

gerontology news

The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC

February 2007

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Free Public Policy E-Newsletter Launched

AARP's Office of Academic Affairs and the National Academy on an Aging Society have teamed together to produce a new bi-monthly e-newsletter with a public policy focus. The venture will highlight key developments and viewpoints in the field of aging policy from a wide variety of sources, including articles and reports circulating in the media, academia, think tanks, private sector, government, and non-profit organizations. It is designed to benefit students, teachers, and citizens interested in aging-related issues – especially those who may not have access to policy information disseminated both in Washington and around the country.

To subscribe, send an e-mail to agingreport@agingsociety.org with "Subscribe" in the subject line.

Plans Take Shape for 2007 Conference



The Hilton San Francisco offers direct access to Union Square and the cable cars in the heart of the city's restaurant, theater, and shopping districts.



GSA's 60th Annual Scientific Meeting is still nine months away, but now is the time for members to begin preparations. The Call for Papers will be available by the end of February both in printed form and online at www.agingconference.com. As outlined in last month's *Gerontology News*, President Roger McCarter has designated a theme of "The Era of Global Aging: Challenges and Opportunities." Potential presenters are urged to keep this topic in mind when organizing their abstracts. The final submission deadline is March 15th. Please note that proposals for the pre-conference workshops are also due on this date. For information regarding these sessions, contact meetings@geron.org.

The Hilton San Francisco — the largest hotel on the West Coast — will host the event from Friday, November 16th to Monday, November 20th. This facility offers 110,000 square feet of flexible meeting space, which is more than any other hotel in the city.



REMINDER

It's not too late for your school to participate in Careers in Aging Week — taking place nationwide April 8th to 14th. Contact Jessica Clark at jjclark@geron.org for full details.

Discharge Issues Outlined in AJN Report

The American Journal of Nursing's (AJN) latest release in their "New Look at the Old" series highlights the obstacles relatives can face once a patient is released from the hospital. This report, titled "Family Caregivers: Considerations, Assessment, and Support," can be found in webcast format at www.nursingcenter.com/ajnolderadults.

The video brings viewers a unique perspective — experiences and advice from caregivers and recipients about maximizing outcomes after discharge. Assessing and understanding the capacity of caregivers to provide necessary care, as well as helping them to establish a network of resources and support to maximize their effectiveness, is as important as teaching about medications and physical care of their loved one. This video guides the viewer to national and state-based resources that support the caregivers and care

recipients, as well as providing a fuller perspective about considerations to include in planning for discharge.

This 30-minute program is based on the *AJN's* August 2006 article by Karen Schumacher PhD, RN, et al, titled "Caring for older adults, working with their families."

This and other webcasts in the series are part of a collaborative effort among the *AJN*, The Gerontological Society of America, and Trinity Healthforce Learning. It is funded by Atlantic Philanthropies with additional support from the Nurses Service Organization. The venture — designed to provide information and skills to improve the care and well-being of older adults — has already received several professional distinctions. Most recently it was bestowed the Silver Award for Best Feature Series from The American Society of Healthcare Publications Editors.

NIH Makes Moneys Available to Social Workers

Recognizing that social work, one of the largest allied health professions, is a primary provider of psychosocial interventions and has developed significant clinical expertise in working within and across systems of care and services on a variety of levels, The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) along with Cancer; Heart, Lung Blood; Aging; Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; Child Health and Human Development; Drug Abuse; Mental Health; and Nursing institutes, and the Office of Disease Prevention and Office of Research on Women's Health are seeking innovative, theory-driven empirical research on social work practice, concepts and theory as these relate to the NIH public health goal of improving health outcomes for persons with medical and behavioral disorders and conditions (PA-07-292). Areas of interest include studies that characterize the usual and/or "best" practices of social workers and how these relate to health outcomes, studies establishing the efficacy and effectiveness of health-related interventions and services delivered by social workers, aspects of health-related social work services that are unique to specialty health care settings and non-specialty health care settings, the nature and impact of routine prevention or clinical practice, and factors related to successful dissemination and implementation of social work services and interventions with proven effectiveness. For more information see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-292>.

