Inside this issue:

- Funding Opportunities . . . . . .2
- AGHE News . . . . . .4
- New PP&AR . . . . . . .7

Website Offers DVD Discount
The GSA-partnered documentary “Almost Home” is now available on DVD. Members can get a 20% discount off the purchase price by ordering through the link on www.geron.org.

Six New Hartford Fellows Selected
Six outstanding social work students have been chosen as the newest recipients of the prestigious Hartford Doctoral Fellowship, a program funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation, administered by The Gerontological Society of America, and directed by Dr. James Lubben.

The six will each receive a $50,000 dissertation grant plus $20,000 in matching support from their home institutions that will enable them to more fully concentrate on their dissertation research projects over the next two years.

Lubben, the Louise McMahon Ahearn University Chair at Boston College, directs the program with input from the National Program Committee of Leaders in Doctoral Education for Social Work and Gerontology. GSA provides overall administration and fiscal management.

Amy Cohen-Callow
University of Maryland-Baltimore/School of Social Work
Dissertation Topic: Volunteerism as a protective factor for older adults: Testing a model of volunteer behavior

Bryan K. Ford
University of Alabama/School of Social Work
Dissertation Topic: Predicting public support for health care funding

Kathryn G. Keitzman
UCLA/School of Public Affairs
Dissertation Topic: A reason to care: Motivation to assume a paid caregiver role and correlates to positive outcomes among family members and friends

Frances Mills
University of South Carolina/College of Social Work
Dissertation Topic: Theological Orientation of Religious Congregations as a determinant of Social Service Provision to Older Adults

Duy D. Nguyen
Columbia University/School of Social Work
Dissertation Topic: The effects of age cohort and Asian ethnicity on mental health service utilization

Frances E. Wilby
University of Utah/College of Social Work
Dissertation Topic: Coping and depression among community dwelling elders

New AJN Article Tackles Bathing Issues
The American Journal of Nursing’s (AJN) latest installment in their “New Look at the Old” series is now available online at www.NursingCenter.com/AJNOlderadults. “The Bathing of Older Adults with Dementia” examines a range of evidence-based options for easing the fear, anxiety, humiliation, and pain that can accompany bathing, and provide strategies and techniques to making bathing a pleasant and comforting experience. This latest article is part of a collaborative effort between the AJN, The Gerontological Society of America, and Trinity Healthforce Learning. The venture is funded by Atlantic Philanthropies with additional support from The Nurses Service Organization.
University of Pennsylvania Gifted with New Scholarship Funds

NewCourtland Elder Services and the Presbyterian Foundation for Philadelphia have created a new $1 million endowed scholarship to the Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (GNP) Master’s Program at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Nursing.

The Kass Endowed Scholarship, named for the Foundation’s and NewCourtland’s current president and CEO, Gail Kass, matches the largest gerontological nursing student funding given to University of Pennsylvania.

This money will provide full tuition on an annual basis to eligible NewCourtland network employees, their children or grandchildren who are accepted to the program. Preference for awarding the scholarship will be given to NewCourtland network employees, their children or grandchildren; but in their absence from the qualified pool, the scholarship will be awarded to a new or current University of Pennsylvania student pursuing a degree in gerontological nursing. Upon completion of the program at the University of Pennsylvania, the Kass Scholarship recipient will fulfill a one-year work commitment in the NewCourtland network.

Research Organizations Outline Minority Funding Options

The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) invites individuals to explore their website designed to expand the promotion efforts of the NIH research supplement training program. Furthermore, the OBSSR seeks to ensure a concentration of researchers who will address behavioral and social factors that are important in improving the public’s health, especially among underrepresented populations. This website creates a link between underrepresented students and faculty eligible for support through the NIH Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research program (see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-015.html). In addition, it establishes a central resource for students and faculty, as well as researchers, seeking information on NIH research training opportunities in the behavioral and social sciences.

