Newly Finalized Closing Session To Focus on Louisiana’s Health Care Reform

For the Annual Meeting’s grand finale, Louisiana is going to be in the spotlight with a focus on “Changing the Paradigm of Long-Term Care.” The closing session will welcome The Honorable Fred Cerise, MD, Secretary of Louisiana’s Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), who has received national attention for his efforts to reform the system for the delivery of health care for Louisiana citizens, particularly seniors. Secretary Cerise will speak about his innovative health care reform efforts and the changes he is implementing within the Louisiana DHHS.

Other panelists will include Godfried White, Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs, and a representative of the Louisiana Geriatrics Society. This will be followed by a question and answer period.

And a tour of New Orleans wouldn’t be complete without the experience of the city’s cemetery scene. Arrangements have been made for meeting attendees to tour the famous Metairie Cemetery, named by Forbes magazine as “One of the Top 10 Cemeteries in the World.” Tours will take place throughout the day on Friday, November 22nd from 10:30 am to noon.

Regional Specialties Offered Through Food, Music

A number of presentations are slated to bring the flavor of New Orleans directly to conference-goers.

First up is a food demonstration unique to this year’s convention. Chef Ricardo Fredrick will delight Meeting attendees with his spectacular cooking abilities during selected exhibit breaks and will provide a lucky audience with a taste of his fine cuisine.

Chef Fredrick now instructs at the University of New Orleans and is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. He’s certified by the American Culinary Federation as a Certified Culinary Educator and Chef de Cuisine.

This year’s Bo Diddley Symposium and Outing take advantage of the meeting’s location by bringing in two famous musicians. The Symposium, which annually highlights the lifelong creativity of an older minority jazz musician, will welcome Ellis Marsalis to the Hilton (Monday, November 21st at 3:15 p.m.). He’s one of the top jazz pianists in the country. The Outing, set to take place at the Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro (Monday, November 21st at 9 p.m.), will feature the musical styling of Charmaine Neville, heir to the Neville Brothers legacy.

Both are going to be in the spotlight with a focus on "Changing the Paradigm of Long-Term Care," the closing session will welcome The Honorable Fred Cerise, MD, Secretary of Louisiana’s Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), who has received national attention for his efforts to reform the system for the delivery of health care for Louisiana citizens, particularly seniors. Secretary Cerise will speak about his innovative health care reform efforts and the changes he is implementing within the Louisiana DHHS.

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Promote Your Programs and Resources in Indianapolis!

AGHE’s 32nd Annual Meeting in Indianapolis will be a wonderful opportunity to showcase your program, publications, instructional offerings, and audiovisual materials. Don’t miss the chance to reach a targeted audience of gerontology educators, researchers, students, and administrators.

Conference participants select textbooks, audiovisuals, and other materials for aging-related courses; design research and instructional programs; train professionals and students working in the field of aging; plan classes and programs for older adults; help students find jobs in the community; serve as community resources to agencies and programs for older adults; and conduct basic and applied research in aging.

Being a part of AGHE’s annual meeting is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Advertise in the Program Book
   The program book is given free to each registrant and volunteer. Your quarter-, half-, or full-page ad will be seen by approximately 500 conference participants. Deadline for submission of ads is January 6, 2006.

2. Host an Exhibit
   Each exhibit reservation (excluding combined exhibits) includes one complimentary meeting registration!
   Located near meeting rooms and the registration desk, the exhibit hall is the site of all poster sessions, the silent auction, all refreshment breaks, and the computer resource center. Attendees tend to meet and socialize in or near the exhibit area.

For exhibitors who cannot attend the meeting in person, AGHE offers a modestly priced combined exhibit, which is staffed by volunteers. Deadline for reserving exhibit space is also January 6, 2006.

Receive a 10% discount if you both advertise and exhibit.

3. Sponsor an Event
   Schools, programs, individuals, foundations, and corporations are welcome to sponsor a feature or event at the Indianapolis meeting. Sponsors can provide scholarships to support student travel and registration, help defray the cost of printing the program book, fund food breaks, provide the computer resource center, underwrite an Annual Institute, provide tote bags, or do many other things.

