

St. Cloud State University

The Repository at St. Cloud State

Gerontology Newsletter

Program in Gerontology

Fall 1998

Gerontology Times [Fall 1998]

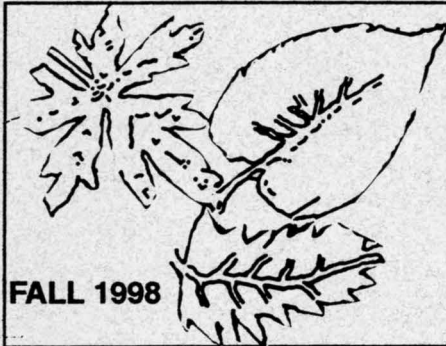
St. Cloud State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/gero_newsletter

Recommended Citation

St. Cloud State University, "Gerontology Times [Fall 1998]" (1998). *Gerontology Newsletter*. 60.
https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/gero_newsletter/60

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Program in Gerontology at The Repository at St. Cloud State. It has been accepted for inclusion in Gerontology Newsletter by an authorized administrator of The Repository at St. Cloud State. For more information, please contact tdsteman@stcloudstate.edu.



FALL 1998

GERONTOLOGY NEWSLETTER

ST CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 1

Meet Dr. Phyllis Greenberg

This fall the Center for Community Studies is fortunate to have a "new" face around. Dr. Phyllis Greenberg came to State Cloud State from Blacksburg, Virginia, where she received her doctorate from Virginia Tech., in Gerontology. She has already brought a lot to the program with her energy and laughter.

Over her life Dr. Greenberg has lived, worked, and gone to school in many different areas of the U.S. Experiencing both coasts of the U.S., Dr. Greenberg was born in New York City, but grew up in California. From California, she moved to Arizona to attend Arizona State. After her freshman year she transferred to California State University, where she received her B.A. degree in History and Political Science. Before heading north to Seattle, Washington, Dr. Greenberg lived in San Diego for awhile and then had the opportunity to travel around Italy. While living in Seattle for 10 years, one thing Dr. Greenberg did was receive her master's degree from Seattle University in Public Administration.

Besides the hours and hours Dr. Greenberg has put into school, she has also had many work experiences. Dr. Greenberg has been a case manager, program director at a senior community center, consumer advocate for older adults, and a director of an adult day care center.

Dr. Greenberg sees the many hours and energy put into school and receiving her doctorate as one of her most significant accomplishments. She also feels good about receiving a position at a reputable institution.

When asked how she envisioned the future of Gerontology, she was creative. She sees the future as inclusive, innovative, integral, inspiring, inter-generational, inventive, invigorating, interdisciplinary, incisive, and inter-planetary. (Interview continued on page 3)

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome back! Fall is a great time for reflection and new beginnings. Here at SCSU our (first ever) Fall Semester is well under way. While change can often take us a bit off balance, it can also be a way of getting back on track. Many students have already completed the semester conversion process, using it as an opportunity to review their programs and their future goals. If you haven't been in recently to talk about your program, now might be a good time to do so.

Fall has also brought us a new faculty member, Dr. Phyllis Greenberg. Those of you who have already met Dr. Greenberg know that she brings with her a great deal of energy and excitement to the field. If you haven't yet met Dr. Greenberg, stop on by SH 334 to say hello (you might also note the interview with her in this edition of the newsletter). We are so pleased to have her join our program!

Finally, this semester brings many opportunities to get involved with the Gerontology program. Sigma Phi Omega (the National Honors and Professional Society in Gerontology) met on October 8-featuring a lively presentation from Dr. Greenberg "Let's Talk About Sex: Sexuality and Aging". A spring SPO meeting and conference is in the works. See Stephanie Hanson (SH 336) for more information. Also don't forget to visit SH 330, our GERO/AMERICAN STUDIES Resource room (newly renovated and more user friendly thanks to Cari, Steph, Pat, and Phyllis!)

Have a wonderful Fall!

