

SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

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J. James Cotter and Jo Ann O'Quin, Editors

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Much has happened since the last Newsletter. I put together a 'home boy' SGS exhibit for the GSA conference in Atlanta complete with Thanksgiving color scheme, pilgrim, and a turkey. The four- by eight-foot glossy poster mounted on a tri-fold framed plywood display board that I fashioned (and amazingly fit into our Toyota Prius) seemed to do the job. Staffing the exhibit offered an opportunity to visit with friends, extol the virtues of SGS and Richmond in April, explain the SGS Annual Meeting theme (Applied Gerontology as Community Engagement), chastise those whom I though should attend but were unable to do so, and give away 400 little race cars supplied by the Richmond Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau. The race cars were clearly the most popular item in the exhibit hall. A number of people indicated their intention to submit an abstract in response to the SGS Call for Presentations. In the spirit of we're all in this together, GSA staff waived the rather stiff exhibit fee for SGS with understanding that GSA would exhibit at our April meeting with the same arrangement. Given the success of the exhibit, it would be good to formalize the expectation that SGS and GSA (and probably AGHE) will exhibit at each other's annual meetings.

Response to the December 1 deadline for submission of abstracts for the Richmond meeting was good. I do not know the number of submissions through the SGS website but Program Co-Chairs Dena Shenk, Cynthia Hancock, and Louise Murray (SGS Student representative) have sent acceptance notices and drafted the Preliminary Program. Apparently there were a number of poster submissions by students. To reinforce the importance of student participation in the annual meeting, I am pleased to announce (pending final SGS Executive Board action) approval of the Program Co-Chairs' request that there be a student poster competition with cash award at the April meeting in Richmond. With Local Arrangements help from Ed Ansello and VCU colleagues, the much-appreciated work of the Program Co-Chairs, and Lora Gage's institutional memory and experience, I'm confident that

those attending the April meeting will enjoy themselves thanks to the hard work of many dedicated people.

Unlike large formal organizations that rely heavily upon staff support, SGS <u>is</u> a member-responsive and member-governed organization. This is evidenced by the enthusiasm and preparation for the 2010 annual meeting in Richmond. It is extremely important that we continue to find ways to incorporate members into the SGS organization.

The next few months also offer an opportunity to continue dialogue with Leigh Schield (President of the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging) and Graham Rowles (past SGS President and president of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education) about our common organizational interests. The complimentary visions and missions of these organizations are timely and pertinent and there is much that can be accomplished by working together. Although a programmatic response to the latest NIA request for proposals featuring academic and community partnerships would have been premature, I am committed to doing what I can to encourage development of a Southeastern Applied Research on Aging graduate training initiative of SGS in partnership with these two organizations.

Prior to the holiday break, I received the call for presentations for the annual conference of the National Council on Aging and the American Society on Aging. Whether limited to joint annual meetings or indicative of organizational merger, arrangements such as this and efforts to further integrate the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education with the Gerontological Society of America can threaten the identity and the autonomy of the smaller organization. Institutional memories are short and mutual trust built upon personal relationships can be eroded by organizational and fiduciary expediency. I believe that smaller regional organizations have a place in the gerontological academy. Large organizations, including those created by merger, relinquish organizational innovation and initiative that comes with active member and elected leadership involvement to the maintenance of organizational status quo by paid staff.

I am pleased that you in the SGS community responded to the need to continue to promote the SGS mission by responding to the Call for Presentations for the 2010 meeting in Richmond. My intention is that the meeting will reinforce the notion that applied gerontology is an avenue to improve the lives of older people and those who care for them through scientifically-legitimate work grounded in academic and provider partnership.

All the best for your spring semester and the new decade and I'll see you in Richmond.

Jim Mitchell,

SGS in Richmond April 7-10, 2010

We look forward to seeing you in Richmond this April for what promises to be a very exciting Annual Meeting. The theme of the Annual Meeting, to be held April 7-10 in Richmond, Virginia, is "Applied Gerontology as Community Engagement." The Program Committee has developed a full and exciting program of symposia, workshops, paper sessions and poster presentations from the diverse submissions received from the members. There will be five Presidential Symposia that will be held along with a range of concurrent sessions throughout the meeting. There will be something for everyone and we already know that the challenge will be choosing which of the six sessions to attend during each time slot. Come, join us and reconnect with your friends and colleagues at one of the best venues in the South, the Jefferson Hotel.

