inside this issue:

- New Fellows Announced . . . . . .2
- The Gerontologist Editor Selected . . . . .3
- Expanded AGHE News . . . . . .5

Clinical Medicine Mailing Sent
All members in GSA’s Clinical Medicine Section have been mailed ballots asking for a vote on a name change. They will be due back by October 1st.

Technical Upgrades Forthcoming
GSA has acquired a new database system that promises to provide better communication and services for both staff and members. Streamlined features, to be introduced in the coming months, will also allow for an improved website with members-only access. Usernames and passwords for the system will be e-mailed to members during the month of August. Stay tuned to the GSA listserv and Gerontology News for further updates.

Printing Error Affects Journal
A very small number of copies of the May and July issues of The Journals of Gerontology: Series B were sent out with pages missing (P175-S124 for May and P249-P250 and S173-S186 for July). If yours was one of the issues affected, please contact Cletus Rataichek for a replacement at crataichek@geron.org.

Online Registration Imminent; Workshops Announced

During August, GSA members will find several important updates on www.agingconference.com regarding the November Dallas meeting. Online registration will become available around the middle of the month. At the same time, the 2006 Preliminary Program is due to be mailed and posted on the website. Hotel arrangements can also be made electronically.

In addition, GSA’s meetings department has announced the list of pre-conference workshops taking place in Dallas (see below). Signing up in advance is strongly suggested. On-site registration for these sessions will be on a first come/first served basis. All pre-conference workshops are scheduled for Thursday, November 16th and the fees are non-refundable. Please refer to the website or the preliminary program for pricing and schedules.

2006 Pre-Conference Workshops

- Assisted Living Concerns from the Private Sector Policy Makers: Informing Researchers so Research Can Inform Practice and Policy
- Gerontology and Geriatrics Education: Moving from Teacher-Centered to Learner-Centered Strategies and Environments
- How To Publish
- The Women’s Health Initiative: A Data Workshop
- Scientific and Professional Writing Skills Workshop for Junior Faculty in Minority Aging Research
- Survival Guide to Clinical Research: Building and Sustaining a Program of Research
- Preparing Gerontological Research Data for Archiving and Secondary Analysis: Best Practice for Protecting Respondent Confidentiality and Facilitating the Research Process

Research Finds Hydration Crucial To Elders’ Well-Being

The 12th article in The American Journal of Nursing’s (AJN) “A New Look at the Old” series shows senior citizens as extremely susceptible to complications arising from dehydration. Author Janet Mentes of UCLA’s School of Nursing shows that age-related changes make older adults more vulnerable to shifts in water balance that can result in overhydration or, more frequently, dehydration.

With sufficient fluid consumption older people tend to have fewer falls, less constipation and laxative use, improved rehabilitation in orthopedic patients and a reduction in bladder cancer (among men). Drinking five or more 8-oz. glasses of water a day is also associated with lower rates of fatal coronary heart disease in middle-age and older adults, the study states.

Mentes also discusses current research about the hydration status of older adults across care settings and in the community, as well as a range of tools to improve your assessment skills, including a “Dehydration Risk Appraisal Checklist.”

This article series is a collaborative effort among the AJN, The Gerontological Society of America, and Trinity Healthforce Learning. It is funded by Atlantic Philanthropies with additional support from the Nurses Service Organization. This and previous “A New Look at the Old” reports can be accessed free of charge online at: www.NursingCenter.com/AJNolderadults.

The venture – designed to provide information and skills to improve the care and well-being of older adults – has already received several professional distinctions. Most recently it was bestowed the Silver Award for Best Feature Series from The American Society of Healthcare Publications Editors.
Newest Fellows Announced

On July 21, GSA’s Executive Committee approved the following members for Fellow status within the Society:

**Biological Sciences Section**
Holly M. Brown-Borg, PhD, University of North Dakota
Hiroshi Saito, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch

**Clinical Medicine Section**
Jill A. Bennett, PhD, RN, University of Auckland
Kenneth R. Culp, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Iowa
J. Taylor Harden, PhD, National Institute on Aging
Susan M. Heidrick, PhD, RN, University of Wisconsin
Diana L. Morris, PhD, Case Western Reserve University
Dan Osterweil, MD, University of California
Brenda W.J.H. Penninx, PhD, VU University Medical Center
Barbara Resnick, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP, University of Maryland