For an Exhibits, Advertising, and Sponsorship prospectus, contact the AGHE office at (202) 289-9806 or info@aghe.org, or download a prospectus at www.aghe.org (go to Annual Meeting, then Exhibits/ Advertising/ Sponsorship Prospectus).

AgeWork... Your key to jobs in Aging.

Employers
AgeWork connects you to the most qualified professionals in the aging field! You get: affordable advertising prices, special print and online posting packages available, easy online management of job postings and applications and access to a broad range of candidates through the resume database.

Job Seekers
AgeWork is always free to the job seeker! Post your resume, set up a job agent, or browse through current positions in the field of Aging. Visit www.AgeWork.com today.

AgeWork.com YOUR KEY TO JOBS IN AGING
Study Offers Interpretation of Dementia’s Behavioral Symptoms

Seemingly simple adjustments in care routines and approaches can make a significant difference in the experiences of people with dementia, according to the July issue of the American Journal of Nursing. Whether resisting care or exhibiting apathy, an older adult with dementia is attempting communication. Nurses and other caregivers must learn to ‘hear’ this language. The article reporting this information is part of AJN’s ongoing collaboration with GSA.

Authors Kathleen Buckwalter and Marianne Smith provide an overview of cognitive impairment in older adults and suggest interventions that can help providers understand the “behavioral symptoms” of dementia, which are often considered a way of communicating unmet needs. By focusing on the person rather than on the disease, nurses promote comfort and functional autonomy in older adults whose cognitive impairments have progressed and yet who are very much alive and deserving of respectful, dignified care.

The study distinguishes common types of dementia, as well as explains underlying messages in a range of behavioral symptoms seen among this population. It also explains principles of care and nursing care models that can be applied across care settings.

The article is the seventh in the “A New Look at the Old” series, a grant project funded by Atlantic Philanthropies designed to provide evidence-based information on the nursing care of older adults. Over the next three years, these articles will provide readers with cutting-edge research and best practice information designed to stimulate changes in institutional as well as individual practice. Readers can apply for CE credits that are applicable to recertification requirements for Gerontological Nurse Practitioners and Gerontological Nurses, as well as other specialty certification and state RN re-licensure requirements. Full details on this venture are available at www.bassascendstoVPPost.com

Bass Ascends to VP Post
Scott A. Bass, Ph.D. has been named Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) effective July 1st. He was previously serving as Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Research and Planning at UMBC.

Correction
The August issue of Gerontology News incorrectly reported that new SRPP Section Fellow JoAnn Damron-Rodriguez, PhD worked for the Veteran’s Administration. In fact, she is affiliated with the University of California, Los Angeles.

New Member Publication
Couples, Kids, and Family Life, edited by Jaber F. Gubrium and James A. Holstein. Published by Oxford University Press.

Langston Lands New Job at The Atlantic Philanthropies
Dr. Christopher Langston joined The Atlantic Philanthropies on August 1st as U.S. Program Executive on the Ageing Team in the New York Office. His primary area of responsibility will be for the U.S. Ageing Programme’s work in improving health and support services through a strategy of human capital development. Langston previously was at the John A. Hartford Foundation in New York City for eight years, where he was Senior Program Officer in Hartford’s Aging and Health Program and, for the last two years, the leader of the internal evaluation team.

Colleague Connected!
This month, GSA extends congratulations to member Meg Bourbonniere for being the next winner of an amazon.com gift certificate in the “Colleague Connection” membership contest! She earned her entry into the drawing after introducing The University of Washington’s Hilaire Thompson to the Society.

