

45TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE



**SOUTHERN
GERONTOLOGICAL
SOCIETY**

Bridging Aging Research & Practice

A Balanced Approach:

*Seeking Evidence-Based
Holistic Strategies to
Promote Healthy Aging*

APRIL 2 - 6, 2024

**HYATT REGENCY
GREENVILLE, SC**

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

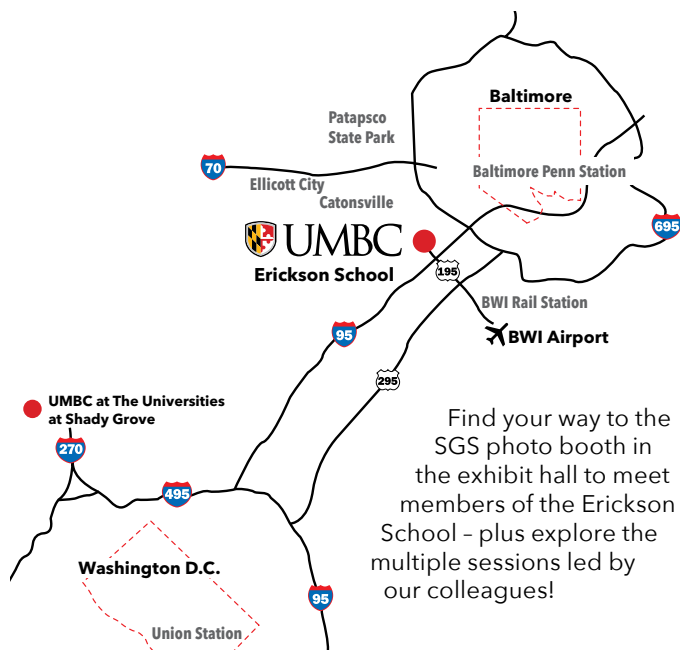
The longevity economy is changing the way we live. And in the Erickson School of Aging Studies at UMBC, our work is more vital than ever. We combine a passion for creating leaders in the business of aging with a connection to real-world applications that encourages your leadership and entrepreneurial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

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

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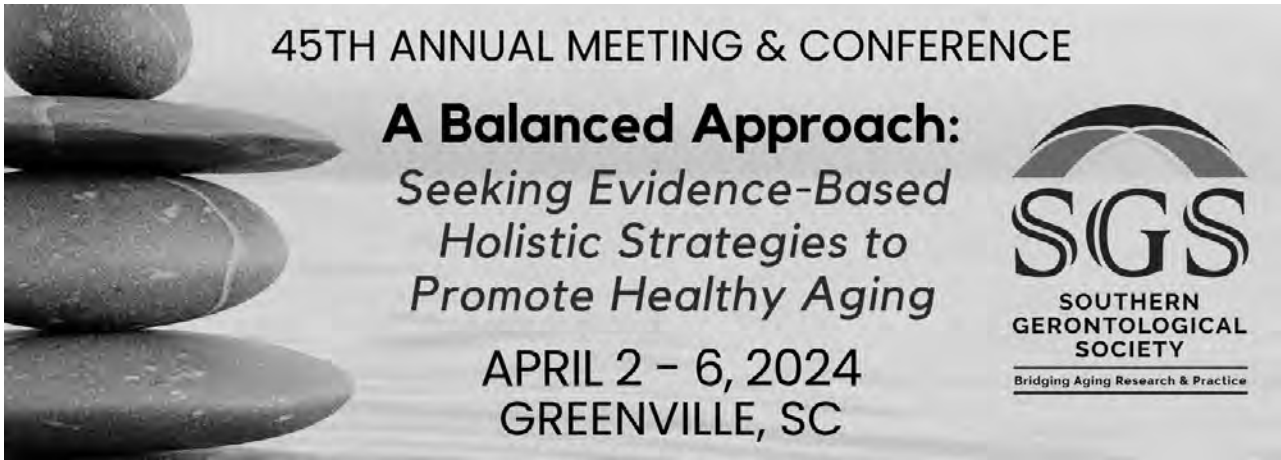


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Book of Abstracts - This program book contains a listing of sessions with only the presenting authors listed. For full presentation abstracts including all author listings and descriptions of papers and posters, please view our Book of Abstracts at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

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

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



A Message from the President



Welcome to SGS's 45th Annual Meeting and Conference

Thank you for attending the 45th Annual Meeting & Conference of the Southern Gerontological Society. Our theme, ***A Balanced Approach: Seeking Evidence-Based Holistic Strategies to Promote Healthy Aging***, is represented with many varied presentations during the conference, from the initial Poster Reception from 6 to 8 PM on Tuesday, April 2nd, through the final Closing Breakfast Panel, Improving Dementia Care with BOLD Grants – Best Practices and Lessons Learned on Saturday, April 6th. Come join us for breakfast on Wednesday morning from 8 to 10 AM as we start the day with a panel discussion on the Importance of Mentorship Networks for Professionals in Gerontology, followed by the first of eleven concurrent sessions. Wednesday's Keynote Luncheon, Improving Caregiving through Improv, features a performance from Dad's Garage, an improvisational theater company. Be prepared to share bread as we laugh and learn how to use improvisational techniques to provide dementia care. What a wonderful dilemma we face on Wednesday afternoon as there are so many concurrent session options. Don't forget to sign up for Wednesday's Dine Around, as the sign-up sheets fill up fast for our curated downtown restaurants.

Our famous Silent Auction opens first thing Thursday morning. If you didn't bring unique and quirky gifts for the auction, don't worry, Graham Rowles always brings enough items for all of us to bid on. Bid early and bid often as the auction closes Friday afternoon at 4:45. Don't forget to bring your favorite fun or festive hats to Thursday's SGS Awards Ceremony Lunch, as we continue to feed our souls and celebrate those of those who have been recognized for one of SGS's many prestigious awards. Thursday evening at 6 PM, you can join the SGS Student & Encore Committees for a speed dating style event designed to build relationships and connect with colleagues. Friday is a packed day, starting with our SGS Annual Meeting Breakfast! We offer four separate concurrent sessions during the day, ending with closing of our Silent Auction and a fun evening enjoying music and fool on Main Street at NOMA Square (right outside the conference hotel). Find a seat early as bands play two sets at 5:30 and 7:40 PM, and restaurant reservations go fast around the Square. Don't forget to join us for our final breakfast and panel discussion on Saturday morning as we say our goodbyes to another SGS family get together.

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

CHECK OUT THE SGS STORE!

Be sure to stop by the Registration Desk to check out our newest SGS T-Shirts! Wear them with pride and be sure to post #SGSRocks so we can see all the wonderful places you visit with your shirt! We have two different options to choose from! Proceeds from shirts, wine tumblers, and Beauty of Aging notecards will benefit our Endowment Fund.

We are also happy to introduce SGS hats! Proceeds from our hats and cookbooks will benefit the SGS Student and Encore Scholarship Fund.

Come and get some SGS swag and support these worthy causes!





WELCOMES

Southern Gerontological Society

Maybe it will be the first time you walk our award-winning Main Street and step out onto Liberty Bridge at Falls Park and gaze down at the energetic tumble of waterfalls below. Or when you get to explore and take in the majestic view of the mountains from Northern Greenville County.

Maybe it will be when you stride through the gates of Fluor Field, the Fenway-inspired ballpark that anchors our bustling West End. Or maybe it will happen somewhere in-between — when you lean into an open-air artist’s studio, grab a bite to eat at one of the 1000+ tasty restaurants or pause to sing alongside a talented musician — that you’ll realize that you are someplace very special.

Welcome to Greenville, we are glad you are here!

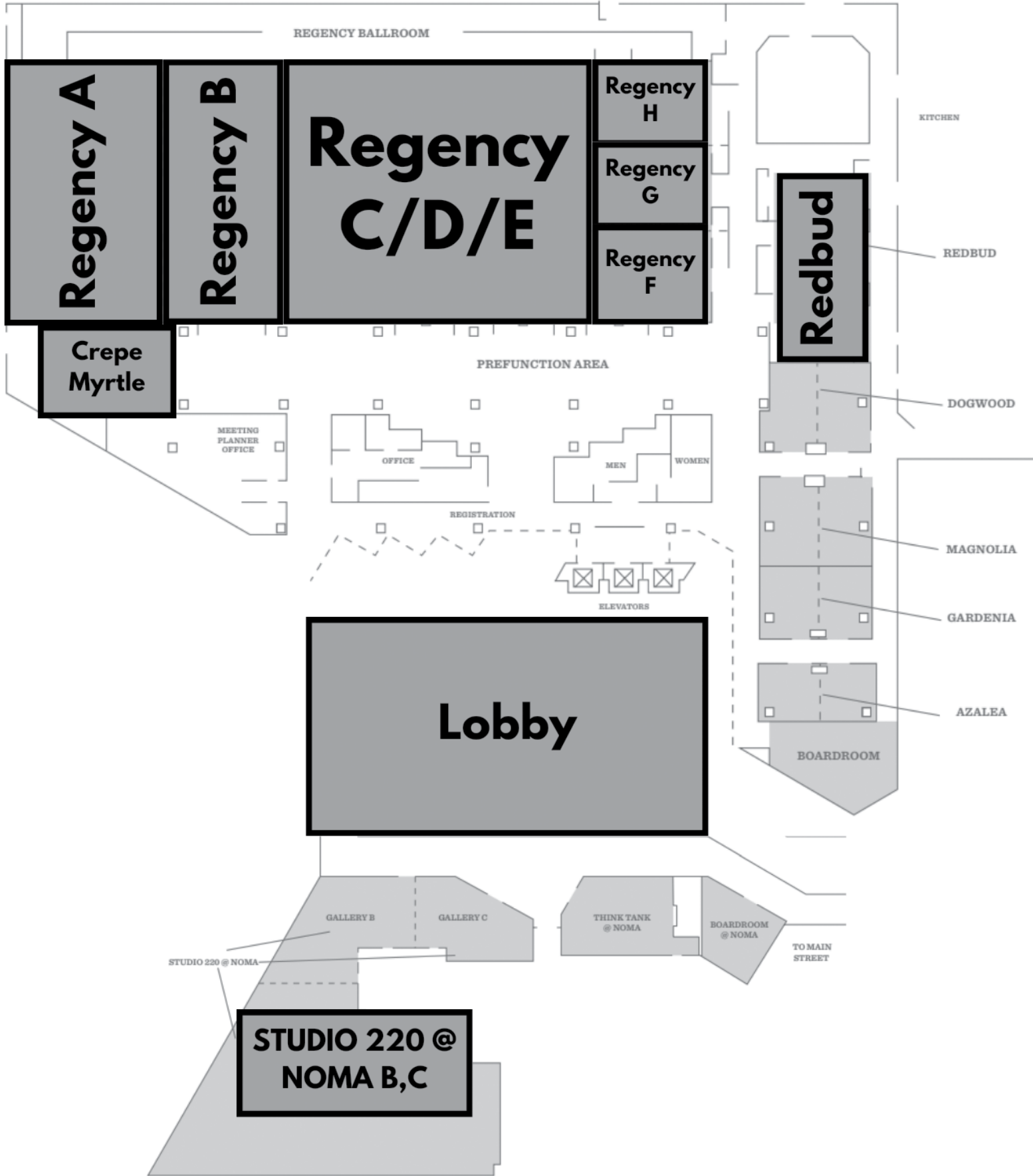
Sincerely,

Heath Dillard
CEO & President
VisitGreenvilleSC



148 River Street, Suite 100 Greenville, SC 29601 | visitgreenvillesc.com

HOTEL CONFERENCE CENTER MAP



SGS AWARDS OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Learn More



SGS COMMITTEES OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

Committee and as results from regular surveys of Society members, a vision and plans for continued development efforts including a Code of Ethics, priorities for the Society, and recommendations for projects of research, education, and advocacy.

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

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

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

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

SGS COMMITTEES OVERVIEW

Public Policy and Advocacy Committee -

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

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

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

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

Learn More



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

DO WANT OPPORTUNITIES TO NETWORK WITH AGING PROFESSIONALS?

Are you trying to develop leadership skills?

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

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

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 SPONSORS

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CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

1. Accreditation for Gerontology Education Council (AGEC)
2. Mom's Meals
3. National Association for Professional Gerontologists (NAPG)
4. Sage
5. School of Aging Studies – University of South Florida
6. Scripps Gerontology Center/ Miami University
7. Sigma Phi Omega (SPO)
8. The Erickson School of Aging Studies at UMBC
9. The Martha W. Goodson Center
10. UMB/UMBC PhD In Gerontology Program
11. UNCG Gerontology
12. University of Alabama at Birmingham
13. University of Southern California Leonard Davis School of Gerontology
14. Virginia Center on Aging/VCU Gerontology

EXHIBIT HALL PASSPORT CONTEST

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

ATTENDEES: Here's how the game is played!

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

SGS WEBSITE RESOURCES

SGS TEACHING REPOSITORY

The goal of the SGS Teaching Resource Repository is to promote and support the maintenance and expansion of options for aging focused education in a range of disciplines beyond gerontology.



<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/resources-teaching.html>

ADVOCACY RESOURCES

SGS believes everyone can be an advocate – no matter their skill set or job position. There are many ways you can advocate right where you are. This website offers resources to help you get started.



<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/advocacy-resources.html>

AGING SERVICES WORKFORCE RESOURCES

There are many challenges facing the Aging Services Workforce. This website seeks to provide a spotlight for resources and real world examples of best practices for addressing these challenges.



<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/aging-services-workforce.html>

OLDER ADULTS & DISASTERS RESOURCES

There are many resources available to help older adults, caregivers, and professionals working with older adults learn more about disaster planning and response. This page highlights some great places to start as well as providing a platform to spotlight best practices in our southeastern region.



<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/older-adults-and-disasters.html>



Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG) provides an international forum for information that has clear and immediate applicability to the health, care, and quality of life of older persons. Each issue brings you the latest research and analysis from the field—and helps you apply it to your everyday practice.