Rona Karasik, Director, Gerontology Program

Careers in Gerontology

By Cari Terrio

Are you interested in working with our older population, but are not sure what careers there are in Gerontology? There are many directions you can choose from, depending on whether you want to work directly with older adults, or indirectly on their behalf. There are also many different settings and disciplines you may choose from in the field of Gerontology. This challenging field allows you to help maintain the quality of older adults lives, while enjoying the wit, wisdom, and creativity they have to offer.

Here is a List of Possible **Careers in Gerontology**:

- * Retirement Counselor
- * Coordinator-Day Centers
- * Rec. & Fitness Planner
- * Home Care Coordinator
- * Coordinator of Volunteers
- * Nursing Home Administrator
- * Researcher
- * Designer of products to meet special needs
- * Teacher in College
- * Adult Educator
- * Case Manager
- * Program Planner
- * Staff Trainer
- * Research Assistant
- * Advocate

Where do **Professionals in Aging** Work?

- * Social Service Agencies
- * Government
- * Business & Industry
- * Retirement Communities
- * Health Care & Long-Term Institutions
- * Nursing Homes
- * Park & Recreation. Programs

New Challenges in the Field of Gerontology:

- * Frail Elderly
- * Spirituality & Aging
- * Alzheimer Patients & Families
- * Sexuality & Aging
- * Quality of Life
- * Community Care
- * Counseling
- * Ethnicity & Aging

Faculty Notes

Phyllis A. Greenberg (CS):

In November, Dr. Greenberg will be presenting her paper "The Outsider Within: Sense of Self in Jewish Feminist Women" at the National Council of Family Relations annual conference. Dr. Greenberg also continues to work on research that explores the intersection of identities and establishment of community, which focuses on minorities. She is also completing research on images of older women in popular culture. Dr. Greenberg also serves as representative on GSAs Task Force on Older Womens' Issues.

Judith Litterst (SPC):

Dr. Litterst has presented at numerous workshops in the region on a variety of communication topics. Topics pertaining to Gerontology include "Communication and Aging: Barriers and Bridges", "Intergenerational Communication", and "Family Communication". Currently, Dr. Litterst is working on two research projects; one on comfort giving and empathic bereavement, and a second on communication difficulties and anxieties in intergenerational context. Dr. Litterst enjoys traveling, the arts, music, and keeping fit by walking four miles each day.

Shelley B. Brundage (CDIS):

In November, two student co-authored papers will be presented at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) convention in San Antonio. The topics are 1.) Methods of estimating premorbid IQ in brain damaged adults, and 2.) Documenting treatment outcomes for persons with traumatic brain injury. Dr. Brundage is currently involved in two research projects: documenting treatment outcomes in the Courage Center's community reintegration program and clinical measurement of stuttering. She is also working on two manuscripts. Dr. Brundage has two dogs.

Linda Havir (SOC):

Dr. Havir is working on research viewing older people and gambling with Janet Hope from the College of St. Benedict. She is also studying changes in grandparenting roles. She received a SCSU Assessment Mini-Grant to study students' perceptions of achievement at the time of graduation.

Rona Karasik (CS):

Dr. Karasik, as an invited speaker, presented "Hearth and Home: Success in Home Sharing" on October 6th, at the 1998 National Shared Housing Conference in Mpls. MN. In Nov. she will be presenting her paper "At Home in the Community: Home Sharing Options for Elders", at the Gerontological Society of America's annual scientific meeting. Her current research involves recontacting a sample of siblings of older adults with developmental disabilities to re-examine, six years later, the impact of their siblings on their lives and explore the additional transitions these siblings have gone through.

SPRING SEMESTER 1999

Undergraduate Courses

CS 455 Grant Development TH 6-8:45

GERO 208 Intro To Gero. M, W, F 10-10:50am

GERO 415 Women and Aging M 5-7:45pm

GERO 435 Aging & Housing Options M, W
2-3:15

GERO 444 Internship

**PSY 345 Psychology of Aging, Dying and Death
across the Life Span W 6-8:45**

PSY 443 Psychology of Adulthood T/TH 8-9:15am

SPC 431 Communication and the Aging Process
TH 5-7:45

SSCI 204 Themes in Social Science (Death & Dying) T/TH 2-3:15pm

URB 350 Community Development T 6-8:45

Graduate Courses

APSY 678 Introduction to Graduate Statistics W
6-8:45pm

CS 555 Grant Development TH 6-8:45

GERO 515 Women and Aging M 5-7:45

GERO 535 Aging & Housing Options M, W
2-3:15

GERO 644 Internship

GERO 699 Thesis

PSY 543 Psychology of Adulthood T/TH
8-9:15am

SPC 531 Communication and the Aging Process
TH 5-7:45pm

◆ ◆

Sigma Phi Omega will again be sponsoring a Spring Conference.

