artist Within  
Presenter: Marilyn Raichle  
This exhibition displays exhilarating artwork by 43 individuals, ages 60 to 101, living with dementia.

12:50 to 1:40 p.m. • Wilhemina’s War  
Presenter: Cynthia Davis  
This documentary focuses on an older African American grandmother, Wilhemina, who endures many trials and tribulations as her daughter gets sick and passes away from HIV/AIDS while her granddaughter goes through bullying and rejection.

1:40 to 2:10 p.m. • The Wonderful World of Senior Theatre  
Presenter: Bonnie L. Vorenberg  
A premier leader in dramatic arts with elders will depict how theater is changing the lives of older participants and audiences everywhere.

3 to 3:30 p.m. • Living Canvases  
Presenter: Tara Gruenewald  
Art created through a series of life review workshops and some of the stories that inspired such artistic creations will be presented by the elder participants and the young artists who received their stories.

3:30 to 3:50 p.m. • One Morning I Looked in the Mirror and Didn’t Recognize Myself  
Presenter: Lucy Rose Fischer  
Hear award-winning gerontologist, artist, and author Lucy Rose Fischer, PhD, portray the experience of growing older with wit, whimsy, and vibrantly fanciful art.

3:50 to 4:20 p.m. • Transgender Tuesdays: Film Clips of Older Adults Telling Their Stories  
Presenter: Mark Freeman  
Eight courageous transgender 55- to 80-year-olds discuss their lives before respectful employment options or sensitive medical care existed.

4:20 to 4:50 p.m. • Dreams to Art  
Presenters: Jo Ann Damron-Rodriguez and Dorothy Nissen  
A life-long professional artist and a late-life artist will present their visual art in dialogue with philosopher and dream expert Rick Moody, exploring how the unconscious when unfettered in dreams can inspire and expand creativity.

5 to 5:30 p.m. • Never Too Late Musical Revue  
Presenter: Sadie Harmon  
This show celebrates improvisation and storytelling that emerges from Stagebridge’s award-winning performing arts programs with older adults.

For more information, visit iagg2017.org/agestage
Poison Help Now Available Online

The American Association of Poison Centers (AAPCC) has launched an interactive online poison help triage tool at poisonhelp.org. This new and free interactive, mobile device-optimized, online poison information tool was created and vetted by toxicology experts who oversee the nation’s poison control centers. Based in large part on concerns about the inconsistent accuracy of poison-related information available on the web, the AAPCC Board initiated the development of poisonhelp.org, wherein users are prompted to answer a few simple questions about a human exposure to approximately 325,000 available unique products and substances. The site uses AAPCC-approved algorithms to quickly return a recommendation for the user based on his or her input. Input fields include substance, route of exposure, and some basic information about the exposed person. For any complex or potentially dangerous exposure, the user is prompted to call Poison Help at 800-222-1222, and the number is provided for all search results as a resource for more information. For smart phone users, the Poison Help number can be dialed by touching the number on the screen. The website is intended as an extension of the life-saving public service that has been offered by poison control centers for decades via telephone. It is the only AAPCC-sanctioned and endorsed online poisoning triage tool.

New Campaign Contains Resources for Older Drivers

With support from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the American Geriatrics Society’s Health in Aging Foundation has announced the start of a public information campaign focused on helping older adults and caregivers access resources for safely navigating the open road. The campaign features a toolkit providing actionable safe driving tips, advice on how to have important conversations with older adults about driving limitations, and ways to continue being mobile and independent when personal driving is no longer a safe option. The Health in Aging Foundation developed these resources with help from an interprofessional team of clinicians and experts based on tools created for healthcare professionals who counsel and assess older drivers, such as an online textbook/guide, webinars, and a mobile application that is in development. The toolkit of resources for the general public includes tip sheets on testing driver safety, discussing when to stop driving, safety tips for older drivers, and transportation alternatives for non-drivers. To learn more, visit healthinaging.org.

Editor-in-Chief Nominations

PUBLIC POLICY & AGING REPORT®

The Gerontological Society of America® (GSA) Publications Committee is seeking nominations for the position of Editor-in-Chief of Public Policy & Aging Report.

Public Policy & Aging Report, published quarterly, explores policy issues generated by the aging of society. Each thematic issue is designed to stimulate debate, highlight emerging concerns, and propose alternative policy options. Recent issues have addressed legal and policy issues associated with end-of-life care, technology and aging; income security among older populations of color; Medicare reform; and elder abuse and neglect.