SGS members receive free online access to JAG.

Thank you to our wonderful staff, board and advisors.

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TUESDAY APRIL 2			
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	PRESENTER (S)
7:30 AM – 6:00 PM		REGISTRATION & SILENT AUCTION INTAKE	
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	REGENCY F	PRE-CONFERENCE INTENSIVE Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Seminar (Separate Registration Required)	<i>Denise Scruggs, Director of Education at the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners</i>
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	REDBUD	SGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM	REDBUD	SGS PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING	
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	REGENCY A/B	POSTER RECEPTION	
		TITLE	PRESENTER (S)
		1) Addressing Age-Related Health Concerns: A Lifestyle Intervention in Postmenopausal Women with Obesity (Student Poster)	<i>Christian McLaren, University of Florida</i>
		2) Artificial Intelligence and Aging	<i>Dr. Zahra Rahemi, Clemson University</i>
		3) Association of Marital Status and Cognitive Function in Older Adults (Student Poster)	<i>Negar Nik Bakht, Miami University</i>
		4) Comfort, Care, & Companionship: Multidimensional Health Benefits of Social Robot Use in Memory Care (Student Poster)	<i>S.M. Cho, UNC Charlotte</i>
		5) Evaluating the Impact of a Multidisciplinary Cognitive Support Clinic on the Quality of Life of Caregivers of People with Dementia	<i>Dr. David Hage, Misericordia University</i>

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY APRIL 2			
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	PRESENTER (S)
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	REGENCY A/B	POSTER RECEPTION	
		TITLE	DOMAIN
			PRESENTER (S)
		6) Exploring Childhood Adverse Experiences as a Precursor to Intimate Partner Abuse in Older Adults (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Constance Cromartie and Subashri Garimalla, Georgia State University</i>
		7) Exploring the Benefits of Creative Art Therapies in Enhancing Well-being Among LGBTQ+ Older Adults: Insights from a Scoping Review	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES <i>Scarlett Peterson and Zach Salling, Georgia State University</i>
		8) Factors Associated with Sense of Community Among Older Adults Aging in Place in Northeast Tennessee: A Cross-Sectional Study (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Tejan Mansaray, East Tennessee State University</i>
		9) Hearing Loss and Cognitive Decline and Dementia: What We Know and Where We Need to Go: Literature Review (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Girish Hemrajani, Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University</i>
		10) Human-Animal Interaction and Meaningful Engagement among Assisted Living Residents with Dementia (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Erreannau Zellous, Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University</i>
		11) Integrated Primary Care Approach Decreases Risk for High-Risk Medication Use in People Living with Dementia	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Dr. Miranda Moore, Emory University</i>
		12) Lifelong Learning Post COVID-19 Pandemic Closures: How Directors of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI's) Create Successful Strategies to Reduce Social Isolation (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Kami Batchelder, Florida Atlantic University</i>
		13) Long-Term Care System: Comparison of Taiwan and USA Approaches (Student Poster)	ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE <i>Yun-Zih Chen, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies</i>
		14) Oral Health, Denture Wearing and Respiratory Conditions in Older Adults: A Scoping Literature Review	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Dr. Mary Helen McSweeney-Feld, Towson University</i>
		15) Perceived Vaccine Production Speed as a Deterrent to the COVID-19 Vaccine: Discussions with Older African Americans	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES <i>Dr. Antonius D. Skipper, Georgia State University</i>
		16) Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations in a Statewide Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Population	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Dr. Julie Robison, University of Connecticut</i>
		17) Public Health Strategies to Address Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Rural Older Adults. A Mini-Review of the Literature (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Dr. Grace Ijtade, East Tennessee State University</i>
		18) Racial Disparities in the Prevalence of High Body Mass Index and Hypertension among Elderly Residents in the Central Savannah River Area	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Dr. Benjamin Ansa, Augusta University</i>



TUESDAY APRIL 2

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	PRESENTER (S)	
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	REGENCY A/B	POSTER RECEPTION		
		TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
		19) Recruitment Strategies for Underrepresented Research Participants: Lessons Learned from the HANDLS Sleep Study (Healthy Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity Across the Life Span Sleep Study)	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Marsha Hampton-Jarmon and Lena Simon, Clemson University</i>
		20) Retaining Older and Experienced Nurses in the Workforce	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Francine Sheppard & Dr. Kia Countess, Western Carolina University Katherine Rush, Atrium Health Cleveland</i>
		21) Storytime: Intergenerational Relationships in Children’s Literature	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Meldrena Chapin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County</i>
		22) The Actual Effects of Evaluation and Management Payment Policy Changes in Medicare Payment of 2021	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Jennifer de la Cruz, Mercer University</i>
		23) The Relationships Between Information Sources, Perspectives on Public Health Policies, and Ageism	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Cherrie Park, The Ohio State University</i>
		24) The Value of Collective Impact in Addressing the Complex Direct Service Worker Training and Credentialing Challenges in North Carolina	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Zavera Basrai & Caroline Yoon, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy</i>
		25) Trans/Gender Non-Conforming Adults Experiences with Access to Healthcare in GA (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Tatiana Spence, Georgia State University</i>
		26) Comparing Objective and Subjective Indices of Quality of Care between Medicare and Medicaid-Based Skilled Nursing Facilities: A Preliminary Qualitative Study (Student Paper)	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Gracie Ellington and Dr. Angela Sardina, University of North Carolina Wilmington</i>
		27) Mobile Health and Resource Fairs for Adults in Subsidized Housing are a Valuable Applied Learning Opportunity: An Account of College Students’ Experiences (Student Paper)	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Lauren Saurbaugh, Alexis Hernandez, Anna Rubin, and Dr. Angela Sardina, University of North Carolina Wilmington</i>
		28) Older Veterans Were Able to Use Technology During COVID-19 Despite Challenges	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Stuti Dang, Miami Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center</i>
		29) Patient Portal Intervention for Enhancing Shared Decision Making and Healthy Behaviors	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Stuti Dang, Miami Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center</i>
		30) Peri-menopausal Women Veterans Face Complex Multi-Domain Social Challenges	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Stuti Dang, Miami Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center</i>

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY APRIL 2			
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	PRESENTER (S)
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	REGENCY A/B	POSTER RECEPTION	
		TITLE	DOMAIN
			PRESENTER (S)
		31) A Systematic Review of Interventions to Improve Cognition in Older Adults (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Ian Blount, Rhianna Lopez, Harvonya Perkins, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
		32) A Systematic Review of Interventions for Meniscus Tears in Patients Over the Age of 45 (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Andrew Lawendy and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
		33) A Systematic Review of Interventions to Improve Glycemic Control Among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Lukas Isley, Natalie Willis, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
		34) Cerebrovascular Events Among Type II Diabetic Older Adults: A Systematic Review (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Matthew Dear, Kameron Kishaba, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
		35) Systematic Review of Prophylaxis Treatment in Sexually Transmitted Infections (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Cristina Caldera Garza, Faith Hopkins, Carlo Martinez, Alaina Mgbere, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
		36) The Effects of Physical Activity on Cognitive Function in Rural Communities: A Systematic Review (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Kyle Copp, Tyler Larkin, Dr. Celina Salcido, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
		37) Impact of Social and Physical Isolation During the COVID-19 Pandemic on Falls Among Older Adults Residing in Assisted Living Communities (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Dr. Louise Murray, University of Maryland, Baltimore County</i>
		38) Characteristics of Returning Food-Is-Medicine Program Participants (Student Poster)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS <i>Jonathan Williams, Virginia Commonwealth University</i>

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
7:00 AM – 5:30 PM		REGISTRATION & SILENT AUCTION INTAKE		
7:30 AM		CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS		
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM	REGENCY C/D/E	 PRESIDENT'S SYMPOSIUM BREAKFAST - The Importance of Mentorship Networks for Professionals in Gerontology	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Christine Jensen, Martha W. Goodson Center at Riverside Denise Scruggs, National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Morgan Alexander, Virginia Commonwealth University
10:15 AM – 11:45 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION A		
		Cognitive Impairment and Dementia Paper Session		
	REGENCY B	 Aging with Independence: How Cognitive Impairment and Physical Functioning Impacts Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) Among Older Adults (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County
		Dementia and Death in Georgia: Changes Over Time	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Adrienne Cohen, Georgia Southern University Dr. Miranda Moore, Emory University
		Trends in Mortality and the Effect of Education among Persons with Alzheimer's Disease in South Carolina	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Candace Brown & Amy Money, UNC Charlotte
		Health and Wellness Contributors to Cognitive Health	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Cynthia Williams, University of Central Florida
		Gerontological Education Paper Session		
	REDBUD	Examining Undergraduate Students' Experiences with Hands-On Gerontology Research	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Abigail Stephan, Vanessa Martinez, W. Bennett Davis, Daniel Moss, and Mary Walton, Clemson University
		An Examination of Student Perspectives of Careers in Aging Services and Faculty Perspectives of Teaching Topics on Aging (Student Paper)	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Bailee Ridlon, Appalachian State University
		A Curriculum Module to Enhance HBCU College Students' Knowledge of Home Accessibility Features for Older Adults	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Sung-Jin Lee, North Carolina A&T State University
		The Unification of Activity and Disengagement Theories	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Stephen M. Marson, UNC Pembroke

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
10:15 AM – 11:45 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION A (CONT.)		
	REGENCY F	How to Publish: Discussions with <i>Journal of Applied Gerontology</i> and <i>Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine</i>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Dr. Debra Dobbs, University of South Florida Dr. Tamatha Arms, UNC Wilmington Jonathan Krebs, Sage</i>
	REGENCY G	Community-Based Group Screening for Alzheimer's: "Purple Sunday Program" Increases Clinical Trial Participation in the Black Community	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Bahar Niknejad and Dr. Hamid Okhravi, Eastern Virginia Medical School Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Norfolk State University - School of Nursing</i>
	SENIOR ACTION (Transportation Provided, Must Sign Up)	Innovative Approaches to Facility Design and Funding of "Place" to Serve Active, Engaged Older Adults	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Andrea Smith, Senior Action</i>
11:45 AM – 12:15 PM		EXHIBITOR BREAK		
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	REGENCY C/D/E	KEYNOTE LUNCH - Improving Care through Improv	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Candace Kemp, Georgia State University Performers from Dad's Garage</i>
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION B		
	REGENCY B	PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION - Navigating the Dementia Spectrum: A Balanced Approach to Brain Health	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University</i>
	REDBUD	A Balanced Approach: Personal, Operational and Physical Transformation to Support Dementia Capability	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Kim McRae, Culture Change Network of Georgia Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University Rose Marie Fagan, Live Oak Project</i>
	REGENCY F	 Approaching Balance: Considering Social Exclusion and Interdependence Frameworks in Research, Teaching, and Practice	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Dr. Cynthia Hancock, UNC Charlotte Dr. Tina Newsham, UNC Wilmington Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies</i>
	REGENCY G	Breaking the Chains of Ageism: Towards an Inclusive Society	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Dr. Corinne Auman, Winston Salem State University</i>
	REGENCY H	Gentle Caregiving	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Deneisha Scott-Poe, Converse University Khushbu Patel, Virginia Tech</i>




WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION C		
	REGENCY C/D/E	PRESIDENT'S AND ENCORE COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT SESSION - <i>The Power of Elderhood: Connecting with our Authentic Selves in an Ageist Society</i>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Dr. Jenny Inker and Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Althea Taylor Jones, Independent Gerontologist Consultant Dr. Ed Rosenberg, Appalachian State University</i>
	REGENCY B	<i>Aging Services Workforce Perspectives and Opportunities Paper Session</i>		
		<i>Courage to Care; Perspectives of Home Health Nurses and Social Workers on Elder Abuse</i>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Meredith Troutman-Jordan and Dr. Boyd Davis, UNC Charlotte</i>
		<i>Suspecting Domestic Abuse by Relatives of a Person with Dementia - Acts and Reasoning by Health and Social Care Staff</i>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Jonas Sandberg, Sophiahemmet University</i>
		<i>Aligning Smiles and Bodies: A Holistic Approach to Geriatric Dental and Physical Wellness</i>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Dr. Julie Hartmann, Bellarmine University</i>
		<i>Using Collective Impact Framework to Assess Home- and Community-Based Services Worker Training and Credentialing in North Carolina (Student Paper)</i>	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Zavera Basrai & Caroline Yoon, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy</i>
	REDBUD	<i>Continuing Issues in COVID-19 Research: Treatment, Vaccination and Effects</i>	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Nasreen Sadeq, Natalia Babenko, and Dr. Hongdao Meng, University of South Florida Linette Leng, Brown University</i>
	REGENCY F	<i>Health Disparities in Aging Paper Session</i>		
		<i>Understanding Older, Low-Income Homeowners and their Home Environments for Aging in Place</i>	ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE	<i>Dr. Sung-Jin Lee, North Carolina A&T State University</i>
		<i>Health, Aging, and Dying Among Older African Immigrants: Challenges and Possible Solutions</i>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Ami Moore, University of North Texas</i>
		<i>Understanding Intersectional Disparities in Late-Life Material Hardship</i>	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	<i>Dr. Yang Li, University of Lausanne</i>
	SENIOR ACTION (Transportation Provided, Must Sign Up)	<i>Innovative Approaches to Facility Design and Funding of "Place" to Serve Active, Engaged Older Adults</i>	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Andrea Smith, Senior Action</i>
EVENING – TIMES VARY		DINE-AROUND NETWORKING EVENTS		


CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY APRIL 4				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
7:00 AM – 6:00 PM		REGISTRATION DESK OPEN		
9:30 AM – 6:00 PM	CREPE MYRTLE	SILENT AUCTION OPEN		
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	REGENCY C/D/E	RISE AND GRIND WITH THE SGS COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS (COPS)		
9:45 AM – 10:45 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION D		
	REGENCY B	PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION - Conversation on Substance Use: Engaging Older Adults in the Community Setting	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Mari K. Mackiewicz, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Patricia Slattum and Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University
	REDBUD	Best Practices in Aging Services Delivery		
		The "Best Kept Secret": Ashland Terrace as a Model for Culture Change in Residential Independent Living	ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE	Dr. Graham Rowles, University of Kentucky
		Older Adult Nutrition in NC: The Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Karen Appert, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
		Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA) Community Centers and Respite and Enrichment Centers	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Kelsie Short, Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA)
	REGENCY F	Empowered Inclusivity: Wellness-Centered Allyship for Older Adults	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Sara W. Bailey and Colby Takacs, University of Lynchburg
	REGENCY G	Teranga: A Multicultural Perspective on Counseling that Nourishes the Whole Person	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Gloria Cissé, Southern Center for Choice Theory
	REGENCY H	Unlocking Learning Through Case-Based Strategies	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Jennifer de la Cruz, Mercer University
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION E		
	REGENCY B	PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION - Ungrading: An Innovative Pedagogy for Assessing Competency-Based Gerontological Learning	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Jenny Inker, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Michael Forder, Virginia Commonwealth University - College of Health Professions Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University
	REDBUD	Meet Me at the Gardens: Creating and Implementing a Collaborative Garden-Based Intervention Designed for Caregiver-Dementia Care Recipient Dyads	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Lydia Burton, CARE Center / Institute of Gerontology, UGA



THURSDAY APRIL 4

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION E (CONT.)		
	REGENCY F	 Disaster Preparedness: Strategies to Enhance Readiness Among Older Adults	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Andrew Ferguson, FEMA Community Emergency Response Team</i>
	REGENCY G	Brain Health: What We Know & Strategies for Getting the Word Out	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Denise Scruggs, National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners</i>
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	REGENCY C/D/E	SGS AWARDS CEREMONY LUNCH		
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM		EXHIBITOR BREAK		
	CREPE MYRTLE	SILENT AUCTION		
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION F		
	REGENCY B	 CAREWORK NETWORK SPOTLIGHT SESSION: The Direct Care Workforce Looking Backward and Moving Forward	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Christopher Kelly, University of Nebraska Omaha Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County Ebenezer Martey, Georgia State University Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University Dr. Christina Barmon, Central Connecticut State University</i>
	REDBUD	Global Aging Paper Session		
		Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Have We Prepared for Old Age at All? Financial Preparations for Retirement among Older Adults in Jamaica	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	<i>Dr. Julian McKoy Davis, The University of the West Indies Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre</i>
		How do Indonesia Women Experience Guilt and Stress as Transnational Caregivers Living in Taiwan (Student Paper)	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Suei DiPaola, Gerontology Institute, Georgia State University</i>
		Social Quality Environment and Health in Aging Societies: Evidence from Switzerland	ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE	<i>Dr. Yang Li, University of Lausanne</i>
		 Examining the Socio-environmental Influences of Aging Among Bonacca Cay's Island Community of Guanaja, Honduras: Results from a Focused Ethnography	ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE	<i>Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies</i>
	REGENCY F	The Impact of Daily Lived Environments on Health, Well-being, and Activity Engagement	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Angela Sardina, UNC Wilmington Dr. Mijin Jeong and Dr. Alyssa Gamalida, Clemson University Junyan Tian and Alexa Allen, Pennsylvania State University</i>


CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY APRIL 4				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION F (CONT.)		
		Healthcare Access and Utilization Paper Session		
	REGENCY C	Factors Associated with Completing Preventive Screening Visits in Georgia: Medicare Initial Preventive Physical Examination and Subsequent Annual Wellness Visit	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Miranda Moore, Emory University
	REGENCY C	Healthcare Utilization in Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment: Exploring Disparities Across Sociodemographic Identities	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Zahra Rahemi, Clemson University
		 COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Messaging Among At-Risk Adults in the Rural South	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Abby Schwartz, East Carolina University
		Unraveling Gender Disparities in Migraine Care and Pain Outcomes in Aging Individuals (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Tanjina Jalil, University of South Florida
		The Role of the Non-Professional Care Partner Paper Session		
	REGENCY H	The Influence of a Caregiver's Social Support on Nursing Home Placement of Alzheimer's Patients: A Case-control Study	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Caitlin Torrence, Western Carolina University
	REGENCY H	Balancing Caregiving and Professional Responsibilities: Descriptive Study of University Employees and Student Caregivers in a University in Appalachia. A Snapshot of Preliminary Findings (Student Paper)	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Richard Mutua Kilonzo & Dr. Jodi Southerland, East Tennessee State University
	REGENCY H	The Influence of Social Relationships among Caregivers and Non-Caregivers and the Impact on Mental Health: Findings from the Health and Retirement Study (Student Paper)	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Jessica Yauk, University of South Florida
4:15 PM – 5:45 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION G		
	REGENCY C/D/E	PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION - Make Some Noise: Empowering Family Caregivers Through the Journey	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Christine Jensen, Martha W. Goodson Center at Riverside Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Norfolk State University - School of Nursing
	REGENCY B	ADVOCACY COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT SESSION - Higher Education's Role in Supporting Successful Statewide Aging Plans	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	Jayson Wright, Amy Riedesel, Sarah Ekart, and Babs Hall, Guidehouse




THURSDAY APRIL 4

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
4:15 PM – 5:45 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION G (CONT.)		
		Recognizing and Addressing Ageism Paper Session		
	REDBUD	 Buying into the Dirty Joke: A Discourse Analysis on the Use of Editorial Cartoons About Older Adults and Sex (Student Paper)	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Taylor Pope, Georgia State University
		Ageist or Age-Positive? Exploring Images of Elders in Fine Art and Photography	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Meldrena Chapin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
		Combating the Negative Narrative: Understanding and Decreasing the Impact of Ageist Stereotypes (Student Paper)	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Lauren Arney & Dr. Erin Mauck, East Tennessee State University
		Impact of an Intergenerational Book Club on Cross-Generational Attitudes: A Mixed-Methods Study (Student Paper)	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Cara Vandergriff, University of South Carolina
		Creativity, Arts & Aging Paper Session		
	REGENCY F	Community-Based Music Intervention: Preliminary Results and Best Practices	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Cassandra Germain, North Carolina A&T State University
		The New 'Doctor's Orders': Arts on Prescription as a Healthcare Tool for Older Americans	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Sudha Shreeniwas, UNC Greensboro
		Creativity and Aging: A Look at the Issues and a Proposal for a Comprehensive Model for Future Research and Practice	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Carolyn Adams-Price, Mississippi State University
		Working Towards a Better Understanding of Age-related Health & Wellness Paper Session		
	REGENCY C	Factors that Influence Older Adults' Online Self-Efficacy	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Amy Schuster, Clemson University
		Older Adults and Opioids: What They Know and Perceive	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Tamatha Arms, UNC Wilmington
		Mental Health and Cognitive Functioning in Older Adults with Chronic Pain: The Role of Pain Management in Promoting Healthy Aging	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Kim Coddington, Dr. Donna Washburn, Alicia Cooper, and Adrienne Hollowell Eldridge, Regent University
		 An Intervention for Peer-Lead Sexually Transmitted Infection Education Among Older Adults (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Sarah Tesar, UNC Charlotte
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	STUDIO 220 @ NOMA B,C	STUDENT & ENCORE SPEED NETWORKING (Separate Registration Required)		


CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY APRIL 5				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
6:30 AM – 5:30 PM		REGISTRATION DESK OPEN		
9:30 AM – 4:45 PM	CREPE MYRTLE	SILENT AUCTION OPEN		
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	REGENCY C/D/E	SGS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING BREAKFAST		
9:45 AM – 11:15 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION H		
	REGENCY B	CAREWORK NETWORK SPOTLIGHT SESSION - <i>Expanding Dementia Capability Across Health Care Settings</i>	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Alexis Bender, Emory University Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University Dr. Cindy Cain, University of Alabama at Birmingham Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University
	REDBUD	Understanding Underserved Populations Paper Session		
		Exploring the Determinants of Positive and Negative Marital Quality among Older Hispanic Adults 51+ Living in the United States (Student Paper)	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Jaminette Nazario, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
		The Relational Perspective among Older Sexual and Gender Minorities in Long-Term Care	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Jeffrey Lentz, Emory University
		Building Community Engagement through Advisory Boards for Inclusive Research	DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES	Dr. Ishan Williams, University of Virginia
		The Forgotten: Prisoners with Dementia in the American South	ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE	Dr. Boyd Davis and Dr. Meredith Troutman-Jordan, UNC Charlotte
	REGENCY F	Developing and Delivering a Caregiver Support Mentoring Program	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Matthew Peterson, Dr. Tina Newsham, Tess Ryan, Abrielle LeBlanc, and Logan Elkins, UNC Wilmington
	REGENCY C	Age-related Health & Wellness Interventions Paper Session		
		The Healthy Aging Curriculum for Older Adults and Its Impact on Residents of Care Facilities	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Miriam Watts, California State University Long Beach
		GSU H.O.P. E. Lab Combines Warm Calling Programs to Lessen Social Isolation, Loneliness, and Elevated Suicidality (SILES) among the Older Adult Community in a Partially Nested Randomized Control Trial (Student Paper)	ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS	Chanel Reid, Georgia State University
		 Meta-Analysis of Holistic Healthy Aging Practices and Interventions	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Ann Marie Kopitzke, Hampton University

FRIDAY APRIL 5

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
9:45 AM – 11:15 AM		CONCURRENT SESSION H (CONT.)		
	REGENCY H	Challenges in Long Term Care Settings Paper Session		
		Sexuality And Dementia: Does Lack of Formal Policies Influence Barriers to Residents' Sexual Needs (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Josephine Misaro, Georgia State University</i>
		COVID-19 Statuses of Long-Term Care Facility Residents with Dementia: Hospitalization Outcomes (Student Paper)	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Cheng Yin, University of North Texas</i>
		Impact of the Autonomy versus Beneficence Dilemma in Long-Term Care: Nursing Assistants' Experiences of Moral Distress (Student Paper)	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Blake Peebles, University of Alabama</i>
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION I		
	REGENCY B	Finding the Right Note: How to Meaningfully Use Music with People Living with Dementia	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Tara Jenkins, Harmony in Dementia</i>
	REDBUD	Addressing Structural Racism: Impact on Alzheimer's Dementia & Caregivers	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Norfolk State University - School of Nursing</i>
	REGENCY F	 Taking our Seat at the Table: The Role of a Gerontologist as a Member of Geriatric Interprofessional Care Teams	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Alfred Boakye, Dr. Diane Martin, Min Kyoung Park, University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County</i>
	REGENCY C	Working with Sexual and Gender Minority Older Adults	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<i>Dr. Jeffrey Lentz, Emory University</i>
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM		LUNCH ON YOUR OWN		
12:45 PM – 1:45 PM	REGENCY F	 SIGMA PHI OMEGA MEMBER BUSINESS & AWARDS MEETING (Separate Registration Required)		
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION J		
	REGENCY C/D/E	 Digging in the Dirt: The Deeper Roots of Gardening and Supportive Programs	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	<i>Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, Dr. Laura Allen, Yun-Zih Chen, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies Karen Appert, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services Dr. LaVona Traywick, Arkansas College of Health Education Dr. Graham Rowles, University of Kentucky</i>

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY APRIL 5				
TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION J		
	REGENCY B	Living in Harmony: Music & Self-Care for Caregivers	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Tara Jenkins, <i>Harmony in Dementia</i>
	REDBUD	Creating Virtual Intergenerational Service-Learning Opportunities through the Arts	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Meghan Young, <i>Miami University</i>
	REGENCY F	Building a Strategic Partnership: Turning Workforce Challenges into Student Opportunities	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Marylea Boatwright Quinn, <i>Division of Aging Services, Georgia Department of Human Services</i>
	REGENCY C	Look for the Purple Flower Symbol: Dementia Training Benefits Hospital Staff, Persons Living with Dementia, and Their Family Caregivers	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Christine Jensen and Denise Butler, <i>Martha W. Goodson Center at Riverside</i> Elisa Mangosing-Lemmon, <i>Riverside Doctors' Hospital Williamsburg</i>
3:00 – 3:30 PM		EXHIBITOR BREAK		
3:00 – 3:30 PM	CREPE MYRTLE	SILENT AUCTION		
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM		CONCURRENT SESSION K		
	REGENCY B	The Virginia Memory Project: An Innovative Epidemiological Brain Health Registry with Direct Pathways to Services	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Ashley Staton, <i>Virginia Commonwealth University</i>
	REDBUD	 Sigma Phi Omega: International Honor and Professional Society in Gerontology	GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Dr. Diane Martin and Alfred Boakye, <i>University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County</i> Arnesia Calk, <i>Concordia University Chicago</i> Dr. Cynthia Hancock, <i>UNC Charlotte</i>
	REGENCY F	Introducing the Safety Connector! Innovations for Making Virginia a Safer Place to Grow Old	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	Dr. Sarah A. Marrs, <i>Virginia Commonwealth University</i>
	REGENCY C	Self Care for Older Adults and Caregivers Experiencing Loneliness	AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Dr. Megan Smith, <i>UNC Charlotte</i>
4:45 PM	CREPE MYRTLE	SILENT AUCTION FINAL BIDS		
5:50 PM/7:40 PM		MAIN STREET FRIDAYS		

SATURDAY APRIL 6

TIME	LOCATION	TITLE	DOMAIN	PRESENTER (S)
8:00 AM – 11:30 AM		REGISTRATION DESK OPEN		
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	REGENCY C/D/E	CLOSING BREAKFAST PANEL - Improving Dementia Care with BOLD Grants – Best Practices and Lessons Learned	CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS	<i>Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University Paulita Edwards- Childs, Mississippi State Department of Health Emma Kennedy, S.C. Dept. of Health & Environmental Control Chloe Hale, GA Department of Public Health</i>

Virtual Presentations

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

Awareness of Pulmonary Sarcoidosis in the Older Adult: A Case Study Approach

Dr. Andrea Jennings, VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System, Gerontology Research Education Clinical Center

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Evidence-Based Pedagogical Strategies to Promote Gerontological Education and Healthcare Outcomes

Dr. Tracy McClinton, University of Tennessee Health Science Center

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Advantages of Program Evaluation in Gerontology Programs (Student Paper)

Jessica McCarty, University of South Alabama

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



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Learn more about Sigma Phi Omega: <https://sigmaphiomega.org/>

SIGMA PHI OMEGA MEMBER BUSINESS & AWARDS MEETING & Lunch

Friday, April 5th, 2024, 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM

SIGMA PHI OMEGA SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Friday, April 5th, 2024, 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM; Learn how to join, create a chapter, and serve in the leadership of the International Academic Honor and Professional Society in Gerontology

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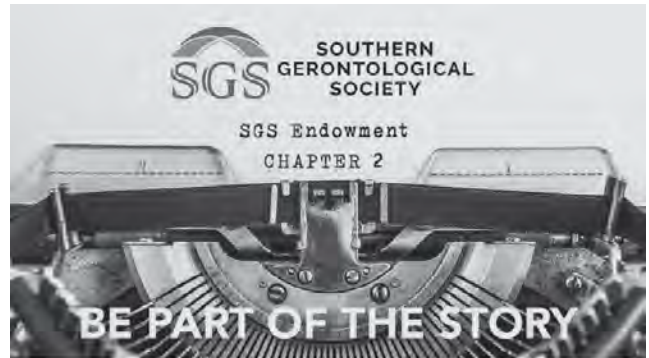


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We invite you to *Be Part Of The Story* as SGS continues to grow in both purpose and practice. With your help, the SGS Endowment Campaign will help SGS push forward with both innovation and impact as we support research and practice within the field of gerontology.