Wisconsin Launches 2007 WLS Pilot Grant Program

The Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will award two to three pilot grants to investigators using the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) data for scholarly research. The WLS provides an opportunity to study the life course, careers, retirement, intergenerational transfers and relationships, family functioning, physical and mental health and well-being, and morbidity and mortality from late adolescence to the retirement years. Selected recipients will receive \$10,000 to support their research, along with a residency at CDHA, where they will receive training and support in use of WLS data. The residency will take place in Madison on August 2nd and 3rd, 2007. The application deadline is May 25, 2007. More information about the WLS and the pilot grant program including questionnaires, codebooks and public data may be found at the WLS pilot grant website: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/wlsresearch/pilot/>. Please contact Carol Roan by e-mail at roan@ssc.wisc.edu or by telephone (608) 265-6196 if you have further questions.

RWJF Offers Funds to Health Care Researchers

The *Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research* program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is seeking highly qualified individuals to undertake broad studies of America's most challenging policy issues in health and health care. Grants of up to \$335,000 are awarded to investigators from a variety of disciplines for innovative research projects that have national policy relevance. For more information, visit <http://www.rwjf.org/cfp/investigatorawards>. The application deadline is March 28, 2007.

Hartford Seeks Applicants To Develop New Centers

The John A. Hartford Foundation is soliciting grant applications for the establishment of new Hartford Centers of Excellence in Geriatric Medicine and Training. The Foundation seeks proposals that demonstrate both current strengths and future promise to increase our nation's capacity to care for older adults in academic geriatrics. Hartford anticipates awarding \$450,000 grants to be paid in amounts of approximately \$150,000 per year for three years. The Foundation also welcomes proposals that seek to adopt or adapt innovations created elsewhere, and/or that address leadership development for advanced fellows and junior faculty. The strategy of the CoE initiative is to identify medical schools with the necessary components for training academic geriatricians. Letters of intent are due by February 23, 2007.

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We will publish letters to the editor in response to issues raised in the newsletter. Please limit letters to no more than 350 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, and telephone number. Letters will be accepted or rejected at the sole discretion of the editors and may be edited for clarity or space. Send to: tkluss@geron.org

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Hayflick's Microscope Added to Smithsonian Collection

An historically significant microscope used by former GSA President Leonard Hayflick in the 1950s has now been acquired by the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History. While working at the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia, he converted the device from crystallography work to the study of cultured cells. It became the predecessor of all subsequent inverted microscopes used worldwide today in virtually all cell culture laboratories, academic research centers, and industrial manufacturing facilities. Hayflick was first to observe — through this instrument — the colonies of one of the smallest free living microorganisms that he and his colleagues determined to be the cause of what is known as "walking pneumonia." This led to easier identification and treatment of this common disease. Hayflick's microscope will join other artifacts of note such as a vial of Robert Koch's tuberculin and a sample of Alexander Fleming's penicillin; base pair plates from Watson's and Crick's "double helix" model and Stanley Cohen's notebook from the first recombinant DNA experiment; the first commercial PCR machine; and an automated gene sequencer from the Human Genome Project.



Colleran's Prevention Efforts Recognized

On December 10th, Comprehensive Alcoholism Rehabilitation Programs, Inc. honored Carol Colleran with its Peter Fairclough Memorial Recognition Awards. She currently serves as the executive vice president of national affairs and public policy for West Palm Beach's Hanley Center, a

facility that offers gender specific treatment for both men and women, as well as a family program and a range of prevention programs. Since 1986, The Peter Fairclough Memorial Recognition Awards have honored recipients for their contributions through direct and/or indirect services, to the overall advancement, improvement and expansion of services for chemically dependent persons and families on local, state or national levels. Colleran is a renowned pioneer of specialized treatment of older adults who suffer from the disease of alcohol and other chemical addictions.

NYC Non-Profit Hosts Event to Honor Fahey

Reverend Monsignor Charles Fahey was recently recognized by Village Care of New York for his dedicated career of community service. They bestowed upon him the Lenore Zola Award during a ceremony on November 13th. Village Care is a not-for-profit organization providing care and services to more than 1,500 persons daily — seniors, persons living with AIDS, and other individuals — regardless of their ability to pay. Fahey has served as a member of its board for more than 10 years and has been a guiding force in helping the organization address the needs of an aging population.

