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Center for Applied Social Research, University of Oklahoma, 2 Partners Place, 3100 Monitor Avenue, room 100, Norman, Oklahoma 73072  
E-mail: [lori.jervis@ou.edu](mailto:lori.jervis@ou.edu)

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Department of Anthropology, 3054 Faculty/Administration Building, 656 Reuther Mall, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202  
E-mail: [s.briller@wayne.edu](mailto:s.briller@wayne.edu)

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Buehler Center on Aging, Northwestern University, 750 N. Lakeshore Drive, Suite 601, Chicago, IL 60611-2611  
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486 Walnut Hill Road, Millersville, PA 17551  
E-mail: [mgcattell@aol.com](mailto:mgcattell@aol.com)

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Institute of Gerontology, Wayne State University, 87 E. Ferry Street, Room 252, Detroit, MI 48202  
E-mail: [m.luborsky@att.net](mailto:m.luborsky@att.net)

**AAQ Editor** Jason Danelly, Ph.D.

Department of Anthropology, Rhode Island College, 600 Mt Pleasant Ave., Gaige 111, Providence, RI 02909  
E-mail: [Jason.danelly@gmail.com](mailto:Jason.danelly@gmail.com)

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## President's Message

Lori L. Jervis  
Center for Applied Social Research  
Oklahoma University

Greetings, fellow AAGers! As I am now in the middle of my tenure as AAGE President, I wish to thank Immediate Past President Sherylyn Briller for all of her hard work in her presidential term, as well as the other outgoing elected officers.

Thinking back to last November, what an exciting and busy time it was in New Orleans with the extremely unlikely co-occurrence of the AAA and GSA at one time and in one place. Some of us who usually have to choose one meeting over the other found ourselves in the unusual position of being able to attend both. For me, the confluence of the two meetings in one place brought a heightened awareness of the energy and potential in the area of anthropology and aging. It became clear that there are more people working in this area than a lot of us realize! What is not entirely clear is whether these scholars and researchers—especially those who are newer to the field—know that we are here and what we have to offer. Let's get the word out, folks!

As I think about AAGE, it is obvious to me how much the organization has to offer those who are interested in culture and aging. Our journal continues to improve, thanks to the commitment and innovations of past Editor Kim Jones and the Editorial Board. Jason Danely joins us as our new AAQ editor, and I look forward to seeing how AAQ will grow under his tutelage. AAQ provides ongoing resources for people who work in anthropology and aging throughout the year. And at annual conferences like the AAA and GSA, AAGE activities provide a ready-made group of scholars/researchers with similar interests who can be a touch point at what can sometimes seem like large and alienating meetings, especially for students and those who are more junior.

And, speaking of meetings, the AAGE has traditionally held its own annual conference that focuses on a topic of interest to aging and anthropology. In May of 2011 AAGE sponsored a meeting held at the University of Maryland entitled, "Consumer Health Informatics Workshop: Aging, Culture, and Technology." While the typical AAGE meeting has focused exclusively on aging, this meeting emphasized consumer informatics more broadly with a secondary focus on elders. For those planning further ahead, another conference opportunity awaits us, as the IUAES Congress, to be held in Manchester, England on August 5-10, 2013, includes a "track" on "Life and Death," with an emphasis on the life course. More information on this meeting can be found in this issue of AAQ. And let us not forget that the annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association and the Gerontological Association are just around the corner this November...

Also, did you know the AAQ has an affiliate status with the Journal of Intergenerational Relationships (JIR)? Affiliate status means our members are offered a significant subscription discount on JIR and that our organization is advertised for free in their journal. AAGE members will be interested to know that the editor has encouraged us to submit our manuscripts to JIR, stating that to her knowledge the journal has had only one submission from an anthropologist in the past five years! More information on JIR is available in this issue of AAQ. See, folks, the benefits of belonging to AAGE just keep on coming!

## Letter from the Editor

Jason Danelly  
Department of Anthropology  
Rhode Island College

Welcome to the 2011 conference edition of *Anthropology & Aging Quarterly*. Once again, the tireless Jay Sokolovsky has prepared a detailed guide to the 2011 conferences for our members, highlighting all sessions and events that feature themes of aging from an anthropological perspective. The overlapping meetings of the American Anthropological Association and the Gerontological Society of America in New Orleans last year saw a record number of these sessions of interest, and 2011 promises to continue that trend. As a banner publication for research on aging and anthropology, AAQ's scholarly articles, research reports, and reviews provide vital links between what goes on at the conferences and the broader community of scholars, researchers and practitioners in the field.

As the new editor of AAQ, I would like to express my sincere thanks to AAGE's editorial board and to all of those who have contributed so much of their time and energy year after year, issue after issue.

A nervous, star-struck, graduate student at my first AAA meeting in San Jose (2006), I found myself swept into the charismatic whirlwind of AAGE—these were people that spoke my language (and they were terribly fun at dinner). This was a turning point for me, convincing me that aging was more than just a personal passion, but a serious scholarly endeavor that strikes at some of the most critical questions we can pose as anthropologists. I left the meetings with a long list of new contacts, notes and questions that I kept close by as I worked on my dissertation while teaching my first class on culture and aging at California State University, Long Beach.

Soon after the meetings, AAQ published my first book review, and later, a research report on my work on spirituality among older Japanese adults that I sent in from a Buddhist monastery in Kyoto. While I was not about to win awards for either of these publications, they did keep me involved with the organization and gave me a greater sense of confidence to continue writing. In retrospect, I believe that it is fair to say that I began to find my voice as an academic writer in the pages of AAQ. I had the good fortune of being able to continue my writing and research as a post-doc at the Center on Age & Community, and eventually to an Assistant Professor position at Rhode Island College, where my focus on aging was a strong factor in my hiring.

I am sure that I am not the only one for whom AAGE and the AAQ has had a major impact. As the new editor of AAQ, I hope to continue AAGE's commitment not only to scholarly publishing, but to strengthening the presence of aging and the life course perspectives within anthropology. I look forward to this new responsibility, and to the challenge of reaching out to the growing number of people researching, teaching and working in applied fields on issues of aging and anthropology. As the meeting guides in this issue attest, anthropologists focusing on aging continue to ask questions that have the ability to broaden our understandings and kindle our imaginations: from queer aging in San Francisco to "Beach-boy elders" of the Samburu; from geriatric telemedicine to eldercare robots in Japan. As I attend as many of these sessions as I can, my thoughts are going to be with that future editor of AAQ, slightly nervous and star-struck in the front row, the first musings of an article tilting in her head. See you there. JD



## AAGE Member News

Margaret A. Perkinson, PhD  
Saint Louis University



Congratulations to **Kim Jones, PhD**, who recently received a Fulbright for 2011-2012 to continue her work in Brazil. The Fulbright will allow Kim to collect and analyze oral histories on the Brazilian universal health care system, supervise graduate research, and help to develop the State University of Montes Claros' first PhD program. Montes Claros is significant as the epicenter of a regional model of health care first implemented in the 1970s and later used as the basis of the national system in Brazil. Kim has worked there since 1995, when she was first invited to the State University of Montes Claros by the university president to lead classes and conduct research with faculty and students in the medical school and social sciences divisions. Last summer Kim led a team of seven researchers from the university to collect and analyze oral histories from local health care professionals, professors, and policy makers, focusing on the origins and development of the national universal public health care system. The Fulbright research award will support the expansion of this study to other municipalities in Northern Minas Gerais, the Brazilian state where Montes Claros is located.

Welcome to new AAGE member, **Richard Wiltshire, PhD**, who is a geographer at King's College London and specializes in urban agriculture: "My interest in the value of gardens to older people - and the value of older people in the maintenance and defense of these spaces - led me to take time out in 2008-2009 to complete a masters degree in Public Policy and Ageing here at King's. I am now developing for publication both my dissertation work (on older site managers as feral agents of local authorities) and various themes from the social gerontology side of my masters program. I advise the UK Department for Communities on gardening issues and was one of the founders of the UK's Allotments Regeneration Initiative ([www.farmgarden.org.uk/ari](http://www.farmgarden.org.uk/ari)). I also have an interest in the development of community-based horticulture in Japan, where I taught many years ago following language training at the University of Washington."



Congratulations to **Eric Miller, PhD**, who was recently named Program Director for Education Abroad, a component within the Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIERD) at Virginia Tech. The Education Abroad program sends approximately 1,200 students overseas annually in a range of programs. In any given year, Virginia Tech students study abroad in as many as 48 countries. Eric is well-suited for his new role. In his previous position at Loras College, he was instrumental in increasing participation in study abroad from 15 percent to more than 30 percent of the student body. He also set up a new exchange program at the University of Botswana and developed study abroad opportunities for underrepresented majors. Miller began his career in 1993 as the director of the Dalian Program for Brethren Colleges Abroad in Dalian, China. He has been a teaching Fellow in the department of anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh and coordinator of the China Law Center at Yale Law School.



**Margaret A. (Peggy) Perkinson, PhD**, was recently elected to a two-year position on the AAA Committee for Human Rights, to begin upon the conclusion of the 2011 AAA Meetings in Montreal.

News Alert! Look for **Samantha Solimeo's** monthly column on Anthropology in the Public Sector, which she co-edits with Sarah Ono and Heather Schacht Reisinger as part of the new digital edition of *Anthropology News*. The column can be found under the "opinion" link on [anthropology-news.org](http://anthropology-news.org)

Here is a link to the first post:

<http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2011/09/21/all-roads-lead-to-iowa%e2%80%a6and-veterans/>

and to Sarah's bio:

<http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2011/09/21/samantha-solimeo/>

The column will discuss issues pertaining to anthropology in the public sector, including training, ethics, public anthropology, and specific projects.



Welcome to new AAGE member, **Denise C. Lewis, PhD**. Denise is a family gerontologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Child and Family Development, University of Georgia, USA. She received her MA in Medical Anthropology (2000) and PhD in Gerontology (2005) from the University of Kentucky. Her cross-cultural and trans-national research interests take her to Cambodia where she conducts research on family relations, grand-family survival strategies, household production of health, and elders' health and well being among traumatized families. Her most recent research is with Cambodian refugee families in the United States and their counterpart families in Cambodia to investigate trans-national family exchanges. Her work is garnering major awards. Last year Dr. Lewis received GSA's prestigious Theoretical Developments in Social Gerontology Award for her paper, "Toward a theory for family exchanges in the context of culture". She also received the 2010 Best Article in Human Development and Family Studies published in *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal* from the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences for her article: Lewis, D. C., (2009) Aging out of place: Cambodian refugee elders in the United States. *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal*, 37(3), 376-393.





Our student AAGE members continue to make us proud. Congratulations to **Alice Jones-Nelson**, doctoral candidate in the Department of History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who received the Nelle M. Signor Graduate Scholarship in International Relations to fund her dissertation research, "Aging in an Era of Nation Building in Ghana." Following the 2008-2009 academic year of fieldwork in Ghana, the Signor funding allowed her to return in January and February 2010. During the 2010 trip, she conducted archival and oral history research in the Northern, Ashanti, and Greater Accra regions. Her work is already paying off: she recently presented a paper, "An unsettling security: Aging and nation building in Ghana: 1949-1966," at the Michigan State University Africanist Graduate Student Research Conference, "Emerging Perspectives in African Studies."