Again, for more details on this promotion, visit http://www.geron.org/ColleagueConnection.htm.
Investigators Sought for Wisconsin Study
The Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will award three pilot grants to investigators using Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) data for scholarly research. Selected recipients will receive $10,000 to support their research, along with a residency at CDHA, where they will receive training and support in use of WLS data. The WLS is a long-term study of a random sample of 10,317 men and women who graduated from Wisconsin high schools in 1957 and of their siblings, spouses, and children. Survey data were collected from the original respondents or their parents in 1957, 1964, 1975, and 1993 and from a selected sibling in 1977 and 1994. The National Institute on Aging is supporting a new wave of interviews with graduates, siblings, spouses, and widows during 2003–2005. Applications are welcomed from investigators in the social, behavioral, economic, and biomedical sciences. Applicants must have a doctoral-level degree. The deadline for application is November 1, 2005. Visit http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/wlsresearch/pilot/ for more information.

Research Annual Looking for Submissions
Papers are being sought for volume 24 of Research in The Sociology of Health Care, published formerly by JAI Press and now by Elsevier Press. The major theme for this volume is Access, Quality and Satisfaction with Care: Concerns of Patients, Providers, and Insurers. Papers dealing with macro-level system issues and micro-level issues involving provision of health care and issues relating to access, quality and satisfaction with care are welcome. Papers that focus on perspectives of patients, providers or insurers of care as ways to meet health care needs of people both in the U.S. and in other countries would also be welcome. For an initial indication of interest in outlines or abstracts, please contact Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld at Jennie.Kronenfeld@asu.edu by January 10, 2006.

Retirement Survey Reveals Lack of Faith in Government
A guarded optimism towards retirement security was expressed by some 4,000 respondents age 30 to 65 from ten developed nations in a new international public opinion survey released by AARP’s Global Aging Program. At the same time, survey respondents’ confidence in government’s ability to provide benefits was alarmingly low. The goal of the study was to provide policy makers, elected officials and non-governmental organizations with a better understanding of attitudes and behaviors surrounding personal and national retirement issues, while advancing public’s confidence in having sufficient income to retire comfortably and live securely after leaving the workforce. More details can be found at http://www.aarp.org/research/work/retirement/irss.html.

Kaiser Releases New Chartbook
The Kaiser Family Foundation has unveiled a new publication, which features more than 80 charts and tables with detailed information about the Medicare program and the 42 million seniors and younger people with disabilities who rely on the program for health insurance coverage. It covers a wide range of relevant data, including state-by-state information when available. Each section can be accessed individually, or the full chartbook can be downloaded in its entirety here: http://www.kff.org/medicare/7284.cfm.

OMH Wants Paper Proposals
On January 9–11, 2006 the Office of Minority Health (OMH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its Co-Sponsors will hold the National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health. The Summit will bring together leaders from all levels of government, academia, public health, mental health, minority-serving institutions, and minority communities to advance key issues and opportunities for improving minority health and closing the health gap. As a result, OMH is issuing a Call for Abstracts for oral and general poster presentations. Abstracts must be submitted no later than 5 p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, Monday, September 19th, 2005. They are seeking presentations and posters for projects that target a relevant health disparity issue, address progress achieved on the issue, and identify opportunities for further improvement. For additional information, please visit the Summit website www.OMHSummit2006.org.

NIA Supplies Freebies
The National Institute on Aging has a variety of health education and disease prevention materials geared to seniors, caregivers, families, and health professionals. The *Age Page* fact sheet series covers more than 40 health topics—from hospital hints to high blood pressure, sleep to shingles. Most *Age Pages* are available in bulk quantities in both English and Spanish. These publications can be ordered online at www.niapublications.org or by calling 1-800-222-2225. To receive notice of new publications and information from the NIA, sign up at www.niapublications.org/alerts.

NIHSeniorHealth (www.NIHSeniorHealth.gov), is sponsored by NIA and the National Library of Medicine. The website is designed to incorporate the latest cognitive research regarding older people. It is senior friendly, featuring short, easy-to-read segments of health-related information that can be accessed in a variety of formats, including large-print and open-captioned videos. NIHSeniorHealth also has a “talking” function that reads text out loud.

