GSA Draws Intel Futurist for Closing Session on Aging Care Innovations

Eric Dishman

Technology and Transformation: Addressing the Global Age Wave
Tuesday, November 20, 9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

The newly finalized closing session for GSA’s 2007 Annual Meeting will focus on improving the quality of life for a booming senior population while decreasing the costs of health care.

Eric Dishman, General Manager and Global Director of Intel’s Health Research & Innovation Group, will be joining a panel of experts to discuss and demonstrate some of the systems he’s developed on the job.

Dishman directs an Intel lab that specializes in home health technologies for seniors and their families who are struggling with cognitive decline, cancer, and cardiovascular disease. He is also chair of the Intel Research Council Health Subcommittee, which funds university grants on consumer health & wellness technologies.

In partnership with the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, Dishman founded the Center for Aging Services Technologies, a cross-industry working group that focuses on technology to help seniors live long and live well. Additionally, in partnership with the national office of the Alzheimer’s Association, he co-founded a new research consortium called ETAC (Everyday Technologies for Alzheimer’s Care).

The closing session’s panel will explore the ways America will be directing its home healthcare in the future; how proactive healthcare will drive a unified front among care providers, manufacturers and patients in delivering “smart” solutions to healthcare and care giving; the government and regulatory issues involved; and the identification of key sets of technologies needed to integrate healthcare solutions.

The session will be moderated by Susan Ayers Walker, the leading technology journalist for aarp.org and founder of the SmartSilvers Alliance. A reception is slated to take place after this event. Stay tuned to Gerontology News for more details.

Also not to be missed:
Sharing Science: Science Centers Partnering with Researchers
Monday, November 19th, 11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.

This session builds upon a 2006 SPRY Foundation conference that introduced the science center community (museums, nature centers, aquariums, planetariums, zoos, botanical gardens, and space theaters) to local, state, and national aging organizations. A panel, including directors from science centers (Rob Semper of the Exploratorium and Gillian Thomas of the Miami Museum of Science and Planetarium) and a gerontologist who has effectively partnered with a science center (Boston University’s Thomas Perls), will explore creative ideas for interaction between the science and aging research communities. This session will be interactive with an opportunity for audience participation. Attendees will receive a copy of the Public Policy and Aging Report that was a product of the SPRY conference. This session will be moderated by the SPRY Foundation’s Russell Morgan and is co-sponsored by The Gerontological Society of America and the SPRY Foundation.

San Francisco Booth Space Going Fast!
There are less than ten spots left.
Contact Latasha Peterson at lpeterson@geron.org to reserve yours today.
Congratulations to the new GSA Fellows! On July 13, the GSA’s Executive Committee approved the following members for Fellow status within the Society:

**Biological Sciences Section**
- Gerald E. McClearn, PhD, The Pennsylvania University

**Health Sciences Section**
- Toni P. Miles, MD, PhD, University of Louisville
- Marilyn Rantz, PhD, RN, NHA, FAAN, University of Missouri-Columbia
- Neville E. Strumpf, PhD, RN, University of Pennsylvania

**Behavioral and Social Sciences Section**
- David W. Coon, PhD, Arizona State University
- Joseph E. Gaugler, PhD, University of Minnesota
- Robert M. Hauser, PhD, University of Wisconsin
- Beth Han, MD, PhD, US Department of Health and Aging Services
- Shannan E. Jarrott, Virginia Tech
- Malcolm L. Johnson, PhD, International Institute on Health & Aging
- Norah Keating, PhD, University of Alberta
- Nadine F. Marks, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Carol M. Musil, PhD, Case Western Reserve University
- Frank Oswald, PhD, University of Heidelberg
- M. Kristen Peek, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch
- Sandra J. Picot, PhD, University of Maryland
- Kathleen W. Piercy, PhD, Utah State University
- Marlene S. Strum, PhD, University of Minnesota
- Peter R. Uhlengren, PhD, University of North Carolina

**Social Research, Policy and Practice Section**
- Mary M. Ball, PhD, Georgia State University
- Colette V. Browne, DrPH, University of Hawaii
- Letha A. Chadha, PhD, The University of Michigan
- Judith L. Howe, PhD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
- Kathryn Hyer, PhD, University of South Florida
- Marie R. Squillace, PhD, US Department of Health and Human Services

MEET THE STAFF: Marketing Department

A new monthly feature that goes behind the scenes at GSA headquarters

The Marketing Department is in charge of all ongoing efforts to increase memberships and subscriptions, as well as coordinating all outside advertising and exhibit programs. In other words, this team maintains GSA’s image in the eyes of the public. Its efforts can also be seen by members in the weekly “GSA News” listserv e-mails.