# In Memorium

## **HENNESSY, Catherine (U. of Plymouth, U.K.). Remembering Otto von Mering**

Otto Oswald von Mering, who played an important role in the development of AAGE and was a forerunner in the anthropology of aging died, aged 88, on December 31, 2010 in Gainesville, Florida. Otto was Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Gerontology in the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Medicine at the University of Florida where he was a faculty member from 1971 until his retirement in 1998. Otto received his PhD from Harvard University in Social Anthropology in 1956 under the direction of Clyde Kluckhohn. He conducted his doctoral research as part of the Harvard Comparative Values Project (1949-1955), an interdisciplinary study of the value orientations of five ethnic communities in the South West that served as a training ground for a number of anthropologists of his generation. Otto's interest in values and the cultural systems built on these values was a central and abiding preoccupation in his teaching and research. On his appointment to the University of Pittsburgh College of Medicine in 1955, he undertook groundbreaking ethnographic research in mental hospitals, including a ward housing chronic geriatric patients. It was out of this work that he developed concepts related to patienthood and the cultural framing of health and disease that he continued to elaborate throughout his career.

During his years at the University of Florida, where he also served as Director of the University's Center for Gerontological Studies (1986-1996), Otto's research and teaching covered diverse topics within medical anthropology and gerontology. He described himself as 'a naturalist observer of human behaviour across the life course...working on the margin of mainstream anthropology' (2009: 204), and his interests and collaborations frequently crossed disciplinary boundaries. Otto was a provocative and humorous teacher and a well-loved mentor. As a graduate student of Otto's in the 1970s I remember accompanying him on fieldtrips with teenagers in a community health education project in rural Florida. These were intended to give them first hand experience of real world contexts-- an emergency room, a hospital unit for premature newborns, a mortuary— associated with the morbidity and mortality statistics that they were compiling. Always available to his students, Otto enjoyed accompanying them on class visits to settings like nursing homes and retirement communities where cultural values about aging could be observed in action.

In 1999, Otto's contributions to the anthropology of aging were celebrated with a symposium "Cultural Value Dilemmas in Health and Aging" organized by Neil Henderson and Jay Sokolovsky (with AAGE) for the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings in Tucson. In 2005, Otto's achievements were also acknowledged by the Southern Gerontological Society which honored him as a "Pioneer in Gerontology". Otto continued his scholarship and contributions to anthropology and gerontology until shortly before his death. His final publication was a chapter in *The Tao of Anthropology* (J. Kelso, ed., 2009), a volume of reflective essays by senior anthropologists on their careers in the field.

Otto will be tremendously missed by all who knew him. An online "guest book" is open to post tributes to Otto until January 14, 2012 at <http://www.legacy.com/guestbook/gainesville/guestbook.aspx?n=otto-von-mering&pid=147808935>.

**Reference:** von Mering, O. (2009). "Anthropology on the Margin: Changing an Academic Career into a Professional Calling." In J. Kelso (ed.), *The Tao of Anthropology*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida.

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# AAGE ELECTIONS

The elections committee certifies that the following candidate has agreed to stand for election for the position of President-Elect. Please read the candidate's statement and place a check next to the candidate's name to indicate your vote. You may vote by paper ballot and mail it to Rebecca Berman or you may vote online on the AAGE web site at [aage.clubexpress.com/](http://aage.clubexpress.com/)

## **President-Elect**

**(Term begins November 2011)**

**Samantha Solimeo \_\_\_\_\_**

**(Unopposed)**

**Return your completed ballot as soon as possible to:**

**Rebecca Berman**

**626 Florence Ave**

**Evanston IL 60202**

# Candidate Statement

## SAMANTHA L. SOLIMEO

(MPH, University of Iowa College of Public Health, Iowa City, IA, 2003; PhD, University of Iowa Department of Anthropology, Iowa City, IA, 2005; Postdoctoral Fellow, Aging and Medical Anthropology, Duke University Medical Center Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development, Durham, NC, 2005-2007; Qualitative Investigator, Center for Comprehensive Access & Delivery Research and Evaluation (CADRE), VISN 23 Patient Aligned Care Team Demonstration Lab, Iowa City Veteran's Health Care System, Iowa City, IA; Affiliate Health Scientist, Department of General Internal Medicine, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.)

### *Current Research:*

Co-investigator, Formative Evaluation Core: "Formative evaluation of VISN 23 Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT)," operating under the VISN 23 Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) Demonstration Lab, funded by the Office of Patient Care Services, Veteran's Health Administration, Dr. Gary Rosenthal (PI); Co-investigator: "Strategic Plan for Use of CMS Data for Comparative Effectiveness," funded by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Subcontract to the University of Iowa), Dr. Gary Rosenthal (PI); Qualitative Methodologist: "A Patient Activation Intervention to Enhance Bone Health," funded by National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, Dr. Peter Cram (PI).

### *Recent Publications:*

Gold, DT, and S. **Solimeo**. 2006. Osteoporosis and Depression: A Historical Perspective. *Current Osteoporosis Reports*. 4 (4): 134-9. Gold, DT, and S. **Solimeo**. 2007. "The Conundrum of Compliance and Persistence with Oral Bisphosphonates for Postmenopausal Osteoporosis" In. *Osteoporosis*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Robert Marcus, D. Feldman, J. Kelsey, Eds. **Solimeo, S.** 2008. "Sex and Gender in older adult's experiences of Parkinson's disease" *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences*. 63(1): S42-S48. **Solimeo, S.** 2008. "Osteoporosis in Older Men: Feelings of Masculinity and a "women's disease" *Generations* 32 (1): 73-77. **Solimeo, S.** 2009. *With Shaking Hands: Aging with Parkinson's disease in America's Heartland*. Rutgers University Press Studies in Medical Anthropology. **Solimeo, S.**, Thomas J. Weber, and Deborah T. Gold. 2011 Feb (Epub ahead of print) Older Men's Explanatory Model for Osteoporosis. *The Gerontologist*. **Solimeo, S.**, Stuart L Silverman, Andrew Dacayo Calderon, Anthony Nguyen, and Deborah T. Gold. 2011 Apr 29. (Epub ahead of print) Measuring Health Related Quality of Life (HRQOL) in Osteoporotic Males using the Male OPAQ. *Osteoporosis International*. **Solimeo, S.** Diagnosing men with a 'women's disease': Risk appraisal and management among men with osteoporosis. In press. *Journal of Men's Health*.

### *Professional Activities:*

Editorial Assistant, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, Society for Medical Anthropology, 2000-2002. Editor, *Anthropology & Aging Quarterly*, Association for Anthropology & Gerontology, 2005-2009. Manuscript reviewer, Margaret Clark Award, Association for Anthropology & Gerontology, 2006-Present. Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization Representative to the Gerontological Society of America Publications Committee. 2006-2008. Member, Performing Straight, White Masculinities, a pluridisciplinary research project funded by the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France. 2006-2009.

Editorial Board Member, *Anthropology & Aging Quarterly* (2009- present). Undesignated Seat, Committee on Gender Equity in Anthropology, American Anthropological Association (2009-2012). Co-editor, *Anthropology News Online Column*, "By the People for the People: Public Sector Anthropology" August 2011-2012. Ad Hoc reviewer: *Journal of Aging and Health*; *The Gerontologist*; *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences*; *Anthropology & Aging Quarterly*; *Osteoporosis*.

*Statement:*

For me, AAGE has been a welcoming professional home where I've found both mentoring and a network of supportive colleagues. I joined AAGE in 2003 as a graduate student at a time when I was formulating my doctoral proposal and in need of expert guidance to help me make sense of the historical foundations of "geroanthropology." Soon after I was awarded an AAGE student award to support conference travel where I participated in a related mentoring workshop. That opportunity was pivotal in building my confidence that human development is a viable and important aspect of anthropology, despite Barbara Myerhoff's still true message that the larger discipline undervalues attention to age or aging. The conversations and relationships I initiated with those mentors (Judith Barker and Annette Leibing) stayed with me throughout my doctoral research and into the publication of that work as my first book. Since that time, I have become more involved with AAGE as past editor of our publication, *Anthropology and Aging Quarterly*. That role gave me license to contact and work with respected colleagues that I might otherwise have not had the gumption nor cause to meet. In return, I worked hard with the editorial board to update the publication's timeliness, layout, and content to provide a continued resource for our membership. Since that time I have completed my PhD, postdoc, and adjunct adventure and am now working fulltime as a researcher for the Veteran's Healthcare Administration, the nation's largest integrated healthcare provider.

Having completed those adventures and feeling settled in my current appointment positions me to take on a new role in AAGE. I am established enough to have institutional support for the work this role requires and yet still a recent enough grad that I understand the challenges of graduate school, postdocs, and job market strategies. Yet, for me the thing that tipped the scales and inclined me to take this leap is a reflection I had after the 2010 AAA and GSA meetings: Almost everyone I was excited to see, meet, and reconnect with had some tie to AAGE (or should!). Many of us belong to AAA, GSA, AAPA, ASA, APA, or NAPA and may consider one of those organizations as our primary professional home. One aspiration I have for myself and for our membership is that we reimagine AAGE as our "professional home" and work to improve AAGE's processes, resources, and meetings from that perspective. As a small association we certainly can't provide all of the benefits of these larger societies, but we can focus on the strengths of a small organization to foster meaningful dialogue and support a professional community where we begin with the agreement that age and aging are central to understanding the human condition and build from there.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS IN ANTHROPOLOGICAL GERONTOLOGY

Maria G. Cattell

I hope to see you at AAA in Montréal soon, especially at my AFAA Distinguished Lecture on "Gender, Generation and Time in Sub-Saharan Africa," 7:30 pm Friday evening. Check the program for details.

As always, do let me know about *your* publications, things I've missed, book chapters, articles in specialized journals, whatever: mgcattell@aol.com.

ABBREVIATIONS: AI=Ageing International; A&S=Ageing & Society; EJA=European J.Aging; Geront.=The Gerontologist; JAG=J.Applied Gero.; JAH=J.Aging & Health; JAHA=J.Aging, Humanities & the Arts; JCCG=J.Cross-Cultural Gerontology; JG=J. Gerontology; JIR=J.Intergenerational Relationships; JPA=J.Population Aging; QHR=Qualitative Health Research; ROA=Research on Aging; SIR=Social Indicators Research.

**\*Name in boldface** indicates AAGE member.

### Member's Publication: Not about Aging

**\*Cattell, Maria G.** 2010 Termites tell the tale: Globalization of an indigenous food system among Abaluyia of Western Kenya. In *Adventures in eating: Anthropological experiences in dining from around the world*, H.R. Haines & C.A. Sammells, eds. Pp. 79-97. Boulder CO: UP of Colorado.

### Abuse & Neglect

*Ageing International* 35(3), 2010, special issue on "Theoretical developments in elder abuse and neglect," ed. S. Biggs & T. Georgen.

Conrad, K.J., **\*Madelyn Iris** et al. 2010 Self-report measures of financial exploitation of older adults. *Geront.* 50(96):758-773.

### Aging

Bateson, M.C. 2010 *Composing a further life: The age of active wisdom*. NY: Knopf.

Binstock, R.H. 2010 From compassionate ageism to intergenerational conflict? *Geront.* 50(5):574-585.

Binstock, R.H. & L.K. George, eds. 2011 *Handbook of aging and the social sciences*, 7th ed. San Diego: Academic.