Society Launches Listservs on Elder Abuse
Responding to acute needs and taking full advantage of technological advances, the American Society of Adult Abuse Professionals and Survivors (ASAAPS) has announced three public service listservs for elders or adults with disabilities who have been abused, neglected, exploited, or self-neglected, their family members and friends, and the advocates and professionals who serve them. Interested individuals can sign up at http://www.ASAAPS.org/aboutus/listservs_sub.php.

Florence Mahoney Lecture Date Announced
The next Florence Mahoney Lecture on Aging is slated to take place on Wednesday, December 14th at 3 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium at the National Institutes of Health headquarters in Bethesda, MD. The speaker is John Hardy, PhD, chief of the Laboratory of Neurogenetics at NIA. His presentation will be “Dissecting the Genetic Factors Predisposing to Sporadic Neurodegenerative Diseases,” or, as he added when asked for a shorter title, “Neurodegeneration: Too Much of a Bad Thing Kills You.” The Florence Mahoney Lecture on Aging is part of the prestigious NIH Director’s Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series.
In 2004, The Gerontological Society of America received a grant from The Atlantic Philanthropies to launch “Civic Engagement in an Older America,” a five-year initiative to stimulate research leading to the development of programs and policies that will increase opportunities for civic and social engagement by older adults.

One of the Project’s first activities was to convene a series of forums and focus groups in conjunction with the 2005 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) to learn more about current civic engagement initiatives, existing barriers, and to determine potential solutions for enhancing and expanding volunteer opportunities for older adults. The forums gathered input from a diverse group of professionals and stakeholders, including corporate leaders, researchers, government officials, and community representatives. The focus groups collected opinions from older adults in three age cohorts: leading-edge boomers (50-59 year-olds); 60-69 year olds; and adults 70 and older.

The following recommendations, submitted to the WHCoA, are based on information gathered in those forums and focus groups.

**Priority Issue #1: Modernize the nation’s senior and civic service programs.**

The increasing longevity, health, independence, financial security, and education of today’s and tomorrow’s older adults demands that we update and create new public institutions and programs that will help society benefit from the tremendous reservoir of skills and experience in our rapidly growing older adult population.

**Barriers:**

- The three Senior Corps programs currently administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service have income eligibility, age eligibility, service scope, and time commitment requirements that were designed nearly four decades ago and significantly limit participation in these programs.
- Few programs address baby boomers’ transition into retirement and civic engagement activities.
- National service programs such as AmeriCorps and the Peace Corps have traditionally favored youth and young adults, and have incentive structures that are geared toward youth.

**Proposed Solutions:**

- Build on the nation’s successful senior service programs—RSVP, Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions—and other federal civic service programs, such as the Peace Corps, by:
  - expanding and adapting them to effectively engage the growing population of retiring baby boomers in volunteering;
  - encouraging innovation and pilot projects for new recruitment strategies;
  - changing age and income eligibility requirements;
  - adding transferable education or healthcare benefits; and
  - providing greater flexibility in service scope and time commitment.
- Request the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a comprehensive, systematic study of the effectiveness of all federal civic service programs (AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, USA Freedom Corps, Peace Corps, SCORE) in engaging older adults in volunteer activities.
Priority Issue #2: Remove barriers to community civic engagement.

In the coming years, communities may increasingly rely on volunteers to provide vital services. Studies find that Americans age 50 to 70 are interested in work—now and in retirement—that serves their community and people in need. Removing barriers and creating a range of incentives to encourage older Americans to share their time, skills, and experience is in our national interest.

Barriers:
- Local and state governments lack resources for services, such as transportation, that help to facilitate civic engagement among the elderly.
- Social service agencies lack the resources to adequately train and compensate volunteers.
- Current IRS law does not allow volunteers to deduct the value of volunteer hours. However, they can deduct uncompensated expenses such as mileage, uniforms, and parking.
- Many older adults do not have the skills or training required to perform volunteer work in these vital areas of need.