Members in the News

- > GSA President-Elect Lisa Gwyther of Duke University appeared in a late December installment of "NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams." She was featured in a report on geriatric care managers who can care for aging parents when their children are unavailable. Gwyther cautioned that only accredited nurses and social workers with experience should be used. (A link to the video is available on www.geron.org.)
- > Michael Marsiske of the University of Florida at Gainesville and Sherri Willis of Penn State University were quoted in a December 20th article in *The Washington Post*. They discussed their recent research article published in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, which demonstrated that regular mental workouts can slow the decline of aging minds.
- > Sharon Inouye of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center was mentioned in several papers after United Press International ran a story based on the special section on Delirium and Dementia from the December issue of the *Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences*.

Colleague Connected!

This month's \$25 amazon.com gift certificate winner:

Gretchen Alkema

(Who became eligible after referring new member Patricia O'Neill.)

The winner was randomly selected using randomizer.org!

For more details on the Colleague Connection promotion, which includes a chance to win free lodging at the annual meeting, visit www.geron.org/ColleagueConnection.htm

Finishing FY 2007 Appropriations and the Earmark Debate

On January 4th, the 110th Congress began its first session and made history by electing Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) the first ever female Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. One of Congress' first jobs will be to finish the FY 2007 spending bills for all government agencies not covered by the Defense and Homeland Security appropriations bills, an important leftover of the 109th Congress. A January 7 article in *The New York Times* noted that "the failure of Congress to pass new budgets for the current fiscal year has produced a crisis in science financing that threatens to close major facilities, delay new projects, and leave thousands of government scientists out of work."

In December, new Appropriations Committee chairs Rep David Obey (D-WI) and Senator Robert Byrd (D-WV) announced that they would finish the spending bills quickly when the 110th Congress began and simply freeze all agencies' spending at FY 2006 levels with room for some exceptions. They also announced that they would suspend all earmarks, special spending projects members of Congress deem worthy, from the remaining FY 2007 bills. In the meantime, the FY 2008 budget is being finalized and will be released on February 5.

Editor's Note: At the time of press, appropriations legislation was being introduced that called for NIH to get a \$620 million increase in the final FY 2007 bill. Because no action had been taken and because these issues change so quickly, stay tuned to the GSA E-mail Announcements to keep up to date.

NIH: No Inflationary Increase in FY 2007 for Existing Non-Competing Grants

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has announced that it will not provide inflationary increases for existing non-competing grants in FY 2007. The agency cited its "flat budget" and the need to take "immediate proactive steps to manage its portfolio of investments in biomedical research." It is also noted that institutes and centers "will maintain the flexibility to supplement such non-competing awards on a case-by-case basis according to scientific and programmatic imperatives." However, such supplements will not be considered as part of the base for future budgetary adjustments.

The agency is operating under a continuing resolution until February 15, at the FY 2006 funding level. Until the final FY 2007 appropriation is enacted, NIH will issue non-competing research grant awards at a level below that indicated on the most recent Notice of Award (generally up to 80 percent of the

previously committed level). The agency explains that it "will consider upward adjustments to these levels after the final appropriation is enacted, but expects institutions to monitor their expenditures carefully during this period." For more information see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/quide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-030.html>.

Peer Review: CSR Is Addressing the Challenges and the Opportunities

Center for Scientific Review (CSR) director Antonio Scarpa recently addressed NIH's National Advisory Mental Health Council, noting the challenges and opportunities facing NIH peer review. Peer review, he explained, is the "heart and soul of NIH." According to Scarpa, CSR receives approximately 80,000 grants applications per year and there is growing concern from the scientific community about the process, including the complaint that the process is too slow, along with a lack of enough senior and experienced reviewers. While part of the problem is intellectual, according to Scarpa, it is also structural given that the process was designed for face-to-face meetings. Scarpa indicated that re-engineering the NIH Peer Review is a priority for NIH Director Zerhouni.

According to Scarpa, the first challenge is to reassign and improve administration and organizational systems and procedures. The second challenge is to facilitate the identification and advancement of more significant, innovative, and high impact research.

NIH's vision for peer review include: shortening the review cycle, improving study section alignment and performance, increased recruitment and retaining of high quality reviewers and decrease the burden on applicants and reviewers.

To get the input of the scientific community, CSR will begin holding Open House meetings throughout 2007. The meetings will provide an opportunity to engage stakeholders in the discussions.

