

Applied Gerontology as Community Engagement



31st Annual Meeting Southern Gerontological Society

Wednesday - Saturday, April 7-10, 2010

**The Jefferson Hotel
101 West Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23220
www.jeffersonhotel.com**

Call for Presentations



Submit on-line at www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org

Submission Deadline: December 1, 2009

An Invitation

Join us in Richmond, VA, in April at the Jefferson Hotel, one of a dozen 5-Star 5-Diamond hotels in North America. After visiting multiple conference hotels, it was apparent that this hotel offers those attending the SGS meeting an opportunity to experience unparalleled service and accommodation never before available and at an exceptional value. The Jefferson is a visual and sensual feast, including expansive spaces, marble columns, individually-unique sleeping rooms, and intimate areas to discuss business and renew friendships. Visit online <http://www.jeffersonhotel.com/> for a virtual tour.



I recall my first SGS meeting in 1982 in Orlando, Florida. This meeting and others gave me a wonderful introduction to the field of gerontology. I felt welcomed by informal settings and the opportunity to listen to, talk with, and learn from colleagues about teaching and research interests as well as negotiating the tenure and career-progression process as an applied social gerontologist in a traditional academic environment.

I grew up in a remote Northern Minnesota paper mill town in a small single-parent family with an ever-present Finnish widowed grandmother. This personal history no doubt influenced my academic interest in Applied Gerontology. During the annual meeting this spring in this wonderful setting, I encourage you to think about the relevance of SGS as an organization with a long tradition of enriching opportunity to engage in and understand Applied Gerontology. Declining revenues fueling heightened attention by legislatures and university administrators to program relevance require that we emphasize the impact of our work on people living in regions that we serve. University administrators at multiple levels are struggling to define and implement the “the scholarship of engagement.” What is it, how do you know it when you see it, and how does it fits in the evaluation of faculty for merit pay, tenure, or promotion?

Our network of colleagues has stories to share featuring examples of scientifically-grounded academic work based in academic and service provider partnerships at multiple levels. For this annual meeting, draw from long SGS tradition and share information about programs and best practices featuring academic and community partnerships, “nuts and bolts” demonstrations of methods of research that provide guidance and examples to aspiring applied gerontological researchers, program assessments that work, how applied gerontological research grounded in scientific methods can result in peer-reviewed publication enhancing career progression, and how schools and departments are defining the role of “community engagement” in academic career progression.

This meeting is an opportunity that far outweighs the cost. If you have been sitting on the sidelines pondering the benefits of SGS membership and the annual meeting compared to others, now is the time to renew collegial relationships in this beautiful hotel setting while demonstrating the relevance of Applied Gerontology in defining what it means to be part of an engaged college or university. The VCU Local Arrangements crowd and UNC-Charlotte Program Co-Chairs Dena Shenk, Cynthia Hancock and SGS Student Rep Louise Murray and I invite you to Richmond in April!

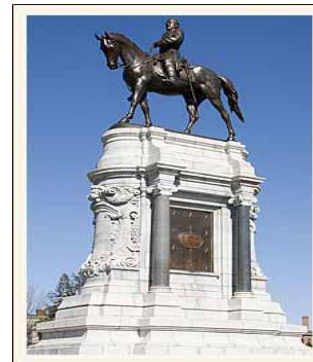
Jim Mitchell, SGS President
Professor, Sociology and Family Medicine
East Carolina University
mitchellj@ecu.edu

Conference Location

How can you complete the visual tour of the Jefferson Hotel <http://www.jeffersonhotel.com/> and not be impressed? This meeting location speaks for itself.



Beyond the hotel (which has agreed to provide SGS meeting attendees free parking and group transportation to restaurants), Richmond is a vibrant city with antebellum buildings and architecture, the 1.2-mile Canal Walk with boat tours and multiple pedestrian access points, one-hour guided tours through the Virginia Capitol, designed by Thomas Jefferson, that houses America's oldest legislative assembly, and the Monument Avenue Historic District.



