

# ASA Section on Aging and the Life Course



## News from the Chair

Next year the Section on Aging and the Life Course enters its 31<sup>st</sup> year! Over the past 30 years, interest in aging and life course dynamics have evolved from a specialty area to being one of the organizing concepts central to the discipline. Our section has also grown – in membership, in activities, and in scope, marked especially by the name change from the “Section on Aging” to the “Section on Aging and the Life Course” in the 1990s. Under Duane Alwin’s leadership, the 2008 meetings in Boston highlighted the intellectual and social vibrancy of our section with stimulating and well-attended paper and roundtable sessions (despite the allure of a mall just outside our door!), Leonard Pearlin’s Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar address, a reception, and of course, our mentoring dinner, attended this year by over 100 section members.



Eliza Pavalko  
2008-09 Section Chair

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To celebrate this milestone in our section’s history, the 2009 theme will be “Embarking on the Next 30 Years: Emerging Themes and New Directions in Research on Aging and the Life Course.” To highlight the fast pace of methodological developments in research on aging and the life course, Scott Lynch will be organizing a session, **“Methodological Innovations in Research on Aging and the Life Course.”** Because aging is a life-long process, we will be partnering this year with the Section on Children and Youth, thus allowing two co-sponsored sessions. Bridget Gorman will organize a co-sponsored session, **“Early Life Predictors of Health through the Life Course”** and Jeylan Mortimer will organize a co-sponsored session, **“Transition to Adulthood: The Importance of the Health Domain.”** We will also have a full session devoted to roundtables and research groups, and Angie O’Rand will present the Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Address. Of course, we also plan on activities that allow time for those important informal conversations, including a reception & the ever-popular mentoring dinner.

I want to thank all of you who responded to our survey on section activities this summer. Your responses gave us valuable information about which section activities that you think are most important. Two activities stood out as most important – opportunities to present at the annual meetings and mentoring of junior scholars. All of our sessions will be open submissions, and we continue our tradition of including both roundtables and research groups so that structured roundtable presentations and informal research group conversations can be listed on the program. Mentoring also continues to be a top priority of our section. In addition to continuing the important and popular mentoring dinner, which allows students and new PhDs to enjoy dinner conversation with leaders across the field, we are exploring new avenues to expand our mentoring activities.

Your responses to questions about section sponsorship of new publications were more mixed. Fifty-nine percent of responders agreed that there was a need for additional publications, particularly a quarterly journal, and comments focused on the lack of publications focusing specifically on the life course perspective. At the same time, only 17% favored a section journal if dues increase greatly. The one section with an established print journal is Community and Urban Sociology, and their dues are \$41 for non-student members compared to our dues of \$13 for non-student members. Other sections proposing new journals also estimate that dues will double or triple with a section-sponsored journal that members receive as part of the section membership. We will continue exploring options that might be less costly for section members.

Finally, we welcome Jenifer Hamil-Luker as our new newsletter editor and thank Renee Beard for the excellent job she has done on our newsletter for the past three years. Please also keep an eye out for important announcements from Linda Wray, our listserve manager, and visit our section website at <http://www.pop.psu.edu/asasalc/index.htm> for updated information on section activities. To be coming soon, photos from the 2008 meeting in Boston!

I look forward to working with you all over the coming year and always welcome your suggestions for our section.  
Eliza Pavalko, 2008-2009 Section Chair

## Section on Aging and the Life Course Business Meeting August 1, 2008, 3:30-4:10 p.m. Sheraton, Boston, MA

**Call to Order:** Duane Alwin 3:30

### Outstanding Paper Award

Chair: Ellen Idler, Rutgers University  
Elaine Wethington, Cornell University  
David Ekerdt, University of Kansas  
Nick Danigelis, University of Vermont

This marks the second year for this award. The criteria considered for the award included originality, theoretical and methodological rigor, and importance.

The winning publication for 2008 is: Arland Thornton, William Axinn, Yu Xie. 2007. *Marriage and Cohabitation*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.



Thornton and Idler



Shippee, Hardy and Pham-Kanter

### Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Chair: Melissa Hardy, The Pennsylvania State University  
Cheryl Elman, University of Akron  
Rick Settersten, Oregon State University  
David Warner, Case Western Reserve University

The committee selected two winners of this year's outstanding graduate student paper award: Genevieve Pham-Kanter, University of Chicago, for "Social Comparisons and Health: Can Having Richer Friends and Neighbors Make You Sicker?" and Tetyana P. Shippee, Purdue University, for "But I am Not Moving: Residents' Perspectives on Transitions within a Continuing Care Retirement Community."

