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Gerontology Newsletter

Program in Gerontology

Spring 2005

Gerontology Times [Spring 2005]

St. Cloud State University

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Gerontology Times

Spring Newsletter

2005

Notes From the Director:

The Gerontology Program is off to a busy Spring semester! Classes are under way and we are all looking forward to seeing you at our annual **Open House on Monday, April 11, from 3 to 5pm in Stewart Hall 330**. This is always a good chance to meet others interested in the field of aging -- and of course, to win "**fabulous**" door prizes. This year we are again joining with The Gerontological Society of America and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education to celebrate the 4th Annual Careers in Aging Week (April 11th - 15th). The open house will feature information on "Careers in Aging" and is being co-sponsored by the gerontology program, our local Beta Zeta Chapter of Sigma Phi Omega, and the Department of Community Studies. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Also, I invite you to consider joining Sigma Phi Omega (the National Honors and Professional Society in Gerontology). Sigma Phi Omega "seeks to promote scholarship, professionalism, friendship, and services to older persons, and to recognize exemplary attainment in gerontology/aging studies and related fields." Students, faculty, and community professionals are welcome to join!

Now is also a good time to start thinking about registering for summer and fall classes (see page 4 and 5 for a "sneak preview" of the Summer and Fall offerings). Be sure to note the two new special topics (GERO 440/540) offerings coming up for fall -- "Elder Law" and "Working with Community Elders". Course descriptions can be found on

page 5 of this issue. Also, be sure to check in with your advisor (Dr. Phyllis Greenberg -- Master's and Certificate Students; Dr. Rona Karasik -- undergraduate minors) to make sure your program is on track. We are in the process of making some curriculum adjustments, so if you haven't already registered as a minor or Master's students, see your advisor for information on the new program plans!

Finally, as some of you already know, the Gerontology Program is preparing to undergo our 2nd external program review. This is a process that occurs approximately every five years and allows the program to look at areas where we have been successful and to make adjustments for the future. We welcome your input into this process and appreciate the time all of you took to return our Fall surveys. Please watch for future notices of activities and events related to the upcoming review

I wish you all a happy, healthy, and productive Spring semester!



Rona J. Karasik, Ph.D.
Director, Gerontology Program
Professor, Community Studies

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GERONTOLOGY Open House!!

Monday April 11

Stewart Hall 330 3-5 p.m.

Food, Door Prizes and lots of FUN!

Faculty Notes

Dr. Rona Karasik (GERO/CMTY)

In addition to continuing her research on housing for older adults and her work on service-learning, Dr. Karasik was selected for a research/educational fellowship this Spring with the Minnesota Area Geriatric Education Center (MAGEC). Dr. Karasik also continues to serve as co-advisor to the local (Beta Zeta) chapter of Sigma Phi Omega (National Honors and Professional Society in Gerontology) and is currently completing her three year term on the National SPO board as Member at Large.

Dr. Karasik's recent publications include:

Karasik, R.J. & Wallingford, M. (accepted for publication). Finding Community: Developing and Maintaining Effective Intergenerational Service-Learning Partnerships. *Educational Gerontology*

Karasik, R.J. (2005). Breaking the Time Barrier: Helping Students "Find the Time" to do Intergenerational Service-Learning. *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, 25(3), 49 – 63.

Karasik, R. (2005). Whispers and Sighs: The Unwritten Challenges of Service-Learning. In S. Chadwick Blossey & D. Robertson, (Ed.) *To improve the academy: Vol. 23. Resources for faculty, instructional, and organizational development* (pp. 236-253). Bolton, MA: Anker.

Dr. Karasik's most recent presentations include:

Karasik, R. (2005). Going Home: Experiential Approaches to Teaching About Housing for Older Adults. Resource Exchange to be presented at the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education's 31st Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference, Oklahoma City, OK.

"Service-Learning and Community Action Research" (January 19, 2005). Invited Panelist. St. Cloud State University Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning January Workshop Days, St. Cloud, MN.

Dr. Phyllis Greenberg (GERO/CMTY)

Spring already? Amazing how quickly time flies when you have a million things to do - by the second week of the semester I already felt like I was 5 weeks behind.

This year has been filled with many accomplishments and exciting new beginnings. In November I presented a paper On Golden Pond: Recognition, Diagnosis and Treatment of Older Adults with Dual Diagnosis, at the Gerontological Society of America's annual conference. The paper presented the preliminary data from a project I have been working on with St. Cloud Hospital Senior Helping Hands/Recovery Plus. The first round of data has produced some exciting results related to treatment modalities, diagnosis and after care for older adults who are chemically dependent and especially those who are dually diagnosed with mental health concerns. We also just found out that the grant from the state Department of Human Services will be extended for 2 more years. This will provide more data in an area that has been bereft of research but vital. This semester we will conduct a national survey on programs/services for older adults that are chemically dependent as well as dually diagnosed. Congratulations to Sandy Manderfeld, Nancy Fandel and Nancy Anson and all the staff at Recovery Plus/Senior Helping Hands for a job well done and thanks to the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

In addition to the presentation I also had a paper accepted for publication by the National Council of Family Relations (NCFR) titled: The Life Course of Alcoholism: Chemical Dependency and Older Adults. It will appear in the spring issue of Family Focus.

