

**2019 Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Section on Aging and Life Course**  
**Tuesday, August 13, 7:00 to 8:00am**  
**Sheraton New York, Floor: Third Floor, New York Ballroom East**

In attendance:

Elizabeth Cooksey (2018-2019 chair, outgoing)

Patricia Thomas

Amélie Quesnel-Vallée

Miles Taylor

Kathy Hui

Shannon Shen

Richard Miech

Jason Houle

Janet Wilmoth

Phillip Cantu

Toni Calasanti (2019-2020 incoming chair)

Pam Herd

Jennifer Karas Montez

Dawn Carr

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Elizabeth Cooksey

Call to order (7:07 am)

**II. APPROVAL OF THE 2018 MINUTES:** Elizabeth Cooksey

Minutes were circulated electronically to the Council. Questions or corrections were invited, if there are none, last year's minutes were approved.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Report:

The Section on Aging and the Life Course continues to be in good financial shape, with a pre-meeting balance of \$33,166 in July 2019 (compared to \$25,895 pre-meeting last year). That balance is before Annual Meeting and Mentoring dinner expenses (estimated at ~\$10,500) are settled. SALC covers associated costs for the mentoring dinner through the generous institutional and individual support that SALC continues to receive, as well as income from the ticket sales for the dinner and the book raffle, a traditional source of revenue for the Section. Chair of the Professional Development and Mentoring Committee, Janet Wilmoth reports that her committee successfully obtained financial support for the mentoring dinner, reported in more detail below. Income from dues are down slightly and our section allocation from ASA is stable. A more comprehensive report of section accounts is provided at the end of these minutes for the Council meeting in Appendix A.

As outgoing Secretary Treasurer, Debi would like to thank the chairs she has worked with— Jessica Kelley, Pam Herd, and Elizabeth Cooksey for being great partners. She really appreciated

helpful advice from Jill Sutor and especially from Janet Wilmoth. Debi wants to give a shout out to Dawn Carr for pitching in at very late notice to take minutes at this year's meeting.

**Council Discussion:**

Debi has been stuck in Tokyo for the last three days, the secretary treasurer is the most important member of the council and we have been working hard to get things worked out despite her being unable to be here.

## **IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Program Committee Report**

**Program Committee:** Elizabeth Cooksey (Chair), Janet Wilmoth, Liana Sayer, Dale Dannefer, Amélie Quesnel-Vallée and Jacqueline Angel.

Discussed the fact that we had extra sessions due to being scheduled on the last day. The discussion tables had an assigned presider this year at each table, which will be beneficial for encouraging thoughtful discussions.

Details of SALC ASA meeting activities:

### **MONDAY**

**Session 3434. Secondary Data Sources for Research on Aging.** New York Hilton, East, Fourth Floor, 2:30-4:10pm

**Organizer and Presider:** Liana Sayer, University of Maryland-College Park.

**Discussant:** Deborah Carr, Boston University

“Place, Family and Depressive Symptomatology: A Comparison of Two Countries among Older Adults.” Sanjeev Acharya, Fabrice Stanley Julien, Jessica Lynn Valles and Patricia Drentea.

“Caregiving Across Diverse Populations: Evidence from the National Study of Caregiving (NSOC) and Hispanic (EPESE).” Sunshine Marie Rote, Jacqueline Angel, Heehyul Moon and Kyriakos Markides.

“The Longitudinal Study of Generations: A Resource for Studying Family Relationships and Well-being Over the Life-Course.” Merrill Silverstein and Vern Bengtson.

“Using IPUMS Time Use to Study Aging: Previous Work and Future Opportunities.” Sarah Flood and Phyllis Moen.

**Session 3542. Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award Lecture.** Sheraton New York, Murray Hill, Lower Level, 4:30-5:30pm.

