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Gerontology Newsletter

Program in Gerontology

Winter 1994

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GERONTOLOGY NEWSLETTER

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY



Winter 1993/1994

Volume 9, Number 2

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Greetings!

We are pleased to see so much interest in the development of our Beta Zeta chapter of the National Gerontology Honor Society, Sigma Phi Omega. This organization will give practitioners, alumni and students an opportunity to network and to update themselves on current issues in the field. In order to keep our courses relevant, we educators need to hear from the field about cutting edge issues.

Congratulations to Ann McWilliams who won a national scholarship. We are pleased that our student and program has received this national recognition.

Please note that we will be doing some team teaching in some of our courses this Spring. Elly Stokes will be team teaching a course on generational economics with Richard MacDonald, Economics Department, while Rona Karasik will team teach the Women and Aging course with Pamela Mittlefehldt from American Studies. We look forward to more collaboration across the campus with other disciplines.

Have a warm and enriching winter!

NEW CLASS OFFERED ECON 483/583 GENERATIONAL ECONOMICS

This interdisciplinary course examines the relationship between economic thought and the aging of American society. The course encourages the identification of and potential solutions to a host of problem issues

Congratulations To Ann McWilliams

Ann McWilliams, second year graduate student, recently won an AGHE administered AARP Andrus Foundation Graduate Scholarship in the amount of \$3,500. The equivalent of two full year scholarships of \$7,000 each are awarded annually and Master's students may apply for half- or full- year support. AGHE selects the winners on the basis of demonstrated academic excellence, faculty recommendations, and the student's commitment to gerontology, including career plans. Ann was selected from ninety-three applicants nationwide.

The AARP Andrus Foundation Graduate Fellowship and Scholarship Program in Gerontology was initiated in January 1993 and is funded through December 1994. It is supported by a bequest to the AARP Andrus Foundation.

Ann will use the money to finish her M.S. degree, including completing her thesis on older worker job satisfaction. She plans to work in a corporate human resource department as a specialist on older worker issues. She would like to thank Drs. Eleanore Stokes, Linda Havir, and Marlene DeVoe and Brenda Tritz, all of whom greatly helped her complete the application process.

(NEW CLASS...cont'd)

fundamentally associated with generational relations. Students will be alerted to the use of economic methods to examine current and future generational concerns while taking into account gerontological, social, ethical and political aspects of generational relations.
GERO STUDENTS: THIS CLASS CAN BE USED TO FULFILL A GERO ELECTIVE COURSE.

GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

REQUIRED:

- ☐ **APSY 678 Graduate Statistics**
(3cr.) R 18:00- 20:30 Staff
- ☐ **ED 615 Intro. to Research**
(3cr.) M 18-20:50 Schmidt
- ☐ **SOC 650 Sociology of Aging:
Theory and Research** (4cr.) T
18:00-21:20 Havir

ELECTIVES:

- ☐ **ECON 583 Generational
Economics** (4cr.) M 18:00- 21:20
McDonald/Stokes (see page 1 for
details)
- ☐ **GERO 511 Aging Policy and
Prog.** (3cr.) MW 15:00- 16:50
Stokes
- ☐ **GERO 515 Women and Aging**
(3cr.) TR 14:00- 15:50 Karasik/
Mittlefehldt (see page 3 for details)
- ☐ **MGMF 575 Life and Health
Insurance** (3cr.) TR 13:00- 14:50
Christopherson
- ☐ **PSY 543 Psychology of
Adulthood** (3cr.) TR 13:00-14:50
DeVoe

PRELIMINARY OR FINAL THESIS DATES

Preliminary or final thesis due in
Graduate Office:

Winter Quarter - February 9, 1994
Spring Quarter - May 4, 1994

Please submit four copies.

MASTER'S GRADUATE



Congratulations to Jane Moen,
who completed her M.S. gerontology
degree Fall 1993. This degree
complements her Master's in
communication disorders which Jane
completed earlier this year.

Jane is employed by River
Ridge Rehabilitation, Inc. in
Woodbury and works with hospitals
and nursing homes doing
occupational, physical and speech
therapy with older adults.

