GSA Journals Again Top List of Most-Cited Aging Publications

GSA’s three journals continue to be among the highest ranked in their field, according to new impact factor metrics released in the latest issue of Journal Citation Reports: Social Sciences Edition. The Journals of Gerontology Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences remained at the top of the gerontology category for the second consecutive year, and the Journals of Gerontology Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences and The Gerontologist took the fifth and sixth spots, respectively.

Impact factor is a measure of the frequency with which articles in a journal have been cited during the two preceding years. Journal Citation Reports, one of the most respected publication evaluation tools, is distributed by the Institute of Scientific Information, a division of Thomson Reuters. A strong impact factor indicates the research published in a journal is being widely cited elsewhere, which is often a reflection of the quality of this research. This, in turn, encourages scholars to send their best material to the journal, thereby building on its status. “These results provide important evidence of the growing influence of our journals on scholarship and science-based knowledge in the field of aging,” said Richard H. Fortinsky, PhD, chair of GSA’s Publications Committee. “We are grateful for the dedicated work of our editors and our publishing partner in attracting, vetting, and publishing the most outstanding research.”

The gerontology category within Journal Citation Reports: Social Sciences Edition contains 30 publications. To help keep its place at first on the

San Diego Post-Con to Promote International Partnerships

GSA’s Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego this November will conclude with a unique post-conference workshop focused on the phenomenon of global aging — framed through the lens of Latin America — and the possibilities for transnational collaboration in research and education.

This workshop, Advancing an Agenda for Global Aging and Health, is scheduled from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, November 18. Individuals can sign up for it as an option on the meeting’s registration form. Visit www.geron.org/postcon to learn more.

The session is the result of efforts led by GSA President Nancy Whitelaw, PhD, Annual Scientific Meeting Program Co-Chair Margaret Neal, PhD, and GSA member Mary Altpeter, PhD, MSW, MPA.

“This workshop will be of interest to those currently engaged in cross-national research as well as those wishing to meet potential collaborators and anticipating involvement in transnational research in the future,” Neal said. “Participants can expect to gain a greater understanding of the opportunities as well as the challenges associated with global aging, with a focus on health and economic perspectives.”

Neal added that attendees also will learn about specific transnational research efforts in physical activity and aging, consortium educational efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean to address public health and aging, and implications for preparing current and future researchers and administrators in aging.

Furthermore, the workshop will provide a venue to explore the results of the global activities survey that GSA recently conducted with its educational branch, the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). That

Continued on page 6
GSA Journal Rankings Reflect Members’ Hard Work

By James Appleby, RPh, MPH
jappleby@geron.org

There’s good news about the Society’s peer-reviewed journals on the front page, and congratulations are in order for all members of the GSA publications team — our editors and reviewers, the Publications Committee, our publisher (Oxford University Press), and, most importantly, the many article authors — whose efforts boosted these journals’ impact factors across the board.

Please remember, too, that the recently released 2011 impact factor rankings take into account articles published in 2009 and 2010, so a number of former editors and committee members also deserve credit.

The impact factor, which is a measure of the frequency with which articles in a journal have been cited, has become the gold standard of gauging a journals’ performance. Thus, considering the hard work that went into putting GSA’s publications ahead of nearly all others in the field of aging, we’re taking steps to ensure that we remain competitive.

I recently participated in the 2012 U.S. and U.K. Delegate Meeting convened by Oxford University Press, which is the organization responsible for publishing The Gerontologist, the Journals of Gerontology Series A, and the Journals of Gerontology Series B on GSA’s behalf.

Among the takeaway messages from this event were two elements that will be important to GSA’s continued success: discoverability and usage.

Discoverability refers to the degree to which scholars and other users can find content. In the ever-evolving world of electronic content sharing, however, this often means more than just being search engine-friendly — we have to examine where users are accessing information and how they’re searching for it. Social media outlets, for example, are tools that GSA will be utilizing to leverage greater discoverability.

Of course, greater discoverability can lead to greater usage. In the era of online journals, usage refers to the browsing, searching, and downloading of content. The more discoverable a journal is, the greater chance there is that its usage will increase. Usage is something libraries monitor closely as they review data to determine which titles they will carry.

GSA members, who largely contribute the articles published in our journals, have a major role to play in the continued success of our publications, too. I am pleased to share that at our upcoming Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego, GSA is reintroducing its How to Publish pre-conference workshop. This half-day event on the morning of Wednesday, November 14, is designed for those interesting in getting expert advice on authoring the articles that appear in our journals. It’s being organized by the Publications Committee and will prove especially useful to our emerging scholars and professionals.

The workshop will present an opportunity to meet informally with and address specific questions to several editors of GSA and AGHE journals. It will include roundtable discussions on such topics as the submission process, how reviews are conducted and how to respond to them, and elements of an excellent manuscript.

What’s also exciting is that the process for publishing in GSA’s journals has become increasingly streamlined. Right now, the average time from article submission to online publication (if accepted) is only 12 weeks for The Gerontologist, 16 weeks for the Journals of Gerontology Series A, and 23 weeks for the Journals of Gerontology Series B — and those figures are expected to improve in 2013.

Look to Gerontology News and other GSA communications outlets for updates about future developments on the publications front!

