

# The Seventeenth Annual Southeastern Regional Student Mentoring Conference in Gerontology and Geriatrics

## Program and Call for Student Abstracts

"Career Development in Gerontology and Geriatrics"

University of Kentucky

April 7-9, 2006

Lexington, Kentucky

We are pleased to announce the call for abstracts and invitation to attend the Seventeenth Annual Southeastern Regional Student Conference in Gerontology and Geriatrics. For almost two decades, this conference has provided the only dedicated venue for students to showcase their research, promote development of presentation skills, and connect with fellow students and faculty members from across the eastern United States, all of whom share a passion for gerontology and geriatrics.

The conference theme this year is "Career Development in Gerontology and Geriatrics." This theme recognizes the explosive demand for scholars and practitioners in gerontology and geriatrics as a consequence of our aging society. The theme further recognizes the tremendous growth in the number of enthusiastic students pursuing degrees in these fields of study. How should the academic community offer the best possible training to these students? How can students most effectively prepare themselves for, and successfully navigate their way through, subsequent career pathways? These are among the questions that will be addressed during the conference's breakfast round-tables, keynote presentations, and ongoing informal conversations.



Please note that the Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society will also be held in Lexington from April 5-8. The SGS is being organized to allow an opportunity for students to be fully engaged in both conferences; poster and paper sessions will be appropriately scheduled, and students who attend the Student Mentoring Conference will receive a registration discount for the SGS meeting. We encourage students to take advantage of this rare opportunity!

On behalf of the nine institutional sponsors, we invite you to join us in Lexington for what is sure to be a valuable (and even fun) several days in April!

The Conference will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, located in the beautiful heart of the Bluegrass state. Registration begins mid-morning of Friday, April 7, with the conference starting at 1:00 p.m. and continuing through 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 9.

Arrive in Lexington early for the SGS conference, or stay late and plan to visit one of many local attractions, such as the world-famous Keeneland Race Course, Woodford Reserve Distillery, or Joseph Beth Booksellers, which was rated by *Publishers Weekly* as the best bookstore in the United States.

## The Conference



**Arleen Johnson, Ph.D.** will present the faculty keynote address, “Networking for Success: Expectations, Investments and Net Results.” She is Director of the Ohio Valley Appalachia Regional Geriatric Education Center (OVAR/GEC), located in the University of Kentucky (UK) College of Public Health, that provides curriculum development and geriatrics training for faculty, students, and health care professionals across a four-state region. Dr. Johnson also directs the UK Donovan Scholars Program with an annual enrollment of 1100 students aged 60 and older, and is adjunct faculty in the UK College of Social Work. Dr. Johnson’s prior positions were as Social Services Director for Berea Extended Care, Aging Program Specialist for the KY Department for Human Resources, Aging Research

Coordinator for the National Council of State Governments, Educational Consultant for the American Public Welfare Association and Recruitment Coordinator for the UK Systolic Hypertension in the Elderly project. She has published 30 articles and book chapters and serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Geriatrics and Gerontology Education. Dr. Johnson has secured over \$6.6 million in federal and state grant funding, served as President of the KY Association for Gerontology and on national boards including the National Association of Geriatric Education Centers and National Association of Geriatrics. Her research interests include rural aging, bioterrorism and emergency preparedness for aging, and web-based distance education in geriatrics.

**Dawn Hayes** will present the student keynote address, “Changing Shapes of a Career in Aging.” Dawn is committed to educating older adults about community links following the completion of usual rehabilitative care. Currently, she is a PhD. candidate and research assistant at The University of Georgia, Department of Kinesiology in the Aging and Physical Performance Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Elaine Cress. Her research involves investigating physical functional performance of older adults who exhibit a wide variety of disability contributors including cardiovascular disease, hip fractures, spinal cord injury, and low social economic status. Dawn has a B.S. in Physical Therapy from Georgia State University.



**Kara Bottiggi** will present a second student keynote address, “Navigating the Graduate Labyrinth: A Story of Finding Confidence in Competence.” Kara graduated with a B.A. in psychology from Taylor University located in Upland, IN. She is currently a third year doctoral candidate in the Graduate Center for Gerontology at the University of Kentucky. Her current research interests include the cognitive and physical functioning of older adults with and without dementia. Kara is a student affiliate of the Alzheimer’s Association, the American Psychological Association, the Gerontological Society of America, the Kentucky Association for Gerontology, and Sigma Phi Omega.



