Program for Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the American Sociological Association will take place on August 16-20, 2002, at the Hilton Chicago & Towers and the Hilton Palmer House in Chicago. Aging Section Day is Sunday, August 18th. As we go to press, the Preliminary Program is available on-line, but not specific times and locations of activities. Tourism information is available at the City of Chicago’s HomePage: http://www.ci.chi.il.us/tourism/

Roundtables and Research Groups

Organizers
Ellen Idler, Rutgers University
Duane F. Alwin, Pennsylvania State University

Labor Market Forces in an Aging Society

The Restructuring of Retirement in the United States as a Consequence of Falling Rates of Profit, Jerry Williams, Stephen F. Austin State University

Family Structure and Labor Supply at Older Ages in Japan, James Raymo, University of Wisconsin—Madison

How Much Longer Would Men Work if There Were No Employment Dislocation? Estimates from Cause-Elimination Work Life Tables, Stephen Appold, National University of Singapore

Racial and Ethnic Diversity Across the Life Course
Presider: Sherrill Sellers, University of Wisconsin—Madison

Widowhood, Ethnicity, and Health Care Coverage, Jacqueline Angel, University of Texas—Austin, Nora Douglas, University of Texas—Austin, and Ronald Angel, University of Texas—Austin

Social Capital and Social Costs: The Effect of Marriage on Mediating Race and Sex Differences within an Aging U.S. Cohort, Patrick Krueger, University of Colorado

Black/White Differences in the Incidence of Elder Abuse Among Older Adult Missouri Residents, Rita P. Loper, Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville

Family Dynamics Over the Life Span
Presider: Stephen J. Cutler, University of Vermont

The Memory of the Father: Father Presence in Middle Aged and Older Adults, Eddythe Krampa, California State University—Fulbright

Linking Early Social Risks to Impaired Physical Health: A Perspective on the Transition to Adulthood, K.A.S. Wickrama, Iowa State University

Family Dynamics Over the Life Span
Presider: Stephen J. Cutler, University of Vermont

The Memory of the Father: Father Presence in Middle Aged and Older Adults, Eddythe Krampa, California State University—Fulbright

Linking Early Social Risks to Impaired Physical Health: A Perspective on the Transition to Adulthood, K.A.S. Wickrama, Iowa State University

A Look in the Mirror: Do Similarities between Adult Children and Parents with Alzheimer’s Disease Affect Memory Concerns, Lynne Gershenson Hodgson, Quinnipiac University, Stephen J. Cutler, University of Vermont

Quality of Life / Recreation & Leisure
Presider: Ellen Idler, Rutgers University

The Life Course of Retirement Communities, Gordon Streib, University of Florida

The Great Escape: Casino Gambling as a New Social Activity of Older Adults, Michelle Proctor, Wayne State University

The Relationship between Work and Leisure in the Aspirations of Law and MBA Students, Robert Orrange, Eastern Michigan University

Midlife Workers’ Perceptions of Volunteering in Retirement, Deborah Smith, University of Missouri—Kansas City

How Much Longer Would Men Work if There Were No Employment Dislocation? Estimates from Cause-Elimination Work Life Tables, Stephen Appold, National University of Singapore
Fatherhood As a Potential Turning Point in the Lives of Unskilled Men, Kathryn Linnenberg, Northwestern University, Kathryn Edin, Northwestern University, Timothy J. Naison, Northwestern University, and Rechelle Paranal, Northwestern University

Retirement and Pensions: Form & Function
Presider: David Ekerdt, University of Kansas
The National Defined Contribution Approach to Public Pension Reform: Implications for Women and Low-wage Workers, Stephanie Howling, Boston College and Jenna Nobiles, Boston College
Pension Decisions within the Family: The Role of the Spouse and Marital Power, Kim Shuey, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill
“Generational” Social Spending Preferences: A Life Course Approach, Jeraynn Cosman, Mississippi State University, and Debra Street, Florida State University