James
In Memoriam

GSA Fellow Sidney Katz, MD, passed away on May 4. He founded and co-directed the Columbia University Stroud Center for Study of Quality of Life, where the Sidney Katz Professorship is named for him. He was responsible for developing the most widely cited measure of health in aging — the Index of Independence in Activities of Daily Living — and chaired a national committee that pioneered standards of quality in nursing homes. Katz was a professor emeritus of geriatric medicine at Columbia, a member of the National Institute of Medicine, and a decorated volunteer physician in the Korean War. He received many honors, including GSA's Maxwell A. Pollack Award for Productive Aging and Donald P. Kent Award.

New Publications by Members


Members in the News

• Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences Editor Merril Silverstein, PhD, and former Behavioral and Social Sciences Chair Karen Fingerman, PhD, both GSA fellows, were quoted in an article about families and happiness that appeared in the U.S. News and World Report on April 3. They discussed family relationships, interactions within families, and aging.
• In a recent commentary section of the Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity e-newsletter, GSA Fellow Robert Harootyan, MA, MS, co-authored a piece exploring how older low-income Americans are experiencing their highest unemployment rates since the end of World War II. He called for an expansion of the Senior Community Service Employment Program, which provides subsidized employment and job training opportunities for unemployed low-income older workers through community service assignments, to address this problem.
• GSA Fellow Karen A. Roberto, PhD, was highlighted in an April 21 article in the Youngstown Vindicator regarding her keynote address at the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education’s 36th annual Ohio Professional and Student Conference on Aging.
• Susan Enguidanos, PhD, was quoted in an April 22 Los Angeles Times article about the paper’s Festival of Books, where she served on a panel that emphasized the importance of discussing end-of-life struggles.

Member Spotlight

GSA’s website features monthly Q&A sessions with distinguished members. The current spotlight shines on: Yujun Liu
Visit www.geron.org/Membership/member-spotlight to ask questions and read previous interviews.

Colleague Connection

This month’s $25 amazon.com gift certificate winner: Bonnie J. Kin, PhD
The recipient, who became eligible after referring new member Olie Lorraine L. Lobos, 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/connection.

Chadiha Earns NYAM Fellow Status
GSA Fellow and former Social Research, Policy, and Practice Section Chair Letha A. Chadiha, PhD, has been elected as a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM). She currently serves as an associate professor of social work at the University of Michigan. The NYAM is dedicated to advancing the health of urban populations. Persons elected as fellows have achieved high distinction in scholarship and leadership in such fields as medicine, social work, nursing, aging, education, law, and urban health.

Silverstein’s New Title Honors Late GSA President
Merril Silverstein, PhD, editor of the Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, has been appointed the Marjorie Cantor Professor of Aging in the Department of Sociology at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and in the School of Social Work, at Syracuse University. The late Cantor was a former GSA president.

Mansbach Appointed to Maryland Alzheimer’s Disease Commission
William E. Mansbach, PhD, has been appointed to the Maryland Governor’s Commission on Alzheimer’s Disease. This body was established to inform the governor, the executive departments, and the General Assembly on sources of data concerning Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, and on coordinating resources to assist afflicted individuals and their families. The commission also is charged with increasing public awareness of the disease.

Berkman Wins Distinguished Achievement Award from ACS
GSA Fellow Barbara Berkman, PhD, the national director of the Hartford Geriatric Social Work Initiative Scholars Program, has been given the American Cancer Society’s (ACS) 2012 Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Award. Her research has focused on health and mental health with older adults and families and in particular the psychological, social, and environment dimensions of coping and caring for patients with cancer.
Having served on the ACS Research Council and other ACS committees for many years, Berkman said she was pleased to bring a psychosocial perspective into a predominantly biologically-oriented research environment to demonstrate the link between social work and health care.
Supreme Court’s Decision Makes Waves as Congress Debates Appropriations

Anticipation about and results of the Supreme Court rulings on the Arizona immigration law and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has kept the nation’s capital busy this summer, especially considering the inactive and largely absent Congress. I offer updates below on the Supreme Court decision as well as a “recess wrap-up.” The presidential campaign and congressional races will keep legislators and pundits busy with the election. The lame duck session should be interesting to watch regardless of what is accomplished.

Supreme Court Ruling

The Supreme Court ruling has kept policy wonks and media outlets busy since June 28 (and well before that date). Rumors fly that Chief Justice John Roberts changed his vote on the ACA’s constitutionality shortly before the ruling to uphold it. The apolitical/non-partisan status of the Supreme Court has been called into question yet again. The bottom line is that the ruling basically supported President Obama’s signature piece of legislation, the ACA. I say “basically” because the ruling may turn out to cast a pall on the president’s re-electability — due to the use of the t-word (tax) and because of how the Medicaid part of the ruling may affect coverage and the intent of the law.

The ACA was designed to extend insurance to more than 30 million people by expanding Medicaid coverage and providing federal subsidies to help eligible Americans buy private coverage. The individual mandate was included to help finance the increased costs and to motivate purchase of health insurance. It requires nonexempt uninsured individuals who can afford it to purchase insurance or pay a penalty.

Roberts, who wrote the majority’s opinion, found the individual mandate constitutional under the Congress’s taxing power. The Internal Revenue Service was given the task of levying a penalty on those individuals who could afford to purchase health insurance but did not. This, Roberts opined, is tantamount to a tax. Although the primary intent of the mandate is to have people buy insurance rather than to raise money (the more common understanding of a tax), the mandate is still a tax.