**Behavioral and Social Sciences Section**
Gregory W. Arling, PhD, University of Missouri
Stig Berg, PhD, Jönköping University
Linda M. Burton, PhD, Duke University
Deborah Carr, PhD, Rutgers University
Kate Davidson, PhD, University of Surrey
Sara Hall Guldner, DSN, Binghamton University
Carol Jagger, PhD, University of Leicester
Ulman Lindenberger, PhD, Max Planck Institute
Mary A. Luszcz, PhD, Flinders University
Jennifer Moye, PhD, Brockton VA Medical Center
Joan E. Norris, PhD, University of Guelph
Eileen J. Porter, PhD, University of Missouri
Jacqui E. Smith, PhD, Max Planck Institute
Alan B. Stevens, PhD, Scott and White Memorial Hospital
J. Jill Suttor, PhD, Purdue University
Paula M. Usita, PhD, San Diego State University

**Social Research, Policy and Practice Section**
Cathy S. Berkman, PhD, MSW, Fordham University
Sandra S. Butler, PhD, MSW, University of Maine
Nicholas G. Castle, PhD, University of Pittsburgh
Stephanie A. Robert, PhD, MSW, University of Wisconsin
Sheryl I. Zimmerman, PhD, University of North Carolina

Help Us Celebrate Our 10th Anniversary

Give a congratulatory message in PP&AR’s 10th Anniversary Issue to be published Fall 2006

Reserve your space now.

University/individual rate:
$150—full page
$75—half page
$40—quarter page

The deadline for ads is September 15th, 2006
For more information or to reserve your space, contact Greg O’Neill at:
(202) 842-1275, x118 or goneill@agingsociety.org

Send news items to:
Gerontology News
The Gerontological Society of America
1030 15th St., NW, Suite 250
Washington, DC 20005-1503
or email: tkluss@geron.org.

Send advertisements to:
Steve Kavalgian
Mill River Media, LLC
141 Boston Post Road
Old Lyme, CT 06371-1303
or e-mail: kavalgian@adelphia.net

Ad rates are available at www.geron.org.
August 2006

Irstone

McAuley Tapped for Editor Position
William “Jim” McAuley of George Mason University has been chosen as the next editor of The Gerontologist. He was selected in June by the GSA Publications Committee and approved by the Executive Council. His four year term will begin in January 2007.

Grants Allow Members to Initiate Programs
The Retirement Research Foundation recently bestowed two new grants to Sara Honn Qualls of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and Peter Lichtenberg of Wayne State University. These GSA members were charged with establishing training programs on mental health and aging. Specifically, these programs will be designed for occupational therapists, physical therapists, and nurses who work with older adults at increased risk of depression or anxiety due to a history of recent heart surgery, heart attack, stroke, or other cardiovascular events.

Kunkel Receives Top Distinction from Ohio Association
Suzanne Kunkel, director of the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University of Ohio, was recently named the 2006 Outstanding Gerontology Educator by the Ohio Association of Gerontology in Higher Education.

Glasse, Estes receive honors from NCPSSM
As part of its 2006 salute to leaders in aging, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare (NCPSSM) gave its Lifetime Achievement Award to former GSA President Carroll Estes and former GSA Task Force on Women Chair Lou Glasse. The mission of the NCPSSM is to protect, preserve, promote, and ensure the financial security, health, and the wellbeing of current and future generations of maturing Americans.

Note from the editor:
As always, we welcome all members to send us personal news items for this page. From this point forward, feel free to also send photographs to accompany the stories. And if other media outlets report on your accomplishments, we’d be happy to include the mentions here as well. Submissions can be sent to tkluss@geron.org.

Correction
The June issue of Gerontology News reported that Jessica Clark had joined the GSA staff as the new administrative assistant/receptionist. Since the time of press, she has accepted a departmental transfer to become the office’s meetings and promotions coordinator.
Participants Needed for Alzheimer’s Disease Research

