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Get Your Section Meeting’s Lunch Ticket Today!
During the upcoming Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego, join colleagues at your Section Business Meeting and Award Presentation on Friday, November 16, to honor new awardees and learn about new developments specific to your GSA section. Act now to secure a ticket for the luncheon, which is available for a nominal fee of $15. Limited general seating will be available for those who do not wish to eat. The meeting registration form, accessible through www.geron.org/annualmeeting, includes an option to sign up for the meal. (Existing registrations also can be updated.)

Coalition Urges Federal Alzheimer’s Action
GSA is one of 51 industry, not-for-profit, and foundation organization members of Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer’s Disease (LEAD). These members have been asked to spread the word about a national petition effort calling on the president and Congress to fulfill the commitment of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease. To learn more and sign the petition, visit www.StopAlzNow.org.

Guide Helps Gerontologists Make Effective Connection with Seniors
GSA’s latest report, “Communicating With Older Adults: An Evidence-Based View of What Really Works,” provides 40 pages of recommended guidelines for health care providers interacting with the fastest growing age segment of America’s population.

This publication is intended for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, biologists, psychologists, social workers, caregivers, economists, and health policy experts — anyone who seeks to have the best possible interactions with older patients. It was developed by GSA and supported by McNeil Consumer Healthcare. All GSA members will receive a mailed copy in October.

“The report is based in the scientific literature, yet the contributors created something extremely accessible,” said GSA member Jake Harwood, PhD, head of the Advisory Board that crafted the report. “It covers the full range of communication issues experienced by older adults and health care providers, and gives concrete suggestions for dealing with problems when they arise.”

America’s Top Age Beat Reporters Chosen for Journalism Fellowship
GSA and New America Media (NAM) have selected 18 reporters for the MetLife Foundation Journalists in Aging Fellows Program, now in its third year. They represent a wide range of mainstream and ethnic media outlets, including several daily newspapers and NPR affiliates.

The fellows will convene during GSA’s Annual Scientific Meeting — scheduled for November 14 to 18 in San Diego — and utilize over 500 presentations and 4,000 expert attendees to develop a major aging-focused story or series.

These proposed projects, to be published in 2013, will span such concerns as family caregiving, the struggles of aging veterans, financial elder abuse, and the challenges faced by older American women.

“Our fellows provide an invaluable service by sharing new knowledge about aging from our meeting with America’s diverse population,” said GSA Deputy Executive Director Linda Harootyan, MSW. “We provide a unique venue to help them understand everything from the latest discoveries in the health sciences to the impact of the 2012 election on older adults.”

The fellowship program is funded by a grant from the MetLife Foundation. And as a result of additional support from the John A. Hartford Foundation this year, one reporter has been designated as the John A. Hartford/MetLife Foundation Journalism in Aging & Health Fellow.

Continued on page 11
From the Executive Director

Making the Meeting Memorable: GSA’s Partners Lend a Hand

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

Have you mapped out your Annual Scientific Meeting schedule yet? Pay a visit to www.geron.org/2012 to utilize our interactive meeting planner, which allows you to customize your itinerary for each day. (A mobile version is coming soon.)

Of course, we’ll be offering our usual lineup of first-class symposia, papers, and posters. But with some new and continuing organizational partners, we’ve organized several additional activities that will make the meeting all the more memorable. Read on to discover how these collaborations will result in unique content for attendees in San Diego.

Last month, Gerontology News reported on a grant the National Institute on Aging awarded GSA to hold a series of workshops on aging, the central nervous system, and mobility. The first of these is taking place in San Diego from November 12 to 14. Separate registration is required for this event, where participants will focus on translating research into interventions that improve mobility for older adults.

Convenient timing helped GSA solidify another valuable partnership for November. The Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine is holding its annual meeting in San Diego at the same time we are. So we’ve decided to hold three joint symposia — two at our meeting and one at theirs — that explore oxidative stress and aging. These sessions are open to attendees of both meetings.

You may recall that last year in Boston, we welcomed the National Council on Aging for a special day of sessions. The joint venture proved so successful that we’re continuing it in San Diego, although in 2012, the focus has been tailored to take advantage of our location. The title of the event, taking place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, November 16, is “Building Integrated Health and Service Systems: New Opportunities and Challenges.” Separate registration is required.

As you saw on the front page, the MetLife Foundation Journalists in Aging Fellowship Program is now in its third year of bringing reporters to participate in our meeting. This time, though, we’ve added a new partner, the John A. Hartford Foundation, to support an additional fellow focusing on the health of older adults. It’s always rewarding to see one of our projects — particularly one that showcases our members’ work to the general public — become so successful that other organizations approach us to see how they can become involved.

After successfully working together during World Health Day 2012, GSA again is teaming up with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) — this time for “Advancing an Agenda for Global Aging and Health,” the internationally focused post-conference workshop starting at noon on the final day of the meeting, Sunday, November 18. This half-day session, which will be framed through the lens of Latin America, will explore the possibilities for transnational collaboration in research and education. PAHO is an international public health agency working to improve health and living standards of the people of the Americas. The workshop represents a terrific opportunity to lay groundwork for enhanced international outreach at the GSA meeting as we prepare to host the World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in 2017.