Bronstein, L., Z.D. Gellis, B.L. Kenaley 2011 A neighborhood naturally occurring retirement community: Views from providers and residents. *JAG* 30(1):104-112.

Dannefer, D. & C. Phillipson, eds. 2010 *The Sage handbook of social gerontology*. Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.

Graham, J.E. & P.H. Stephenson, eds. 2010 *Contesting aging and loss*. Toronto: U Toronto Press.

Jacoby, S. 2010 *Never say die: The myth and marketing of the new old age*. NY: Pantheon.

Jeste, D. et al. 2010 Expert consensus on characteristics of wisdom: A Delphi method study. *Geront.* 50(5):668-680.

Lee, T. 2010 Intrepid exploring: Looking past fears of short-term memory loss in aging to deploy the brain's long-term memories and wisdom. *JAHA* 4(1)18-29.



Masoro, E. & S. Austad, eds. 2011 *Handbook of the biology of aging*, 7th ed. San Diego: Academic.

Pruchno, R., M. Wilson-Genderson, M. Rose, F. Cartwright 2010 Successful aging: Early influences and contemporary characteristics. *Geront.* 50(6):821-833.

Resnick, B., L.P. Gwyther, K.A. Roberto, eds. 2011 *Resilience in aging: Concepts, research, and outcomes*. NY: Springer.

Schaie, K.W. & S.L. Willis, eds. 2011 *Handbook of the psychology of aging*, 7th ed. San Diego: Academic.

Tang, F., E.H. Choi, N. Morrow-Howell 2010 Organizational support and volunteering benefits for older adults. *Geront.* 50(5):603-612.

van Willigen, J. 2010 Anthropology and the design of communities for older people: An interview for the SfAA Oral History Project with **\*Philip B. Stafford**. *SfAA News* 21(2): 14-19.

### **Aspects of Caregiving**

Bledsoe, L.K., S.E. Moore, W.L. Collins 2010 Long distance caregiving: An evaluative review of the literature. *AI* 35(4): 293-310.

Chapple, H.S. 2010 *No place for dying: Hospitals and the ideology of rescue*. Walnut Creek CA: Left Coast Press.

Cutchin, M., V. Marshall, R. Aldrich 2010 Moving to a continuing care retirement community: Occupations and the therapeutic landscape. *JCCG* 25(2):117-132.

Kontos, P.C., K-L. Miller, G.J. Mitchell, C.A. Cott 2011 Dementia care at the intersection of regulation and reflexivity: A critical realist perspective. *JG* 66B(1):119-128.

Krause, M.R. et al. 2011 Responding to poor-quality care during research in nursing homes. *Research in Gerontological Nursing* 4(1).

*JAG* 3(1/2), 2011, special issue: "Migrant care workers in ageing societies [Canada, Iceland, UK, US]," ed. S. Spencer,

Yee-Melichar, D., A.R. Boyle, C. Flores 2010 *Assisted living administration and management: Effective practices and model programs in elder care*. NY: Springer.

### **Cognitive Aging**

Brown, M.T. 2010 Early life characteristics, psychiatric history, and cognition trajectories in later life. *Geront.* 50(5):646-656.

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## Film

"My Name is Julius." Produced by **Caitrin Lynch** and directed by Titi Yu

Film summary: This short documentary focuses on the final year in the life of Julius Barthoff, a remarkable man who lived 100 years without ever slowing down. Julius had a profound hearing loss, the result of contracting diphtheria as an infant. Through Julius's life experiences, the film tells a story about deafness, disability, and aging in the United States. The film shows Julius at 99 and 100 years old, a lively, vibrant, and warm man deeply engaged with the world around him. We see that Julius's outlook on life, his forms of social engagement, and his everyday activities are deeply affected by his hearing disability.

Run time 17 minutes. Suitable for use in undergraduate courses . For more information, including how to order it, please see [www.juliusfilm.com](http://www.juliusfilm.com) or contact Caitrin at [clynch@olin.edu](mailto:clynch@olin.edu).

## Student Column

Philip Y. Kao  
Ph.D. Candidate  
University of St. Andrews  
Philip.Y.Kao@gmail.com

The 109<sup>th</sup> AAA annual meeting took place last year alongside the GSA's annual meeting in New Orleans. Thanks to the generous support of the AAGE's Climo Award, I was given the unique opportunity to attend workshops and panel sessions regarding research on aging. In New Orleans, I also participated in several academic networking sessions. Furthermore, as an AAGE graduate student representative, not only did I gain a valuable perspective on various research aims and themes, but I also spoke to many research students and professional anthropologists about aging and anthropology. Before I touch upon some of these conversations – which were quite illuminating – I would like to briefly highlight some of the ideas I found valuable during one of the workshops.

The workshop on caregiving was very useful for my research, and introduced me to a range of interests and approaches. One of the keynote speakers was a retired university psychology professor who gave an extremely moving and personal account of his own battle with dementia. Dr. Richard Taylor provided a narrative account of what his life was like shortly after his diagnosis. He also elaborated on what the 'long good-bye' meant for him as someone "running away from his future". Without any hint of self-pity, but rather with heartfelt frankness and an understated sense of humor, Dr. Taylor shared with the crowd his passion for talking to people about the social stigma still attached to aging and dementia. He spoke about his purpose for getting up in the morning, and testified to the fact that his memory-lapses while becoming more frequent and leading to the buildup of more inaccurate memories and understandings, leaves him continuously in a 'different today'. It is being able to inhabit this 'different today' meaningfully and with a purpose that links up with what Athena Mclean hinted to during the session as the larger moral enterprise of how we interact with the elderly and cognitively impaired. Dr. Taylor's presentation was an act of reclamation; he was finding purpose in his struggle with dementia. In this way, I understood what Lawrence Cohen stated at the end of the session: Caregiving not only stands in for the world, but constitutes the various social forms of the world. By addressing aging research from various sub-disciplinary perspectives, the participants contributed to an unpacking of the term caregiving.

During the AAA, I engaged many AAA attendees who strolled past the AAGE information booth. It was interesting to note how some people reacted. Many had reservations about our presence; were we really the AARP of the AAA? Did we have an advocacy agenda? Talking to these people about our research interests and publications helped to calm some fears, but still many were unwilling and I suppose uncomfortable with the subject of aging. I did meet several anthropologists, however, who identified with our work and the anthropology of aging. A Persian-American shared with me her mother's cultural and community experience of aging in California. It is sometimes easy to forget especially in American society that the cultural context of aging is just as – if not more – important in determining the quality and meaning of aging than what our overly-medicalized institutions tell us. Lastly, what struck me the most was the lack of interest in aging issues coming from our fellow archaeologists. There are definitely potential research questions to be advanced and explored regarding how our human ancestors and ancient societies regarded dying, caregiving, and frailty. I seriously hope we can stimulate a scared bundle approach to the investigation of aging in society in the near future.



### **AAGE ON DISPLAY IN MONTREAL 2011**

**Come visit the AAGE booth #705, around the corner from the AAA booth. All the usual fun and opportunities will be available:**

- **Sign up for the AAGE dinner (Saturday evening).**
- Take a turn at the table – it's a fun way to meet people.
- Buy a T-shirt – our bestseller "Broken Down by Age & Sex" is good for laughs at the gym! People get them for their mothers too (though some prefer "Aged to Perfection" for mom).
- Renew your membership.
- Display your book – free in return for staffing the booth for two hours.
- Please donate your copy to the silent auction which is raising money for the Jacob (Jay) Climo Student Fund.
- Bid on the books in the Climo Fund silent auction. It's fun, and you might get a good book for a bargain price.

**Begins Thursday at 9am**

Any questions? Contact Maria Cattell [mgcattell@aol.com](mailto:mgcattell@aol.com)

Hope to see you there!



# **AAGE GUIDE TO THE MEETINGS:**

## **Navigating and Networking in Anthropology, Aging, Gerontology and the Life Course**

The Association for Anthropology and Gerontology (AAGE) and the AAA Aging and the Life Course Interest Group welcome you to the 2011 American Anthropological Association and the Gerontological Society of America Meetings!

**INTEREST GROUP EVENT: AAA Aging and Life Course Interest Group Meeting and Interlocutor Event, Friday, Nov. 18, 12:15-1:30pm (Convention Center 512B).**

Reception and Interlocutor Discussion with ethnographers David Prendergast and Chiara Garattini " talking about working with Intel Corporation's Global Ageing projects focusing on technology, health and independent living. Explores their experience working with researchers in engineering and neuroscience. These interlocutors will be interviewed by Jay Sokolovsky and Athena McLean.

**AAGE DINNER: Saturday, Nov. 19, 7:30pm-ish. (Place to be determined and posted on the AAGE Booth).** Sign up at the AAGE table in Montreal or e-mail: [jsoko@earthlink.net](mailto:jsoko@earthlink.net). We welcome all to join us.

**AAGE BUSINESS MEETING AND NETWORKING EVENT: Saturday, Nov. 19, 9:30-11am).** Students, early career faculty, experienced scholars and practitioners in the field, and all others interested in exploring sub-disciplinary professional development are warmly welcomed.

**Distinguished Lecture, Maria Cattell: Friday, Nov. 18, 7:30, RM 516E Convention Center.** Maria will deliver this year's Distinguished Lecture of the Association for Africanist Anthropology on "**Gender, Generation and Time in Sub-Saharan Africa.**"

## STUDENT AAGE AWARDS:

**The Jacob Climo Award:** This fund honors the memory of Jacob (Jay) Climo by supporting student participation at meetings in which AAGE is active. Jay was a long time member and former president of AAGE. He was Professor of Anthropology at Michigan State University, where he taught social and medical anthropology and served as a dynamic mentor to generations of students. Jay did fieldwork in Ethiopia, Israel, Mexico and Michigan. His research focused on intergenerational relationships, the ethnography of memory, aging and elder care around the world, grandparents parenting grandchildren, and narratives about aging parents in the U.S. and their adult children in Israel. Jay had several books to his credit: *Distant Parents* (1992), *The Labyrinth of Memory* (1995), and *Social Memory and History* (2002). **How to contribute:** Bid in the Silent Auction or write your check to AAGE, write "Climo support fund" in the memo line, and mail to Maria Cattell, 486 Walnut Hill Rd., Millersville, PA 17551.

**SILENT AUCTION:** Make a bid for a book (or books) in the **Silent Auction at the AAGEbooth**. Books and items in this year's Silent Auction include Janice Graham and Peter Stephenson's edited volume, *Contesting Aging and Loss* (U. of Toronto Press, 2010); Roger Sanjek's *Gray Panthers* (2009) and the DVD Documentary *My Name is Julius*, 2011.