LEARN MORE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK OR ONLINE.



**May 2, 2024
12 PM - 1 PM ET**

Mitigating Behavioral Health Crises in Nursing Homes During Pandemics and Disasters: Outcome Measures and Methodology Webinar

Authors: Coogler CL, Ashley B, Hughes L, Bretz C, Clark A, Davis J, Keeton C, Latimer J, Leddy P, Mills M, Shields C, Styron J, West TD, Westwater P, Lynn T, Dunstan M, Magner M, McMillon, TL, Bausman K, Caggiano, J, Owens K, McDonnell A, & Aravich PF

Learn More and Register Here:

<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/webinar-2024-05-02.html>

*Free for SGS Members
\$25 for Non-Members*





SGS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



SGS members include educators, practitioners, researchers, health professionals, policy makers, students, and other community members. The mission of SGS is to provide the bridge between research and practice, translating and applying knowledge in the field of aging.

By joining SGS, you will connect into a collegial and supportive network and help enhance alliances which form vital collaborations between members.

- Annual subscription to *Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG)* and online access to archived JAG publications (1999-current).
- Annual subscription to *The Southern Gerontologist*, an SGS newsletter that provides updates on applied projects, member activities, emerging issues, and other important news related to the field of aging and SGS activities.
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Caregiver Support

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

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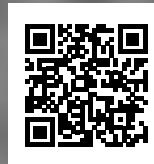


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45TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

**A Balanced Approach:
Seeking Evidence-Based
Holistic Strategies to
Promote Healthy Aging**

**APRIL 2 – 6, 2024
GREENVILLE, SC**



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

TUESDAY APRIL 2

7:30 AM – 6:00 PM

REGISTRATION & SILENT AUCTION INTAKE

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

PRE-CONFERENCE INTENSIVE

Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Seminar

REGENCY F

Denise Scruggs, Director of Education at the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners

(Separate Registration Required)

This interactive seminar provides an overview of dementia and encourages participants to view individuals living with dementia as unique persons rather than a diagnosis. It offers non-pharmacological strategies for successfully addressing dementia behaviors such as hoarding, repetitive behaviors, paranoia, hallucinations, sundowning, aggression, and wandering. In addition, it covers effective communication techniques, sex and intimacy activities, caregiver stress, staff and family relationships, end-of-life issues, pain management, depression, personal care, and more.

This class meets one of the requirements for becoming a Certified Dementia Practitioner through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. To learn more about certification and your eligibility, go to www.nccdp.org.

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

SGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

REDBUD

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

SGS PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

REDBUD

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

POSTER RECEPTION

REGENCY A/B

1. Addressing Age-Related Health Concerns: A Lifestyle Intervention in Postmenopausal Women with Obesity (Student Poster)

Christian McLaren, University of Florida

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

2. Artificial Intelligence and Aging

Dr. Zahra Rahemi, Clemson University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

3. Association of Marital Status and Cognitive Function in Older Adults (Student Poster)

Negar Nik Bakht, Miami University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

4. Comfort, Care, & Companionship: Multidimensional Health Benefits of Social Robot Use in Memory Care (Student Poster)

S.M. Cho, UNC Charlotte

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

5. Evaluating the Impact of a Multidisciplinary Cognitive Support Clinic on the Quality of Life of Caregivers of People with Dementia

Dr. David Hage, Misericordia University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

6. Exploring Childhood Adverse Experiences as a Precursor to Intimate Partner Abuse in Older Adults (Student Paper)

Constance Cromartie and Subashri Garimalla, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

7. Exploring the Benefits of Creative Art Therapies in Enhancing Well-being Among LGBTQ+ Older Adults: Insights from a Scoping Review

Scarlett Peterson and Zach Salling, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

8. Factors Associated with Sense of Community Among Older Adults Aging in Place in Northeast Tennessee: A Cross-Sectional Study (Student Poster)

Tejan Mansaray, East Tennessee State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

9. Hearing Loss and Cognitive Decline and Dementia: What We Know and Where We Need to Go: Literature Review (Student Poster)

Girish Hemrajani, Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

10. Human-Animal Interaction and Meaningful Engagement among Assisted Living Residents with Dementia (Student Poster)

Erreannau Zellous, Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

11. Integrated Primary Care Approach Decreases Risk for High-Risk Medication Use in People Living with Dementia

Dr. Miranda Moore, Emory University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

12. Lifelong Learning Post COVID-19 Pandemic Closures: How Directors of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI's) Create Successful Strategies to Reduce Social Isolation (Student Poster)

Kami Batchelder, Florida Atlantic University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

13. Long-Term Care System: Comparison of Taiwan and USA Approaches (Student Poster)

Yun-Zih Chen, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies

DOMAIN | ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE

14. Oral Health, Denture Wearing and Respiratory Conditions in Older Adults: A Scoping Literature Review

Dr. Mary Helen McSweeney-Feld, Towson University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

15. Perceived Vaccine Production Speed as a Deterrent to the COVID-19 Vaccine: Discussions with Older African Americans

Dr. Antonius D. Skipper, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

16. Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations in a Statewide Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Population

Dr. Julie Robison, University of Connecticut

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

17. Public Health Strategies to Address Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Rural Older Adults. A Mini-Review of the Literature (Student Poster)

Dr. Grace Ijtade, East Tennessee State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

18. Racial Disparities in the Prevalence of High Body Mass Index and Hypertension among Elderly Residents in the Central Savannah River Area

Dr. Benjamin Ansa, Augusta University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

19. Recruitment Strategies for Underrepresented Research Participants: Lessons Learned from the HANDLS Sleep Study (Healthy Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity Across the Life Span Sleep Study)

Marsha Hampton-Jarmon and Lena Simon, Clemson University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

20. Retaining Older and Experienced Nurses in the Workforce

Dr. Francine Sheppard & Dr. Kia Countess, Western Carolina University

Katherine Rush, Atrium Health Cleveland

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

21. Storytime: Intergenerational Relationships in Children's Literature

Dr. Meldrena Chapin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

22. The Actual Effects of Evaluation and Management Payment Policy Changes in Medicare Payment of 2021

Jennifer de la Cruz, Mercer University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

TUESDAY APRIL 2

POSTER RECEPTION

REGENCY A/B

23. The Relationships Between Information Sources, Perspectives on Public Health Policies, and Ageism

Cherrie Park, The Ohio State University

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

24. The Value of Collective Impact in Addressing the Complex Direct Service Worker Training and Credentialing Challenges in North Carolina

Zavera Basrai & Caroline Yoon, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

25. Trans/Gender Non-Conforming Adults Experiences with Access to Healthcare in GA (Student Paper)

Tatiana Spence, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

26. Comparing Objective and Subjective Indices of Quality of Care between Medicare and Medicaid-Based Skilled Nursing Facilities: A Preliminary Qualitative Study (Student Paper)

Gracie Ellington and Dr. Angela Sardina, University of North Carolina Wilmington

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

27. Mobile Health and Resource Fairs for Adults in Subsidized Housing are a Valuable Applied Learning Opportunity: An Account of College Students' Experiences (Student Paper)

Lauren Saurbaugh, Alexis Hernandez, Anna Rubin, and Dr. Angela Sardina, University of North Carolina Wilmington

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

28. Older Veterans Were Able to Use Technology During COVID-19 Despite Challenges

Dr. Stuti Dang, Miami Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

29. Patient Portal Intervention for Enhancing Shared Decision Making and Healthy Behaviors

Dr. Stuti Dang, Miami Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

30. Peri-menopausal Women Veterans Face Complex Multi-Domain Social Challenges

Dr. Stuti Dang, Miami Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

31. A Systematic Review of Interventions to Improve Cognition in Older Adults (Student Poster)

Ian Blount, Rhianna Lopez, Harvonya Perkins, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

32. A Systematic Review of Interventions for Meniscus Tears in Patients Over the Age of 45 (Student Poster)

Andrew Lawendy and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

33. A Systematic Review of Interventions to Improve Glycemic Control Among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes (Student Poster)

Lukas Isley, Natalie Willis, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

34. Cerebrovascular Events Among Type II Diabetic Older Adults: A Systematic Review (Student Poster)

Matthew Dear, Kameron Kishaba, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

35. Systematic Review of Prophylaxis Treatment in Sexually Transmitted Infections (Student Poster)

Cristina Caldera Garza, Faith Hopkins, Carlo Martinez, Alaina Mgbere, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

36. The Effects of Physical Activity on Cognitive Function in Rural Communities: A Systematic Review (Student Poster)

Kyle Copp, Tyler Larkin, Dr. Celina Salcido, and Dr. TimMarie Williams, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

37. Impact of Social and Physical Isolation During the COVID-19 Pandemic on Falls Among Older Adults Residing in Assisted Living Communities (Student Poster)

Dr. Louise Murray, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

38. Characteristics of Returning Food-Is-Medicine Program Participants (Student Poster)

Jonathan Williams, Virginia Commonwealth University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

7:00 AM – 5:30 PM

REGISTRATION & SILENT AUCTION INTAKE

7:30 AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM



PRESIDENT'S SYMPOSIUM BREAKFAST - The Importance of Mentorship Networks for Professionals in Gerontology

REGENCY C/D/E

*Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging,
Virginia Commonwealth University*

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

*Denise Scruggs, National Council of Certified
Dementia Practitioners*

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

*Morgan Alexander, Virginia Commonwealth
University*

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As gerontology programs in higher education institutions and the aging network of service providers have experienced periods of change over the last 25 years, one constant has been the collaboration and mentorship of academics and practitioners both within and across organizations. In this panel discussion, SGS President, Bert Waters, will facilitate a conversation among SGS members with diverse experiences and career trajectories to highlight examples of these collaborations, the important of social networks, and the need for mentors at all stages of their careers. The panelists will discuss different ways and methods of mentorship that are not defined by institutional or organizational boundaries. This discussion is intended to illuminate how social and mentoring networks have helped professionals at multiple career stages achieve professional growth while making substantial contributions in the base of knowledge in a still-emerging discipline. Attendees will also be introduced to how the Southern Gerontological Society can provide opportunities to build these social networks and mentoring opportunities.

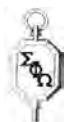
10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION A

Cognitive Impairment and Dementia Paper Session

REGENCY B

This paper session will explore the interplay between cognitive impairment/dementia and components of health and wellness while also considering the effects of other factors such as education and co-occurring illnesses.



Aging with Independence: How Cognitive Impairment and Physical Functioning Impacts Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) Among Older Adults (Student Paper)

*Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore
and Baltimore County*

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Dementia and Death in Georgia: Changes Over Time

Dr. Adrienne Cohen, Georgia Southern University

Dr. Miranda Moore, Emory University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Trends in Mortality and the Effect of Education among Persons with Alzheimer's Disease in South Carolina

Dr. Candace Brown & Amy Money, UNC Charlotte

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Health and Wellness Contributors to Cognitive Health

Dr. Cynthia Williams, University of Central Florida

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING
COMMUNITIES

Gerontological Education Paper Session

REDBUD

This paper session will highlight new directions in the theory and implementation of gerontology education.

Examining Undergraduate Students' Experiences with Hands-On Gerontology Research (Student Paper)

*Dr. Abigail Stephan, Vanessa Martinez, W. Bennett
Davis, Daniel Moss, and Mary Walton, Clemson
University*

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

An Examination of Student Perspectives of Careers in Aging Services and Faculty Perspectives of Teaching Topics on Aging (Student Paper)

Bailee Ridlon, Appalachian State University

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION A (CONT.)

Gerontological Education Paper Session

REDBUD

A Curriculum Module to Enhance HBCU College Students' Knowledge of Home Accessibility Features for Older Adults

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

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Unification of Activity and Disengagement Theories

Dr. Stephen M. Marson, UNC Pembroke

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

How to Publish: Discussions with *Journal of Applied Gerontology* and *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine*

REGENCY F

Dr. Debra Dobbs, University of South Florida
Dr. Tamatha Arms, UNC Wilmington
Jonathan Krebs, Sage Publishing

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Journal of Applied Gerontology (JAG) provides an international forum for information that has clear and immediate applicability to the health, care, and quality of life of older persons. *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine (GGM)* is an interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open access journal focusing on the psychological, behavioral, social, and biological aspects of aging. Join Dr. Debra Dobbs, Editor-in-Chief of *JAG* and Dr. Tamatha Arms, Co-Editor of *GGM* as they discuss the process for getting published in these two well respected journals. Get your questions answered and get helpful tips to help you with your next submission. Jonathan Krebs from Sage will also provide helpful insights on trending topics.