14TH ANNUAL RAND SUMMER INSTITUTE: July 11-14, 2007

Santa Monica, CA. Two conferences addressing critical issues facing our aging population: Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists; Workshop on the Demography, Economics, and Epidemiology of Aging. Interested researchers can apply for financial support covering travel and accommodations.

More information and application form:
www.rand.org/labor/aging/rsi

new resources

New Reports Detail Elders' Credit Card Debt Burden

The National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) recently published two new reports, available on-line, addressing the problem of, and solutions to, the growing burden of credit card debt among aging Americans. The reports are titled, "The Life and Debt Cycle Part One: Implications of Rising Credit Card Debt Among Older Consumers," and "The Life and Debt Cycle Part Two: Finding Help for Older Consumers with Credit Card Debt." The work was funded by The Retirement Research Foundation. The reports document that average credit card debt among persons 65 and 69 rose "a staggering 217% between 1992 and 2001 to \$5,844." Of the 70 percent of households headed by someone 65 years of age or older and earning less than \$50,000, one in five experiences debt hardship. Debt hardship exists when a consumer must spend more than 40 percent of his or her income on debt payments, including mortgages. Bankruptcy filings by elders are rising, as well. And the future looks even more grim. Debt levels among near elders are at their highest levels in history, yet seniors are living far longer once reaching age 65 than ever before and face enormous health and long-term care expense. NCLC sought to highlight this problem and survey programs and services available to help older persons with credit burdens. Their reports can be downloaded at: http://www.nclc.org/action_agenda/seniors_initiative/index.shtml

NIH Launches Genome Study Database

The National Library of Medicine (NLM), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), recently introduced dbGaP (database of Genome and Phenotype), a new tool designed to archive and distribute data from genome wide association (GWA) studies. The site will for the first time provide a central location for interested parties to see all study documentation and to view summaries of the measured variables in an organized and searchable web format. The database will also provide pre-computed analyses of the level of statistical association between genes and selected phenotypes. Genotype data are obtained by using high-throughput genotyping arrays to test subjects' DNA for single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), areas of the genome that have been found to vary among humans. The database was developed and will be managed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information, a division of NLM. dbGaP is located at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=gap>.

CDC's Latest Health Report Goes Online

Health, United States is an annual report on trends in health statistics and is now available on the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) website. The report consists of two main sections: A chartbook containing text and figures that illustrates major trends in the health of Americans; and a trend tables section that contains 147 detailed data tables. The two main components are supplemented by an

executive summary, a highlights section, an extensive appendix and reference section, and an index. Follow this link to view the book in PDF format: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

HHS Offers Site Promoting LTC Planning

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Assistant Secretary for Aging Josefina G. Carbonell has announced a new tool designed to make it easier for consumers to get the information they need to plan for long-term care. The National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information website will provide comprehensive information about long-term care planning, services and financing options, along with tools to help people begin the planning process. The new site also supports the "Own Your Future" education campaign, a joint federal-state initiative designed to increase consumer awareness about planning for long-term care. HHS recently announced new federal-state partnerships with several states designed to help Americans take an active role in planning ahead for their future long-term care needs. For more information about the "Own Your Future" campaign and the National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information, please visit www.longtermcare.gov.

Millions of Americans Prefer Web for Science News

Fully 40 million Americans use the internet as their primary source of news and information about science, and 87% of online users have at one time used the internet to carry out research on a scientific topic or concept, according to a national survey conducted by the Pew Internet & American Life Project in collaboration with the Exploratorium. As a primary source for science information, the internet is second only to television among the general population. For Americans with high-speed internet connections at home, the internet is as popular as TV for news and information about science. And for young adults with high-speed connections at home, the internet is the most popular source for science news and information by a 44% to 32% margin over television. The full report can be viewed online at http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Exploratorium_Science.pdf.

Boston College Brief Foresees Retirement Difficulties

The Center for Retirement Research at Boston College has released a new *Issue in Brief* titled "Employer Survey: 1 of 4 Boomers Won't Retire Because They Can't," by Alicia H. Munnell, Steven A. Sass, and Jean-Pierre Aubry. In a new nationally representative survey, employers estimate half of their employees currently in their 50s will be unprepared for retirement, one-quarter of all workers will be unprepared and will want to work longer. This report can be found at http://www.bc.edu/centers/crr/wob_6.shtml.