For the past year, Paul Stearns of Odenton, MD has been at the helm of the marketing operation. His 14 years of experience in the field have equipped him with a variety of talents. He develops strategy for the annual recruitment and retention campaign and staffs the GSA Membership Committee. He also oversees the AgeWork website and, together with AGHE, coordinates all Careers in Aging Week activities. At all peer conferences, Stearns runs the GSA exhibit.

His position also places him in charge of both the GSA Interest Groups Program and Campus Representative Program. He is on the staff of the Task Force on Interest Groups, Task Force on Technology, and Membership Committee, too. Additionally, Stearns serves as a liaison with state, regional and national gerontological societies regarding promotional activities.

As mentioned in May’s “Meet the Staff” feature, Philadelphia native Jessica Clark serves both the Meetings Department and Marketing Department. In the latter capacity, she handles new member packets, subscription promotion strategies, and promotional mailings. At the Annual Meeting, she is in charge of the job board, assists Stearns in planning the GSA exhibit space, and coordinates all promotional activities (e.g., careers in aging and student receptions). Clark also handles all the communications with participants in the annual Careers in Aging Week.

Meet the Staff:

Jessica Clark (L) and Paul Stearns (R)

2007 Fellows

On July 13, GSA’s Executive Committee approved the following members for Fellow status within the Society:

Congratulations!
GSA Members Take 4 of 10 NHIS Prizes
When the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics held a conference celebrating 50 years of its National Health Interview Study in late June, four of ten poster awards went to presentations developed by GSA Members. Among the winners: Sandra Reynolds, Eileen Crimmins, and Yasuhiro Saito for “Using the National Health Interview Surveys to Understand Older Adults’ Health;” Lois Verbrugge for “Contributions of NHIS to Social Demography;” James McNally for “Promoting Research with the National Health Interview Survey: Innovation and Change across the 25-Year Partnership of NCHS and ICPSR: 1982 to 2007;” and Kenneth Ferarro for “The National Health Interview Survey, Health Disparities and US Workers.”

Colleague Connected!
This month’s $25 amazon.com gift certificate winner:

David Chiriboga
(He became eligible after referring new member Anita Rogers.)

The winner was randomly selected using randomizer.org!
For more details on the Colleague Connection promotion, which includes a chance to win free lodging at the annual meeting, visit www.geron.org/ColleagueConnection.htm

In Memoriam
Former GSA President (in 1966) Morris Rockstein died on June 19 in Coral Gables, FL at the age of 91. A pioneer in the field of biomedical gerontology, he was the author of more than 70 scientific publications and author/editor of seven volumes of books on the biology of aging. Rockstein, a GSA Fellow, served as associate professor of physiology at Washington State University from 1948-1953 and at New York University from 1953-1961. From 1954-1960 he was instructor of marine invertebrate zoology at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. He was professor of physiology and biophysics at the University of Miami School of Medicine from 1961-1981, serving as department chairman from 1967-1971. He was elected to The Iron Arrow Honor Society in 1969.

New Publications by Members


Just Released!
"Unconventional Views of Frailty"
A special section of The Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences

Inside:
Editorial: A Life Course Approach to Healthy Aging, Frailty, and Capability
Diana Kuh and the New Dynamics of Ageing (NDA) Preparatory Network

Review Article: Frailty in Relation to the Accumulation of Deficits
Kenneth Rockwood and Arnold Mitnitski

Special Article: Frailty Thy Name Is... Frailty?
Heather E. Whitson, Jama L. Purser, and Harvey J. Cohen

Special Article: Frailty: An Emerging Research and Clinical Paradigm—Issues and Controversies
Howard Bergman, Luigi Ferrucci, Jack Guralnik, David B. Hogan, Silvia Hummel, Sathya Karunanithan, and Christina Wolfson

A Comparison of Two Approaches to Measuring Frailty in Elderly People
Kenneth Rockwood, Melissa Andrew, and Arnold Mitnitski

Frailty and Risk of Falls, Fracture, and Mortality in Older Women: The Study of Osteoporotic Fractures
Kristine E. Ensrud, Susan K. Ewing, Brent C. Taylor, Howard A. Fink, Katie L. Stone, Jane A. Cauley, J. Kathleen Tracy, Marc C. Hochberg, Nicolas Rodondi, and Peggy M. Cawthon, for the Study of Osteoporotic Fractures Research Group