Proposed Solutions:
- Establish credit or voucher programs that cover the transportation costs of seniors who volunteer.
- Establish non-refundable tax credits (pegged at the prevailing federal minimum Wage) for hours of volunteerism in community service.
- Establish non-transferable education credits (such as President Bush's proposed Silver Scholarship proposal) that would award scholarships to older adults who tutor children.
- Establish grants or tax credits for continuing education and training or re-training costs borne by those who want to improve their access to volunteer positions.

Priority Issue #3: Link adult volunteers with appropriate and rewarding civic engagement opportunities.

At the same time the nation faces potential labor shortages in critical areas including education and health care, a new generation of older Americans would like to keep working—full-time, part-time, paid, and unpaid—in their so-called retirement years. Despite the potential win-win situation, there is little evidence that communities are prepared for this new environment.

Barriers:
- Ageism and negative attitudes towards older individuals.
- Lack of a local inventory of community needs and older adult volunteers’ skills.
- Lack of ability by communities to match volunteer opportunities with appropriate volunteers.
- Few resources to inventory local community needs and older adult volunteers’ skills.
- Lack of flexible work schedules to accommodate older workers’ desires for alternatives to continuous, full-time employment.

Proposed Solutions:
- Communities should develop a needs and assets inventory to match the skills and talents of residents with programs that need help to better serve the community.
- Grant programs should be created to:
  - Develop a standard approach to community needs and volunteer resources assessment, including a tool kit communities can use;
  - Establish demonstrations in states to explore innovative models to help baby boomers transition from work to community/national service roles;
  - Enable senior centers (under the Older Americans Act) to provide programs that address baby boomers’ transition into retirement and civic engagement activities;
  - Examine civic engagement opportunities for the aging network (under Title IV of the Older Americans Act);
• Refocus existing programs, such as Experience Corps, to demonstrate how employees with flexible work schedules could service as volunteers.

• Establish a standard toll-free number (such as the 211 Social Services Hotline) that communities can use to link volunteers with volunteer opportunities.

Priority Issue #4: Improve public awareness of volunteering and civic service as a critical component of healthy aging and healthy communities.

Research on the health benefits of volunteer activity is compelling—but not well known to the public or policymakers. Studies following people over their lives link community engagement to prolonged physical and mental health in later life. Volunteer activity decreases incidences of heart disease, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, and improves mental health. Beyond the individual physical and mental benefits, communities benefit tremendously from volunteers, who enhance the work of paid staff and extend public investments in child, youth, and senior care.

Barriers:
• The public, professionals, and policymakers do not generally recognize the value of volunteer work.
• The public and private sectors have not publicized the value of civic engagement.
• Baby boomers generally have been less involved in volunteering and other forms of civic engagement than their parents’ generation.

Proposed Solutions:
• Recruit baby boomers and older adults through a public education campaign—promoting the physical and mental health benefits of volunteering and encouraging all sectors of society to view older Americans as community assets, not liabilities.
• Encourage research to demonstrate the cost-benefit value of volunteer services performed and the financial savings achieved—especially in terms of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid program costs savings.

Priority Issue #5: Encourage companies to support and promote volunteering by their employees and retirees

Almost 75% of America’s volunteers are members of the paid work force. The workplace, therefore, is the ideal location to connect with and engage potential volunteers—including former employees and retirees. And, research reveals that employer-supported volunteering produces value for the company as well as for employees and the wider community.

Barriers:
• Few companies have flexible employment and volunteer time policies to encourage employee and retiree volunteerism.
• The business sector lacks awareness of the direct impact of corporate community involvement on the company “bottom line.”