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(continued on next page)

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To make a 2007 donation to these funds, please contact Dominic Frazier at dfrazier@geron.org.

Join ASA's Seminar on Aging in Beijing

The American Society on Aging's (ASA) sixth journey to China is set for May 24 through June 8, 2007. Participants will learn about issues of aging and eldercare in China and will gain an understanding of traditional Chinese reverence for elders. Nearly a dozen ASA members and friends have already signed on for this opportunity to discover health practices, social reform, welfare issues and community responses to aging in China. Participants also will have time to enjoy the richness of Beijing and its environs. Special visits to the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the Imperial Summer Palace, the Great Wall at Mutianyu and numerous other landmarks await you. For more information, visit <http://www.asaging.org/pdf/ASA2007ChinaBrochure.pdf>.



Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

A teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School

RESEARCH FACULTY

Division of General Medicine and Primary Care, Boston's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC, major teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School), seeks entry-level and mid-career research faculty. Division research focuses on measuring and improving health care quality, especially for vulnerable populations and persons with chronic conditions, fostering patient-centered care, and using informatics and other tools to improve clinical decision making. 15 M.D. and Ph.D. researchers seek external research funding and provide mentoring within Harvard's general medicine fellowship. M.D. or Ph.D. required, with general medicine research interests. M.D.s practice within BIDMC's faculty general medicine practice. Under-represented minorities, women, and persons with disabilities encouraged to apply. BIDMC is an equal opportunity employer. For information, contact Elizabeth Amis, Division of General Medicine and Primary Care, BIDMC, 1309 Beacon Street, Office 207, Brookline, MA 02446, 617-754-1420, eamis@bidmc.harvard.edu.

Tips for Finding a Gerontology Internship

In addition to coursework, internships provide valuable experiences that allow you to apply the knowledge you gain in the classroom to a practical setting. These experiences can also provide you with a job possibility upon completing your education. There are a variety of opportunities available to gerontology students at all levels and for different research interests. Here are some tips when searching for a match:

- **Do not seek only paid opportunities.** Unpaid experiences can be just as valuable as paid ones. If it is in your research area, the experience and the exposure that you gain can prove to be invaluable.
- **Make sure that you will benefit from the experience.** If the internship is not in an area that you genuinely have an interest in then it may not be the place for you.
- **Do not be afraid to approach an organization or agency to express your interest in gaining some hands-on experience by working there.** Even if there is a not formal opportunity available, an opportunity may be created for you that will enable you to have a lot of flexibility in what you do while you are there.

- **Start looking for opportunities in the fall.** Announcements for various programs and opportunities during the summer start circulating in the fall. This will provide you with ample time to prepare the application and have your professors assist you with it.
- **Seek advice and support from your mentors and faculty members.** Many of them are well acquainted with other professionals in the field and may be able to direct you to someone who is working in your specific research area.
- **Stay connected with gerontology professional organizations.** GSA and other organizations maintain listserves where they send out announcements. ESPO and other gerontology student associations also focus their attention on the needs of and opportunities for students.

It is my pleasure to serve as the ESPO Secretary and I would encourage anyone to contact me if there are any topics of interest that you would like to see discussed in an ESPO Section article. Email me at kphillips@fmhi.usf.edu with your ideas.

Editor's Note: In late February, AGHE will launch an online database of aging internships on its website at www.aghe.org. Be sure to read next month's *Gerontology News* to hear more about this exciting development.



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Leadership Opportunities in Geriatrics Division of Gerontology

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center • Boston, Massachusetts

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School are seeking experienced physician-educators with Board Certification in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. The successful candidates will be recognized academic clinicians, with achievements in geriatric care and teaching. Clinical opportunities include leading a growing hospital-wide, multi-disciplinary consultation service and providing primary care in an ambulatory care setting. Educational opportunities include leadership of Residency Training in geriatrics as part of our Reynolds Center for the Advancement of Geriatrics Education. Academic rank at Harvard Medical School will be based on qualifications. The Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is a 590-bed tertiary and quaternary care hospital.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School are Equal Opportunity Employers. Women and minorities are particularly encouraged to apply.