Conference Theme

The Annual Meeting theme, *Applied Gerontology as Community Engagement* reflects the SGS tradition of applied gerontological research in a climate of academic and service provider partnership. The geographical distribution of Health Professional Shortage Areas (including the dearth of geriatricians), premature mortality, poverty, the uninsured, and the prevalence of life-threatening and disabling chronic conditions suggests that there is much to be done in the South. The stuff of gerontological science is grounded in diversity; human and otherwise. Applied gerontological work as community engagement has a place in not only legitimizing academic programs but defining interventions to address glaring disparities.

Conference Tracks

While a variety of presentation proposals are encouraged, designation of a conference track on proposals will provide guidance to attendees wishing to pursue a particular theme across presentations.

Program Models

Best practices featuring interventions designed to improve or sustain service to older adults as well as their formal and informal care providers.

University – Community Partnerships

Examples of how college and university partnerships with community organizations enhance both entities while fostering sound academic work.

Applied Research Best Practices

Whether describing an intervention and assessing its effectiveness, offering a sampling design appropriate for gathering primary data from older adults living in a rural area, crafting a data-gathering instrument, or describing a qualitative research project addressing an area of inquiry, the presentation of best practices is encouraged.

Strategies to Promote and Reward the Scholarship of Engagement

At many colleges and universities, departments, schools, and academic divisions are developing strategies to define, assess, and reward scholarship including engagement with community partners. Applied gerontology often includes research and/or intervention with community partners and can add much to this discussion. We invite administrators, faculty members, and community partners to discuss programs featuring the scholarship of engagement for the benefit of others at a different place in these discussions.

Strategies for Program Assessment and Support

How can academics work with service provider partners at all levels to assess the effectiveness of programs and interventions, enhancing their continued existence.

Session Formats

The 2010 Annual Meeting of SGS promotes innovation and interaction in sessions that engage participants as much as possible. While traditional papers may be submitted, we actively encourage presentations in poster, symposium, and workshop formats.

POSTER

Posters are the visual display and summary of research, interventions, or programs. Authors are present during designated sessions to discuss their work. Project activities and/or results are displayed in graphs, tables, pictures, and text. Poster boards are approximately 4' high by 8' wide. Push pins to mount pictures and graphs will be provided. Authors have an opportunity for in-depth discussion of their work with conference attendees. Abstracts for posters should include: (1) a short statement of the specific problem or topic, (2) description of methods or approaches employed, (3) summary of results or findings, and (4) statement of conclusions and implications.

PAPER

Scientific or professional papers may be submitted. Where possible, topics should relate to the conference theme or session tracks. Paper presentations are normally 15 minutes in length, with those on similar subject matter grouped together in paper sessions. All presenters must allot time for discussion. Abstracts for papers, as for posters, should include: (1) a short statement of the specific problem or topic, (2) description of methods or approaches employed, (3) summary of results or findings, and (4) statement of conclusions and implications.

SYMPOSIUM

Symposia include three or four coordinated topical presentations. Symposia organizers introduce sessions, moderate discussion and encourage audience participation, and integrate the presentations. Symposium submissions must include a summary abstract as well as brief abstracts describing each presentation.

WORKSHOP

In a workshop, one or two leaders organize the exchange of ideas or conduct a demonstration or application of techniques and/or skills. Workshops provide an opportunity to involve participants in demonstrations, lectures, case studies, and role plays in a one-hour time period. Abstracts for workshops must include the topic, its significance, and the workshop goals.

Submitting an Abstract

A wide variety of topics will be considered, including presentations reporting innovative research, research/practice collaborations, innovative service delivery programs, and public policy discussions. If appropriate, correspondence of the proposed presentation to the conference track(s) should be indicated.

ON-LINE SUBMISSION (Deadline December 1, 2009)

Submission on-line is quick and easy. Read the following directions completely prior to submitting materials online. The on-line submission process **does not** allow individuals to save partially submitted information and return to the work later. All information must be entered and submitted in one sitting. SGS suggests that the first author prepare the information using word processing software and then cut and paste it into the online software. Prior to beginning the on-line submission process, have available: **Presenters' Contact Information** (For the *first author*, the full name, degree, institution/organization, mailing address, e-mail, and phone number. For *each additional author/presenter*, the full name, degree, institution/organization, and email.), **Title of Abstract, Session Type, Preferred Format (e.g., Poster), Student Paper Award Entry, and Conference Track (if any), Audiovisual Requirements, Abstract (The**

body of the abstract (minus title and author identification) should indent the first line by 3 spaces and should not exceed 200 words (see examples below).