The conference focuses on poster discussion sessions in which students briefly present a summary of their work as visually displayed in the poster. Student awards are many, and will be based on the quality of the abstract, the poster, and the presentation. A student-edited monograph of conference proceedings will be published.

## Tentative Schedule of Events

### Friday, April 7, 2006

- 10:00 - 1:00 a.m.            **Registration Desk Open / Student Poster Setup and Viewing**
- 11:00 - 12:30 p.m.        **Student Monograph Editorial Board Meeting** (Lunch Provided)
- 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.            **Welcome and Opening Comments**  
Dr. Leonard W. Poon, Director, Institute of Gerontology, University of Georgia  
Dr. Jeannine Blackwell, Dean, The Graduate School, University of Kentucky  
Dr. Graham Rowles, Director, Graduate Center for Gerontology, University of Kentucky
- 1:30 - 2:15 p.m.            **Student Keynote - Kara Bottiggi**
- 2:15 - 5:00 p.m.            **Student Poster Discussion - Session I**
- 6:30 p.m.                    **President's Dinner at SGS Conference, or on your own.**

### Saturday, April 8, 2006

- 7:45 - 8:45 a.m.            **Registration Desk Open / Breakfast with Mentors**
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.        **Faculty Keynote Address - Arleen Johnson**
- 10:15 - 12:15 p.m.        **Student Poster Discussion - Session II**
- 12:30 - 1:45 p.m.            **Lunch Provided**
- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.            **Student Poster Discussion - Session III**
- 6:30 p.m.                    **Dinner at the Red Mile Clubhouse**

### Sunday, April 9, 2006

- 7:45 - 8:45 a.m.            **Registration Desk Open / Continental Breakfast Served**
- 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.            **Student Keynote - Dawn Hayes**
- 9:45 - 12:30 p.m.        **Student Poster Discussion - Session VI**
- 12:30 p.m.                   **Conference Ends with Awards and Closing Comments**

## Call for Student Poster Abstracts

All graduate and undergraduate students are invited to submit abstracts for posters of their work for review and possible inclusion in the Conference program. Acceptance of an abstract and subsequent registration constitute a commitment to attend the **entire** Conference and present the poster on Friday, Saturday or Sunday, April 7-9, 2006.

Awards will be presented at the close of the Conference for the top three presented posters as judged by a committee of faculty. All poster presenters are eligible to compete for the awards.

### Criteria For Submission of Poster Abstracts and Posters

Abstracts may be on any topic in gerontology or geriatrics. Abstracts should be factual and of general interest to others in the field of aging. A wide variety of presentation types will be considered, including those reporting research/practice, collaborations, and public policy discussions.

### Guidelines for Poster Abstracts and Posters

#### Abstracts

Abstracts will be evaluated in terms of the importance, timeliness, and relevance of the topic, soundness of approach, and clarity of presentation. The abstract must be submitted via email attachment (MS Word) on or before **Wednesday, January 18, 2006** to Dr. Anne Glass at [aglass@geron.uga.edu](mailto:aglass@geron.uga.edu). Abstracts of no more than 250 words must include the following elements:

► In the MS word attachment, please include:

- 1) Title of the abstract;
- 2) Names of all authors. The participating student(s) names should be underlined;
- 3) School and department the student(s) is representing;
- 4) Clear statement of the issue/problem addressed;
- 5) How information was gathered (research, literature search, model demonstration/intervention);
- 6) Data analysis and results, if appropriate;
- 7) Conclusions

► In the body of the email, please include contact information (mailing address, phone number and email) for the participating author(s).

#### Posters

The format of the posters may be modified to reflect the type of information presented. Posters should be no larger than 36" x 48". More details will be provided upon acceptance.

### Acceptance of Abstracts

Those who have submitted abstracts will be notified of the Abstract Review Committee's decision via e-mail by **Wednesday, February 22, 2006**.

## Travel and Registration Scholarships

A limited number of *travel* and *registration* scholarships are available to assist student poster presenters in defraying their travel and Conference registration expenses. Travel scholarships are limited to \$100 each, and **only first author poster presenters living more than 100 miles from Lexington, Kentucky are eligible**. More information on scholarships will be available upon acceptance of abstract.