## 2011 AAA MEETING (Montreal) AGING RELATED EVENTS, SESSIONS AND PAPERS

### Wednesday, November 16

- 17:00 [Volunteerism and Post-Migration Identity Among Jewish-American Retirees In Israel](#) Sarah R Alper (Arizona State University) In: INTERSECTIONS OF MOBILITY, LAW AND SOCIAL RELATIONS

### Thursday, November 17

#### Sessions

- 16:00 [NAVIGATING THE STAGES OF LIFE](#)
- 16:00- Montreal Convention Centre 525B [THE POLITICAL ECONOMY AND CULTURAL PRACTICE OF CARE IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA](#)

#### Papers

- 11:00; We Have Always Been Frail: Queer Aging In San Francisco's America, Jason Alley In: [VITALLY QUEER: BIOLOGIES, DEATH-IN-LIFE, AND OTHER ANIMATIONS](#)
- 16:45 [Beyond Abandonment and Freedom: Appropriate Dependence In the Indian Elder Home](#), Sarah E Lamb, In : [BEYOND ABANDONMENT: THE INTIMATE POLITICS OF CARE AND EXCLUSION](#)
- 17:00 Mournful Care: An Ethnographic Description of Life Beyond Abandonment Lisa M Stevenson, In: [BEYOND ABANDONMENT: THE INTIMATE POLITICS OF CARE AND EXCLUSION](#).

### Friday, November 18



### Sessions

- 10:15AM AES invited panel organized by Caitrin Lynch, [RECOGNITION, VISIBILITY, AND BEING HUMAN: LESSONS FROM AGING RESEARCH](#)
- 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. [AAA INTEREST GROUP, AGING AND THE LIFE COURSE MEETING AND INTERLOCUTOR SESSION](#) (Convention Center 512B): Reception and presentation of authors donating books for the Climo Memorial Student Fund. 12:30 – 1:10 p.m. Interlocutor discussion with David Prendergast and Chiara Garattini and additional questions from the audience.

### Papers

- 9:00 [Co-Evolution of Human Sociocultural Systems, Chronic Degenerative Conditions and Longevity](#) Douglas E. Crews In: THE SCARS OF HUMAN EVOLUTION
- 11:00 [Does Certification and Self-Governance Professionalize Cooperative Home-Care Workers? Kôreikyô's Co-Operative Model of Home Care](#), Robert C Marshall (Western Washington University) In: PORTRAITS OF WORKING WOMEN IN RECESSIONARY JAPAN: CONTINUITY AND CHANGE
- [Legacies of Pain: Understanding Chronic Pain Using a Life Course Perspective](#) Lindsey A Martin, In: OBJECTIFYING PAIN: ILLNESS AND AFFECT

## Saturday, November 19

### Sessions

- 10:15am-12:00 [TRACES OF RESILIENCE: FOOD SECURITY AND WELLBEING OVER THE LIFE COURSE](#)
- 13:45. [AGING AND DEATH](#)

### Papers

- 10:00 [The Craft of 'connected autonomy' In Home Telecare for Older People](#) Tomas Sanchez-Criado (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) and Miquel Domenech (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona). In: [MATERIALIZING PRESENCE, CONFIGURING PROXIMITY: ENGAGEMENTS WITH MEDICAL TELE-TECHNOLOGY AND EMERGENT PRACTICES OF CARE](#)
- 10:15 Attuning Technology, Challenging Identity, Enacting Intimacy. Rethinking Intimacy with Ageing Telecare User, Daniel Lopez, (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) In: [MATERIALIZING PRESENCE, CONFIGURING PROXIMITY: ENGAGEMENTS WITH MEDICAL TELE-TECHNOLOGY AND EMERGENT PRACTICES OF CARE](#)
- 10:30 [Careveillance of Aging Bodies As Proxemic Diffraction](#) Lutz (University of Copenhagen) In: [MATERIALIZING PRESENCE, CONFIGURING PROXIMITY: ENGAGEMENTS WITH MEDICAL TELE-TECHNOLOGY AND EMERGENT PRACTICES OF CARE ANTHROPOLOGY, OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE/THERAPY, AND DISABILITY STUDIES](#)
- 17:00. ["Beach-Boy Elders" and "Young Big Men": Age, Temporality, and Samburu Ethno-Erotic Economies In Postcolonial Kenya](#) George Paul Meiu (University of Chicago) In: PRIMITIVIST ENCOUNTERS TODAY: NEW ETHNOGRAPHIES OF INDIGENOUS TOURISM.

**\*7:30@ p.m. AAGE Dinner. Sign up at the AAGE booth or e-mail:  
jsoko@earthlink.net. We welcome you to join us!**

**Sunday, November 20**

**Sessions:**

- 08:00 [CAPTURING JAPAN AFTER THE LOST DECADE](#) , Organizers Satsuki Kawano (University of Guelph) and Susan O. Long (John Carroll University)
- 10:15 [TRACING EXPERIENCE BETWEEN RELIGION AND HEALTH](#), Organizer: Jason Danely (Rhode Island College)

**Papers:**

- 8:30 Brenda R. Jenike (Lawrence University) Changing Meanings and Experiences of Aging, Disability, and Elder Care in Japan, [CAPTURING JAPAN AFTER THE LOST DECADE](#)
- 11:15am Susan O. Long (John Carroll University), The Aging of the Japanese Family, [CAPTURING JAPAN AFTER THE LOST DECADE](#)
- Jason Danely (Rhode Island College) The Heart of "Iyashi": Health, Comfort and Nostalgia in Japanese Pilgrimage and Medicine; [TRACING EXPERIENCE BETWEEN RELIGION AND HEALTH](#)

**2011 GSA MEETING (Boston, MA)**

**ANTHROPOLOGY AND AGING RELATED EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**FRIDAY NOV. 18**

4:30 PM to 6:00 PM: Methodological Considerations in Elder Mistreatment Research with Ethnic Minorities

6:00-8:00 PM An Anthropological Approach to Evaluation Research: The Exercise and Dementia Project

**SATURDAY NOV 19**

8-9:30 AM Qualitative Exploration of Motivations, Successes and Barriers in Culture Change Implementation 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM American Indian Aging: Cultural, Health, and Political Considerations 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Aging and Trauma Across the Life Course: Does Culture Matter?

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM The Social Fabric of Positive Aging: Not Just a Matter of Lifestyle?

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM Innovative Approaches to Increasing Access to Culturally Appropriate Support for Family

**SUNDAY NOV 20**

8 - 9:30 AM The Social Construction of Stigma in Senior Housing: Examining Difference through Case Studies

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Changing Age: Educational Perspectives on Reconstructing Societal Views of Growing Old

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Ethnographic Inquiry: Understanding the Culture of Care

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Ethology: Understanding the Caregiver Interface

1pm-3:30 What is a Natural Death?: Exploring the Definitive Crossroads of Lifestyle and Lifespan

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Civic Engagement, Volunteering and Public Services: Exploring the Role of Older People in the Third Sector in the Context of the UK Big Society Agenda  
3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Autonomy Symposium: Implementing Autonomy in Senior Housing: Strategies and Challenges  
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Family Care, Living Arrangements and Health of Older People in China  
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Arts and Humanities and Ageing – A New Research Agenda  
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Aspects of Generativity in Later Life

### **MONDAY NOV, 21**

11:45 AM - 2:45 PM Intergenerational Activities and Well-Being of the Elderly: Implications for Community Practice  
11:45 AM - 2:45 PM Thresholds of Cultural Renewal in One Retirement Community: The Significance of New  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM: Caregiving in Asian Countries and the Pacific Rim

### **TUESDAY NOV 22**

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Gendered Aging: Older Women in Appalachia

## **GSA Session and Individual Abstracts:**

### **FRIDAY NOV. 18**

**TITLE: Methodological Considerations in Elder Mistreatment Research with Ethnic Minorities**  
**Title: New Directions in Research on Elder Mistreatment**  
**TIME: 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM**  
**Lori L. Jervis** (University of Oklahoma)

This presentation examines the identification and measurement of elder mistreatment among ethnic minorities, with examples from a research project on mistreatment among older American Indians. It focuses primarily on three issues: Differing conceptualizations and definitions of elder mistreatment; researcher access to communities and their willingness to participate in studies; and accuracy of participants' responses —especially important with groups who have valid reasons to be distrustful of research given their histories of subjugation by the dominant society. Moral and practical dilemmas involved in determining abuse in situations where there is intracultural and/or intercultural uncertainty will be highlighted, as will the stakes involved in “getting it right.” From a methodological standpoint, the presentation suggests incorporating qualitative methods other than focus groups, exploring the usefulness of privacy

enhancing survey technologies, and employing mixed methods that allow for triangulation of findings.

**TITLE: An Anthropological Approach to Evaluation Research: The Exercise and Dementia Project**  
**TIME: 6:00-8:00 PM**  
**Margaret A. Perkinson** (Saint Louis University)

Anthropological evaluation research that focuses on the process of an intervention as it is learned, modified, and performed within the context of everyday life of its participants can complement more traditional standardized evaluations of outcome and can help to explain the magnitude of change resulting from a given program or therapy. The Exercise and Dementia Project illustrates an anthropological contribution to the development and evaluation of a gerontological intervention: family-supervised physical activity programs for persons with mild dementia. An interdisciplinary team (occupational therapists, physical therapist, and medical anthropologist) developed and evaluated individualized physical activity programs for 30 persons with mild dementia and their primary family caregivers. Analysis of exercise diaries, in-depth follow-up interviews, and focus groups with family exercise supervisors revealed unanticipated barriers and incentives to performance of and adherence to the program, ad hoc modifications made by the

exercise supervisors, criteria established by family supervisors to assess adequacy of exercise performance, introduction of technical devices to enhance the program, participants' general perceptions of the program and its impact on daily functioning, and participants' suggested changes. Anthropological evaluation research can provide insight into the manner in which the activities of an intervention are integrated into everyday life and the meaning and value of interventions from the perspectives of its participants. (Funded by the Alzheimer's Association).

## **SATURDAY NOV 19**

### **TITLE: Qualitative Exploration of Motivations, Successes and Barriers in Culture Change Implementation**

**TIME:** 8-9:30 AM

**R. Shield, J. Looze, M. Lepore, D. Tyler, S.C. Miller.** (Brown University and Planetree, Inc.)

Following a national survey of nursing home administrators (NHAs) and Directors of Nursing, semi-structured qualitative telephone interviews lasting 20-30 minutes each were conducted with a subset of NHAs (N=64) to explore their views and experiences of adopting "culture change" practices in their facilities. Each interview transcript was individually coded by research team members. Codes were reconciled in analysis team meetings, scored by the team according to how extensive the facility's culture change practices appeared and triangulated with quantitative survey responses. Transcript analysis reveals prominent themes, including NHAs' motivations for implementation, their strategies and approaches, factors that impeded and facilitated the changes, and lessons learned. Important tenets include the need for sustained leadership; continual communication among staff, residents and families about culture change; and tackling small steps first when incorporating new practices. As one NHA advised, "Start out with simple things [to] ...succeed...[and] have the right players sit around the table."

**TITLE: What Makes an Elder?: The Constituent Elements of ?Elderhood? among Older American Indians Session Title: American Indian Aging: Cultural, health, and political considerations**

**TIME:** 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

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Lori L. Jervis, (University of Oklahoma)

It is generally maintained that being an elder in Native communities has more to do with cultural considerations such as being respected and living an honorable life than with chronological age. This paper focuses on the meaning of elderhood among 100 American Indians age 60 years or older. Through open-ended interviews, participants identified chronological age, social role/status factors, health/disability considerations, and comparison of oneself to a specific older person as part of elderhood. Both chronological age and social role/status factors emerged as especially crucial in the determination of elder status. Interestingly, roughly 40% of the sample stated that they themselves were not elders. The most common rationale given was that participants were too active or "able" to be elders. This study hints at the complexity of notions of elderhood and age identity in contemporary Native communities, and calls into question claims that chronological age is minimally relevant to elder status.

