



**SOUTHERN  
GERONTOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

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**Bridging Aging Research & Practice**

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# **Building Bridges:**

## ***Collaborations and Communities in Aging***

**46TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE**  
**APRIL 3 - 6, 2025**  
**BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA**



# Don't let your memories fade™



**Challenge your brain** ...the more you stimulate and challenge your brain—and the earlier you begin that stimulation—the more of a buffer you'll create against the detrimental effects of aging.



Shirley S. Wang  
July 19, 2017

In what is thought to be the largest randomized trial to date, **residents gathered photographs and talked about family**. Participants reported a significant improvement in their quality of life. The intervention also reduced their agitation as effectively as antipsychotic drugs.

... study suggests that pRT stimulation **may reduce dementia symptoms both during participation and as much as 24 to 36 hours later**, when participants showed benefits from the residual effects of the photo-based reminiscence therapy session. This pilot study strongly supports and contributes to a medically valid, non-pharmacological approach to working with and treating patients with dementia.



Reminiscing and novel learning promotes neurogenesis and brain plasticity



**Restore** photos, documents and even mementos

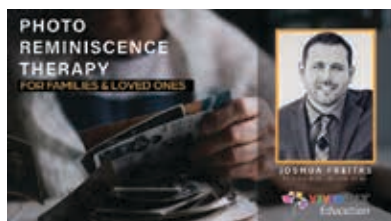


**Record** memories and feelings to describe people, places and more



**Stories** combine images and recordings into movies automatically or fine-tune

pRT assists family and professionals to engage with loved ones



Prompts assist caregivers to communicate with loved ones



Vivid-Pix.com

# Building Bridges:

## *Collaborations and Communities in Aging*



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**Book of Abstracts** - This program book contains a listing of sessions with only the presenting authors listed. For full presentation abstracts including all author listings and descriptions of papers and posters, please view our Book of Abstracts at <https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting.html>.

**Presenter Biographies** - Presenter Biographies will not be read during presentations. For a list of biographies, please visit <https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting.html>.

If you need assistance or have questions during the conference, please visit the Registration Desk.



# A Message from the President



**T**hank you for attending the 46th Annual Meeting & Conference of the Southern Gerontological Society *"Building Bridges: Collaboration and Communities in Aging"*. This year, we are excited to collaborate as a community partner with the University of Alabama at Birmingham. This historic partnership has allowed us to broaden our reach within our key geographic fourteen state membership locale and we are truly excited about this partnership. We will host a joint event on April 3, 2025, demonstrating our key mission statement of "providing the bridge between research and practice, translating and applying knowledge in the field of aging" through a community reception that will allow community partners to view an award-winning film, "Remember Me: Dementia in the African American Community." Following the film, there will be a panel discussion led by key experts in the field of clinical, academic and caregivers to address questions. The viewing will be open to our community partners and will serve as our community service project.

The conference will launch on the following morning, April 4th, with an introduction to the landscape of aging across Birmingham and the great State of Alabama. The same day, I will deliver the Presidential Luncheon keynote entitled "Make Some Noise: Empowering Family Caregivers Through the Journey." Gerontology is not a field for the weak at heart and I will address my 40+ year journey from clinician in acute care to military nursing, academia and finally landing in the field of gerontology. Hopefully, you will leave inspired and ready for the next two days of exciting poster and podium presentations.

Yes, the Dine Around Sessions have returned for Friday, April 4, 2025, to allow you to network with new and old friends. Birmingham is full of so many choices of Southern cuisine but also dotted with choices of excellent French, Italian and seafood with a Southern twist.

Our famous Silent Auction (supporting Student and Encore travel awards) opens at 11:30 AM on Friday morning, April 4th. If you didn't bring unique and quirky gifts for the auction, don't worry, SGS members always bring enough items for all of us to bid on. Bid early and bid often as the auction closes Saturday afternoon at 5:15 PM.

On Saturday, we kick off with our SGS Annual Meeting Breakfast where you will learn about all of the wonderful work happening withing SGS. Don't forget to bring your favorite fun or festive hats to Saturday's SGS Awards Ceremony Dinner, as we continue to feed our souls and celebrate those who have been recognized for one of SGS's many prestigious awards. We are happy to collaborate with Sigma Phi Omega as we welcome their awards as well!



Sunday is a packed last and final day with multiple concurrent sessions during the day, ending with the inspirational words of our closing luncheon keynote speaker, Bob Blancato, as he shares the challenges and opportunities we face in our the aging network in his session, "Building Bridges Over Troubled Waters."

A special thank you to our conference program chairs – Dr. Cassandra Germaine and Dr. Elise Eifert. Your leadership and the work of your conference program committee have been instrumental in the development of this wonderful array of conference programs and activities. An additional thank you to our conference program committee and all of the abstract reviewers who helped us craft such an exciting variety of session options. Last, but certainly not least, thank you to our sponsors for their support of SGS.

Now prepare yourselves for 2026 as we head to Dallas, Texas. Mark your calendars for April 9 – 12, 2026.

Sincerely,

Ethlyn Gibson, DNP, MSN, RN-BC  
President, SGS (2024-2026)

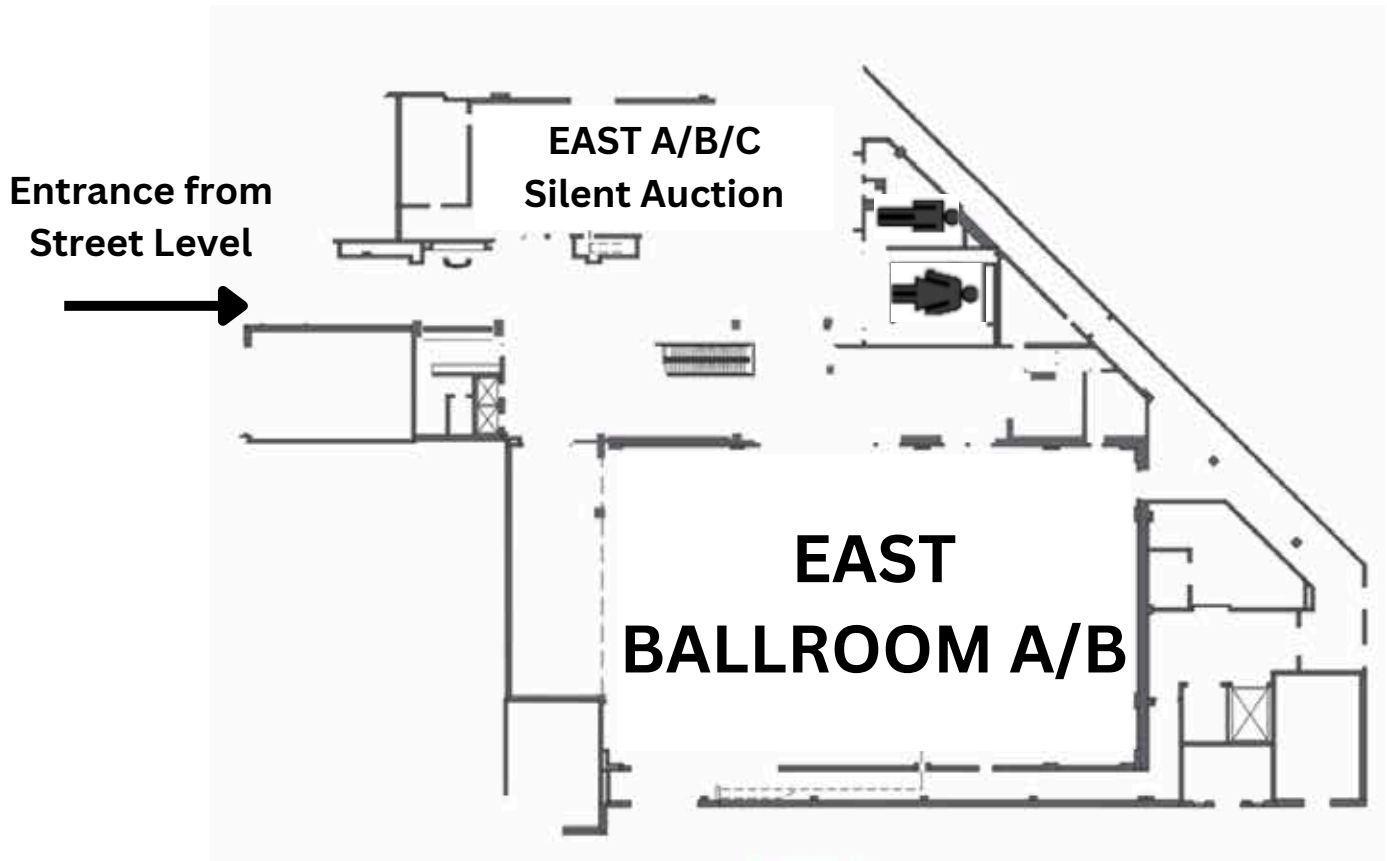


**SOUTHERN  
GERONTOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY**  
Bridging Aging Research & Practice

SGS members include educators, practitioners, researchers, health professionals, policy makers, students, and other community members. The mission of SGS is to provide the bridge between research and practice, translating and applying knowledge in the field of aging. By joining SGS, you will connect into a collegial and supportive network and help enhance alliances which form vital collaborations between members.

**Join or renew during the conference, and receive a 10% discount. Visit the Registration Desk for more information.**

## BJCC East Meeting Rooms Level 1 (street level)



## BJCC East Meeting Rooms Level 2 (hotel level)

Please note that we are not using any space on the 2nd floor. If you are coming from the hotel walkway, you will arrive on the 2nd floor. There will be escalators and elevators to take you to the 1st and 3rd floors.

## BJCC East Meeting Rooms Level 3





**A NATIONAL PLATFORM TO ADVANCE  
TRANSDISCIPLINARY AGING RESEARCH**

## **Clin-STAR Initiatives:**

**Research Database**

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**JOIN OUR MAILING LIST**  
**[clin-star.org](http://clin-star.org)**



### **GRITS - Gerontologists Rooted In The South -**

This award seeks to maintain and stimulate interest in the history of SGS, and perpetuate the legacy of past and present members, including recognition of their achievements in the field of gerontology, their contributions to enhancing the lives of elders in the SGS region, and their service as role models for future generations interested in the advancement of knowledge and practice in the field of aging.

### **Gordon Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist Award**

- This award is named in memory of Gordon F. Streib and is meant to recognize SGS members, from all aspects of gerontology, who have shown excellence in leadership within and contribution to professional organizations and organizations which serve older people, a strong record of scholarly publications, and significant teaching influence with students and/or training of service providers or educators.

### **Victor W. Marshall Fellow in Applied**

**Gerontology Award** - This designation is named in honor of Victor W. Marshall and is meant to recognize SGS members, from all aspects of gerontology, who have made and continue to make substantive contributions to the field. This designation is an acknowledgement of outstanding and continuing achievement that bridges the domains of original and applied research, service to government, practice with older adults, gerontology education and advocacy within gerontology.

**Applied Gerontologist Award** - This award is given to SGS members in the fields of applied gerontology in the South. Award winners have a sustained record of leadership in the field of aging, are recognized in their fields, and generally, have positively impacted the quality of life of older persons through developing innovative programs such as applications of findings/approaches to research, education, management, or services delivery (with emphasis on application).

**Best Practices Award** - The Best Practices Award from the Southern Gerontological Society is intended to recognize programs, organizations, or aging services that engage in innovative and collaborative approaches intended to improve services and the quality of life for older adults. Awardees have demonstrated evidence of

significant contribution to the field of aging and the development of gerontology in the South.

### **Rhoda Jennings Distinguished Older**

**Advocate Award** - Several years ago, we named one of our special awards, the Older Advocate Award, for Rhoda Jennings, longtime SGS member and extraordinary advocate for older adults. Rhoda was the first recipient of the Older Advocate Award in 1987. This Award is given to recognize an older person whose retirement years have been devoted to community or legislative advocacy.

**Media Award** - SGS offers the Media Award to recognize an outstanding media contribution to further understanding of aging in the region and to the mission of SGS.

**Student Paper Award** - SGS encourages student submissions and offers cash awards to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the best paper(s) authored principally by a student. Candidates for this award will be required to submit a full paper in advance of the Annual Conference. The recipient(s) of this award will present the paper at the Annual Conference.

**Student Poster Award** - In 2010, SGS awarded its first SGS Student Poster Award to encourage student poster submissions. SGS encourages student submissions and offers cash awards to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the best poster presentation delivered principally by a student.

### **SGS Student Travel Scholarship Award -**

The Southern Gerontological Society SGS Student Travel Scholarship Award was established in 2014 to support student members of SGS who have been accepted to present at the SGS annual meeting and can be used for SGS meeting related expenses. The funding for the award comes from the proceeds of the SGS Annual Meeting Silent Auction. This funding has allowed SGS the resources to provide a monetary amount to selected award recipients who are presenting research at our annual meeting.

Learn More



## SGS COMMITTEES OVERVIEW

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**Awards Committee** - The Awards committee is responsible for all activities that pertain to soliciting awards nominations, reviewing nominations, selecting awardees, and organizing the presentation of awards.

**Budget & Finance Committee** - This committee reviews the annual budget and expenditures. The responsibilities of the Budget & Finance Committee consist of ensuring an accurate account of the Society's fiscal functions, presenting an Annual Operating Budget and a detailed Annual Report of the Society expenditures at the Annual Conference, annually reviewing the Society's fiscal records, preparing and submitting reports to the IRS and other agencies, reviewing financial policies of the Society, and recommending any needed changes.

**Bylaws Committee** - The Bylaws Committee primary responsibilities consist of reviewing the Bylaws each year and making recommendations, ensuring the delivery of Bylaw changes to the Society Membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Conference, revising the Bylaws as necessary, and ensuring their distribution to the Board and Committee Chairs.

**Council of Presidents** - The Council of Presidents consist of all members of the Society that have completed the term of President. The responsibilities of the Council of Presidents consist of serving as counsel to the President and Board, organizing a Council of Presidents symposium for the annual conference, and assisting the Awards Committee in selecting GRIT nominees and awardees.

**Development Committee** - The responsibilities of the Development Committee consist of addressing the need of SGS for continued attention to fund raising, both for the annual meeting and for longer-term strategies; working cooperatively and collaboratively with all other committees on growth strategies for recruitment and retention of members, and other revenue-related activities; and generating through collaboration with the Executive Committee and as results from regular surveys of

Society members, a vision and plans for continued development efforts including a Code of Ethics, priorities for the Society, and recommendations for projects of research, education, and advocacy.

**Encore Committee** - The Committee is responsible for generating interest in the Society among the older and retired population, assess the needs of older and retired people, and provide recommendations about how the Society can meet those needs.

**Gerontological Education Committee** - The Committee will stimulate initiatives on gerontological education at all levels with a view to increasing gerontological literacy in our region. The Committee will seek to work collaboratively with existing agencies and organizations having concerns with gerontological education.

**Membership Committee** - The responsibilities of the Committee consist of developing a plan for regular communication, recruitment, and renewal for memberships. The Committee shall actively seek to increase membership from within each State, collaborate with the Encore and Student Committee Chairs to identify potential new members, and encourage use of the SGS exhibit at other professional meetings.

**Nominating Committee** - This Committee selects and obtains nominees for elected offices, informs candidates in advanced if the position that they are being nominated for is single slated or have multiple nominees, prepares and distributes a slate of nominees to the Society members at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, ensures the ballots are counted by two individuals prior to the Annual Business Meeting and notifies all candidates of the election results prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

## SGS COMMITTEES OVERVIEW

### **Public Policy and Advocacy Committee -**

The Committee will generate interest in increased contribution to policy debates and advocacy for positive change initiatives targeted toward enhancing the lives of older adults in the south. The Committee would serve to link and stimulate initiatives occurring at both the state and national levels.

**Program Committee -** The Program Committee is involved in all facets of planning the Annual Meeting & Conference. These facets may include reviewing and scoring of collected abstracts, local arrangements, fundraising, and menu planning. Program Committee members may choose their activities in accordance with their availability and preferred activities.

**Publications Committee -** The Committee shall be responsible for the publication of the *Journal of Applied Gerontology* and the *Southern Gerontologist* and any other publications of the Society.

### **Student and Early Career Committee -**

The responsibilities of the Committee are to generate interest in aging among the student population, establish a pathway of communication between students and professionals in the aging field, and assess needs of the students and provide recommendations about how the Society can assist in meeting those needs.

Learn More



**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A  
WAY TO BECOME MORE  
INVOLVED IN SGS?**

**DO WANT OPPORTUNITIES TO  
NETWORK WITH AGING  
PROFESSIONALS?**

**Are you trying to develop  
leadership skills?**

Join a SGS Committee! Our committees are the heart and soul of the Southern Gerontological Society. They are where the magic happens!

Sign up to join a committee at the Registration Desk. No commitment needed. Attend one meeting and decide if it's a good fit for you.

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS**

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School of Gerontology

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS

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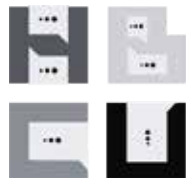
UNIVERSITY of  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**  
College of Behavioral & Community Sciences  
School of Aging Studies



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



**UMBC**



**HBCU AGING  
CONFERENCE**

## **UAB** Department of Sociology



UMBC

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## CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

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1. 100th Day of School Resources
2. Acumen Fiscal Agent
3. Accessing Potential Through Assistive Technology (APT AT)/ Tools for Life, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation
4. CerebroFit Integrated Brain Health
5. East Carolina University, School of Social Work
6. HBCU Aging Conference
7. Riverside Martha W. Goodson Center
8. Sigma Phi Omega
9. The Doctoral Program in Gerontology, University of Maryland Baltimore County and University of Maryland Baltimore
10. The Erickson School of Aging Studies at UMBC
11. University of Alabama at Birmingham, Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
12. University of Alabama at Birmingham, Department of Sociology
13. University of South Florida, School of Aging Studies
14. University of Southern California, Leonard Davis School of Gerontology
15. Virginia Center on Aging/VCU Gerontology
16. Vivid-Pix

### EXHIBIT HALL PASSPORT CONTEST

SGS thanks each of our exhibitors for participating in this year's annual conference. Because of their support, we have been able to provide exceptional support for our attendees. Please help to show your support by visiting each booth and playing the exhibitor game!

#### **ATTENDEES: Here's how the game is played!**

- Your passport card is in your attendee bags. They are printed on BRIGHT GREEN paper.
- Attendees will need to visit at least 12 exhibitors listed and get their passports "stamped" at every booth on their Passport Game card. Be sure that the representative places a sticker below their own company name.
- Once all stamps have been received (from each exhibitor), passports can be deposited into a drop-box located at the Conference Registration Desk before the end of the conference. Please be sure to include your email so you can be contacted about your prize.
- Please do not lose your game cards. But if you do, we have more at the Registration Desk.
- Only attendees registered to attend the Conference are eligible to participate and to win.