Another aspect of the Supreme Court decision included the discussion of whether the ACA’s Medicaid expansion is constitutional. Under the ACA, each state must provide Medicaid coverage to adults under the age of 65 with incomes below 133 percent of the federal poverty level by 2014. The ACA increases federal funding to help states comply with the required expansion of Medicaid coverage. If a state fails to comply with the new requirements regarding Medicaid expansion, the ACA deemed the state subject to losing not only the additional federal funding but all of its federal Medicaid funds.

The Supreme Court ruled that it is unconstitutional to coerce states to expand Medicaid by threatening to withhold all funding. As the court has held in the past, Congress is allowed, with certain limitations, to place conditions on federal grants paid to the states. However, such conditions may not take the form of “undue influence.” Therefore, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is allowed to withhold the additional funds for expansion, but not any existing funding.

This ruling now allows states the real opportunity to decide whether to opt out of the Medicaid expansion. The Medicaid expansion provided under the ACA would have added a collective 16 million people to Medicaid. Due to the Supreme Court decision, it is unclear whether this Medicaid expansion will be nearly as successful, as it is estimated that 8 to 9 million people who would have been part of the expansion may not receive coverage under the opt out.

Although a few Republican governors (for example, from Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, and Florida) have expressed their desire not to expand Medicaid, there may be too much pressure from the electorate, hospitals, and Medicaid managed care plans for the states to walk away from the federal funding. It seems more likely that the states will use the Supreme Court’s decision to strike a deal with the federal government (specifically, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid services). States may be able to reshape Medicaid according to their wishes, for example, by negotiating for “unrestricted lump payments,” block grants, or modified eligibility rules or participation rates.

It is likely that many governors will see how national and local elections turn out before making a decision on whether to participate in the Medicaid expansion. Some say that the Supreme Court decision has motivated the Republican base, which can now campaign against health care by arguing against the individual mandate tax.

Recess Wrap-Up

Summer is in full swing here in Washington, DC, with temperatures in the triple digits and Congress in recess. Congress has no days scheduled in August, five to eight days in September, and only five days in October. So one can imagine how little will get done and how partisan it will be as congressional members use the legislative process to frame their campaigns. For example, the House voted again in July on the 33rd piece of legislation repealing all or part of health care reform.

However, in a burst of necessary bipartisanship Congress has recently acted on the college loan interest rates, highways, the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge (STOCK) Act of 2012, and the FDA reauthorization.

On July 31, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH), and President Barack Obama reached an agreement to fund the government for six months (from October 1, 2012, through March 2013). This continuing resolution
will be voted on in September and includes the $1.047 trillion level set in the Budget Control Act. This is higher than the $1.028 trillion level in the House budget. The legislation does not address the $109 billion in spending cuts scheduled to take place through sequestration in January 2013.

The Senate Appropriations Committee marked up the Labor, HHS, Education, and related agencies appropriations bill for FY 2013 (which starts October 1, 2012). The bill, S. 3295, recommends a total of $158.8 billion, including $71.0 billion for the Department of HHS (up from $69.62 billion in FY 2012 for HHS). The House Appropriations Subcommittee marked up its Labor and HHS bill on July 18. The draft bill includes $150 billion in discretionary funding, which is a cut of $6.3 billion below last year's level and $8.8 billion below the president's budget request. The legislation defunds many ACA programs, and prohibits any new discretionary funding for the ACA.

Funding recommendations from the House and Senate appropriations subcommittees, which may still be relevant when negotiations continue next year, follow below.

Health Resources and Services Administration

Senate: $6.5 billion. The Senate Appropriations Committee recommended flat funding for geriatric education at $30.6 million. The committee report "commends the HRSA [Health Resources and Services Administration] for recognizing the immediacy of the eldercare workforce crisis by identifying 'enhancing geriatric/elder care training and expertise' as a top priority in the fiscal year 2013 budget justification. The nation's health professions must be prepared to meet the unique and often complex health needs of America's older adults. This is especially critical in primary care settings. The committee requests that HRSA provide a report detailing how geriatric training content is being integrated into primary care training in HRSA-supported institutions." Under nursing workforce development programs, the committee recommends $4.4 million for comprehensive geriatric education (the same as FY 2012). Under Title VII, the bill eliminates the Health Careers Opportunity Program.

House: $5.9 billion, $453 million below FY 2012.

National Institutes of Health

Senate: $30.723 billion, an increase of $100 million. NIA's funding would be increased to $1.124 billion.

House: Level funding at $30.6 billion; The NIA is given level funding at $1.102 billion.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Senate: $3.472 billion, with a combined increase of $40 million for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant “in recognition of the severe budget cuts taking place to public mental health and substance abuse treatment systems nationwide.”

House: $3.1 billion, compared with $3.3 billion last year.

Older Americans Act

Senate: $1.7 billion. There is flat funding for the aging network support services that comprise the OAA programs, such as nutrition services, caregiving support, and senior centers. There was no funding recommended for Title IV (program innovations). The committee recommended transferring the State Health Insurance Assistance Program to the Administration for Community Living but not the Senior Community Service Employment Program, which continues to reside at the Department of Labor.

House: $1.4 billion, $30 million below FY 2012. Flat funding is given for nutrition programs, at $816 million.

Corporation for National & Community Service

Senate: $760.4 million, a $10 million increase over FY 2012.

House: $271.5 million, a 74 percent cut below last year, terminating a long list of community service programs including Americorps, VISTA, the Social Innovation Fund, and the National Civilian Community Corps. Funding is only preserved for the Senior Corps programs, which are maintained at the FY 2012 level.

Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality

Senate: $364 million; the FY 2012 appropriation was $369 million.