The National Institutes of Health is seeking men and women between the ages of 55 and 90 to participate in a landmark research study called the “Alzheimer’s Disease Neuroimaging Initiative.” It is the largest and most comprehensive study of its kind, involving 58 clinical sites across the country. The goal of the initiative is to speed up the search for treatments and cures for Alzheimer’s disease by seeing whether imaging of the brain, through magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or positron emission tomography (PET) scans, every 6 months can help predict and monitor the onset and progression of Alzheimer’s. In addition, samples of blood and, for some participants, cerebral spinal fluid will be collected and tested to determine if these biomarkers can predict and monitor the disease. It is hoped that imaging techniques and biomarkers will prove useful in testing the effectiveness of new therapies in slowing the progression of Alzheimer’s or preventing the disease altogether. Alzheimer’s disease affects one in 10 Americans over the age of 65. By the year 2050, 13 million Americans may suffer from the disease. Researchers are looking for people who are in good general health with no memory problems, or are in good general health but have memory problems or concerns, or have a diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment or early Alzheimer’s disease. For more information about the study, please contact the NIA’s Alzheimer’s Disease Education & Referral (ADEAR) Center at 800-438-4380 or visit www.alzheimers.org/imagine. Spanish-language capabilities are available at some of the study sites.

Book Editor Seeking Manuscripts on Aging and Culture

GSA member Jay Sokolovsky is now welcoming manuscript submissions for the third edition of his book, titled Cultural Context of Aging. He is looking for new original works that focus on cultural systems and how they can help understand the aging process and the aged themselves. The book is geared toward advanced undergrads and grad students, but Sokolovsky encourages authors to produce lively, jargon-limited discussions that often use case examples of people and communities to lead students through the important issues a chapter discusses. He also will include new short pieces and multimedia support materials (power-point, slides and video), which will be copyrighted on the Cultural Context of Aging web site (http://www.stpt.usf.edu/~jsokolov/). He is particularly looking to strengthen the book in the areas of African American families and support of the elderly; Scandinavian culture and aging policy; Community formation and new cultural environments to age in; Matrilineal societies and aging; and South East Asian ethnic elderly or other good ethnic case studies. Ideas for contributions can be sent to Sokolovsky at jsokolov@stpt.usf.edu

HHS Secretary Reports Progress on Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit

The Department of Health and Human Services has recently released a new report, titled “The Secretary's Progress Report IV on the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit.” The paper contains the latest Medicare Part D Prescription Drug enrollment numbers, recaps the results of the first enrollment period that ended on May 15, and looks to the future. For more information visit http://www.hhs.gov/medicare4.pdf.

Papers Sought For Research Annual

Submissions are being welcomed for volume 25 of Research in The Sociology of Health Care, published formerly by JAI Press and now by Elsevier Press. The major theme for this volume is "Inequalities and disparities in health care and health: concerns of patients, providers, and insurers." Papers dealing with macro-level system issues and micro-level issues involving provision of health care and issues related to inequalities and disparities such as race/ethnicity, SES, gender and rural/urban concerns are welcome. Papers that focus on perspectives of patients, providers or insurers of care as ways to meet health care needs of people both in the US and in other countries would also be suitable. The focus can be from a consumer side or a provider or insurer perspective. Papers that raise issues of the availability of services, access to those services, quality of services and the role of government in services provision are appropriate as well. Papers can focus on issues of services for specific diseases such as AIDS, heart disease and cancer or across a wide variety of health care problems or health care services delivery in general. For papers examining health care delivery systems in other countries, the focus could be on issues of delivery systems in those countries and ways in which revisions and changes impact inequalities and disparities in care, especially if those are then also related to broader concerns in health care in the US or other countries as well. The volume will contain 10 to 14 papers, generally between 20 and 40 pages in length. Send completed manuscripts or detailed outlines for review by February 15, 2007. For an initial indication of interest in outlines or abstracts, please contact the same address by January 10, 2007.

Send to:
Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld
Sociology Program, School of Social and Family Dynamics
Box 873701
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287-4802
Phone 480 965-8053; E-mail Jennie.Kronenfeld@asu.edu.
Initial inquiries can be by email.
Recommended Readings on Culture Change in Long-Term Care
Provided by Harry R. Moody, AARP Academic Affairs

Kane, Rosalie; Kane, Robert L; and Ladd, Richard C., The Heart of Long-Term Care, Oxford University Press, 1998.
Kane, Robert L, and West, Joan, It Shouldn’t Be This Way: The Failure Of Long-Term Care, Vanderbilt University Press, 2005.
Weiner, Audrey and Ronch, Judah, Culture Change in Longterm Care, Haworth, 2004.