Gender Issues Across the Life Course
Presider: Deborah Carr, Rutgers University
Growing Up Alone: The Individualized Life Course and the Absence of Young Women’s Role Models, Pamela Aronson, Michigan State University
Gender and Age Identity: An Examination of the Double Standard of Aging, Anne Barrett, Florida State University
Women’s Income Security in Later Life: Trajectories Over the Life Course, Andrea Willson, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill
What Do Women Really Want? How Does Wealth Matter in the Retirement Plans of Women, Pamela Hageman, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill

Status Transitions and Parent-Adult Relations: Effects of Family Care on Caregivers’ Relations with Their Own Children, Michael J. Patterson, Louisiana State University, J. Jill Suitor, Louisiana State University, and Karl Pillemer, Cornell University
Spousal Relationships in Later-Life Stepfamilies, Barbara Vinick, Department of Veterans Affairs, Boston

Research Group on Work and Retirement
Presider, Maximiliane E. Szinovacz, Eastern Virginia Medical School
Women’s Divergent Pathways to Retirement: An Examination of Black and White Women’s Life Histories, Tyson H. Brown, University of Florida, Amy M. Pienta, University of Florida
Putting on the Brakes: Reconsidering the Democratization of Retirement in the 21st Century, Melissa A. Hardy, Florida State University
A Pilot Project Using Video Conferencing Technology to Link Isolated Elders in a Public Housing Community to Job Training Resources, Roma A. Hanks, University of South Alabama
Race and Ethnic Differences in Definitions of Retirement: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Survey, Stanley DeViney, University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, Maximiliane E. Szinovacz, Eastern Virginia Medical School
The Familial Context of Retirement: Variations By Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Maximiliane E. Szinovacz, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Adam Davey, University of Georgia, and Charles Gray, Eastern Virginia Medical School

Research Group on Parent-Child Relations in the Later Years
Presider, Deborah M. Merrill, Clark University
Which Mother-in-Law Do You Mean: Implications of Divorce on In-Law Relationships, Deborah M. Merrill, Clark University
Eldercaregiving: How Sons and Daughters’ Paid Work Performance is Affected, Judy Singleton, College of Mount St. Joseph

Research Group on Parent-Child Relations in the Later Years
Presider, Cheryl Elman, University of Akron
Using Interpolated Curves to Represent Life Course Patterns of Discrete, Valued Events, Joy E. Pixley, University of California—Irvine
Comparing Retrospective and Prospective Appraisal of Aspirations in 20th Century American Women: 1936-1972, Margaret M. Mueller, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill
Use of, and Access to, Spaces and Places as Allocation Processes with Implications for Race, Class, and Gender Inequality over the Life Course, Heather Hofmeister, Cornell University / Ithaca College
Race, Residential Segregation, and Health Across the Life Course, Stephanie Robert, University of Wisconsin—Madison
Speaking to Ourselves: Who is Listening?
Ingrid Arnet Connidis, University of Western Ontario

Research Group on Aging Well
Presider, Tanya Fusco Johnson, University of Hawaii at Hilo
The Problem with Successful Aging: Studying the Life Course in a Social Context, Richard T. Campbell, University of Illinois—Chicago, and Martha Jacob, University of Illinois—Chicago
Aging Well: Time, Self, and Society, Jennifer Solomon, Winthrop University, Jonathan Marx, Winthrop University, and Lee Q. Miller, Winthrop University

Fall Factors for Frail Elderly, Tanya Fusco Johnson, University of Hawaii at Hilo

Research Group on Comparative Social Gerontology
Presider, Eldon Wegner, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Use of Free Time Among the Korean Elderly, Jibum Kim, University of Chicago, and Jaekil Jeong, University of Chicago
On Whom Our Aged Rely – State, Family or Individual? Chieh-Wen Liu, National Chung Cheng University—Taiwan, Yu-Li Hsieh, Yuan Ze University—Taiwan, and Shu-Fen Tseng, Yuan Ze University—Taiwan
Living In(-)dependence: A Critical Gerontological Analysis of a Mexican Case, Tracy Citeroni, Mary Washington College
A Comparison of the German Social Insurance Model with the Medicaid Welfare Model of Financing Long-Term Care, Eldon L. Wegner, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Distinguished Scholar Lecture
Phyllis Moen, Co-Director of the Cornell Gerontology Research Institute and Ferris Family Professor of Life Course Studies at Cornell University.