Thank you to the following individuals for donating \$250+ since last year's Annual Meeting & Conference.

***Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson***

***Dr. Graham Rowles***

Supporting the Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) doesn't have to be complicated.

Recurring donations are a great way to support SGS because they provide reliable, continuous support for our mission to improve the quality of life for older adults through education, research and practice.

By setting up a recurring monthly gift to SGS, you can make an ongoing impact with minimal effort. Just choose an amount, and your contribution may be automatically processed monthly.

Here's how your monthly contribution can make a real difference:

**\$10/month** – For the price of a streaming service or a couple cups of coffee, you can help fund programs like our student paper and poster awards.

**\$20/month** – For the price of one lunch, you can help fund events like our educational webinars and fall advocacy forum.

**\$50/month** – A nice dinner out could instead help fund the development of new resources such as our teaching repository.

**\$100/month** – One night out could help fund innovative projects like these innovative projects that have received funding from SGS:

- A web-based ending violence across the lifespan (eval) bystander training
- A train-the-trainer program for Community Emergency Response Trainers (CERT) program trainers to better understand the specific disaster preparedness needs of older adult and vulnerable populations
- A Pre-K – 2nd grade curriculum guide for cultivating positive views of aging
- An app to help caregivers make decisions during disasters
- A research project examining the role of activities related to cultural and geographic factors in predicting well-being in older rural African Americans

Prefer to make a one-time donation or a yearly donation? You can do that too! You're always in control—you can update or cancel your recurring gift at any time. It's giving made easy!

Unrestricted Gifts allow SGS to allocate funds where they're needed most. Whether it's for immediate needs or future projects, your unrestricted gift empowers us to act quickly and plan for the long term. By choosing to give regularly, you help SGS maintain its high standards of bridging aging research to practice. Your gift creates a lasting, meaningful impact.

Learn more at <https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/donate.html>.

*We honor the memories of SGS members who have passed away in the previous 2 years and recognize their intellectual contributions, mentorship, and friendship to the gerontology profession.*

*James Steven Fulks Ph.D*

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March 29, 1955 - June 25, 2024



<https://www.shingletonfh.com/obituary/James-FulksPhD>

As you become aware of the passing of a SGS member, please email Amanda James at [admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org](mailto:admin@southerngerontologicalsociety.org) for inclusion in next year's remembrance.

APRIL 3 - 6, 2025      46TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE      BIRMINGHAM, AL

# Building Bridges:


## Collaborations and Communities in Aging



THURSDAY APRIL 3				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
4:30 PM – 8:00 PM	BALLROOM A/B REFRESHMENTS EAST A/B/C SCREENING BALLROOM A/B	<b>Remember Me: Dementia in the African American Community Documentary Screening</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE	C. Nathaniel Brown, Expected End Entertainment Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Old Dominion University Dr. Olivio Clay, Applied Developmental Psychology Doctoral Program, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Outreach, Recruitment & Engagement Core, UAB Alzheimer's Disease Research Center; Deep South Resource Center for Minority Aging Research Dr. Nicole Ruggiano, University of Alabama

We hope many of you were able to participate in the University of Alabama at Birmingham's 2025 Health Disparities Research Symposium: Optimizing Health Across the Life Course on April 3, 2025. We would like to thank our friends at UAB for their collaboration and partnership of our two events.

## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE


FRIDAY APRIL 4				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		PRESENTER (S)
7:00 AM – 5:30 PM	3RD FLOOR	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN		
11:30 AM - 5:30 PM	EAST A/B/C	SILENT AUCTION		
7:30 AM	1ST FLOOR	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS		
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	BALLROOM B	SPOTLIGHT ON BIRMINGHAM OPENING BREAKFAST		Janice Williams, Jefferson County Community Services Senior Services Division Morgan Rhodes, United Way's Area Agency on Aging Dr. Olivio Clay, Applied Developmental Psychology Doctoral Program, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Outreach, Recruitment & Engagement Core, UAB Alzheimer's Disease Research Center; Deep South Resource Center for Minority Aging Research
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	3RD FLOOR	EXHIBITOR BREAK		
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION A		
	EAST N	<b>Public Policy and Advocacy Committee Spotlight - Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act-2025</b>		Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University: Center on Aging Matthew Jones, VA Dept of Aging and Rehab Services Nick Nyberg, Alabama Department of Senior Services MaryLea Boatwright Quinn, Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services
	EAST O		<b>Building Bridges: A Trauma-Informed Approach to Direct Care Worker Retention in Long-Term Care</b>	Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan & Waqar Ahmad, Georgia State University Dr. Leigh-Anne Royster, Duke University Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore – Maryland Ebenezer Martey, University of Alabama at Birmingham Dr. Christopher Kelly, University of Nebraska at Omaha
	EAST D/E	<b>Dementia &amp; the Community Paper Session</b>		
		<b>An Integrative, Community-Based Approach to Promote Brain Health and Wellness in Older Adults</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS Dr. Vonetta Dotson, CerebroFit Integrated Brain Health
		<b>Developing a Score to Measure Dementia-Friendliness in Faith Communities</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS Dr. Miranda Moore, Grayson Baxter & Dr. Alexis Bender, Emory University
		<b>Building a Dementia-Capable Alabama: Key Findings from a Statewide Assessment of Cognitive Health Needs</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS Dr. Amie Brunson & Dr. Nicole Ruggiano, University of Alabama





# FRIDAY APRIL 4

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION A (CONT.)		
	EAST F/G	<b>Supporting International Older Adults &amp; Lessons Learned Abroad Paper Session</b>		
		<b>Thriving Beyond Resettlement: Exploring Life Satisfaction of Resettled Bhutanese Older Adults in Ohio (Student Paper)</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Isha Karmacharya, Department of Sociology and Gerontology, Miami University
		<b>Your English Is Your Health: Acculturation as Fundamental Cause of Health and Quality of Life among Older Asian Americans (Student Paper)</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Su Choe, Georgia State University
		<b>Global Lessons for Local Action: Evaluating Healthcare Policy Effectiveness for Older Adults in Ghana (Student Paper)</b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	Clinton Gyimah, University of Georgia
		<b>The Role of Family in Community-Based Long-Term Care 3.0 in Taiwan (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Suei DiPaola, Georgia State University
	EAST I/J	<b>President's Spotlight Session – Caregiving /Care Partners Paper Session</b>		
		<b>Caregiver-Provider Relationship Quality and Caregiving Outcomes among Family Caregivers of Persons Living with Dementia (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Henrietta Bennett, University of Alabama at Birmingham
		<b>Future Technology in Caregiving: Opportunities, Challenges, and Directions for Research (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	T'erah Spencer, Alabama A&M University
		<b>Project GLEAN'D: Generating and Learning Evidence-Based Approaches for Navigating Dementia Among First-Generation Wealthy Black Caregivers</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Lauren Parker, Johns Hopkins University
	EAST K/L	<b>Leisure &amp; Creativity Paper Session</b>		
		<b>Creativity and Aging: Differences between Interventions for Healthy and Cognitively Impaired Older Adults</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Carolyn Adams-Price, Mississippi State University
		<b>Creative Arts for Mental Health and Well-being: Evaluating an Arts on Prescription Program for Older Montagnard Refugees (Student Paper)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Jenny Lee, University of Alabama at Birmingham & Mirian Dias, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
		<b>Creative Care for Respite: Building Skills and Confidence through an Arts Program</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Meghan Young, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University
		<b>Association Between Leisure and Art Activities and Depressive Symptoms Among Older Adults in Brazil (Student Paper)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Mirian Dias, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
11:30 AM -12:00 PM	3RD FLOOR	EXHIBITOR BREAK		
11:30 AM -12:00 PM	EAST A/B/C	SILENT AUCTION		





## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY APRIL 4				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		PRESENTER (S)
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	BALLROOM B	<b>PRESIDENTIAL KEYNOTE LUNCH – Make Some Noise: Empowering Family Caregiver's Through The Journey</b>		Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Old Dominion University
1:45 PM – 2:45 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION B		
	EAST N	<b>President's Spotlight Session – How ALTER Leveraged Marketing Best Practices to Increase Recruitment &amp; Retention Amongst African American Faith Communities</b>		Andy Suggs & Robert Yanks, Reckon Branding
	EAST O	<b>Care Partner Satisfaction with Integrated Primary Care for People Living with Dementia</b>		Laura Medders & Dr. Carolyn Clevenger, Emory University
	EAST D/E	<b>President's Spotlight Session – Why We Sing: How Community Choirs Support Healthy and Creative Aging</b>		Joshua Vickery, Encore Creativity for Older Adults
	EAST F/G		<b>Sigma Phi Omega: Meet and Greet and How to Start a Chapter</b>	Dr. Cynthia Hancock, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Dr. Amanda Soka, University of Arizona Dr. Diane Martin, University of Maryland, Baltimore Lauren Price, The Erickson School of Aging Studies, University of Maryland Baltimore County Erreannau Zellous, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University
	EAST I/J	<b>How to Publish: A Discussion with the Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Applied Gerontology</b>		Dr. Debra Dobbs, University of South Florida
	EAST K/L	<b>Getting to Know Your Assistive Technology Act Program</b>		Sal Kibler, Tools for Life, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation Ashley McLeroy, Accessing Potential Through Assistive Technology (APT AT)
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION C		
	EAST N	<b>Carework Network Spotlight Session – Balancing Policy and Personalization: Bridging Equity, Diversity, and Cost in Aging in Place</b>		Dr. Lufei Young, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Dr. Julian McKoy Davis, The University of the West Indies Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University



# FRIDAY APRIL 4

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION C (CONT.)		
	EAST O	<b>President's Spotlight Session – African American Communities Speak to Healthcare Providers: Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) in Action</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Ronit Elk & Reverend Moneka Thompson, University of Alabama at Birmingham Pastor J.R. Finney, Reverend Geraldine Daniels & Lisa McNair, UAB- Community Advisory Board
	EAST D/E	<b>President's Spotlight Session – Intergenerational Programs in Higher Education</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Jessica Hsieh, University of Toronto Jessica DeAnna McCarty, University of South Alabama
	EAST F/G	<b>The Important Role of the Professional Care Provider Paper Session</b>		
		<b>Impact of Institutional Special Needs Plan Model on Outcomes and Care Coordination: Perspectives from NPs and PCPs</b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	Dr. Jolie Harris, Louisiana State University Health School of Nursing
		<b>A Grounded Theory Study of Person-Centered Care Practices in Adult Foster Care in Indiana (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Grace Jacobs, The Pennsylvania State University
		<b>Building Bridges in Dementia Care: Collaborative Approaches to Enhancing Communication and Well-Being in Skilled Nursing Facilities</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Natalie Douglas & Stephanie Richings, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
		 <b>Empowering Nursing Home Staff for Improved Dementia Care Outcomes: Program Innovations and Policy Recommendations (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore - Maryland
	EAST I/J	<b>Gerontological Education Paper Session</b>		
		<b>Experiential Learning Bridges Intergenerational Relationships: Student Experiences of Building Community in Aging (Student Paper)</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Blake Peebles, University of Louisville
		 <b>That's Anthropology: Confronting Ageism and Student Discomfort in Service Learning (Student Paper)</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	S.M. Cho & Cara Williams, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
		<b>Developing an FCS Online Graduate Certificate Program in Gerontology to Prepare Underrepresented Students to Address the Needs of Older Adults</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Sung-Jin Lee, North Carolina A&T State University
		<b>Reimagination of Intergenerational Learning Programs Addressing Ageism: A Systematic Literature Review (Student Paper)</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Younghyun Kim, University of Georgia

## FRIDAY APRIL 4



TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
	EAST K/L	<b>Health Disparities Paper Session</b>			
			<b>Mitigating the Unmet Needs Among Low Income Older Adults</b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	Dr. Cynthia Williams, University of Central Florida
			<b>Health Disparities and Inequalities: Adverse Healthcare Experiences for Older Ethnic and Racial Minorities</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Ann Marie Kopitzke, Hampton University
			<b>Incarcerated Persons and Dementia: Perspective on an Expanding Need</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Megan Smith, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	EAST M	<b>POSTER RECEPTION</b>			
			<b>1. Addressing Dental Care Access Barriers Faced by Aging Virginians</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Patricia Bonwell, VCU GWEP
			<b>2. Addressing Health Disparities Among Older Korean Americans in Alabama: A Collaborative Framework for Community Outreach</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Maya Martin & Racquel McLean, Alabama A&M University Joshua Ju, Brentwood High School
			<b>3. Adult Guardianship Data Improvement: A Retrospective on 20 Years of Advocacy (Student Poster)</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Monroe Molesky, University of Mississippi Medical Center
			<b>4. Aging in Time: Curating a Multipurpose Playlist for Gerontologists (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Sophie Maness, The Erickson School of Aging Studies
			<b>5. Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Black Adults: A Comparison Based on Nativity Status Using Data from the "All of Us" Research Program</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Setor Sorkpor & Dr Yijiong Yang, College of Nursing, Florida State University
			<b>6. Bridging Physical Activity Gaps in Low-Income Older Adults for Healthy Aging in Place (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Christiana Ugbem, North Carolina A&T State University
			<b>7. Calling All Voices: Stories from Minority Communities on Their Experiences with Dementia</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Debra Tann, Reminiscent
			<b>8. Caring for the Caregivers: An Unexpected Outcome of a Clinical Project to Improve BSN Student Attitudes Toward People with Dementia</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Valentina Lucas, Randolph Macon College Department of Nursing
			<b>9. COVID-19 Hospitalization Place of Live Discharge Outcomes for Long-Term Care Facility Residents with Dementia: Mediation by Comorbidities Index Scores and Moderation by Health Insurance Status</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Cheng Yin, University of North Texas
			<b>10. Depression and Subjective Health Among Older Puerto Rican Adults: Examining the Interplay of Mental Health, Socioeconomic Factors, and Social Support (Student Poster)</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Jaminette M. Nazario-Acevedo, University of Maryland, Baltimore

# FRIDAY APRIL 4


TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	EAST M	<b>POSTER RECEPTION (CONT.)</b>		
		<b>11. <i>Diverse, Disadvantaged and Aging – Perspectives, Stigma and Resiliency in Older Adults with a History of Substance Use</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Marissa Mackiewicz, Virginia Center on Aging</i>
		<b>12. <i>Employing the Cognitive Awareness Model to Predict Self-Awareness for Everyday Functioning in Middle-Aged and Older Adults Living with HIV (Student Poster)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Hathaichanok Phaowiriya, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>13. <i>Evaluating AI-Generated Geriatric Case Studies for Interprofessional Education: A Comparison Across Five Platforms (Student Poster)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Ava Brashear, Nicole Ruggiano &amp; Uche Nwatu, The University of Alabama</i>
		<b>14. <i>Key Challenges in Healthcare Communication and Literacy for Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Sal Kibler, Tools for Life, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation</i>
		<b>15. <i>Experiences Of Loneliness and Social Isolation in Older People Living with Dementia – A Qualitative Exploration (Student Poster)</i></b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Xiaoyi Zeng, The University of Texas at Austin</i>
		<b>16. <i>Exploring College Student Perceptions of Older Adults: A Photo Reflection Assignment</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Mi Hwa Lee &amp; Dr. Abby Schwartz, East Carolina University, School of Social Work</i>
		<b>17. <i>Factors Associated with Atypical Cognitive Impairment Patterns Among Older Adults in The NACC Dataset</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Giovanna Pilonieta, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>18. <i>Fasting ENHANCE: Exploring How Time-Restricted Eating Could Transform Aging Health (Student Poster)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Christian McLaren, University of Florida</i>
		<b>19. <i>Fighting for the “Bare Minimum” of Care: A Qualitative Investigation into Patient Dismissal Among Medically Complex Patients (Student Poster)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Kiera Chan, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>20. <i>From Jesus to Avocado Toast: Examining How Different Generations of Black Americans Cope under Racial Capitalism</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Jocelyn Brown, Ohio University</i>
		<b>21. <i>Frontotemporal Dementia &amp; the Criminal Legal System: Care Partner Experiences</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Victoria Helmly, Georgia State University</i>
		<b>22. <i>Global Perspectives on Family Caregiving Obligation: World Values Survey 2017-2022 (Student Poster)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Lauren Chrzanowski, University of Louisville</i>
		<b>23. <i>Healthcare Provider Cultural Competency and Care Satisfaction of American Indian and Alaska Native Older Adults; Evidence-Based Practice Proposal: Implementation of Cultural Competency Trainings</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Emily Nichols, Agilent Technologies, Inc.</i>



## FRIDAY APRIL 4

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	EAST M	<b>POSTER RECEPTION (CONT.)</b>		
		<b>24. <i>How and with Whom You Spend Your Time Matters: An Examination of Familial Relationships, Leisure Activities, and Dementia Development</i></b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Dr. Tommy Phillips, Mississippi State University</i>
		<b>25. <i>I am a Man, and I Care: Exploring the Care Experiences of Male Caregivers of People Living with Dementia in the United States (Student Poster)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) &amp; Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore - Maryland</i>
		<b>26. <i>Increasing Awareness of Barriers to Oral Care Among Older Adults Through Simulation-Based Learning</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Nathan Smith, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>27. <i>Interpersonal Conflict as a Reason to Save Items in Older Adults with Hoarding Disorder (Student Poster)</i></b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Michael Fernandez, Mississippi State University</i>
		<b>28. <i>Investigating Patterns of Accurate Reporters, Under-Reporters, and Over-Reporters of Everyday Functional Self-Awareness in Older People Living with HIV: A Multinomial Logistic Analysis (Student Poster)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Maryam Rostamvand Eisalou, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>29. <i>Ivermectin-Associated Encephalopathy: A Side Effect of The COVID Pandemic</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Belinda Williams, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>30. <i>Evaluating Smoking Cessation Efforts in Skilled Nursing Facility Residents: A Quality Improvement Initiative</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Belinda Williams, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>31. <i>Leisure and Social Connectedness: Leisure's Potential to Help Widowers Adjust After Spousal Loss</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Sarah Standridge, East Tennessee State University</i>
		<b>32. <i>Motives for Physical Activity Participation for Older Women: An Analysis of Physical Activity Levels Associated with Residential Environment</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Minyong Lee &amp; Dr. Sung-Jin Lee, North Carolina A&amp;T State University</i>
		<b>33. <i>Navigating Silence: Evaluating Mobile Apps for People with Dementia (Student Poster)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Joana Okine &amp; Dr. Nicole Ruggiano, University of Alabama</i>
		<b>34. <i>Neighborhood Cohesion and Experiences of Discrimination as Risk Factors for Poor Mental Health Outcomes in the REGARDS Study (Student Poster)</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Marquita Brooks, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>35. <i>Pain and its Impacts on Sleep and Depression in Older Adults (Student Poster)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Sophia Geisser, The University of Alabama</i>
		<b>36. <i>Sleep Disorders and Their Impact on Spousal Relationships Among Older Adults During COVID-19 (Student Poster)</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Sophia Geisser, The University of Alabama</i>
		<b>37. <i>Paws with a Cause: Strengthening Caregiving Networks through Human-Animal Connections (Student Poster)</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Erreannau Zellous, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University</i>