Community-Based Group Screening for Alzheimer's: "Purple Sunday Program" Increases Clinical Trial Participation in the Black Community

REGENCY G

Dr. Bahar Niknejad and Dr. Hamid Okhravi, Eastern Virginia Medical School
Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Norfolk State University - School of Nursing

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Clinical trial participants need to be representative of minority population to ensure that the results can be generalized and applied to the wider population. We introduce a pilot randomized controlled clinical trial of group screening. In this session, we will explore lessons learned and recruitment challenges from the African American community encountered in our ongoing Alzheimer's disease prevention trial outreach initiative. We will highlight the program's impact on our study and discuss how these experiences shaped the design of our new pilot study, tailored to address these challenges. The session will provide valuable pragmatic lessons applicable to future clinical trials seeking more inclusive and representative study populations.

Innovative Approaches to Facility Design and Funding of "Place" to Serve Active, Engaged Older Adults

SENIOR ACTION (TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED, MUST SIGN UP)

Andrea Smith, Senior Action

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

The senior center of old days is much more than a building in a community, it is a sense of identity and place for the aging population. Is the building a left-over building that has reached the end of its usefulness, so the community turns it into a senior center? Too often that is the case, and such a metaphor of how older adults are viewed. This session will demonstrate the importance of creating a sense of place for the aging population that instills value and pride and engages the community in redefining what healthy aging looks like. It will also include information on creative funding solutions when there is seemingly no funding available for these types of projects. Attendees will leave encouraged to engage with similar programs in their communities.

11:45 AM – 12:15 PM

EXHIBITOR BREAK

Please show your gratitude to our Sponsors & Exhibitors for their support of the 45th Annual Meeting & Conference. Be sure to stop by their tables to learn more about their wonderful programs and services.

12:15 PM – 2:00 PM

KEYNOTE LUNCH - *Improving Care through Improv*

REGENCY C/D/E

Dr. Candace Kemp, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS



Dementia care can involve burden, stress, and emotional strain, all of which negatively influence care interactions and relationships. Interventions that bolster care partners' ability to succeed in their care roles, especially in ways that are fun and engaging, show promise for improving dementia care experiences. This presentation introduces, "Improving Care through Improv: Promoting Mastery in the Moment," a pilot project funded by Emory's Roybal Center for Dementia Caregiving Mastery. This study builds on an existing partnership supported by Georgia Gear and involves Georgia State University's Gerontology Institute and actors and educators from Dad's Garage, an improvisational theatre company located in Atlanta, Georgia. Begun in 2023, this one-year project involves refining and pilot testing a training program designed for unpaid care partners of persons living with moderate dementia. The program teaches communication techniques used in improvisational (improv) theatre and provides dementia care education. After learning about the study's hypothesis, methods, and preliminary findings, the session shifts focus to engage the audience by demonstrating key improv techniques, discussing application, and illustrating the power of "Yes, And..." Get ready to laugh and learn.

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION B

PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Navigating the Dementia Spectrum: A Balanced Approach to Brain Health

REGENCY B

Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The dementia spectrum covers a range of disorders affecting memory, thinking, and behavior. This presentation aims to foster a deeper understanding of brain health while encouraging a balanced approach that considers both established knowledge and ongoing exploration. By critically examining nonpharmacological interventions for the dementia spectrum, we strive to contribute to the advancement of effective strategies for promoting cognitive well-being. Nonpharmacological evidence-based practices, success stories, and research findings will be shared as we delve into a systematic review of systematic reviews of these interventions.

A Balanced Approach: Personal, Operational and Physical Transformation to Support Dementia Capability

REDBUD

Kim McRae, Culture Change Network of Georgia

Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University

Rose Marie Fagan, Live Oak Project

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

This interactive workshop will describe the three aspects of transformation - personal, operational, and environmental and illustrate how to apply this framework to support organizations to implement person centered care, person centered dementia care, and create person-centered organizations with robust quality improvement processes. We will discuss how we emphasize competency-building in a trauma-informed approach, person centered care and quality improvement processes to equip long-term care staff with tools that support quality care and quality of life for residents. Implications for the structure and content of continuing education training, modalities for online education including microlearnings and webinars and evaluation of such training will be discussed. Participants will leave the workshop with access to resources and an action plan for using resources with their teams and organizations.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION B (CONT.)



Approaching Balance: Considering Social Exclusion and Interdependence Frameworks in Research, Teaching, and Practice

REGENCY F

Dr. Cynthia Hancock, UNC Charlotte

Dr. Tina Newsham, UNC Wilmington

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

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Have you ever used the word “independent” as an aspiration for aging without much thought when referring to formal and informal care? The presenters believe that the binary language (independent vs. dependent) reinforces a culture of fear of care and of “being a burden” that does not accurately reflect the reality under which we all live our lives. Come to our workshop and learn about an island culture where residents thrive interdependently. We will engage in a design challenge where participants will question the Eurocentric biases that underly our society’s belief in the value and attainability of “independence.” Participants will work together to develop alternative strategies and ways of thinking when it comes to practicing, researching, and teaching about care and social support. This workshop is perfect for students, instructors, researchers, and practitioners and will leave you rethinking binary narratives and prepared with new approaches focused on celebrating our interdependence.

Breaking the Chains of Ageism: Towards an Inclusive Society

REGENCY G

Dr. Corinne Auman, Winston Salem State University

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

This presentation delves deep into the pervasive issue of ageism, examining its profound influence on both individuals and society at large. It encompasses an exploration of age-related stereotypes and discrimination, highlighting the pressing need for inclusive measures to counter this deeply ingrained social bias. Additionally, there will be a strong emphasis on personal growth and development, as participants will engage in self-reflection exercises to scrutinize and address their own age biases. Participants will leave equipped with practical, actionable strategies for combatting age-related prejudices.

Gentle Caregiving

REGENCY H

Dr. Deneisha Scott-Poe, Converse University

Khushbu Patel, Virginia Tech

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Roughly 53 million caregivers provide unpaid care to family members and friends in the United States and about 19% of these caregivers care for older adults (National Alliance for Caregiving & American Association for Retired Persons, 2020). This number is expected to increase over the next decade as the baby boomers reach 65 years old (Census Bureau, 2019). There is a plethora of research detailing the impacts of caregiving on family systems; the more negative impacts of caregiving have been thoroughly studied (National Alliance for Caregiving, 2020; Dooley & Hinojosa, 2004; Smith et al., 2001). One way to help caregivers and older adults navigate their caregiving relationship is through the use of gentle caregiving. Gentle caregiving borrows from the concepts of gentle parenting, which aims to raise children who are more compassionate and competent as adults (Ockwell-Smith, 2016). Gentle caregiving works to incorporate similar concepts of empathy, respect, understanding, and boundaries to mend the loss of autonomy experienced by some older adults with dementia and to help alleviate the stress that caregivers feel by allowing them to have honest conversations about their feelings and to set realistic expectations for their loved one with dementia. Gentle caregiving bridges the gap between older adults and their caregivers to create a holistic/ more encompassing experience of aging for the entire family.

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION C

PRESIDENT’S AND ENCORE COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT SESSION

The Power of Elderhood: Connecting with our Authentic Selves in an Ageist Society

REGENCY C/D/E

Dr. Jenny Inker and Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Althea Taylor Jones, Independent Gerontologist Consultant

Dr. Ed Rosenberg, Appalachian State University

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

In this lively and interactive session, we will collaboratively explore the nature of elderhood, drawing on the personal and professional

experiences of several seasoned gerontologists, as well as the views and experiences of participants. In particular, we will explore how and why the concept of elderhood is contested in gerontological literature (spanning the disciplines of sociology, psychology, anthropology, and the humanities) and also in everyday life. Our ultimate aim will be to sketch out what the experience of elderhood can offer to all people, taking account of diversity and intersectionality with regard to age, ability, gender identity, culture, race, socio-economic status etc.), and to society at large, and how we can embrace elderhood in a youth-obsessed and ageist culture.

Aging Services Workforce Perspectives and Opportunities Paper Session

REGENCY B

This paper session will highlight research that includes the perspectives of aging service workers, discusses collaborations to address workforce gaps, and provide a framework for assessing training.

Courage to Care; Perspectives of Home Health Nurses and Social Workers on Elder Abuse

Dr. Meredith Troutman-Jordan and Dr. Boyd Davis, UNC Charlotte

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Suspecting Domestic Abuse by Relatives of a Person with Dementia - Acts and Reasoning by Health and Social Care Staff

Dr. Jonas Sandberg, Sophiahemmet University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Aligning Smiles and Bodies: A Holistic Approach to Geriatric Dental and Physical Wellness

Dr. Julie Hartmann, Bellarmine University

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Using Collective Impact Framework to Assess Home- and Community-Based Services Worker Training and Credentialing in North Carolina (Student Paper)

Zavera Basrai & Caroline Yoon, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Issues in COVID-19 Research: Treatment, Vaccination and Effects

REDBUD

Dr. Nasreen Sadeq, Natalia Babenko, and Dr. Hongdao Meng, University of South Florida

Linette Leng, Brown University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

This presentation will present a collection of papers on diverse topics, all related to COVID-19 and relevant to current practice and the management of a pandemic in the future. The first of four papers presents survey research with older adults associated with the National Senior games, capturing data about their socio-demographics and health as well as their vaccination status to add to our understanding of sports participation and health and wellness during the pandemic. The second paper deals with how to measure the effect of pandemic-related stress on cognition, in particular the differences between traditional and newer, computer-based measures of cognition. The third study adds to our understanding of staff vaccination rates in long-term care and how policies may have affected COVID-19 vaccination rates. The final study describes several aspects of the pandemic among health personnel in Central America and the Caribbean, focusing on the need to provide resources to lower-income countries to improve the care of patients and to protect the well-being of overburdened healthcare providers. All presentations will add to our understanding of how to manage the health of older adults during a pandemic and provide lessons for the future.

Health Disparities in Aging Paper Session

REGENCY F

This paper session will look at examples of socioeconomic, racial/ethnic, and gender inequalities in older adults.

Understanding Older, Low-Income Homeowners and their Home Environments for Aging in Place

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

DOMAIN | ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE

Health, Aging, and Dying Among Older African Immigrants: Challenges and Possible Solutions

Dr. Ami Moore, University of North Texas

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Understanding Intersectional Disparities in Late-Life Material Hardship

Dr. Yang Li, University of Lausanne

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION C (CONT.)

Innovative Approaches to Facility Design and Funding of “Place” to Serve Active, Engaged Older Adults

SENIOR ACTION (TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED, MUST SIGN UP)

Andrea Smith, Senior Action

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

The senior center of old days is much more than a building in a community, it is a sense of identity and place for the aging population. Is the building a left-over building that has reached the end of its usefulness, so the community turns it into a senior center? Too often that is the case, and such a metaphor of how older adults are viewed. This session will demonstrate the importance of creating a sense of place for the aging population that instills value and pride and engages the community in redefining what healthy aging looks like. It will also include information on creative funding solutions when there is seemingly no funding available for these types of projects. Attendees will leave encouraged to engage with similar programs in their communities.

EVENING – TIMES VARY

DINE-AROUND NETWORKING EVENTS

Enjoy the local eateries of Greenville with some of SGS's most engaging hosts! Sign up for your choice of dinner and company at the Registration Desk. Dine-Arounds are always a fun way to get to know other attendees and take in the local culture that Greenville has to offer. Participants purchase their own meals.

Do you need continuing education credits or a certificate of attendance? Make sure you have signed up at the Registration Desk and received the appropriate information.

THURSDAY APRIL 4

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

9:30 AM – 6:00 PM

SILENT AUCTION OPEN

CREPE MYRTLE

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

RISE AND GRIND WITH THE SGS COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS (COPS)

REGENCY C/D/E

Come and have a coffee and connections breakfast with the Council of Presidents! Whether you are a new SGS member, thinking about joining SGS, or you've been a part of SGS for many years, we invite you to bring your ideas to this brainstorming breakfast. As part of our strategic plan, you will have the opportunity to provide feedback on goals related to Advocacy, Gerontology Education, and Practice to Research & Research to Practice.

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION D

PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Conversation on Substance Use: Engaging Older Adults in the Community Setting

REGENCY B

Dr. Mari K. Mackiewicz, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Patricia Slattum and Dr. Leland “Bert” Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Substance use disorders (SUD) are highly stigmatized, often making productive conversations around SUD challenging regardless of the audience. Conversations can be a valuable way to understand different perspectives and learn from the lived experiences of people with SUD as well as loved ones and caregivers of those who suffer from this chronic disease. This presentation will explore the facilitators and barriers to engaging older adults in conversations around SUD. This presentation will discuss research results as well as lessons learned from the development, implementation, and analysis of a mixed-method study exploring perspectives on SUD from underserved, urban-dwelling older adults. The outlined study enrolled 64 low-income, urban-dwelling, older adults 50 years and older, with a history of substance use.

Participants were asked to complete validated research instruments related to their lifetime history of substance use, recovery capital, SUD associated stigma and personal beliefs around SUD. Sixteen of the enrolled participants were invited to and completed semi-structured interviews to delve deeper into their views on SUD, in particular thoughts and perceptions related to SUD treatment and recovery. Our findings will be framed and presented within the context of age-related health and wellness and the evidenced based interventions outlined by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Tip 26.