Business Meeting
Linda George, Chair
Announcement of results of the Section’s elections and awards as well as reports on the Section’s activities and plans.
Once again we are holding a book raffle to help generate funds for the section. We have solicited 28 books or journals to be given away at the raffle (list below). This means that if every member buys one ticket, the chance of winning is still better than 5%. Much better than the lottery! And you’re doing a good deed too. Tickets are $5 and we expect that every section member will buy at least one ticket (purchases of more than 1 ticket are especially welcome). Please buy your tickets now (through e-mail) - this will help us organize the raffle! Of course, tickets will also be available at the meeting (but please don’t make us wait that long).

To buy tickets: Send a check (in multiples of $5, depending on how many books you want) to me. We will then enter your tickets in the drawing for you (you will get an e-mail confirmation of your purchase). This way, section members who don’t attend the annual meeting can also participate in the raffle. All tickets (those purchased through mail and those purchased at the annual meeting) will go in a huge hat and the drawing will take place at the annual meeting. Make checks payable to: “Section on Aging and the Life Course — ASA”. Please be sure to put the section first, this ensures that funds really go to the section and not to ASA. Please do not send us “promises” of future purchase without checks! Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have (e-mail preferred).

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What You Can Win...
Contemporary Gerontology (journal), Springer.
Women and Aging, Transcending the Myths, Linda Gannon, 1999, $22.95, Routledge.
Robert C. Atchley, Continuity and Adaptation in Aging, $15.95, Johns Hopkins University Press
Leighton E. Cluff, M.D., and Robert H. Binstock, Ph.D., editors, The Lost Art of Caring, $48.00, Johns Hopkins University Press

Generations (1 year subscription)
Tamara Hareven (editor). 1995. Aging and Generational Relations over the Life Course. Aldine de Gruyter
Racial and Ethnic Differences in the Health of Older Americans (1997), Linda G. Martin and Beth J. Soldo, Editors; Committee on Population,
University of North Texas
Department of Sociology
Ph.D. Program

A federation of universities that allows graduate students to take sociology courses from several different universities in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Denton area and apply them to their graduate degree at UNT. This provides the graduate student with a wider selection of specialty courses than are available from any single university.

Interdisciplinary cooperation with UNT’s Departments of Criminology and Departments of Applied Gerontology. Graduate courses from these departments can be applied directly to the M.A. or Ph.D. Advanced Sociology degree.

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All new students accepted into the Sociology Ph.D. program receive $1,000 scholarships and in-state tuition.

Additional scholarship funds are available from the Hiram J. Friedsam Graduate Award, A.C. Dorse Scholarship fund, Leonard Benson Award Fund, and the David Malone Graduate Award.

Four Teaching Assistantships are available annually. These provide the opportunity to work closely with faculty. In-state tuition and health benefits are provided along with salary.

Eight Teaching Fellowships are available annually. These allow Ph.D. candidates to teach sociology Courses. In-state tuition and health benefits are provided along with salary. A Professional Development Class, limited to Ph.D. candidates, provides necessary preparation for teaching.

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Back to the Future

Ronald P. Abeles, Editor

In the previous issue of the Newsletter, I highlighted several recent reports from the National Academy of Sciences recommending directions for behavioral and social sciences research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). To a major degree, these recommendations call for interdisciplinary, multilevel studies employing a lifespan approach. Such research may depend upon complex, unique, and potentially expensive data sets, making the “single-use” model of data problematic and inefficient. By “single-use” I am referring to data that an investigator or a team of investigators collect for their own exclusive use. Once they have finished with their initial research for which the data were collected, the data may be shelved and locked up until, if and when, the investigators think of additional questions and/or analyses to which the data are relevant.