Recommended Websites on Culture Change in Long-Term Care
Provided by Harry R. Moody, AARP Academic Affairs

www.pioneernetwork.net
www.k-state.edu/peak/(Promoting Excellent Alternatives in Kansas nursing homes)
www.edenalt.com/
www.almosthomedoc.org
www.wellspringis.org/

New book Edited by Faculty from AGHE Member Institutions
Debra Sheets (California State University, Northridge, Dana Bradley (Western Kentucky University) and Jon Hendricks (Oregon State University) have edited a new collection of discipline-based essays, titled Enduring Questions in Gerontology, which moves beyond a “history of ideas” to provide thoughtful reflections on the field of aging. These chapters provide readers with an appreciation for why and how key questions emerged, how they have changed over the past half century, and what lies just beyond the horizon. The book, published by Springer Publishers, provides a comprehensive perspective on the abiding issues in gerontology, and creates the context for further progress among current and future professionals interested in aging.

AARP Premieres Guide for Aging Studies Faculty
The AARP Office of Academic Affairs has a new resource for educators available at its web site, www.aarp.org/research/academic/. A multimedia guide on “Images of Aging” has just been released for teaching about the changing images of aging. It includes a free video download and curriculum guide for classroom use and discussion. This is a companion piece to the curriculum guide on “Teaching Social Security.”

Interested in Becoming an AGHE Fellow?
Individuals with well-established careers and achievements in gerontology or geriatrics education are invited to apply for Fellow status within AGHE. You are asked to document your accomplishments related to educational issues and you must be employed by an AGHE member institution. Qualifications include:
• outstanding achievement in teaching;
• influential research or publications on pedagogy or educational issues;
• influential research publications or theoretical contributions on gerontological or geriatric education/training; or
• leadership in administration and funding of gerontological or geriatric educational programs, including the development of new programs.

Fellow status is granted only to individuals demonstrating a record of excellence beyond routine teaching. Applications for the 2005-06 AGHE Fellows Program are due October 13, 2006. Forms will be sent to AGHE’s Institutional Representatives and may be obtained from the AGHE office. Please call (202) 289-9806 or e-mail dstepp@aghe.org. You may also get the application information from the AGHE website at www.aghe.org by following the “About AGHE” menu to the “Fellows” page.

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY’S M.A. in GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM
This 36 hour program offers students knowledge and training in diverse areas of the fast-growing field of Gerontology. For convenience, all courses in the program meet once a week either on weekday evenings or Saturdays. A multi-disciplinary program by design, it works with students to tailor their educational experience to best meet personal and/or career training goals. The M.A. program accommodates people interested in all areas of this important specialty, as well as life-long learners interested in personal aging issues. NEIU is a state-supported commuter university serving approximately 11,000 students and is located at 5500 North St. Louis Avenue in Chicago.
If you are interested and/or have any questions, feel free to contact the program coordinator at (773) 442-5846 or e-mail l-hollissawyer@neiu.edu.
As the end of the summer approaches and we begin to prepare for the beginning of another academic year, it is useful to continue thinking about the issue of mentorship. Although the importance of mentorship has been discussed in previous articles, we will focus this month on the value and benefits of peer mentorship.

Students beginning new academic programs should not overlook the value of advanced students who are often a great resource for information about courses, workload, and faculty interests. Beyond strictly academic advice, advanced students may also be able to share information on social opportunities within the school and outside community, safe and affordable off-campus housing, and other ‘insider information’ that can help make the transition to a new setting easier.

Advanced students should be aware of the role they can play in helping new students transition to an academic program. Social gatherings planned at the beginning of the school year can give new students an opportunity to interact in a less formal setting than inside the classroom. Informal social gatherings often give people the opportunity to get to know each other’s non-academic interests, thus facilitating the formation of friendships within the program.

Some students already balancing the competing demands of school, work, and family find it difficult and sometimes burdensome to dedicate additional time to participating in school-related social events. New students especially often worry that taking time away from studies may be detrimental to their academic progress. Looked at differently, however, participating in recreational events with other students can help foster relationships which may deter burnout and lead to more efficient studying.

When looking back at the first semester of a new program, many advanced students recall the dual challenges of balancing a new workload with trying to find our niche among our peers. We advanced students should make a conscious effort to try to reach out to incoming students and help ease their transition. These informal support systems are often crucial in helping make a student’s first semester in a new program successful.
Applications are being accepted for two tenure-track positions in Human Development & Family Studies at the University of Missouri. One position is for an Assistant Professor on 9-month appointment. Duties include conducting an active program of research in human development and family studies, writing grants, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, advising undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students, and participating in service. Address applications to Dr. Marilyn Coleman.

