



# SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

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## ***In This Issue***

***President's  
Message***

***Call for  
Nominations for  
Annual Awards***

***SGS Contact  
Information***

***Call for  
Submission for  
29<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Meeting***

***SGS Membership  
info***

***Welcome New  
Members***

***Calendar***

***Announcements***

## ***President's Message*** **Gerontologists of the South! Unite in Atlanta!**

As gerontologists, we share a common cause. Our aim is to learn as much about aging and old people as we can, share that knowledge with others, and use that knowledge to improve the lives of today's elders and our future selves. We increase our chance of reaching that goal by attending the annual meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society. The next such meeting is now scheduled for Atlanta on April 17-20, 2008, and I invite you and your colleagues and students to plan to attend this signal event.

The meeting this year will be different in several ways. First, the theme—Gerontology at the Cutting Edge—is a goal rather than a topic and is intended to convey our intent to bring to all of us the best thinking, the best scholars, the most creative policy and service providers, and the latest developments in our swiftly changing field. All of us struggle to keep up with our own narrow topical area, and maintaining a grasp of the whole field of aging sometimes seems impossible. Professional meetings are perhaps the only chance we have to explore and learn outside our special interests, and this year's SGS meeting is designed to help all of us accomplish that.

In addition to our usual lineup of posters, symposia, and roundtables submitted by our members and attendees, we will emphasize cutting edge ideas delivered by some of the most senior and visible scholars and policy workers in the field. Already committed to appear (with native or adopted home in parentheses) are: Erdman Palmore (North Carolina), Charles Longino (Mississippi), Robert Binstock, Jim McAuley (North Carolina), Ed Ansello (Virginia), Paula Dressel (Georgia), Sarah Gueldner (Tennessee), Steve Cutler (North Carolina), Lynne Hodgson (Maryland), Graham Rowles (Kentucky), and Malcolm Cutchin (Kentucky). Keynoting the conference will be the distinguished gerontologist, Dr. Robert Butler.

In keeping with Graham Rowles's call to our organization to examine the South as a special venue for aging and gerontology, we also will focus as much as possible on southern innovations and southern people. Not all of our speakers will hail from these parts or have spent many years here, but we do plan to celebrate our own and bring "home" some of our nation's finest gerontologists who grew up or were educated here. No offense to anyone who has no southern connection; we sympathize with you. We just think it will be great to share time and ideas with some of our native sons and daughters.

With this year's meeting, SGS will continue its commitment to building bridges between community leaders and professionals in the field of aging and providing many opportunities to share and apply knowledge. On behalf of the Executive Board of SGS, I cordially invite you to join us by contributing your original work.

**Frank Whittington**  
**President**

## ***Call for Nominations for Annual Awards***

The Board of Directors Issues An Invitation for 2008 Awards Nominations. Presentations will be made at the 29th Annual Meeting in Atlanta on April 17-20, 2008. The **deadline for submission of nominations is February 15, 2008.**

### **GENERAL CRITERIA**

Must be completed for all nominations

- ◆ Nominees for the Academic Gerontologist and Applied Gerontologist must be a member of SGS.
- ◆ Nominee must have demonstrated evidence of significant service to SGS.
- ◆ Nominee must have demonstrated evidence of significant contribution to the field of aging and the development of gerontology in the South.
- ◆ Three letters of support must be provided.

### **SPECIFIC CRITERIA**

Complete for the particular award for which the person has been nominated

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

- ◆ Nominee must be affiliated with an academic institution, be involved in developing training in aging and/or have completed research that has contributed to the quality of life of older people.
- ◆ Nominee must have shown leadership with and contribution to professional organizations and organizations which serve older people.
- ◆ Nominee must show evidence of significant publications.
- ◆ Nominee must show evidence of significant teaching influence with students and/or training of service providers or educators.

### **Applied Gerontologist Award**

- ◆ Nominee must have a sustained record of leadership in the field of aging as evidenced by position(s) of paid employment and/or organizational involvement (e.g. appointed or elected positions in related local, state or regional organizations).
- ◆ Nominee must demonstrate recognition in the field, as evidenced by awards conferred by related organizations.
- ◆ Nominee must have demonstrated development of innovative programs such as applications of findings/approaches to research, education, management or services delivery (with emphasis on application).
- ◆ Nominee must have shown evidence of presentations to community organizations.
- ◆ Nominee must have demonstrated having impact on the quality of life of older persons (e.g. training others for leadership, advocacy, etc.)

### **Rhoda L. Jennings Older Advocate Award**

- ◆ Nominee must have demonstrated effective advocacy for and/or leadership among older adults in the Southern region.
- ◆ Nominee may be identified through previous recognition by local, state and/or national groups, or by volunteer groups.
- ◆ Nominee must be age 65 or older.
- ◆ Nominee should be a potential role model for successful aging through innovative contributions to society after 65.