Submit on-line at www.southernerontologicalsociety.org. Click “Annual Meeting” and then click “Call for Proposals” for an electronic version of this document and to begin the on-line submission process. ***Submissions must be received by midnight EST December 1, 2009, in order to be considered for review. Late submissions may not be accepted.***

Abstract Example (Paper/Poster/Workshop)

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE OF MID-LIFE AND OLDER WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS

P. Teaster, T. Dugar, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY., 40536-0200

K. Roberto, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

Mistreatment of mid-life and older adults - physical abuse, psychological, emotional, or mental abuse, material or financial exploitation, active neglect, passive neglect, violation of civil rights - is of growing national and international concern. This study examines intimate partner violence (IPV) from the perspectives of those who provide service and of Appalachian women over 50 years of age. Three focus group interviews were conducted in three rural areas of Eastern Kentucky with Adult Protective Services (APS) staff, local law-enforcement, Area Agency on Aging personnel, domestic violence staff, shelter representatives, and health care workers. Participants were asked questions regarding their training to handle cases, patterns of violence for victims and perpetrators, rural/urban differences, case outcomes, service provided and service gaps. In-depth interviews with six mid-life and older women who experienced violence were conducted and included questions concerning patterns of violence, case outcomes, and services provided. After the study, researchers returned to the focus group sites to present and discuss the findings, which included a lack of resources available to mid-life and older women, a lack of training for professional staff on unique issues of this age group, and a lack of community support for the women.

Abstract Example (Symposium)

THE STATE AS VANGUARD: A STUDY OF PUBLIC GUARDIANSHIP IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

P. Teaster, University of Kentucky, 306 Health Sciences Building, 900 S. Limestone, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, 40536-0200

PARTICIPANTS:

H. Shivers (Private Attorney, Roanoke, VA). An Examination of the Development of Public Guardianship in Virginia.

W. Schmidt (Washington State University, Spokane, WA). Legal Framework for Evaluating Public Guardianship in Virginia.

K. Roberto (Virginia Tech). Virginia Public Guardian and Conservator Programs: Evaluation of Program Status and Outcomes.

DISCUSSANTS:

P. Teaster (University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY), W. Schmidt (Washington State University, Spokane, WA).

It is projected that an increasing number of adults may have a need for public guardianship due to the increase in the lifespan of those persons in the population, including the oldest-old, persons with head trauma, persons with Alzheimer's disease, persons with mental illness, and persons with developmental disabilities. This symposium presents research on public guardianship in Virginia, conducted over a two year period. First, presenters will ground the study in law and in legislation that subsequently developed in the state. Second, the results of the research study will be presented. Third, presenters will comment on the study and on its implications for guardianship research and practice in Virginia as well as in terms of it as an example for other states in the nation.

THE REVIEW PROCESS

Members of the SGS Program Committee will review each submission for content, novelty, timeliness, relevance to the meeting theme and program tracks, clarity of presentation, and proper form. The first author/presenter will be notified by e-mail by December 15, 2009, of the committee's final decision. This individual then should notify any co-authors/presenters of the outcome of the review. The Program Committee may select an alternative presentation format. ***Please note that all presenters must register for the annual meeting.***

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

VAA STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The **Virginia Association on Aging Student Research Scholarship Award**, established through a generous contribution from the Virginia Association on Aging, encourages the presentation of the results of research or scholarly activity by student members of SGS. The \$500 award will be made to one student and must be used for expenses incurred for SGS conference participation, such as registration, travel and accommodations. The competition is open to all student members of SGS. Preference will be given to graduate or undergraduate students who demonstrate leadership potential and academic excellence and vision through their research efforts.

Eligibility: Any active SGS Student Member.

Availability: Funds will be dispensed directly to the awardee through the mail.

Application Process: Apply on-line at www.southerngerontologicalsociety.org. Click "Annual Meeting" and then click "VAA Student Research Scholarship Award".