### **TITLE: American Indian Aging: Cultural, Health, and Political Considerations**

**TIME: 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

Hynes 204 (Convention Center)

R. Goins. (Dept of Community Medicine, West Virginia University)

American Indians experience substantial health disparities compared to the general U.S. population. Although medical advances have increased life expectancy, morbidity, and mortality statistics suggest that the health of older American Indians lags behind. Older American Indians have lower life expectancies; higher rates of functional disability, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and arthritis; and lower incomes and educational attainment. Although over 4.2 million American Indians live in the U.S. and the number of American Indians aged 65 years or older is projected to increase 3½ fold between 2010 and 2050 from 410,000 to 1,395,000, we know virtually nothing about the aging process in this vulnerable population. The purpose of this symposium is to share current quantitative and qualitative research studies which focus on health-related issues of this relatively misunderstood population. Several of the papers will underscore the role of culture as a relevant consideration when examining health in Indian Country; values and cultural norms can influence both self-identification as an elder in addition to caregiver networks and

health appraisals. The symposium will include papers that will speak to cultural considerations around the designation of “elder”, intergenerational cultural concepts of diabetes etiology, caregiving for elders with dementia, and lower body physical functioning and correlates of poorer lower body functioning. The final paper will offer an in-depth examination of the political status of American Indians and how federal and state policies affect health status and access. This symposium illustrates the importance of improving our understanding of older American Indians.

**TITLE: Aging and Trauma Across the Life Course: Does Culture Matter?**

**TIME: 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM**

Hynes 201 (Convention Center)

M. E. Davis<sup>1</sup>; M. Aydin<sup>2</sup>; A. Glicksman<sup>3</sup>

1. Social Work, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, United States.
2. UCLA Center for Health Policy and Research, Los Angeles, CA, United States.
3. Philadelphia Corporation for Aging, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

The experience of cumulative trauma across the life course impacts lifestyle, health outcomes and the potential for successful aging. Even as trauma makes an imprint on the life of an individual, so does culture. Culture has always played a role in shaping beliefs, lifestyle practices and the manner in which people adapt to the social environment. What are the mechanisms of culture that contribute to shaping the response to trauma in old age? This symposium is designed to focus attention on the international and transcultural nature of trauma in older adults. Firstly, Aydin’s overview, Cultural Understanding of Trauma, Response and Coping across the Life Course, presents a meta-analysis of the trauma literature and explores competing perspectives on how culture interacts with trauma exposure to determine outcomes in unique ways. Vakalahi’s paper, Pacific American Elders: Cultural Lifeways As Risk and Protective Factors, provides a qualitative analysis of cultural lifeways and practices, seeking to identify them as risk or protective factors and to understand their life course impact in a study of Samoan and Tongan Elders. Shriram’s paper, the Cumulative Adversity and Mental Health: Accounting for Adversity Type and Time of Occurrence highlights the link between early and late life adversity/trauma and mental health in an Israeli sample. Finally, Mamber’s paper, The Impact of Culture on Trauma in Old Age: Unexpected Consequences, targets older

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Jewish, and European refugee, Holocaust survivors and the impact of their trauma, and cultural experiences on providers of care.

**TITLE: The Social Fabric of Positive Aging: Not Just a Matter of Lifestyle?**

**TIME: 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM**

Constitution Ballroom B (Sheraton Boston)

F. R. Lang<sup>1</sup>; M. K. Rohr<sup>1</sup>

1. University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Erlangen, Bavaria, Germany.

Personal relationships and networks of older adults reflect not just outcomes of personal lifestyle but also lifespan developmental changes in social functioning. Individuals actively mold their social worlds in accordance with their aging-related needs and preferences. In this regard, empirical findings point to a notable robustness of social functioning across adulthood. Building on a theoretical model of positive aging, we present illustrations on how adaptive strategies of life management contribute to enhancing health-related socio-emotional resources across later adulthood. Empirical findings underscore the idea that individuals actively engage in balanced social exchanges, while selecting close social partners that fit with age-specific needs. Such adaptive mechanisms prove robust across cultures and against effects of living circumstances. It is concluded that positive aging largely depends on how well individuals regulate the self in accordance with the demands and potentials of their social contexts above and beyond lifestyle differences.

**TITLE: Innovative Approaches to Increasing Access to Culturally Appropriate Support for Family Caregivers**

**TIME: 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM**

**Process and Outcomes Evaluation of a Caregiver Support Network Via Faith-Based Organizations**

**Micki Iris and Rebecca Berman**

Caring Together, Living Better (CTLB) is a partnership between Age Options, an area agency on aging, and community and faith-based organizations in the south suburbs of Chicago. The aim of the project is to develop culturally appropriate, supportive programs for low-income, minority caregivers. CTLB objectives include mobilizing local assets to address caregiver-identified needs and improving access to services through innovative outreach strategies. As part of the evaluation, we



have documented the development of the partnership, changes in relationships among churches and other organizations in the region, use of services by caregivers, and improvement in caregivers' confidence in their ability to get assistance and access services. Findings are based on qualitative and quantitative analysis of multiple data, including network analysis. We summarize the impact of the partnership at regional, community, and caregiver levels, highlighting implications for sustaining the development of this grass-roots caregiver support network.

## **SUNDAY NOV 20**

**TITLE: The Social Construction of Stigma in Senior Housing: Examining Difference through Case Studies**  
**TIME: 8 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Erin G. Roth and J. Kevin Eckert**

Center for Aging Studies, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Maryland,

*Stigma and the Cultural Context of Residential Settings for the Elderly* is a large-scale, ethnographic study (NIA funded) examining the experience and social construction of stigma in seven diverse senior housing settings in the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. Our research indicates a key component of stigma is the recognition of differences among residents. Staff members at these multi-level senior housing settings regularly assess individual health, labeling and sorting residents into levels of care in order to ensure an appropriate environmental fit. This process heightens resident and staff awareness of differences; such vigilance is what prompts a resident transition to a higher level of care. Commonly held societal prejudices are at times magnified within these settings. Conversely, negative attitudes toward old age or people with dementia, may be tempered within a setting where everyone is older or experiencing some level of physical limitation and/or memory loss. Our research is informed by the theories of Goffman, Link & Phelan, Dovidio, Major & Crocker, but our goal is to understand the emergent themes and components that might lead to stigma in these settings.

This symposium presents five case studies, an approach well-suited to tackle the complexities of these multi-level settings and the highly contextual nature of stigma. These case studies address such

emergent themes as the social dynamics that lead to exclusion, stereotyping, and bullying. Through this exploration of relational and environmental contexts, we suggest the possibility of improving the ability of residents, family and staff to counter stigma's negative effects.

**TITLE: Changing Age: Educational Perspectives on Reconstructing Societal Views of Growing Old**  
**TIME: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**

Republic Ballroom B (Sheraton Boston)

D. Shenk1; G. D. Rowles2

1. Gerontology Program, University of North

Carolina Charlotte, Charlotte, NC, United States.

2. University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, United States.

The ways in which societies view the biological, psychological and social processes of aging shape the creation and maintenance of community values, social structures and the role and care of elders in those societies. The presence and resilience of such values, social structures, roles and approaches to care, in turn, reinforce societal views of aging in a never ending feedback loop, a cycle that determines the lifestyles and lifespan of older adults by shaping their life course. Particularly in Western societies, the pervasive view of aging is predominantly negative, stereotypical and ageist. Increasing awareness in the research community that growing old is a far more complex and variegated phenomenon than is reflected in societal views and that the process itself is constantly changing has yet to be effectively translated into public consciousness. This symposium explores "changing age" within the interwoven themes of lifestyle, lifespan and life course. Focusing on transitional views as manifest in a series of topical domains, contributors from four different disciplines explore educational implications and impacts of changing age and aging. Rick Moody will provide an overview and philosophical perspective. Caleb Finch will discuss the evolution of human aging as a unique multigenerational system and its future in a post Darwinian world. Murna Downs will focus on the specific case of dementia and how the view of the person with dementia has been framed and changed. Jennie Keith will provide an anthropological perspective on changing age in changing cultures.

**TITLE: Ethnographic Inquiry: Understanding the Culture of Care**

**TIME: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**

Gardner (Sheraton Boston)

S. J. Loeb1; J. Penrod1; B. Baney1

1. Penn State University, University Park, PA, United States.

Ethnographic methods were applied to maximize conceptual understanding of the influences of prevailing values and beliefs, or the culture of care, on healthcare providers' interactions with informal caregivers. Longitudinal observational and interview data were collected from healthcare providers and informal caregivers across the trajectory of illness in outpatient clinics serving patients living with/dying from heart failure, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and advanced lung cancer. Findings revealed that the formal care providers' values and beliefs, based on practice theory derived through prolonged engagement with a distinct patient population were communicated verbally and non-verbally to family caregivers during ongoing visits. Three model of care delivery reflected the prevailing culture of care in each setting: Provider Dominant; Cooperative Network; and Interdisciplinary. An important contribution of this work was to explicate implicit or intuitive practice theory that influenced interactions with informal caregivers at the interface of informal/formal caregivers.

**TITLE: Ethology: Understanding the Caregiver Interface**

**TIME: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**

Gardner (Sheraton Boston)

J. Penrod<sup>1</sup>; B. Baney<sup>1</sup>

1. Penn State University, University Park, PA, United States.

Qualitatively, it was revealed that values, beliefs and information are exchanged at the interface between healthcare providers and informal caregivers as co-providers and/or co-recipients of care. In this study, ethology was applied to examine the behaviors manifest at the interface during brief office visits. First, an ethogram (descriptive patterns of behaviors) was derived inductively from observational data. Using this schema, the data were coded, thus quantifying demographic and behavioral patterns. Multivariable logistic regression was used to determine significant variables associated with patterns of interaction. Adjusted for patient and caregiver sex, the care delivery model was the strongest predictor how the informal caregiver was integrated into the visit. This study confirms the qualitatively-derived theory: implicit values and beliefs shape the culture of care, which in turn influences the experiences of informal caregivers.

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Too often, the prevailing culture of care obscures opportunities to support caregivers as co-recipients of care.

**TITLE: What is a Natural Death?: Exploring the Definitive Crossroads of Lifestyle and Lifespan**  
**TIME: 1pm-3:30**

Dr. Kate de Medeiros

Discussant/Moderator: Dr. Harry (Rick) Moody

Affiliation: AARP, Washington, DC, DC, United States;

The often unspoken implication of lifestyle on lifespan can be found in how one dies. While there continues to be much research interest on the benefits of lifestyle modification; understanding the impact of various environmental and social stressors on quality of life; compression of morbidity; and other areas concerned with living better, longer, "death" is treated as an outcome variable rather than the center of discussion. The "ideal death" for many involves dying in their sleep without assistive devices, pain, or awareness. But how does this ideal fit within current research agendas or does it have a place at all? The purpose of this symposium is to consider historical, biological, policy and social implications of a natural death in light of work on lifestyle and lifespan. Topics will cover a historical view of a "natural" death as it shifted from the religious to the secular; defining natural death in a laboratory; an exploration of whether one's wishes for end-of-life care are honored as measured in a cross-sectional study; the meaning of the death of an elderly parent as told through children's narratives; and a in-depth look at policy implications for a "natural" death through a study of euthanasia policy in The Netherlands.