# FRIDAY APRIL 4

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	EAST M	<b>POSTER RECEPTION (CONT.)</b>		
		<b>38. Post-Retirement Leadership and Community Engagement: A PLACE to Collaborate and Combat Social Isolation Among Older Americans (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Elizabeth Lutz, University of Georgia</i>
		<b>39. Rethinking Our Theoretical Approaches to the Abuse of Older Adults in Developing Countries (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Mohammad Hossain, College of Social Work, University of Kentucky</i>
		<b>40. Role of Coping Strategies in Reducing Burden Among Informal Caregivers of Older Adults with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (Student Poster)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Adam Mohammed, University of Virginia School of Nursing</i>
		<b>41. Safety and Satisfaction: Evidence from a Pilot Study on Peer-Led Sexual Health Programming for Older Adults (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Sarah Tesar, University of North Carolina at Charlotte</i>
		<b>42. Sex-Ed: Ethical and Appropriate Rationale on Policies (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Katherine Casey, Concordia University Chicago</i>
		<b>43. Social Epigenomics: Understanding the Impact of Social Factors on Chronic Diseases (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Girish Hemrajani, University of South Florida</i>
		<b>44. Transforming Advance Care Planning Through Technology (Student Poster)</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Girish Hemrajani, University of South Florida</i>
		<b>45. Staff Physical Activity Patterns Influence Function Focused Care Implementation (Student Poster)</b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Douglas Gyamfi, University of Maryland, Baltimore</i>
		<b>46. Taking Charge &amp; Flexing Protocols: SNF Nursing Staff's UTI Identification</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Kimberly Delgado, East Carolina University College of Nursing</i>
		<b>47. The Benefits of Social Connection and Engagement in Combating Depressive Symptoms Among Older Cancer Survivors (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Natalia Babenko, University of South Florida</i>
		<b>48. The Emotional Fatigue of Zoom: Age and Surface Acting in Online Meetings (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Lauren Hultquist, University of North Carolina at Charlotte</i>
		<b>49. The Empowering Role of Financial Literacy in Mitigating Housing Hardship in Later Life</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Yang Li, University of Lausanne</i>
		<b>50. The Relationship Between Leisure Activity, Cognitive Function &amp; Spirituality in Middle-Aged and Older Black Adults (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Jasmine Sampson, Clemson University</i>
		<b>51. The Use of Mindfulness and Exercise Approaches in Dementia Treatment: A Review of the Literature (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Yetao Wang &amp; Mary Jones, Georgia State University</i>

## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY APRIL 4				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	EAST M	<b>POSTER RECEPTION (CONT.)</b>		
		<b>52. University of Florida H.O.P.E. Lab: Innovative Warm Calling Programs to Reduce Social Isolation, Loneliness, Depression, and Suicidality in Older Adults (Student Poster)</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Chanel Reid, Georgia State University</i>
		<b>53. Variations in Goals of Care by Ethnicity, Race and Dementia in a Medicaid HCBS Program</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Julie Robison, UConn Center on Aging</i>
		<b>54. What About Me? Leveraging Veteran Support Groups to Improve Understanding of Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Resources and Services Among Older Veterans: A Pilot Study (Student Poster)</b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Dr. Regina Rashed, Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta VA Medical Center</i>
		<b>55. Where Does Glenda Go? Considerations for Long-Term Care Among LGBTQ+ Older Adults in Alabama</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Korijna Valenti, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>56. Black-White Disparities in Internet Access but Not Usage Among Older Informal Caregivers</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>57. Digital Disparities: Internet Access and Health-Related Internet Use Among Older Black Caregivers in the South</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>58. Mapping Structural Ageism: A Systematic Review of Indicators in the U.S. Context</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>59. Negative Beliefs About Threat of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Among Older Chinese and Korean American Dementia Caregivers: A Pilot Study</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
		<b>60. The Work-Life Interface Among Older Workers in The United States: Applying the Intersectionality Framework</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
EVENING – TIMES VARY		<b>DINE-AROUND NETWORKING EVENTS</b>		

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### SIGMA PHI OMEGA: Meet & Greet and How to Start a Chapter



Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM; Learn how to join, create a chapter, and serve in the leadership of the International Academic Honor and Professional Society in Gerontology

### SGS/SIGMA PHI OMEGA AWARDS Ceremony

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM; Join us for a festive celebration honoring SGS and Sigma Phi Omega award recipients, featuring dinner, a cash bar with a complimentary first drink, and a fun hat tradition!





## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE



SATURDAY APRIL 5					
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
6:30 AM – 5:30 PM	3RD FLOOR	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN			
9:30 AM – 5:15 PM	EAST A/B/C	SILENT AUCTION OPEN			
7:00 AM	1ST FLOOR	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS			
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	BALLROOM B	SGS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING BREAKFAST			
9:45 AM – 11:15 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION D			
	EAST N		<b>President's Spotlight Session – Bridging Policy, Practice and Research in this New Landscape for Families Caring for Individuals with Dementia: Recognizing Caregivers and Addressing Opportunities</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Christine Jensen, Riverside Martha W. Goodson Center Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Virginia Center on Aging Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Old Dominion University Dr. Lauren Parker, Johns Hopkins University
	EAST D/E	<b>Health &amp; Wellness Paper Session</b>			
		<b>Factors Associated with Sleep Outcomes in Caregivers of People Living with Dementia (Student Paper)</b>		CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Klaudia Molo, Emory University
		<b>The Impact of Rural and Creative Activities on Older Rural African Americans in Mississippi</b>		CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Carolyn Adams-Price, Mississippi State University
			<b>Biometric Comparisons of Physically Active Older Adults across a 7 year period</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Candace Brown, University of North Carolina Charlotte
		<b>Boosting Brain Health: The Impact of Caloric Restriction and Exercise on Cognitive Function in Older Women (Student Paper)</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Christian McLaren, University of Florida
	EAST F/G	<b>Cognitive Impairments, Dementia &amp; Other Co-Occurring Conditions Paper Session</b>			
		<b>The Longitudinal Effect of Pulse Pressure on Cognitive Decline Among Older Adults: Variations Based on Blood Pressure Status (Student Paper)</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Mubarick Saeed, University of Alabama at Birmingham
		<b>Neuroplasticity, Cognitive Interventions, and Cognitive Training in Older Adults with HIV: A State of the Science</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. David Vance, University of Alabama at Birmingham
		<b>Cognitive Performance, Depression, HIV Disease Burden in Relation to Objective and Subjective Everyday Function in Older Adults With HIV: A Structural Equation Modeling Analysis (Student Paper)</b>		AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Xueling Zeng, University of Alabama at Birmingham
		<b>Optimizing Engagement in Microbiome Studies Among Diverse Populations to Support Clinical Trials for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia</b>		DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Cynthia Williams, University of Central Florida



# SATURDAY APRIL 5

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
9:45 AM – 11:15 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION D (CONT.)		
	EAST I/J	<b>Black Health &amp; Aging Community Paper Session</b>		
		 <b>Mapping Motivators: A Scoping Review of Black Older Adults' Engagement in Adult Day Programs (Student Paper)</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Erreannau Zellous, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University
		<b>Beyond the Numbers: Unpacking Ethnic Differences in Gambling and Health Among Older Black Adults</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Kim Stansbury, North Carolina State University Dr. Gillian Marshall, DIRS
		<b>"It's enough to make someone...lose their mind:" Exploring the Mental Impact of Racial Capitalism Across the Black American Life Course</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Jocelyn Brown, Ohio University
		<b>Educational Attainment and ADRD Risk Among Black Adults: A Comparative Analysis of US-Born and Non-US-Born Populations</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Yijiong Yang & Dr. Setor Sorkpor, College of Nursing, Florida State University
	EAST K/L	<b>President's Spotlight Session – Equipping the Aging Workforce Paper Session</b>		
		<b>Leadership Engagement and Competency Progress (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Amanda Piechota, The University of Alabama
		<b>Quality Outcomes Following a Nursing Assistant Recruitment and Training Program</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Sandi Lane, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
		 <b>Enhancing Interprofessional Competencies: Comparing Virtual and In-Person Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Projects (Student Paper)</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Jaminette M. Nazario-Acevedo, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore – Maryland
		<b>Training for an Aging Nation: Analysis of Trends in Geriatrics Graduate Medical Education, 2007-2024 (Student Paper)</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Monroe Molesky, University of Mississippi Medical Center
11:15 AM – 2:15 PM		LUNCH ON YOUR OWN/VISIT A LOCAL ATTRACTION		
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION E		
	EAST N	<b>Age-Friendly Health System Journey- Innovative Strategies to Implement the 4Ms</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Terri Middlebrooks & Dr. Jada Finley, University of Alabama at Birmingham




## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY APRIL 5				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		PRESENTER (S)
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION E (CONT.)		
	EAST O	 <b>President's Spotlight Session – SGS Priorities Survey: Longitudinal Results</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Kyle Bower, Cardinal Direction Consulting Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Dr. David Hage, Florida Gulf Coast University Dr. Susanny Beltran, University of Central Florida Dr. Abby Schwartz, East Carolina University, School of Social Work
	EAST D/E	<b>Innovating for Impact: Transformative Education Strategies in Gerontology</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Whitnie Willis, Auburn University College of Nursing
	EAST F/G	 <b>Navigating Dementia: Enhancing Care and Support Through Empowering Education</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Dr. Diane Martin, University of Maryland, Baltimore
	EAST I/J	<b>Don't Let Your Memories Fade</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Rick Voight, Vivid-Pix
	EAST K/L	<b>Lessons from the Field: Experiences of a Life-Long Gerontologist</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Adrienne Lynn Cohen, Georgia Southern University
3:15 PM – 4:00 PM	3RD FLOOR	EXHIBITOR BREAK		
3:15 PM – 4:00 PM	EAST A/B/C	SILENT AUCTION		
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION F		
	EAST N	<b>Framing Aging Through Art: Using Humanities to Combat Ageism in Health Professions Education</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Jennifer de la Cruz & Dr. Leslie Taylor, Mercer University
	EAST O	<b>Advancing Age-Friendly Care: The Geriatric Scholar Program's Innovative Advocate Role</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. David James, Courtney Hall & Dr. Jada Finley, University of Alabama at Birmingham
	EAST D/E	<b>Building Lifelong Communities in the Atlanta Region: Creative Place-Based Interventions for Increasing Longevity and Quality</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Arin Yost & Dr. Joy Dillard Appel, Atlanta Regional Commission
	EAST F/G	<b>Connecting the Dots: Creating Community Among State-Based Culture Change Coalitions</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Kim McRae, Culture Change Network of Georgia Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University Rose Marie Fagan, Live Oak Project/The EINSTEIN Option

## SATURDAY APRIL 5

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION F (CONT.)		
	EAST I/J	<b><i>President's Spotlight Session – Day By Day Memory Disco: Utilizing Silent Disco Technology to Impact Care Partner Well Being, Resident Engagement and Workplace Burnout</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Kathy Tutt, Ohio State University Kaylie Glenn, Day By Day Project</i>
	EAST K/L	<b><i>President's Spotlight Session – LGBTQ+ Aging Paper Session</i></b>		
		<b><i>Unlocking Health Equity for Transgender and Gender-diverse Older Adults (Student Paper)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Lauren Catlett, University of Virginia School of Nursing</i>
		<b><i>Advancing Inclusive Hospice Care for Older LGBTQ+ Adults: A Practice-Focused Exploration (Student Paper)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Victoria Bilal &amp; T'erah Spencer, Alabama A&amp;M University</i>
5:15 PM	EAST A/B/C	SILENT AUCTION FINAL BIDS		
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM	BALLROOM B	SGS/SPO AWARDS CEREMONY		


## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY APRIL 6					
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
7:00 AM – 12:00 PM 12:00 PM – 2:30 PM	3RD FLOOR 1ST FLOOR	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN			
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	3RD FLOOR	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS			
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION G			
	EAST N		<b>Scholars With A.G. Rhodes: The SWAGR Program – An Example of a University-Provider Education and Career Pipeline Partnership</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Dr. Wendy Simonds, Dr. Antonius Skipper, Foster Osei, Jeremiah Assan, Prosper Adjah, Rebecca Aklasu, Chris Agbenyefia & Abdul-Dayam Musah, Georgia State University Sonya Williams, A.G. Rhodes
	EAST O		<b>Cultivating Connections: Intergenerational Gardening for Well-Being Across the Life Course</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Cynthia Hancock & Sarah Tesar, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Dr. Kyle Bower, Cardinal Direction Consulting Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Danyae Thomas, The Park Community Development Corporation Amy Bowman, N.C. State Extension Dr. Cheri Granillo, North Carolina State University
	EAST D/E		<b>President's Spotlight Session – AgeReady: An Interactive Web-based Assessment Tool Designed to Help Older Adults and Their Family Members Prepare for the Challenges of Aging</b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Michael Parker & Ethan Asters, University of Alabama
	EAST F/G		<b>Post-Silver Tsunami: Pre-licensure Nursing Students' Caring for the Older Adult Immersion Course</b>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Kimberly Delgado, East Carolina University College of Nursing
9:15 AM – 10:45 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION H			
	EAST N		<b>President's Spotlight Session/Encore &amp; Student Committee Spotlight Session – Combating Ageism: Lessons Learned from Across the Gerontology Career Span</b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	Dr. Patricia Slattum, Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Glynis Boyd Hughes & Bethanie Constant, Virginia Commonwealth University Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore - Maryland
	EAST O		<b>President's Spotlight Session – Developing Your Disaster Preparedness Blueprint</b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Dr. Lindsay Peterson, University of South Florida

SUNDAY APRIL 6				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
9:15 AM – 10:45 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION H (CONT.)		
	EAST D/E	<b><i>The Role of Romantic Relationships Paper Session</i></b>		
		<b><i>From Swipe to Swindle: A Systematic Review of Romance Scams Targeting Older Adults since the Onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic (Student Paper)</i></b>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Taylor Pope, Purdue University</i>
		<b><i>Psychosocial and Health Benefits of Age Gap Relationships (Student Paper)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Shanicqua Richardson, University of Tennessee College of Social Work</i>
		<b><i>A Proclivity for Generativity: African American Families Discussing Generational Marital Practices</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Antonius Skipper, Georgia State University</i>
		<b><i>Opening Up Conversations about Loss? The Golden Bachelor and Bachelorette Discuss Grief (Student Paper)</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Karen Hoefer, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
	EAST F/G	<b><i>Mental Health &amp; Aging Paper Session</i></b>		
		<b><i>Perceived Difficulties and Distress: Predictors of Well-Being in Individuals with Dementia</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Amanda MacNeil, Longwood University</i>
		<b><i>Psychosocial Well-being of Older Adults in Rural Appalachia: Do Pets Make a Difference?</i></b>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Emily Dakin, Appalachian State University</i>
		<b><i>Examining Daily Stress and Mental Health in Hispanic and Latinx Dementia Caregivers: Implications for Culturally Responsive Interventions</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Frank Puga, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
	EAST I/J	<b><i>President's Spotlight Session – The Minority Caregiver Experience Paper Session</i></b>		
		<b><i>Who are we?: Experiences and Perceptions of Latino Immigrant Caregivers to People Living with Dementia (Student Paper)</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Mayra Sainz, Emory University</i>
		<b><i>How Caregiving Influences Custodial African American Grandmothers' Outlook on Life</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Dorothy Smith-Ruiz &amp; Jerena McNeil, University of North Carolina at Charlotte</i>
		<b><i>The Invisible Caregiver: Shining a Light on Black Youth Dementia Caregiver's Experiences (Student Paper)</i></b>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Janelle Gore, The University of Alabama</i>
		<b><i>Race, Identity, and Caregiving in Aging Communities: A Reflexive Inquiry</i></b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Karel Kalaw, University of Central Oklahoma</i>



## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY APRIL 6				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE		PRESENTER (S)
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION I		
	EAST N	<b>President's Spotlight Session – Change is Hard: Top 10 Lessons from Implementing a Safe Mobility Program</b>		Dr. David James, University of Alabama at Birmingham
	EAST O	<b>President's Spotlight Session – Project RECLAIM: Reduce Clutter and Increase Meaning in Your Life!</b>		Dr. Mary Dozier, Mississippi State University
	EAST D/E	 <b>LGBTQ Older Adults</b>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Jeffrey Lentz, Emory University
	EAST F/G	<b>Social Workers and the Retiring Older Adult: Applying the Resource-Based Dynamic Model to Enhance Outcomes</b>		Dr. Kathryn Roosevelt, University of Kentucky
	EAST I/J	<b>Compassionate Conversations for Caregivers</b>		Gwenyth Johnson, Vivid HealthStyle/Center for Compassionate Aging
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	BALLROOM B	<b>CLOSING KEYNOTE - BUILDING BRIDGES OVER TROUBLED WATERS</b>		Bob Blancato, Matz, Blancato & Associates



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# Virtual Presentations

These presentations will be pre-recorded and available to conference attendees following the conference.

## ***Addressing Physical Inactivity in Older Adults: Socioecological Barriers and Solutions Across Rural Communities (Student Paper)***

Lydia Hoskins & Dr. Jodi Southerland, East Tennessee State University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

## ***Dementia and Particle Pollution: Implications for Older Adults***

Dr. Andrea Jennings, Northeast Ohio VA Healthcare System

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## ***Exploring the Issue of Social Isolation in Northeast Tennessee (Student Paper)***

Aimee Rowe, East Tennessee State University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## ***Improving Older Adults' Diabetes Self-Management Through a Community-Clinical Partnership***

Lydia Hoskins, Dr. Soghra Jarvandi & Laura Williams, University of Tennessee Extension

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## ***Perceptions of Physical Activity Among Women Aged 45-64 with Colorectal Cancer: A Systematic Review (Student Paper)***

Jacob Callahan, Elle O'Donnell & Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## ***Sports-Related Head Injury Associated with Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review (Student Paper)***

Hannah Brady, Anthony Castro & Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## ***Systematic Review: Impact of Aerobic Exercises on Alzheimer's Disease Risk in Adults with Traumatic Brain Injury (Student Paper)***

John Brown, Kristelle Gonzalez & Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## ***Thinking Outside the Box for Geriatric Training***

Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Jennifer Severance & Dr. Keri Christensen, University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth - Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Mary Hogan, Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# GERONTOLOGY

Research · Practice · Service



## *Leading* **THE WAY** IN AN **AGING** *Society*

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Graduate Certificate in Gerontology (18 credit hours)

Leadership & Aging Certificate\* (9 credit hours)

Bachelor's in Interdisciplinary Studies – Concentration in Gerontology



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\*available online with residency neutral tuition rate

# Innovative and Transformative *Caregiver Support*

As leaders in addressing caregiver needs, Riverside supports the Southern Gerontological Society.