**“Social Hallmarks of Aging: Evidence from the US Health and Retirement Study.” Eileen Crimmins.**

**Section Business Meeting:** 5:30-6:10pm

## **TUESDAY**

**Session 4165. Current Debates in Aging and the Life Course: Public Policy.** Sheraton New York, New York Ballroom East, Third Floor, 8:30-10:10am

**Organizer:** Janet Wilmoth, Syracuse University

**Presider:** Andrew London, Syracuse University

“Structure, Policy and Cumulative Dis/Advantage Across Adulthood” – Dale Dannefer

“Housing Assistance Policies and Child Health in the United States” – Andrew Fenelon

“Food and Nutrition Policies over the Life Course” – Colleen Heflin

“Social Support Policies and Peer Influences in a Life Course Perspective” – Michael Massoglia and Jason Robey

“US Immigration Policies and Health of Older Immigrants” – Zoya Gubernskaya

“Critical Social Policy Issues in Minority Aging” – Jacqueline Angel

“Policies to Extend Working Lives” – Debra Street and Aine Ni Leime

“How Social Policies affect Grandparent Care Work” – Madonna Harrington Meyer

“Wealth Policy as Health Policy: A Population Aging Perspective” – Courtney Boen

“Structural Sexism and Life Course Health Outcomes: Implications for Public Policy” – Patricia Ann Homan

**Session 4266. Refereed Roundtables.** Sheraton New York, New York Ballroom West, Third Floor, 10:30am-12:10pm

**Organizers:** Patricia Thomas and Mieke Beth Thomeer

1. **Aging Theory.** Presider: Mieke Beth Thomeer
2. **Caregiving.** Presider: Jill Suitor
3. **Cognitive and Mental Health.** Presider: Phillip Cantu. Discussant: Jacqueline Angel
4. **Disparities.** Presider: Rachel Donnelly
5. **Employment and Careers.** Presider: Deborah Carr
6. **Gender and Sexuality.** Presider: Hui Liu
7. **Healthcare and Community Organizations.** Presider: Alexandra Brewer
8. **Social and Familial Support.** Presider: Patricia Thomas
9. **Social Engagement and Living Arrangements.** Presider: Eric Vogelsang
10. **Technology and the Future of Aging.** Presider: Shelia Cotten
11. **Transitions to Adulthood.** Presider: Matt Bradshaw

**Session 4365. Social Policies to Mitigate Health Inequalities Among Older Adults Around the World.** Sheraton New York, New York Ballroom East, Third Floor, 12:30-2:10pm

**Organizers:** Amélie Quesnel-Vallée and Jacqueline Angel.

“Income-related Inequalities in Health Care Utilization Among Old Adults in Six LMICs.” Hangqing Ruan.

“Multi-Track Pension System and Life Satisfaction of Urban Elders in China.” Anning Hu.

“Older Adults’ Accounts of the Relationships between Retirement Timing and Health: A Qualitative Analysis.” Robin Shura, Esteban Calvo and Sebastian Opazo.

“Predicting Increases in Pre-senior and Senior Homeless Populations to Inform Adaptations in Shelter Service Provision.” Katherine Maurer and Hannah Brais.

## **B. Book Raffle Committee:** Christine Mair

### Report:

The 2018 book raffle yielded a large collection of book donations (many duplicate books). Not all of these books were able to be used in the raffle or books remained unclaimed, so these books have rolled over into the 2019 book raffle. In addition, multiple new donations were added this year from scholars with new works published and two kindles will be raffled. Tickets can be purchased at ASA from Christine Mair, who will be at the business meeting and the SALC dinner. The raffle will be held at the SALC dinner.

### Discussion:

Committee discussed ways to deal with the meetings being in San Francisco next year and dealing with hauling books. We will discuss alternative options including gift certificates, electronic books, or having donations of books mailed directly to winners rather than handed out in person.