Historical Perspectives on Lifestyle and Death

**Chair/Presenter Information:**

**Name:** Prof. Thomas R. Cole

**Individual Symposium Abstract (Required; Limit 150 Words) :** In the mid-19th century, American thought about death began to shift from the religious to the secular. Death was no longer a punishment for sin or a necessarily painful event. Instead, health reformers urged middle class Americans to live a healthy, moral life that would culminate in painless death after a long life. Like Oliver Wendell Holmes' poem the "One Hoss Shay", a person in old age would fall apart "all at once and nothing first". This ideal still hold sway in gerontological circles. Natural death today has also become a goal of those who want to die free from the dominance of technology. In both cases, the "natural" is in fact shaped by the

cultural, which requires critical interpretation to reveal the interests and power arrangements at stake.

Examining natural death in the laboratory

**Chair/Presenter Information:**

**Name:** Heidi Tissenbaum

**Individual Symposium Abstract (Required; Limit 150 Words) :** What is a natural death? How can we study this topic in the laboratory setting? To answer these questions, we also need to define how an organism ages. We use the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* (*C. elegans*) as our model system; a premiere system for studying the aging process. We will perform a large number of assays at both the cellular and organismal levels on wild type as well as four different long-lived animals. We assay these parameters as the animals age. Therefore, we will define the biological characteristics of how an organism ages and ultimately dies. With these results, we will have a biological blueprint for defining the aging and death process in a whole organism. Ultimately, since the signaling pathways are well conserved across phylogeny, these studies will undoubtedly have implications for understanding these event

Death of an elderly parent: The children's narrative

**Name:** Dr.Helen K. Black

**Individual Symposium Abstract (Required; Limit 150 Words) :** In this presentation, we explore the meaning of the death of elderly fathers based on adult children's narratives about their fathers' life and death. Their narratives show a family worldview, from which each child reveals a unique perspective of self, the deceased, other family members, and the meaning of life and death.

This presentation is based on research in which 30 families (a widow and two adult children) were qualitatively interviewed six to ten months after the death of the husband and father about his dying and death. We collected in-depth data through formal ethnographic interviews and informal conversation. We offer a sampling of narrative accounts from adult children. A key finding in this presentation is that for some adult children, connectedness to the father and to the remaining family members is indicative of a particular kind of spirituality based on Buber's "I-Thou" interaction.s in humans.

Who Gets the Death They Want? Predictors of Proxy Accuracy in Substituted Judgment

**Name:** Dr.Laraine Winter and Dr.Susan M. Parks

**Affiliation:** Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA, 19107, United States;

**Individual Symposium Abstract (Required; Limit 150 Words) :** Central to the ideal of the good death is having one's wishes for end-of-life care honored - the principle of patient autonomy. Yet most final treatment decisions are made by proxies, whose accuracy is known to be low. In a cross-sectional study of 202 elderly individuals and their proxies, we assessed proxy accuracy by asking elders a standard living-will question and their proxies the same question using substituted judgment. 82.7% were accurate, 17.3% inaccurate. Proxies were accurate when the elder had a living will (73.6% vs. 56.3% for inaccurate proxies), had assigned a durable power of attorney for healthcare (65.3% vs. 41.3%), had talked with a family member (88.6% vs.53.1%), and was White (86.7% vs. 74.6%). Elders who wanted all possible care were less likely to have accurate proxies (32.1%) than elders rejecting life-prolonging care (94.6 %). No differences were found for age, gender, education, or financial well-being.

Euthanasia and "Natural Death": Intersections of Nature and Culture at the End of Dutch Life

**Name:** Dr.Frances Norwood

**Individual Symposium Abstract (Required; Limit 150 Words) :** Euthanasia – ending the life of another person at that person's explicit request typically for reasons of terminal illness – is a relatively new policy based on an old practice that is known to have existed in cultures around the world at least since the beginning of written records. Question is why is euthanasia, and its counterpart – assisted dying – only recently coming to the forefront of end-of-life policy debates? Using a 15-month ethnographic study of euthanasia and home death in The Netherlands, I will explore the intersections of nature and culture in the one country most often held up as the model for and against euthanasia and assisted dying policy. This paper uses ethnographic and historic data to show how one culture negotiates the difficult boundaries of nature and culture at the end of life, suggesting that perhaps culture does have a central role to play in "natural death."

**TITLE: Civic Engagement, Volunteering and Public Services: Exploring the Role of Older People in the Third Sector in the Context of the UK Big Society Agenda**

**TIME: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

Hynes 209 (Convention Center)

R. Means<sup>1</sup>; S. Evans<sup>1</sup>

1. University of the West of England, Bristol, United Kingdom.

The UK Coalition Government has received wide publicity for its emphasis upon ‘the Big Society’. This ambitious agenda has been linked to major public expenditure cutbacks by reducing quangoes and central and local bureaucracies and relying on the capacity of communities to meet their own needs through a mixture of volunteering and locally based third sector provision. Our paper outlines the centrality of older people to this agenda, both as consumers of support and as key providers of voluntary effort through civic engagement. The current debate is explored within an historical context, analysing the changing role of volunteers and the third sector in the social care of older people since World War Two. The authors argue that previous efforts to place voluntary effort and the third sector at the centre of support for older people in the UK have failed. We present evidence of the challenges that remain if the new ‘Big Society’ initiative is to work, drawing on an evaluation of a prevention project in south west England. Despite a strong desire amongst older people’s organisations to take part in developing and delivering services, they struggled to collaborate with statutory agencies due to a lack of the necessary infrastructure and resources and differences in cultures of working. This paper highlights the implications of ‘the Big Society’ debate for an ageing population and explores the practical challenges that need to be addressed if it is to have a positive impact upon the lives of older people.

**TITLE: Autonomy Symposium: Implementing Autonomy in Senior Housing: Strategies and Challenges**

**TIME: 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Symposium Chairs:** Ann Christine Frankowski and Robert L. Rubinstein  
Center for Aging Studies, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Autonomy is a core American value and a key component in the philosophy of senior housing, especially assisted living (AL). Research demonstrates that older adults’ sense of autonomy - expressed as independence, choice, or control - is integral to their health and well-being. In this symposium we explore how autonomy is defined, experienced, and negotiated by residents, their families, and staff in senior housing settings through the gaze of advocates, consumers, providers, and qualitative researchers. After a brief introduction to the theoretical construct of autonomy, two

researchers present data on the experiential aspects of autonomy, as expressed specifically through alcohol use in AL and participation in communal dining in a continuing care retirement community. The third paper, framed through a provider perspective, examines the degree of autonomy afforded to AL residents with dementia, and the conflicting forces between residents, families, and providers regarding their varied preferences in the implementation of the concept. Our fourth presenter reports on a consensus project examining the needs and recommendations of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community in long-term care (LTC) and other senior residential settings, whose goals are to promote resident autonomy, beneficence, and social justice. We conclude with an overarching look at person-centeredness in LTC, its environmental successes and barriers, operational components, and parameters for evaluation. These presentations will inform policy and practice on how implementing autonomy in everyday life results in better quality of life and care for the increasing number of adults living longer and moving into senior housing.

**One more glass: Navigating autonomy and alcohol in assisted living**

**Authors:** Amanda D. Peeples, Ann Christine Frankowski, Rosa Perez, Mary Nemec, Robert L. Rubinstein

Center for Aging Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Little research has been conducted on the use of alcohol in assisted living (AL) settings. This paper explores resident autonomy as it relates to alcohol use and abuse in AL. The alcohol policies of ALs, as well as the factors that affect changes to these policies over time, are described. We examine the roles that corporate policy, the executive director, staff members, families, and residents themselves play in shaping resident access to alcohol in AL. Through the use of case studies, dementia and alcoholism are each explored as complex conditions that can make autonomy and resident choice difficult to uphold when alcohol is involved. We also discuss the potential for alcohol use as an affirmation of resident autonomy in these settings. Data for this paper is drawn from four ethnographic, NIA-funded studies focusing on transitions, quality, stigma, and autonomy in AL.

**Resident Choices and Challenges in a Communal Dining Room**

**Authors:** Mary Nemec, Ann Christine Frankowski, Amanda Peeples, Rosa Perez, Robert Rubinstein

Center for Aging Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Residents in assisted living, nursing homes, and some independent living apartments share meals in communal dining rooms where choices are compromised, reduced, or non-existent. They are assigned seats, offered limited food options, and adhere to the setting's rules, resulting in their exercising minimal control. This presentation hones in on the critical role autonomy plays in the dining experience as understood by residents, staff, and management. The authors first examine 100 interviews and 150 fieldnotes from the perspective of one case study, that of a large religiously-affiliated, multi-level senior housing site located in a Mid-Atlantic state; they then compare their focal case analysis to four qualitative databases. Findings suggest that fear of litigation, concern with residents' safety, setting philosophy, efficiency of service, staffing levels, and individual personality all influence the degree of autonomy expressed in collective living.

#### **Autonomy for People with Advanced Dementia in Assisted Living: Implications From and For Research**

**Authors:** Joan Hyde<sup>1</sup>, Rosa Perez<sup>2</sup>, Patrick J. Doyle<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Gerontology Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA

<sup>2</sup>Center for Aging Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Assisted living (AL) is often thought of as a setting for relatively independent seniors yet moderate to severe cognitive impairment is common among AL residents. A 2004 study (Rosenblatt et al) found that 67% of AL residents had, on full evaluation, significant cognitive impairment. Of these approximately 10% were severely impaired (MMSE<9).

While the AL philosophy promotes choice and autonomy, a significant minority of residents are unable to speak more than a few words and may not recognize people who have been significant in their lives. How may these individuals participate in decisions that affect their health and quality of life, and how are AL providers successful in supporting resident autonomy? Drawing on this team's research regarding end-of-life programs, the session will provide theoretical and practical perspectives on autonomy for the most cognitively impaired, particularly with regard to assent, informed consent

and participation in research for those with advanced dementia.

#### **Addressing Concerns for Long-Term Care in the Lesbian and Gay Community**

**Author:** Gary L. Stein

Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Yeshiva University, New York, NY

Long-term care providers need to do more to address the perspectives of their LGBT residents. The authors conducted an exploratory inquiry comprised of two focus groups among gay elders receiving services at a community-based social service organization and a long-term care setting. Participants reported fear of being rejected or neglected by healthcare providers; fear of not being accepted by other residents; fear of having to go back into the closet if placed in long-term care; and a preference for gay or gay-friendly residential options. As a result of this study, the author and a leading national provider of assisted living residences convened in 2011 elder care providers, educators, and consumers at an invitational meeting to develop consensus recommendations for staff training, program development, and research. Our findings and recommendations will promote awareness of the special concerns of LGBT elders, and form the basis for further initiatives around these domains.

#### **Person-Centeredness: How Will Providers Know if They Are Achieving It and What Consumers Should Look For**

**Author:** Karen Love

Pathways to Care, Falls Church, VA

Person-centeredness (PC) has its roots in Carl Rogers and Abraham Maslow's work on humanism that values and respects the dignity of each individual and treats them as humans with unique feelings and characteristics. Loneliness, helplessness, and boredom that Bill Thomas describes many nursing home residents as suffering from are outcomes experienced in a non PC culture. Assisted living improved many environmental barriers to PC that exist in traditional nursing homes: institutional designs, nursing stations, overhead address systems, and one-size-fits-all mentality to dining and activities. Some operational components such as PC workforce practices and meaningful engagement, however, are missing. The Affordable Care Act signed into Law by President Obama has provisions for health care delivery based upon PC which encompasses aging services beyond nursing homes and assisted living to home health care and adult day care among other services. There are no national parameters of PC, so

how will providers know when they are achieving it and how will consumers know what to look for? This paper will address these questions.