The 4-year term will become effective January 1, 2018. The Editor-in-Chief makes appointments to the journal’s Editorial Board and develops policies in accordance with the scope statement prepared by the GSA Publications Committee and approved by the GSA Council. The Editor-in-Chief and members of his/her Editorial Board will have the opportunity to recruit leading policy experts to contribute articles to the journal using the online platform, ScholarOne Manuscripts. The Editor has the final responsibility for the acceptance of these and other articles. The editorship is a voluntary position with an institutional allowance. Candidates must be dedicated to developing a premier publication.

Nominations and applications may be made by the candidate or others, and must be accompanied by the candidate’s curriculum vitae and a letter of intent.

All nominations and applications must be emailed to Judie Lieu at jlieu@geron.org by May 31, 2017.

Pain & Decision Making

A Free Monthly Webinar Series

May 22, 2017 | 1pm-2pm EST
Presenter: Adam Hirsh, PhD, Indiana University
Racial & Ethnic Pain-Related Disparities: Provider & Contextual Factors & Potential Solutions

June 26, 2017 | 1pm-2p, EST
Presenter: Joseph Kable, PhD, University of Pennsylvania
The Impact of Expectations & Persistence on Achieving Long Term Goals

The TRIPPL webinar series is a web based training resource for health professionals, researchers, and others with interest (or working) in the aging field.

Please visit our website at www.tripll.org for more information or contact Jacquie Howard at jah3011@med.cornell.edu
NIA Offers New RCMAR Center Funding

A new funding opportunity announcement issued by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) invites applications from qualified institutions to create or continue a Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) Coordinating Center (CC). The RCMAR program aims to enhance the diversity of the aging research workforce by mentoring promising scientists from under-represented groups for sustained careers in aging research. RCMARs focus on priority areas of social, behavioral, and economic research on the processes of aging at the individual or societal level. The new cycle of RCMARs will expand the scientific scope of the program to encourage transdisciplinary social and behavioral science research on any theme addressed in the National Institute on Aging Strategic Plan, and will include a new cohort of RCMARs focused on behavioral and social science related to Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD). The primary purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support centers that will enhance the diversity of the aging research workforce by mentoring promising scientists from under-represented groups for sustained careers in ADRD-relevant research in a selected area of scientific focus; and to develop infrastructure to promote advances in this area and increase the number of researchers focused on the health and well-being of minority elders. This new cycle of RCMARs will expand the scientific scope of the program to include a subset of centers focused on priority areas of social and behavioral science related to Alzheimer’s disease, including research on the epidemiology of ADRD, preventive interventions for ADRD, and the formal and informal care challenges of individuals with ADRD and their family members. Letters of intent are due June 20 and applications are due July 20. Further details are located at bit.ly/2oEcU83.

Letters of intent are due June 20 and applications are due July 20. View the full announcement at bit.ly/2pXJkOL.

RCMAR Grants Will Support Alzheimer’s Research

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) is inviting applications from qualified institutions for the creation of Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMARs) with a focus on behavioral or social science research related to Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD). The primary purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support centers that will enhance the diversity of the aging research workforce by mentoring promising scientists from under-represented groups for sustained careers in ADRD-relevant research in a selected area of scientific focus; and to develop infrastructure to promote advances in this area and increase the number of researchers focused on the health and well-being of minority elders. This new cycle of RCMARs will expand the scientific scope of the program to include a subset of centers focused on priority areas of social and behavioral science related to Alzheimer’s disease, including research on the epidemiology of ADRD, preventive interventions for ADRD, and the formal and informal care challenges of individuals with ADRD and their family members. Letters of intent are due June 20 and applications are due July 20. Further details are located at bit.ly/2oEcU83.
KEYNOTE SESSION SPEAKERS

Check out the incredible lineup of speakers for Tuesday, July 25, 2017, 10:00 am - 11:00 am.

**Emerging Issues in Mobility and Aging**

Faculty: Stephanie Studenski, Stephen Lord

**Healthy Brain Aging: A Lifespan Perspective**

Faculty: Dan G. Blazer, Kristine Yaffe, Laura Frolich

**Longitudinal Studies on Aging: From Science to Policy**

Faculty: Rosa Anne Kenny, Elke Slagboom, AB Day

**Social Inequality and Social Justice**

Faculty: Jan Baars, Dale Donohoer, Chris Phillips

For a complete list of keynote sessions and speakers, visit iagg2017.org/keynotes.