Mentor Information:
http://mentorminorities.od.nih.gov/Emails/mentor/index.html

Mentee Information:

For more detailed information and to join the program, please visit
http://mentorminorities.od.nih.gov/

Training Program Targets Postdoctoral Researchers

Applicants are now being sought for the NRSA Postdoctoral Fellowship in Geriatric Mental Health Services Research. This National Institutes of Mental Health-funded award provides fellowship training in health services research for older adults with mental disorders. The program is designed for psychiatrists, medical physicians, psychologists, nurses, and social/behavioral scientists. The fellows will spend two years working with expert faculty mentors in mental health services research and participate in ongoing research. They will also participate in local and national seminars with investigators and postdoctoral fellows at Dartmouth, Cornell, and the University of Washington. For further information, visit www.mededseminar.org.
Hispanic Council Taps Feather for Board Spot
John Feather, Executive Director and CEO of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Hispanic Council on Aging (www.nhcoa.org), which is the oldest national organization focusing on improving the quality of life for Latino elderly, families and communities.

UN Welcomes Kosberg for Keynote Address

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

Dr. Theris Touhy
(She became eligible after referring new member Erin Arnold.)

To find out how you too can win a certificate and a chance to win free lodging at the GSA Annual Meeting, visit http://www.geron.org/ColleagueConnection.htm.

New Member Publications

"Military Service, the Life Course, and Aging," a special issue of Research on Aging (volume 28, issue 1), guest edited by Richard A. Settersten, Jr. Published by SAGE Publications.

The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) is now accepting applications for a Fall 2006 internship in its Washington, DC, office. The internship is full-time from September through December, but exact start and end dates are flexible. A stipend is provided.

Past applicants have represented a variety of disciplines (including social work and gerontology), but interest in gerontology, in higher education, and in non-profit or business management is desirable. Graduate students or recent undergrads are particularly encouraged to apply.

AGHE’s intern will have the opportunity to: (1) run special projects (e.g., survey administration, publications) tailored to his or her personal interests; (2) attend public policy meetings in Washington, DC; and (3) meet and correspond with leaders in the field of gerontological education. In addition, the intern will assist with the preparations for (and will attend) The Gerontological Society of America’s 59th Annual Scientific Meeting in Dallas, TX, November 16–20, 2006.

Please note that this is NOT a direct service position. Interns will have no direct contact with elders.

The deadline for applications is May 31st, 2006!
Special Thanks to the 2006 Annual Meeting Sponsors
We are most grateful to the organizations, businesses, and schools that contributed to AGHE’s 32nd Annual Meeting in Indianapolis. These meeting donations made it possible for us to provide an excellent conference while keeping the registration fees modest. Thanks for your generous support!

- AARP Office of Academic Affairs
- Ball State University, Fisher Institute for Wellness and Gerontology
- Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center
- Merck Institute of Aging & Health
- Miami University, Scripps Gerontology Center
- Purdue University, Center on Aging and the Life Course
- Sigma Phi Omega
- Terra Nova Films
- The Haworth Press
- University of Indianapolis, Center for Aging and Community
- University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute
- University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Gerontology Program
- University of South Florida, Collaborative on Aging

Sustaining Affiliate Members Provide Extra Support
AGHE’s Executive Committee would like to thank the eight Sustaining Affiliate members for their extra level of support in 2005–2006. The significant funds and services provided by these institutions and organizations are greatly appreciated. Our Sustaining Affiliate members are:

- AARP
- Georgia State University
- Mount Mary College
- Purdue University
- University of Indianapolis
- University of Massachusetts Boston
- University of Nevada, Reno
- University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Announcing the 2006 AGHE Election Results!
We are pleased to announce the election of the following officers to serve AGHE during the 2005-2007 term. The candidates were elected by e-mail ballots cast by AGHE’s Institutional Representatives.

Secretary
James R. Peacock, Appalachian State University

Members-at-Large
Dana B. Bradley, Western Kentucky University
Kathryn L. Braun, University of Hawaii
Neal E. Cutler, Widener University

In addition to these officers, the Board of Directors will include the following persons serving the second year of their term of office:

President
Marie Bernard, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Treasurer
Marilyn Gugliucci, University of New England

Members-at-Large
James Ellor, Baylor University
Margaret A. Perkinson, Washington University

Committee Chair appointments will be made by Marie Bernard this spring and will be announced in the fall issue of the AGHEExchange.

University of Nevada, Reno Program Designated a Program of Merit
AGHE’s staff and leadership would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Gerontology Academic Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. The University’s Gerontology Undergraduate Certificate Program has been granted Program of Merit status by the Association. This is a five-year designation being bestowed upon this program, which was officially recognized at the opening session of the recent AGHE conference in Indianapolis.