At Riverside's Martha W. Goodson Center in Williamsburg, Virginia, we are called to examine all aspects of age-related diseases. Through the implementation of evidence-informed and evidence-based programs, we seek to improve the health of our community. The Center is pleased to collaborate with SGS members on research and other innovative projects to support older adults, persons with memory loss and their caregivers.



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## Applied Developmental Psychology PhD



### OVERVIEW

The Applied Developmental Psychology PhD program is a research-training program where graduate students study developmental aspects of behavioral systems, family systems, and individual capabilities and competencies throughout development. A critical feature in our training program is that each student has a **faculty mentor**.

### COURSE CURRICULUM

Through courses in developmental psychology, statistics, research design, and general psychology, you will develop a solid foundation in the history, methods, theory, and current research in developmental psychology. Six credit hours of PY 796, **Practicum in the Teaching of Psychology**, are required as the preparation and experience teaching is an important aspect of preparing graduate students for a professional career in Applied Developmental Psychology.

### MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students enter the program with either a **Bachelor's or Master's degree**. If you do not hold a Master's degree, you will complete a thesis research project during the first or second years of the program. You will then complete the qualifying exam/admission in the form of a written literature review to candidacy for the Ph.D. degree. The final requirement is a completion of a doctoral dissertation — an independent, substantial scientific contribution to knowledge in a specific area of inquiry.

### ADMISSIONS

Students are admitted only to begin in the **fall semester, for full-time study, and for completion of the doctoral degree**. Applications to our program and all related materials — including transcripts, letters of recommendation, and scores — must be submitted through the **UAB Graduate School by December 15**.

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

All successful applicants are guaranteed **five years of support**, which includes an annual stipend of \$30,000 as well as full coverage of tuition, lab fees, and health insurance.

**For Questions, or to learn more about the Applied Developmental Psychology doctoral program, please contact**



**Olivio Clay, Ph.D.**  
Professor  
Director, Applied Developmental Psychology Program  
Email: [oclay@uab.edu](mailto:oclay@uab.edu)

## Research Training Areas

### CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

#### Research

Cognitive Development, Technology and Behavior, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Socio-emotional Development, Pediatric Psychology, Prevention/Intervention, Developmental Psychopathology, Injury Prevention, Youth Violence, Parent and Peer Influences, Developmental Disabilities, Child and Adolescent Health, Social Determinants of Health, Neighborhood Effects

#### Applied Training

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, Traumatic Brain Injury Program, Autism Society of Alabama, Civitan International Research Center, UAB Civitan-Sparks Clinics, UAB Early Head Start Program, UAB Regional Autism Network, Collaborations with the UAB Schools of Medicine, Education, and Public Health, K-12 Schools

### AGING

#### Research

Alzheimer's Disease, Applied Cognition, Successful Aging, HIV, Pain, Social Determinants of Health, Bio-psycho-social Pathways, Caregiver Support

#### Applied Training

Alzheimer's Disease Center, Center for Research on Applied Gerontology, Comprehensive Center for Healthy Aging, Deep South Resource Center for Minority Aging Research



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APRIL 3 - 6, 2025

46TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

BIRMINGHAM, AL

# Building Bridges:

## *Collaborations and Communities in Aging*



This program book contains a listing of sessions with only the presenting authors listed. For full presentation abstracts including all author listings and descriptions of posters and papers, please view our Book of Abstracts at <https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting.html>

## THURSDAY APRIL 3

4:30 PM – 8:00 PM

### ***Remember Me: Dementia in the African American Community Documentary Screening***

REFRESHMENTS EAST A/B/C

SCREENING BALLROOM A/B

#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

*C. Nathaniel Brown, Expected End Entertainment*

*Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Old Dominion University*

*Dr. Olivio Clay, Applied Developmental Psychology*

*Doctoral Program, University of Alabama at*

*Birmingham; Outreach, Recruitment & Engagement*

*Core, UAB Alzheimer's Disease Research Center;*

*Deep South Resource Center for Minority Aging Research*

*Dr. Nicole Ruggiano, University of Alabama*



Join us for networking and refreshments as we join members of the Birmingham Community and attendees from the UAB 2025 Health Disparities Research Symposium. Following refreshments, we will screen the award-winning documentary, *Remember Me: Dementia in the African American Community*.





Recognizing a core body of Gerontological knowledge held by individuals who provide quality services and programming for older adults.

**NAPG Offers:**

- Credentialing for gerontology professionals - CPG
- Networking for professional specialists on issues of aging
- Promotion of discipline standards and credibility
- Consultation for the public and private sectors
- Testing and evaluating gerontology competencies
- Administering and scoring exit exams

**Levels of Credentialing Available:**

- Graduate Level - Gerontologist
- Baccalaureate Level - Gerontological Specialist
- Associate/Certificate Level - Gerontological Coordinator
- Professional/Scholar Affiliate
- Student Members

**Credentialing  
Process:**



**Application  
Process:**



## FRIDAY APRIL 4

**7:00 AM – 5:30 PM**

**REGISTRATION DESK OPEN**

3RD FLOOR

**11:30 AM - 5:30 PM**

**SILENT AUCTION**

EAST A/B/C

**7:30 AM**

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS**

1ST FLOOR

**8:00 AM – 9:30 AM**

**SPOTLIGHT ON BIRMINGHAM OPENING BREAKFAST**

BALLROOM B

*Janice Williams, Jefferson County Community Services Senior Services Division*

*Morgan Rhodes, United Way's Area Agency on Aging*

*Dr. Olivio Clay, Applied Developmental Psychology Doctoral Program, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Outreach, Recruitment & Engagement Core, UAB Alzheimer's Disease Research Center; Deep South Resource Center for Minority Aging Research*

Join us for breakfast as we officially welcome you to the 46th Annual Meeting & Conference. We will kick off our presentation highlighting some of the history and attractions Birmingham has to offer in the hopes that you will take some time to enjoy the city while you are here. We will also welcome representatives from organizations that serve older adults and their care partners in Birmingham and the surrounding areas to better understand the wonderful work happening at the local level.

**9:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

**EXHIBITOR BREAK**

3RD FLOOR

Please show your gratitude to our Sponsors for their support of the 46th Annual Meeting & Conference. Be sure to stop by their tables to learn more about their wonderful programs and services.

**10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

**CONCURRENT SESSION A**

**PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**

**SPOTLIGHT - Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act-2025**

EAST N

*Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University: Center on Aging*

*Matthew Jones, VA Dept of Aging and Rehab Services*

*Nick Nyberg, Alabama Department of Senior Services*

*MaryLea Boatwright Quinn, Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services*

**ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS**

The Older Americans Act (OAA) was initially passed in 1965 and is periodically reauthorized. The primary focus of the OAA is to provide services to adults over 60 who do not live in institutions. In 2024, the OAA was substantially updated with new requirements, including additional provisions for the prevention of elder abuse, coordination of work with tribal programs, emergency preparedness and response, and modernization of the nutrition program. The Administration for Community Living, State Units on Aging, and local Area Agencies on Aging, with affiliated partners, must comply with the new OAA requirements by October 2025. Join the SGS Public Policy and Advocacy Committee as a panel of aging network partners from across the south discuss the implementation of the reauthorized OAA. Panelists will discuss both the benefits and the barriers to the regulations. Learn more about the differences between states. This session will examine the shared challenges and solutions to implementing the OAA requirements.



**Building Bridges: A Trauma-Informed Approach to Direct Care Worker Retention in Long-Term Care**

EAST O

*Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan & Waqar Ahmad, Georgia State University*

*Dr. Leigh-Anne Royster, Duke University*

*Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore – Maryland*

*Ebenezer Martey, University of Alabama at Birmingham*

*Dr. Christopher Kelly, University of Nebraska at Omaha*

**CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

This symposium seeks to a) present a conceptual model that foregrounds the utility of a trauma-informed approach to retention (Morgan & Royster), b) describe the life course context of nursing home staff and the relationship of that context to retention (Ahmad, Skipper, Burgess, Wright & Morgan), c) identify strategies to support high-functioning teams (Boakye & Morgan) and d) understand the role of direct care workers in the person-centered care and social integration of nursing home residents (Martey, Skipper, Kemp & Morgan). Dr. Christopher Kelly will serve as the discussant providing the policy implications for the findings.

## FRIDAY APRIL 4

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSION A (CONT.)

#### ***Dementia & the Community Paper Session***

EAST D/E

This paper session will discuss community programming that increases knowledge of dementia and/or helps communities become better prepared to support people living with dementia. *An Integrative, Community-Based Approach to Promote Brain Health and Wellness in Older Adults* will provide an overview of an innovative community-based approach for offering evidence-based, holistic services to empower people of all ages to live a lifestyle that promotes healthier brain aging and optimizes brain health and wellness across the lifespan. *Developing a Score to Measure Dementia-Friendliness in Faith Communities* will describe the implementation and analysis of a measure of dementia friendliness in African American faith communities. *Building a Dementia-Capable Alabama: Key Findings from a Statewide Assessment of Cognitive Health Needs* will review findings from a statewide survey about service and information needs for Alabama communities related to dementia and cognitive health.

#### ***An Integrative, Community-Based Approach to Promote Brain Health and Wellness in Older Adults***

Dr. Vonetta Dotson, CerebroFit Integrated Brain Health

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### ***Developing a Score to Measure Dementia-Friendliness in Faith Communities***

Dr. Miranda Moore, Grayson Baxter & Dr. Alexis Bender, Emory University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### ***Building a Dementia-Capable Alabama: Key Findings from a Statewide Assessment of Cognitive Health Needs***

Dr. Amie Brunson & Dr. Nicole Ruggiano, University of Alabama

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### ***Supporting International Older Adults & Lessons Learned Abroad Paper Session***

EAST F/G

This paper session will explore the aging experience of older adults in other countries as well as how best to support older adults from other countries living in the US. *Thriving Beyond Resettlement: Exploring Life Satisfaction of Resettled Bhutanese Older Adults in Ohio* will delve into the complex factors shaping life satisfaction among resettled Bhutanese older adults in Ohio. *Your English Is Your Health: Acculturation as Fundamental Cause of Health and Quality of Life among Older Asian Americans* examines how socioeconomic status (SES) and acculturation factors—including familiarity with American culture, English proficiency, and length of U.S. residency—affect self-rated overall health, mental health, and quality of life among older Asian Americans. *Global Lessons for Local Action: Evaluating Healthcare Policy Effectiveness for Older Adults in Ghana* will evaluate the effectiveness of Ghana's National Health Insurance (NHIS) in addressing healthcare needs and promoting equity for older adults. *The Role of Family in Community-Based Long-Term Care 3.0 in Taiwan* will examine the contribution and advantages of Taiwan's advanced care system, which prioritizes home and community-based services over institutional care.

#### ***Thriving Beyond Resettlement: Exploring Life Satisfaction of Resettled Bhutanese Older Adults in Ohio (Student Paper)***

Isha Karmacharya, Department of Sociology and Gerontology, Miami University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### ***Your English Is Your Health: Acculturation as Fundamental Cause of Health and Quality of Life among Older Asian Americans (Student Paper)***

Su Choe, Georgia State University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### ***Global Lessons for Local Action: Evaluating Healthcare Policy Effectiveness for Older Adults in Ghana (Student Paper)***

Clinton Gyimah, University of Georgia

ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

#### ***The Role of Family in Community-Based Long-Term Care 3.0 in Taiwan (Student Paper)***

Suei DiPaola, Georgia State University

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS



## **President's Spotlight Session - Caregiving/ Care Partners Paper Session**

EAST I/J

This paper session will review the relationship between caregivers and providers, opportunities for technology to help caregivers, and challenges experienced by a unique subset of caregivers. *Caregiver-Provider Relationship Quality and Caregiving Outcomes among Family Caregivers of Persons Living with Dementia* will examine whether the perceived quality of the relationship between family caregivers and providers is associated with caregiver depressive symptoms, anxiety and stress and whether this association varies by caregiver race/ethnicity and poverty status. *Future Technology in Caregiving: Opportunities, Challenges, and Directions for Research* will introduce a conceptual framework to guide the development of future technologies, emphasizing caregiver needs. *Project GLEAN'D: Generating and Learning Evidence-Based Approaches for Navigating Dementia Among First-Generation Wealthy Black Caregivers* will present key findings from interviews with 12 first-generation wealthy Black dementia caregivers, highlighting critical themes such as geographic relocation's impact on care, gendered caregiving roles, and challenges in accessing culturally competent services.

### ***Caregiver-Provider Relationship Quality and Caregiving Outcomes among Family Caregivers of Persons Living with Dementia (Student Paper)***

Henrietta Bennett, University of Alabama at Birmingham

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

### ***Future Technology in Caregiving: Opportunities, Challenges, and Directions for Research (Student Paper)***

T'erah Spencer, Alabama A&M University

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

### ***Project GLEAN'D: Generating and Learning Evidence-Based Approaches for Navigating Dementia Among First-Generation Wealthy Black Caregivers***

Dr. Lauren Parker, Johns Hopkins University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

## **Leisure & Creativity Paper Session**

EAST K/L

This paper session will explore how leisure and creative activities can affect an older adult's health & wellness. *Creativity and Aging: Differences between Interventions for Healthy and Cognitively Impaired Older Adults* will describe the benefits of creative interventions for different types of older adults with different types of capabilities. *Creative Arts for Mental Health and Well-being: Evaluating an Arts on Prescription Program for Older Montagnard Refugees* will discuss an 8-week arts-on-prescription (AoP) program aimed at enhancing the mental well-being of Montagnard older adults who experience unique challenges including war trauma, limited English proficiency, and social isolation. *Creative Care for Respite: Building Skills and Confidence through an Arts Program* will highlight a program that provides additional creative programming to respite directors, who come from a variety of backgrounds, and to build appropriate, person-directed programming for people living with dementia. *Association Between Leisure and Art Activities and Depressive Symptoms Among Older Adults in Brazil* will explore how participation in activities like going to the theater, dance, painting, and music concerts can impact the mental health of older adults.

### ***Creativity and Aging: Differences between Interventions for Healthy and Cognitively Impaired Older Adults***

Dr. Carolyn Adams-Price, Mississippi State University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### ***Creative Arts for Mental Health and Well-being: Evaluating an Arts on Prescription Program for Older Montagnard Refugees (Student Paper)***

Jenny Lee, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
& Mírian Dias, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### ***Creative Care for Respite: Building Skills and Confidence through an Arts Program***

Meghan Young, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

### ***Association Between Leisure and Art Activities and Depressive Symptoms Among Older Adults in Brazil (Student Paper)***

Mírian Dias, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS



### FRIDAY APRIL 4

**11:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

#### EXHIBITOR BREAK

3RD FLOOR

Please show your gratitude to our Sponsors for their support of the 46th Annual Meeting & Conference. Be sure to stop by their tables to learn more about their wonderful programs and services.

#### SILENT AUCTION

EAST A/B/C

Bid High! Bid Often! Proceeds from our Silent Auction benefit our Student and Older Adult travel scholarships. Won't be here for closing bids? Some items have a Buy Now price so you can snag your favorites today!

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

#### **PRESIDENTIAL KEYNOTE LUNCH - Make Some Noise: Empowering Family Caregiver's Through the Journey**

BALLROOM B

*Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Old Dominion University*



#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

During this keynote session, Dr. Gibson will take time to address her 40-year career in working with community-based partners in empowering caregivers to advocate for themselves and

their families. Her keynote will cover the importance of the role of the Southern Gerontological Society in addressing key issues related to clinical research, advocacy, caregiving and building a future professional workforce. You will leave the session truly inspired and ready to serve your community; ready to "make some noise" and address the issues for 2025 and beyond.

**1:45 PM – 2:45 PM**

#### CONCURRENT SESSION B

#### **President's Spotlight Session – How ALTER Leveraged Marketing Best Practices to Increase Recruitment & Retention Amongst African American Faith Communities**

EAST N

*Andy Suggs & Robert Yanks, Reckon Branding*

#### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

Dementia-Friendly Faith Villages was launched in 2018 to address the lack of resources and awareness of dementia in African American and faith communities in the State of Georgia. The program struggled to meet recruiting, retention, and program goals in its inaugural year. In response to less-than-desirable progress, the principal investigator partnered with Reckon Branding to define a messaging focus for the program that better connected with each of its key audiences: Church leaders, caregivers, and partner programs within their space. Considering 71% of customers recommend a brand based on their emotional connection to it, Reckon knew they had to tell a story that extended beyond facts and figures. The program was provided with a new verbal and visual focus through internal ideation sessions, audits of competitive programs, and external interviews of Church leadership and caregivers of those with cognitive impairments. Armed with the more memorable name ALTER, a new logo, and more consumer-friendly marketing materials, the team was able to secure 83 partnerships over the next 4 years. This strategic pivot has helped ALTER exceed its partner goals by over 300% and empowered the program to develop consistently impactful marketing materials, which provided improved recruitment reach, increasing the participants from 7,500 to more than 100,000. Thanks to this success, ALTER has extended its reach from Georgia to many more African American communities of faith across 14 states. We will conduct a live brand and marketing exercise to help attendees identify their own marketing strategies.

### **Care Partner Satisfaction with Integrated Primary Care for People Living with Dementia**

EAST O

*Laura Medders & Dr. Carolyn Clevenger, Emory University*

#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

Integrated Memory Care (IMC) is a comprehensive dementia care clinic that provides primary care, dementia care, and services for care partners in one practice. Co-production of care goals is a core value for the IMC's team; thus, the program has consistently sought patient and caregiver feedback about clinical experiences and what they value (or don't) with the IMC's unique model of care. The IMC program solicits patient and care partner engagement and feedback above and beyond the health system's typical channels. Specifically, the IMC utilizes a patient family advisory committee. Additionally, the IMC team has repeatedly surveyed patients and families as much has changed in medical care, the clinical program. Nearly half (49%) of 2024's respondents reported that they believed the IMC had helped them to avoid an emergency department visit compared to 47% of respondents in 2020. 85% of 2024 responders also indicated their life was easier because they were a patient of the IMC compared to 91% in 2020. The presentation will discuss the importance of seeking direct feedback from patients and families in a clinical practice as well as trends in feedback when families living with dementia receive comprehensive care.