The second position is a 12-month Assistant Professor & State Extension Specialist position involving 70% Extension and 30% Research. The Extension portion is to provide expertise and leadership in the development and implementation of parent education, especially for divorcing parents and step-parents, and to support Extension county faculty who offer such programs. The research portion is to maintain an active program of research in an area related to human development and family studies. This position also involves advisement of graduate students and membership on graduate student committees. Department, campus, and professional service is also expected. Address applications to Dr. Teresa Cooney.

Applicants for both positions should have a Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies or a related area at the time of appointment (August, 2007). Demonstrated research competence and potential to maintain a productive research program, including procurement of external funding and scholarly publication is also expected. Previous experience with Extension or related applied activities is preferred for the Extension position.

Harvard School of Public Health • Department of Society, Human Development, and Health

Assistant Professor in the Area of Social Epidemiology of Aging

Harvard University is committed to increasing the number of women and minorities in its faculty, and encourages applications from such candidates.

The Department of Society, Human Development, and Health at the Harvard School of Public Health seeks candidates for a tenure-ladder position as assistant professor in the area of social epidemiology of aging.

Applicants should have a record of research and teaching in issues related to life course development and aging, social determinants of aging, and multidisciplinary methodological approaches to health, functioning, and aging. The ability to contribute to the department's efforts in social determinants of health, innovative approaches to quantitative methods, and lifecourse approaches to health and aging is desirable. We are especially interested in the extent to which candidates address issues related to health disparities or policy issues. Applicants should hold a doctorate in epidemiology, sociology, demography, or a related field.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an independent research program and to collaborate with others in the department. S/he will teach courses in aging and in research methods, specifically in quantitative approaches to life course and human development issues, and will advise master's and doctoral students and direct doctoral students in their dissertation research.

Please send a letter of application, including a statement of current and future research interests, a curriculum vitae, sample publications, and the names of three referees to the following address. Applicants should ask their three referees to write independently to this address:

Chair, Search Committee in Social Epidemiology and Aging  
c/o Toby Bernstein  
Department of Society, Human Development, and Health  
Harvard School of Public Health  
677 Huntington Avenue, Kresge 710  
Boston, MA 02115

Harvard University is committed to increasing the number of women and minorities in its faculty, and encourages applications from such candidates.

Human Development and Family Studies

University of Missouri – Columbia • Two Faculty Positions

Applications are being accepted for two tenure-track positions in Human Development & Family Studies at the University of Missouri. One position is for an Assistant Professor on 9-month appointment. Duties include conducting an active program of research in any area of human development and family studies, writing grants, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, advising undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students, and participating in service. Address applications to Dr. Marilyn Coleman.

The second position is a 12-month Assistant Professor & State Extension Specialist position involving 70% Extension and 30% Research. The Extension portion is to provide expertise and leadership in the development and implementation of parent education, especially for divorcing parents and step-parents, and to support Extension county faculty who offer such programs. The research portion is to maintain an active program of research in an area related to human development and family studies. This position also involves advisement of graduate students and membership on graduate student committees. Department, campus, and professional service is also expected. Address applications to Dr. Teresa Cooney.

Applicants for both positions should have a Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies or a related area at the time of appointment (August, 2007). Demonstrated research competence and potential to maintain a productive research program, including procurement of external funding and scholarly publication is also expected. Previous experience with Extension or related applied activities is preferred for the Extension position.

The department focuses on lifespan human development and families in a variety of relational, social and cultural contexts. Faculty conduct basic and applied research with a unique investment in the applications of new knowledge to issues facing individuals and families. Our commitment to individual and family diversity in research, teaching and service distinguishes our academic and extension programs. Visit the following for more information about the University of Missouri, Columbia (http://www.missouri.edu/), University of Missouri Extension (http://extension.missouri.edu/), and the Department of Human Development and Family Studies (http://web.missouri.edu/~hdfswww/).

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of Missouri-Columbia is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action employer. To request ADA accommodations contact our ADA Coordinator.

Applications will be reviewed starting October 15 and continue until suitable candidates are hired for both positions. Send application materials (a cover letter addressing qualifications, a curriculum vitae, and 3 letters of reference) and inquiries to the appropriate person named above, at:

University of Missouri- Columbia  
314 Gentry Hall  
Columbia, MO 65211-7700  
Fax: 573-884-5550  
CooneyT@missouri.edu or ColemanMA@missouri.edu

August 2006 • gerontology news • 7