The Jefferson Hotel

This historic hotel, opened in 1895, is known for its luxurious amenities and access to all the attractions of Richmond. It is an architecturally superb building and its grand staircase is rumored to have been the inspiration for the staircase in Gone With the Wind. The Jefferson Hotel has 262 luxurious guest rooms that feature 57 delightfully different styles, all with unusually high ceilings, tall windows and custom-designed furnishings. Thoughtfully and tastefully decorated with mahogany armoires, refined art work, and custom-woven carpets, the look is richly residential. Options range from the superior queen to the Jefferson Suite. Trust us who live in Richmond, it's worth it to come to SGS this year just to stay at the Jefferson. You must check out the hotel at http://www.jeffersonhotel.com/

A full conference schedule in a beautiful venue promises to make this an Annual Meeting we'll be talking about for many years.

Program Co-Chairs: Dena Shenk, Cynthia Hancock, Louise Murray

Southern Gerontological Society Awards Nominations The Board of Directors Issues An Invitation for 2010 Awards Nominations

Presentations will be made at the 31st Annual Meeting
The Jefferson Hotel – Richmond, Virginia
April 7 – 10, 2010

Deadline for Submission of Nominations – February 15, 2010

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 Awards Nomination Form			
E-mail nomination(s) with three (3) letters of support by February 15, 2010 to: James Peacock, Ph.D., e-mail: peacockjr@appstate.edu			
Name of nominee	Daytime phone		
Address	Agency or other affiliation		
City/State/Zip	Position		
AWARD BEING NOMINATED FOR — Check of Gordon Streib Academic Gerontologist Award Award Applied Gerontologist Award Best Practices Award Media A	Rhoda L. Jennings Older Advocate		
BASIS FOR NOMINATION - On a separate sheet(s), cite the following: <i>General Qualifications</i> (for all nominations)—Cite those general achievements which qualify the candidate for receiving an award from SGS. <i>Specific Qualifications</i> (varies by award)—Cite those achievements which qualify the candidate for the particular award.			
Name of person(s) submitting nomination	Address		
Daytime phone	City/State/Zip		

STUDENT PAPER AWARD

SGS encourages student submissions and offers a \$500 award for the best paper(s) authored principally by a student. To be eligible, *students should submit an abstract using the on-line submission procedure, indicating that they want their work considered for 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, 2010, to Cynthia Hancock, Ph.D., Co-Chair, SGS Awards Committee. E-mail: chancock@uncc.edu.

PREVIOUS SGS AWARD WINNERS

Gordon Streib Academic Gerontologist	Applied Gerontologist	Rhoda Jennings Distinguished Older Advocate
1985 – Gordon F. Streib	1985 – Margaret Lynn	1987 – Rhoda Jennings
	Duggar	
1987 – Barbara P. Payne	1986 – Paul E. Wilson	1989 – Eleanor Richardson
1988 – Vira R. Kivett	1987 – Dexter L. Burley	1990 – Margaret H. Jacks
1989 – Erdman Palmore	1988 – Kay H. Hind	1991 – C. Colburn Hardy
1990 – Edward F. Ansello	1990 – Paul D. Cotton	1993 – Georgia R. Duggins
1991 – William J. McAuley	1993 – Thelma E. Bland	1994 – Betty Friedan
1993 – Charles F. Longino	1994 – William S. Massey	1995 – Florence L. Price
1994 – Raymond Coward	1995 – Mary Anne Hilker	1996 – Daisy L. Bates
1995 – Joan B. Wood	1996 – Curtis B. Clark	1997 – Stanley C. Walker
1996 – Rosemary Blieszner	1997 – John Skirven	1998 – Pauline Gore
1997 – Graham Rowles	1998 – Gloria Anderson	1999 – Rosalyn Carter
	Ducker	
1997 – Lorin Baumhover	1999 – Carolyn Graves	2000 – Dorothy Rose
	Ferguson	Crawford
1998 – Leonard Poon	2000 – Betty H. Wiser	2001 – Virginia Bell
1999 – Larry Mullins	2001 – Sue Maxwell	2002 – Mary Casey
2000 – James (Jim) P. Mitchell	2002 – Mary Anne Hilker	2003 – Mary Ellen Cox
2001 – Shirley Travis	2003 – Harry Baldwin	2004 – David Levine
2002 – Ed Folts	2004 – Jan Kauffman	2005 – Judy and Byron
		Thames
2003 – Victor Marshall	2005 – Carol Colleran	2006 – Wilson Wong
2004 – Karen Roberto	2006 – E. Douglas Beach	2007 – Ann Johnson
2005 – Dick Tucker	2007 – Maureen Kelly	2008 – Mary M. MacKinnon
2006 – Ed Rosenberg	2008 – Maria Greene	2009 – Austin Curry
2007 – Constance Coogle	2009 – Joyce Varner	
2008 – Harry R. (Rick)		
Moody		
2009 – Frank J. Whittington		