So from the very beginning to the very end, the San Diego program is full of content that hasn’t been seen at a previous GSA meeting. And our pre-registration numbers are as strong as they were in 2011 — a record-high attendance year for us. This one looks too important to miss!
In Memoriam

George L. Maddox, PhD, DSc, GSA's president in 1978, passed away on August 9. He was the recipient of numerous GSA honors, including the Robert W. Kleemeier Award and Behavioral and Social Science Section’s Distinguished Career Contribution to Gerontology and Distinguished Mentorship in Gerontology awards. At the time of his death, Maddox was a professor emeritus in the Department of Sociology at Duke University, where he also served as director of the Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development from 1972 to 1982, chairman of the University Council for Aging and Human Development from 1982 to 1992, and director of the Long-Term Care Resources Center from 1990 to 2009. His major areas of research included longitudinal studies of normal aging, multi-dimensional functional assessment, and aging health and social policy. He published more than 250 journal articles and book chapters; he authored his first aging publication in 1960 and his last in 2010. Maddox also mentored a large number of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty, many of whom became distinguished gerontology leaders. His efforts in policy and practice resulted in the development of the Geriatric Evaluation and Treatment Clinic at Duke University Medical Center; a subsidized public housing project for older adults that includes supportive services; and a variety of tools used in assessment, program planning, and program evaluation in long-term care settings. He additionally received Duke University’s Humanitarian Award for his early involvement in civil rights, his many contributions to older adults, and his work in the Durham Public Schools.

Member Spotlight

GSA’s website features monthly Q&A sessions with distinguished members. The current spotlight shines on: Michael D. Denkinger, MD
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: Fei Sun, PhD
The recipient, who became eligible after referring new member Jana Wardian, MSW, 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.

Pelham Seeks Public Office

Anabel Pelham, PhD, is running for election to become a member of the City Council in Los Altos, CA. She currently is a professor at San Francisco State University, a member of the Senior Commission, president of the National Association for Professional Gerontologists, and a member of the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce and the Los Altos Village Association. Pelham recently led a two-year effort to have Los Altos and Los Altos Hills designated by the World Health Organization as the first Age-Friendly Communities in California. She said she is interested in using evidence-based research, models, and best practices in her work as a city council member.

GSA Members Rank Among New Policy Fellows

Five GSA members have been selected for the 2012–2013 cohort of the Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program, which is supported by The Atlantic Philanthropies in collaboration with the American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship Program. GSA member Harold Alan Pincus, MD, of Columbia University serves as the program’s director. Christine E. Bishop, PhD, Kenneth Brummel-Smith, MD, Joan K. Davitt, PhD, MSS, MLSP, Rajean P. Moore, PhD, and Emily J. Nicklett, PhD, MSW, will spend the next twelve months helping to shape a healthy and productive future for older Americans. Bishop will be based in Washington, DC, while the others will remain at their home institutions to focus on health policy projects. The program is open to physicians, nurses, social workers, and other professionals with clinical backgrounds at all career stages with demonstrated commitment to health and aging issues. Visit www.healthandagingpolicy.org for more information.

Perkinson Receives Saint Mary’s College Alumna Award

GSA Fellow Margaret “Peggy” Perkinson, PhD, has been given an Alumna Achievement Award from the Alumnae Association of Saint Mary’s College. This distinction honors a graduate who is outstanding in her personal and professional accomplishments and is a recognized leader in her field of endeavor, and who exemplifies the standards, ideals, and mission of the college in its commitment to the value of a Christian liberal arts education. Perkinson is an anthropologist and gerontologist who serves as an associate professor within the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy in the Doisy College of Health Science at Saint Louis University. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in humanistic studies at Saint Mary’s College. Throughout her career, Perkinson has researched a wide variety of topics, including exercise and dementia; how grandparenthood impacts psychological well-being; the older worker in the new global economy; and the social dynamics of diabetes management.

Successful Aging Discussion Site Goes Live

With funding from the National Institute on Aging, GSA Fellows Leonard W. Poon, PhD, Christine Fry, PhD, Eva Kahana, PhD, Boaz Kahana, PhD, Peter Martin, PhD, Brad Willcox, MD, Rachel Pruchno, PhD, May Wykle, PhD, and GSA member Craig Willcox, PhD, have launched a new online forum at healthyanimalsuccessfulaging.wordpress.com and welcome input and discussion on meaning, measurement, and public health implications on healthy and successful aging. The conversation, which also is taking place on Twitter at twitter.com/successinaging and on Facebook (search for “Healthy & Successful Aging”), will provide the opportunity to criticize ideas as well as to provide constructive new directions.
New Policy Fellows Begin Terms; Online Resources Provide Issue Updates

Long-time readers of Gerontology News will recall that both GSA and I are strong supporters of the Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program, which is funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies and conducted in collaboration with The American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship Program. Among its other partners is the Healthy Aging Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which has sponsored a non-residential fellow in the past three years. GSA Deputy Executive Director Linda Harootyan, MSW, has served on the fellows’ selection and advisory committees since the program’s inception.

This year’s newly chosen recipients recently shared with me a vision statement for their upcoming service:

The 2012–2013 cohort of Health and Aging Policy Fellows is looking forward to a year of adventures in policy making. We are excited to join a prestigious inter-professional group of former fellows and to learn from some of the best minds in the policy arena. We know the benefits of the program are vast and precious; here are just a few opportunities that we anticipate.

An opportunity to:
• contribute to improving policies for an aging society and to positive social change;
• receive intensive mentoring from policy experts and enhance our policy networks/networking skills;
• translate between research, policy and practice;
• be exposed to multiple perspectives & multiple disciplines within the policy-making enterprise (or to overcome the “where you stand is where you sit” challenge);
• time to focus on the policy issue we each are passionate about but didn’t have time for in our other lives.

The fellows clearly reflect the goals of the program! Within their broad range of disciplines, research areas, and expertise, they will bring a multi-disciplinary approach and understanding to aging and health policy. This, I believe, is the best way to foster policies that improve the well-being of older adults.