House: The House bill eliminates funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality and prohibits any funds from being used to "support any patient-centered outcomes research."

Adult Protective Services Demonstrations

Senate: The Senate Appropriations Committee recommended $8 million for adult protective services demonstrations. This amount is the same as the administration request. This is a new program that did not receive funding in FY 2012. This program, as established in the Elder Justice Act, will provide competitive grants to states to test and evaluate innovative approaches to preventing and responding to elder abuse.

House: Since the Elder Justice Act was passed as part of the ACA, the House bill does not include funding for adult protective services demonstrations in an attempt to defund the ACA.

Funding for Fall Prevention

Senate: $10 million total. Under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, $3 million was added, for a total of $5 million to conduct research to evaluate and disseminate the most effective fall prevention interventions. Under the Administration for Community Living, $7 million was recommended for fall prevention activities. According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, this is a new activity and the administration did not request funding for this program. The committee used data on falls to justify its funding recommendation and point out a direction on how the money should be used; this is an instructive example of research results being used to influence public policy.

House: N/A
Older Adults Increasingly Entering Poverty

The Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) recently released a report, “Time Trends in Poverty for Older Americans Between 2001–2009,” that indicated a rise in the number of older Americans entering poverty between the years 2005 and 2009. Although the EBRI found a decline in the poverty rate in the first half of the last decade for nearly all age groups of Americans 50 years and older, the rate has increased since 2005 for every group. According to this report, poverty rates were the highest for the oldest Americans, with almost 15 percent of those aged 85 and above in poverty in 2009. The full report can be obtained at www.ebri.org/pdf/notespdf/EBRI_Notes_04_Apr-12.EldPovty.pdf.

Aging in Place Document Looks at State Policies

A new report from the AARP Public Policy Institute and the National Conference of State Legislatures, “A State Survey of Livability Policies and Practices,” examines state policies needed to help older adults age in place. These policies include integrating land use, housing, and transportation; efficiently delivering services in the home; providing more transportation choices, particularly for older non-drivers; and improving affordable, accessible housing to prevent social isolation. For more information, visit www.aarp.org/home-garden/livable-communities/info-11-2011/Aging-In-Place.html.

Census Bureau’s Report Includes Aging Data for Most Populous Countries

A new U.S. Census Bureau report commissioned by the National Institute on Aging includes data from the Study on Global Ageing and Adult Health (SAGE). “Shades of Gray: A Cross-Country Study of Health and Well-Being of the Older Populations in SAGE Countries, 2007-2010” examines the health status and access to health care among older populations in six low- to middle-income countries, which are each among the world’s 50 most populous. Health levels varied greatly among people 50 and older in China, Ghana, India, Mexico, Russia and South Africa, but hypertension and arthritis were the two most common chronic conditions in all six countries. The percentage of people 50 and older in SAGE countries reporting a disability ranged from 68 percent in China to 93 percent in India. According to the report, high levels of risky health behaviors often continued into older ages, particularly for men. The report can be obtained at www.census.gov/prod/2012pubs/p95-12-01.pdf.

AHRQ’s National Healthcare Quality, Disparities Reports Released

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has released its ninth annual National Healthcare Quality Report (NHQR) and the National Healthcare Disparities Report (NHDR). These resources measure trends in effectiveness of care, patient safety, timeliness of care, patient centeredness, and efficiency of care. Care coordination and health system infrastructure are new chapters this year, and quality of and access to health care are also presented. The NHQR uses quality measures to tracks the health care system, such as the percentage of heart attack patients who received recommended care when they reached the hospital or the percentage of children who received recommended vaccinations, and the NHDR uses various demographic measures to summarize health care quality and access, such as residents of rural areas and people with disabilities. For additional information, visit www.ahrq.gov/qual/qrdr11.htm.

Online Educational Modules Promote Safe Acetaminophen Use

The National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) has launched three customized, online educational modules to promote safe use of acetaminophen products. The most common drug ingredient in America, acetaminophen, is found in more than 600 different prescription and over-the-counter medicines. To help raise awareness about acetaminophen safety, NCPIE’s modules integrate tailored messaging, free downloads, and useful links to external resources on the safe use of products that contain acetaminophen. These three online modules target teens, college-age individuals, and seniors, and can be used for self-education or as resources for community outreach and education. One of these modules is titled “Acetaminophen Safe Use for Seniors” and targets older adults, caregivers, and healthcare professionals. Content was developed with input from a project advisory team with expertise in senior advocacy, outreach, health communications, and safe use of medicines for older adults. For more information, go to www.talkaboutrx.org/acetaminophen/overview.jsp.

Continued from page 1 - GSA Journals Again Top List of Most-Cited Aging Publications

list, the impact factor for the Journals of Gerontology Series A rose from 3.988 in 2010 to 4.598 in 2011. The Journals of Gerontology Series B, which ranked fifth, climbed three positions since last year — moving from 1.963 in 2010 to 2.615 in 2011, representing a 33 percent increase in impact factor. The Gerontologist again held the sixth spot, with its impact factor jumping from 2.315 in 2010 to 2.481 in 2011. These three GSA journals are published by Oxford University Press (OUP).

“Only rarely does one have the satisfaction of witnessing a dedicated campaign translate directly into tangible result,” said OUP President and Academic Publisher Niko Pfund. “The dramatic increase in the impact factor of GSA’s publications speaks not only to the demonstrable relevance of GSA’s mission but to the effective efforts of scholars and researchers publishing in GSA journals, and of GSA staff, in translating that mission into action.”

awardees and fellows

GSA Honors Outstanding Individuals

Please join us in congratulating our awardees and fellows at the 65th Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego!