### **Best Practices Award**

Nominated agencies/corporate partners must demonstrate *at least one* of the following:

- ◆ Innovative and creative linkage with the aging services network
- ◆ Significant involvement in aging services within the SGS region
- ◆ Evidence of sustained effort and substantial impact on improving the quality of life of older adults
- ◆ Opportunities offered in the field of aging

### **Media Award**

- ◆ Any media is eligible for the award, although their contribution should be to further understanding of aging in the region.
- ◆ The product may be a single effort or part of a continuing series
- ◆ The media product should have been produced since January, 2005
- ◆ The nomination must indicate how the media product contributes to the mission of SGS.
- ◆ Three copies of the media product should be submitted with the application. If the product is available on-line, the URL should be provided

## ***SGS Contact Information***

Lora Gage, SGS Executive Director

Lgage4sgs@aol.com

Web address

<http://www.wfu.edu/academics/gerontology/sgs/>

Office phone and Fax: 941 541-2011

## **Call for Submissions to the Annual Meeting**

Deadline: January 7, 2008

We know that you will learn much about aging and serving older persons and improving their lives if you participate in the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society. Please consider submitting your work.

The theme is **Gerontology at the Cutting Edge** and our Society is interested in the newest, 'bestest' thinking on aging research, services and educational strategies. Along with presentations by major leaders in the field such as Robert Butler, Erdman Palmore, Gordon Streib, Bob Binstock, Jim McAuley, Graham Rowles, **we need you**. Your contributions and your presence at the meeting will ensure that the ideas and techniques and perspectives from a wide variety of gerontologists will spread and take root throughout our states.

We are seeking sessions from the whole range of those working and studying how to improve the lives of older persons -- researchers, entrepreneurs, providers, practitioners, analysts, advocates, students, and elders. Please submit a presentation. Please join us in Atlanta.

For guidelines and details on submissions to the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, in Atlanta, Georgia, April 17-20, 2008, please go to the SGS website at <http://www.wfu.edu/academics/gerontology/sgs>

## **SGS Membership: What's In It For You? How Do You Join?**

**SGS Annual Conference & Meeting:** Leadership & Professional Networking

**Publications:** the *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, the *Southern Gerontologist Newsletter*, the *SGS Membership Directory*

**Student privileges:** Membership discount, Conference registration discount, Networking & Leadership opportunities, Job contacts

For more information contact **Lora Gage:** [Lgage4sgs@aol.com](mailto:Lgage4sgs@aol.com) She will gladly send you an application and information. Don't miss the opportunity to become a member of a group of the South's most respected gerontology professionals.

JOIN TODAY!

**Welcome to New Members**

Althea Taylor Jones - NC  
Deborah Farmer - NC

Hyungsoo Kim - KY  
Moneda Grimes – TN

## ***Hey Students, Get Involved....***

The SGS Annual Meeting is *the* place to be. What students can do at SGS Meeting?: Submit a poster or paper, assist in sessions, network with other students, put on a special session or panel for and with students, scout around for potential jobs, submit for the outstanding paper award and most of all...make your professors look good! **And did we say – scout around for jobs?** For more information, contact your student representative: Dianne M. O'Donnell, [dodonnell3@student.gsu.edu](mailto:dodonnell3@student.gsu.edu)

### **Outstanding Student Paper Award Deadline: Feb 15, 2008 Student Paper Competition**

SGS strongly encourages abstract submissions from students and will offer an award of \$500 for the best paper authored principally by a student. To be eligible, a student should submit an abstract. See Call for Submissions for the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SGS. Students should indicate on the submission that they plan to seek the SGS Student Paper Award. Upon notification of acceptance for a presentation at the Annual Meeting, students who wish to be considered for the award must then submit a letter of support from a faculty advisor and an electronic version of the paper by February 15, 2008, to Richard Tucker, Ph.D., Chair, Awards Committee, Southern Gerontological Society, Department of Psychology, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL 32816-1390. E-mail: [rtucker@ucf.edu](mailto:rtucker@ucf.edu).

### **VAA STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The **Virginia Association on Aging Student Research Scholarship Award** is a grant that has been established to encourage the presentation of the results of research or scholarly activity from student members of SGS. See Call for Papers for more information. To obtain an application contact Lora Gage at 239-541-2011 or [LGage4SGS@aol.com](mailto:LGage4SGS@aol.com)

## **SGS Member News**

**Lennie Poon**, University of Georgia, will receive the Clarke Tibbitt Award from AGHE at their 2008 annual meeting.

**Paul W. Foos**, Department of Psychology, UNC: Charlotte and **Cherie Clark** are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and the publication of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of their book *Human Aging* (Allyn & Bacon).