### **President's Spotlight Session – Why We Sing: How Community Choirs Support Healthy and Creative Aging**

EAST D/E

*Joshua Vickery, Encore Creativity for Older Adults*

#### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Dr. Gene Cohen's groundbreaking Creative Aging study, *The Impact of Professional Conducted Cultural Programs on the Physical Health, Mental Health, and Social Functioning of Older Adults-2-Year Results*, published in 2007 inspired the founding of Encore Creativity for Older Adults. Study participants engaging in weekly choral rehearsals for two years experienced many improvements to their health and wellbeing including decrease in falls, decrease in medication, and an increase in participation in other community activities. Since that study, many others have been conducted to explore the role music (especially singing) plays in health and wellness

as we age. This session will present an overview of this work and how Encore Creativity for Older Adults has developed a variety of programming to combat social isolation, work with people with memory loss due to Alzheimer's or related dementias and offer an opportunity for all older adults to participate in the arts.



### **Sigma Phi Omega: Meet and Greet and How to Start a Chapter**

EAST F/G

*Dr. Cynthia Hancock, University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

*Dr. Amanda Soka, University of Arizona*

*Dr. Diane Martin, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

*Lauren Price, The Erickson School of Aging Studies, University of Maryland Baltimore County*

*Erreannau Zellous, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Sigma Phi Omega is the International Academic and Professional Honor Society in Gerontology. Our members are students, faculty, and community professionals, all of whom are dedicated to excellence in the field of aging studies and services. Join us as we share how to become a member, start your own Sigma Phi Omega chapter, and network with members. Several board members will be present at this informative opportunity. This will be an informal session leaving you with the knowledge of what Sigma Phi Omega is all about and how to get involved.

### **How to Publish: A Discussion with the Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Applied Gerontology**

EAST I/J

*Dr. Debra Dobbs, University of South Florida*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG)* provides an international forum for information that has clear and immediate applicability to the health, care, and quality of life of older persons. Join Dr. Debra Dobbs, Editor-in-Chief of JAG as she discusses the process for getting published in this well-respected journal. Get your questions answered and get helpful tips to help you with your next submission.

### FRIDAY APRIL 4

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

#### CONCURRENT SESSION B (CONT.)

##### **Getting to Know Your Assistive Technology Act Program**

EAST K/L

*Sal Kibler, Tools for Life, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation*

*Ashley McLeroy, Accessing Potential Through Assistive Technology (APT AT)*

##### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Did you know there are 56 Assistive Technology (AT) Act Programs across the United States? Alabama's APT AT and Georgia's Tools for Life invite you to learn more about these valuable resources and how they can help older adults lead more independent lives. We'll introduce you to the world of AT, look at how AT can change the lives of older adults and their caregivers, and show you how to access resources from your AT Act program.

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

#### CONCURRENT SESSION C

##### **Carework Network Spotlight Session - Balancing Policy and Personalization: Bridging Equity, Diversity, and Cost in Aging in Place**

EAST N

*Dr. Lufei Young, University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

*Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University*

*Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies*

*Dr. Julian McKoy Davis, The University of the West Indies*

*Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University*

##### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

How do we bridge the gap between cost-efficient policies and the personalized care older adults need? This dynamic panel brings together experts from social and environmental gerontology, neurodegenerative gerontology, geriatric nursing, geropsychiatric medicine, community development, policymaking, education, and caregiving. With bold ideas and real talk, we'll tackle outdated practices, celebrate diversity, and explore innovative ways to make aging in place equitable, inclusive, and practical. Whether you're an academic, practitioner, student, or community advocate, this session is your chance to

network, collaborate, and spark change. Don't miss this engaging, no-holds-barred conversation on the future of aging care!

##### **President's Spotlight Session – African American Communities Speak to Healthcare Providers: Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) in Action**

EAST O

*Dr. Ronit Elk & Reverend Moneka Thompson, University of Alabama at Birmingham*

*Pastor J.R. Finney, Reverend Geraldine Daniels & Lisa McNair, UAB- Community Advisory Board*

##### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

Do you care about health equity for all older adults, but don't quite know how to fix the widespread disparities? Our session "African American Communities Speak to Healthcare Providers: Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) in Action" will offer solutions!

You will hear about: an evidence-based approach that has been proven to reduce health disparities, but rarely used in healthcare; how a training program was created by a Southern African American community members to train health care providers in how to provide culturally concordant and racist free health care to older African Americans with serious illness; and the results of the training program on over 125 healthcare providers (Are they hearing what the African American community members are saying? Are they implementing the African American community's recommendations (or not?). Community Advisory Board members in a new CBPR-based study of African Americans in Birmingham will share: why they participate in a CBPR-based study; what it feels like when their input is used to develop training (and not that of expert academics); and why they want you to use this approach in your work (yes, CBPR works for program development and for research). We will engage the audience in discussing the pros and cons of CBPR, the barriers and facilitators to conducting CBPR-based studies/programs, and where you can learn about CBPR and receive mentoring when you use CBPR to develop your equity-based programs.

## **President's Spotlight Session – Intergenerational Programs in Higher Education**

EAST D/E

Jessica Hsieh, University of Toronto

Jessica DeAnna McCarty, University of South Alabama

### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

This session will highlight two intergenerational programs. The University of Toronto (UofT) partnered with Christie Gardens, a retirement home, to launch an innovative experiential learning initiative: The Intergenerational Classroom. The Intergenerational Classroom explored aging from a viewpoint that considered the perspectives of both older and younger generations. Intergenerational approaches can help to create a brighter and more inclusive future for all generations, ensuring that individuals can grow up and grow older with dignity, rights, and opportunity. The second program will provide attendees valuable insights into how mentoring can positively impact attitudes toward aging and older adults. Intergenerational mentoring has been shown to enhance academic achievement and social development and foster a deeper understanding of mentorship and leadership.

### **The Important Role of the Professional Care Provider Paper Session**

EAST F/G

This paper session will look at the important role of professional care providers and how they impact policies and quality of care for the older adults they serve. *Impact of Institutional Special Needs Plan Model on Outcomes and Care Coordination: Perspectives from NPs and PCPs* will examine the role of healthcare providers in advocating for enhanced care models for older adults within Louisiana's first Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP), a Medicare managed care model designed for nursing home residents. *A Grounded Theory Study of Person-Centered Care Practices in Adult Foster Care in Indiana* will present findings resulting from a qualitative study on resident and care provider relationships and person-centered care practice in recreational activities in Adult Foster Care (AFC) contexts in Indiana. *Building Bridges in Dementia Care: Collaborative Approaches to Enhancing Communication and Well-Being in Skilled Nursing Facilities* will highlight Dementia Collaborative Coaching (DCC), an interdisciplinary approach that unites caregivers, Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs), and other team members to improve communication,

reduce behavioral symptoms, and enhance the quality of life for residents with dementia. *Empowering Nursing Home Staff for Improved Dementia Care Outcomes: Program Innovations and Policy Recommendations* will discuss successful programs (bridging wage gaps, subsidized training and support, and incentive programs) and highlight strategies for state and federal agencies to address staffing challenges in nursing homes.

### **Impact of Institutional Special Needs Plan Model on Outcomes and Care Coordination: Perspectives from NPs and PCPs**

Dr. Jolie Harris, Louisiana State University Health School of Nursing

### **ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS**

### **A Grounded Theory Study of Person-Centered Care Practices in Adult Foster Care in Indiana (Student Paper)**

Grace Jacobs, The Pennsylvania State University

### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

### **Building Bridges in Dementia Care: Collaborative Approaches to Enhancing Communication and Well-Being in Skilled Nursing Facilities**

Dr. Natalie Douglas & Stephanie Richings, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**



### **Empowering Nursing Home Staff for Improved Dementia Care Outcomes: Program Innovations and Policy Recommendations (Student Paper)**

Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore - Maryland

### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**



## FRIDAY APRIL 4

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSION C (CONT.)

#### **Gerontological Education Paper Session**

EAST I/J

This paper session will spotlight three gerontological educational programs and a literature review. *Experiential Learning Bridges Intergenerational Relationships: Student Experiences of Building Community in Aging* will discuss a service-learning program that bridges generations by pairing undergraduate psychology or pre-healthcare students with persons with dementia (PWD) in an experiential learning model. *That's Anthropology: Confronting Ageism and Student Discomfort in Service Learning* will explore lessons learned from an intergenerational service-learning project for anthropology undergraduate students. *Developing an FCS Online Graduate Certificate Program in Gerontology to Prepare Underrepresented Students to Address the Needs of Older Adults* will introduce an online graduate certificate program in gerontology to enhance the credentials of underrepresented students for careers in Family and Consumer Sciences. *Reimagination of Intergenerational Learning Programs Addressing Ageism: A Systematic Literature Review* will discuss a review of current intergenerational learning programs (IGPs) approaches in addressing ageist attitudes toward people of all ages.

#### **Experiential Learning Bridges Intergenerational Relationships: Student Experiences of Building Community in Aging (Student Paper)**

Blake Peeples, University of Louisville

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



#### **That's Anthropology: Confronting Ageism and Student Discomfort in Service Learning (Student Paper)**

S.M. Cho & Cara Williams, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Developing an FCS Online Graduate Certificate Program in Gerontology to Prepare Underrepresented Students to Address the Needs of Older Adults**

Dr. Sung-Jin Lee, North Carolina A&T State University

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Reimagination of Intergenerational Learning Programs Addressing Ageism: A Systematic Literature Review (Student Paper)**

Younghyun Kim, University of Georgia

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Health Disparities Paper Session**

EAST K/L

This paper session will discuss health disparities and opportunities to reduce them across different older adult populations. *Mitigating the Unmet Needs Among Low Income Older Adults* will identify unmet needs and discuss ways to employ community workers to assist in understanding the challenges in mitigating the needs of low-income older adults. *Health Disparities and Inequalities: Adverse Healthcare Experiences for Older Ethnic and Racial Minorities* will examine where improvements are needed in health education of health professionals, the delivery of care in healthcare settings and policy development or changes to reduce health inequalities and disparities for older ethnic and racial minorities. *Incarcerated Persons and Dementia: Perspective on an Expanding Need* will explore corrections nurses' and corrections officers' standard practices for prisoners with dementia, to better understand their safety issues and direct care challenges.

#### **Mitigating the Unmet Needs Among Low Income Older Adults**

Dr. Cynthia Williams, University of Central Florida

ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

#### **Health Disparities and Inequalities: Adverse Healthcare Experiences for Older Ethnic and Racial Minorities**

Dr. Ann Marie Kopitzke, Hampton University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### **Incarcerated Persons and Dementia: Perspective on an Expanding Need**

Dr. Megan Smith, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE  
PARTNERSHIPS





4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

POSTER RECEPTION

EAST M



**1. Addressing Dental Care Access Barriers Faced by Aging Virginians**

*Dr. Patricia Bonwell, VCU GWEP*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**2. Addressing Health Disparities Among Older Korean Americans in Alabama: A Collaborative Framework for Community Outreach**

*Dr. Maya Martin & Racquel McLean, Alabama A&M University*

*Joshua Ju, Brentwood High School*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**3. Adult Guardianship Data Improvement: A Retrospective on 20 Years of Advocacy (Student Poster)**

*Monroe Molesky, University of Mississippi Medical Center*

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES



**4. Aging in Time: Curating a Multipurpose Playlist for Gerontologists (Student Poster)**

*Sophie Maness, The Erickson School of Aging Studies*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**5. Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Black Adults: A Comparison Based on Nativity Status Using Data from the "All of Us" Research Program**

*Dr. Setor Sorkpor & Dr Yijiong Yang, College of Nursing, Florida State University*

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**6. Bridging Physical Activity Gaps in Low-Income Older Adults for Healthy Aging in Place (Student Poster)**

*Christiana Ugbem, North Carolina A&T State University*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**7. Calling All Voices: Stories from Minority Communities on Their Experiences with Dementia**

*Dr. Debra Tann, Reminiscent*

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**8. Caring for the Caregivers: An Unexpected Outcome of a Clinical Project to Improve BSN Student Attitudes Toward People with Dementia**

*Dr. Valentina Lucas, Randolph Macon College  
Department of Nursing*

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

**9. COVID-19 Hospitalization Place of Live Discharge Outcomes for Long-Term Care Facility Residents with Dementia: Mediation by Comorbidities Index Scores and Moderation by Health Insurance Status**

*Dr. Cheng Yin, University of North Texas*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS



**10. Depression and Subjective Health Among Older Puerto Rican Adults: Examining the Interplay of Mental Health, Socioeconomic Factors, and Social Support (Student Poster)**

*Jaminette M. Nazario-Acevedo, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**11. Diverse, Disadvantaged and Aging – Perspectives, Stigma and Resiliency in Older Adults with a History of Substance Use**

*Dr. Marissa Mackiewicz, Virginia Center on Aging*

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

**12. Employing the Cognitive Awareness Model to Predict Self-Awareness for Everyday Functioning in Middle-Aged and Older Adults Living with HIV (Student Poster)**

*Hathaichanok Phaowiriya, University of Alabama at Birmingham*

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

**13. Evaluating AI-Generated Geriatric Case Studies for Interprofessional Education: A Comparison Across Five Platforms (Student Poster)**

*Ava Brashear, Nicole Ruggiano & Uche Nwatu, The University of Alabama*

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

**14. Key Challenges in Healthcare Communication and Literacy for Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults**

*Sal Kibler, Tools for Life, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**15. Experiences Of Loneliness and Social Isolation in Older People Living with Dementia – A Qualitative Exploration (Student Poster)**

*Xiaoyi Zeng, The University of Texas at Austin*

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## FRIDAY APRIL 4

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

### POSTER RECEPTION (CONT.)

EAST M



#### 16. Exploring College Student Perceptions of Older Adults: A Photo Reflection Assignment

Dr. Mi Hwa Lee & Dr. Abby Schwartz, East Carolina University, School of Social Work  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 17. Factors Associated with Atypical Cognitive Impairment Patterns Among Older Adults in The NACC Dataset

Dr. Giovanna Pilonieta, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 18. Fasting ENHANCE: Exploring How Time-Restricted Eating Could Transform Aging Health (Student Poster)

Christian McLaren, University of Florida  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 19. Fighting for the "Bare Minimum" of Care: A Qualitative Investigation into Patient Dismissal Among Medically Complex Patients (Student Poster)

Kiera Chan, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### 20. From Jesus to Avocado Toast: Examining How Different Generations of Black Americans Cope under Racial Capitalism

Dr. Jocelyn Brown, Ohio University  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 21. Frontotemporal Dementia & the Criminal Legal System: Care Partner Experiences

Dr. Victoria Helmly, Georgia State University  
CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

#### 22. Global Perspectives on Family Caregiving Obligation: World Values Survey 2017-2022 (Student Poster)

Lauren Chrzanowski, University of Louisville  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS



#### 23. Healthcare Provider Cultural Competency and Care Satisfaction of American Indian and Alaska Native Older Adults; Evidence-Based Practice Proposal: Implementation of Cultural Competency Trainings

Emily Nichols, Agilent Technologies, Inc.  
DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### 24. How and with Whom You Spend Your Time Matters: An Examination of Familial Relationships, Leisure Activities, and Dementia Development

Dr. Tommy Phillips, Mississippi State University  
ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS



#### 25. I am a Man, and I Care: Exploring the Care Experiences of Male Caregivers of People Living with Dementia in the United States (Student Poster)

Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore - Maryland  
DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### 26. Increasing Awareness of Barriers to Oral Care Among Older Adults Through Simulation-Based Learning

Dr. Nathan Smith, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

#### 27. Interpersonal Conflict as a Reason to Save Items in Older Adults with Hoarding Disorder (Student Poster)

Michael Fernandez, Mississippi State University  
ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS



#### 28. Investigating Patterns of Accurate Reporters, Under-Reporters, and Over-Reporters of Everyday Functional Self-Awareness in Older People Living with HIV: A Multinomial Logistic Analysis (Student Poster)

Maryam Rostamvand Eisalou, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 29. Ivermectin-Associated Encephalopathy: A Side Effect of The COVID Pandemic

Dr. Belinda Williams, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 30. Evaluating Smoking Cessation Efforts in Skilled Nursing Facility Residents: A Quality Improvement Initiative

Dr. Belinda Williams, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 31. Leisure and Social Connectedness: Leisure's Potential to Help Widowers Adjust After Spousal Loss

Dr. Sarah Standridge, East Tennessee State University  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**32. Motives for Physical Activity Participation for Older Women: An Analysis of Physical Activity Levels Associated with Residential Environment**

Dr. Minyong Lee & Dr. Sung-Jin Lee, North Carolina A&T State University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**33. Navigating Silence: Evaluating Mobile Apps for People with Dementia (Student Poster)**

Joana Okine & Dr. Nicole Ruggiano, University of Alabama

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**34. Neighborhood Cohesion and Experiences of Discrimination as Risk Factors for Poor Mental Health Outcomes in the REGARDS Study (Student Poster)**

Marquita Brooks, University of Alabama at Birmingham

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**35. Pain and its Impacts on Sleep and Depression in Older Adults (Student Poster)**

Sophia Geisser, The University of Alabama

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**36. Sleep Disorders and Their Impact on Spousal Relationships Among Older Adults During COVID-19 (Student Poster)**

Sophia Geisser, The University of Alabama

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS



**37. Paws with a Cause: Strengthening Caregiving Networks through Human-Animal Connections (Student Poster)**

Erreannau Zellous, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**38. Post-Retirement Leadership and Community Engagement: A PLACE to Collaborate and Combat Social Isolation Among Older Americans (Student Poster)**

Elizabeth Lutz, University of Georgia

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**39. Rethinking Our Theoretical Approaches to the Abuse of Older Adults in Developing Countries (Student Poster)**

Mohammad Hossain, College of Social Work, University of Kentucky

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**40. Role of Coping Strategies in Reducing Burden Among Informal Caregivers of Older Adults with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (Student Poster)**

Adam Mohammed, University of Virginia School of Nursing

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS



**41. Safety and Satisfaction: Evidence from a Pilot Study on Peer-Led Sexual Health Programming for Older Adults (Student Poster)**

Sarah Tesar, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**42. Sex-Ed: Ethical and Appropriate Rationale on Policies (Student Poster)**

Katherine Casey, Concordia University Chicago

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**43. Social Epigenomics: Understanding the Impact of Social Factors on Chronic Diseases (Student Poster)**

Girish Hemrajani, University of South Florida

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**44. Transforming Advance Care Planning Through Technology (Student Poster)**