AGHE’s Program of Merit is the only national review of educational programs in gerontology. It is a voluntary program and is available to any program at the Doctoral, Master, Bachelor, or Associate level. Each program is evaluated according to its own goals and objectives. For additional information contact the AGHE office at 202-289-9806 or dstepp@aghe.org.
Emerging Scholars and Professional Organization

May brings with it (even) better weather and thoughts of graduation for many students. The Emerging Scholars and Professional Organization would like to congratulate our undergraduate and graduate student members who will be graduating this year! Last month’s article offered suggestions for undergraduate students looking for jobs in the aging field. This month will focus on post-doctoral opportunities for graduating Ph.D. students. Although the deadline for some post-docs may have passed, students who have not yet secured employment and those who plan to graduate next year may benefit from researching available opportunities.

Posted positions are certainly a great place to start. Some post-docs, including those at many universities and some through research institutions such as the Census Bureau, are recurring and are available yearly. Check their websites for application deadlines and position details.

The authors of articles in your field of study are also potentially valuable contacts for post-doc positions. Consider contacting these people by email or phone to find out whether they have current or future openings. It is often useful to discuss how you might contribute to current projects or suggest potential projects you might be able to collaborate on.

It is important to revise and update your Curriculum Vitae (CV) before you begin applying for positions. There are many resources to help you with this process, including online guides and manuals. Of course having your mentor review the final version is often beneficial. Asking your advisor and other professors to write letters of recommendation well in advance will give them the opportunity to formulate a well thought-out document and allow them time to ask you relevant questions.

Making appointments to speak with potential employers in person, such as at the GSA annual meeting, is often a great way of showcasing your skills. If you are presenting at GSA, you may want to invite potential employers to your session. Doing so will give you an occasion to showcase your research and professional skills.

The positions you ultimately choose to apply for will depend on your interests and your field of study. Consider your strengths and what you hope to get out of the experience. There are many post-doc opportunities out there – look for the one that suits you best!
CFAH Publication Advocates Health Promotion

The Center for the Advancement of Health’s latest information piece, titled “A New Vision of Aging: Helping Older Adults Make Healthier Choices,” has been posted online.

Developed in collaboration with the National Council on Aging and with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the report summarizes the evidence on the benefits of health promotion in older adults. The publication also identifies programs that effectively help older people to live longer and healthier lives by increasing physical activity, improving eating habits and minimizing the risk of falling. Professors, students and professionals concerned with the health of older adults will find this report a valuable reference document to help them identify research gaps and organize efforts to increase the availability of such programs for all.

A PDF version is available at http://www.cfah.org.

International Reports Tackle U.S. Health Care Shortcomings

Two new cross-national studies of patients’ health care experiences find the United States — the country that spends more on health care than any other — fares comparatively poorly on a number of important health system indicators.

For the report titled “Mirror, Mirror, on the Wall: An Update on the Quality of American Health Care Through the Patient’s Lens,” Commonwealth Fund President Karen Davis and colleagues analyzed 2004 and 2005 patient survey data for Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. using a framework developed by the Institute of Medicine to evaluate the quality of a health care system. Out of 51 indicators of health care quality, the U.S. ranked first on six indicators and ranked last or tied for last on 27, including measures of patient safety, patient-centeredness, efficiency, and equity. One area where the U.S. performed comparatively well was the delivery of preventive care.

Meanwhile, Fund researchers Phuong Huynh, Cathy Schoen, and colleagues report in “The U.S. Health Care Divide: Disparities in Primary Care Experiences by Income” that in the U.S., disparities by income were evident for 21 of 30 measures of primary care access, coordination, and doctor-patient relationships included in the study. Differences by income were relatively rare in the other countries. The study also found that U.S. patients with below-average incomes were more likely to have negative care experiences than their counterparts in the other countries.

Both publications are available at www.cmwf.org.

SACGHS Makes Recommendations for Genetic Tests

The Final report of the Health and Human Services Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Genetics, Health, and Society on coverage and reimbursement of genetic tests and services is now available at http://www4.od.nih.gov/oba/sacghs/reports/CR_report.pdf. The report describes the current state of coverage and reimbursement of genetic tests and services, highlights how problems in the system are affecting patient access to and utilization of health-related genetic tests and services, and identifies nine steps for improving current mechanisms for coverage and reimbursement of genetic tests and services in both public and private sector. The recommendations cover a range of topics, including evidence-based coverage decision making, Medicare coverage of preventive services, the adequacy of Current Procedural Terminology codes for genetic tests and services, billing by non-physician genetic counseling providers, and genetics education of health providers.