## **C. Membership Committee:** Miles Taylor

### Discussion:

Miles noted that we are in a particularly difficult situation given that we were proactive with encouraging early membership efforts in the summer. Overall ASA membership is dropping, and there are discussions about lowering the threshold for session cut-offs. However, this is not yet in place. Everyone on the council was encouraged to work hard to get as many members as possible to renew their membership, including adding new or renewing student memberships from last year, but also be prepared that it may not be possible to meet our 600 membership cut-off by the September 30 deadline.

Further discussions regarding ways to increase participation of students and to encourage more benefit of the mentoring dinner.

## **D. Communications:**

### **Newsletter Co-Editors, Stephanie Ureña & Shannon Shen**

Presented by Shannon Shen. Stephanie Ureña had to leave on an earlier flight due to the weather.

### Report:

During the **2018-2019** academic year, the Fall, Winter, and Summer newsletters were published and distributed via the SALC email listserv, the section website, and announced on the section Facebook and Twitter pages. Stephanie Ureña (Florida State University) and Shannon Shen (Texas A&M University - San Antonio) served as newsletter co-editors. Official SALC announcements and announcements of upcoming conferences, workshops, and calls for papers were published in each newsletter. Announcements of promotion or employment changes, recent publications, special lectures, and awards were also included when submitted by members. Three recurring columns were included in each newsletter: Five Questions..., Emerging Scholars Profile, and Journal Spotlight. The “Five Questions...” column profiles a section member by asking them to answer five questions about their hometown, proudest accomplishment, first job, a surprising fact about themselves, and the best piece of professional advice they have received.

The “Emerging Scholars Profile” highlights the research and career goals of emerging scholars in the section. The “Journal Spotlight” introduces journals that might be appropriate venues for section members’ work, and the Summer 2019 newsletter introduced an aging podcast for the first time.

Stephanie and Shannon enjoyed collaborating on the newsletter, and found the two-editor system to be very efficient. They took turns taking the lead on each newsletter, and collaborated with section Chair, Elizabeth Cooksey, and other council members to ensure all information was collected and drafted into the newsletter before distribution. They look forward to continuing as co-editors for the **2019-2020** academic year.

Council discussion:

There continues to be challenges in getting more information about emerging scholars that can be highlighted in the newsletter.

### **Section Website Manager, John Reynolds**

Report:

The section website is used by the section to post newsletters, to feature documents and events related to the annual meeting, and to occasionally advertise job and training opportunities. Since the annual meetings in 2018, there have been more than 1,500 views to the section website, with most traffic related to accessing issues of the section newsletter. The frequency of SALC website postings are driven by newsletters, elections, and whatever information the current chair would like to broadcast. The cost of hosting the website on WordPress is \$18/year and is covered by the website manager.

John mentioned that if the Section would like someone who is a bit more connected to the section to serve as webmaster (and someone is willing!) then he would gladly hand over the reins.

Discussion:

Council discussed idea of involving a student in this role moving forward, and the role of the website in providing opportunities for individuals to donate on the website. Further discussion about the complications of how fundraising occurs in compliance with ASA regulations in light of improving ease of donations and purchasing of mentoring dinner tickets through electronic payments like Venmo and PayPal.

Additional discussion about use of surplus funds in the SALC treasury about facilitating opportunities for students to come to ASA and to attend the mentoring dinner. We have flexibility to use some of the extra funds for providing 10 students \$100 each for the meeting, which we voted on and agreed to initiate for our use of funds.

Finally, council discussed use of Google Docs or other methods for maintaining an online repository of SALC information online and available to council members. We will discuss further the best options for maintaining clear details on the roles for council members, minutes, and other key documents related to finances. We do not currently have other institutional rules

worked out for things like whether it is acceptable for people at meetings to post photos of research posters on social media or the website. We should bring this up at our next SALC business meeting.

**Listserv Editor, Stacy Torres**

Not in attendance.