## Congratulations to New SALC Officers!



Uhlenberg, Chair-elect

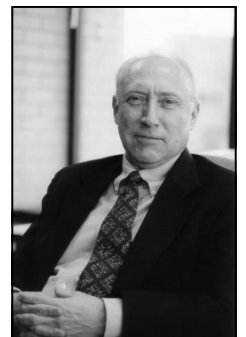
Chair: Jacqueline L. Angel, The University of Texas at Austin  
Linda Burton, Duke University  
Steve Crystal, Rutgers University  
Michael Roemer, The University of Texas at Austin (student member)  
Merril Silverstein, University of Southern California

### **Election winners are:**

Peter Uhlenberg, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chair-elect  
Dennis Hogan, Brown University, Council  
Ross Macmillan, University of Minnesota, Council  
Jennifer Karas Montez, University of Texas-Austin (student member)

## Appreciation to Outgoing Officers

Thanks to outgoing council members, Deborah Carr, Sidney M. Stahl, Sara Marian Moorman, and Jacqueline Angel, for their service on council. Thanks also goes to outgoing chair Duane Alwin for an outstanding job running the section and putting together a great 2008 meeting in Boston.



Alwin, Outgoing Chair

## O'Rand Receives 2008 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award

Chair: Eliza Pavalko, Indiana University  
 Sidney Stahl, National Institute on Aging  
 Deborah Carr, Rutgers University  
 Linda George, Duke University



This year's recipient of the Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award is Angela O'Rand. As recipient of the MWR Award, Angela O'Rand will present the lecture at next year's annual meeting. Angie, as she is known to her many friends and colleagues, received her B.A. from the University of the Pacific and her M.A. from the University of Oregon. Angie began her career in Florida after finishing her Ph.D. at Temple University with a dissertation on status and influence at the Marine Biological Laboratory. She moved south to Boca Raton, where she was an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Social Psychology at Florida Atlantic University (1974-1976) and became the Graduate Program Coordinator for Gerontological Studies and an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida in 1976. Florida's loss was Duke's gain when she joined the faculty at Duke in 1979 as an Assistant Professor where she is currently Chair of the Sociology Department as well as a Senior Fellow in the Center for Demographic Studies and in the Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development.

Angie's research has focused on patterns of inequality across the life span, with an emphasis on the temporal diversity of life transitions and their consequences for later life. Funded by NIH and NSF, she has studied workplace policies related to compensation and how societal institutions sort people into different wage and benefit structures. Concerned by changing employment patterns and the reorganization of retirement institutions (especially pensions), she partnered with her frequent collaborator, John Henretta, to document changing patterns of inequality in *Age and Inequality: Diverse Pathways Through Later Life*. Her more recent research addresses the cumulative impact of economic adversity on midlife health risks, such as heart attack, and demonstrates the power of life span research to link early and late life events.

Angie's impressive list of accomplishments also includes many papers in top journals and a monograph (with M.E. Hughes) for Russell Sage and Population Reference Bureau on *The Lives and Times of the Baby Boom*. An active and visible member of ASA, SSS and GSA throughout her career, she has been a central figure in the major journals of these organizations. She became Editor of *Research on Aging: A Bimonthly Journal of Aging and the Life Course* in 1997, but has also served as a Consulting Editor on *Handbook on Aging and the Social Sciences (5th Edition)*, 1999-2001, an International Associate Editor of the *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, 1998-2001, and on the Editorial Boards of the *American Journal of Sociology*, 2000-2002, the *American Sociological Review*, 1990-1993; 1997-2000, the *Journal of Gerontology-Social Sciences*, 1994-1997, *Contemporary Sociology*, 1986-1989, *Social Forces*, 1981-1984, and the *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 1978-1981. She served as Chair of the Section on Aging & the Life Course (1996-1997) and has been a regular presenter at regional, national and international conferences throughout her career.

Those of us who have benefited from her friendship, her editor's eye, and her support and encouragement have many more reasons to appreciate the countless ways she contributes to our field. Our section is fortunate to be able to add her name to the list of extraordinary scholars we have honored.

By Melissa Hardy

## SALC Seeks Nominations for 2009 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award

The Section on Aging and the Life Course seeks nominations for the 2009 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award. This award honors a scholar in the field of aging and the life course who has shown exceptional achievement in research, theory, policy analysis, or who has otherwise advanced knowledge of aging and the life course. Letters of nomination should describe the nominee's contributions to the study of aging and the life course that warrant consideration. Additional letters of support are encouraged but not required.

Nominations and additional letters of support should be submitted by March 1, 2009 to:

Peter Uhlenberg  
 CB 3210 – Sociology  
 University of North Carolina  
 Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
 E-mail: [peter\\_uhlenberg@unc.edu](mailto:peter_uhlenberg@unc.edu)

## Section Business During 2008 Annual Meeting

### Secretary's Minutes Anne Barrett, Florida State University

Last year's minutes were approved.

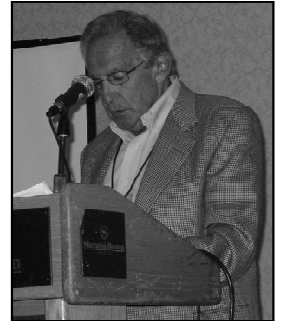
### Treasurer's Report Anne Barrett, Florida State University

As of June 30, the section had a balance of \$7,370 and had raised or had commitments of over \$5,000 in individual and institutional donations. A full treasurer's report is available upon request. Contact Anne Barrett at [abarrett@fsu.edu](mailto:abarrett@fsu.edu)

### Planning Committee Report

Chair: Duane Alwin, The Pennsylvania State University  
William R. Avison, University of Western Ontario  
Dale Dannefer, Case Western Reserve University  
Kenneth Ferraro, Purdue University  
Kristen Schultz Lee, University of Buffalo  
Angela O'Rand, Duke University

The theme of the SALC 2008 annual meeting program was "The Future of Aging," a theme stressing the fact that we have a vested interest in how social processes may work in the future. Around this theme, the 2008 SALC program developed several sessions dealing with theoretical and methodological issues that directly and indirectly have to do with the future of aging. The program included one invited session focusing on integrating demographic and developmental perspectives, two open submission sessions, and one refereed roundtable and research group session. The program also included the Matilda White Riley Lecture and Reception, business meeting and award ceremony, and a mentoring reception and dinner.



Pearlman Gives MWR Lecture

### Book Raffle Committee Report

Chair: Pam Herd, University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Amy Pienta, University of Michigan, Outgoing chair

This fundraising activity helps to subsidize student activities at the meeting. In 2007, we raised \$510 from the book raffle. This year we have 17 books and journal subscriptions for raffle. Tickets are \$5 and drawings will be held following ASA. Winners will get an email and arrange for books to be sent either from us or directly from the publisher.

### Ad Hoc Committee on Mentoring

Co-Chair: Victor Marshall, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
Co-Chair: Miles G. Taylor, Florida State University  
Deborah Carr, Rutgers University and University of Wisconsin  
Steve Cutler, University of Vermont  
Sara Moorman, University of Wisconsin  
Shiri Noy, Indiana University (student member)  
Jori Sechrist, Purdue University (student member)  
Jill Suitor, Purdue University  
Maximilliane Szinovacz, University of Massachusetts-Boston  
Duane Alwin, The Pennsylvania State University (ex officio)  
Jacqueline L. Angel, The University of Texas-Austin (ex officio)  
Eliza K. Pavalko, Indiana University (ex officio)

To explore the possibility of instituting a formal program to pair mentors and mentees, the committee conducted an informal poll at last year's mentoring dinner. The absence of very strong support for such a program, combined with some reservations expressed by committee members, led the committee to focus most of its time on organizing the mentoring dinner to be held at the Boston ASA meeting. A concerted fund-raising campaign was again conducted and succeeded in raising \$4,200. Donors are listed on the dinner program. Of this amount, \$250 was specified as reserved for next year, leaving \$3950 of new funds, plus \$1,150 raised last year but designated for this year's event. We thus have a total of \$5,100 donations for this year's event. Given additional revenue from sale of tickets, we should have a carry-over in this account of about \$2,000. Ticket prices rose by \$5 this year – to \$15 for students, \$25 for faculty, and \$50 for guests. We expect about 100 people to attend the dinner. We would like to particularly thank Sara Moorman and Maxi Szinovacz for their efforts to locate a venue for the event.

## Membership Committee Report

Chair: Diane Brown, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey  
Noelle Chesley, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Jennifer Karas Montez, The University of Texas at Austin (student member)

Since 2005, membership has hovered around 600. However, this year our current membership dropped to 542, reflecting the overall decline in ASA membership. It is important that we have at least 600 members by 9/30/08 in order to guarantee an allocation of four sessions at the annual meetings. Earlier in the summer, the membership committee sent out a call to SALC membership to reach out to colleagues and students to participate in ASA's "Member get a Member" campaign. For this year's campaign, sponsoring ASA members were eligible for discounted 2009 membership dues and a grand prize of a \$500 Amazon.com gift certificate. SALC might also consider offering incentives.

## Communications Reports

Newsletter Editor: Renee Beard, University of Chicago, Illinois  
Website Editor: Duane F. Alwin, The Pennsylvania State University  
Listserve Editor: Linda A. Wray, The Pennsylvania State University

The improvement of section communications was defined as a priority by the SALC leadership during the 2007-2008 year and was a major objective of many SALC activities during the year. The Winter 2008 *SALC Newsletter* was devoted almost exclusively to the topic of communications, with that issue of the newsletter including discussions of (1) the general issue of communicating in the new technological environment, (2) the ASA Topic Forum initiative, (3) the new SALC website initiative, and (4) an essay titled "Six Ways of Communicating" which focused attention on the specific forms of communication available to section members.

At its winter (conference call) meeting, SALC council unanimously approved a proposal from Section Chair Duane Alwin regarding a new SALC website initiative. The Council accepted a proposal with the following elements: (1) the creation of the position of "website editor" (distinct from the "webmaster") who oversees the website; (2) the use of section funds to cover the developmental costs and to designate maintenance costs as part of our regular operating costs; (3) the development of a set of guidelines for operating the website; and (4) the launching of the website in early January. As planned, we launched a new version of the website in January, which can be found at <http://www.pop.psu.edu/asasalc/index.htm>. All listserve announcements now include the address for the new SALC website at the top of the page. Regarding newsletter activities, one change that was facilitated during 2007-08 was a decision to list section elected officers and communications officers in each issue of the *SALC Newsletter*.

## Ad Hoc Committee on Publications

Chair: Cheryl Elman, University of Akron  
David Ekerdt, University of Kansas  
Robin Patterson, Case Western Reserve University (Student member)  
Andrea Willson, University of Western Ontario  
Duane Alwin, The Pennsylvania State University (ex officio)  
Eliza Pavalko, Indiana University (ex officio)  
Jacqueline L. Angel, The University of Texas at Austin (ex officio)

Since its inception in Fall 2006, The Ad Hoc Committee on Publications has been considering possible directions for formalizing the relationship between SALC and the annual book series, *Advances in Life Course Research (ALCR)*, which will be edited by Tim Owens until he steps down after the 2010 volume. In December 2007, committee members held a conference call to explore ways to encourage members to discuss and consider four options pertaining to SALC publications sponsorship: (1) to sponsor a Book Series of annual publication, if not with Elsevier (the current publisher of ALCR) then with another publisher; (2) to sponsor an ASA quality section journal; (3) to do both; or (4) to do neither. By late December, we sent out a listserve announcement (also placed on the new SALC website), to encourage members to voice their ideas about the options via formal letter, discussion listserve communication, email and so forth. We had very little response, as a result of several communications issues, including ASA's policy of purging all announcement and discussion listserve section members from the listserves if members do not pay their dues by December 31.

A conference call was held in early May 2008; the committee voted to survey members about publication and also communication issues, given the communication roadblocks uncovered. We intended to assess members' views about publication sponsorship in the context of other Section priorities and the range of potential activities. A web-based survey, designed by the committee, was posted online via SurveyMonkey.com on June 15; a survey link was sent to the membership via the announcement listserve and the Summer SALC newsletter. A link to the survey also was placed on the new SALC website. The survey was first set to close July 15; at that point slightly over 100 responses had been generated. We extended the survey for about a week, sending out a new listserve announcement. Another 50 responses were obtained by July 22. A summary of the results is found in Ad Hoc Publications Committee Report, which can be obtained from Cheryl Elman.

## Submit a Paper to One of these Aging and Life Course Sessions!

### **Aging and the Life Course Roundtables and Research Groups**

Session Organizer: Dennis Hogan, Brown University, email: [Dennis\\_Hogan@brown.edu](mailto:Dennis_Hogan@brown.edu) and Ross Macmillan, University of Minnesota, email: [macmi005@umn.edu](mailto:macmi005@umn.edu)

### **Methodological Innovations in Research on Aging and the Life Course**

Session Organizer: Scott Lynch, Princeton University, email: [slynch@princeton.edu](mailto:slynch@princeton.edu)

### **Early Life Predictors of Health Through the Life Course**

(co-sponsored by Section on Children and Youth) Session Organizer: Bridget Gorman, Rice University, email: [bkgorman@rice.edu](mailto:bkgorman@rice.edu)

### **Transition to Adulthood: Importance of the Health Domain**

(co-sponsored by Section on Children and Youth) Session Organizer: Jeylan Mortimer, University of Minnesota, email: [morti002@umn.edu](mailto:morti002@umn.edu)



### **Mark your Calendars!**

**2009 ASA  
Annual Meeting**

**August 8-11  
San Francisco Hilton**

**2009 SALC  
Section Day  
Sunday, August 9**

## Employment Opportunities

### **University of Maryland, Baltimore County Sociology/Anthropology Chair**

The UMBC Department of Sociology and Anthropology invites applications for the position of department Chair at the rank of full Professor to begin in August, 2009. Candidates should have a distinguished record of scholarship, including external research funding as appropriate for their field. Other important qualifications include significant administrative experience and demonstrated leadership skills to guide the department's interdisciplinary teaching and research visions in the context of its tradition of shared governance. The foci of the department's research and teaching are in health and aging; diversity, gender, and culture in global perspectives; and applied research. The department's 17 full-time faculty members support three undergraduate major programs (sociology, anthropology, and health administration and policy) with over 250 majors and an M.A. program in Applied Sociology with 60 graduate students. More information about the Department is available at [www.umbc.edu/sociology](http://www.umbc.edu/sociology). Applicants should submit a letter of interest describing their qualifications and administrative experience/philosophy and a CV, and have three letters of reference sent to: Chair Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250. Materials may be sent by email to [marmstro@umbc.edu](mailto:marmstro@umbc.edu). Review of applications will begin on October 15, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled. UMBC is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

### **University of Texas at Austin, Department of Sociology Associate or Full Professorship**

The Department of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin invites applications for a tenured position (associate or full professor) starting in Fall 2009. The position will also include an affiliation with the Population Research Center and is part of the University's long-term commitment to enhance the population sciences. We are looking for applicants whose research and teaching interests are in the area of demography with a specialization in population health and bio-demography. Duties include undergraduate and graduate teaching, research, publication, and service. Successful candidates should have a strong record of publication, external funding, and teaching, appropriate to rank. Screening will begin October 1 and continue until the position is filled. A Ph.D. in hand by start date is required. Interested candidates should submit a letter of introduction, Curriculum Vita, a writing sample, evidence of teaching excellence, and the names of three references to: Professor Robert Crosnoe, Demography Search Committee Chair, Department of Sociology, 1 University Station A1700, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712. The University of Texas is an AA/EEO employer. A



**University of Vermont, Department of Sociology  
Professor of Sociology and Distinguished University Professor of Gerontology**

The Department of Sociology at the University of Vermont invites nominations or applications for the position of Professor of Sociology and The Bishop Robert F. Joyce Distinguished University Professor of Gerontology. The successful candidate will succeed Dr. Stephen J. Cutler, who has held the Joyce Professorship and served the University of Vermont with vision, dedication, and brilliance since 1984. The department is committed to increasing faculty diversity and welcomes nominations of or applications from women and underrepresented ethnic, racial, and cultural groups and from people with disabilities. The position will be available in Fall 2009. Review of applications will begin on November 1, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled. For a complete description of this employment opportunity, please go to [www.uvmjobs.com](http://www.uvmjobs.com). For additional information, contact Professor Dale J. Jaffe, Chair, Joyce Professorship Search Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Vermont, 31 South Prospect St., Burlington, VT 05405 (telephone: 802-656-4276; email: [Dale.Jaffe@uvm.edu](mailto:Dale.Jaffe@uvm.edu)). The University of Vermont is an AA/EO employer.

**Rutgers University, Department of Sociology  
Assistant Professor**

The sociology department at Rutgers University New Brunswick is looking to hire an assistant professor who works in the area of social demography, broadly defined. The job is to begin in the Fall 2009. Research and teaching interests could include (but are not limited to) immigration, fertility, mortality, aging, family, and social inequality. The person we are seeking to hire must have strong quantitative skills as well as the interest and ability to teach graduate-level methods and statistics courses. Position is contingent upon funding availability. We will begin reviewing applications on September 30, 2008. Applications received after October 15 cannot be assured full consideration. You should send curriculum vitae, a letter explaining your interest in this position, a writing sample, and three letters of recommendation. Please send these materials to: Lisa Iorillo, Department Administrator, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8045. Rutgers is an EO/AA Employer with a longstanding commitment to diversity; women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

**University of Southern California  
Assistant Professor**

USC's College of Letters, Arts & Sciences invites applications for an assistant professor with a research specialization that addresses issues of immigrant integration. The position, beginning in fall 2009, is part of a university-wide initiative to promote research and teaching on the processes of immigration, settlement, and social transformation. The candidate should be an empirical social scientist working in these areas; we are particularly interested in candidates who can relate their research to policy issues. The search committee is being conducted jointly by the departments of American Studies & Ethnicity, Political Science, Sociology and History, and the appointment will be made formally in one of these departments. USC strongly values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity in employment. Women and men, and members of all racial and ethnic groups, are encouraged to apply. Please send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, one or two writing samples, and the names of three references and their contact information to: Manuel Pastor, Chair of Search Committee, Department of American Studies and Ethnicity, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-4033. We will begin to review applications on November 5, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled.

**University of Memphis  
Assistant Professor**

The Department of Sociology of The University of Memphis invites applications for a faculty position to be filled at the assistant professor rank. Employment begins August 2009. The candidate should have a primary specialty in medical sociology/public health and have a PhD in sociology. In addition, ability to teach methods, statistics, or demography will be considered a plus. We seek candidates with exceptional commitment to research and teaching. Applications may be made on-line at <https://workforum.memphis.edu> < <https://workforum.memphis.edu>/. Please upload a letter of application which includes teaching interests and research plans, a curriculum vita, publications or samples of written work, evidence of teaching effectiveness, and contact information for three professional references. Screening will begin November 1, 2008 and may continue until the position is filled. The successful candidate will join an exciting and growing department in a dynamic urban university. The University of Memphis is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. We strongly encourage applications from women and racial minorities.

**Penn State University  
Tenure Track Positions**

The College of Health and Human Development at the Pennsylvania State University seeks candidates with interests in immigrant children, youth and families for two (2) tenure-track positions at the assistant or associate professor rank to begin Fall 2009. Individuals with expertise in health and behavior, health policy or public health with research focused on immigrant children, youth, and families are encouraged to apply. Consideration of candidates will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. scholarly accomplishments, are required. Applicants should have a strong interdisciplinary orientation and a willingness to engage in collaborative research and outreach activities. For detailed application information on these positions and others in the College, go to our web site at: <http://www.hhdev.psu.edu/faculty/search/index.html>. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its workforce.

## Membership Drive Exceeds 600!

As of September 30, our section membership reached 603, which means we will get an extra session at next year's meeting! Many thanks to all of you who recruited new members. Our additional session will be dedicated to the milestones and new directions in research on aging and the life course. Welcome to all new members as we celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our section.

### We're on the web!

<http://www.pop.psu.edu/asasalc/index.htm>

## Members' New Book about Women in Midlife

*Connection, Compromise and Control* is the product of a research project in which three sociologists in midlife themselves interviewed more than a hundred women to find out how they have responded to the changes they have experienced both in their own lives and in society as a whole. Among the areas explored are family and friendships, paid work and retirement, the compromises that come with caregiving, health and well-being, ageism in a youth-oriented society, and the ambivalence inherent in each of these realms.

*Connection, Compromise and Control: Canadian Women Discuss Midlife* by Nancy Mandell, Susannah Wilson, Ann Duffy. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2008. 206pp.

## Section on Aging and the Life Course

### Chair

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