Watch your mailbox for details!

If you are interested in working on the Conference Committee contact a graduate assistant at 320-255-3899

Spo has a limited fund to assist members interested in attending/presenting at conferences. Please see Rona for info.

Interview continued:

Dr. Greenberg has lived in Minnesota only a short time, but she already has a few favorites, such as the variety of food one can get on a stick, the trees and lakes, and all the genuinely friendly people. She can, however, do without the cheese curds.

For anyone pursuing a degree in higher education, Dr. Greenberg suggests one to have experience in the field and to have a clear vision of where you want to go, since it is a big investment. To balance out the long hours we spend in classes and the library, she reminds us to have fun to maintain our sanity. Thanks for the advice Dr. Greenberg, and welcome to SCSU!

[illegible]

MEET 3 NEW GERONTOLOGY GRAD STUDENTS

Cari Terrio moved to St. Cloud from Blue Earth, MN, where she worked in the therapeutic recreation and social services departments of a nursing home. Prior to this, Cari spent a year in camping ministry in South Dakota. She earned her BA in Sociology and Psychology at Augsburg College and enjoys the outdoors, working with seniors and travel (she's been to New Zealand!). Cari's favorite thing about St. Cloud is the Meeting Grounds coffee shop.

Amber Carlsgaard is from Aberdeen, SD. She attended the U of M, and earned her BS in Psychology from Northern State University in Aberdeen. She has worked as a researcher for the Department of Health and is currently a graduate assistant with Community Studies. She enjoys playing with her cat and taking walks in the country. Amber's favorite thing about St. Cloud is all of the friendly students who helped her when she had car trouble.

Pat Tarnowski has spent time in several different states although she has been living in St. Cloud for most of her life. Pat earned her undergraduate degree from SCSU in Applied Psychology and English, and is pursuing her master's degree in Applied Psychology with a graduate certificate in Gerontology. Pat is a widow with 4 children and 9 grandchildren, and 2 more on the way. She enjoys reading, sewing, working on crafts, and making her own wine and soap.

Welcome to all the new graduate students!!

St. Cloud State University
Gerontology Program
Center for Community Studies
365 SH 720 Fourth Ave South
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Fall 1998 Interns

Anne Arreaga	Central MN Council on Aging
Holly Elgin	St. Cloud HRA
Rosalie Wright Pflpson	Country Manor
Jill Fiedler	R.S.V.P.
Abdi Ali	Whitney Senior Center
Stephanie Hanson	Oak Meadows

Spotlight on A Course

SPC 431/531 "Communication and the Aging Process" Investigation of the interface between communication and the aging process. Consideration given to the position of the older person in communication transactions. Will be offered **Spring Semester 1999**. For more information call x2291.

Note: There may be one open 1/2 time Graduate Assistanship in Spring 1999. See Rona for details!

Spotlight on Community Service

As semesters began at St. Cloud State University, so did a new course in the Gerontology program. GERO 630: "Aging and the Community" is a new graduate requirement for the master's degree. In conjunction with this course and the Whitney Senior Center, three graduate students are coordinating a discussion group at Benet Place. Linda Bettison, Kelly Wenz, and Marge Mair-Hansen facilitate the group using a humanities discussion book from the Whitney Senior Center. Elders meet with the graduate students on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 for lively exchanges on a number of topics. Since the group has met, spontaneous social activities have brought the participants closer together.

Gerontology Newsletter Staff

Editor: Cari Terrio

Editorial Staff: Amber Carlsgaard, Steph Hanson,
Pat Tarnowski

Director of Program: Rona Karasik

Technical Assistance: Brenda Tritz