GSA salutes outstanding research, recognizes distinguished leadership in teaching and service, and fosters new ideas through a host of awards. The winners’ achievements serve as milestones in the history and development of gerontology.

Society-Wide Awards

Donald P. Kent Award
Presented to Sidney M. Stahl, PhD
National Institute on Aging (retired)
Presented at the President’s Plenary Session
Thursday, November 15, 10 a.m.

Robert W. Kleemeier Award
Presented to Eileen M. Crimmins, PhD
University of Southern California
Presented at the President’s Plenary Session
Thursday, November 15, 10 a.m.

Maxwell A. Pollack Award for Productive Aging
Presented to Mary D. Naylor, PhD, RN, FAAN
University of Pennsylvania
Friday, November 16, 5 p.m.

M. Powell Lawton Award
Presented to Cornelia M. Beck, PhD, RN, FAAN
University of Arkansas
Friday, November 16, 3 p.m.

Margret M. & Paul B. Baltes Award
Presented to Christiane Hoppmann, PhD
University of British Columbia
Thursday, November 15, 1:30 p.m.

Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award
Presented to and lecture by Ann M. Kolanowski, PhD, RN, FGSA, FAAN
The Pennsylvania State University
Presented at the Nursing Care of Older Adults Interest Group Meeting
Thursday, November 15, 5:30 p.m.
awardees and fellows

Behavioral and Social Sciences

Distinguished Career Contribution to Gerontology Award
Presented to Toni C. Antonucci, PhD
University of Michigan
Presented at the BSS Business Meeting and Award Presentation
Friday, November 16, 11:30 a.m.

Distinguished Mentorship in Gerontology Award
Presented to Karen A. Roberto, PhD
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Presented at the BSS Business Meeting and Award Presentation
Friday, November 16, 11:30 a.m.

Richard M. Kalish Innovative Publication Award
Presented to Stephen M. Golant, PhD
University of Florida
Presented at the BSS Business Meeting and Award Presentation
Friday, November 16, 11:30 a.m.

Biological Sciences

Nathan Shock New Investigator Award
Presented to and lecture by
Anna Csiszar, MD, PhD
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Presented at the BS Business Meeting and Award Presentation
Friday, November 16, 11:30 a.m.

Joseph T. Freeman Award
Presented to Thomas M. Gill, MD
Yale School of Medicine
Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m.

Health Sciences

Excellence in Rehabilitation of Aging Persons Award
Presented to Jay S. Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg
University of Maryland Baltimore
Saturday, November 17, 5 p.m.
Distinguished Members Granted Fellow Status

GSA’s Executive Committee has approved the following individuals for fellow status within the Society. In addition to being honored at the Fellows and International Reception (Thursday, November 15, 6:30 p.m.) during the Annual Scientific Meeting, they will be presented with fellow certificates and pins at their respective section business meetings and award presentations.

Fellow status is peer recognition for outstanding contributions to the field of gerontology and represents the highest class of membership. This distinction comes at varying points in a person’s career and is given for diverse activities that include research, teaching, administration, public services, practice, and notable participation in the Society.

**Biological Sciences Section**
Esther E. Dupont-Versteegden, PhD, University of Kentucky; Heidi A. Tissenbaum, PhD, University of Massachusetts Medical School; John Tower, PhD, University of Southern California; Elena Volpi, MD, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch; David J. Waters, DVM, PhD, Purdue University

**Behavioral and Social Sciences Section**
David Almeida, PhD, Pennsylvania State University; Sara L. Arber, PhD, University of Surrey; Kate M. Bennett, PhD, University Of Liverpool; Paula C. Carder, PhD, Portland State University; Michelle C. Carlson, PhD, Johns Hopkins University; Susan Turk Charles, PhD, University of California, Irvine; Laura H. Coker, PhD, Wake Forest School of Medicine; Ingrid A. Connids, PhD, University of Western Ontario; Jessica A. Kelley-Moore, PhD, Case Western Reserve University; T.J. McCallum, PhD, Case Western Reserve University; Christopher R. Phillipson, PhD, Keele University; Gary T. Reker, PhD, Trent University; Ken R. Smith, PhD, University of Utah; JoNell Strough, PhD, West Virginia University; Roland J. Thorpe, PhD, Johns Hopkins

**Health Sciences Section**
Alice F. Bonner, PhD, RN, GNP, FAANP, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Mary Cadogan, RN, DrPh, CGNP, University of California, Los Angeles; Kirsten Corazzini, PhD, Duke University Medical Center; Rebecca L. Davis, PhD, RN, Grand Valley State University; Karen S. Dunn, PhD, RN, Oakland University; Cheryl Riley-Doucet, PhD, RN, Oakland University; Janet Specht, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Iowa; Margaret I. Wallhagen, PhD, GNP-BC, AGSF, FAAN, University of California, San Francisco

**Social Research, Policy, and Practice Section**
Maria P. Aranda, PhD, University of Southern California; Patricia J. Kalb, PhD; Lehman College; Edward A. Miller, PhD, University of Massachusetts Boston; Joseph G. Pickard, LCSW, PhD, University of Missouri–St Louis; Michelle M. Putnam, PhD, Simmons College; Jane K. Straker, PhD, Miami University; Joshua M. Wiener, PhD, RTI International; Scott D. Wright, PhD, University of Utah

**Task Force on Minority Issues in Gerontology**
Outstanding Mentorship Award
Presented to David A. Chiriboga, PhD
University of South Florida
Thursday, November 15, 6 p.m.

