



UNCG Gerontology Research Network

Facilitating Transdisciplinary Aging-related Research at UNCG

February 23, 2012 Issue 76

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Workshop: Building Capacity for Collaborative Interdisciplinary Gerontology Research

***Two Flyers Attached ***

When: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 • 9:00a.m. - 3:00p.m

Where: UNCG: Ferguson Building • Room 247

UNCG faculty and researchers interested in building multidisciplinary collaborative research teams are invited to attend a one-day workshop on March 28th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Lunch will be served). While sponsored by the Gerontology Research Network (GRN), this workshop is open to all those interested in developing collaborative and interdisciplinary research.

Presenter: Judith A. Spross, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor, University of Southern Maine (USM).

Pre-registration is required. The GRN is covering the cost for the Complete Strengths.finder 2.0, thus pre-registration is needed. After registration is complete, participants will be directed to the Complete Strengths.finder 2.0.

Spaces are limited on a first come-first serve basis. Pre-register by calling or emailing Mary Lea Wolfe at 336.256.1020 or at mlwolfe@uncg.edu. If you have questions, feel free to contact Dr. Wassel directly at jiwassel@uncg.edu or calling 336.256.1020

All participants will need to complete the pre-meeting responsibilities (see below). An outline of the day's program may be found below. At the end of the day, a funding opportunity provided by GRN will be announced.

Please share this opportunity with those interested in developing the GRN and their collaborative research agenda.

Pre-meeting Participant Responsibilities

1. Complete Strengths.finder 2.0 (Thomas Rath, published by Gallup press)
2. Post or provide your top five strengths (and name, position and rank) to Lin Buettner who will send them to Judy Spross two weeks ahead of time
3. Review NIH Roadmap link <https://commonfund.nih.gov/researchteams/>
4. Think about your professional goals and how you would like your work to influence research, practice, curriculum and/or policy—write a brief vision statement on this to which you can refer
5. Be familiar with the missions of your university system, university and your college/department.

**Please send your aging-related research to Sarah Johnson at shjohns2@uncg.edu
OR at grnuncg@yahoo.com with “GRN Newsletter” in the subject line.**



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Workshop Outline:

When: Wednesday, March 27, 2012 Draft program

9:00am: Building community and strengthening interdisciplinary research teams

Objective:

1. Participants will learn methods to strategically use each others' strengths to build community and strengthen research development, implementation and dissemination, all aimed to address the biologic, clinical, and policy needs of elders in our society.
2. At the end of the day, the group will:
 - a. Establish a vision for Gerontological research at USM
 - b. Draft an overall mission for Gerontological research at UNCG (may need to go through UNCG approval processes)

10:30am: Strengths-based small and large group work aimed at aligning goals & strengths

11:45am to 12:30pm: Lunch

12:30 to 1:30pm: Gerontologic Research Collaboratories (subgroup ideas, plans, strategy)

1:30 to 3:00pm: Subgroup consultation, next steps and program evaluation

By Dr. Janice Wassel, Director of UNCG Gerontology Program

The Gerontology Research Network (GRN) is the interdisciplinary network of faculty, researchers, and students interested in topics of aging. The goals of the network are to:

- Facilitate transdisciplinary research working groups
- Seek funding for future endeavors of the UNCG Gerontology Research Network
- Provide a web presence and other communication, connecting and informing this network
- Bring national expertise on interdisciplinary research and training in the field of aging to the UNCG campus
- Sponsor an annual research symposium featuring UNCG faculty and students investigating the field of aging.

If you have faculty, (new or returning) interested in aging, please invite them to become part of the GRN network. Encourage the faculty to complete the GRN Network Participant Request form found on the home page of the Gerontology Research Network so their information may be included. See www.uncg.edu/gro/geroresearch.uncg.edu

Sigma Phi Omega, (Delta Gamma Chapter) the national academic honor and professional society in gerontology, was established in 1980 to recognize *excellence* of those who study gerontology and aging and the *outstanding service* of professionals who work with or on behalf of older persons. The formation of a society provides a much needed link between educators, practitioners, and administrators in various settings where older persons are served.

Please nominate graduate students who have completed at least one semester at UNCG and have a 3.5 or higher GPA to join. See www.sigmaphiomega.org for more information and to download the membership application.

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NEWS - LOCAL

Workshop on Complementary Alternative Therapies (CAT) *Flyer Attached*

When: Tuesday • March 27, 2012

Where: UNCG: Ferguson Building, Room 247

Presenter: Judith A. Spross, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor of Nursing at Univ. of Southern Maine

Cost: Free, but each session is limited to 10 people and preregistration is required! Register for either the 10:00am-11:45am session or the 2:00pm-3:45pm session.