**TITLE: Family Care, Living Arrangements and Health of Older People in China**

**TIME: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

Hynes 204 (Convention Center)

T. Y. Lum<sup>1</sup>

1. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, United States.

This symposium examines family caregiving and health of older adults in China. The first paper examines how culture influenced family caregiver's perception of dementia and caregiving. Using qualitative data collected in two urban Chinese cities, the authors found that traditional Chinese culture might protect family caregivers against caregiving stress. The second paper examines the structure of intergenerational relationships in rural China. Using survey data from the Anhui province, the authors found that typologies of intergenerational relations reflected adaptations of family relations to contemporary socio-economic and cultural conditions in China. The third paper examines generational differences in filial piety and living arrangements for elders in Hong Kong. Using survey data from 1,004 adults, the authors found a U-shape relationship between age and filial piety and willingness to living with aging parents. The fourth paper examines trajectories of social engagement and depressive symptoms among nursing home residents in Hong Kong. Using 5 years nursing home assessment data, the authors found that the two trajectories were negatively related. The last paper examines rural-urban health disparities among adults in China. Using data from the Chinese Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study, the authors found that that people living in rich, urban areas in China were increasingly experiencing "compression of functional limitations", whereas decreased physical functioning associated with age was accelerated in poor province and rural areas.

**TITLE: Arts and Humanities and Ageing – A New Research Agenda**

**TIME: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

Hynes 110 (Convention Center)

A. Walker<sup>1</sup>

1. Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom.

The arts and humanities are a relatively neglected part of the gerontological research agenda and the main purposes of this symposium are to disseminate the results of a unique and exciting mini-programme of research on this topic and encourage further research and transatlantic collaboration. The four projects presenting results come from the UK New Dynamics of Ageing Programme, the largest multidisciplinary programme of research ever mounted in the UK or elsewhere in Europe. The perspectives presented come from theatre, music, photography and visual arts.

The ground covered includes the identities of older theatre professionals and former professionals, the challenges in creating non-stereotypical images of older women, and the roles of music and visual art in promoting social engagement and well-being. They combine to provide a state-of-the-art assessment of the current state of research on ageing in the arts and humanities as well as an account of the therapeutic potential of arts-based activities in later life.

**TITLE: Aspects of Generativity in Later Life**

**TIME: 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**

Hynes 104 (Convention Center)

R. Rubinstein<sup>1</sup>

1. University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, United States.

This symposium reports on various aspects of generativity among older women. Five papers present materials gathered in an on-going NIA-funded study, Lifestyles and Generativity of Childless Older Women (GLOW), in which we have interviewed approximately 100 women, who have no children, in different age groups and marital statuses, as well as some women with children for comparison purposes. Each woman was interviewed in three open-ended interviews that collect a life story and detailed information about health, social relations, and self-conceptions. Besides gathering information on these topics, a focus of the study is the notion of generativity, defined generally as caring about future generations or caring for the self through generative outlets over time. Theoretically, we rely on the work of Erikson, Kotre and McAdams as well as work in cultural anthropology and narrative for guidance. However, the data gathered makes an independent contribution to theory about generativity over the life course. These insights are developed in the papers we will present.

The papers concern the following issues: adoption and other forms of non-biological parenthood as forms of generativity; the relationship of generativity

and personal biographic themes; women's careers in the 20th century when options for women's careers were limited or socially circumscribed; generativity as a form of personal triumph in the face of poverty; and questions of the efficacy of the notion of generativity for understanding elders' views of the future and future generations.

**TITLE: Generativity in Later Life among Women with Adoptive Children**

Susan M. Hannum

For many, parenting can be viewed as a highly generative experience. Specifically, women experience a sense of generativity as a result of reproduction. Some women, however, are not able to achieve biological reproduction and choose to adopt a child. Little is known about the impact of this specific parent/child relationship on feelings of generativity and self-concept among women as they age. This paper therefore seeks to describe this phenomenon, using interview data from a subsample of four women, aged 65+. Transcripts were analyzed for larger order themes, via descriptions of generativity, and these analyses indicate two major themes: 1) women find meaning in experiences of pregnancy and childbirth, which does not appear to affect feelings of generativity and 2) definitions of parenthood are not affected by the specificity of the parent/child relationship. This research demystifies the role of adoptive versus biological children in descriptions of generativity and notions of parenthood.

**Redemption and Generativity in Later Life**

Lynn Keimig, M.H.A.

Although she did not bear children of her own, Norma, a 65-year-old African American woman, describes herself as the matriarch of her extended family. The financial independence she has achieved in her career enables Norma to provide for various family members and friends, on her own terms. This paper examines how Norma practices generativity in later life, in the context of her personal history and self-redemption. Norma overcomes abuse and adversity in her early years, pursues education, gains financial security through hard work and thrift, renews contact with her family, and ultimately cultivates a sense of optimism in life. The dimensions of generativity raised in this case study include the meaning of kinship, the role of religious beliefs in fostering concerns beyond the self, and the power of redemption. Implications relate to a broader

understanding of the construct of generativity in later life.

**Working Towards Generativity: Women's Careers as an Expression of Generativity**

Amanda Mosby, M.A.

Women joined the work force in growing numbers during the latter half of the 20th century. Furthermore, they entered historically male professions and held positions of increasingly high status, often being forced to choose between having a career or raising a family. This paper presents findings from a subsample of two women who participated in a larger qualitative study on childless older women. Interviews addressed questions on life history, career development, generativity, and meaning of family and childlessness. Themes that arose from the data include: 1) professional careers as generative tasks, 2) a strong commitment to work is associated with happiness and satisfaction, 3) colleagues as significant mentors, and 4) serving as a mentor for others' development is an important achievement in one's own development. Future implications include programs that encourage mentorship in the workplace and encore careers.

**Generativity and personal biographic themes in later life**

Robert L. Rubinstein, Ph.D.

Generativity has been viewed as a psychological construct with life developmental features. While generativity can be viewed as a direct manifestation of personality, it can also be viewed as an element of the culturally constructed self. In this paper, we present the case of an 87-year-old woman who, by many objective measures, would not be considered especially generative. Her primary relations are with nieces and nephews, who live in another part of the country, and with co-residents of her retirement community. A primary aspect of her identity is her continuing affiliation with a branch of the military, with whom she served only two or three years when she was quite young. Critical in her account was her development of key thematic markers of identity. The paper discusses the relationship of these markers of personal identity to important forms of late life generativity.

**TITLE: To Live and Let Die: Insights Into Enhancing the Care of Older Prison Inmates**

**TIME: 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**

Hynes 204 (Convention Center)

A. Bishop1; S. A. Eisenhandler2



1. Human Development and Family Science , Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, United States.
2. University of Connecticut-Waterbury, Waterbury, CT, United States.

Offenders age 50 years and older represent one of the fastest growing age demographics across state prisons. This pattern is projected to persist throughout the coming decades. Continued growth in the number of persons who will grow old and die in prison represents an emergent challenge relative to how correctional institutions address the complex physical and mental healthcare needs of older inmates. Older prison inmates are primary consumers of mental and physical health services during imprisonment. A key policy concern is how to provide quality-of-care in a way that will sustain inmate health and well-being but not substantially increase cost to the public. Yet, many older inmates typically suffer from multiple chronic and life-threatening conditions which demand continued extensive long-term or end-of-life care. Most prisoners maintain a high degree of distrust toward correctional medical staff. As a result, their perception of support, meaning, and well-being continues to erode through the end-of-life. Gerontological investigation into the physical and mental well-being issues and end-of-life challenges faced by older prison inmates has remained limited. The purpose of this symposium is address key influences in the physical and mental health functioning of older prison inmates, as well as to address perceptions and strategies for infusing end-of-life care within the context of correctional institutions. Empirical results will be discussed relative to implications for addressing the physical and mental well-being of older prison inmates, as well as providing recommendations for improving research, policy, and end-of-life care practices within the correctional context.

**TITLE: Intergenerational Relationships in Later Life: Changing Norms and Changing Contexts**  
**TIME: 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**

Hynes 208 (Convention Center)

J. R. Smith<sup>1</sup>; R. Blieszner<sup>2</sup>

1. Social Service, Fordham University, New York, NY, United States.
2. Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA, United States.

This symposium brings together four qualitative researchers, each of whom has investigated the

intergenerational relationship from the standpoint of the older adult. Despite the significant change in life expectancy and the growth in the aging population, very little research has focused on what older adults experience, and hope for, in their relationships with their adult children and grandchildren. The majority of studies in family gerontology have focused on the effect of caregiving on the adult child when a parent becomes frail and in need of care (Pillemer, 1991). In this symposium, the papers use qualitative methods to examine parenting in later life, focusing on the older person's coping strategies as parent/grandparent. In addition, the papers highlight the context of culture or place on the parenting in later life. The methods of analyses include ethnography, phenomenology, grounded theory and content analysis. The papers include: 1) Analysis of videotaped visits among family members and their relatives in nursing homes; 2) Parents' perceptions of their current relationships with their adult children, comparing South Indian, African-American and Jewish older adults; 3) Vietnamese grandparents' experience as they grieve for their adult children's death from AIDS, while parenting their orphaned grandchildren; and 4) the influence of filial responsibility on the decision-making of Chinese elders regarding entering nursing homes. The symposium contributes to needed knowledge on how intergenerational relationships impact well-being among older people who are parents.

### **MONDAY NOV, 21**

**TITLE: Intergenerational Activities and Well-Being of the Elderly: Implications for Community Practice**

**TIME: 11:45 AM - 2:45 PM**

Hall A (Convention Center)

L. Liu<sup>1</sup>; Y. Qui<sup>2</sup>

1. Department of Social Work, Tunghai University, Taichung City, Taiwan.
2. ESme Creative Studio, Taichung City, Taiwan.

In modern society extended families are no longer the norm. It is not uncommon that older adults do not live together with their young family members in communities. The significantly increased older population living alone in communities have raised some fundamental issues, such as community revitalization, family relationships, and generation stereotypes.

Intergenerational programs served by community organizations give us the opportunity to bring old and young generations back together. In addition, it

allows us to create a strong sense of community as a whole and to empower residents engaging in community revitalization.

Using qualitative analysis, this study presents how a community grassroots group in mid-Taiwan collaborated with local businesses as well as district schools to develop an intergenerational service program as "Humanities Tea Ceremony." The paper shows how the service program has improved connections between generations and changed the stereotypes of young generations toward old population in communities. In addition, it made community residents began to care about senior citizens and developed the social support network for the elderly in their neighborhoods. Moreover, there has been a revival of interest in Teatism in communities. When tea is more than a drink, Tea Ceremony is often associated with arts, culture, and philosophy. In Chinese culture it presents as a sign of respect, a way of family gathering, a form of apology and deep thanks, as well as a symbol of value. The implications of this intergenerational program on services for the elderly and community cohesion are discussed in this study.