Best Practices in Aging Services Delivery

REDBUD

This presentation will spotlight three examples of aging services. The first presentation will consider how specific aspects of Ashland Terraces environment, an environment that has evolved and adapted during its long history, facilitate a high level of achievement of "being in place" for both residents and staff and is related to their wellbeing. The second presentation will describe the benefits, logistics, challenges, and importance of collaboration for a state level nutrition program. The third presentation will focus on programs that offer respite and support for care partners.

The "Best Kept Secret": Ashland Terrace as a Model for Culture Change in Residential Independent Living

Dr. Graham Rowles, University of Kentucky

DOMAIN | ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE

Older Adult Nutrition in NC: The Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)

Karen Appert, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA) Community Centers and Respite and Enrichment Centers

Kelsie Short, Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA)

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Empowered Inclusivity: Wellness-Centered Allyship for Older Adults

REGENCY F

Dr. Sara W. Bailey and Colby Takacs, University of Lynchburg

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

By 2030 in the US, LGBTQIA+ adults 50 and older will number 7 million, but in contrast to the focus on allyship training on college campuses, older adults may not be exposed to such

training, putting the wellness of older LGBTQIA+ adults in jeopardy. Framed within the Wheel of Wellness and informed by their collective experience leading Safe Space Ally Trainings on their university's campus, the presenters will offer effective strategies for cultivating allyship, bridging generational gaps, and creating environments that prioritize the holistic well-being of LGBTQIA+ older adults. Be part of the conversation as we uncover the keys to building affirming spaces and nurturing understanding within our diverse communities.

Teranga: A Multicultural Perspective on Counseling that Nourishes the Whole Person

REGENCY G

Dr. Gloria Cissé, Southern Center for Choice Theory

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

It is generally accepted that the practice of mental health care is provided in multiple ways using a variety of interventions but from a Euro-American perspective. While yoga, dance, music and other interventions that include some forms of non-Western techniques are included in some practitioners' work, there may not be an attempt to fully and intentionally fuse multiple theories into a holistic practice. Relationships in the therapy room are critical but sometimes not treated as interdependent. Teranga is a perspective that is culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, and open to diverse practitioners so they can better nourish and honor the whole person in their environment. Teranga uses a fusion of therapeutic principles and techniques to create a psychologically safe environment for both the person providing care and the person receiving care. Its focus is on building a relationship that supports change for the helpee. It is also a departure for the traditional medical model in counseling, which relies heavily on standardized instruments. In this workshop participants will be introduced to Teranga, and an explanation of counseling, psychology and psychiatry that supports the timeliness of this perspective. Teranga principles and the language associated with the use of Teranga in counseling will be covered, as well as how it can be applied in practice with aging/older adults.

THURSDAY APRIL 4

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION D (CONT.)

Unlocking Learning Through Case-Based Strategies

REGENCY H

Jennifer de la Cruz, Mercer University

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In the dynamic landscapes of education, healthcare and community-based work, the efficacy of lecture-based teaching methods is continually being challenged. This mini-workshop delves into the transformative potential of including case-based learning (CBL) across diverse educational domains and educational platforms, including synchronous, asynchronous, in-person, and distance delivery options. This session will illustrate how CBL can address increasingly complex aspects of the cognitive, affective, and psychomotor educational domains of learning. This evidence-based interactive session invites participants to explore the possibility of integration of case-based methodologies into their own context, whether in academia, healthcare, or community-based work. Attendees will engage in practical activities, and guided discussions, gaining firsthand experience with the transformative impact of CBL. The mini-workshop aims to provide participants with actionable strategies to enhance learning outcomes, foster learner engagement, and promote real-world application across diverse educational contexts. Join us in this exploration of case-based learning as a catalyst for meaningful and impactful education.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION E

PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Ungrading: An Innovative Pedagogy for Assessing Competency-Based Gerontological Learning

REGENCY B

Dr. Jenny Inker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Michael Forder, Virginia Commonwealth University - College of Health Professions

Dr. Leland "Bert" Waters, Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This session will introduce participants to a set of innovative pedagogical practices known as ungrading. The session will explain why and how ungrading can be a powerful support to both students and instructors in developing proficiency with regard to the AGHE gerontological competencies. Examples from ungrading pilots at Virginia Commonwealth University's Master of Gerontology program will be shared.

Meet Me at the Gardens: Creating and Implementing a Collaborative Garden-Based Intervention Designed for Caregiver-Dementia Care Recipient Dyads

REDBUD

Lydia Burton, CARE Center / Institute of Gerontology, UGA

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Meet Me at the Gardens was a pilot program that utilized the power of curiosity, nature contact, and socialization to address the isolation and interpersonal strain often faced by care partner/ persons living with Alzheimer's or a related dementia dyads. Through sensory walks, hands-on activities, and botanical-themed educational presentations, participants were encouraged to interact, explore, and to be themselves. Despite all participants living with Alzheimer's or a related dementia progressing significantly over the course of the four month program, care partners did not report an increase in caregiver strain or caregiver burden. Quality of life remained stable despite each participant living with Alzheimer's or dementia developing severe medical needs over the course of Meet Me at the Gardens. This session will cover the evidence behind Meet Me at the Gardens, the process and logistics of developing the program, lessons learned, and suggestions on replication in other communities.



Disaster Preparedness: Strategies to Enhance Readiness Among Older Adults

REGENCY F

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

Andrew Ferguson, FEMA Community Emergency Response Team

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The conversation about disaster preparedness has shifted from training people to preparing for "if" a disaster were to happen to an insistence that they be prepared for "when" they will need to react to a crisis. The conversation about disaster preparedness has also begun to shift beyond

solely preparing for a weather or climate related disaster to recognizing universal mechanisms for preparedness which would respond to disasters beyond solely those inflicted by mother nature. Developed in response to the troubling results recently reflected by the 2023 National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness, this session will explore current initiatives, best practices, and technological innovations for improving disaster readiness among all ages, but especially for adults aged 60+. Readiness for disaster starts with each of us being educated on how to budget for and prepare our own disaster kits and plans. All attendees of the conference are encouraged to attend this session to learn not only how to ensure that they themselves are disaster ready but find ways to empower others within their own communities and service populations to do the same.

Brain Health: What We Know & Strategies for Getting the Word Out

REGENCY G

Denise Scruggs, National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Brain health is a rapidly expanding field and a concern for most older adults. Physical health, environment, social connections, and lifestyle habits can impact our risk for dementia. In this interactive program, we will talk about brain health and the latest research around brain health and the early signs of dementia, share the newest resources available for educating older adults and people of all ages about brain health and dementia, and discuss proven strategies for connecting with community members to increase awareness and provide brain health education. Join us to learn the latest developments in brain health and share your successful efforts or challenges in educating the public about brain health and dementia.

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

SGS AWARDS CEREMONY LUNCH

REGENCY C/D/E

Join us in a celebration of those who have been recognized for one of SGS's many prestigious awards. You are invited to wear your favorite fun or festive hat!

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM

EXHIBITOR BREAK

Please show your gratitude to our Sponsors & Exhibitors for their support of the 45th Annual Meeting & Conference. Be sure to stop by their tables to learn more about their wonderful programs and services.

SILENT AUCTION

CREPE MYRTLE

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

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION F

CAREWORK NETWORK SPOTLIGHT SESSION



The Direct Care Workforce Looking Backward and Moving Forward

REGENCY B

Dr. Christopher Kelly, University of Nebraska Omaha

Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County

Ebenezer Martey, Georgia State University

Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University

Dr. Christina Barmon, Central Connecticut State University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

The direct care workforce has experienced low job quality (e.g. low wages, few benefits, heavy workloads), high turnover and long-term care employers continue to experience workforce shortages. The COVID 19 pandemic exacerbated many of the persistent issues for this workforce and, in many ways, made life more difficult for many older adults, particularly those in residential care. This panel symposium brings together four papers that examine these issues in greater depth and propose solutions. The titles of the four papers are as follows: 1) A Profile of the Direct Care Workforce: Before and After COVID 19, 2) Coping Strategies and Building Resilience: Using a Trauma-Informed Approach to Supporting Direct Care Workers, 3) Combatting Social Isolation Among Residents in Long-Term Care: The Role of the Direct Care Worker and 4) Scaffolding Direct Care Worker Skill Development to Support Quality Care and Quality of Life. Implications for research, policy, practice, and dissemination will be described by the discussant.

THURSDAY APRIL 4

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION F (CONT.)

Global Aging Paper Session

REDBUD

This paper session will feature research from other countries that we can teach us lessons for our work in our communities.

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Have We Prepared for Old Age at All? Financial Preparations for Retirement among Older Adults in Jamaica

Dr. Julian McKoy Davis, The University of the West Indies Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

How do Indonesia Women Experience Guilt and Stress as Transnational Caregivers Living in Taiwan (Student Paper)

Suei DiPaola, Gerontology Institute, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Social Quality Environment and Health in Aging Societies: Evidence from Switzerland

Dr. Yang Li, University of Lausanne

DOMAIN | ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE



Examining the Socio-environmental Influences of Aging Among Bonacca Cay's Island Community of Guanaja, Honduras: Results from a Focused Ethnography

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

DOMAIN | ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE

The Impact of Daily Lived Environments on Health, Well-being, and Activity Engagement

REGENCY F

Dr. Angela Sardina, UNC Wilmington

Dr. Mijin Jeong and Dr. Alyssa Gamaldo, Clemson University

Junyan Tian and Alexa Allen, Pennsylvania State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Increasing research supports the meaningful connection between contextual factors and health. Contextual environments (immediate home and neighborhood environments) are modifiable factor(s) supporting/constraining physical, cognitive, and psychosocial health and well-being. These health domains are imperative to supporting independence and the ability to age-in-place with advancing age. This symposium includes presentations from two

projects conducted to explore (a) how perceptions of immediate housing and neighborhood characteristics relate to health and well-being and (b) strategies to engage and disseminate health resources within neighborhood environments across diverse adult populations. Jeong and colleagues explored relationships between perspectives of each home living space to the satisfaction with these spaces. Tian and colleagues explored the association between leisure constraints and cognitive function, and whether this association varied by depression severity. Allan and colleagues explored the association between perceived housing quality and social engagement. Gamaldo and colleagues explored sleep quality as it relates to the physical built environmental characteristics of the bedroom space versus the neighborhood. Lastly, Sardina and colleagues explored the feasibility of a mobile health and resource fair designed to mitigate health disparities experienced by older adults residing in subsidized housing.

Healthcare Access and Utilization Paper Session

REGENCY G

This paper session will examine how older adults utilize healthcare services while addressing barriers that impact certain marginalized groups.

Factors Associated with Completing Preventive Screening Visits in Georgia: Medicare Initial Preventive Physical Examination and Subsequent Annual Wellness Visit

Dr. Miranda Moore, Emory University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Healthcare Utilization in Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment: Exploring Disparities Across Sociodemographic Identities

Dr. Zahra Rahemi, Clemson University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES



COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Messaging Among At-Risk Adults in the Rural South

Dr. Abby Schwartz, East Carolina University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Unraveling Gender Disparities in Migraine Care and Pain Outcomes in Aging Individuals (Student Paper)

Tanjina Jalil, University of South Florida

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Role of the Non-Professional Care Partner Paper Session

REGENCY H

This paper session will explore challenges of the role of a non-professional care partner.

The Influence of a Caregiver's Social Support on Nursing Home Placement of Alzheimer's Patients: A Case-control Study

Dr. Caitlin Torrence, Western Carolina University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Balancing Caregiving and Professional Responsibilities: Descriptive Study of University Employees and Student Caregivers in a University in Appalachia. A Snapshot of Preliminary Findings (Student Paper)

Richard Mutua Kilonzo & Dr. Jodi Southerland, East Tennessee State University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

The Influence of Social Relationships among Caregivers and Non-Caregivers and the Impact on Mental Health: Findings from the Health and Retirement Study (Student Paper)

Jessica Yauk, University of South Florida

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

4:15 PM – 5:45 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION G

PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Make Some Noise: Empowering Family Caregivers Through the Journey

REGENCY C/D/E

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

Dr. Jodi Teitelman, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Norfolk State University - School of Nursing

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Oftentimes, caregivers report feeling overlooked or hidden as they walk the journey in providing care for a family member. Caregivers are learning to advocate for themselves, and they are making "noise" and are being heard. Now more than ever, caregiving, as a lived experience, with its inherent challenges and rewards, is on the radar screen of the Federal Government and national and regional programs and funders. Panelists will provide an overview of the national landscape on caregiving programs and policies, specifically addressing the RAISE Report, Administration for Community Living Lifespan Respite Care Grants program,

and Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program grants to southern states. Emphasis will be placed on reports and advocacy targeting Alzheimer's disease and dementia care, and on initiatives such as the Age-Friendly Health System managed by the American Hospital Association. How older adults and caregivers interact with and receive support from community-based organizations including health care systems will be addressed. Ways in which this interaction with community organizations can be improved and strengthened will be emphasized. Further, structural racism and its impact on caregivers will be highlighted as well as ways to engage specifically in the Black community to empower family caregivers in their journey providing care. Attendees will be encouraged to reference programs and reports that support elder care and dementia care in their communities and to offer examples of where they are seeing caregivers making noise.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Higher Education's Role in Supporting Successful Statewide Aging Plans

REGENCY B

Jayson Wright, Amy Riedesel, Sarah Ekart, and Babs Hall, Guidehouse

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS

With the critical planning efforts states embark on to manage the demands of an aging population, higher education's role has never been more opportunistic and critical. The newest initiative catching fire is for a state to develop a Multisector Plan for Aging (MPA). What it is and could an MPA benefit you and your state? What does it mean for your organizations specifically, but also the role of gerontology? Our presentation on this new and exciting concept in strategic planning discusses how MPAs can impact public policy, advocacy, and research in a state. You will learn about the current status of MPAs, hear updates on how these plans can address current and future challenges and support the changing landscape, including the Older Americans Act 2024 Final Rule. By the end of the session, you will be able to effectively discuss MPAs, their impacts on multiple areas of study and some of the early successes MPAs have had in recent years.