Girish Hemrajani, University of South Florida

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

**45. Staff Physical Activity Patterns Influence Function Focused Care Implementation (Student Poster)**

Douglas Gyamfi, University of Maryland, Baltimore

ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

**46. Taking Charge & Flexing Protocols: SNF Nursing Staff's UTI Identification**

Dr. Kimberly Delgado, East Carolina University College of Nursing

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**47. The Benefits of Social Connection and Engagement in Combating Depressive Symptoms Among Older Cancer Survivors (Student Poster)**

Natalia Babenko, University of South Florida

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**48. The Emotional Fatigue of Zoom: Age and Surface Acting in Online Meetings (Student Poster)**

Lauren Hultquist, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### FRIDAY APRIL 4

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

#### POSTER RECEPTION (CONT.)

EAST M

**49. The Empowering Role of Financial Literacy in Mitigating Housing Hardship in Later Life**

*Dr. Yang Li, University of Lausanne*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**50. The Relationship Between Leisure Activity, Cognitive Function & Spirituality in Middle-Aged and Older Black Adults (Student Poster)**

*Jasmine Sampson, Clemson University*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**51. The Use of Mindfulness and Exercise Approaches in Dementia Treatment: A Review of the Literature (Student Poster)**

*Dr. Yetao Wang & Mary Jones, Georgia State University*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**52. University of Florida H.O.P.E. Lab: Innovative Warm Calling Programs to Reduce Social Isolation, Loneliness, Depression, and Suicidality in Older Adults (Student Poster)**

*Chanel Reid, Georgia State University*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**53. Variations in Goals of Care by Ethnicity, Race and Dementia in a Medicaid HCBS Program**

*Dr. Julie Robison, UConn Center on Aging*

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**54. What About Me? Leveraging Veteran Support Groups to Improve Understanding of Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Resources and Services Among Older Veterans: A Pilot Study (Student Poster)**

*Dr. Regina Rashed, Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta VA Medical Center*

ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

**55. Where Does Glenda Go? Considerations for Long-Term Care Among LGBTQ+ Older Adults in Alabama**

*Dr. Korijna Valenti, University of Alabama at Birmingham*

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**56. Black-White Disparities in Internet Access but Not Usage Among Older Informal Caregivers**

*Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham*  
CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**57. Digital Disparities: Internet Access and Health-Related Internet Use Among Older Black Caregivers in the South**

*Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham*  
DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

**58. Mapping Structural Ageism: A Systematic Review of Indicators in the U.S. Context**

*Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham*  
GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**59. Negative Beliefs About Threat of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Among Older Chinese and Korean American Dementia Caregivers: A Pilot Study**

*Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham*  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**60. The Work-Life Interface Among Older Workers in The United States: Applying the Intersectionality Framework**

*Dr. Kun Wang, University of Alabama at Birmingham*  
AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### EVENING – TIMES VARY

#### DINE-AROUND NETWORKING EVENTS

Visit the Registration Desk throughout the day to sign up for a Dine Around. Our Dine Around hosts have selected a local restaurant and reserved seats for a select number of people. You will purchase your own meal. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet new conference attendees and enjoy the local food scene. Be sure to sign up early for your favorite choice before the spots fill up! Be sure to read the sign-up sheet for the time and where to meet.



# SATURDAY APRIL 5

**6:30 AM – 5:30 PM**

**REGISTRATION DESK OPEN**

3RD FLOOR

**9:30 AM – 5:15 PM**

**SILENT AUCTION OPEN**

EAST A/B/C

**7:00 AM**

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS**

1ST FLOOR

**7:30 AM – 9:30 AM**

**SGS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING BREAKFAST**

BALLROOM B

Regardless of your SGS membership status, all attendees are welcome to attend this annual meeting of the Society. Our committees will report on their activities and successes over this past year and share exciting news about upcoming activities. Come and learn more about SGS and ways to get involved!

**9:45 AM – 11:15 AM**

## CONCURRENT SESSION D



***President's Spotlight Session – Bridging Policy, Practice and Research in this New Landscape for Families Caring for Individuals with Dementia: Recognizing Caregivers and Addressing Opportunities***

EAST N

*Dr. Christine Jensen, Riverside Martha W. Goodson Center*

*Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Virginia Center on Aging*

*Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Old Dominion University*

*Dr. Lauren Parker, Johns Hopkins University*

**CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

This panel session is focused on “connecting the dots” for family caregivers in the new political environment. Caregivers are making an impact and are being impacted by legislation at the federal and state levels. One-third of registered voters ages 18 and older identify as caregivers in the past, while one-fifth are currently caregivers, and approximately one-half expect to be a caregiver in the future. Caregivers also have unique opportunities to engage in clinical studies. The first panelist will provide an update of the national landscape on caregiving programs and policies, specifically addressing the RAISE Report, Older

Americans Act Reauthorization, and BOLD programs. Emphasis will be placed on reports and advocacy targeting Alzheimer's disease and dementia care. Next, the duo of panelists from Johns Hopkins University will address the importance of clinical studies and their important role and partnership with family caregivers. They will discuss specific opportunities for caregivers to enhance their quality of life and advocate for themselves and those they provide care for. The final panelist will continue to “connect the dots” by highlighting several national (e.g., National Alliance for Caregiving, Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers) and regional programs (e.g., Virginia Dementia Care Coordination) that are dedicated to making an impact in this caregiving landscape. State programs in the SGS region will be highlighted including the respite voucher program and dementia care coordination. Collectively, this conversation, which attendees are encouraged to contribute to, bridges the landscape for families caring for individuals with dementia and promotes their well-being.



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## SATURDAY APRIL 5

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM

## CONCURRENT SESSION D (CONT.)

**Health & Wellness Paper Session**

EAST D/E

This paper session will explore different factors of health & wellness for older adults and caregivers. *Factors Associated with Sleep Outcomes in Caregivers of People Living with Dementia* will explore how improving caregivers' sleep can make their caregiving duties easier and more effective. *The Impact of Rural and Creative Activities on Older Rural African Americans in Mississippi* will examine the relationship between rural (i.e., farming, outdoors) activities and creative activities (baking, quilting, singing, etc.) and health and well-being in older African Americans in 3 counties in rural Mississippi. *Biometric Comparisons of Physically Active Older Adults across a 7 year period* will describe the differences of biometrics including blood glucose, HbA1c, and BMI, by age, between Black, White, and Hispanic physically active older adults. *Boosting Brain Health: The Impact of Caloric Restriction and Exercise on Cognitive Function in Older Women* will explore the cognitive effects of a 24-week lifestyle intervention combining caloric restriction and supervised exercise in postmenopausal women with overweight or obesity and functional limitations.

***Factors Associated with Sleep Outcomes in Caregivers of People Living with Dementia (Student Paper)***

Klaudia Molo, Emory University

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

***The Impact of Rural and Creative Activities on Older Rural African Americans in Mississippi***

Dr. Carolyn Adams-Price, Mississippi State University

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS



***Biometric Comparisons of Physically Active Older Adults across a 7 year period***

Dr. Candace Brown, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Boosting Brain Health: The Impact of Caloric Restriction and Exercise on Cognitive Function in Older Women (Student Paper)***

Christian McLaren, University of Florida

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Cognitive Impairments, Dementia & Other Co-Occurring Conditions Paper Session***

EAST F/G

This paper session will examine the interplay of cognitive impairments and other medical conditions. *The Longitudinal Effect of Pulse Pressure on Cognitive Decline Among Older Adults: Variations Based on Blood Pressure Status* will present research examining how pulse pressure, the force of blood flow through our arteries, affects cognitive health in older adults. *Neuroplasticity, Cognitive Interventions, and Cognitive Training in Older Adults with HIV: A State of the Science* will discuss innovative scientific and practical approaches that are being tested to preserve and protect cognitive ability in adults with HIV as they age. *Cognitive Performance, Depression, HIV Disease Burden in Relation to Objective and Subjective Everyday Function in Older Adults With HIV: A Structural Equation Modeling Analysis* will examine how risk factors including age, depressive symptoms, HIV disease burden, and cognitive abilities as well as protective factors contribute to objective and subjective everyday functioning. *Optimizing Engagement in Microbiome Studies Among Diverse Populations to Support Clinical Trials for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia* will discuss the importance of diversity in microbiota studies for addressing health disparities, particularly for homebound individuals and people of color.

***The Longitudinal Effect of Pulse Pressure on Cognitive Decline Among Older Adults: Variations Based on Blood Pressure Status (Student Paper)***

Mubarick Saeed, University of Alabama at Birmingham

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Neuroplasticity, Cognitive Interventions, and Cognitive Training in Older Adults with HIV: A State of the Science***

Dr. David Vance, University of Alabama at Birmingham

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Cognitive Performance, Depression, HIV Disease Burden in Relation to Objective and Subjective Everyday Function in Older Adults With HIV: A Structural Equation Modeling Analysis (Student Paper)***

Xueling Zeng, University of Alabama at Birmingham

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Optimizing Engagement in Microbiome Studies Among Diverse Populations to Support Clinical Trials for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia***

Dr. Cynthia Williams, University of Central Florida

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

## **Black Health & Aging Community Paper Session** EAST I/J

This paper session will include research on aspects of aging and aging services for Black older adults. *Mapping Motivators: A Scoping Review of Black Older Adults' Engagement in Adult Day Programs* focuses on the voices of Black older adults who attend Adult Day Programs, exploring what makes these programs meaningful and culturally relevant. *Beyond the Numbers: Unpacking Ethnic Differences in Gambling and Health Among Older Black Adults* analyzes ethnic differences in gambling behaviors and health outcomes among older Black adults. *"It's enough to make someone...lose their mind:" Exploring the Mental Impact of Racial Capitalism Across the Black American Life Course* examines the evolving nature of racial capitalism—the theory that racism and capitalism are interconnected systems—and its shifting impacts on the mental health of Black Americans across generations. *Educational Attainment and ADRD Risk Among Black Adults: A Comparative Analysis of US-Born and Non-US-Born Populations* explores how educational attainment impacts Alzheimer's disease and related dementias risk among Black adults, with a focus on differences between U.S.-born and non-U.S.-born individuals.



### ***Mapping Motivators: A Scoping Review of Black Older Adults' Engagement in Adult Day Programs (Student Paper)***

Erreannau Zellous, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University

#### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

### ***Beyond the Numbers: Unpacking Ethnic Differences in Gambling and Health Among Older Black Adults***

Dr. Kim Stansbury, North Carolina State University

Dr. Gillian Marshall, DIRS

#### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

### ***"It's enough to make someone...lose their mind:" Exploring the Mental Impact of Racial Capitalism Across the Black American Life Course***

Dr. Jocelyn Brown, Ohio University

#### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

### ***Educational Attainment and ADRD Risk Among Black Adults: A Comparative Analysis of US-Born and Non-US-Born Populations***

Dr. Yijiong Yang & Dr. Setor Sorkpor, College of Nursing, Florida State University

#### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**



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## SATURDAY APRIL 5

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSION D (CONT.)

#### **President's Spotlight Session – Equipping the Aging Workforce Paper Session**

EAST K/L

This paper session will consider opportunities to enhance the skills of the aging workforce. *Leadership Engagement and Competency Progress* will provide insights into how overall leadership attendance and the staff attendee composition at weekly coaching meetings impact competency development in nursing homes. *Quality Outcomes Following a Nursing Assistant Recruitment and Training Program* will describe a recruitment and training program to increase the number of CNAs in North Carolina nursing homes and whether the program had any impact on nursing home quality metrics. *Enhancing Interprofessional Competencies: Comparing Virtual and In-Person Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Projects* will review the development process of the GAIT curriculum, participant recruitment strategies, and training outcomes to provide a deeper understanding of how this program continues to evolve and improve. *Training for an Aging Nation: Analysis of Trends in Geriatrics Graduate Medical Education, 2007-2024* will report data on geriatric internal medicine, geriatric family medicine, and geriatric psychiatry graduate medical education programs from all (n=17) issues of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's (ACGME) Data Resource Book's published between the 2007-2008 and 2023-2024 academic years.

#### **Leadership Engagement and Competency Progress (Student Paper)**

Amanda Piechota, The University of Alabama

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

#### **Quality Outcomes Following a Nursing Assistant Recruitment and Training Program**

Dr. Sandi Lane, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS



#### **Enhancing Interprofessional Competencies: Comparing Virtual and In-Person Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Projects (Student Paper)**

Jaminette M. Nazario-Acevedo, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore – Maryland

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Training for an Aging Nation: Analysis of Trends in Geriatrics Graduate Medical Education, 2007-2024 (Student Paper)**

Monroe Molesky, University of Mississippi Medical Center

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

11:15 AM – 2:15 PM

### LUNCH ON YOUR OWN/VISIT A LOCAL ATTRACTION

Birmingham, Alabama - A little bit of everything. Historically significant. Eclectically funky. Progressively southern. We want to make sure you have some time to explore Birmingham. We hope you will use this extended lunchtime to visit one of the local attractions. Maybe you will visit the Civil Rights District and learn more about the rich history of Birmingham. Perhaps you'll enjoy seeing some of the beautiful pieces at the Birmingham Museum of Art. No matter what you choose, go outside and explore! Make sure to enjoy one of Birmingham's great restaurants and come back refreshed for another afternoon of informative and interesting sessions!

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSION E

#### **Age-Friendly Health System Journey-Innovative Strategies to Implement the 4Ms**

EAST N

Terri Middlebrooks & Dr. Jada Finley, University of Alabama at Birmingham

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This session will provide an overview of how interprofessional teams were educated on Age-Friendly 4Ms in order to improve care for older adults. The Age-Friendly 4Ms include What Matters, Medication, Mentation, and Mobility. Interprofessional teams must have an understanding of why specialized care is important and how to provide this care for older adults. The presentation will provide an overview of educational modifications that were made in response to the needs of post-COVID hospital environment.



**President's Spotlight Session – SGS  
Priorities Survey: Longitudinal Results**  
EAST O

*Dr. Kyle Bower, Cardinal Direction Consulting*  
*Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies*  
*Dr. David Hage, Florida Gulf Coast University*  
*Dr. Susanny Beltran, University of Central Florida*  
*Dr. Abby Schwartz, East Carolina University, School of Social Work*

**GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) bridges applied research and service through innovative strategies shaped by the consensus priorities of its membership. This structured translational process leverages accrued knowledge and leadership skills to chart the organization's future directions. This presentation will report key findings from the third SGS Priorities survey conducted in 2024, offering insights into the evolving priorities of SGS members and collaborative stakeholders. Longitudinal trends identified from previous surveys will contextualize these shifts, enhancing understanding of SGS's strategic trajectory. The empowerment evaluation model (Schwartz et al., 2022) will be revisited, with a focus on how insights from three survey waves continue to shape SGS goals concordantly with its organizational mission. Assessments from the longitudinal SGS survey project will also serve as a catalyst for engaging attendees in discussion concerning the analysis of future SGS initiatives.

***Innovating for Impact: Transformative  
Education Strategies in Gerontology***

EAST D/E

*Whitnie Willis, Auburn University College of Nursing*

**GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Explore how bold and innovative strategies in gerontology education are transforming the lives of older adults and preparing the next generation of leaders. This session showcases initiatives such as new undergraduate courses on aging and vulnerable populations, a student-led geriatric nursing organization, and a proposed global study abroad program. Stakeholders across industries will discover opportunities to partner with academic institutions, leveraging their expertise and resources to advance gerontology education and improve the quality of life for aging populations. Attendees will leave with actionable insights and partnership strategies to drive meaningful change in elder care.



***Navigating Dementia: Enhancing Care and  
Support Through Empowering Education***  
EAST F/G

*Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore – Maryland*  
*Dr. Diane Martin, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

**AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Alzheimer's disease and related dementia (ADRD) represent a growing public health crisis. There are an estimated 6.6 million individuals aged 65 and older living with ADRD nationwide and nearly 11 million unpaid family members providing care to these individuals. Dementia care providers have limited knowledge about and skills in navigating the complexities of providing person-centered care to people living with dementia. This can lead to decreased confidence in their caregiving abilities, caregiver burnout, and affect perceptions about individuals living with ADRD. Education is vital for improving care quality and caregiver well-being. In spring 2024, we launched the "Navigating Dementia" educational series. The program included five webinars and two in-person conferences, offering education on topics such as identifying cognitive decline, effective communication, and long-term services and support. Patient scenarios were integrated to provide practical learning opportunities and reinforce skills. Five-hundred forty unique participants attended the events, including 171 informal care providers, 85 Area Agencies on Aging employees, and 218 professionals who work with persons living with ADRD and their families. Pre- and post-event surveys were used to compare the influence of each event on changes in perceived confidence, skill, and/or attitude, as well as accuracy in responding to knowledge questions. Significant within group differences were found, indicating consistent improvements in all outcome measures. Only confidence was significantly different between groups. Overall, our educational series was successful in providing relevant and interactive learning through a hands-on approach and underscores the need to expand programs scope to address emerging issues in dementia care.



# SATURDAY APRIL 5

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSION E (CONT.)

#### ***Don't Let Your Memories Fade***

EAST I/J

*Rick Voight, Vivid-Pix*

#### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

What if you could fill your free time doing what you love doing AND improve your health and well-being. You Can! Life is made up of people, places, events, and feelings. Photos, documents, and keepsakes provide prompts to reminisce and share wonderful stories. Family History has been ranked the 2nd most popular hobby in America. Depending upon an individual's desire, stage in life, or cognition stage, pRT (Photo Reminiscence Therapy) can be the education and coaching desired to get around to capturing the stories from a lifetime of memories, photographs and mementos, providing brain exercise, happiness endorphins release, and provides a loved hobby and improved socialization - to a therapeutic program provided by trained caregivers providing neurogenesis and connection with others. This class describes the primary research conducted and resulting turnkey program Family Matters – a partnership between the National Genealogical Society and Vivid-Pix - that provides individuals and organizations with the tools needed to help individuals and organizations connect with the public.

#### ***Lessons from the Field: Experiences of a Life-Long Gerontologist***

EAST K/L

*Dr. Adrienne Lynn Cohen, Georgia Southern University*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. Adrienne Cohen first began working with older adults in the early 1980's. She will share some of the wisdom she received from the people she served and the experiences she has had as a life-long gerontologist. Those of us that work in the field as nurses, social workers, case managers, etc., often we see ourselves as serving others but each day we serve, we are served by the patients, clients and consumers. Older adults are a great resource of wisdom, and we are given that wisdom as a gift that can enrich our lives. Dr. Cohen will discuss lessons from her wise clients, lessons based on the mistakes she has made along the way, and lessons from her

professional experiences. As Dr. Cohen moves into her own later years, she will describe the ways in which her clients and career have influenced her life as an older adult moving toward retirement. There will also be opportunities for attendees to discuss and share their own lessons from the field.

3:15 PM – 4:00 PM

#### **EXHIBITOR BREAK**

3RD FLOOR

Please show your gratitude to our Sponsors for their support of the 46th Annual Meeting & Conference. Be sure to stop by their tables to learn more about their wonderful programs and services.