**TITLE: Thresholds of Cultural Renewal in One Retirement Community: The Significance of New Doors**

**TIME: 11:45 AM - 2:45 PM**

Hall A (Convention Center)

S. A. Eisenhandler<sup>1</sup>

1. Sociology, University of Connecticut, Waterbury , CT, United States.

During six years of qualitative study [2005-2011] the small retirement community of Kahehtiyō in a rural pocket of northwestern Connecticut has yielded flowers, veggies, a stable community, and a good quality of life for its residents. Analytically the Kahehtiyō study has provided new insights and confirms findings derived from other research about the kinds of group interaction and communal features that are strongly associated with social well-being for older people. The research study has documented a culture created by long-term residents and staff as well as changes that have emerged within the community as residents and staff members have moved on or have died. This poster examines observable, material changes that are now present in the 'bones' or physical infrastructure of the retirement community. Specifically the poster addresses external or structural elements (such as the recent availability of outside funding for renovation

of housing units) that play a crucial part in shaping the direction of cultural change and in setting the pace for change. Moreover, in a recent ceremony marking an important transition in the community, the role of multiple social actors and larger contexts, i.e., the political landscape in the local community and the state underscores the power and influence of larger social forces. A threshold is both a point of entry and exit, of farewells and welcomes; the symbolic significance of changing thresholds with new doors says much about the renewal of a retirement community and its culture.

**TITLE: Caregiving in Asian Countries and the Pacific Rim**

**TIME: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

Hynes 209 (Convention Center)

F. Ejaz<sup>1</sup>; K. Chee<sup>2</sup>

1. Benjamin Rose Institute, Cleveland, OH, United States.

2. Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, United States.

This symposium addresses issues and challenges related to caregiving in Asian countries including India, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan as well in New Zealand in the Pacific Rim. Findings from these studies point to a number of issues including: a) with the rapidly aging population in developing countries, examining the role of caregivers is becoming increasingly important; b) traditional roles of caregiving are changing with the increase in women working outside the home; c) caregivers, like their Western counterparts, are likely to experience a variety of conflicting emotions such as stress/burden and joy during the process of caregiving; and d) caregiving can occur long-distance through correspondence between family members living in different countries.

Findings will be presented from four different research projects. Dr. Gupta will discuss qualitative findings from a survey of 259 randomly selected households in India. Dr. Lou Vivian and her colleagues will discuss quantitative findings related to a study of 716 dyads (older adults and caregivers) in Shanghai province, China. Dr. Katagiri will present findings from a secondary data analysis of 8,120 older adults and their children in four East-Asian countries. Dr. Bradley will present findings from a historical analysis of correspondence records between families in New Zealand and their relatives who migrated to four countries.

The chair and co-chair will discuss the importance of the findings in relation to general differences and similarities between caregiving in the U.S. and these countries. Discussion will also center on the implications for changing practice and public policy in these countries.

**TITLE: You Take the Good, You Take the Bad: Cultural Differences and Age-Related Change in Mixed Emotions**

**TIME: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

Hynes 111 (Convention Center)

T. Sims<sup>1</sup>; H. Ersner-Hershfield<sup>2</sup>; S. Scheibe<sup>3</sup>; L. Carstensen<sup>1</sup>; J. L. Tsai<sup>1</sup>

1. Stanford University, Stanford, CA, United States.

2. Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, United States.

3. University of Groningen, TS Groningen, Netherlands

Researchers have become increasingly interested in "mixed emotions" (i.e., the co-occurrence of positive and negative affect). One body of research suggests that the experience of mixed emotions increases with age. Another body of research suggests that East Asian contexts promote mixed emotional experience more than European American contexts. No studies, however, have examined whether culture and age exert independent effects or interact to produce mixed emotional experience. Using experience sampling methodology, we measured the co-occurrence of positive and negative affect among European Americans and Chinese Americans across the adult life span. Analyses revealed that mixed emotions increased with age and were higher for Chinese Americans than European Americans, suggesting that culture and age independently influence mixed emotional experience. We explore possible mediators of these differences and their consequences for well-being.

**TUESDAY NOV 22**

**TITLE: How do we think about physicians in nursing homes? Developing measures of medical staff organization**

**TIME: 8-9:30 AM**

RR Shield, M Rosenthal, D Tyler, T Wetle, M Clark, O Intrator, Brown University.

Practices of nursing home (NH) medical staff—physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants—are often limited by NH characteristics

**PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:**

of administrative control. Limits in medical staff involvement may affect their knowledge of residents, their oversight of residents' changing conditions and care transitions such as hospitalizations. Nursing staff, residents and families are then subject to disappointments. Using findings from mixed methods studies from 4 qualitative and quantitative surveys, our interdisciplinary team created measures to conceptualize NH medical staff practices and the responses of staff and families when medical staff are not involved. Surveys were completed by NH administrators and directors of nursing (N= 3422) in 2256 unique NHs during 2010. Results highlight the need to explore medical staff organization and its effects by methodically creating appropriate measures. As one DON related, "If physicians were more in tune with the resident, it would affect whether [residents]...go out [to the hospital] or not."

**TITLE: Gendered Aging: Older Women in Appalachia**

**TIME: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**

Hynes 102 (Convention Center)

M. Diderich<sup>1</sup>; V. Manlow<sup>2</sup>

1. Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, OH, United States, 2. Brooklyn College, New York, NY, United States.

Our paper focuses on older females – the matriarchs of Appalachian (primarily working class) families. We confine our interviewees to women who are 65 years or elder. Who are they and how do they view themselves in relation to men? We conduct oral life histories revolving around questions about their education (or lack thereof), their outlook on gender and gender roles, the division of labor within their household and their views about women in contemporary society (for instance how they see their daughters and grand daughters). Our paper aims to present our findings, based on thirty in-depth interviews with elderly females in the Appalachian region who have been recruited via a convenience sample. In particular we draw our subjects from the Southern Ohio/ Northern Kentucky/West Virginia area – a geographical environment that has been generally economically depressed which deals with the "culture of poverty". Additional findings demonstrate that older women advocate a traditional and, at best, a transitional gender role for their daughters and granddaughters as it is believed that their main focus should be on kinship obligations such as taking care of (extended) family members.

**Association for Anthropology and Gerontology:** AAGE was established in 1978 as a multidisciplinary group dedicated to the exploration and understanding of aging within and across the diversity of human cultures. AAGE serves as a forum and center of knowledge for professionals and academics in such fields as applied anthropology, nursing, gerontology, policy studies, development, social work, biology, medicine, and sociology. AAGE has members from several nations around the world, and its perspective is holistic, comparative, and international. AAGE is a community of people who are interested in the multifaceted process of aging as an intellectual, scientific and philosophical pursuit. We are also interested in one another's projects in order to advance and support research on aging. For more information on AAGE and AAQ (including the current issue) go to: <http://www.aage.clubexpress.com>

**AAA Aging and the Life Course Interest Group:** The consequences of global aging will influence virtually every topic studied by anthropologists, including the biological limits of the human life span, generational exchange and kinship, household and community formations, symbolic representations of the life course, and attitudes toward disability and death. A major goal of this interest group is to bring together anthropologists whose work addresses such issues both in and outside of academia. Membership is free but you must be an AAA member. Convener Jay Sokolovsky ([jsoko@earthlink.net](mailto:jsoko@earthlink.net))

**The Gerontological Society of America (GSA):**

The meeting of this organization that supports aging research [www.geron.org](http://www.geron.org)  
GSA Interest Groups include Qualitative Research, Rural Aging, International Aging and Migration, Aging in Asia, and Chinese Gerontology.

**PUBLICATIONS:**

**New Book Series: Life Course, Culture and Aging: Global Transformation.** The book series is being published by Berghahn Publishers in collaboration with AAGE and the AAA Interest Group on Aging and the Life Course. **Mission of the series:** Late Life and Adult Maturity set in the context of the Life Course, Culture and Community. This focus will be set within the powerful global transformations now taking place. The series will consist of both ethnographies and edited books with a goal of 2 books a year. Manuscript ideas/manuscripts can be submitted to either the editor, Jay Sokolovsky ([jsoko@earthlink.net](mailto:jsoko@earthlink.net)) or the publisher, Marion Berghahn, [Marion.berghahn@berghahnbooks.com](mailto:Marion.berghahn@berghahnbooks.com)

**Key Resources in Aging and Life Course Research and Teaching:** Published by the AAA Interest Group on Aging and the Life Course, the 2011 edition will be available at the Interest Group Special Event on Friday and the AAGE . booth

*Teaching About Aging: Interdisciplinary and Cross-Cultural Perspectives, (3rd Edition)*, Shenk, D. and J. Sokolovsky. 1999. Jointly published by AAGE and AGHE – details at: <http://www.stpt.usf.edu/~jsokolov/guide.htm>,

## ASSOCIATION FOR ANTHROPOLOGY & GERONTOLOGY (AAGE)

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## ***Anthropology & Aging Quarterly***

*The official publication of the Association for Anthropology & Gerontology*

### **Information and Submission Guidelines**

**Anthropology & Aging Quarterly** is the official publication of the Association for Anthropology & Gerontology (AAGE). It is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by (AAGE). AAGE is a nonprofit organization established in 1978 as a multidisciplinary group dedicated to the exploration and understanding of aging within and across the diversity of human cultures. Our perspective is holistic, comparative, and international. Our members come from a variety of academic and applied fields, including the social and biological sciences, nursing, medicine, policy studies, social work, and service provision. We provide a supportive environment for the professional growth of students and colleagues, contributing to a greater understanding of the aging process and the lives of older persons across the globe.

**Submission Process** All manuscripts should be submitted electronically, via e-mail attachment. *Anthropology & Aging Quarterly* accepts four types of submissions--*Research Reports, Policy and News Reviews, Commentaries, and Articles*.

*Research Reports* are brief discussions of ongoing or recently completed study and should be no longer than 2,000 words. *Policy and News Reviews* are pieces which offer thoughtful and reflective commentary on current events or social policies pertaining to aging and culture.

*Commentaries* provide authors with an opportunity to discuss theoretical, ethical and other time-sensitive topical issues which do not lend themselves to a full-length article. Policy Reviews or *Commentaries* may range from 1,000 to 4,500 words. *Articles* are peer-reviewed and manuscript submissions should include the following: a cover page with the author's full name, affiliation, mailing address, and manuscript title; a 200 word abstract; the text; references cited; and tables or figures. Endnotes are permitted but should be used sparingly and with justification. *Articles* should not exceed 6,500 words, including all materials.

**Manuscript Submission** All submissions should be submitted via e-mail to the Editor, Jason Danely, [jdanely@ric.edu](mailto:jdanely@ric.edu). Unsolicited Book Reviews are currently not accepted. If you are interested in authoring a book review please contact the Book Reviews Editor, Dr. Sherylyn Briller, at the Department of Anthropology, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, 48202. All manuscripts should use the citation style outlined by the American Anthropological Association, available online at: [http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/style\\_guide.pdf](http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/style_guide.pdf)

**Evaluation** Manuscripts will be evaluated by the Editor and a combination of Editorial Board members and peer referees. Every effort will be made to expedite the review process, but authors should anticipate a waiting time of two to four months.

## **Submission deadlines**

For February 2012, Issue 32(1): December 15, 2011

For May 2012, Issue 32(2): March 15, 2012

For August 2012, Issue 32(3): June 15, 2012

For November 2012, Issue 32(4): September 15, 2012