## Registration and Lodging

All persons interested in gerontology and geriatrics, including the general public and news media, are invited to register for and attend the Conference. All attendees or presenters at the Conference must register and pay the \$40 registration fee. *This fee includes the cost of all scheduled meals and breaks on Saturday and Sunday.* Friday dinner is included in the cost only for those students also registered for the SGS conference.



**The registration deadline is Friday, March 3, 2006.**

Registrations received after this date will be accepted on a “space-available” basis and are subject to food and beverage restrictions of the conference catering arrangement.

We are pleased to offer a block of rooms at one of Lexington’s premier hotels, the newly remodeled [Crowne Plaza Campbell House](#), at a rate of \$99 per night (plus tax). To assure availability, please contact the hotel early; we recommend well before the

March 3 deadline. Ask for the “Gerontology Student Conference Rate.”

Crowne Plaza Campbell House Hotel, 1375 Harrodsburg Road, Lexington, KY 40504  
For reservations, call 859-255-4281, or 1-800-2CROWNE

Alternate lodging arrangements may be available for students. If you are interested, please check the box on the registration form on page 6.

## Directions to Hotel / Conference Site

From the South: Take I-75 N to exit 113 (Paris/Lexington exit). Turn right off the exit and go 5-6 miles on Broadway (Broadway turns into Harrodsburg Road). Crowne Plaza Lexington is located on the right.

From the North: Take I-75 S to exit 113 (Paris/Lexington exit). Turn right off the exit and go 5-6 miles on Broadway (Broadway turns into Harrodsburg Road). Crowne Plaza Lexington is located on the right.

From the East: Take I-64 W to I-75 S. Turn right off the exit and go 5-6 miles on Broadway (Broadway turns into Harrodsburg Road). Crowne Plaza Lexington is located on the right.

From the West: Take I-64 E to I-75 S. Turn right off the exit and go 5-6 miles on Broadway (Broadway turns into Harrodsburg Road). Crowne Plaza Lexington is located on the right.

## Registration Form

Registration form for the Seventeenth Annual Southeastern Regional Student Mentoring Conference in Gerontology and Geriatrics, April 7-9, 2006.

**The registration form deadline is Friday, March 3, 2006.**

(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how you obtained information for this conference registration:

Email attachment \_\_\_\_\_ Internet download \_\_\_\_\_

I am: Faculty \_\_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in lodging if available (you may check one or both):

\_\_\_\_\_ with a local family/student(s) or \_\_\_\_\_ a roommate arrangement in the hotel

Check here if you plan to attend the Friday night Gala Dinner at the Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) Conference \_\_\_\_\_ (\$20 for those *NOT* registered for SGS)

Registration fee enclosed? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes (\$40)

**The registration fee includes the cost of all meals and refreshments listed in the Schedule of Events.** Conference registration will automatically enter your name for several random prize drawings to be awarded during the closing ceremonies.

**Please make check payable to:** Gerontology Center Student Convention

**Mail this form and check to:**

Dr. Anne Glass, Assistant Director  
Institute of Gerontology  
College of Public Health  
The University of Georgia  
255 E. Hancock Ave.  
Athens, GA 30602-5775

## Questions About The Conference

**For questions about the conference program or abstract submission:**

Dr. Anne Glass, Assistant Director ([aglass@geron.uga.edu](mailto:aglass@geron.uga.edu))

UGA Institute of Gerontology, 255 E. Hancock Ave., Athens, GA 30602-5775 (706) 425-3222

<http://www.geron.uga.edu/outreach/studentmentoringconference.php>

**For questions about Lexington, including travel, lodging, and conference site:**

Linda Centers ([LCCenters@aol.com](mailto:LCCenters@aol.com))

859-257-1450, extension 80190

An electronic version of this brochure is available for downloading from the UGA Institute of Gerontology website: <http://www.geron.uga.edu/multimedia/onlinepublications.php>.

### The Conference is co-sponsored by:

**Armstrong Atlantic State University - Health Sciences Department**

**Brenau University - School of Health and Science**

**Georgia Southern University - College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

**Georgia State University - Gerontology Institute**

**North Georgia College & State University - School of Nursing**

**The University of Alabama - School of Psychology**

**The University of Georgia - Institute of Gerontology**

**University of Kentucky - Graduate Center for Gerontology**

**University of South Florida - School of Aging Studies**