During the coming school year (2005/2006) I will be teaching two new topics courses (Gero 440/540). In Fall 2005 I will be teaching Working with Community Elders and in the Spring Aging in Popular Culture. Working with Community Elders will assist students in developing and honing interviewing, assessment and case management skills. Aging in Popular Culture will explore how aging and older adults are depicted in literature, film, television and art and how these portrayals can impact perception, policy and programs. In addition to the above we have added a new course to the Gerontology offerings: Health and Aging: Gero 465/565. We feel that these new courses will better prepare our students and enhance their ability to find the job they want.

Looking to add to your marketability and skills? Think about a graduate certificate in Gerontology. To qualify you need to have a Masters degree or be working on one and take 4 required courses.

Thinking about upgrading your education? Then consider a Masters in Gerontology. We are in the process of adding a new component to the program that may particularly appeal to those already working in the field. You can choose from option A – Thesis; Option B – Starred Paper or the new Option C – Practicum.

Employers looking for training opportunities for your staff? Why not consider enrolling in a Gerontology course? You do not have to be in the graduate or undergraduate program.

If you have any questions about my research, Masters in Gerontology or the Graduate Certificate or courses for training, please give me a call, send me an email, or drop me line. The best to you all.

Congratulations!

Three at SCSU participate in the 2005 MAGEC Fellowship Program!

The MAGEC (Minnesota Area Geriatric Education Center) Fellowship program at the University of Minnesota is an opportunity for those working in the field of gerontology to participate in an active learning experience that also incorporates designing a project to be applied in the workplace.

SCSU MAGEC 2005 Fellowship Participants:

Patricia Bresser (NURS)
Stephanie Weiger (GERO)
Rona Karasik (GERO/CMTY)

The MAGEC Educational Fellowship program has been designed to provide educators in gerontology/geriatrics with a hands-on learning opportunity to interact with University faculty and construct an educational package. For the MAGEC Fellowship, I am working on a small group project that will focus on educating seniors about the concept of the Power of Attorney. While many seniors may have already designated someone as their Power of Attorney, there may not be complete understanding of what power this document grants and what it does not. Our group hopes to present definitions and examples of the Power of Attorney, clarify misconceptions, provide additional resources for more information and encourage seniors to make knowledgeable decisions about their own affairs before they are faced with a catastrophic situation. When completed, this presentation could ideally be used in senior centers, housing facilities or through community education classes geared toward the senior population.

-Stephanie Weiger, 2005 MAGEC Fellow

Gerontology Graduate Student, SCSU

Sigma Phi Omega

National Honors and Professional Society in Gerontology

is pleased to announce the new Beta Zeta Chapter Executive Board for 2005-2006 (offices begin immediately):

President: Angela Saari
Vice President: Krystal Wiebush
Secretary/Treasurer: Amanda Meyer
Members at Large: Sandy Bogart
Erin Jensen
Kenndy Lewis

Congratulations to our new officers!

Don't forget, it's never too late to join!!!

Gerontology Newsletter Staff

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Fall Gerontology Course Schedule at SCSU

Undergraduate Courses in Aging

CHECK THIS OUT

**NEW THIS FALL!!!
TAKE SCSU GERO
courses at Anoka-
Ramsey!!!**

Two **SCSU** Gerontology Courses will be offered this fall at the **Anoka-Ramsey Community College Campus**:

Gero 208: Introduction to Gerontology (Tues 6-8:40pm)

Gero 425: Dementia and Aging (Mon 6-8:40pm)

For more info call: (320) 308-3947 (Community Studies) or (320) 308-5224 (Gerontology)

Gerontology

GERO 208-01	INTRO TO GERONTOLOGY	10:00-10:50MWF
GERO 208-02	INTRO TO GERONTOLOGY	5:00-7:45M
GERO 405	AGING AND DIVERSITY	5:00-7:45T
GERO 411	AGING POLICY AND PROGRAMS	3:30-4:45TR
GERO 425	DEMENTIA AND AGING	3:00-4:15 MW
GERO 440-01	WORK W/ COMMUNITY ELDERLY	5:00-7:45W
GERO 440-02	ELDER LAW	5:00-7:45R
GERO 444	GERONTOLOGY INTERNSHIP	ARRANGED

Community Studies

CMTY 333	STUDYING COMMUNITIES	11:00-12:15TR
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Psychology

PSY 345	PSYCHOLOGY OF DEATH AND DYING	CONTINUING STUDIES/ ON-LINE
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Communication Disorders

CDIS 440	COMMUNICATION DISORDERS OF THE AGED	5:00-6:30T
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Finance, Insurance, Real Estate

FIRE 479	SOCIAL INSURANCE	10:00-10 50MWF
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Sociology

SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF AGING	CONTINUING STUDIES/ SELF-PACED
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Graduate Courses in Aging