#### **SILENT AUCTION**

EAST A/B/C

Bid High! Bid Often! Proceeds from our Silent Auction benefit our Student and Older Adult travel scholarships. Won't be here for closing bids? Some items have a Buy Now price so you can snag your favorites today!

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSION F

#### ***Framing Aging Through Art: Using Humanities to Combat Ageism in Health Professions Education***

EAST N

*Jennifer de la Cruz & Dr. Leslie Taylor, Mercer University*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Ageism remains a significant barrier to delivering equitable and compassionate care for older adults. This session highlights an innovative student photography exhibition designed to address this challenge by engaging health professions graduate students in exploring aging through the 4Ms of age-friendly care: Mobility, Medications, Mentation, and What Matters. Attendees will learn how this project fostered interprofessional collaboration, empathy, and reflection among future healthcare providers, while showcasing the power of the humanities to challenge stereotypes and bridge gaps across generations and disciplines. Join us to explore selected student works, engage in reflective discussions, and discover practical strategies for using the humanities to promote age-friendly care and community connection.



## ***Advancing Age-Friendly Care: The Geriatric Scholar Program's Innovative Advocate Role***

EAST O

*Dr. David James, Courtney Hall & Dr. Jada Finley,  
University of Alabama at Birmingham*

### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Join us for an engaging session on advancing Age-Friendly care through the innovative Advocate Role in the Geriatric Scholar Program (GSP). With a focus on bridging education and practice, this session highlights how interprofessional collaboration, guided by the IHI 4Ms framework, can empower healthcare teams to implement sustainable geriatric care improvements. Learn how the GSP's two-year curriculum has equipped over 280 healthcare professionals across diverse disciplines with the skills to lead quality improvement initiatives, resulting in measurable system-wide impacts, including national recognition and accreditation. This session welcomes attendees from all backgrounds—academics, practitioners, students, older adults, and community partners—to explore actionable strategies for adopting and scaling the GSP model to enhance care for older adults. Discover how the Advocate Role fosters professional identity, promotes evidence-based practice, and inspires interprofessional teamwork to meet the growing demand for geriatric expertise. Whether you are a healthcare professional, educator, or community leader, this session offers practical insights for making your care practices more age-friendly.

## ***Building Lifelong Communities in the Atlanta Region: Creative Place-Based Interventions for Increasing Longevity and Quality***

EAST D/E

*Arin Yost & Dr. Joy Dillard Appel, Atlanta Regional Commission*

### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the Area Agency on Aging for a 10-county region spanning urban, suburban, and rural areas. This region is ethnically diverse, holds a large LGBTQ+ population, and is projected to house approximately 3 million older adults in 2050. This workshop will examine approaches to understanding and addressing place-based health disparities that have been successfully employed by the ARC to facilitate equitable resource allocation for aging populations across the service region. Through a variety of strategic initiatives,

including achieving national AARP Age-Friendly designation and the Live Beyond Expectations strategic plan, the ARC has creatively intervened in existing disparities across the region. Presenters will share research and community engagement findings and offer valuable resources for forming similar strategic efforts while emphasizing the historical importance of neighborhood-level change in the Atlanta region. Presenters will also discuss cost-effective interventions and quality monitoring strategies that have been shown to improve access to aging services for older adults experiencing geographic health inequalities. These interventions range from no-cost data visualizations, shifts in quality monitoring, and collaborative participation at the local and regional levels to funded projects like mini-grant programs, legislative advocacy, and targeted outreach materials. This workshop will explore the successes and challenges of many strategies to improving length and quality of life for diverse populations. Attendees will leave equipped to utilize freely available data to explore health disparities in their communities and form place-based interventions in response.



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## SATURDAY APRIL 5

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSION F (CONT.)

#### **Connecting the Dots: Creating Community Among State-Based Culture Change Coalitions**

EAST F/G

*Kim McRae, Culture Change Network of Georgia  
Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University  
Rose Marie Fagan, Live Oak Project/The EINSTEIN Option*

#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

Come explore how The Eden Alternative (The Certified Eden Associate Training and the Dementia Beyond Drugs: Changing The Culture Of Care curriculum), Pioneer Network, the Center For Innovation, the Moving Forward Coalition, the EINSTEIN Option, State Alzheimer's and Dementia Plans, and state-level collaboration work can be catalysts for advancing culture change in your community, your state, and beyond. We will share 1) what Georgia has done to advance person-directed care and person-centered dementia care throughout the entire spectrum of long-term care, services and supports, and 2) brainstorm together about the various state-wide leaders that need to be at the table to create partnerships that help to reimagine ways to empower everyone to strengthen the care partner teams. We will share resources and tools that have been developed and utilized during our CMP grant, "A Trauma-Informed Approach to Improving Dementia Care in Georgia Nursing Homes," which is a partnership between the Culture Change Network of Georgia and Georgia State University's Gerontology Institute. We will also share some of the outcomes from our work. As a group, we will delve into what we all can do in our spheres of influence to transform how we look at the challenges we face and embrace the possibilities of what we can do if we work together to make the impossible possible. This workshop will help you identify key partnerships, review resources, and initiate action planning in small groups for strengthening coalitions across the Southeast to promote person-centered care and dementia-capable communities.

#### **President's Spotlight Session – Day By Day Memory Disco: Utilizing Silent Disco Technology to Impact Care Partner Well Being, Resident Engagement and Workplace Burnout** EAST I/J

*Kathy Tutt, Ohio State University  
Kaylie Glenn, Day By Day Project*

#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are among the most significant public health challenges of our time, impacting millions of individuals and their caregivers. As dementia care grows increasingly demanding, caregiver stress and burnout have emerged as critical concerns in communities and their memory care facilities. The Memory Disco Program introduces an innovative solution that combines silent disco technology with a structured musical engagement program to address these challenges. This session will explore how Memory Disco enhances resident engagement, reduces caregiver stress, and fosters meaningful connections. Attendees will learn about the program's methodology, outcomes from recent studies, and practical community implementation strategies. Participants will leave the session equipped with a deeper understanding of how musical interventions like Memory Disco can transform community-based dementia care environment. They will gain practical tools and actionable insights for implementing this program to improve caregiver well-being, enhance resident interactions, and foster a culture of connection and joy. Participants will walk away with an actionable approach to meet their community's needs of decreasing staff turnover, improving life enrichment opportunities, and cultivating a positive workplace environment despite dementia-related challenges.

#### **President's Spotlight Session – LGBTQ+ Aging Paper Session**

EAST K/L

This paper session will delve into unique challenges of LGBTQ+ older adults and opportunities to better serve this population. *Unlocking Health Equity for Transgender and Gender-diverse Older Adults* will describe challenges that trans older adults often face in the healthcare system, and it highlights sources of strength within this population of older adults to

shape a more equitable and affirming future for their care. *Advancing Inclusive Hospice Care for Older LGBTQ+ Adults: A Practice-Focused Exploration* will explore the unique challenges LGBTQ+ elders face in hospice and end-of-life care, particularly the impact of social isolation and lifelong discrimination on their well-being.

***Unlocking Health Equity for Transgender and Gender-diverse Older Adults (Student Paper)***

*Lauren Catlett, University of Virginia School of Nursing*

**DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

***Advancing Inclusive Hospice Care for Older LGBTQ+ Adults: A Practice-Focused Exploration (Student Paper)***

*Victoria Bilal & T'erah Spencer, Alabama A&M University*

**DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

**5:15 PM**

**SILENT AUCTION FINAL BIDS**

EAST A/B/C

Don't miss your last chance to claim your favorite items. Payment will be collected once bidding closes. Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted.

**5:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

**SGS/SPO AWARDS CEREMONY**

BALLROOM B

Join us in a celebration of those who have been recognized for one of SGS's many prestigious awards. You are invited to wear your favorite fun or festive hat! We are also thrilled to be including the Sigma Phi Omega awards ceremony in our celebration. Dinner will be provided. A cash bar will be available, but your first drink is on us!



The East Carolina University (ECU) Office of Healthy Aging (OHA) promotes the practice of gerontology through collaborative research efforts and education at ECU to better serve the greater Greenville community through healthy aging-related events and programs.

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# SUNDAY APRIL 6

**7:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**REGISTRATION DESK OPEN**

3RD FLOOR

**12:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**REGISTRATION DESK OPEN**

1ST FLOOR

**7:00 AM – 8:00 AM**

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

3RD FLOOR

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

## CONCURRENT SESSION G



### **Scholars With A.G. Rhodes: The SWAGR Program – An Example of a University-Provider Education and Career Pipeline Partnership**

EAST N

*Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Dr. Wendy Simonds, Dr. Antonius Skipper, Foster Osei, Jeremiah Assan, Prosper Adjah, Rebecca Aklasu, Chris Agbenyefia & Abdul-Dayan Musah, Georgia State University Sonya Williams, A.G. Rhodes*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Gerontology programs often seek to enter into education-practice partnerships to support students to gain hands-on knowledge and experience that prepares them for careers serving older adults. This collaboration, known as "Scholars With A.G. Rhodes at GSU" (SWAGR at GSU), offers master's students the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience in long-term care settings while completing their graduate training in gerontology. By combining education with real-world practice, the program aims to strengthen the elder care workforce and enrich the students' professional development. The SWAGR program extends the usual partnerships that foreground service learning or internships while seeking to create educational/career pipelines for international students with foreign nursing education. The program not only helps fill the growing need for skilled elder care professionals but also provides a much-needed pathway particularly for international students to establish nursing careers in nursing homes in the United States. This workshop will a) describe the pilot program, b) share the results of the initial needs assessment conducted with staff from the three A.G. Rhodes locations, c) share insights and

challenges from current students, faculty and A.G. Rhodes staff members involved in the project, and will close with an interactive discussion about next steps and model development.



### **Cultivating Connections: Intergenerational Gardening for Well-Being Across the Life Course**

EAST O

*Dr. Cynthia Hancock & Sarah Tesar, University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

*Dr. Kyle Bower, Cardinal Direction Consulting*

*Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies*

*Danyae Thomas, The Park Community Development Corporation*

*Amy Bowman, N.C. State Extension*

*Dr. Cheri Granillo, North Carolina State University*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Intergenerational gardening programs serve as dynamic spaces where older adults and younger generations come together to cultivate not only plants but also meaningful relationships, lifelong learning, and holistic well-being. This hands-on session will showcase the impact of a thriving gardening initiative at Gilfield Park, an affordable housing community for those fifty-five and over, made possible through collaborations with local intergenerational groups and interdisciplinary teams. Over the past year, fifteen therapeutic horticulture sessions engaged residents in gardening, nutrition, and wellness activities designed to enhance mental, physical, and social health. Attendees will gain insight into how community-driven programming can be tailored to meet the needs of those often overlooked, while fostering sustainable food production, environmental stewardship, and healthier living. Join us to explore the power of gardening as a bridge between generations, a catalyst for social connection, and a transformative tool for improving quality of life in aging communities. Whether you're a researcher, practitioner, or community partner, this session will equip you with practical strategies for designing impactful, intergenerational gardening programs.



## SUNDAY APRIL 6

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSION G (CONT.)

#### ***President's Spotlight Session – AgeReady: An Interactive Web-based Assessment Tool Designed to Help Older Adults and Their Family Members Prepare for the Challenges of Aging***

EAST D/E

*Dr. Michael Parker & Ethan Asters, University of Alabama*

#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

Getting older doesn't come with a guidebook, and navigating later life can feel overwhelming for both older adults and their families. That's where AgeReady comes in. It's a practical and user-friendly tool designed to help older adults and their loved ones tackle the challenges of aging with confidence. From essential tasks like creating a will or managing medications to meaningful ones like recording videos for grandchildren or deciding on a companion pet, AgeReady offers thoughtful guidance and resources to make the process easier. It's especially helpful for families dealing with dementia-related concerns, providing a proactive way to plan for the future. AgeReady users access a simple, easy-to-use website featuring tasks organized into four areas: medical, legal/financial, family/social, and emotional/spiritual. Each task comes with a quick explanation of why it's important and links to trusted resources to help get it done. The tool also includes secure document storage for added convenience and peace of mind. In this workshop, we'll show you how AgeReady works, share the story of its development, and explore ways it can support professionals, caregivers, and families in planning for later life.

#### ***Post-Silver Tsunami: Pre-licensure Nursing Students' Caring for the Older Adult Immersion Course***

EAST F/G

*Dr. Kimberly Delgado, East Carolina University College of Nursing*

#### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

In 2024, the United States experienced the 'Silver Tsunami', the year in which a record number of individuals turned sixty-five. The older adult (65+)

population is increasing exponentially and long-term care organizations, including nursing homes (NHs), will serve significantly more individuals in the coming years. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed and exacerbated NH staffing recruitment and retention challenges. Insufficient numbers of adequately trained staff result in suboptimal care. With the current nursing crisis, and a lack of transition-to-practice programs, NHs will not be able to meet the needs of the projected population without implementing innovative approaches. To increase pre-licensure nursing student NH exposure, the Carolina Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) team have created a grant-funded independent study course. The goal of this immersion course is to increase the number of new graduate nurses who choose first employment in NHs and equip them with the tools needed to sustain employment. This session will include an overview of the NH structure, insight into RN recruitment and retention issues, and the role/responsibilities of the RN. Attendees will be provided with an overview of the immersion course components, anticipated outcomes, and next steps.

9:15 AM – 10:45 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSION H



#### ***President's Spotlight Session/Encore & Student Committee Spotlight Session – Combating Ageism: Lessons Learned from Across the Gerontology Career Span***

EAST N

*Dr. Patricia Slattum, Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Glynis Boyd Hughes & Bethanie Constant, Virginia Commonwealth University*

*Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) & Baltimore County (UMBC) Baltimore - Maryland*

#### **ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS**

Ageism, the stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination towards others or ourselves based on age, affects us all and is prevalent in health care, higher education and other settings. In this session, we will discuss perspectives on ageism in higher education and health care and describe experiences with interventions to identify and combat ageism. Glynis Boyd Hughes will share her experiences in combating ageism in higher education as an adult learner and the impact of founding an undergraduate student organization for adult learners at VCU, Retro Rams, that contributed to institutional change and the development of VCU's Office of Adult Learners and Non-Traditional Students. Bethanie Constant will discuss her experiences in

leadership in the not-for-profit senior living sector and using the VCU Organizational Assessment component of the Age and Ability Toolkit for Senior Living to raise awareness, celebrate strengths and develop recommendations for improvement to combat ageism at a senior living community. Patricia Slattum will share perspectives on ageism in health care from decades of practice as a pharmacist and discuss how training the health care workforce and reliably implementing high quality Age-Friendly 4Ms care can improve outcomes for older adults and mitigate ageism in health care settings. Advocacy, assessment leading to quality improvement, and implementation of evidence-based frameworks and training are methods that can lead to more age-inclusive health care, higher education and beyond. Our moderators will lead us in an engaging discussion with attendees on lessons learned and further opportunities to address ageism.

### ***President's Spotlight Session – Developing Your Disaster Preparedness Blueprint***

EAST O

*Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies*

*Dr. Lindsay Peterson, University of South Florida*

### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

One of the many reasons people either do not prepare for disasters, or do not fully prepare, is the anxiety they associate with being involved in a disaster. This same anxiety is often associated with other critical but difficult decision-making, such as advance care planning. Despite knowing it is essential to plan for challenging and complex events, the process can be overwhelming, and it can be difficult to even know where to start. In this workshop, attendees will begin to develop a blueprint for their own disaster planning as moderators walk them through the process of all-hazards preparedness, disaster mitigation, and response. Attendees will be coached to consider their own environments, identify potential hazards, mitigate avoidable challenges, and begin to build a sense of what they would do (before and after) in the event of a disaster. Further, they will be given tools to help others develop their own disaster plans. We will work from a scalable disaster preparation model, from a kitchen fire to a more widespread incident. Speakers will discuss available resources, including pilot test results of an app in development by Lindsay Peterson, PhD, to help caregivers develop disaster plans for themselves and those in their care. Lee Ann Ferguson, PhD, will discuss elements of her most recent webinar series on "Emergency Preparedness Essentials: Safety,

Care, and Recovery". This webinar series was held in October 2023 in a four-part series in partnership between the UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the Health Quality Innovation Network (HQIN). It reached nearly 200 attendees who represented a variety of professionals from the senior housing industry.

## **In the business of aging, you can find your way here.**

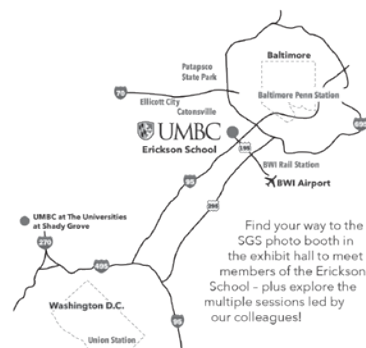
The longevity economy is changing the way we live. And in the Erickson School of Aging Studies at UMBC, our work is more vital than ever. We combine a passion for creating leaders in the business of aging with a connection to real-world applications that encourages your leadership and entrepreneurial thinking.

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On campus or online, full- or part-time, you can find your way to earn the following:

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- Minors in Management of Aging Services; Health, Wellness, and Aging; Aging Studies
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificates



*"The aging business in the longevity economy has a giant effect. It doesn't matter where your passion lies - if you like it, you can find it in the aging space."*

**Danny Rodriguez, M.A., '18**  
Management of Aging Services  
CEO, Thrive USA Home Care



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**THE ERICKSON SCHOOL  
OF AGING STUDIES**

## SUNDAY APRIL 6

9:15 AM – 10:45 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSION H (CONT.)

#### **The Role of Romantic Relationships Paper Session**

EAST D/E

This paper session will examine various aspects of relationships for older adults from romance scams to relationships and marriage to discussing the death of a romantic partner. *From Swipe to Swindle: A Systematic Review of Romance Scams Targeting Older Adults since the Onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic* will highlight key risk factors of romance fraud victimization and enhance digital safeguards for older adults on online dating platforms. *Psychosocial and Health Benefits of Age Gap Relationships* will highlight the health and social benefits of age-gap relationships. *A Proclivity for Generativity: African American Families Discussing Generational Marital Practices* will address a significant gap in existing literature and help to counter the deficit narratives often associated with African American families and marriages. *Opening Up Conversations about Loss? The Golden Bachelor and Bachelorette Discuss Grief* will examine popular media examples as better demonstrations for how to talk about grief that may be helpful to everyone and create more acceptance around dying.