Please send applications together with a current curriculum vita to:

Lois Hartsough • Gerontology Division Manager
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
110 Francis Street, # 1A • Boston, MA 02215
e-mail: lhartsou@bidmc.harvard.edu

educational news

The latest information from GSA's educational unit, The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education

AGHE Staff Update

We would like to take this opportunity to announce the hiring of Dominic Frazier as AGHE's new program associate. Dominic joined the AGHE staff after more than 20 years of experience working with government, public, and private agencies in the Washington, D.C. area. He attended Southeastern University in Washington, D.C. followed by service in the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Air Guard/Reserve, and the U.S. Army Guard/Reserve.

AGHE also welcomes its spring intern, Abby Smith. She did her undergraduate work in psychology and philosophy at Clarke College in Dubuque, IA. Abby will be graduating this spring with her Masters in Gerontology from St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, MN. She plans to pursue a PhD in Clinical Psychology in the fall.

Educational Funding Opportunity

HP Technology for Teaching Grant Initiative

The HP Technology for Teaching Grant Initiative is designed to support the innovative use of mobile technology in K-16 education, and to help identify K-12 public schools and two and four-year colleges and universities that HP might support with future grants. Based on the outcomes of the projects funded through this initiative in 2007, HP may offer some grant recipients additional, higher-value grants in 2008. In 2007, HP will award

approximately \$10 million in cash and equipment to schools in the U.S. and Puerto Rico through the HP Technology for Teaching Program, including reinvestment for selected projects previously funded. Deadline for submitting proposals: Thursday February 15, 2007, 5 p.m. (Pacific time)

http://www.hp.com/hpinfo/grants/us/programs/tech_teaching/index.html

2007 AGHE Distinguished Service Recognition

AGHE's Awards and Executive Committees have designated three persons to be recipients of the 2007 Mildred Seltzer Distinguished Service Recognition.

These are individuals who have either already retired or who are approaching retirement and who have, through the years, provided significant service to this Association. The 2007 honorees are:

May Futrell, PhD

University of Massachusetts Lowell

Phoebe Liebig, PhD

University of Southern California

Joan Wood, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

Request for Applications:

Smart Growth
Implementation
Assistance
Opportunities for
Technical Assistance
for Communities
Interested in Building
Healthy Communities
for Active Aging.

For more information and
application materials,
please go to
[www.epa.gov/
smartgrowth/sgia.htm](http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia.htm)

Are you trying to encourage smart growth activities that will help prepare for older adults in your community? Are you trying to encourage specific smart growth techniques like transit-oriented development? Or direct your state department of transportation investments to better support smart growth? Are you looking to use smart growth to reach economic development goals? Do you need help analyzing guidelines for school investments that best fit your state or community? Do you need to retrofit a commercial corridor? Or coordinate your community's smart growth design with an active aging program?

The Development, Community, and Environment Division in U.S. EPA's Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation is responding to this need by issuing a request for applications for the Smart Growth Implementation Assistance program. Through this program, a team of multidisciplinary experts will provide free technical assistance to communities, regions, or states that want to develop in ways that meet environmental and other local or regional goals.

Communities, regions, and states around the country are interested in building stronger neighborhoods, protecting their environmental resources, enhancing public health, and planning for development, but they may lack the tools, resources, or information to achieve these goals. EPA can help applicants overcome these roadblocks by providing evaluation tools and expert analysis.

EPA is soliciting applications from communities that want help with either policy analysis or public participatory processes. Selected communities will receive assistance in the form of a multi-day visit from a team of experts organized by EPA and other national partners to work with local leaders. Applications will be accepted until March 8, 2007.

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

PhD Post-Doctoral Fellowships
INFORMATICS MD or PhD Post-Doctoral Fellowships
Available at VA Puget Sound Health Care System and
the University of Washington October 2007.

Fellows engage in full-time research and related educational activities. Faculty provides expertise in areas of interest including outcomes research, clinical epidemiology, biostatistics, health care economics, informatics, quality of care, geriatrics, long-term care, and health policy. Informatics fellows interested in leadership training may also apply to the Executive Development Program.

US Citizenship required. To apply submit a statement of research interests, specific aims for a VA relevant research project, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference (that mention the concurrent Research Associate appointment in the Department of Health Services, University of Washington) and identify a local faculty mentor. Materials due March 15 to: Gayle Reiber, PhD, HSR&D Met Park West #1400, 1100 Olive Way, Seattle, WA 98101, (206) 764-2089, greiber@u.washington.edu.