Fellowships are either residential (with placement at congressional office or federal agency) or non-residential (where the fellow is based at his or her home institution). The residential model provides fellows with a hands-on policy experience while the non-residential model focuses on the completion of a specific health policy project. During their fellowship, participants are exposed to a wide range of enrichment programs and seminars to further enhance the fellowship experience and are also provided with extensive mentorship from national policy leaders.

There are 8–10 fellowships awarded each year and they last for 9–12 months. The program is directed by Harold Alan Pincus, MD, and his deputy director, Kathleen M. Pike, PhD, both at Columbia University.

For the 2013–2014 term, applications will be due in the spring of 2013, with the interviews and selection in the early summer of 2013. The fellowship will then begin in October of that year. Please visit the Health and Aging Policy Fellow website at www.healthandagingpolicy.org. For further questions about the program and application process, please contact Pincus (pincush@nyspi.columbia.edu) or Pike (kmp2@columbia.edu).

2012–2013 Fellows (An * denotes a GSA member)

Residential
Christine E. Bishop, PhD*, is the Atran Professor of Labor Economics at The Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. Her recent projects have focused on the organization of work and other aspects of the transformation of nursing home services toward individualized, person-centered care (“culture change”) and on state initiatives to coordinate Medicare and Medicaid services for the dually eligible population.

Maureen Henry, JD, has been the executive director of the Utah Commission on Aging since 2005 and director of Utah’s Aging and Disability Resource Connection since 2009. She was instrumental in facilitating the process that led to the passage of a new advance health care directive law. Henry also has been involved in policy evaluations of health care workforce, aging workers, financial exploitation and abuse, the Physician Order for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST), and long-term care policy.

Brooke Hollister, PhD, is an assistant professor of sociology in the Institute for Health & Aging at the University of California, San Francisco. Her teaching and research focus on long term care, Social Security, Medicare, the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Alzheimer’s disease supports and services, living healthy and independent with a disability, care transitions, and the use of mHealth and broadband-technology to promote the health and wellness of older adults. Hollister is a member of the Administration on Aging-funded National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Technical Advisory Group.

Joan D. Penrod, PhD, is an associate professor in the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, where she directs the Research Design and Analysis Core of the Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center. In addition, she conducts research on the health and healthcare of veterans at the James J. Peters (Bronx) VA Medical Center. Her current research includes study of the effects of palliative care consultation on outcomes, including costs of hospital care; quality indicators for palliative care in ICU; and improving family satisfaction with palliative care for veterans.

Non-Residential
Arlene S. Bierman, MD, MS, is a general internist and geriatrician. At the University of Toronto, she is the inaugural holder of Echo Ontario Women’s Health Council Chair in Women’s Health; associate professor
in the Lawrence F. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing; associate professor of Health Policy, Evaluation, and Management; associate professor of Medicine; and a senior scientist in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute at St. Michael's Hospital. Her research is directed at examining the impact of models of service delivery and finance on access, quality, and health outcomes among older adults, with a special focus on low literacy and low income populations, and the unique needs of older women. Kenneth Brummel-Smith, MD*, has been a leader in geriatrics for almost 30 years. He is the Charlotte Edwards Maguire Professor and chair of the Department of Geriatrics at the Florida State University College of Medicine. He served as chief of the division of geriatrics at two medical schools (University of Southern California and Oregon Health Sciences University). He is a co-editor or author of five textbooks and has written numerous book chapters and articles in the area of geriatrics and geriatric rehabilitation. He is board certified in family medicine and has a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatrics.

Joan K. Davitt, PhD, MSS, MLSP*, is an associate professor and Hartford geriatric social work faculty scholar at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. She is also part of the core faculty of the New Courtland Center for Transitions and Health at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Her research on Medicare home health care has uncovered racial disparities in both access to and outcomes of care; she continues to study the contributing factors to disparities in Medicare home health care with a goal of designing interventions to alleviate disparities.

Susan C. Lynch, JD, MPH, is a health care trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, where she leads national investigations and civilly prosecutes long-term care facilities for failing to adequately care for their residents. Lynch was responsible for bringing one of the department’s first failure of care cases against a national skilled nursing home chain. She sits on the Elder Justice Interagency Working Group, which addresses policy issues such as elder abuse in long-term care facilities and financial exploitation.

Rajean P. Moone, PhD*, holds a BA in psychology from the College of Saint Scholastica, an MS degree in gerontology from Saint Cloud State University, and a PhD in social work from the University of Minnesota. In addition, he holds a Minnesota nursing home administrator license. Currently, he manages the Maximizing Independence Goal at the Greater Twin Cities United Way, where he oversees 42 aging and disability projects as well as system change initiatives.

Emily J. Nicklett, PhD, MSW*, is an assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Social Work. Her research focuses on aging, health disparities in chronic disease, social support, and community effects on health. Nicklett is an authority of the social predictors of health outcomes among older adults with type 2 diabetes. Her recent research includes examining social predictors of nutritional status and community predictors of chronic illness outcomes among older minority elders.

Policy Resources Available to GSA Members

To keep track of the issues with which these fellows are dealing, many of the following organizations and news outlets publish and track stories on health and aging topics. You can sign up to receive their reports daily or weekly via e-mail, or visit the sites when convenient for you.
Seniors’ Mental Health, Substance Abuse Care in Jeopardy
“The Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce for Older Adults: In Whose Hands?” is a new report from the Institute of Medicine that states millions of baby boomers are likely to face difficulties getting diagnoses and treatment for mental health conditions and substance abuse problems unless there is a major effort to significantly boost the number of health professionals and other service providers able to supply this care as the population ages. The report calls for a redesign of Medicare and Medicaid payment rules to guarantee coverage of counseling, care management, and other types of services crucial for treating mental health conditions and substance use problems so that clinicians are willing to provide this care. It reports that between 5.6 million and 8 million older Americans (14 to 20 percent of the nation’s age 65-and-older population) have one or more mental health conditions or problems stemming from substance misuse or abuse. Depressive disorders and dementia-related behavioral and psychiatric symptoms are the most prevalent. The report can be accessed at www.iom.edu/Reports/2012/The-Mental-Health-and-Substance-Use-Workforce-for-Older-Adults.aspx.