Proposed Solutions:
• Establish a bipartisan commission to examine the role of current tax laws, retirement and health care policies, and pension rules as incentives or disincentives for volunteer service by employed and retired adults.
• Provide subsidies, tax credits, and other incentives to encourage companies to create flexible employment and volunteer time policies such as job sharing, sabbaticals, phased retirement, and paid/unpaid leave for volunteering.
• Encourage the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation to expand the President’s Volunteer Service Award to honor companies—not just individuals—that excel in their efforts to promote and support volunteer service and civic participation by their employees.
• Create a “best practices” database of corporate volunteer programs, including evidence-based and outcome-focused program models.
• Expand efforts to inform the corporate sector about the benefits of employer-supported volunteering that flow back to the employer, including increased employee productivity and morale, lower absenteeism, more media attention, and stronger ties to the communities in which they operate.
GSA’s Public Forums

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<tr>
<th>Engaging Older Adults in Society</th>
<th>Maximizing Civic Engagement of Older Adults</th>
<th>Engaging Older Adults in Society</th>
<th>Civic Engagement of Older Adults: Labor Force and Retirement Trends</th>
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<td>Burton Barr Central Library, Phoenix, AZ</td>
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<td>Dorcas Hardy and Robert Blancato</td>
<td>Robert Blancato</td>
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GSA’s Focus Groups

Twelve focus groups were held in February and March 2005 in eight locations in Florida, Missouri, and Arizona. An online focus group was also conducted in late March early April 2005 with individuals from Massachusetts and Florida.

This report was prepared by Greg O’Neill and Brian Lindberg with the assistance of Doris Reeves-Lipscomb. For further information contact: Greg O’Neill Project Director Civic Engagement in an Older America goneill@agingsociety.org (202) 842-1275

GSA’s forum and focus group independent aging agenda events were designed to provide input to the Policy Committee of the 2005 White House Conference on Aging. These events were neither sponsored nor endorsed by the White House, nor do they in any way represent the policies, positions, or opinions of the 2005 White House Conference on Aging or the federal government. The proposed solutions do not represent official policies or positions of The Gerontological Society of America.
PETERSSEN VISITING SCHOLAR IN
GERONTOLOGY AND FAMILY STUDIES

Dr. Katherine R. Allen Is 2005 – 2006 Petersen Visiting Scholar

The Department of Human Development and Family Sciences at Oregon State University is pleased to announce the 2005 – 2006 Petersen Visiting Scholar in Family Gerontology: Dr. Katherine R. Allen, Professor of Human Development and Faculty Affiliate at the Center for Gerontology at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She will be in residence during spring quarter (2006).

Dr. Allen earned master’s and doctoral degrees in Child and Family Studies from Syracuse University. She is on the editorial boards of Family Relations, the Journal of Aging Studies, the Journal of Family Issues, and the Journal of Marriage and Family. She is a fellow in both the Gerontological Society of America and the National Council on Family Relations, from which she received the Ernest Osborne Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Her research explores epistemological, methodological, and ontological issues about family relationships in adulthood. In pursuit of these issues, she has studied hidden family ties in the extended family life course, such as lifelong single women in old age, intergenerational caregiving relationships, African American family ties, and gay and lesbian families and aging. While on campus, Dr. Allen will focus on sibling relationships in midlife in pursuit of a broader framework for family relationships in adulthood beyond the normative nuclear family unit.

APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR THE
2006 – 2007 PETERSSEN VISITING SCHOLAR AWARD