Dr. Spross will engage them in participatory demonstrations of non-pharmacologic CAT therapies that complement traditional therapies, including Reiki, relaxation and imagery, breathing, music, bibliotherapy, and distractive techniques.

Participants should wear comfortable clothing and arrive with an open mind.

Preregister via Mary Wolfe at mlwolfe@uncg.edu 336-256-1020.

These two opportunities are made available via the UNCG Gerontology Research Network for UNCG faculty and students who are especially interested in aging-related research and careers.

PACE: Program on All Inclusive Care for the Elderly *Flyer Attached*

When: Thursday, March 15th from 4pm-5pm.

Where: UNCG: Elliott University Center (EUC), Azalea Room

Cost: Free

UNCG faculty, students, and UNCG Gerontology Program alumni are invited to hear Tim Clontz, Executive VP for Health Services at Cone Health, as he introduces the PACE model which integrates acute and long term care for older adults eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. Learn who is eligible, what services are provided, the pros and cons of PACE enrollment, issues facing the PACE program at state and national levels, and discuss local research opportunities with the PACE program at Cone Health in Greensboro.

Tim Clontz is Chairman of the North Carolina PACE Association and a member of the Public Policy Committee for the National PACE Association. He will present to a joint class session of two UNCG classes: Long Term Care Public Policy (GRO 633) and the Integrative Seminar in Gerontology (GRO 651). All UNCG faculty, students, and UNCG Gerontology alumni are invited to join us for his presentation.

QUESTIONS? Contact Sandy Crawford Leak, PhD, at scleak@uncg.edu

2012 Masters and PhD Seminar Schedule *Word Document Attached*

The seminars are open to graduate students and interested faculty at UNCG and are offered on Fridays from 12pm-1pm from March 2nd, 2012, until April 13th, 2012. Information is on the attached document. Please join Dr. Barba and the School of Nursing doctoral students if you are interested in one of these topics. For more information, please contact Karen Stacherski at kastache@uncg.edu or at (336) 334-3167.



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Advance Care Planning Clinics, Feb - Mar 2012

View or print a list of session dates in February and March [here](#). You may choose whichever date is most convenient. RSVP information is also listed.

Throughout 2012, they will offer informal advance care planning sessions. The public is cordially invited. Come learn about planning for health care decisions, the Living Will, and Health Care Power of Attorney. You will receive copies of the Living Will and Health Care Power of Attorney documents. Notaries will be present to assist in completing these documents. There is no charge for this service. Donations are welcomed.

Hosted by: The Community Partnership for End of Life Care, a program of Hospice & Palliative CareCenter. Contact them at 336-768-6157, ext 1622

NEWS - STATE

Dementia Conference: March 24 *Word Document Attached*

Title: Innovations in Dementia Screening, Diagnosis & Management for Aging Service Providers

When: Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 1pm-4pm

Where: Grandover Conference Center, Greensboro, NC.

Cost: \$25

To Register: visit http://tracs.unc.edu/dementia_conference

Questions: please contact Christine Lathren at 919-966-4071 or lathren@schsr.unc.edu

Check-In and Lunch beginning at 12:15. Continuing education credit application is in progress.

This excellent training opportunity is being offered by the UNC Shep Center for Health Services and the Piedmont Triad Regional Council Area Agency on Aging Project C.A.R.E. initiative funded through the Administration on Aging.

Registration is open to the first 150 applicants and scholarships are available for students.

Topics include:

- What's new in the diagnosis and management of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias
- Practice guidelines and quality benchmarks for dementia screening, diagnosis and management in primary care
- Dementia care in long term care
- How to implement individualized, person-centered care in outpatient and long-term care settings
- Innovations in community resources for families of persons with Alzheimer's disease

Sponsors: Carolina Alzheimer's Network; Piedmont Triad Regional Council Area AAA; North Carolina Network Consortium; NC Translational and Clinical Sciences (TraCS) Institute



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2012 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Walk

When: June 16, 2012

Where: First annual Elder Abuse Awareness Day Walk

Where: Triad Park in Kernersville, NC.

Event's Patrons: Piedmont Triad Regional Council Area Agency on Aging

The 2012 Elder Abuse Awareness Day Walk Planning Committee

Goal of Walk: To raise awareness in the community about the growing problem of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Sponsors/exhibitors are currently being sought for the event. Please see the attached sponsorship form for more details. Please join them on June 16th as the entire community comes together to put a stop to elder abuse!