Website Offers Resources for Caregivers
KCET, an independent public television station serving Southern and Central California, has launched Your Turn To Care (www.yourturntocare.org), a website designed to serve as a resource for families, caregivers, and seniors across the country who provide care to an older person or are confronted with aging-related issues. Originally developed by KCET as a companion to its original television series “Your Turn To Care,” the enhanced website encourages visitors to “watch, explore and connect” through more than 60 original videos featuring expert advice on topics ranging from caregiving and finance to health and wellness, dementia, and Alzheimer’s disease. The site also serves as an online support network and resource destination for those seeking guidance and advice on caregiving, including the financial impact of caregiving, useful tools for seeking long-term and palliative care and how to cope with the passing of a loved one. For more information, please visit: www.kcet.org/shows/yourturntocare/about/

Kaiser Releases Video to Explain U.S. Health Care Evolution
The Kaiser Family Foundation produced a short, animated movie that explains the changes happening to the current health care system, and the upcoming changes that are slated for 2014. This video is narrated by Cokie Roberts, a news commentator for ABC News and NPR and a member of Kaiser’s Board of Trustees. To view the video, visit www.kff.org/healthreform/Health-Reform-Explained-Video.cfm.

Census Bureau’s Online Tool Allows for Custom Apps
The U.S. Census Bureau recently released a new online service that makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics easily accessible. Its first-ever public application programming interface (API) allows developers to design web and mobile apps to explore or learn more about America’s changing population and economy. The new API lets developers customize Census Bureau statistics into web or mobile apps that provide users quick and easy access from two popular sets of statistics: the 2010 Census, which includes detailed statistics on population, age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, household relationship and owner/renter status, for a variety of geographic areas down to the level of census tracts and blocks; and the 2006–2010 American Community Survey, which includes detailed statistics on an assortment of topics (education, income, employment, commuting, occupation, housing characteristics, and more) down to the level of census tracts and block groups.

Developers can access the API at www.census.gov/developers/ and share ideas through the Census Bureau’s Developers Forum at apiforum.ideascale.com/.

Continued from page 1 - New Guide Helps Gerontologists Make Connection with Seniors

The recommendations were contributed by experts in the fields of gerontology and communications. Each is accompanied by a brief explanation of the rationale, tips for implementing the recommendation in busy health care settings, and selected references for further reading. The objective is to encourage behaviors that consider the unique abilities and challenges of older adult patients and produce positive, effective interactions among everyone involved.

“The report distills a large body of empirical research findings and scholarship from several disciplines into a set of concrete recommendations for effective communication with older adults,” said GSA member Daniel G. Morrow, PhD, who also served on the Advisory Board. “The recommendations include nonverbal and verbal strategies that are often grounded in compelling examples that involve common communication challenges.”

Among the specific steps outlined in the report, care providers are encouraged to avoid speech that might be seen as patronizing to an older person, verify listener comprehension during a conversation, and pay close attention to sentence structure when conveying critical information.

“This resource will be of great benefit to health care providers, and would also make good reading for older adults. Increasing awareness of some of these issues among the older population could help them seek more appropriate accommodation when needed,” Harwood said.

In addition to its own members, GSA also will distribute the report to members of the American Geriatrics Society, the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, and the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers.

“While focused on older adults, the recommendations are relevant to communication across the lifespan,” Morrow said.
It is that time of year again — GSA's Annual Scientific Meeting is rapidly approaching. For some ESPO members, especially students who may be new to an undergraduate or graduate program, the conference may seem daunting. With over 4,000 attendees in various fields of aging from all over the world, the scale of the GSA meeting is quite impressive! There are countless sessions and activities covering all topics of aging, and the Emerging Scholars and Professionals Organization (ESPO) within GSA is here to provide you with some advice, guidance, and help in finding your niche within this large organization. If you are new to GSA or new to attending large conferences, this installment of ESPO News is for you! In this issue, we provide some practical evidence on how to survive and even thrive at this year's annual meeting in San Diego.

Be Mindful of How You Dress
If you are anything like me, your first conference was the first time you went out to buy “real person” clothes (i.e., business casual, or for presentations, business professional). Remember to bring comfortable shoes because you will be on your feet all day. The individuals that you will meet and interact with at the GSA conference could be your future employers or fellow colleagues, so dress the part from the start!

Observe Social Etiquette
Not only is GSA a great opportunity to gain access to the latest research, but it also provides you a chance to visit and interact with colleagues and friends while staying in a great location (i.e., San Diego). If you participate in outside-of-conference activities, such as dinner and/or drinks in the evenings, remember you are still attending a professional conference. At the end of the night you will have to walk back to your hotel room, and who knows who might see you stumble into your hotel lobby! So make sure to be professional at all times at the conference.

Be Prepared for Your Presentation!
If you are a first-time presenter, preparation is key. Practice presenting with your friends and mentors to help you be prepared to answer questions and fine-tune presentation skills. Also, check out the facilities in the room where you will present. Bring an electronic copy of your presentation (thumb drive, etc.) and a laptop (GSA does not provide laptops in the rooms). Arrive early to make sure all equipment is working properly. Make sure to double- and triple-check your poster and/or PowerPoint presentation for errors. Finally, prepare copies of your presentation or provide your contact information for scholars interested in learning more about your work.