Inquiries welcome. Equal Opportunity Employer.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
AND PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR
EDUCATION AND EVALUATION (AD-E/E)



The Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) of the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital in Madison, WI, announces recruitment for the position of Associate Director for Education and Evaluation. The Madison GRECC is a premier Center of Excellence in aging research in the country with substantial funding from the NIH and VA, and extensive resources and expertise in geriatrics and gerontology. The major role of the AD-EE will be to develop novel educational and training programs for physicians, allied health care professionals, and trainees targeting aspects of geriatrics essential for state-of-the-art care of older veterans. The successful applicant is expected to have a PhD, MD or an MD-PhD qualification with acknowledged expertise in medical education and program evaluation. Additional expertise and demonstrated excellence in health services research is highly desirable. The Madison GRECC is an integral program of the Section of Geriatrics and Gerontology of the University of Wisconsin (UW) School of Medicine and Public Health and, commensurate with experience, the appointee will hold a joint appointment at the UW.

TO APPLY: Please forward a letter of interest, most recent curriculum vitae, and names of three referees to: Cecilia Duskocil, Administrative Officer, Madison GRECC (11G), William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital, 2500 Overlook Terrace, Madison, WI 53705 (cecilia.duskocil@va.gov)

Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine Faculty Position in Geriatrics

The Wright State University (WSU) Boonshoft School of Medicine Department of Geriatrics seeks a Geriatrician at the Assistant or Associate Professor level for a full-time position. Applicants must have a M.D. or D.O. degree, be eligible for licensure in the State of Ohio, be board certified in Internal Medicine or Family Medicine, have a CAQ in Geriatric Medicine and be able to obtain DEA certification. For consideration at Associate Professor level, candidate must also have publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at national meetings and at least three years of experience as a geriatrician. Responsibilities include providing direct clinical care and consultation for patients in a variety of outpatient, inpatient and long-term care settings, leading an interdisciplinary team, teaching students and residents, and promoting research. The successful candidate will be involved in developing a geriatrics fellowship as well.

For position description and requirements, please visit <http://www.wright.edu/hr/job>.

Salary will be commensurate with the successful candidate's qualifications and professional experience and joint medical school/VAMC standards. Applicants should submit their curriculum vitae and names of three references to: Larry Lawhorne, M.D., Chair, Department of Geriatrics, WSU Boonshoft School of Medicine, P.O. Box 927, Dayton, OH 45401-0927. Review of applications will begin January 2, 2007 and continue until the position is filled. WSU and the VAMC are AA/EO employers and promote diversity in their workforce.

gerontology news

The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC

The Gerontological Society of America
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"Interrelationship of Delirium and Dementia"

A special section of the December issue of *The Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences*

Inside:

Introduction. Elucidating the Pathophysiology of Delirium and the Interrelationship of Delirium and Dementia
Sharon K. Inouye and Luigi Ferrucci

Review Article. Serum Biomarkers for Delirium
Edward R. Marcantonio, James L. Rudolph, Deborah Culley, Gregory Crosby, David Alsop, and Sharon K. Inouye

Review Article. The Role of Neuroimaging in Elucidating Delirium Pathophysiology
David C. Alsop, Michael A. Fearing, Keith Johnson, Reisa Sperling, Tamara G. Fong, and Sharon K. Inouye

Cerebral Perfusion Changes in Older Delirious Patients Using ^{99m}Tc HMPAO SPECT
Tamara G. Fong, Sidney T. Bogardus, Jr., Aditya Daftary, Eliza Auerbach, Hal Blumenfeld, Sharada Modur, Linda Leo-Summers, John Seibyl, and Sharon K. Inouye

Isoflurane-Induced Apoptosis: A Potential Pathogenic Link Between Delirium and Dementia
Zhongcong Xie, Yuanlin Dong, Uta Maeda, Robert Moir, Sharon K. Inouye, Deborah J. Culley, Gregory Crosby, and Rudolph E. Tanzi

Does Educational Attainment Contribute to Risk for Delirium? A Potential Role for Cognitive Reserves
Richard N. Jones, Frances M. Yang, Ying Zhang, Dan K. Kiely, Edward R. Marcantonio, and Sharon K. Inouye

Special Article: Chili Pepper. When the Mind Goes Inept
Thomas E. Finucane



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