THURSDAY APRIL 4

4:15 PM – 5:45 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION G (CONT.)

Recognizing and Addressing Ageism Paper Session

REDBUD

This paper session will provide examples of ageism and spotlight a program helping to address it.



Buying into the Dirty Joke: A Discourse Analysis on the Use of Editorial Cartoons About Older Adults and Sex (Student Paper)

Taylor Pope, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Ageist or Age-Positive? Exploring Images of Elders in Fine Art and Photography

Dr. Meldrena Chapin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Combating the Negative Narrative: Understanding and Decreasing the Impact of Ageist Stereotypes (Student Paper)

Lauren Arney & Dr. Erin Mauck, East Tennessee State University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Impact of an Intergenerational Book Club on Cross-Generational Attitudes: A Mixed-Methods Study (Student Paper)

Cara Vandergriff, University of South Carolina

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Creativity, Arts & Aging Paper Session

REGENCY F

This paper session will include research on music, art, and creative activities and the potential for these activities to improve the health and wellness of older adults.

Community-Based Music Intervention: Preliminary Results and Best Practices

Dr. Cassandra Germain, North Carolina A&T State University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

The New 'Doctor's Orders': Arts on Prescription as a Healthcare Tool for Older Americans

Dr. Sudha Shreeniwas, UNC Greensboro

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Creativity and Aging: A Look at the Issues and a Proposal for a Comprehensive Model for Future Research and Practice

Dr. Carolyn Adams-Price, Mississippi State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Working Towards a Better Understanding of Age-related Health & Wellness Paper Session

REGENCY G

This paper session will feature research that helps us better understand components of age-related health and wellness.

Factors that Influence Older Adults' Online Self-Efficacy

Dr. Amy Schuster, Clemson University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Older Adults and Opioids: What They Know and Perceive

Dr. Tamatha Arms, UNC Wilmington

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Mental Health and Cognitive Functioning in Older Adults with Chronic Pain: The Role of Pain Management in Promoting Healthy Aging

Dr. Kim Coddington, Dr. Donna Washburn, Alicia Cooper, and Adrienne Hollowell Eldridge, Regent University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS



An Intervention for Peer-Lead Sexually Transmitted Infection Education Among Older Adults (Student Paper)

Sarah Tesar, UNC Charlotte

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

STUDENT & ENCORE SPEED NETWORKING

STUDIO 220 @ NOMA B,C

Join the SGS Student & Encore Committees for a speed dating style event designed to build relationships and connect with colleagues. Everyone in the room will be actively engaged in this dynamic event. Light refreshments will be provided. This event is free but requires a separate registration.

FRIDAY APRIL 5

6:30 AM – 5:30 PM

REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

9:30 AM – 4:45 PM

SILENT AUCTION OPEN

CREPE MYRTLE

7:30 AM – 9:30 AM

SGS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING BREAKFAST

REGENCY C/D/E

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

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION H

CAREWORK NETWORK SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Expanding Dementia Capability Across Health Care Settings

REGENCY B

Dr. Alexis Bender, Emory University

Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Cindy Cain, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

As the prevalence of people living with dementia in the community continues to grow, we need increased dementia capability among workers across health care settings. This panel brings together four papers that examine this issue across settings and among stakeholders. The titles of the four papers are: 1) Comfort with and Knowledge of Dementia Care Among Interdisciplinary U.S. Dialysis Care Providers, 2) Informal Caregiver's Satisfaction with Dementia Primary Care in English-Speaking, 3) Informal Caregiver's Satisfaction with Dementia Primary Care in Spanish-Speaking Populations and 4) Aligning Quality of Work and Quality of Care in Dementia Care Settings. Implications for outreach and education across health care settings will be discussed.

Understanding Underserved Populations Paper Session

REDBUD

This paper session will recognize research that helps attendees better understand underserved populations and provides suggestions for improving care to these populations.

Exploring the Determinants of Positive and Negative Marital Quality among Older Hispanic Adults 51+ Living in the United States (Student Paper)

Jaminette Nazario, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

The Relational Perspective among Older Sexual and Gender Minorities in Long-Term Care

Dr. Jeffrey Lentz, Emory University

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

Building Community Engagement through Advisory Boards for Inclusive Research

Dr. Ishan Williams, University of Virginia

DOMAIN | DIVERSITY TOPICS IN AGING COMMUNITIES

The Forgotten: Prisoners with Dementia in the American South

Dr. Boyd Davis and Dr. Meredith Troutman-Jordan, UNC Charlotte

DOMAIN | ENVIRONMENT & LOCATION: THE POWER OF PLACE

Developing and Delivering a Caregiver Support Mentoring Program

REGENCY F

Dr. Matthew Peterson, Dr. Tina Newsham, Tess Ryan, Abrielle LeBlanc, and Logan Elkins, UNC Wilmington

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Integrating community engagement in academic curriculum is a cornerstone of virtually all higher education institutions' missions. This symposium will detail the steps taken over the last two years to purposefully plan, deliver, and execute a community-engaged research program focused on aging issues in the Wilmington community. Most recently a design challenge event focused on caregiver support challenges was co-hosted on campus at the University of North Carolina Wilmington with community partners and members and student participants. Borne from this event was a caregiver support mentorship program concept that was moved forward and fully developed in a graduate level gerontology course. Panelists will include students, community partners, and faculty who will focus on 1) a general

FRIDAY APRIL 5

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION H (CONT.)

overview of the community engaged work as part of a larger research program, 2) planning and participating in a community engagement event from a student's perspective, 3) how the caregiver support mentor program moved from concept to action, 4) caregiver support program development from a student's perspective, and 5) event and program development from a community partner's perspective. Panelists will provide attendees with diverse perspectives on engaging students and community members together with academic partners to tackle important aging-related issues. We will highlight the curricular opportunities within community-engaged work, particularly as it relates to student and community member partnerships.

Age-related Health & Wellness Interventions Paper Session

REGENCY G

This paper session will introduce different interventions aimed at improving different aspects of health and wellness for older adults.

The Healthy Aging Curriculum for Older Adults and Its Impact on Residents of Care Facilities

Miriam Watts, California State University Long Beach

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

GSU H.O.P. E. Lab Combines Warm Calling Programs to Lessen Social Isolation, Loneliness, and Elevated Suicidality (SILES) among the Older Adult Community in a Partially Nested Randomized Control Trial (Student Paper)

Chanel Reid, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | ADVOCACY FOR OR BY OLDER ADULTS



Meta-Analysis of Holistic Healthy Aging Practices and Interventions

Dr. Ann Marie Kopitzke, Hampton University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Challenges in Long Term Care Settings Paper Session

REGENCY H

This paper session will discuss challenges of residents and staff in long term care settings.

Sexuality And Dementia: Does Lack of Formal Policies Influence Barriers to Residents' Sexual Needs (Student Paper)

Dr. Josephine Misaro, Georgia State University

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

COVID-19 Statuses of Long-Term Care Facility Residents with Dementia: Hospitalization Outcomes (Student Paper)

Cheng Yin, University of North Texas

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Impact of the Autonomy versus Beneficence Dilemma in Long-Term Care: Nursing Assistants' Experiences of Moral Distress (Student Paper)

Blake Peebles, University of Alabama

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION I

Finding the Right Note: How to Meaningfully Use Music with People Living with Dementia

REGENCY B

Tara Jenkins, Harmony in Dementia

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Music connects us from our first moments in the womb to our last moments in life. Music stimulates most areas of the brain and neurons continue to fire until a connection is made. This is why someone living with dementia may be able to sing even if they cannot speak. Older adults have strong emotional responses even when they are no longer verbally communicating or responding to typical methods of care. Providing people living with dementia a way to access experiences and express a range of emotions can substantially improve their quality of life. Music can bridge the gap for those who are losing the ability to interact with the world around them in a meaningful way. This is why access to meaningful music experiences is such a beneficial and powerful tool in dementia care. This workshop will share best practices, practical tips, and resources on how to use music with people living with dementia. Attendees will learn the benefits of music for older adults, how to set up a comfortable music listening environment, how to maximize engagement with music, and how to share in a meaningful experience with those they care for.

Addressing Structural Racism: Impact on Alzheimer's Dementia & Caregivers

REDBUD

Dr. Ethlyn Gibson, Norfolk State University - School of Nursing

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

The African American (AA) community is strong and resilient but must address the silent epidemic of Alzheimer's Disease that is impacted by

structural and institutional racism. AA are two times more likely to develop Alzheimer's Disease than Non-Hispanic white counterparts. Caregivers must address issues such as institutional racism that will increase risk for dementia. This talk will address issues such as limited education, income inequalities and limited or no access to health care. Caregivers must address structural and institutional racism and factors that impact diagnosis and treatment of such as mistrust of the health care system due to past mistreatment, which may delay access to care and assessment, and cognitive screening tools that may not be culturally appropriate. This talk will also address the hesitancy of those in the Black community to participate in clinical trials to address Alzheimer's Dementia.



Taking our Seat at the Table: The Role of a Gerontologist as a Member of Geriatric Interprofessional Care Teams

REGENCY F

Alfred Boakye, Dr. Diane Martin, Min Kyoung Park, University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Join the Conversation!! This session will provide you with the opportunity to share how gerontologists can take their rightful place in geriatric interprofessional education. Delivering safe and high-quality care for older adults has gained attention among professionals in health care settings, policymakers, and researchers alike. Through interprofessional care teams, healthcare professionals from different disciplines integrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities through effective collaboration for improved patient outcomes. This interprofessional care team consists of professionals representing medicine, nursing, social work, pharmacy, psychology, and many other disciplines. However, gerontology has become the missing piece from interprofessional care teams, although the discipline has grown over the past several decades. In this practical session, gerontology students and faculty participating in geriatric IPE training activities will share lessons learned from their experiences and feedback received from health and social care trainees and faculty and discuss the value of integrating gerontology into geriatric IPE education.

Working with Sexual and Gender Minority Older Adults

REGENCY G

Dr. Jeffrey Lentz, Emory University

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The sexual and gender minority population continues to age and is at risk for utilizing long-term care services, among other challenges. This poses an issue for long-term service administrators and staff as they are not prepared to provide inclusive quality care for sexual and gender minority older adults. In order to give quality inclusive care to older sexual and gender minority adults, long-term care administrators and staff need to have a basic understanding of terms, history, trauma, and intolerance sexual and gender minorities experienced throughout their life course. In addition, they learn how to make their communities safe, welcoming, and inclusive for sexual and gender minority older adults. This workshop will give participants an overview and best practices for working with older sexual and gender minority adults in personal care homes, assisted living communities, and nursing homes. Topics include terms, historical trauma, discrimination, prejudice, dementia, statistics, and resources to make communities safe, welcoming, and inclusive. This professional development will implore elements of a holistic approach to promote healthy aging in long-term care for SGM older adults.

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM



SIGMA PHI OMEGA MEMBER BUSINESS & AWARDS MEETING

(Separate Registration Required)

REGENCY C/D/E

FRIDAY APRIL 5

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION J



Digging in the Dirt: The Deeper Roots of Gardening and Supportive Programs

REGENCY C/D/E

Dr. Lee Ann Ferguson, Dr. Laura Allen, Yun-Zih Chen, UMBC Erickson School of Aging Studies

Karen Appert, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services

Dr. LaVona Traywick, Arkansas College of Health Education

Dr. Graham Rowles, University of Kentucky

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Do you have memories which attach you to different generations of your family? Do you, yourself, find a sense of renewal or relaxation by tending vegetables or flowers? Are you aware of the multifaceted benefits of gardening activities? Does your agency implement some variation of a horticultural program as an option for client participation? Were you aware that there are Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs throughout the country? Were you aware that the importance of gardening activities for older adults is far too often trivialized or minimized? Or did you know that there are many universal design and adaptive strategies to make gardening an accessible and enjoyable pursuit throughout the life course? Regardless of the answer to any of these questions, attendees are invited to attend this invigorating session which will be hosted by workshop facilitators who have connected to each other through their own personal enthusiasm, work, and/or research for "being in the dirt". Gardening is a highly advantageous and non-medical approach to creating social connections, has exceptional holistic health benefits, connects generations through shared projects, and can promote access to nutritious foods. This workshop will reframe the value of intergenerational gardening activities by facilitating conversations about gardening benefits (for all ages), adaptive strategies for gardening throughout the life course, and discuss supportive national and state gardening and nutrition programs. Through active discussions throughout the session, attendees will attain both knowledge and resources as to how they may better connect gardening to themselves, their research, or their served populations.

Living in Harmony: Music & Self-Care for Caregivers

REGENCY B

Tara Jenkins, Harmony in Dementia

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Often as caregivers, the majority of your time and energy is dedicated to those you care for. This leaves little time for yourself. This can result in caregiver burnout, which can impact your physical, emotional, and mental health, as well as the health of the people you are caring for. Self-care is an intentional action that is used to support or fulfill an area of your life. It is essential for your well-being and your productivity and can be easily overlooked when caring for others. Research has shown that music can activate diverse brain networks, including those for cognition, emotion, motor control, and attention. Because music can influence your thoughts, feelings, and behaviors incorporating it into your self-care routine can be extremely beneficial for both you and those you care for. During this workshop, you will further understand the benefits of health and music, identify the categories of self-care, and incorporate practical skills to use music during self-care activities. Attendees will have the opportunity to try musical instruments as well as apply in-the-moment breathing techniques. The more you take care of yourself the better you will feel mentally, emotionally, and physically and the better you will be able to care for others. No prior music experience is required.