Gerontology

GERO 505	AGING AND DIVERSITY	5:00-7:45T
GERO 511	AGING POLICY AND PROGRAMS	3:30-4:45TR
GERO 525	DEMENTIA AND AGING	3:00-4:15 MW
GERO 540-01	WORK W/ COMMUNITY ELDERLY	5:00-7:45W
GERO 540-02	ELDER LAW	5:00-7:45R
GERO 630	AGING AND COMMUNITY	5:00-7:45M
GERO 644	GERONTOLOGY INTERNSHIP	ARRANGED

Communication Disorders

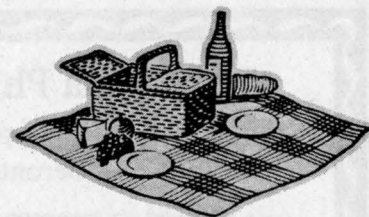
CDIS 540	COMMUNICATION DISORDERS OF THE AGED	5:00-6:30T
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Counselor Education and Educational Psychology

CEEP 678-01	GRADUATE STATISTICS	5:00-7:45M
CEEP 678-02	GRADUATE STATISTICS	2:00-4:45R
CEEP 678-03	GRADUATE STATISTICS	5:00-7:45T

Finance, Insurance, Real Estate

FIRE 579	SOCIAL INSURANCE	10:00-10:50MWF
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For Registration Information:

www.stcloudstate.edu/registrar

SCSU Admissions:

(320)308-2243 or

1-800-369-4260

Remember to check the on-line schedule for any last minute changes!!!



ODDS & ENDS

NEW CLASSES OFFERED IN FALL:

ELDER LAW: Erin Jensen

This course will examine some of the legal and ethical issues facing older adults and their families. Students will gain an understanding of the issues dealt with by elder law attorneys such as identifying and addressing the problems of their older clients. Some of the topics that will be discussed include property distribution, health care decisions, estate planning, age discrimination and elder abuse.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITY ELDERS:

Dr. Phyllis Greenberg

This course will assist students in developing and honing their skills in interviewing, assessment and overall case management. Students will gain an understanding of issues related to development of care plans, family facilitation and needs of older adults in the community.

Summer Course Schedule

Counselor Education and Educational Psychology

CEEP 678-01 GRADUATE STATISTICS
6/13/05-7/14/05 MTWR 10:00-11:55
CEEP 678-02 GRADUATE STATISTICS
6/13/05-7/14/05 MTWR 12:30-2:25
CEEP 678-54 GRADUATE STATISTICS
6/13/05-8/11/05 Distance Learning

Psychology

PSY 345 PSYCHOLOGY OF DEATH AND DYING
6/13/05-8/11/05 CONTINUING STUDIES

Sociology

SOC 350 SOCIOLOGY OF AGE/AGING
6/13/05-8/11/05 CONTINUING STUDIES

Volunteer Opportunities

Sterling Park Senior Community— Amy Fidler 252-7224 x.125

Talahi Care Center- Tony Nathe 251-9120

Whitney Senior Center- 255-7245

The Good Shepherd Community —252-6525

Ridgeview Place — Karen Wager 251-5228

St. Benedict's Senior — Jo Ellen Johnson 252-0010 Ext. 580

Country Manor Apartments — Becky Eckstrand 253-8450

Country Manor—Darla Dittleson 258-8936

Gerontology Graduate Certificate

At St. Cloud State University, the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology is a powerful pathway to a rewarding career that continues to have a huge demand for highly educated professionals. The graduate certificate is a 12-15 credit interdisciplinary program that provides specialized training in aging to individuals who have a graduate or professional degree, or who are currently enrolled in a graduate program.

The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) and The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) are proud to present the 4th Annual "Careers in Aging Week," taking place the week of April 11-15, 2005. The purpose of this week is to introduce to a broad audience the wide-ranging career opportunities that exist in aging and aging research and to promote AGHE and GSA as the premier organizations for supporting career development in the field of gerontology.

AGHE has created a website called www.careersinaging.com that provides extensive information on the different career tracks in gerontology, as well as the best academic programs to get one started on that career path. The site was created to be a resource for people who are totally unfamiliar with the field of aging as well as for those who may have some knowledge but want to know more about aging-related careers. departments.

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

Gerontology Program
Department of Community Studies
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Gerontology Times

Everyone's Invited

Kaleidoscope Playground Family Festival

When: April 30, 2005 from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Where: Wilson Regional Park -- St. Cloud, MN

What: Fun! Food! Family! This **FAMILY FRIENDLY** community event will provide FREE entertainment (Music, Magic, etc.) and **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES** (Kid Bounce, games, art, etc.) in order to bring together families and raise awareness for the Kaleidoscope Playground Project -- a planned 95-100% accessible playground for kids of ALL abilities to be sited at Wilson Regional Park. In addition to the free entertainment, **REFRESHMENTS** will be on sale and there will be a **SILENT AUCTION** and **PONY RIDES** to help raise money to build the playground. The Kaleidoscope Playground Project was created through a unique partnership between St. Cloud State University CMTY 195 Students, the Department of Community Studies, the City of St. Cloud Parks Department, the East Side Boosters, and the Central Minnesota Community Foundation. Help build a dream! All are welcome!!!

Cost: FREE

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