Gene D. Cohen Research Award in Creativity and Aging
Presented to Bruce L. Miller, MD
University of California, San Francisco
Friday, November 16, 5 p.m.
awardees and fellows

Additional Awards

The following will be given at the Annual Scientific Meeting:

**Society-Wide**
Theoretical Developments in Social Gerontology Award
Senior Service America Senior Scholar Award for Research Related to Disadvantaged Older Adults
Senior Service America Junior Scholar Award for Research Related to Disadvantaged Older Adults

**Biological Sciences Section**
Austin Bloch Post-Doctoral Fellow Award
George Sacher Student Award

**Behavioral & Social Sciences Section**
Student Research Award: Dissertation Level
Student Research Award: Pre-Dissertation Level

**Health Sciences Section**
Austin Bloch Post-Doctoral Fellow Award
Person-In-Training Award
Research Award

**Social Research, Policy, and Practice Section**
Carroll L. Estes Senior Scholar Award
Elaine M. Brody Junior Scholar Award
Student Poster Award

**Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization**
Interdisciplinary Paper Award
Poster Award
Douglas Holmes Award for Quality of Life/Quality of Care
Task Force on Minority Issues in Gerontology Student Poster Award

Sponsors

GSA thanks the following award sponsors:

New York Community Trust (Pollack Award)
Polisher Research Institute of the Madlyn and Leonard Abramson Center for Jewish Life (Lawton Award)
Margret M. & Paul B. Baltes Foundation (Baltes Award)
Baywood Publishing (Kalish Award)
American University (GSA Theoretical Developments in Social Gerontology Award)
National Center for Creative Aging (Gene D. Cohen Award)
Senior Service America, Inc. (Senior and Junior Scholar Awards; Task Force on Minority Issues in Gerontology Outstanding Mentorship Award)
RESQCARE Interest Group (Douglas Holmes Award)

Please check the final program for all dates, times, and room location assignments for award events.

If you are interested in learning more about GSA’s awards program, please visit www.geron.org/Membership/Awards.
Transitioning into a Successful Fall Semester

Earlier this summer in ESPO news, we congratulated some of the many ESPO student, post-doc, and transitional members who are beginning new positions and careers or celebrating the achievement of completing a degree program. With every end there is a new beginning, and in this edition of ESPO News we discuss some of the challenges and opportunities of beginning a fall semester — whether your semester is filled with new classes, dissertation or thesis work, research, teaching, or adjusting to a new career in a gerontology-related field.

Finding Funding

One challenge that may occur during the academic year is finding funding opportunities. There are many avenues for finding funding, though they often require time, patience, planning ahead, hard work, and perseverance. As a student, there are school-, state-, and federal-level grants geared towards mainly doctoral level students. If you are in a master’s or clinical program, or a non-research oriented degree program, there may be opportunities within your university's graduate school to work in a student aid or graduate office in exchange for a waiver for your tuition costs.

Many schools and universities also set aside money for student travel and conference participation, so being aware of opportunities and staying ahead of the deadlines and requirements necessary for these travel awards can mean the difference between having funding and not having funding!

Protecting Your Writing Time

Summer often means writing progress, but this can be difficult to maintain come fall. ESPO member Kellye Carver recommends that in order to keep up with our writing, we should make it a priority. Set aside writing time and guard it. Put up a “Do Not Disturb” sign (or find a workspace without interruptions) and focus on writing or related research. Then protect this time! Don't schedule meetings, surf the Internet, or check e-mail.

You may be surprised at how much you achieve in an uninterrupted two hours a day, one hour a day, or three hours a week — whatever works for you. Your results may even motivate you to increase your writing time even more! For more advice, check out “How to Write a Lot” by Paul J. Silvia. This book is a quick, informative read that may have long-term benefits for your writing.

Working Together

From ESPO member Thao Tran's experience, one way to maintain productivity in the fall is to find colleagues and fellow students who can help keep you accountable and with whom you can collaborate. Effective teams require more elements than simply gathering people, assigning tasks to team mates, and producing exceptional work. According to the Harvard Business Review article “The Discipline of Teams” by Jon R. Katzenbach and Douglas K. Smith, teams function well when four elements are present: common commitment and purpose, shared goals, complementary skills, and mutual responsibilities.

For a research project, begin by asking who can contribute to your project. Try to match the individual skills to the overall purpose and goal of the project and determine how to help each team mate improve his or her skills. Despite our best efforts, challenges may surface. A team member may not partake in any of the projects or team members may to go in different directions. These issues may be resolved if the team members make it a priority to listen and communicate well with the group. When we provide guidance and clear rules, nurture a culture of respect for different perspectives to the team's problems and work together to get the work done, team members may be more likely to respond favorably.

Going Back to School

If you are a non-traditional-aged student or beginning a first or second career, ESPO member Yvonne Decelis can tell you from her own personal experience that you are never too old to go back! For one thing, going back to school can keep your mind active as you learn new things. For another, a lot of us are now getting into encore careers, and going back to college makes it possible to find very rewarding work in fields you may not have even known existed.

If you are intimidated at the thought of going to school and being surrounded by teenagers, don’t be! There are a lot of adults going back to school right now (and you can also take online classes if you don’t feel like going to a campus and sitting in a student desk), so this is a great time to be in school and find our ideal career. There are a lot of opportunities and challenges that accompany the hustle and bustle of the fall semester.