Bring Business Cards and Have Your Elevator Speech Ready
Although early on, students are typically in the process of working out their interests or working on developing dissertation or thesis projects, it is still important to be able to concisely explain to a potential employer what it is that you do and/or what it is that you are interested in doing. It is perfectly acceptable if you do not know what you want to do for the rest of your life, but knowing what you enjoy about your current stage in school is helpful when interacting with colleagues. Also, don't forget to bring business cards, if you have them, or CVs to hand out to anyone who is interested.

Avoiding Procrastinating on School Work
For most students, the GSA meeting falls right before all major projects, presentations, and papers are due for courses you are enrolled in during the fall semester. Therefore, the travel to and from the annual meeting and the time spent attending sessions takes away from the time necessary to cram in any last bits of knowledge into your work. If you are like most studious conference attendees, you might try to bring your work with you and get things done in between sessions, on the plane, and at night. But also, if you are like many new conference attendees, your brain is fried at the end of the day and you do not get to put in the quality time to your work that you need. Avoid this extra stress and adjust your deadlines so they are prior to the GSA meeting. This way you can enjoy the conference, and not spend the entire trip stressing about the work you need to get done before you get home.

Plan Your Schedule
It is important to be strategic about the events and activities that you attend while at the meeting. There are countless scientific sessions and symposia that are far more than any one person could attend during a conference. Therefore, try to get the most out of your conference experience by visiting the GSA website's customizable meeting planner, which allows you to create an itinerary with specific events you are interested in. Also, check out the upcoming e-newsletter from ESPO Chair, Chivon Mingo, PhD, for information regarding all ESPO-related activities that you are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Stay Fueled, Well-Rested, and Hydrated (in the ESPO Lounge)
In my first few years attending the GSA conference, it was inevitable that I would get sick. It is the end of the semester and you are exhausted, usually stressed, and now you have to travel across the country and present your research. It is a perfect storm for a sickness. Try to avoid this by resting up before your flight, bringing healthy snacks to eat during the conference, and pacing yourself throughout the conference activities. The ESPO Lounge, located in Room 9 of the Convention Center, will provide a place to rest from the hectic conference pace, meet with colleagues and mentors, and learn more about ESPO. Please stop by for refreshments and free Internet access!

Best of luck with your preparations for the GSA annual meeting, and, on behalf of the ESPO Executive Committee, we look forward to seeing you in San Diego!
Meeting Agenda Features Ample Networking, Mentoring Activities

Numerous sessions that demonstrate GSA’s mentoring and networking potential are slated for the 65th Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego.

Visit www.geron.org/2012 to view the full program schedule.

**How to Publish Workshop**
Wednesday, November 14 • 8 a.m. to noon.
(Fee: $85 for regular members; $60 for student members)
This pre-conference workshop is designed for anyone who would like to learn more about how to get published in peer-reviewed and niche journals in the aging field. This is also an opportunity to meet informally with and ask specific questions to several editors of GSA’s journals. Participants may sign up for this workshop using the meeting’s registration form.

**Gerontologists Giving Back Service Event**
Wednesday, November 14 • noon to 7 p.m.
(Fee: $20)
A group of GSA attendees will help with prepping, cooking, and serving a meal to 220 homeless persons in San Diego with the Just Call Us Volunteers, a non-profit organization of chefs and others working with adults and children to expand awareness in the areas of hunger and nutrition. Participants may sign up for this event using the meeting’s registration form. Dinner and transportation costs are included in the price. Please contact Sarah Canham at scanham@jhsph.edu with any questions.

**President’s Welcome Reception and Exhibit Hall Opening**
Wednesday, November 14 • 6 to 8 p.m.
Help kick off the meeting with a stroll through GSA’s exhibit hall and a visit to the first poster session.

**New Member Meet and Greet**
Thursday, November 15 • 7 to 8 a.m.
GSA’s leadership will be on hand to discuss navigating the meeting, various networking opportunities, and how to become involved in the Society.

**GSA Fellows Mentor Program**
Thursday, November 15 • 7 to 8:30 a.m.
The deadline to apply for this “speed mentoring” program with GSA fellows is November 1 and spaces are filling up fast. If you are in training, or new to work in the field, consider being matched with GSA fellows from your section. These senior scholars will meet with you in person in San Diego — with potential for further communication in the following year. You also will be invited to the GSA Fellows & International Reception for further exposure to these leaders within the organization. If you are interested and will be present on Thursday, November 15, please email your CV to Nancy Wilson at nwilson@bcm.edu for consideration or to get additional information.

**ESPO Lounge**
Thursday, November 15 • 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday, November 16 • 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, November 17 • 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The ESPO lounge provides a place for GSA’s emerging scholars and professionals to rest from the hectic conference pace, meet with colleagues and mentors, and learn more about ESPO. Please stop by for refreshments and access to free internet!

**ESPO Breakfast and Community Meeting**
Thursday, November 15 • 8 to 9:30 a.m.
All ESPO members are invited to learn about ways to become more involved in the organization, meet the executive committee members, and network with colleagues.

**Task Force on Minority Issues Award Presentation and Reception**
Thursday, November 15 • 5:30 to 7 p.m.
All members are invited to this event, which honors the 2012 winner of the Task Force on Minority Issues in Gerontology Outstanding Mentorship Award.

**Interest Group Meetings**
Thursday, November 15 • 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Friday, November 16 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 17 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.
These meetings provide excellent networking opportunities and a chance to talk informally with colleagues. Interest groups are formed around a topic or issue that cuts across disciplines and sections of the Society. The Program Book will contain a full list of groups and meeting times.