**Dena Shenk**, Director of the Gerontology Program and Professor of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, has been named the Director of Research for The Laurels Highland Creek assisted living facility and The Haven Highland Creek, a special care facility for people with dementia.

**Christine J. Jensen** was recently featured on Health Talk Radio as a participant in a show entitled "You Have Alzheimer's: Now What?" Her co-panelist was Richard Taylor, Ph.D., a well-known psychologist who has been diagnosed with early-onset AD. Downloads of the audio are available at:

[http://www.healthtalk.com/alzheimersdementia/programs/26\\_791/index.cfm](http://www.healthtalk.com/alzheimersdementia/programs/26_791/index.cfm)

**Austin R. Curry**, Executive Director of Elder Care Advocacy of Florida, received the 2007 Dr. Carter Osterbind Award as Outstanding Member of the Florida Council on Aging at the annual FCOA Conference held in Miami August 13 -16, 2007.

**Sandy McGuire** published the following article: McGuire, S. L., & Mefford, L. (2007). Growing up and growing older. *The Journal of School Nursing*, 23 (1)2, 80-85 about the school nurses' role in helping to prepare children for the long life ahead of them and present aging education resources and activities

**Patricia Ernst**, Director, Community Relations for Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast, Inc. is proud that the agency received the Leadership as Innovator in Aging Programs Award from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, one of only two such awards given out this year.

**Angela M. Redwine** successfully defended her dissertation "Perceptions and Abilities Over The Rehabilitation Trajectory: A Study of Post ICU Recovery". Congratulations Dr. Angela M. Redwine.

**David Dran**, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, presented an individual paper on original qualitative research *A Heart for the Job: Caring for Residential Elderly in a Time of Shortages* about the deep satisfactions residential facility caregivers experience despite an ever growing shortage of personnel at the **Alzheimer's Association Dementia Care Conference** in Chicago in August, 2007.

**Barbara Karcher** just retired from Kennesaw State University and was named Professor Emerita. Also the Georgia Sociological Association has named her Georgia Sociologist of the Year at the annual meeting in Athens GA.

**Frank Whittington**, Director of the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of *The Gerontologist* and will assume the position of Book Review Editor of *TG* , effective January 1.

**Candace Kemp** has joined the faculty of the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University as assistant professor.

**Mary Ball** of the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Applied Gerontology* and has been named a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America.

**Sharon King** of the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University (with 4 co-authors) has received the first David A. Peterson Award from the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education for best article appearing in the Association's journal, *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, during 2005. The article describes Georgia State's research and teaching partnership with Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya.

**Elisabeth Burgess** of the Sociology Department at Georgia State University has been appointed Director of Graduate Studies for the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State.

**Connie Coogle**, our immediate past president, married David Banks on August 22, 2007.

**Jim Cotter** and **Ayn Welleford**, two long term SGS members, married on August 25, 2007.

(Clearly Virginia is for Lovers)

## **CALENDAR**

For those of you interested in upcoming conferences, check out the Gerontological Society of America's listing at <http://www.geron.org/USCalendar.htm>. Here's a listing of a few of the more general conferences coming up.

### **November 14-16, 2007**

The Future of Human Healthspan: Demography, Evolution, Medicine, and Bioengineering Conference, Irvine, CA. A conference to bring together the nation's best and brightest researchers from academia, industry, and government laboratories to ask questions about -- and to discover interdisciplinary connections between -- important areas of cutting-edge research. Applications for attendance available at [www.keckfutures.org/healthspan](http://www.keckfutures.org/healthspan).

### **November 16-20, 2007**

**San Francisco**

**60th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Gerontological Society of America.**

[geron@geron.org](mailto:geron@geron.org)

### **December 6-8, 2007**

St. Petersburg, FL

The 2007 National Positive Aging Conference - Beyond the Cutting Edge.

[www.eckerd.edu/positiveAging](http://www.eckerd.edu/positiveAging).

### **February 21-24, 2008**

Baltimore, MD

The 2008 AGHE Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference will be held February 21-24, in Baltimore, Maryland.

[www.aghe.org](http://www.aghe.org)

## ***Job Opening***

The College of Public Health at the University of Georgia is seeking applicants to the position of Head in the Department of Health Policy and Management. The candidate must have attained the rank of Associate or Full Professor. An applicant who works with aging issues or with the older populations are welcomed as the College is looking for senior faculty in aging and to complement the work at the College's Institute of Gerontology. Questions and additional information could be forwarded to Dr. Leonard Poon, Director, Institute of Gerontology, and Interim Chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, University of Georgia (Email: [lpoon@geron.uga.edu](mailto:lpoon@geron.uga.edu), tel: 706-425-3222).