We hope this issue of ESPO news will help prepare you for an enjoyable and productive semester filled with lots of writing, success in finding funding, and efficient group work in accomplishing whatever challenges and opportunities that may be ahead for you.
AHRQ Announces Institutional Research Training Grants
The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) will award National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grants (T32) to help ensure that a diverse pool of highly trained researchers are available to advance the scientific disciplines. The primary objective of these five-year grants is to provide institutional support for the training of qualified pre-doctoral and post-doctoral trainees for careers in behavioral, social, and organizational sciences, economics, engineering, mathematics, statistics, clinical sciences, and health services research. The purpose of this program is to foster the development of researchers committed to the generation, translation, and dissemination of new scientific evidence and analytical tools that will be used to improve health care delivery in the U.S. It is anticipated that AHRQ will make approximately 12 to 18 awards for approximately $7 million annually. Applications are due September 12. For additional information, visit grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HS-12-008.html.

Women’s Health Research Funds Available
The Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH) and several other agencies within the National Institutes of Health have issued a funding opportunity announcement to promote innovative, interdisciplinary research that will advance new concepts in women’s health research and the study of sex/gender differences. Applications in all areas of women’s health and/or sex/gender research are invited; however, ORWH is particularly interested in encouraging extramural investigators to undertake new interdisciplinary research to advance studies on how sex and gender factors affect women’s health. The total project period may not exceed two years, and direct costs are limited to $275,000 over a two-year period. Applications are due October 16. Visit grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-10-226.html for additional information.

Continued from page 1 - San Diego Post-Con to Promote International Partnerships
questionnaire was conceived by former AGHE Global Aging Committee Chair Frank Whittington, PhD, and designed by Neal, a co-chair of the committee, with assistance from current Chair Margaret Perkinson, PhD, and member Candace Brown, MAG, MEd. It was deployed to GSA and AGHE members in May and June and garnered over 500 responses. The survey results also will be discussed during one of the San Diego meeting’s pre-conference workshops, Facilitating Global Collaborations in Gerontological Research, Education, & Practice. Highlights from that session are going to be presented during the post-conference workshop.

Whitelaw, who designated “Charting New Frontiers in Aging” as this year’s Annual Scientific Meeting theme, has made international outreach a top priority during her GSA presidency.

“This post-conference event is particularly timely because it reinforces the meeting theme on the importance of connections and collaborations, and it will contribute to our preparations for the 2017 World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, which GSA is hosting on behalf of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics,” Whitelaw said.

The workshop’s program also will feature presentations from the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), an international public health agency working to improve health and living standards of the people of the Americas. Altpeter, through her work with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Healthy Aging Network, has developed close ties to PAHO and played a role in securing its involvement at GSA’s meeting. GSA and PAHO first officially collaborated earlier this year during World Health Day 2012, which focused on healthy aging. At that time, PAHO representatives expressed an interest in continuing to develop activities around that theme.

“While this post conference session will have a focus on research and educational initiatives within North and South America and the Caribbean, it is seen as an opportunity for all GSA members and non-members who are interested in global aging issues to come together to network about their areas of interest,” Altpeter said.

RWJF Welcomes Health & Society Scholar Applications
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health & Society Scholars program provides two years of support to postdoctoral scholars at all stages of their careers to build the nation’s capacity for research and leadership to address the multiple determinants of population health and contribute to policy change. The program is based on the principle that progress in the field of population health depends upon multidisciplinary collaboration and exchange. Its goal is to improve health by training scholars to: investigate the connections among biological, genetic, behavioral, environmental, economic and social determinants of health; and develop, evaluate and disseminate knowledge, interventions and policies that integrate and act on these determinants to improve health. A maximum of 12 scholars will be selected for two-year appointments beginning in the fall of 2013. Scholars will receive an annual stipend of $80,000. The deadline for applications is September 21. The call for applications may be found at www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=21395.

NIH Seeks Proposals for HIV/AIDS Research
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is inviting research grant applications to study HIV infection, HIV-associated conditions, HIV treatment, and/or biobehavioral or social factors associated with HIV/AIDS in the context of aging and/or in older adults. Research approaches of interest include clinical translational, observational, and intervention studies in domestic and international settings. General topic areas appropriate for this funding opportunity announcement include, but are not limited to cellular and molecular mechanisms of HIV in aging, HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders, and HIV-associated non-AIDS conditions and co-morbidities. Due dates for this funding announcement are ongoing through April 7, 2015. Additional details may be obtained from grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-10-226.html for additional information.

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Methodist College Adds Gerontology Certificate Programs
Methodist College, located in Peoria, IL, has expanded its college degree programs, which now include a Bachelor of Science degree in health sciences or a gerontology certificate, as well as a nursing degree. The new gerontology certificate program is aimed at individuals who have already earned an associate’s degree. According to the president of the college, the gerontology courses are designed to give students a holistic view of the rapidly growing aging population. The college received input from local community colleges, social service agencies, and various employers prior to finalizing and developing the new degrees and certificate programs. There are plans to offer a master’s degree in nursing in 2013.

Mississippi State University Launches New Graduate Programs
A new graduate program at the School of Human Sciences at Mississippi State University is now accepting students who are interested in pursuing a master’s degree or PhD in human development and family studies. The master’s degree program will begin in the fall semester of 2012, and the PhD program is expected to begin in the fall of 2013. The two new programs will provide interdisciplinary lifespan approaches to the study of children, youth and families, specifically infant and child studies, youth studies, family resource management, and gerontology.