Deadline: Applications must be received by February 15, 2010. Notification will be made by March 15, 2010.

General Meeting Information

ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION

Participants involved in a session at the Annual Meeting of SGS are required to register and pay the registration fee for the conference. Registration is required of all presenters, discussion leaders, chairpersons, panel or debate members, exhibitors, or other participants connected with papers, posters, symposia, or workshops. If a participant submits a proposal and it is accepted, he or she has made a commitment to be available in Richmond, VA, between April 7-10, 2010, and to present at the time designated. ***SGS is not responsible for transportation, lodging, or any other associated expenses for program participants.***

FEES

The registration fee includes the cost of all meals and refreshments listed in the final program. Organizational and corporate members may register up to three persons at member rates. No shared registrations are permitted.

For a fee of \$10, each registrant may obtain a "Certificate of Attendance" documenting conference attendance. Most professional organizations and licensing agencies will accept a "Certificate of Attendance" for continuing education credit, but we highly recommend that you confirm that your affiliated organization is one of the many that does.

Should a participant require special aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Lora Gage in the SGS office at (239) 541-2011 or send her an email message at LGage4SGS@aol.com. To ensure that we may accommodate these needs, SGS must receive notification by March 1, 2010.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you experience technical difficulties submitting your application on-line, or have questions about the abstract submission process, please contact Lora Gage at the SGS office at (239) 541-2011 or LGage4SGS@aol.com. For questions about the conference program, please contact Dena Shenk Dshenk@uncc.edu or Cynthia Hancock chancock@uncc.edu.



JOIN NOW!!!

Southern Gerontological Society

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

When's the Best Time to Join SGS? Right Now!

We'd like to offer you the opportunity to become a member of one of the most respected groups of gerontology professionals in the nation—the *Southern Gerontological Society*. **SGS members make a difference**—by continually providing professionals in the aging network with access to the latest research and a forum for discussing important practical issues relating to older adults in our area. SGS Committees are member-friendly and provide an excellent opportunity to enhance one's professional development.

Through your membership in SGS you also can make a difference in the field of aging. By adding your voice to SGS you can help ensure that dialogue and cooperation maintain the balance between research and practice. The Society's guiding principle is that an alliance of practitioners and academicians can enhance the lives of elders.

As part of your membership benefits, you will receive two excellent publications, the ***Journal of Applied Gerontology*** and the ***Southern Gerontologist***. Reflecting the Society's commitment to practitioner/academician dialogue, these publications provide articles of interest to a wide variety of professionals. The ***Journal of Applied Gerontology*** (JAG) is the official journal of SGS. It is devoted to the publication of manuscripts that focus on the application of knowledge and insights from research and practice to improve the quality of life of older persons. Particular emphasis is placed on manuscripts and editorials that enhance dialogue among researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners. The ***Southern Gerontologist*** is a quarterly newsletter that complements JAG by providing updates on applied projects, current activities and emerging issues, and informing members of new books and videos about aging.



SGS Membership Application

You are cordially invited to become a member of the Southern Gerontological Society.

Membership Year: July 1 – June 30

Last Name _____ First Name/Initial _____

Degree (if applicable) _____ Title/Position _____

Organization / Business _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail address _____ How did you hear about SGS? _____

Please send an invitation for membership to: _____

Please enroll me as a member of SGS in the following category:

- Regular \$75
- Organization (not for-profit only) \$125
- Corporate (corporate membership includes 3 annual meeting member rate registrations) \$500
- Married (member and spouse) \$90
- Student \$30
- Retired, with Journal \$30
- Retired, no Journal \$20

Dues \$ _____

SGS invites tax-deductible contributions to support the work of the organization.

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Method of Payment: Check MasterCard VISA

Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Send your check or money order to:

Southern Gerontological Society
PMB #144
1616 - 102 W. Cape Coral Pkwy.
Cape Coral, FL 33914
Phone: (239) 541-2011
Fax: (239) 540-8654
E-mail: Lgage4SGS@aol.com

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
Conference Breakfast \$2,000
Conference Luncheon \$2,500
Thematic Track \$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 \$400
Half page advertisement \$250
Quarter page advertisement \$150
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