NEWS - NATIONAL

Arkansas Gerontological Society Spring Conference

When: March 28-29, 2012

Where: C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center in Little Rock:

www.arkansas4hcenter.org/FindUs/default.asp

March 28th: Registration begins at 7:30am and the program goes from 8:30am until 5:30pm.

March 29th: Registration begins at 8am and the program goes from 8:30am until 5:30pm.

The Keynote Speaker will be Bruce McIntyre.

The Closing Session will be on "Managing Stress: Changing Challenges into Blessings" by James Marshall.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Call for Nominations for Fisher Gerontology Awards

Due Date for Nominations: March 1st, 2012, to Laura Chesak: lachesak@uncg.edu

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, through the George and Beatrice Goldman Fisher Gerontology Dissertation Prize (\$1,000) and Master's Prize (\$500), has established annual awards to the best UNCG dissertation and best UNCG master's thesis or master's project in any discipline related to gerontology, for works that best advance improvements in the quality of life of the elderly. Each academic department offering the doctoral degree or master's degree may nominate students who graduated in calendar year 2011 (May, August, or December) for appropriate consideration.

For more information and application forms, please visit www.uncg.edu.

A small committee of faculty will evaluate all eligible nominations.



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IPC Newsletter: UNCG students study in Norway with Dr. Buettner *Link Attached*

Dr. Linda Buettner, Professor of Gerontology and Therapeutic Recreation at UNCG, and five students studying therapeutic recreation for older adults with dementia, travelled to Stavanger, Norway, to the Teaching Nursing Home in May 2011. The program was conducted in partnership with Dr. Ingelin Testad at the University of Stavanger and was aimed at giving students the opportunity to practice their skills in a diverse setting.

In Norway, the student therapists offered something different in their approach by providing individualized therapeutic activities based on specific needs and problems. For the students, the experience of learning on the job also served as a catalyst for increased maturity. For the residents, the experience with the students brought back many memories—both personal and functional, and in some ways, brought back their youth.

For more information, please read the article in the UNCG International Programs Center Newsletter: <http://www.uncg.edu/ipg/enewsworthy/facultycornov11.html>.

Job Opportunity: Recreational Therapy Position Open at Arbor Acres for a Recreation/Wellness Services Manager *Flyer Attached*

Plans, implements and evaluates on an ongoing basis a campus-wide program of wellness, health promotion, fitness and recreational pro-grams for residents and staff. Coordinates Retirement Center entertainment, activities and recreational events to meet the broadest possible spectrum of needs and interest of residents.

Recreation/Wellness Services programming shall focus on each resident's need for creative expression, physical fitness, enhanced social interaction, entertainment and achievement of maximum potential for a full and active leisure life. Utilization of the Six Dimension of Wellness as a standard of programming shall be utilized.

Position requirements include:

- Bachelors Degree from a recognized college or university with a degree in Gerontology, Fitness, Wellness, Recreation Administration or a combination of education and experience.
- Minimum 2 years experience in wellness/activities/event programming with older adults, preferably in a continuing care retirement community or similar setting.

Dr. Richard Taylor's Newsletter: The Newest Issue

For everyone who is interested in Alzheimer's Disease or has a loved one with that diagnosis, visit Dr. Richard Taylor's website: <http://www.richardtaylorphd.com>. As described in his website: —Richard Taylor, a retired Psychologist, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's-type dementia in 2001 at the age of 58. Now 65, (he) is a champion for individuals with early-stage and early-onset Alzheimer's disease, and author of the book *Alzheimer's from the Inside Out* (Health Professions Press, 2006).

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Dr. Richard Taylor serves on the board of the Houston and Southeast Texas chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and has started over 50 chat rooms worldwide for people with Alzheimer's disease and their loved ones. He was a moving force in the establishment of the Dementia Advisory Committee of the U.S. Alzheimer's Association, looking at how to better integrate individuals living with the diagnosis in the leadership, program development, and delivery functions of the Association and its local chapters (from his website).

He sends out a monthly Newsletter through email that is filled with reflections on Alzheimer's Disease and how readers can get involved with defending individuals with this diagnosis, rather than the negative stereotypes. The February 2012 Issue is full of insightful articles about such things as the results of a study on the success (or lack thereof) of a pill touted to reverse AD, two fantastic interviews with others who are living with the symptoms of dementia, the situation of being twice dead in the United States (being brain dead, and transplants), and others, including the opportunity to access three big databases of publications and reminiscences that Dr. Taylor has placed in the "digital cloud"—you should prepare to read everything and increase your knowledge and passion for advocacy! To receive these newsletters, simply sign up for them on his website, listed above, and then prepare to be educated and challenged to make a change!

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