Available through GSA’s online store at www.geron.org.
**Free Books Offers Tips on Women’s Retirement**

The Heinz Family Philanthropies and the Women’s Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER) have collaborated together on a new publication titled What Women Need to Understand About Retirement. This easy-to-read seven chapter book is full of information women (and men) need to know about planning for their financial future. It also details the questions to ask and provides specific steps that people can take. Each chapter is written by an expert on retirement security issues. This resource is available online for free at [http://www.heinzfamily.org/programs/ebook.html](http://www.heinzfamily.org/programs/ebook.html).

**Housing Database Solicits Entries**

The Alzheimer’s Association, in collaboration with SNAPforSeniors, has announced the upcoming launch of the Senior Housing Finder, the first national online dementia-specific senior housing database. All senior housing and residential care providers are invited to complete a free profile for inclusion when the search engine goes live in November 2007. To participate, go to: [http://www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) and click on the “Professionals & Researchers” tab and then click on “Professional Care Providers.”

**Site Details OAA Amendments**

The Administration on Aging (AoA) recently launched an online gateway that houses information about the new provisions of the Older Americans Act (OAA). This resource will help users locate and understand the changes brought about by the OAA 2006 Amendments. The information includes an outline summary of new provisions in the Act, statutory text for each new provision, and technical assistance resource links. Frequently asked questions will be added and updated as needed. To access the database, go to [http://www.aoa.gov/oaa2006/](http://www.aoa.gov/oaa2006/).

**Venture Consolidates Active Aging Discussions**

The Learning Network for Active Aging recently launched [http://www.lnactiveaging.org](http://www.lnactiveaging.org), which will serve as one of the focal points for information exchange on the Building Healthy Communities for Active Aging Initiative. The Learning Network is affiliated with the Active for Life initiative, headquartered at the School of Rural Public Health at Texas A&M Health Science Center. Active for Life ([http://www.activeforlife.info](http://www.activeforlife.info)) is one of several Active Living projects funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The Learning Network receives technical support from the Healthy Aging Research Network at the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, and is coordinated with the Environmental Protection Agency.

**RWJF Funds To Aid Med School Faculty**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Physician Faculty Scholars program is designed to strengthen the leadership and academic productivity of junior medical school faculty dedicated to improving health and health care. In 2008, the Foundation will make up to 15 awards of up to $300,000 each over three years to help young physicians develop their careers in academic medicine. The application deadline is August 31 and more information is available at [http://rwjfpfsp.standford.edu](http://rwjfpfsp.standford.edu).

**AoA Announces $5 Million for Nursing Home Modernization**

On June 25, 2007, U.S. Assistant Secretary for Aging Josefina G. Carbonell announced the availability of $5 million for Nursing Home Diversion Modernization Grants. These grants provide an opportunity for states to modernize their existing efforts by adding flexible service options to help individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid to avoid nursing home placement and spend down to Medicaid, and to remain in their homes and communities. Additional information about the Administration on Aging’s Nursing Home Diversion Modernization Grants program, including a copy of the program announcement with application instructions, can be found at [http://www.aoa.gov/doingbus/fundopp/fundopp.asp](http://www.aoa.gov/doingbus/fundopp/fundopp.asp) The deadline for applications is August 24.

**Program Earmarks Money for Policy Makers**

Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, supports policy analysis, research, evaluation, and demonstration projects that provide policy leaders timely information on health care policy and financing issues. Awards are available in varying denominations. Researchers, as well as practitioners and public and private policy-makers working with researchers, are eligible to apply. The proposals are accepted on a rolling basis and more information is available at [http://www.hcfo.net](http://www.hcfo.net).
Senate Bill Aims To Boost Nursing Education

On June 14, 2007, Senators Bingaman (D-NM) and Coleman (R-MN) introduced the Nurse and Physical Therapist Faculty Education Act of 2007 (Bill S. 1628), which was conceived and spearheaded by Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR). This legislation would amend the Public Health Service Act by adding grants to nursing schools to provide for recruitment and retention of new faculty with the goal of increasing enrollment and graduation for doctoral nursing programs. The desired outcome is more capacity to teach nursing students. The bill also includes geriatric academic career awards to promote nurse faculty in education. Awardees will spend 50 percent of their time in training nurses and interdisciplinary teams in clinical geriatrics. The 125 awards are proposed for $75,000 per year for up to five years each—$18M over ten years. Since the introduction of the bill, no further action has been taken. To view a copy, go to http://www.geron.org/2007nursingbill.pdf.