Creating Virtual Intergenerational Service-Learning Opportunities through the Arts

REDBUD

Meghan Young, Miami University

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Since 2007, Scripps Gerontology Center's Opening Minds through Art (OMA) program has transformed intergenerational visual art programming for people living with dementia by inviting college students to partner 1:1 with an older adult for weekly art-making sessions. Traditionally an in-person program, OMA created virtual opportunities to connect younger and older generations and combat social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Research comparing in-person and virtual programming showed students' attitudes toward people living with dementia improved to a similar degree, suggesting quality virtual programs can achieve similar service-learning outcomes for students. After 3 years of virtual OMA success, ScrippsAVID (Arts-based, Virtual, Intergenerational, Dementia-

friendly), a FREE video-chat platform, was developed to connect older adults, including people living with dementia, with younger adults to discuss and co-create art, music, poetry, and share stories. Over 75 prompts are provided to engage older and younger participants to ask questions and share stories based on their own experiences. The one-of-a-kind technical design of ScrippsAVID supports interpersonal connections so participants can chat with their partner and navigate the prompts with ease. The program addresses older adults' needs for social and creative engagement while providing younger adults opportunities to develop communication skills and build relationships with older adults, with and without dementia, outside their families. The presentation will include a showcase of ScrippsAVID, preliminary research findings from two semesters of pilot data, quotes from participants, an example activity, and Q&A.

Building a Strategic Partnership: Turning Workforce Challenges into Student Opportunities

REGENCY F

Marylea Boatwright Quinn, Division of Aging Services, Georgia Department of Human Services

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The University of North Georgia's Institute for Healthy Aging (IHA) and the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services (DAS), have partnered to address critical workforce needs in the program areas of Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation and Public Guardianship. Working together they have aligned requirements a new University System of Georgia degree, the Nexus degree, with the educational and experiential requirements of employment in these DAS program areas. The University System of Georgia's Nexus Degree, a new academic credential and the first new degree program in the United States since the 1890s when the associate's degree was added, was designed to help more Georgians access careers in high demand areas. Creation of this degree is in direct response to talent demand analysis with employers in high demand career areas. The Division of Aging Services faces many challenges that hamper finding and retaining the right workers for the difficult but rewarding roles in Adult Protective Services and Public Guardianship. This presentation will outline the DAS needs and UNG academic program, and how working together to meet the needs of at-risk elders, a direct pipeline to employment has been developed. This presentation will discuss and provide insight into this unique collaboration and newly created training approach.

Look for the Purple Flower Symbol: Dementia Training Benefits Hospital Staff, Persons Living with Dementia, and Their Family Caregivers

REGENCY G

Dr. Christine Jensen and Denise Butler, Martha W. Goodson Center at Riverside

Elisa Mangosing-Lemmon, Riverside Doctors' Hospital Williamsburg

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This workshop will address a Martha W. Goodson Center at Riverside (formerly the Riverside Center for Excellence in Aging and Lifelong Health) initiative to deploy a large-scale education and skills-building program for our hospital staff. This program, the Purple Flower Program (PFP), promotes dementia awareness in the Emergency Department and inpatient settings and will soon expand to primary care. Many of the acute care staff have limited, if any, training opportunities to advance their understanding of dementia and how to engage most effectively with and care for persons with memory loss. The PFP is a multi-faceted approach that includes: 1) All team members in the facility are receiving training (online and in-person) to promote person-centered dementia care and increase sensitivity while working with patients living with dementia; 2) A purple flower symbol is placed at the patient's door which indicates to team members, including the clinical team and other staff, (e.g., dietary, environmental services) to utilize their person-centered approaches when caring for this patient; 3) Resource cards are provided to family caregivers to build awareness of the PFP and linkage to internal and community-based resources including Memory Care Navigation and support groups; and 4) Engagement items (e.g., therapeutic baby doll, activity apron) are offered to patients based on need. Additional measures of tracking program referral and involvement have been added to the EHR. Fortunately, the PFP has been met with corporate-level support and team members have expressed appreciation for this opportunity to advance their skills, citing personal and professional gain.

3:00 – 3:30 PM

EXHIBITOR BREAK

Please show your gratitude to our Sponsors & Exhibitors for their support of the 45th Annual Meeting & Conference. Be sure to stop by their tables to learn more about their wonderful programs and services.

FRIDAY APRIL 5

SILENT AUCTION

CREPE MYRTLE

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

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

CONCURRENT SESSION K

The Virginia Memory Project: An Innovative Epidemiological Brain Health Registry with Direct Pathways to Services

REGENCY B

Ashley Staton, Virginia Commonwealth University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

The Virginia Memory Project (VMP) is a statewide epidemiological registry that catalogs diagnoses of ADRD (Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders), caregiving (CG), and subjective memory decline (SMD) across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Unlike traditional epidemiological registries, the VMP operates on a responsive philosophy, namely that the data housed in the registry should be foundational to immediate service and education efforts, as well as the more traditional long-term and higher order functions of a registry such as public health surveillance, resource allocation, and policy formation. Attendees will learn about this unique, holistic approach that supports the understanding and treatment of the disease that impacts over 55 million people worldwide.



Sigma Phi Omega: International Honor and Professional Society in Gerontology

REDBUD

Dr. Diane Martin and Alfred Boakye, University of Maryland, Baltimore and Baltimore County

Arnesia Calk, Concordia University Chicago

Dr. Cynthia Hancock, UNC Charlotte

DOMAIN | GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sigma Phi Omega, the International Academic Honor and Professional Society in Gerontology was established in 1980 to recognize the excellence of those who study gerontology and the outstanding service of professionals who work with or on behalf of older persons. The goals of SPO are achieved primarily through activities of local chapters as well as through the efforts of

the international officers. Local chapters provide opportunities for personal and professional interaction, sharing of concerns, discussion of issues, and service activities. SPO also annually recognizes student and chapter excellence through the President's Student Paper Award, Video Award, and Service Project Award. In the spirit of "A Balanced Approach," this year SPO is pleased to once again partner with the Southern Gerontological Society. While SGS is a regional organization focusing on aspects and challenges of aging within the south, their membership composition has national representation, and their academic journal has international participation. The primary focus of SGS is to bridge research and practice in aging together and this organization places a high priority on the mentorship of students and the inclusion of older adults. The goals of SPO and SGS are perfectly paired to offer multiple opportunities and resources. This workshop is designed to share the history of SPO, introduce the leadership and leadership opportunities, demonstrate how to start a local chapter, and share the many benefits of membership to students, professionals, faculty, and alumni. Please join us to discover what Sigma Phi Omega has to offer!

Introducing the Safety Connector! Innovations for Making Virginia a Safer Place to Grow Old

REGENCY F

Dr. Sarah A. Marrs, Virginia Commonwealth University

DOMAIN | CAREGIVING, CARE SUPPORT, AND CARE PARTNERSHIPS

To date, much of the research on elder mistreatment has focused on adequate skills for recognizing, screening, and reporting abuse. While knowing how to recognize when abuse has occurred is critical for effective response, coupling these skills with knowledge of ways in which we can build a more just society for older adults will lead to greater efforts in prevention of elder mistreatment. In this multi-media session, we will begin by briefly defining and describing elder abuse. Next, we will highlight and discuss the link between ageism and elder abuse. Finally, we will spend the majority of this session discussing community approaches to reduce and prevent elder abuse. Specifically, we will introduce and demonstrate the use of Virginia's new Safety Connector, an online tool for linking systems of care. This tool will better connect older adults and their caregivers to local resources and systems of care that meet their specific needs. We will also introduce the various other resources available on the Safety Connector's website.

Self Care for Older Adults and Caregivers Experiencing Loneliness

REGENCY G

Dr. Megan Smith, UNC Charlotte

DOMAIN | AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Loneliness is the most problematic health issue of our time. Loneliness affects all social groups. We often know we feel “off,” but can’t determine if the issue is due to physical or mental health issues. We’re also not entirely sure who to talk to about how we’re feeling. Others of us are deeply aware of our social isolation and loneliness, but are limited in our resources in how to care for ourselves in these contexts. Unfortunately, loneliness affects our physical and mental health in very problematic ways. The effects of loneliness range from hypertension, strokes, heart disease, diabetes, weakened immune systems, cognitive disorders, Alzheimer’s disease, to depression/anxiety. Fortunately, strategies are available to care for ourselves while experiencing loneliness. Older adults, their caregivers, and health care workers self report high levels of loneliness (second only to Gen Z). Caregivers of older adults and older adults consistently report high levels of loneliness. This workshop focuses on 1) education and awareness of loneliness, 2) presentation of multiple strategies to alleviate loneliness, and 3) signs and steps to prevent future loneliness and isolation. Confidently knowing the terminology, statistics, and information allows us to speak to our health care professionals, community workers, and stakeholders to reduce loneliness for ourselves and caregivers (or ourselves as caregivers). The workshop focuses and provides realistic takeaways on the topic and practical strategies that we can immediately put into place for ourselves, those we know and love, and those we support informally and formally.

4:45 PM

SILENT AUCTION FINAL BIDS

CREPE MYRTLE

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

5:50 PM/7:40

MAIN STREET FRIDAYS

This weekly music series on Main Street at NOMA Square (right outside the conference hotel) opens at 5:30 p.m. and closes at 9:30 p.m., with bands playing two sets at 5:50 p.m. and 7:40 p.m. NOMA Square chairs go fast, so bring a tailgating chair if you are not arriving early.

SATURDAY APRIL 6

8:00 AM – 11:30 AM

REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

CLOSING BREAKFAST PANEL

Improving Dementia Care with BOLD Grants – Best Practices and Lessons Learned

REGENCY C/D/E

*Dr. Annie Rhodes, Virginia Commonwealth University
Paulita Edwards-Childs, Mississippi State Department of Health*

Emma Kennedy, S.C. Dept. of Health & Environmental Control

Chloe Hale, GA Department of Public Health

The BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer’s Act was passed into law on December 31, 2018. The activities outlined in BOLD are designed to create a uniform national public health infrastructure with a focus on issues such as increasing early detection and diagnosis, risk reduction, prevention of avoidable hospitalizations, and supporting dementia caregiving. There are currently 43 award recipients of CDC-RFA-DP23-0010 “BOLD Public Health Programs to Address Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias”. Recipients will use a public health approach to Alzheimer’s Disease and related dementias (ADRD) using CDC’s Healthy Brain Initiative State and Local Public Health Partnerships to Address Dementia: The 2023-2027 Road Map, the Road Map for Indian Country (RM Series), as well as future updates, as guides to expand and improve the response to ADRD in their jurisdictions. This exciting closing panel will share how four states – South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, and Virginia – have addressed state and regional challenges, created new collaborations, and developed innovative ways to meet their goals. Attendees will gain a better understanding of this exciting work and how they can become more involved in supporting, promoting, and advancing these initiatives.

Virtual Presentations

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

Awareness of Pulmonary Sarcoidosis in the Older Adult: A Case Study Approach

Dr. Andrea Jennings, VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System, Gerontology Research Education Clinical Center

AGE-RELATED HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Sarcoidosis is an autoimmune disease and the exact cause is unknown. The causes may be linked to genetics, bacteria, viruses, infections, and environmental factors. Sarcoidosis can attack a variety of organs in the body; however, the lungs are quite commonly impacted by pulmonary sarcoidosis. In older adults, sarcoidosis is hard to diagnosis because the symptoms may mimic other chronic diseases. Thus, health care providers may not recognize sarcoidosis and implement an inappropriate treatment plan. This may be an overwhelming experience for older adults given the possibility of misdiagnoses and a battery of unneeded diagnostic tests. The purpose of this hypothetical case study is to highlight how pulmonary sarcoidosis can present in an older adult and how nurses specifically can develop a plan of care for patients. With a diagnosis of pulmonary sarcoidosis, continuing patient education, self-advocacy, and family support are all essential. Educational implications will be discussed as it relates to health care providers being able to identify and manage sarcoidosis in older adults more efficiently in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

Evidence-Based Pedagogical Strategies to Promote Gerontological Education and Healthcare Outcomes

Dr. Tracy McClinton, University of Tennessee Health Science Center

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Evidence-based practice is foundational in improving patient safety and healthcare outcomes. Utilizing evidence-based

pedagogical strategies including evidence-based practice (EBP) itself, is vital in educating gerontological providers. Pedagogical guidance for instructors includes active learning (student interaction and engagement), authentic assessment (meaningful application of knowledge and skills via projects), experiential learning (project planning and implementation), flipping the classroom (exposing students to online EBP competencies prior to their application and hands-on classroom experience), inclusivity/diversity, and teamwork / and collaboration. The purpose is to inform gerontological educators, providers, and clinicians on the importance of teaching and implementing evidence-based practice competencies and how it will ultimately improve patient safety, health outcomes of our aging population, and healthcare outcomes. Assigning groups of Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students with topics concerning gerontological health and wellness and educating them through mastery of EBP competencies, in addition to their expertise and patient preferences proved to be an innovative pedagogy within nursing education. DNP students were taught EBP competencies through a step-by-step approach utilizing specific tools. They demonstrated their knowledge and mastery of each competency as evidenced by individual assessments given by faculty. EBP competencies included: formulating a PICOT question, searching the databases for quality evidence, critically appraising the evidence, synthesizing the literature and outcomes, implementing the project, and disseminating the findings. Utilizing evidence-based pedagogical strategies and teaching EBP competencies in gerontological education increases the confidence for providers and clinicians to provide practice-informed care while increasing patient safety, improving care for our aging population, and positively impacting healthcare outcomes.

Virtual Presentations

The Advantages of Program Evaluation in Gerontology Programs (Student Paper)

Jessica McCarty, University of South Alabama

GERONTOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This paper presents an in-depth overview of program evaluation models tailored to gerontology. It delves into various approaches that assess the effectiveness and impact of programs designed to serve the aging population. The abstract explores the unique considerations and challenges in evaluating gerontology programs, including the multifaceted needs of older adults, the ever-changing nature of aging-related services, and the importance of incorporating holistic perspectives on well-being. Furthermore, the abstract discusses the application of quantitative and qualitative research methods and the significance of ethical and culturally sensitive evaluation practices. Overall, this presentation aims to provide practitioners and researchers with comprehensive insights and recommendations for program evaluation models in gerontology.

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