**GSA Fellows & International Reception**
Thursday, November 15 • 6:30 to 8 p.m.
This reception is held annually to honor current and new GSA fellows, as well as international members of the Society. (Open to fellows and international attendees only.)

**Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization Award Presentation & Reception**
Thursday, November 15 • 7:30 to 9 p.m.
This event provides an informal setting to network with other ESPO members as well as GSA fellows. The reception is open to ESPO members and GSA fellows only.

(Continued on the next page.)
Mentoring Is for Everyone at GSA
By Ellen Idler, Chair of the Task Force on Mentoring

Opportunities for mentoring exist in many professional organizations, but with its many awards and events, GSA has made a special commitment to mentoring as one of its primary functions. In 2009, GSA established a Task Force on Mentoring to coordinate and enhance these practices. In its first three years the task force surveyed members about mentoring experiences at the annual meeting, and surveyed and met with interest group conveners to share best practices for mentoring in their groups. We have discovered how fulfilling this role is to many mentors, and how extremely valuable it is to those who have been mentored.

As an organization with special insight into the growth and development of individuals throughout the life course, GSA brings a lot of intellectual horsepower to the practice of mentoring. What organization can you name whose members have a better understanding of the critically important societal underpinning of intergenerational relations? One of the most central insights is that mentoring should be a continuous activity across the course of a career — from the undergraduate student attending GSA for the first time to the emeritus professor — everyone needs advice, and everyone has some wisdom they can impart to others. We call it “ladder mentoring.”

Everyone at GSA is on the ladder — everyone can look up to those ahead for a helping hand, and everyone can extend a helping hand to those on a lower rung. It may not be easy to see yourself on the very top of the ladder, but one rung up isn’t so hard to imagine. That makes the people on that next rung up the most valuable advisors of all. Transitions from one career stage to another are some of the key moments when we need advice, no matter what transition it is, be it into a first tenure-track job, or retirement.

Another key insight that the task force developed over its three-year term is that GSA supports mentoring best when it opens up opportunities for people at all career stages to meet around their common interests. The Mentoring Consultancies at the Annual Scientific Meeting are great examples of small group settings where senior people in the field meet junior members to brainstorm about research or publication challenges. And GSA’s interest groups are a hotbed of mentoring, as they pursue common interests in research areas. With a tip of our hat to naturally occurring retirement communities, the task force calls these opportunities “Gerontologic Naturally Occurring Mentoring Experiences”, or G-NOMEs — because mentoring is in our DNA!
Advancing the Aging Sciences

National Science Foundation funding will allow 17 new doctoral students to study aging over the next 3 years at Oregon State University. This Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) is the first and only IGERT program in the nation with a focus on aging sciences. The program provides a $30,000 stipend and support for tuition and research. Students will be mentored by faculty in existing research cores at Oregon State’s Center for Healthy Aging Research:

1) diet and genetics
2) musculoskeletal
3) psychosocial and
4) gerontechnology.

Students from diverse disciplines, including psychology, sociology, public health, nutrition, exercise sciences, engineering, computer sciences, chemistry, biology, design and other disciplines may apply now for Fall 2013. Dr. Karen Hooker is the program’s Principal Investigator. For more Information visit http://health.oregonstate.edu/igert/ or contact Anne.Hatley@oregonstate.edu.

LeadingAge Grants Focus on Older Adults’ Housing

Individuals who are members of LeadingAge are invited to apply for LeadingAge Innovations Fund Grants, which are awarded to projects that address the importance of bringing housing and services together to meet the needs of lower income older adults in order for these individuals to age safely in place. Funding areas of interest include assessment, health and wellness programming, partnerships with service providers, workforce training, and technology. The grants are made possible through LeadingAge members and a $50,000 matching grant from the NewCourtland Foundation. For additional details, visit www.leadingage.org/InnovationsGrant2012.aspx. Applications are due on or before October 30, 2012.

AHRQ Seeks Applicants for Patient Centered Outcomes Research

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is inviting applications for mentored career enhancement grant awards in patient centered outcomes research (PCOR). The program targets established mid-career and senior investigators who are interested in developing new skills in comparative effectiveness research methodology and applying these methods to PCOR. Two types of candidates should consider applying for support: faculty, providers, or investigators without expertise in comparative effectiveness research (CER) who are located at institutions that do not possess intensive CER programs; and faculty, providers, or investigators who are located at institutions that possess intensive CER programs, but who do not possess individual expertise in CER. Additional information may be found at grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-115.html. The first of three deadlines for this funding opportunity is December 18.

NIA Grant Promotes Scientific Workforce Diversity

The National Institute on Aging’s (NIA) Advancing Diversity in Aging Research through Undergraduate Education program is encouraging grant applications from institutions that propose creative and innovative research education programs to diversify the workforce in aging by supporting undergraduate competency and completion in medicine, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and by application and transition to graduate study that advances a cadre of students from diverse backgrounds into these fields. The next application deadline is January 25, 2013. Visit grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-016.html for further information.

The 20th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics

Digital Ageing: A New Horizon for Health Care and Active Ageing

June 23–27, 2013 Seoul, Korea

www.iagg2013.org

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Continued from page 1 - America’s Top Age Beat Reporters Chosen for Journalism Fellowship

NAM founder and Executive Editor Sandy Close said, “Today’s fractured media landscape has made it increasingly difficult for elders and their families to get information they need to face the challenges so many face of retirement insecurity. The MetLife Foundation fellowships enable us to expand this vital covering.”