Best Practices	Print Media Award
1997 – Best Practices of Alabama	2006 – Video/CD "Neighbors Growing
	Together" Producer: Erica Husser
1998 – Palmetto Senior Care/PACE Program	
1999 – Helping Hand Program of Lexington,	
KY	
2000 – UNC Program on Aging	
2001 – Heart and Hand, Inc.	
2002 – Share the Care	
2003 – Senior Navigator	
2004 – Athens Community Council on Aging	

2005 – Osceola County Council on Aging	
2006 – "Neighbors Growing Together"	
Intergenerational Programs at VA Tech	
2007 - "Medicare Answers-Prescription	
Savings" Area Agency on Aging of Palm	
Beach and the Treasure Coast	
2008 – InFocus Program at Williamsburg	
Landing	
2009 – Hillsborough County Aging Services	
Student Paper Awards	
1999 – Sharon V. King	2007 – Giyeon Kim – 1 st Place
1999 – Benjamas Kutintara	2007 – Melissa Snarski – 2 nd Place
2000 - Miriam Williams Boeri	2007 – Martie Gillen – 3 rd Place
2001 – Carole J. Olson	2008 – Desiree M. Seponski – 1 st Place
2002 – Derrick Chan – 1 st Place	2008 – Won Lee Cho – 2 nd Place
2002 – Rehan D. Overton – 2 nd Place	2008 – Seokwon Yoon – 3 rd Place
2002 – Christine A. Fruhauf – 3 rd Place	2009 – Elizabeth Corsentino – 1st Place
2003 – Colleen A. Head – 1 st Place	2009 – Sang Gon Nam – 1 st Place
2003 – Michelle Lague – 2 nd Place	2009 – Chih-ling Liou – 3 rd Place
2004 – Denise Lewis – 1 st Place	
2004 – Meldrena Chapin – 2 nd Place	
2004 – Stacy Grant – 2 nd Place	
2004 – Michelle Lague – 3 rd Place	
2005 – W. Keith Dooley – 1 st Place	
2005 – Maggie Tang – 2 nd Place	
2005 – Dunja Trunk – 3 rd Place	
2005 – Sara Margolin – 3 rd Place	
2006 – LaVona Traywick – 1 st Place	
2006 – Mary Katherine Flythe – 2 nd Place	
2006 – Joshua Byrd – 3 rd Place	

Editorial: Health Care Confusion

What is the problem with our health care? What are the choices? Who's right and who's wrong?

Why are we having this debate? Both sides of the aisle agree that the rising costs of health care are unsustainable and there are too many who are uninsured. That being said, "health care **reform**" is confusing because, what are we reforming? The only "system" we have is the V.A. and Medicare, other then these two programs our health care delivery is paid for through private insurance purchased by individuals or through work.

The politics that come into play are really quite clear. Republicans, by in large, really do not

want government in the health care business preferring the free market to level costs. The majority of Democrats want to see some sort of a public option to cover more people and which they believe will bring the cost of insurance down. Here in lies the challenge. No matter how flat the pancake, there are always two sides!

The House Bill is "The Affordable Health Care for America Act". It includes a new public plan available through an insurance exchange (starting in 2013) that would be set up and run by the secretary of Health and Human Services. The HHS Secretary would negotiate rates with providers. H. R. 3962 includes, a Health Insurance Exchange (starting in 2013) which will be a place to comparison shop among private and public insurers, including new health co-operatives. The exchange will be self-sustaining, financed only by its premiums.

The Senate Bill is the "The Patient Protection and Affordability Act." It also includes a Government-Run Plan. This new federal insurance plan would be offered to compete against private carriers. The government would negotiate, not dictate, payment rates for medical providers.

Once the House and Senate have their debates on the floor of Congress, the two bills will have to be combined into one and be voted upon by each chamber. If the bill passes it will go to the President to be signed into law. We are not anywhere near that point in time.

Who do we trust...the government, the insurance companies? What do we want to see happen? Can we afford not to change? These are the personal questions individuals might ask themselves as the choices unfold.

Don't panic! Whatever bill comes from the negotiations and compromises will be a "process" not an "event." There will be no bolt of lightning from the sky to change how we get our health care. There will be no government takeover, rationing, "socialism" or big changes the next day, no one will have to give up what they have, and costs will not skyrocket. What will happen is a gradual implementation over time. Systems will have to be built, protocols will have to be developed, and adjustments will have to be made to the many moving parts.

The goal of this major health care reform bill is to improve health care for Americans of all ages by reforming private health insurance, expanding coverage to the uninsured and underinsured and eliminating wasteful spending.

How can we move toward a healthier America? Can we afford to do nothing? Can we do better? Is health care a right? Think about it.