NIH Seeks Feedback on Grant Regulations

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is proposing to amend the existing regulations governing grants for research projects by revising the definition of “Principal Investigator.” It would now be defined as one or more individuals (designated by the grantee in the grant application and approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services) who is or are responsible for the scientific and technical direction of the project, rather than limiting the role of principal investigator to one single individual, and the conditions for multiple or concurrent awards permitting the Secretary to evaluate, approve and make one or more awards pursuant to one or more applications. Comments must be received on or before August 24, 2007 in order to assure that NIH will be able to consider the comments in preparing the final rule. Persons and organizations interested in submitting comments, identified by RIN 0925-AA42, may do so by visiting the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov.
The Art of Networking

As students and young professionals, it is critical for us to understand the importance of networking with our peers and other professionals. Networking is not only a skill, but it is an art. Introducing yourself, shaking hands and starting a conversation with someone is definitely an important part of the craft, but following up with this initial introduction and conversation is crucial. Mastering the art of networking can have a significant impact on your career as an emerging leader.

Here are some suggested tips for networking with future colleagues and potential employers:

• **Introduce yourself**
  This is often one of the most challenging parts of networking. The introduction is the first impression that this person will have of you so it should be solid. It is often helpful to have a peer that knows the person you wish to meet introduce you. If the person with whom you wish to speak is speaking to someone else, stand nearby, without interrupting the conversation, and wait to be acknowledged. Once you are able to begin the conversation, give them a firm handshake and smile. Tell them your name, what school you are attending or where you are currently working, and your particular area of interest. If they are well recognized in their particular field, mention that you are very interested in the work that they are doing. You may also want to mention that you are familiar with some of their publications. Another way to start a conversation is to tell them that you enjoyed their presentation, if you attended their session.

• **Always ask for a business card**
  This gives the person an indication that you are serious about keeping in touch with them. Write down some notes on the back of the business card about how you met the person and their particular interest within aging so that you remember when you prepare to contact them. This is particularly helpful when you attend conferences and you obtain business cards from a lot of people.

• **Always greet them after the initial meeting**
  If you are in an environment, such as a conference or an internship, where you will see the person you met again shortly after the initial meeting, be sure to speak to them. These interactions can be very brief but they are important.

• **Send a follow up email**
  This email should remind the person who you are, that you enjoyed meeting them, and that you look forward to speaking with them in the future. If this is someone that is a researcher in an area that you are particularly interested in, you may want to ask them to suggest some journal articles that you should read or some resources that you should access.

• **Maintain the connection**
  This is the step that is often overlooked. Let them know what conferences you are attending. They may be attending some of the same ones and they may invite you to meet with them during the conference. You should also let them know if you are presenting and inquire about whether or not they will be presenting. When you reach a point where you are comfortable communicating with this person, update them on your progress in school or at your job. They may be able to provide you with some future job tips.

This is not an exhaustive list of tips but this provides an idea of how to effectively network. It may be useful to practice these techniques with your peers and mentors so that you can get some feedback. You should be poised and professional in your approach and to remember that you never know who you will meet until you take the initial step.

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**The Leadership in Aging Fellowship Program**

The Leadership in Aging Fellowship Program offers future leaders in the field of aging

A two-year Fellowship

Sponsored by the

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Applications will be available September 2007 at:

www.brookdalefoundation.org
Yale University
Postdoctoral Fellowship

Yale University offers a 2- to 3-year postdoctoral training program in Geriatric Clinical Epidemiology and Aging-Related Research, sponsored by the National Institute on Aging. The goal of the program is to provide highly qualified fellows (MDs or PhDs) with research skills in geriatric clinical epidemiology and an intensive research experience under the mentorship of experienced investigators. Fellows will have access to resources and expertise through the Yale Program on Aging/Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center, the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program, the Investigative Medicine Program, and the Geriatric Medicine Program. Applicants should be committed to an academic career in aging-related research and must have completed their doctoral or clinical training before the start of the program. US citizenship or permanent residence is required.

Further information and an application can be found at:
http://info.med.yale.edu/intmed/geriatrics/fellowship/fellowhome.htm
or by calling our Fellowship Coordinator, Robbin Bonanno, at robbin.bonanno@yale.edu or 203-688-9423

8 August 2007 • gerontology news • 7
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