Hartford Foundation Provides Career Development Awards
A total of 83 advanced fellows and junior faculty members nationwide will share in $2.5 million in career development awards from The John A. Hartford Foundation. The recipients of these awards are based at Hartford Foundation Centers of Excellence in Geriatric Medicine and Training. The Centers of Excellence program is funded by the foundation and is administered by the American Federation for Aging Research. Since 2010, the foundation, which supports the improvement of healthcare for the aging population, has granted more than $7.5 million toward the goal of increasing the number of academic leaders in geriatric medicine.

University of Colorado Colorado Springs Breaks Ground on Senior Health Center
In June, the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS) began construction of its $18.5 million Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences. The 54,000 square foot four-story building will be home to the Lane Family Senior Health Center operated by Peak Vista Community Health Centers, as well as the University of Colorado Aging Center, the Gerontology Center, the Trauma Health and Hazards Center, and clinics operated by the Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Peak Vista Community Health Centers is a non-profit organization that offers primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services to more than 60,000 El Paso and Teller residents, most from working families without health insurance. UCCS faculty are expected to use the Lane Center to demonstrate models where physical and mental health care are closely integrated and to provide UCCS students with hands-on clinical experience.

University of Hawaii at Hilo Gears Up for DNP Program
In August, The University of Hawaii at Hilo School of Nursing will welcome its first cohort of doctor of nursing practice (DNP) students. This program will offer two entry tracks, post-baccalaureate and post-master’s for advanced nursing education. The DNP is a program designed to prepare the nurse at an advanced level of nursing science. It emphasizes the development of the students’ capacity to impact the clinical setting as leaders and educators and to utilize clinical research to improve and transform health care within the fields of gerontology, transcultural nursing, and rural health. For additional information, visit hilo.hawaii.edu/depts/nursing.
Australian Seniors at Risk for Malnutrition
AdelaideNow.com.au recently published an article regarding the number of Australians aged 65 to 100 who are living alone and at risk of malnutrition. This article reported that a recent Dietitians Association of Australia study of 200 older adults living in the Victoria area found that one-third of these individuals were living in a community setting and receiving care were at risk of malnutrition, and eight percent were currently suffering from malnutrition, while 19 percent were considered underweight.

Poland Close to Raising Retirement Age
According to Reuters, the upper chamber of Poland’s Parliament has approved Prime Minister Donald Tusk’s pension reform of raising the retirement age from 65 years for men and 60 years of age for women to age 67 years. The reform is intended to maintain the stability of public finances. These changes to the retirement age will need to be signed by Poland’s President in order to commence the revision to the age of retirement.

Demographic Trends Affecting Estonian Pension System
The Estonian government has asked its Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Social Affairs to provide, within one year, an analysis of the status of the pension insurance system given current and future demographic changes, according to an article in The Baltic Times. This request came after the Estonian government examined a report from the Praxis Center for Policy Studies on the social security system’s sustainability, given the aging population and decline of working-age people. Those aged 65 years and older are expected to nearly double over the next 50 years, causing the ratio of older adults to working-age people to increase from 28 percent to 67 percent by 2060.

India Sees Increase in Use of Elder Care Facilities
There is an increase in the number of India’s older population that are moving into elder care facilities. This living arrangement, which has carried stigmatization in India, according to a recent article in the Los Angeles Times, is slowly becoming accepted. Although sociologists have indicated that many older Indians prefer living with their peers than their grown children, most extended families still live together. But the article reports that this is changing as more upscale, gated elder care communities that provide saunas, aromatherapy, gyms, and pools are offered.

Aging, Obese Populations May Cause Financial Issues for Britain
According to an article that appeared in The Independent on June 4, Britain’s finances may be negatively affected due to the cost of public services as the population ages and the obesity epidemic grows. The article referenced the latest report issued by the Institute for Public Policy, “The Long View,” which analyzed the prospects for public services in 2030. These forecasts indicated that those aged over 85 years will more than double in the next 25 years while nearly half of men and 43 percent of women may be obese by 2030. The article suggests that these projections can cost the nation billions of pounds in extra spending.

South Africans Identify Retirement Concerns
A June 27 article in Business Day on South Africans’ retirement funds indicated that a recent survey by the deVere Group, an independent financial advice provider, found that lack of enough income was the largest retirement concern of respondents who were between the ages of 40 and 50 years. Half of those who were aged between 50 and 60 reported a fear of become dependent on others during their older years. According to a long-term insurer quoted in this article, modern contributions are directed more towards pre-retirement years, rather than towards minimizing financial risks during retirement. The South African Treasury Department was reported as indicating that only about 10 percent of the country’s citizens are able to maintain their pre-retirement level spending, regardless of their income. The government is expected to encourage more savings in approved retirement funds for those that earn more than a specified threshold.
Call for Nominations
2013 Busse Research Awards

To promote international research in gerontology, two Busse Research Awards will be given at the 20th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Seoul, Korea, June 23-27, 2013. Two gerontologists (junior or mid-career) will be selected. One award will recognize a scientist from the social/behavioral sciences; the other from the biomedical sciences. Awards are $6,000 (USD) each, plus up to $3,000 (USD) for travel/living expenses. Awardees must present a lecture based on their research at the conference. Deadline for receipt of applications: October 1, 2012.

For information and application forms, visit WEBSITE:
www.geri.duke.edu/busse/busse.html or contact:

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