Oregon State University seeks applicants for the tenth Petersen Visiting Scholar Award. One scholar will be appointed and will receive a cash award of $21,000. The Scholar will be in residence during one quarter of academic year 2006 – 2007, pursuing individual research and writing while contributing to the intellectual vitality of gerontology and family studies at Oregon State University. A PhD is required, but this requirement may be waived if the applicant has made distinguished contributions to family gerontology in an applied setting. To be considered, submit a curriculum vitae; one or two examples of published work related to the intended project; and a letter of application specifying proposed quarter of residence, a brief description of plans for the period, and the proposed contribution to the intersection of gerontology and family studies at Oregon State University. Materials should be postmarked by November 1, 2005. Submit applications or nominations to Alexis Walker, Oregon State University, 322 Milam Hall, Corvallis OR 97331 – 5102. Visit our website (http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu/gerontology/petersen/index.html) for additional information or contact Alexis Walker at 541-737-1083, 541-737-1076 (fax), or walkera@oregonstate.edu.
This past June, the 18th Congress of the International Association of Gerontology (IAG) was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In 2002, IAG Council approved the establishment of the International Council of Gerontology Student Organizations (ICGSO) to draw attention to and increase involvement of students in worldwide gerontology. Of the 70 society members in IAG, only seventeen currently have a student and/or emerging professionals association as part of their structure. GSA is one of these 17 members. There are also two international student networks on aging, the International Students’ Network on Ageing and Health and the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. Representatives of 7 student sections and one of the network members took part in the first ever assemblage of the IAG International Council of Gerontology Students’ Organizations (ICGSO). Michelle Washko, chair of ESPO, served as the representative for GSA. Kelly Fitzgerald, current student representative to GSA’s Task Force on Interest Groups, was there representing the British Society of Gerontology. The IAG has member organizations in five regions: Africa, Asia/Oceania, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and North America. The ICGSO is modeled after this structure. Current North American members with student sections include the Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization of the GSA, and the Student Connection - Connexion Étudiante (SC-CÉ) of the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG). Other societies who may be represented on this council, or are currently developing a student section include:

- American Geriatrics Society - Student Section
- Association of Gerontology (India) - Student Section
- Australian Association of Gerontology - Student Section
- British Society for Research on Ageing - Student Section
- British Society of Gerontology - Network of Gerontology Students
- Bulgarian Assn. on Aging - Student Section
- Gerontological Society of China - Student Section
- Sociedad De Geriatria y Gerontologia de Chile - Student Section
- German Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics - Student Section
- International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse - Student Section
- International Students’ Network on Ageing and Health
- Israel Gerontological Society - Student Section
- Maltese Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics - Student Section
- New Zealand Association of Gerontology - Student Section
- Society of Gerontology of Serbia - Student Section
- Thai Society of Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine - Student Section
- Uruguay Society of Gerontology & Geriatrics - Student Section

In a meeting of the North American student sections, it was decided that representatives of ESPO and SC-CÉ would rotate every three years. This decision was based on the length of executive terms in the respective organizations. ESPO’s chair was nominated as the first North American regional ICGSO delegate. A representative from the Canadian Association on Gerontology will be appointed for the second three-year term (2008-2011). Rotating the three-year term appointment between the two national organizations will also allow each appointed representative to attend one regional and one international conference of the IAG. Should American Geriatrics Society or Canadian Geriatrics Society become actively involved in the ICGSO, term lengths will be renegotiated. It is hoped that this Student Council will foster international networking amongst students as well as provide input into the IAG on education, training, and other substantive issues. For more information on ICGSO, please visit their website at: http://www.sfu.ca/iag/about/student.htm.
Harold R. Johnson Chair in Gerontology

The University of Michigan School of Social Work seeks to appoint a nationally/internationally recognized scholar to the Harold R. Johnson Chair in Gerontology. This endowed chair seeks to advance understanding of the needs of older adults in health care systems.

Applicants should have substantial intellectual accomplishments, including scholarship and grants in areas related to the quality of life, health outcomes, and the care of older adults and their families—especially those with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

The research, education, and service initiated by the scholar should be focused on the development and/or improvement of services in health care settings such as primary care organizations, hospitals, nursing homes, or long-term residential care settings, including the social services component in each of these settings.

Senior faculty with a proven record of research are encouraged to apply. MSW degree preferred; Ph.D. in social work-related field required.

All applicants must have a distinguished research record, a proven expertise in procuring external funding in gerontological research, and the ability to teach at the masters and doctoral levels. In addition, the candidate is expected to mentor students and junior faculty, as well as participate in service opportunities within the profession, school, and university.

NOTE: This position will begin 2006 or later. Screening of applications will begin immediately, and will continue until the position is filled.

Prospective candidates should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, and three samples of written work. Please submit applications for this position by October 1, 2005 for full consideration to:

Paula Allen-Meares
Dean and Norma Radin Collegiate Professor of Social Work/Professor of Education
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