 Guest Commentator: Laura Feldman of the The National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare

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

Welcome to New Members

Gerald O'Donnell - NC Karen Bess - VA Tracey Gendron - VA Emily Roberts - NC Cesar Espineda - NY Cynthia Davis - NC
Brittany Smith – NC
Anne Dickerson - NC
Susan N. Hannum MD
Victoria S. Curtis - VA

Cynthia Mullins - KY
Sharon Bundick - NC
Jennifer Bugos - NC
Barbara J. Ettner VA

SGS Member News

A Certificate in Gerontology was awarded to SGS Member, **Jean A. Berken**, by the University of Wisconsin-Extension in August, 2009. She resides in Atlanta, Georgia and is a member of the Georgia Gerontology Society and is a Certified Employee Benefit Specialist (CEBS).

Elizabeth Tait was inducted into the Sigma Phi Omega honor society, and received a Certificate of Gerontology from University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Calendar

For those of you interested in upcoming conferences, check out the Gerontological Society of America's listing at http://www.geron.org/Resources/Events%20Calendar. Some highlights:

The AGHE Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference, March 4- March 7, 2010, Reno Nevada.

The NCOA-ASA Aging in America Conference, March 15, 2010 – March 19, 2010, Chicago, Illinois.

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

Professionals exploring issues, applications and answers in the field of aging

SGS Annual Conference & Meeting: Leadership & Professional Networking; Continuing Education. Members receive a deep discount on registration fees for the annual meeting.

Publications: The Journal of Applied Gerontology, The Southern Gerontologist Newsletter. A free subscription to the **Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG)**, the official journal of SGS is included with membership. The Journal is devoted to the publication of contributions that focus explicitly on the application of knowledge and insights from research and practice to improvement of the quality of life of older persons. Particular emphasis is placed on manuscripts and editorials that enhance dialogue among researchers, policy makers, and practitioners. In addition, members receive the **Southern Gerontologist**, a quarterly newsletter that complements JAG by providing updates on applied projects, member activities and emerging issues, and informing members of new books and videos of interest to the field of aging.

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

SGS Committees are member friendly and provide an excellent opportunity to enhance one's professional development. By adding your voice to SGS you can help ensure that dialogue and cooperation maintain the balance between research and practice, through the guiding principle of SGS-- the alliance of practitioners and academicians to enhance the lives of our elders.

For more information contact **Lora Gage** SGS Executive Director, at <u>Lgage4sgs@aol.com</u> 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!

SGS ANNUAL MEETING SPONSOR, EXHIBITOR AND ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE

Contact Lora Gage, Southern Gerontological Society, PMB#144 1616-102 W. Cape Coral Pkwy. Cape Coral, FL 33914

Phone: 239-541-2011 Fax: 239-540-8654

LGage4SGS@aol.com

Deadline: March 2, 2010

SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITOR

OPPORTUNITIES

PRESIDENTIAL SPONSOR

Presidential Gala Dinner \$6,000 SGS Awards Brunch \$4,000

PREFERRED SPONSOR

Exhibit Hall Opening Reception \$2,000 \$2,000 \$2,000 \$2,500 \$2,500 \$2,500 \$2,000

REGULAR SPONSOR

Opening Welcome Address \$1,000
Refreshment Breaks \$1,500
Tote Bags \$1,500
Folders & Notepads \$1,000

OTHER

Symposium Session \$500 Student Pizza Party \$250

CONFERENCE PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT

Full page advertisement Half page advertisement Quarter page advertisement 1/8 page business card advertisement \$75

(must supply ad copy by 3/1/10)

EXHIBITS

Non-profit organization (includes one registration) \$450 Corporate (includes one registration) \$600 Exhibit Only (registrations not included) \$250



Postdoctoral Openings in Health and Aging at The University of North Carolina

The Carolina Program on Health and Aging Research (CPHAR) at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has two openings at the postdoctoral level for postdoctoral fellows, to commence this summer. Postdoctoral fellows are recruited nationally, and four predoctoral fellows currently enrolled at UNC are also supported by the program.

Supported by a National Research Service Award from the NIH to the UNC Institute on Aging, the program has 39 faculty mentors from public health, the social sciences, and clinical sciences. CPHAR has a strong commitment to aging research focusing on diversity and minority issues, rural health, health promotion, health services, and aging workforce research. Postdoctoral Fellows receive a stipend, health insurance, travel and research expenses, and strong mentoring. They will have the opportunity to publish from their doctoral work, participate in ongoing research, and develop new projects in a strong, multidisciplinary research environment. UNC's strengths in the clinical, public health and social sciences, as well as its many leading research institutes such as the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science, the Carolina Population Center, the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, and the Institute's own Center for Aging and Diversity (directed by current GSA President, Peggye Dilworth-Anderson) enhance the quality of the program.

For more information, see ww.aging.unc.edu/research/cphar/.

The application deadline is March 15, 2010. Contact the Program Director, Victor Marshall (<u>victor_marshall@unc.edu</u>) or the Program Administrator, Cathy Hatley (cathat@schsr.unc.edu).