In 1996, the growing complexity and cost of aging research led the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to develop a policy for sharing and archiving of behavioral and social science research data characterized as “unique resources” (i.e., not easily or inexpensively collectable or replicable). After about 18 months of discussions among NIA’s staff and with external advisors, staff presented the proposed policy to the NIA’s National Advisory Council on Aging. The Council approved the policy, and NIA submitted it immediately for publication in the NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts. Although NIH already had in place analogous policies for some kinds of biomedical data, the proposed NIA policy statement raised the stakes and had implications for other NIH institutes and their extramural and intramural research programs. Consequently, NIH officials established a committee to consider whether or not (and how) the NIA policy might be broadened to encompass all of NIH.

The NIA policy was never published. It died in committee. At least, it seemed to have. Actually, it was just hibernating, only to awake gradually and to emerge as a trans-NIH policy applicable to all NIH-funded research, not just aging, extramural, or behavioral and social science research. (See http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/policy/data_sharing/index.htm.) In brief, probably starting in January 2003, the NIH will expect investigators supported by NIH funding to make their research data available to the scientific community for subsequent analyses. Researchers will need to address data sharing in grant applications, and NIH will consider data sharing plans in the review of applications. Funds for sharing or archiving data may be requested in the original grant application or as a supplement to an existing grant.

However, the NIH policy also recognizes that, in some particular instances, sharing data may not be feasible. For example, studies with very small samples or those collecting especially sensitive data should be shared only if stringent safeguards exist to ensure confidentiality and protect the identity of subjects. Applicants whose research will produce data that are not amenable to sharing will have to include in their applications reasons for not making the data available.

The policy notes that there are many ways to share data. Sometimes data are included in publications. Investigators may distribute data under their own auspices. Some investigators may place data sets in public archives; still others may post data on a web site, building in protection for privacy through the software while allowing analysis of the data. For sensitive data sets, researchers may utilize restricted access data centers or data enclaves that facilitate analyses of data too sensitive to share through other means. All of these options achieve the goals of data sharing.

Taken altogether, this is a significant change in expectations for research that will hopefully benefit the entire research enterprise. By going back to existing data, we move ahead to the future: Entirely new research directions and questions may be approached through the sharing, combining, or pooling of data sets from various sources. The goal of replication of findings may be more easily achieved.

New instructional tools likewise may become available. The more cost-effective use of existing data through sharing should save research dollars and thereby free up funds for the collection of new data. This is the hope and intent.

Many thanks to the Section for allowing me to be the editor of your Newsletter since the April 1989 issue. (Yes, it has been a long, long time!) I’ve enjoyed it and learned much from the experience. I know that your new editor, Laurie Hatch, will put her own imprint on the Newsletter and, in so doing, improve it. I wish her all the best as she takes over with the Fall 2002 issue.
Funding Opportunities

 NIH Grant Announcement Service

The NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) offers a free e-mail service to announce NIH funding opportunities in the behavioral and social sciences. Information about the service and instructions for subscribing are posted at http://obssr.od.nih.gov/publications/bssr-guide. Announcements are issued approximately twice per month.

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Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: July 29, 2002
Application Receipt Date: August 29, 2002

The purpose of Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities (CPHHD) is to support interdisciplinary research leading to an understanding and reduction of health disparities in domestic populations. Applicants are invited to propose multi-level, integrated research projects that will elucidate the complex interactions of the social and physical environment, mediating behavioral factors, and biologic pathways which determine health and disease. CPHHD are expected to create an environment conducive to interdisciplinary and reciprocally beneficial collaborations among biomedical scientists, social scientists and affected communities with the common goal of improving population health and reducing health disparities.

The physical environment includes the natural environment and built structures, as well as physical, chemical, and biological agents (e.g., radiation, pesticides, infectious agents, food supply, and pharmacological agents) to which individuals are exposed. The social environment includes individual, institutional, and community-level characteristics (e.g., socioeconomic status (SES), education, coping resources and support systems, residential factors, institutional and political forces, racial discrimination, and familial and cultural factors).