***From Swipe to Swindle: A Systematic Review of Romance Scams Targeting Older Adults since the Onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic (Student Paper)***

Taylor Pope, Purdue University

ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

***Psychosocial and Health Benefits of Age Gap Relationships (Student Paper)***

Shanicqua Richardson, University of Tennessee College of Social Work

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***A Proclivity for Generativity: African American Families Discussing Generational Marital Practices***

Dr. Antonius Skipper, Georgia State University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

***Opening Up Conversations about Loss? The Golden Bachelor and Bachelorette Discuss Grief (Student Paper)***

Karen Hoefer, University of Alabama at Birmingham

ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

#### **Mental Health & Aging Paper Session**

EAST F/G

This paper session will explore factors affecting the mental health of older adults. *Perceived Difficulties and Distress: Predictors of Well-Being in Individuals with Dementia* will examine how individuals with dementia perceive different aspects of their illness and how these perceptions affect their overall well-being, including quality of life, depression, and anxiety. *Psychosocial Well-being of Older Adults in Rural Appalachia: Do Pets Make a Difference?* will explore the impact of pets on the psychosocial well-being of older adults in rural southern Appalachia, given the unique and potentially relevant cultural features of this area. *Examining Daily Stress and Mental Health in Hispanic and Latinx Dementia Caregivers: Implications for Culturally Responsive Interventions* will provide an overview of findings from a national study examining how daily caregiving-related stress, non-caregiving-related stress, discrimination, and perceived isolation influence daily depressive and anxiety symptoms among Hispanic and Latinx caregivers.

***Perceived Difficulties and Distress: Predictors of Well-Being in Individuals with Dementia***

Dr. Amanda MacNeil, Longwood University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Psychosocial Well-being of Older Adults in Rural Appalachia: Do Pets Make a Difference?***

Dr. Emily Dakin, Appalachian State University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

***Examining Daily Stress and Mental Health in Hispanic and Latinx Dementia Caregivers: Implications for Culturally Responsive Interventions***

Dr. Frank Puga, University of Alabama at Birmingham

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

#### **President's Spotlight Session – The Minority Caregiver Experience Paper Session**

EAST I/J

This paper session will feature the unique experiences of minority caregivers. *Who are we?: Experiences and Perceptions of Latino Immigrant Caregivers to People Living with Dementia* will discuss how to foster a better understanding of the health needs of Latino immigrant dementia caregivers and provide insights for healthcare professionals, community partners, and researchers to enhance support for this underserved group. *How Caregiving Influences Custodial African*

*American Grandmothers' Outlook on Life* will highlight how custodial grandmothers experience resilience and positivity under challenging conditions and explore how caregiving influences their perception of their physical and mental well-being. *The Invisible Caregiver: Shining a Light on Black Youth Dementia Caregiver's Experiences* will explore the untold stories of Black youth, aged 14-17, who provide care for family members living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD). *Race, Identity, and Caregiving in Aging Communities: A Reflexive Inquiry* will explore how historical and social systems shape caregiving and aging, especially for those pushed to the margins.

***Who are we?: Experiences and Perceptions of Latino Immigrant Caregivers to People Living with Dementia (Student Paper)***

Mayra Sainz, Emory University

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

***How Caregiving Influences Custodial African American Grandmothers' Outlook on Life***

Dr. Dorothy Smith-Ruiz & Jerena McNeil, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

***The Invisible Caregiver: Shining a Light on Black Youth Dementia Caregiver's Experiences (Student Paper)***

Janelle Gore, The University of Alabama

CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

***Race, Identity, and Caregiving in Aging Communities: A Reflexive Inquiry***

Dr. Karel Kalaw, University of Central Oklahoma

DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION I

***President's Spotlight Session – Change is Hard: Top 10 Lessons from Implementing a Safe Mobility Program***

EAST N

Dr. David James, University of Alabama at Birmingham

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Discover actionable insights from implementing a comprehensive safe mobility program at a large academic medical center. This session will explore the intersection of mobility and the IHI 4Ms framework, focusing on strategies to reduce hospital-acquired

disability and enhance Age-Friendly care. Presenters will share key lessons learned, including the roles of nursing, acute therapy, and Mobility Techs in maintaining and restoring patient function. Using Lewin's Change Theory and the IHI Model for Improvement, attendees will engage in an interactive discussion on overcoming barriers, navigating challenges, and fostering collaboration in building a culture of safe mobility. This session offers practical tools and lessons applicable across clinical and community settings, welcoming a diverse audience of healthcare professionals, educators, students, and community partners committed to advancing Age-Friendly initiatives.

***President's Spotlight Session – Project RECLAIM: Reduce Clutter and Increase Meaning in Your Life!***

EAST O

Dr. Mary Dozier, Mississippi State University

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

This workshop will provide an overview of Project RECLAIM (Reduce Clutter and Increase Meaning in your life!), a behavioral intervention for late life hoarding disorder. The presentation is designed for anyone who is interested in learning evidence-based techniques to help older adults de-clutter to help them age in place. We will provide an overview of how motivational interviewing can be used for late life hoarding disorder and how to implement these techniques across a variety of settings, as well as review the theoretical background and evidence on the efficacy of the intervention. Using a simple behavioral intervention facilitated through motivational interviewing, we have found that Project RECLAIM helps older adults to reclaim their homes and to reclaim their lives.



## SUNDAY APRIL 6

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSION I (CONT.)



#### **LGBTQ Older Adults**

EAST D/E

*Dr. Jeffrey Lentz, Emory University*

#### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and questioning, plus (LGBTQ+) older adult population continues to age and is at risk for utilizing long-term care services, among other care settings and services. This poses an issue for long-term care service administrators and staff as they are not prepared to provide inclusive quality care for LGBTQ+ older adults. In order to give quality inclusive care to LGBTQ+ adults and build bridges for community collaboration, long-term care administrators and staff, as well as other care partners, need to have a basic understanding of terms, history, trauma, and intolerance of LGBTQ+ people, and their experiences throughout their life course. In addition, learn how to make their communities safe, welcoming, and inclusive for LGBTQ+ older adults. This workshop will give participants an overview and best practices for working with older LGBTQ+ adults in personal care homes, assisted living communities, nursing homes, and other care settings. Topics include terms, historical trauma, discrimination, prejudice, dementia, statistics, and resources to make communities safe, welcoming, and inclusive.

#### ***Social Workers and the Retiring Older Adult: Applying the Resource-Based Dynamic Model to Enhance Outcomes***

EAST F/G

*Dr. Kathryn Roosevelt, University of Kentucky*

#### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

This presentation explores a theoretical framework for addressing psychological outcomes in retirement through research. Designed for practitioners, educators and students, this session highlights social work practice recommendations from a conceptual space. Attendees will learn about retirement planning, retirement resources and ways to improve engagement and/or services for the aging population. Through interactive discussion and evidence-based insights, attendees will develop an understanding surrounding needs and develop some practical tools

to enhance their work. Implications for practice, policy, and education are discussed, emphasizing how these efforts shape the future of gerontological social work.

#### ***Compassionate Conversations for Caregivers*** EAST I/J

*Gwenyth Johnson, Vivid HealthStyle/Center for Compassionate Aging*

#### **CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS**

Compassion may seem like second nature but for many reasons we have moved from our hearts to our head. We listen to others wondering what we should say next, what do they want, what do I want, and so on, not really hearing what the speaker has to say. So much of the communication relationship is developed in between the words. Becoming a compassionate listener and communicator means hearing what the speaker's heart is saying and understanding their experience. Learning the skills of compassion and listening can help to de-stress the communication relationship.

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

#### ***CLOSING KEYNOTE - Building Bridges Over Troubled Waters***

BALLROOM B

*Bob Blancato, Matz, Blancato & Associates*

#### **ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS**



The new administration and new Congress have brought unprecedented challenges in the aging policy space. However, these changes also bring opportunities to build community in our network and to work to protect and strengthen essential aging

services. Join Bob Blancato, based in the nation's capital, to hear about the aging policy and advocacy landscape, and our collective role in this process.



# Virtual Presentations

Following the Annual Meeting & Conference, all attendees will receive links to the following presentations that were not able to join us in person.

## ***Addressing Physical Inactivity in Older Adults: Socioecological Barriers and Solutions Across Rural Communities (Student Paper)***

*Lydia Hoskins & Dr. Jodi Southerland, East Tennessee State University*

### **DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES**

This session is designed for public health practitioners, community leaders, and policymakers, offering actionable strategies to address common urban and rural disparities in physical activity among older adults. It emphasizes the importance of leveraging community strengths to create impactful, sustainable interventions. Attendees will gain insights into fostering diverse partnerships and implementing evidence-based solutions to increase physical activity opportunities for older adults in any community. The session highlights interconnected barriers to physical activity—spanning individual, organizational, and community levels—and the need for holistic, place-based interventions tailored to older adults. By involving the target population (i.e., older adults) in the planning process, programs can enhance self-efficacy, relevance, and accessibility, particularly in underserved and rural areas. This discussion will empower attendees to create targeted, inclusive strategies that promote active lifestyles and improve the well-being of older populations.

## ***Dementia and Particle Pollution: Implications for Older Adults***

*Dr. Andrea Jennings, Northeast Ohio VA Healthcare System*

### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Millions of people are living with dementia and this number is expected to increase in the future. The purpose of this presentation is to examine if these cases of dementia are thought to be linked to modifiable risk factors such as exposure to air pollution, specifically to fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), which have been reported to induce inflammation in the brain and may be linked to

the development and progression of dementia.

Air pollutants are thought to have the capability of entering the bloodstream and moving into the brain, causing neural inflammation and may contribute to the onset of dementia. Conceptually when examining the link between air pollutants and dementia, models in the literature typically are examining sources (i.e., PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>1</sub>), vulnerable populations (i.e., those with chronic illnesses, older adults, children, people of color, smokers, those living in poverty, and Veterans ), exposure routes (i.e., emissions from various sources such as factories, vehicles, wood burning devices, fires etc.), dose of the particles (how much exposure), impact of the human body (i.e., heart and brain ). Results from research studies in this arena of particle pollution and dementia can illustrate the importance of having environmental health policies in place. An increased understanding between the link of dementia and particle pollution is needed and can aid in the mitigation efforts in addressing this issue.

## ***Exploring the Issue of Social Isolation in Northeast Tennessee (Student Paper)***

*Aimee Rowe, East Tennessee State University*

### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Social isolation is a real problem with very real health implications. This issue continues to grow each year. To fully understand the issue of social isolation in older adults, it is important to examine it from all points of view closely. This study investigates the issue of social isolation from the perspective of those individuals who see first-hand the experiences of older adults. All individuals interviewed for the study interact with older adults regularly. Study participants include a researcher, community leader, organizational director, and a nursing assistant. Their observations and experiences shed light on the daily experiences of those older adults with limited social interaction. Interviews explored contributing factors to isolation, as well as suggesting potential solutions to the issue.

# Virtual Presentations

**Improving Older Adults' Diabetes Self-Management Through a Community-Clinical Partnership**

*Lydia Hoskins, Dr. Soghra Jarvandi & Laura Williams, University of Tennessee Extension*

**AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Diabetes impacts over 30% of adults 65+ This session highlights the Health Extension for Diabetes (HED) program, which uses a Social Ecological Model to empower older adults with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes through sustainable lifestyle changes. Learn how partnerships with senior centers, housing organizations, and healthcare providers enhance participant engagement, increase knowledge, and improve outcomes. Discover strategies for fostering age-friendly, community-driven health promotion and building meaningful collaborations to support older adults.

**Perceptions of Physical Activity Among Women Aged 45-64 with Colorectal Cancer: A Systematic Review (Student Paper)**

*Jacob Callahan, Elle O'Donnell & Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine*

**AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

The perception of physical activity in women with colorectal cancer is vague. The aim of this systematic review was to examine the perception of physical activity in women with colorectal cancer. A systematic review was developed in accordance with PRISMA 2020. Relevant databases of PubMed and CINAHL were analyzed for studies published between 2004-2024. Articles were included if they: (1) included female patients who were between 45 and 65 years; (2) were written in English; and (3) were full-text available. Three authors independently screened titles, abstracts and full papers. A total of 79 articles and eight were selected in this systematic review. This review highlights the importance of physical activity for women aged 45-65 diagnosed with colorectal cancer. However, there is a need for more comprehensive, long-term studies in this area.

**Sports-Related Head Injury Associated with Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review (Student Paper)**

*Hannah Brady, Anthony Castro & Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine*

**AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

The effectiveness of treatments on Alzheimer's disease on athletes who have sports-related head injuries are vague. The aim of this systematic review was to examine the impact of cognitive behavioral therapy on Alzheimer's disease among athletes with sports-related head injuries. A systematic review was developed in accordance with PRISMA 2020. Relevant databases of PubMed and Cochrane were analyzed for studies published between 2013-2024. Articles were included if they included: (1) Alzheimer's disease; (2) athletes with sports-related head injuries; (3) cognitive behavioral therapy; (4) randomized control trials; (5) cohort studies; (6) longitudinal studies; (7) cross-sectional studies; (8) observational studies; (9) case reports; and (10) systematic reviews. Three authors independently screened titles, abstracts and full papers. A total of 249 articles and 31 were selected in this systematic review. Studies were from North America (N = 7), followed by Europe (N = 3), Australia (N = 1) and many from global multi-region sources (N = 20) and included cross-sectional (N = 5), observational (N = 2), longitudinal (N = 3), cohort (N = 1), randomized control-trials (N = 2), double-blind randomized control trials (N = 1), case reports (N = 1), and systematic reviews (N = 16). Of the 31 articles, we found the overall quality of evidence was moderate, with 2 articles being of low quality due to being observational studies. This review was anticipated to yield clinically meaningful insight on the impact of cognitive behavioral therapy on Alzheimer's disease among athletes with sports-related head injuries.

# Virtual Presentations

## **Systematic Review: Impact of Aerobic Exercises on Alzheimer's Disease Risk in Adults with Traumatic Brain Injury (Student Paper)**

*John Brown, Kristelle Gonzalez & Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine*

### **AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a major public health issue, affecting millions of adults globally and increasing the risk for neurodegenerative diseases, especially Alzheimer's disease. The effectiveness of aerobic exercise on Alzheimer's disease is obscure. The aim of this systematic review was to examine the impact of aerobic exercise on Alzheimer's disease in adults with traumatic brain injury. A systematic review was developed in accordance with PRISMA 2020. Relevant databases of PubMed and Web of Science were analyzed for studies published between 2000-2024. Articles were included if they: (1) were in English, (2) involved adults ( $\geq 18$  years) with traumatic brain injury; and (3) compared aerobic exercise to no exercise. Four authors independently screened titles, abstracts and full papers. The methodological quality of the included studies was assessed using the Cochrane Risk of Bias tool. A total of 97 articles and 13 were selected in this systematic review. Among the 13 studies, there were a total of 7,599 participants. The studies included 2 randomized controlled trials, 5 observational studies, 4 narrative reviews, and 2 systematic reviews. Participants, aged 18-75, were from various countries and included both males and females. This review was anticipated to yield clinically meaningful insight on the benefits of aerobic exercise on Alzheimer's disease among adults with traumatic brain injury.

## **Thinking Outside the Box for Geriatric Training**

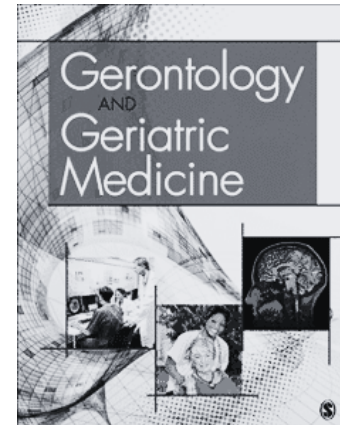
*Dr. TimMarie Chloe' Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine  
Dr. Jennifer Severance & Dr. Keri Christensen, University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth - Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Dr. Mary Hogan, Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine*

### **GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Demographers predict that by 2030 the population of individuals aged 65 and over in the United States may be as high as 72 million people, representing 20% of the entire population. Given these realities, most health professionals will work with older adult patients, regardless of their specialty. Yet, studies reveal a shortage of health professionals (doctors) educated and trained to care for aging Americans. As such, there is a need to infuse age-friendly education producing high quality care, improved clinical outcomes, and elevated provider satisfaction in diverse social and environmental conditions. Join us as we describe the tenets of age-friendly care and identify possible strategies and outcomes of team-based models of pre-clinical and clinical education, highlighting results from the evaluation of programs that utilize age-friendly programs focusing on the four "M's" – what matters, mobility, medication, and mentation. Evaluation results will demonstrate the need for age-friendly programs that incorporate an awareness of the considerations required for the provision of care in this age group. We will address barriers to the implementation of training and the measurement of training outcomes.



# WRITING A PAPER?



***Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG)*** provides an international forum for information that has clear and immediate applicability to the health, care, and quality of life of older adults. Published monthly, it brings you comprehensive coverage of all areas of gerontological practice and policy, such as caregiving, exercise, death and dying, ethnicity and aging, technology and care, long-term services and support, mental health, and sexuality.

**<https://journals.sagepub.com/home/jag>**

***Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine (GGM)*** is an interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open access journal focusing on the psychological, behavioral, social, and biological aspects of aging. The journal addresses a wide variety of topics in gerontology and geriatrics, including health economics, health services research, health outcomes, public health, medicine, biology, equity, social science, epidemiology, demography, and nursing. GGM reflects the global importance and interest in this subject area and its particular relevance to countries that are experiencing an exponential growth in older population. SGS members receive a discount on publishing fees. **<https://journals.sagepub.com/home/ggm>**

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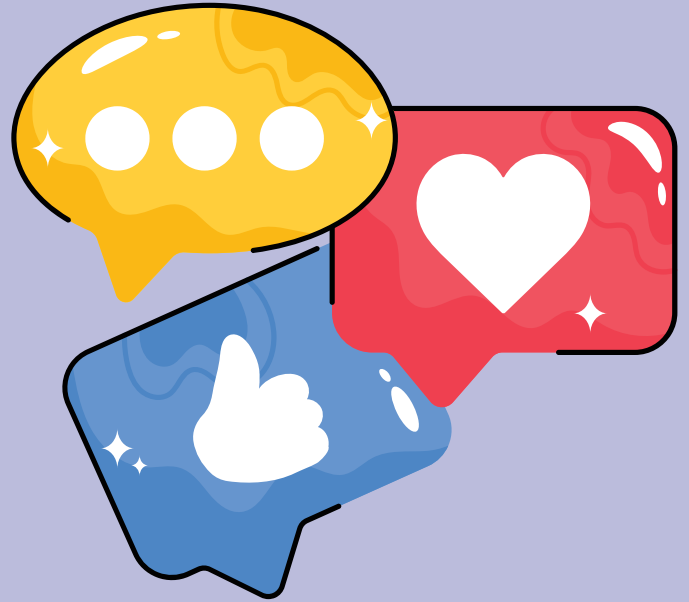
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