WELCOME NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Gerontology Graduate Program
would like to welcome the following
people: Erin Jorgensen, Gary
Collins, Virginia Ryan, Keith
Hall, Judith Feenstra, and Jeff
Ehlenz. We wish you the best!!

WINTER 94 GRADUATE STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Connie Allen - Senior Helping
Hands
Ann McWilliams - SCSU Personnel
Department
Susan Rudolph - Ombudsman
Program

SIGMA PHI OMEGA UPDATE

Initiation night, Tuesday, December 14, was a great success! We had 15 of the 27 members attend for the first installation ceremony for Sigma Phi Omega, the national academic honor and professional society in gerontology. Members were presented with certificates, pins, and pink roses by Beta Zeta Chapter President Linda Havir and Secretary/ Treasury Ann McWilliams. After the installation a brief business meeting was held to discuss elections and organizational activities. The next meeting is slated for March, 1994.

GERO 415/515 WOMEN AND AGING

A SPECIAL EDITION OF THIS COURSE WILL BE CO-TAUGHT THIS SPRING BY RONA KARASIK AND PAMELA MITTFEHLDT UNDER A Q-7 INITIATIVE.

Women and Aging is an interdisciplinary course examining the social and personal dynamics of aging as experienced by women in American culture. Drawing on a variety of sources including fiction, popular media, personal narratives and empirical social science research, the course will explore aging from both social science and humanities perspectives. Specific areas to be addressed include issues of health, work/ retirement, sexuality, kinship, media representation and identity. The analysis of women and aging will also examine the intersection of race and ethnicity with gender, class, and age.

DORENE DAY GUEST SPEAKER

After the Sigma Phi Omega initiation, Dorene Day, Executive Director of Indian Family Services, Minneapolis, presented a lecture on American Indian culture and the need for service providers to be more aware of the needs and values of Native American elders. She discussed the importance of providers being culturally aware and having a diverse staff at all levels of the organization in order to assist this segment of the American population. The Native American elders population is growing at two times the national average. Questions and a reception followed the presentation.

☆ STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ☆

Connie Allen, a second year graduate student, is interning at the St. Cloud Hospital with the Senior Helping Hands program which deals with chemical dependency and alcoholism among older adults. She is helping to put together a mental health conference on older adults, to be held April 14, 1994 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. Cloud Civic Center. The topic is "Living the Golden Years? Mental Health and the Older Adult." The target audience for this conference is mental health professionals, medical, social work, nursing, and aging professionals. For more information call Connie Allen or Sandy Manderfeld at (612) 255-5732.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

REQUIRED:

- ☐ GERO 208 Intro. to Gerontology (4cr.) MTRF 11:00 - 11:50 Karasik
- ☐ GERO 411 Aging Policy and Progs. (4cr.) MW 13:00 - 14:50 Stokes
- ☐ PSY 345 Psych. of Aging, Dying and Death (4cr.) TR 9-10:50 DeVoe

ELECTIVES:

- ☐ BIOL 307 Medical Terminology (2cr.) TR 11:00-11:50 Lewis
- ☐ ECON 483 Generational Economics (4cr.) M 18:00-21:20 MacDonald/Stokes (see page 1 for details)
- ☐ GERO 415 Women and Aging (3cr.) TR 14:00- 15:50 Karasik/Mittlefehldt (see page 3 for details)
- ☐ HETS 210 Principles of Nutrition (3cr.) MTW 13:00 - 13:50 Risk
- ☐ PSY 241 Intro. to Developmental Psych. (4cr.) MTWF 14:00-14:50 McGlasson
- ☐ PSY 443 Psychology of Adulthood (4cr.) TR 13:00-14:50 DeVoe

RECENT MINOR GRADUATES

The Gerontology Program would like to offer its congratulations to summer and fall 1993 gerontology minor program graduates: **Kimberly Aijala, Paige Pietersen, Julie Bipes, Dawn Hanson, Tracy McVary, Leslie Hrbacek, Lori Johnson, Julie Kost, Lisa Lieser.**