In San Diego, the fellows also will report on new discoveries in aging and participate in a day-long workshop, where experts will discuss the latest research and provide insight on key issues facing older Americans. Travel grants also are being provided to allow previous years’ fellows to participate in the meeting. A continuously updated list of stories generated by the program’s participants is available at www.geron.org/journalistfellows.

Harootyan co-directs the program with Paul Kleyman, senior editor of NAM’s ethnic elders newsbeat. Kleyman is also the founder and national coordinator of the Journalists Network on Generations, which includes more than 1,000 writers on aging.

The new fellows:

Liana Aghajanian (The Atlantic)
Fellowship topic: Medical marijuana and seniors

Eric Anderson, MD (Physician’s Money Digest)
Fellowship topic: How doctors and their staff can prepare for the huge rise in numbers of aging patients

Eileen Beal (Today’s Caregiver Magazine)
Fellowship topic: Financial elder abuse

Carolyn Beeler (WHYY-FM, Philadelphia)
Fellowship topic: HIV among elders

Thandisizwe Chimurenga (Los Angeles Sentinel)
Fellowship topic: Digital divide for black grandparents

Ellen Endo (Rafu Shimpo)
Fellowship topic: Caregiving crisis for Japanese Americans

Cristina Fresquez (The Weekly Issue/El Semanario)
Fellowship topic: Parkinson’s and Latinos

Thomas Goldsmith (The [Raleigh] News & Observer)
Fellowship topic: Isolation of elders, especially those of color and with low income

Alma Yolanda Gonzalez Gomez (HuffPost Voces)
Fellowship topic: Life and health for Latino elders on the Texas-Mexico border

Martina Guzman (KDET-FM, Detroit)
Fellowship topic: Food, faith, and quality care for Latino and Arab elders

Jane Glenn Haas (Orange County Register/McClatchy News Service)
Fellowship topic: Women at midlife in America

Peter McDermott (The Irish Echo)
Fellowship topic: The lives and roles of older working class Irish immigrants, and a Chicago program to train geriatric social workers to bring that knowledge to Ireland

Lygia Navarro (“Radio Ambulante”/“Latino USA”) Fellowship topic: Challenges for Latino veterans of the Vietnam War

Mohammed Ozeir (Arab American News)
Fellowship topic: Realities of aging for Arab Americans

Matt Perry (California Health Report)
Fellowship topic: Restraints vs. freedom in California nursing homes

Conrado “Sluggo” Rigor (Filipino-American Bulletin/Filipino-American Radio)
Fellowship topic: Struggles and history of Filipino World War II veterans

Barbara Peters Smith (Sarasota Herald-Tribune)
John A. Hartford/MetLife Foundation Journalism in Aging & Health Fellow
Fellowship topic: The home care revolution

Rita Watson (Providence Journal)
Fellowship topic: Nursing home care and cognitive enrichment for residents, including those with Alzheimer’s disease
The Social and Behavioral Sciences Division seeks to hire two outstanding faculty at the Assistant or non-tenured Associate Professor level. We are particularly interested in candidates with expertise in one or more of the following areas: social determinants of physical and/or mental health, psychosocial factors in ethnic minority health with an emphasis on health disparities, health psychology, social epidemiology, multi-level modeling, and/or social and behavioral issues related to health at different stages across the lifespan.

Opportunities exist to collaborate with investigators both in the Yale School of Public Health and Yale departments, such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, and psychiatry. The successful candidate can take advantage of resources at Yale, such as the Center for Research on Inequalities and the Life Course, Community Alliance for Research and Engagement, Institute of Social and Policy Studies, Program on Aging, and Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity.

Applicants should have a doctoral degree in psychology, sociology, anthropology, epidemiology, or a related field, by the start of the appointment. In addition, successful candidates should have a record of scholarly accomplishments, and will be expected to teach MPH/PhD-level students and develop an externally funded research program.

Applicants should submit a CV, statement of research interests, three reprints or manuscripts, and three reference letters by December 10, 2012. Applications will be considered on an ongoing basis, and should be submitted electronically to: Dana Greene: sbs.search@yale.edu

Yale University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer that values and actively seeks diversity in the work force. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply.
Suicides Up Among Older Adults in Singapore
An article that appeared in TODAY on July 25 indicated that there is an increase among older individuals (age 50 and above) in Singapore who have attempted suicide. There has also been an increase in the number of actual suicides among the older adult population in Singapore. This article reported that 23 percent of suicide victims in 2011 were age 65 years of age and older. However, only 9 percent of the total population is 65 years of age and older.

Rise in Cancer Diagnoses Projected by UK Study
On August 20, The Telegraph reported that a study funded by the Macmillan Cancer Support found that approximately one in four older individuals in the UK will receive a cancer diagnosis in 2040. This number would be double the proportion in the year 2010. According to the study, in thirty years, 4.1 million British people over the age of 65 will be living with cancer, compared to 1.3 million in 2010.

Czech Government Considers Pension Reform
The Prague Daily Monitor published a story on September 5 reporting that the Czech Chamber of Deputies passed an amendment to the country’s pension law — previously vetoed by the Senate — providing for a lower rise in pensions. The amendment had yet to be signed by President Vaclav Klaus, but under this provision, pensions will be indexed over a period of three years beginning in 2013 with one third of the growth in prices and one third of the rise in real wages.

Brazil’s Social Security Program Has Growing Deficit
On July 25, Forbes reported that Brazil’s government is distributing more payments for social security than it is collecting from taxes. According to Brazil’s Secretary of Social Security, Leonardo Rolim, the government’s total payouts reached a record high. The country’s social security benefits to government workers and retirees are almost double the international average, according to Forbes.

Number of Seoul Retirees Grow as Working Population Shrinks
New statistics from the Seoul Metropolitan Government show that by 2039, approximately two citizens in the city will need to work for every one older citizen receiving public welfare benefits. Currently, there are 7.4 working individuals to support every citizen age 65 and older, according to a September 5 article in The Korea Herald. Between now and 2039, the data predict a fall in the working-age population, defined as those between the ages of 15 and 64, by 26 percent, while the number of those aged 65 years and older will rise 172 percent.

New Mexico State University Receives Federal Grant Funds
New Mexico State University’s (NMSU) College of Health and Social Services will receive $269,989 each year for the next three years in order to train nurses in comprehensive geriatric education. The Health Resources and Services Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is funding the project, called Enhancing Capacity for Aging on the Border. It is designed to enhance geriatric education for students in the college’s nurse practitioner and master’s in nursing programs by introducing geriatric content into the curriculum. According to the associate dean in the College of Health and Social Services at NMSU, the grant funds will enable the nursing faculty to train students in gerontological practice concepts and increase the graduates’ capacity to provide appropriate services in the community when they complete their training. The program will provide inter-professional learning experiences and interdisciplinary team learning. The project will also establish an advisory board for geriatric health education needs and health care priorities for aging populations in Southern New Mexico.

Drexel University Partners with Local CCRC For Hands On Learning
Drexel University’s School of Nursing has partnered with Foulkeways at Gwynedd, a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) in Pennsylvania, to allow nursing students the opportunity to receive hands-on gerontology experience. Foulkeways is a recent recipient of the Pennsylvania Department of Health’s newly created Excellence in Health Care Compliance Award, the first Quaker CCRC in the country, and one of the first CCRCs in Pennsylvania when it opened in 1967. Each student is assigned to a single resident’s care at the start of the 10-week program, and additional residents are added to the students’ assignments as the weeks progressed. Students are responsible for on-going assessments, wound care, medication distribution and monitoring, and end-of-life-related issues (such as hospice). They additionally develop evidence-based teaching plans, which included pet therapy, and music appreciation.
International Conference on Sarcopenia Research
ICSR 2012

Thursday & Friday, December 6-7, 2012
Hilton Grand Vacation Suites in Orlando, Florida

Sarcopenia is the age-related condition characterized by loss of muscle mass and strength, which may lead to loss of function. Over the last several decades, research has recognized the importance of and has focused efforts on understanding this major feature of the aging process. The International Conference on Sarcopenia Research will focus on:

- Biology
- Animal models
- Preclinical studies
- Clinical trials
- Functional assessment
- Biomarkers and imaging
- New drug developments
- Physical exercise
- Nutrition intervention
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National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence Taps New Fellows, Scholars

The National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence (HCGNE) has announced $1.38 million in awards to the latest cohort of Claire M. Fagin Fellows and Patricia G. Archbold Scholars studying gerontological nursing in academic settings across the U.S.

Four Claire M. Fagin Fellows will each receive up to $120,000 to support postdoctoral research training, mentorship, leadership, and career development. Nine Patricia G. Archbold Scholars will receive grants of up to $100,000 to support their doctoral training and launch careers in academic gerontological nursing; one-third of these scholars are members of an underrepresented minority group.

The National HCGNE’s Coordinating Center is located at GSA. Since 2000, this program has had the generous backing of the John A. Hartford Foundation, supported with monies from The Atlantic Philanthropies and the Mayday Fund. These partners have invested over $80 million in national efforts to build academic gerontological nursing capacity through their support. The initiative has supported over 200 predoctoral and postdoctoral nursing scholars who have stimulated excitement about the field among nursing students and practicing nurses. They are the leaders who will shape future care for older persons.

“This program contributes towards important recommendations of the Institute of Medicine’s report on the future of nursing that the nation provide more leadership training and opportunities for nurses and that we increase the number of doctorally prepared nurses,” said National HCGNE Program Director J Taylor Harden, PhD, RN, FAAN. “These highly skilled scholars are deeply committed to improving health care for aging patients.”

The 2012 cohort of Patricia G. Archbold Scholars and Claire M. Fagin Fellows are a highly qualified group of dedicated gerontological nurses who will strengthen the knowledge base in such areas as family caregiving, home health and hospice care, care for persons with stroke, and critical illness in elders.

2012–2014 Claire M. Fagin Fellows

- Melissa Aselage, Duke University
- Olga Jarrín, University of Pennsylvania
- Jennifer Klinedinst, University of Maryland, Baltimore
- Tracey Yap, Duke University

2012–2014 Patricia G. Archbold Scholars

- Jo-Ana Chase, University of Missouri, Columbia
- Nicole Davis, Georgia State University
- Erin Kitt-Lewis, Pennsylvania State University
- Nancy Knechel, Yale University
- Ruth Masterson Creber, University of Pennsylvania
- Lyndsey Miller, Oregon Health & Science University
- Justine Sefcik, University of Pennsylvania
- Janiece Walker, University of Texas at Austin
- Maria Yefimova, University of California, Los Angeles

JOIN THE GROWING CADRE OF GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE LEADERS

Accepting applications for the 2013 cohort of Patricia G. Archbold Predoctoral Scholars and Claire M. Fagin Postdoctoral Fellows

The Patricia G. Archbold Scholar Award Program is designed to support 2 years of doctoral study for nurses committed to careers in academic gerontological nursing.

The Claire M. Fagin Fellow Award Program provides for a 2-year fellowship for advanced research training to support doctorally prepared nurses committed to faculty careers in gerontological nursing.

APPLICATIONS DUE: JANUARY 11, 2013

For more information about our applications, visit www.geriatricnursing.org/applications

This program is supported by the John A. Hartford Foundation, The Atlantic Philanthropies, and The Mayday Fund
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