This RFA draws on the recommendations contained in the strategic plans of the sponsoring National Institutes of Health (NIH) institutes concerning health disparities, those submitted to NIH from the conference entitled Toward Higher Levels of Analysis Progress and Promise in Research on Social and Cultural Dimensions of Health, and those highlighted by numerous recent National Academy of Sciences and Institute of Medicine Reports.

This is a trans-NIH RFA sponsored jointly by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute on Aging (NIA, and the Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research (OBSSR). Applicants are encouraged to propose research across disease outcomes or health-related issues relevant for these Institutes.

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Methodology and Measurement in the Behavioral and Social Sciences

The participating Institutes and Centers (ICs) invite qualified researchers to submit research grant applications on methodology and measurement in the behavioral and social sciences. Methodology and measurement issues include the processes that underlie research design, data collection techniques, measurement, and data analysis techniques in the social and behavioral sciences. The goal of this program announcement is to encourage research that will improve the quality and scientific power of data collected in the behavioral and social sciences, relevant to the missions of the NIH Institutes and Centers. Research that addresses methodology and measurement issues in diverse populations, issues in studying sensitive behaviors, issues of ethics in research, issues related to confidential data and the protection of research subjects, and issues in developing multidisciplinary, multmethod, and multilevel approaches to behavioral and social science research is particularly encouraged. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit proposals that address these issues.

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encouraged to contact the Program Contact for Scientific/Research issues of the NIH Institute or Center that most closely matches their research focus to determine the IC’s interest in the research topic.

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Research on Ethical Issues in Human Studies

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) invite research grant applications (R01) to investigate ethical issues in human subjects research. The Code of Federal Regulations - Protection of Human Subjects (45 CFR, Part 46) provides a regulatory framework that all NIH-supported researchers must follow. Recent developments in biomedical and behavioral research, however, including the rapid growth of new interventions and technologies (e.g., stem cells, genetics research), increasing involvement of foreign populations in clinical research, and concerns about financial conflicts of interest among researchers, challenge investigators’ abilities to interpret and apply the regulations. Other situations (e.g., research with vulnerable populations, the use of data banks or archives, research on stigmatizing diseases or conditions) may present difficulties for identifying strategies, procedures, and/or techniques that will enhance/ensure the ethical involvement of human participants in research. The purpose of this program announcement is to solicit research addressing the ethical challenges of involving human participants in research in order to inform and optimize protections for human participation in research.

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Call for Papers

The National Association for Geriatric Service Providers & Educators is looking for articles for their peer-reviewed publications:

Journal of Interdisciplinary Aging & Long Term Care: Published three times per year: Spring, Fall and Winter. The focus of articles should be related to some aspect of long-term care, caregiving, support systems, aging, etc. JIALTC publishes two lengths of articles: brief (3-5 pages) and long (10-15 pages, longer considered). The brief articles are designed to provide a basic understanding and awareness of a topic. The long articles are typically those that result from research or an analysis of practice. As indicated in the title, the topics are interdisciplinary. JIALTC also publishes book reviews.

Journal of the Aging Family System: Published annually in the Summer. This journal focuses on the issues that the average family system deals with when faced with aging and long-term care. The articles for this publication are typically full-length (15-30 pages) papers based on research conducted by the author(s). Articles that focus on services (i.e., physical therapy procedures) but do not focus on the systemic impact will be referred to the editorial board for consideration of publication in JIALTC.

Journal of Financial and Legal Issues in Aging: This is new and experimental journal. The response and quality of submissions determines the continuation of this publication. Articles for consideration should focus on the various issues that seniors and their families face when dealing with everything from simple aging to nursing home issues to probating of one’s estate. In addition to authors, this publication is looking for peer-reviewers.

If you are interested in submitting a manuscript, being a peer-reviewer or simply have a question, please contact Tina Chang at tinachang@houston.rr.com.

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