Study Finds Medicare Enrollment Easier Than Expected

Medicare Today has released a new national poll showing that an overwhelming majority of seniors who have already enrolled in the benefit say the enrollment process was easier than they expected. Although more than two-thirds had heard negative reports about the new program, seniors report that enrollment was not a difficult experience. Also being released is a comprehensive report prepared by the respected Lewin Group policy research firm, which quantifies the prescription drug savings for the average senior suffering from one of five common chronic conditions. Common conditions included in the report include arthritis, diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis and respiratory illness. The report details savings both nationally and for each state, comparing to both retail and mail-order prices.

AHRQ Chartbook Profiles Racial/Ethnic Differences

A new booklet from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality’s Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) presents detailed charts and other information on health insurance coverage and usual source of care during 2002.
for Hispanic, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and other single/multiple race non-Hispanic Americans. Differences are broken down by income, gender, age group, and other factors. The chartbook also compares Hispanic subgroups—Puerto Rican, Cuban, Mexican, or “other Hispanic”—a term that includes South Americans, Central Americans, and Dominicans. This chartbook is available online at http://www.meps.ahrq/Papers/CB14_06-0004/CB14.pdf. A print copy is available by sending an e-mail to ahrqpubs@ahrq.hhs.gov. The title is “MEPS Chartbook No. 14: Racial and Ethnic Differences in Health Insurance Coverage and Usual Source of Health Care, 2002.”

**DVD Details Nursing Facility Overhauls**

With financial support from The Commonwealth Fund, the American Health Quality Foundation has released a new DVD titled “A Tale of Transformation: Four Stages Tell the Story.” The video and its accompanying workbook is based on the work by Leslie A. Grant of the University of Minnesota and LaVrene Norton of Action Pact, Inc. These tools are designed to help organizations assess culture change and identify actions that will move them toward their goals. Visit www.culturechangenow.com to view a movie trailer and purchase the materials. The workbook and video package costs $88.

**U.S. Unprepared for Impact of Aging Population on Health Workforce**

The United States is unprepared to meet the health care challenges posed by its aging population, according to a new study by the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) at the University at Albany’s School of Public Health. The report, titled “The Impact of the Aging Population on the Health Workforce in the United States,” examines the implications of population aging for the health workforce, both in the context of caring for older adults (65+) and on health care professions and occupations. The study also found that while the number of new physicians currently entering practice each year should be adequate to meet aggregate demand for services, this supply may not be sufficient to meet the needs of older adults. This population is far more likely to live in rural areas, where physicians are often in short supply and access to transportation is limited. For the full report (244 pages), visit: http://www.albany.edu/news/pdf_files/impact_of_aging_full.pdf

**New PP&AR Recaps WHCOA**

Be sure to check out the latest Public Policy and Aging Report, titled "2005 White House Conference on Aging." This issue features the following articles and authors:

- The 2005 White House Conference on Aging: No Time for Seniors
- Cathedral Builders Wanted: Constructing a New Vision of Technology for Old Age
- Social Security and Medicare: President Bush and the Delegates Reject Each Other
- Civic Engagement at the 2005 White House Conference on Aging
- Mental Health and Aging at the 2005 White House Conference on Aging
- Housing and the 2005 White House Conference on Aging: A Springboard for Change or Much Ado About Nothing
- The White House Conference on Aging in 2015: The Shape of Things to Come

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**Copies of this Public Policy and Aging Report, as well as copies of past issues, may be ordered on-line by visiting the National Academy on an Aging Society’s web site at www.agingorganization.org or by calling 202-842-1275**
The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), Department of Medicine, Division of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine is seeking a physician to provide inpatient and outpatient consult services within the UAB Health System. This is a tenure earning or non-tenure earning position at the rank of Assistant Professor. Salary and tenure status will be commensurate with experience. Board certification or eligibility in Geriatric Medicine is required. Geriatric fellowship training and experience in long-term care are preferred. Geriatric patient care responsibilities are expected to represent up to seventy five percent of professional effort while educational, research, and administrative effort will be allocated to reflect the applicant’s interests and skills. Contact: Peter Bosworth MBA, Division of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1530 3rd Avenue South, CH19 Suite 201, Birmingham, Alabama 35294-2041. (Ref #032)

UAB is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Female and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.