WELCOME NEW MINORS

The Gerontology Program would like to welcome these new minors: **Kristine Happe, Siriphone Manivanh, Carol Merriman, Kristine McNally, Erin Mulroy, Kimberely Saxe, Cheryl Sobiech, Jane Sorby, Kim Thon, and Yvette Van Buren.**

WINTER 94 ✍UNDERGRADUATE✍ INTERNSHIPS

Pat Acker-Whitney Sr. Center
Sherry Eiyneck-Carter Place
Margaret Hougen-Christian
Nursing Center, Willmar
Patt McCabe-Good Shepherd
Nursing Home and Court,
Sauk Rapids
Carol Merriman-St.
Benedict's Center

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 1995

President Clinton has called for a White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) for May, 1995 and has appointed Robert Blancato to head the Conference. Mr. Blancato is presently the executive director of the Italian - American Center and the director of Public Policy and Institute for the National Italian- American Foundation, Washington, D.C.

The WHCoA was originally mandated for 1991, but had been postponed, canceled, and rescheduled many times by the previous Administration. Congress has agreed to an appropriation of one million dollars for the conference in the FY 1994 appropriation bill.

MGS STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

MGS is calling for papers from graduate and undergraduate students for its Fourth Annual Student Paper Competition. The intent of the competition is to reward creative student work in the field of aging, foster student involvement in MGS, and to recognize Minnesota's post secondary institutions and faculty in preparing programs in gerontology. A recognition certificate, stipend of \$250, and a year's free membership to MGS will be presented to the two winning students at the 1994 fall conference. For full information, rules, and details write to:

MGS Student Paper Competition
336 N. Robert Street, Suite 219
St. Paul, MN 55101-1504
Deadline for paper submission is 6/1/93.

⇒ FACULTY NOTES

Linda Havir gave a talk titled "The Sandwich Generation" at the Group Health's Women's Wellness Forum on October 19.

Rona Karasik presented a paper at the National Council on Family Relations titled, "My Brother's (Sister's) Keeper: A Qualitative Study of Siblings Caring For Older Developmentally Disabled Adults."

Pat Bodelson and **Linda Havir** were members in a panel presentation on Curriculum Transformation through Critique at the 6th Annual MSUS Fall Undergraduate Teaching Conference November 5.

**Presentations at the annual
Gerontological Society of
America Conference,
November 19 - November 22,
1993:**

Linda Havir presented the poster session "Community Linkages of Rural Senior Centers." Linda Havir, along with Oliver Williams from the School of Social Work at the University of Minnesota presented the poster session "Building Capacity to Respond to Elders in Diverse Communities."

Rona Karasik presented the poster session "Later Life Relationships With Siblings With Developmental Disabilities: A Qualitative Approach."

Eleanore Stokes presented the poster session "Images of old age in Costa Rica: Community as a caregiving environment."

Other faculty and students in attendance were: **Marlene DeVoe** and **Bonita Kallestad**.

"Health Care Reform: The Major Issues"
Friday, February 4th, 1994 at 8:30 a.m.

SCSU Atwood Center Ballroom

Joshua Wiener is a Senior Fellow in the economic studies program of the
Brookings Institute and a member of the
White House task force on health care reform.

Admission is free and gerontology students are strongly encouraged to attend this talk on
the crucial topic of health care reform. Sponsored in part by the
SCSU Center for Economic Education and Student Government Finance Committee.

* * * * *

"Living the Golden Years?"
Mental Health and the Older Adult"

April 14, 1994 from 8 am-4pm

St. Cloud Civic Center

This conference is intended to draw together a wide array of
professionals and volunteers who work with various aspects of the aging population.
It is our hope that participants will leave the conference having met and networked
with other professionals having gained new ideas useful to their own jobs
and having a renewed sense of reward toward their chosen careers.

A wide variety of nationally known speakers will address issues such as anxiety and
depression, medications, management and effect, stress prevention and caregiver burden,
loss of dreams--a special kind of grief, understanding difficult people, and life stage issues.

Sponsored by Senior Helping Hands and St. Benedict's Center and Alternative Services.

For more information contact

Connie Allen or Sandy Manderfeld at (612) 255-5732.

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Gerontology Program

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**ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED**

TO:

