# ASA Section on Aging and the Life Course





# **News from the Chair**

# Celebrating 30 Years of Research on Aging and the Life Course

Since we met just last August in New York, economic change, international disputes, and political events have affected our personal lives, our communities, our country and the world. Sociologists have a critical role to play in how we come to understand these events and how they affect individual lives, but also in shaping the policy debates that emerge from them. We know that these broader events affect experiences of aging in so many ways, from retirement decisions impacted by economic change & the erosion of pension benefits to spiraling health care costs that threaten health across the life course. As scholars of aging and the life course, we also know that recent events have the potential to influence the political attitudes, economic decisions and health of each birth cohort for years to come. This year's ASA meeting in San Francisco (August 8-11) provides a forum for collective discussion and hearing new findings that inform these broader issues. And as always, the meeting will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones and renew our intellectual energy.

This year also marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Section on Aging and the Life Course. We have a day and a half full of sessions to celebrate the intellectual diversity of our section. Our section day begins bright and early on August 9 at 8:30 with a session on "Methodological Innovations in Life Course Research," followed by research groups and roundtables at 10:30-12:10, and then a 12:30-2:10 session "30 Years of Research on Aging and the Life Course." Please be sure to join us at 2:30 for the Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Lecture given by Angela O'Rand, followed by a reception and our section's business meeting and presentation of this year's awards. We also have two sessions co-sponsored with the Section on Children and Youth. The first is on Sunday 12:30-2:10, "Transition to Adulthood: The Importance of Health" and the second is on Monday, August 10, 10:30-12:10, "Early Life Predictors of Health Through the Life Course." Section members may also be interested in a thematic session organized by the ASA on "Cumulative Advantage in Life Course Perspective" scheduled for Monday 4:30-6:10.

Plan to join us for our annual mentoring dinner, which will be held on **Saturday night, August 8,** 6-8 p.m. at Johnny Foley's Irish House, 243 O'Farrell Street, which is a half block from the San Francisco Hilton. As chair of the mentoring committee, David Ekerdt has arranged for us to have a wonderful buffet dinner and drinks. A panel comprised of the many journal editors in our section will run a brief and informal Q&A session on "I'll publish your paper if..." Details on ticket prices and ordering are given on page 7, so be sure to mark your calendars for this event. This is also a wonderful opportunity to introduce your students to the section by treating them with a dinner ticket to the event and introducing them to some of your colleagues.

We look forward to seeing you at ASA in San Francisco! Eliza Pavalko, Section Chair, (2008-2009)

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Eliza Pavalko 2008-09 Section Chair

# **2009 Annual Meeting Program for the Section on Aging and the Life Course**

# **Mentoring Dinner**

6-8 p.m., Saturday, August 8 Johnny Foley's Irish Pub See page 7 for details

# **SALC Council Meeting**

7:00-8:15 a.m., Sunday, August 9 Eliza Pavalko, Chair Hilton San Francisco



# Methodological Innovations in Research on Aging and the Life Course

8:30-10:10 a.m., Sunday August 9
Paper Session Organizer and Presider: Scott Lynch (Princeton University)
Hilton San Francisco

- "Close to You? How Parent-adult Child Contact is Influenced by Family Patterns"
   Glenn Deane (State University of New York-Albany), Glenna Spitze (State University of New York-Albany),
   Russell A. Ward (State University of New York--Albany)
- "Cohort Differences in Patterns of Cognitive Aging: The Application of Latent Growth Curve Models" Duane F. Alwin (Pennsylvania State University) and Scott M. Hofer (Oregon State University)
- "Differential Gerontology Versus 'Error Term': Characterizing Variability in Age-graded Health Trajectories"

  Jessica A. Kelley-Moore (Case Western Reserve University), Dale Dannefer (Case Western Reserve University),

  Jielu Lin (Case Western Reserve University)
- "Social Policy and Retirement: Evidence from Germany and Britain"
   Anette Eva Fasang (Yale University), Silke Aisenbrey (Yeshiva University)

# **Roundtables and Research Groups**

10:30-12:10 p.m., Sunday, August 9
Session Organizers: *Dennis P. Hogan (Brown University) and Ross F. Macmillan (University of Minnesota)*Hilton San Francisco

# Table 1: Research Group on Parent-Adult Child Relations

Table Presider: J. Jill Suitor (Purdue University)

- "Deconstructing Ambivalence in Adult Child-parent Relationships: Application of the Solidarity-conflict Model" Jessica Penn Lendon, Merril Silverstein (University of South California), and Roseann Giarrusso (California State University-Los Angeles)
- "Parenthood and Well-being Over the Life Course"

  Debra Umberson (University of Texas), Tetyana Pudrovska (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Corinne E. Reczek (UT-Austin)
- "Parents' Experiences with Their Adult Children's Problems: Differences for Mothers and Fathers" Teresa M. Cooney (University of Missouri), Jacquelyn Jean Benson (University of Missouri)
- "Role of Perceived Maternal Favoritism in Sibling Ambivalence in Midlife"

  Megan Marie Gilligan (Purdue), J. Jill Suitor (Purdue), Jori Alyssa Sechrist (Purdue), Karl Pillemer (Cornell)

# Table 2: Research Group on Disability

Table Presider: Eva Kahana (Case Western Reserve University)

- "Gaining Access: How to 'Deal' with IRBs, Informed Consent, and Gatekeepers while Researching Individuals with Alzheimer's"
   Brandi Marie McCullough (University of North Carolina-Greensboro), Rebecca G. Adams (UNC-Greensboro)
- "Pathways between Social Engagement, Physical Impairment, and Cognitive Impairment among Older Adults using SEM" Patricia A. Thomas (Duke University)
- "Support Mobilization to Reduce Burden of Disability"
   Eva Kahana (Case Western Reserve University), Boaz Kahana, Diana June Kulle (Case Western Reserve University)

# Table 3: Research Group on Retirement

- "A Life Course Perspective on Subjective Well-being and Retirement" Michelle Pannor Silver (University of Chicago)
- "Disentangling Care for Grandchildren and Health Insurance: Labor Force Participation Patterns of Women in Early Retirement Age" Antje Daub (Case Western Reserve University)
- "Too Old to Work or too Young to Retire? Understanding the Structuring of Age Norms"

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# Refereed Roundtables and Research Groups, continued: August 9, 10:30-12:10, Hilton San Francisco

# Table 4: Research Group on the Life Course

Table Presider: Joy E. Pixley (University of California, Irvine)

- "Social Relationships in the Age-homogenous Context of Assisted Living"

  Julia Hahmann (RWTH Aachen University), Heather Hofmeister (RWTH Aachen University)
- "Teenage Parents' Perceptions of Life Course Disruption, Norms, and Support" Janet Jacobs (University of Colorado)
- "Using Life Course Theory to Interpret Life Stories" Janet Zollinger Giele (Brandeis University)

### Table 5: Aging and Health of Populations

Table Presider: Sherrill L. Sellers (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

- "A Life Course Approach to Understanding the Health of Older Blacks in the US." Sherrill L. Sellers (University of Wisconsin-Madison), James Jackson (U of Michigan), Ishtar O. Govia (U of Michigan)
- "Comparing the Contributions of Functional and Structural Support to Mental and Physical Health" Erica Siegl (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Philip Scott Brenner (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- "Rectangularity of the Survival Curve: Cancer Mortality in the United States, Sweden, and Japan" Andrew Fenelon (University of Pennsylvania)
- "Lessons from the Field: Evaluating the Use of Three Social Research Methodologies with Older Persons" Joyce Weil (Temple University)

### Table 6: Life Course Dimensions of Cognitive and Mental Health

Table Presider: Miriam Sessions (Florida State University)

- "Age Groups, Psychosocial Factors, and the Trajectories of Depression" Jinyoung Kim (Korea University), Yang-Sook Kim (Korea University)
- "Cognitive Benefits to Physical Activity: Findings from the Aging, Demographics, and Memory Study (ADAMS)"
   Mary Elizabeth Bowen (Wayne State University)
- "Feeling like a Kid Again: Older Women's Self-enhancement through a Return to Childhood" Miriam Sessions (Florida State University), Anne E. Barrett (Florida State University)
- "Self-Esteem and Sexual Activity among Aged People" Hyojung Seo (Yonsei University)

# Table 7: Social Engagement and Productivity among the Elderly

Table Presider: Enid J. Schatz (University of Colorado-Boulder)

- "An International Perspective on the Relevance of Age for Productivity in Later Life" Kathrin Susanne Komp (Vrije Universiteit University-Amsterdam)
- "Headship of Older Persons in the Context of HIV/AIDS in Rural South Africa"
   Enid J. Schatz (University of Colorado-Boulder), Sangeetha Madhavan (University of Maryland-College Park)
- "Slacking Off: Concepts of Agency in Old Manhood"
   Neal King (Virginia Tech University), Toni Calasanti (Virginia Tech University)

# **Table 8: Family and Social Engagement**

Table Presider: Julia Rozanova (Brown University)

- "Long-Term Influences of Parent-Child Relations on Midlife Parents' Psychological Well Being" K. Jill Kiecolt (Virginia Tech), Rosemary Blieszner (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Jyoti Savla (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University)
- "Social Engagement of Older Adults in Rural Canada: Constraints on Choice" Julia Rozanova (Brown University)
- "Social Network Typology among Older Adults" Juyeon Kim (The University of Chicago)

# Table 9: Caregiving

Table Presider: Dale Dannefer (Case Western Reserve University)

- "Global Woman, Culture Change and Reciprocal Care: A Modest Critique of Hochschild's Typology of Care" Rebecca A. Siders (Case Western Reserve University)
- "The Division of Caregiving Among Siblings in Japan" Kristen Schultz Lee (State University of New York-Buffalo)
- "The Intergenerational Transmission of Care Roles from Mother to Offspring" Kristjane Nordmeyer (University of Utah)
- "The Role of the Resident: Using Action Research to Facilitate Change in a Long-term Care Setting" Robin Shura Patterson (Case Western Reserve University), Dale Dannefer (Case Western Reserve), Rebecca A. Siders (Case Western Reserve University)

# Table 10: Aging, Older Workers, and Pensions

Table Presider: John B. Williamson (Boston College)

- "Older Workers and Public Policy: Lessons from Japan to the United Kingdom?" Masa Higo (Boston College)
- "Impact of Race and Health Insurance on Labor Market Reentry among Older Workers" Benjamin Lennox Kail (Florida State University)
- "The Influence of Age Discrimination on Older Workers' Employment Trajectories" Volker Lang (Eberhard-Karls University Tübingen)
- "Which Pension Model Holds the Most Promise for China?" John B. Williamson (Boston College), Ce Shen (Boston College)

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# Refereed Roundtables and Research Groups, Continued: August 9, 10:30-12:10, Hilton San Francisco

### Table 11: Research on Young Adulthood

Table Presider: Molly Jenkins (University Of Washington)

• "Understanding Experiences of GED Students: The Relevance of a Life Course Perspective" Kyong Hee Chee (Texas State University-San Marcos), Carlton W Mathis (TSU)

 "Young Adults' Expectations of Future Parental Caretaking: Models of Intergenerational Solidarity" Molly Jenkins (University Of Washington)

### Table 12: Current Issues in Aging

Table Presider: Meika E. Loe (Colgate University)

- "The Demographic Dilemma Affecting Elder African American Women's Sexual Relations: A Middle-range Analysis" Leslie Richards (University of District of Columbia)
- "A Life Course Synthesization of Agency" Steven Hitlin (University of Iowa), Lance Erickson (Brigham Young University),
   J. Scott Brown (Miami University), Glen H. Elder (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

### Table 13: Intergenerational Dependencies

- Race and Intergenerational Intra-familial Financial Transfers: Case of Early Baby Boomers" Stipica Mudrazija (University of Texas-Austin)
- "Aging-in-Place: Smith, Media Texts and the Invisibility of the Gendered Caregiver" Eliz J Storelli (American University)
- "Maternal Depressive Symptoms and Socioemotional Well-being in Elementary School: Are Depressed Mothers Biased in Their Reports?" Kristin Elizabeth Turney (U of Pennsylvania)

# Invited Session: 30 Years of Research on Aging and the Life Course: What Have We Learned and What Do We Still Need to Know?

August 9, 12:30-2:10 p.m.

Hilton San Francisco

Session Organizer and Presider: Janet W. Wilmoth (Syracuse University)

- "Social Relationships in Later Life: Understanding Positive, Negative, and Ambivalent Ties" Deborah Carr (Rutgers University)
- "Older Workers, Early Retirement: The Changing Life Course of the 21st Century" Melissa Hardy (The Pennsylvania State University)
- "Health and Aging: Early Origins, Persistent Inequalities?" Kenneth F. Ferraro (Purdue University)
- "Shifting Old Age Policy" Madonna Harrington Meyer (Syracuse University)
- "Milestones in the Sociology of Aging and the Life Course: 30-Year Reflections" Richard A. Settersten (Oregon State University)

# Session Co-Sponsored by the Section on Children and Youth: Transition to Adulthood: Importance of the Health Domain

Sunday, August 9, 12:30-2:10 p.m.

Session Organizer: Jeylan T. Mortimer (University of Minnesota)

Discussant: Jane D. McLeod (Indiana University)

Parc 55 Hotel

- "Generational Differences in Youths' Weight Trajectories: Variation during the Transition to Adulthood" Margot I. Jackson (Princeton)
- "Health and Education in the Young Adult Transition: Variations by Race and Gender" Cheryl A. Roberts (U of North Carolina)
- "Parental Resources and Child Health: An Initial Examination of Child Health Trajectories" Wendy Parker (Syracuse University)
- "The Mental Health Consequences of Family Background, an Early Transition to Adulthood, and Unfulfilled Expectations" Krysia Mossakowski (University of Miami)



# Section on Aging and the Life Course Matilda White Riley Lecture



Matilda White Riley

2:30-3:30 p.m. August 9, 2009 Hilton San Francisco

Distinguished Scholar Address: Angela O'Rand "Time & Inequality Over the Life Course"

Followed by Business Meeting and Reception 3:30-4:10



Angela M. O'Rand

# Session Co-Sponsored by Section on Children and Youth: Early Life Predictors of Mental and Physical Health in Later Life

Monday, August 10, 10:30- 12:10pm Hilton San Francisco Session Organizer and Presider: *Bridget K. Gorman (Rice University)* 

- "Early Life Course Transitions, Adolescent Home Environment, and Trajectories of Healthy Behaviors" Adrianne Frech (The Ohio State University), Kristi L. Williams (Ohio State)
- "Heterogeneity in Adolescent Depressive Symptom Trajectories: Social Stratification and the Implications for Young Adult Physical Health" K.A.S. Wickrama (Iowa State University), Thulitha Wickrama (Auburn University)
- "Victimization in Early Life, Psychosocial Resources, and Mental Health in Adulthood" Terrence D. Hill (University of Miami), Lauren M. Kaplan (University of Miami), Michael T. French (University of Miami), Robert J. Johnson (University of Miami)
- "A Developmental-contextual Approach to Understanding the Continuum of Mental Health and Well-being" Stephani Hatch (King's College London), Samuel B Harvey (King's College-London), Barbara Maughan (King's College-London)
- "Childhood Health and the Reproduction of Inequalities" Robert G White (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Alberto Palloni (Northwestern University)

# Session Co-Sponsored by Section on Children and Youth: Cumulative Disadvantage in Life Course Perspective

Monday, August 10, 4:30-6:10 p.m. Hilton San Francisco Session Organizer, Presider, Discussant: *Karl Alexander (Johns Hopkins University)* 

- "Cumulative Advantage of Education on Depression" Han S. Woo (Northern Illinois University)
- "Cumulative Effects of Life Course Events in an Intergenerational Perspective: Social Trajectories of Three-generation Family Lineages" Sofia Aboim (University of Lisbon), Pedro Vasconcelos (Metropolitan University of Lisbon)
- "Cumulative Inequality and Working Women's Mortality: Do Perceived Work Trajectories Get under the Skin?"

  Tetyana P. Shippee (Purdue University), Lindsay A. Rinaldo (Purdue University), Kenneth F. Ferraro (Purdue University)
- "Family Formation and Women's Empowerment over the Life Course in India: A Structural Equations Model" Kerry MacQuarrie (University of Washington)
- "Teenage Parenthood, Social Disadvantage, and Children's Early Development"
   Stefanie Mollborn (University of Colorado-Boulder), Jeff Dennis (University of Colorado)

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# "Starting a new journal is like elbowing your way through a crowded room — you know you have a place to get to and a job to do, but if there are so many people already there, are you really needed?"

~Editors of LLCS

# **New Journal Publishes First Issue**

Longview, an independent, London-based, think-tank that fosters longitudinal research and life course study, has published the first issue of a journal devoted exclusively to longitudinal and life course study treated as a field of study in its own right.

Longitudinal and Life Course Studies: International Journal aims to reduce inter-disciplinary barriers and encourage the application of life course and longitudinal research findings in policy and practice. The journal aspires to internationally interest academics and policy makers working at the interface of social, developmental and health sciences, including sociology, psychology, education, epidemiology, economics, political science, demography, genetics, geography, criminology, policy studies, history and statistics. Its audience will also include those concerned with all types of methodological development of relevance to life course and longitudinal research. For free access to the journal's content, visit http://www.journal.longviewuk.com/index.php/llcs

# **Call for Papers to Honor Longino**

The Journal of Aging and Health plans to publish a special issue in 2010 dedicated to Charles Longino in recognition of his many contributions to gerontology. Dr. Longino died on Christmas day, 2008. The theme reflects Longino's scholarly contributions related to migration in late life. Empirical manuscripts are being solicited in the areas of retirement migration and health (health care) in the US and elsewhere, immigration and health in late life, health care issues of older immigrants and related topics. Manuscripts are due on or before September 1, 2009. Make submissions electronically via Manuscript Central http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jah. Any questions regarding potential submissions should be addressed to the Guest Editor, Peter Uhlenberg, uhlen@email.unc.edu.

# **Immigration in an Aging Society**

"Immigration in an Aging Society" is the Winter 2008-2009 issue of *Generations*, the journal of the American Society on Aging. Edited by Judith Treas (UC-Irvine) and Fernando Torres-Gil (UCLA), it provides a long overdue look at the neglected intersection of America's most important demographic developments, aging and immigration. The issue examines U.S. reliance on immigrant health care workers, the family lives of older newcomers, and the baby boom's stake in immigration reform. For the table of contents and to order single issues, visit http://www.asaging.org/generations/gen32-4/home.cfm.

# **Personal Relationships in Late Life**

The Journal of Social and Personal Relationships is planning a special issue on personal relationships in late life. Manuscripts representing scholarship from a variety of disciplines are welcome. Research can reflect a variety of methods (e.g., longitudinal representative samples, qualitative designs, social, group, or cross-national comparisons) or a combination of methods. Theoretical work, reviews, and meta-analyses are also welcome. Authors can begin the submission process at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jspr . Authors should indicate that this manuscript is a candidate for the special issue on relationships in late life. The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2009. Inquiries about potential submissions can be addressed to the issue's guest editor, Pearl Dykstra, at dykstra@nidi.nl.

# Book Raffle Committee Needs Your Help!

The 2009 Book Raffle Committee is soliciting book donations. Publishers are increasingly unwilling to donate books. If you have a recent (or not so recent!) book that you have written or co-authored and have a spare copy, it would be wonderful if you could donate it for the raffle. Please contact Pam Herd (pherd@lafollette.wisc.edu) if you can make a donation.



# **SALC Members' New Books**

- Bengtson, Vern L., Gans, Daphna, Putney, Norella, and Merril Silverstein. Handbook of Theories of Aging, 2nd edition. 2009. Springer.
- Connidis, Ingrid Arnet. 2010. Family Ties and Aging, 2nd ed. Pine Forge Press/Sage.
- Jones, Ian R., Higgs, Paul, and Ekerdt, David J. 2009. Consumption and Generational Change: The Rise of Consumer Lifestyles. Transaction Publishers.
- Peter Uhlenberg, editor. 2009. *International Handbook of Population Aging.* Springer.

# Section on Aging and the Life Course Mentoring Dinner and Program

Saturday, August 8, 2009

6 to 8 p.m.

Johnny Foley's Irish House
243 O'Farrell St., San Francisco
(one block from the San Francisco Hilton)

Tickets are \$10 for ASA student members, \$25 for ASA regular members and guests. Tickets include dinner and drinks.

There will be a short program entitled, "I'll Publish Your Paper If...". The Q&A session will feature remarks by section members who are journal editors. Invited editors include: Francesco Billari – Advances in Life Course Research; Jaber Gubrium – Journal of Aging Studies; Kenneth Ferraro – Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences; Kyriakos Markides – Journal of Aging and Health; Angela O'Rand – Research on Aging; and Eliza Pavalko – Journal of Health and Social Behavior.

SPACE IS LIMITED, SO YOU MUST RESERVE A TICKET BY AUGUST 3. To reserve a ticket, e-mail David Ekerdt, dekerdt@ku.edu, requesting the number and kind of tickets. Tickets will be held for you at the door.

To pay for your ticket(s), send a check or pay at the door at ASA. Make checks out to "SALC American Sociological Association" and mail to David Ekerdt, KU Gerontology Center, 1000 Sunnyside Ave., Room 3090, Lawrence, KS 66045-7561.

Be sure to make a reservation by August 3.





Please make your reservation to join us for the mentoring dinner by August 3.

We're on the web! http://www.pop. psu.edu/asasalc/ index.htm

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# Spotlight on Aging Research: Report Shows Unprecedented Unemployment Rates among Older Workers

The Urban Institute published a report by Richard W. Johnson and Corina Mommaerts showing that 6.8% of adults age 65 and older were out of work and actively seeking employment in February 2009. This unemployment rate was the highest level recorded since 1948 when the federal government began collecting reliable statistics on joblessness. More than twice as many older adults were unemployed in Feb. 2009 than when the recession began in Nov. 2007. Another 1.3 million adults age 55 to 64 were jobless.

According to Johnson and Mommaerts, unemployment rates have increased across most social groups as the recession deepens. However, senior unemployment rates have particularly surged among those who did not complete high school, African Americans, Hispanics, and those in manufacturing, construction, hospitality and leisure industries. As the slumping stock market erodes retirement accounts, fewer workers can afford to retire. For the full report, see http://www.urban.org/publications/411846.html.

Unemployment Rates by Education, Age 55+ 11.4% ■ Nov. 2007 8.9% Jan. 2009 7.1% 7.0% 6% 5.5% 5.2% 4.6% 4.4% 4% 3.5% 2.6% 2.2% Not High High Some College Not High High Some College School School College Grad School School College Grad Grad Grad Grad Grad

Source: Johnson and Mommaerts. 2009. "Unemployment Rate Hits All-Time High for Adults Age 65 and Older." Urban Institute Fact Sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_Men\_\_\_\_

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