**Report:**

During the 2018-19 academic year, regular listserv announcements were distributed to SALC members (with current ASA dues) on a roughly twice monthly schedule, depending on the number of announcements at any one time. The twice-monthly distribution has been the long-standing practice of the Section to limit the number of electronic messages members receive. With the SALC Facebook and Twitter accounts, members also have the opportunity to receive announcements “on demand,” and I have also suggested to those sending time-sensitive announcements to also contact SALC Facebook.

Each announcement contained both (1) official Section business and (2) other announcements of interest submitted by members, including: jobs, conferences, journal invitations, and new books by section members. Section Chair Elizabeth Cooksey and other officers also regularly forwarded time-sensitive standalone announcements and miscellaneous items from ASA and elsewhere for inclusion in the announcements. The Section’s electronic newsletter was distributed by the listserv as well. All section-generated listserv announcements included a header with the link to the SALC website, Facebook and Twitter profiles. ASA-generated announcements (relevant job-bank ads, media inquiries) are also distributed via the listserv.

Inquiries from members (e.g., items for newsletter, announcement of publications, etc.) sent to the Listserv Editor were forwarded to the appropriate member of the Section leadership, as needed. One recommendation for the future would be to better clarify for members the types of announcements appropriate for the listserv versus the newsletter, as I receive many announcements for articles, etc. Additionally, people often send PDF announcements which are a little more cumbersome to extract text from for the emailed announcements (I received instructions upon taking on this role that the only attachment to include is the newsletter). I also receive a lot of general questions about specific announcements, even when the point person’s contact info is listed in the announcement. But there may be no way to correct this if members don’t closely read the announcements and believe I am the de facto point person (in which I have set them on the right path again, urging them to contact the person attached to the announcement).

**Facebook Manager, Jeffrey Lentz**

Not in attendance.

**Report:**

We have 834 members in the Facebook group.

SALC members can email me at [Jeffrey.lentz@ung.edu](mailto:Jeffrey.lentz@ung.edu) any information they need to be posted: new publications, research, job announcements, or any news related to Aging and the Life

Course. I also encourage more members to post their research, news, or any other information. I do want members to encourage their colleagues and students to become members of the Facebook Group. Here is the web address: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SALC.ASA/>

I've been receiving weird requests to join the Facebook group, so I created a question to make it easier for admins to approve member requests. The question is, "What is your purpose for joining the Section on Aging and the Life Course Facebook group?" The prompt allows for the requester to answer the question. I also added the badge option to encourage more participation in the group.

#### **Twitter Manager, Duygu Basaran Sahin**

Not in attendance, no report provided.

#### **Research Groups and Roundtables Committee, Mieke Beth Thomeer and Patti Thomas**

Report:

Council members Mieke Beth Thomeer and Patti Thomas organized 45 papers (with two papers later withdrawn) into 11 thematic roundtables (listed above in the program committee report), with a presider at each table to facilitate discussion and keep time.

#### **E. Committee on Professional Development and Mentoring Report: Janet Wilmoth**

Not discussed and no report provided

#### **F. Research Groups and Roundtables Committee: Mieke Beth Thomeer and Patti Thomas**

Report:

Council members Mieke Beth Thomeer and Patti Thomas organized 45 papers (with two papers later withdrawn) into 11 thematic roundtables (listed above in the program committee report), with a presider at each table to facilitate discussion and keep time.

#### **G. Committee on Nominations: Pam Herd**

The 2019 Nomination Committee was Pam Herd (Chair)

Election results:      Chair Elect      -      Jennifer Karas Montez (2020)  
                                 Secretary/Treasurer - Dawn Carr (3-year term)  
                                 Council Members    - Jason Houle, Amélie Quesnel-Vallée (3-year term)  
                                 Student rep        -      Catherine Garcia (2-year term)

#### **H. Award Committees**

##### **Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Patricia Drentea**

Report:

The Graduate Student Paper Award will go to Laura Upenieks (U of Toronto) for her paper "Religious Attendance and Physical Well-Being in Later Life: Integrating Life Course Models of Health." There were 3 people on the committee: Twyla Hill (Professor at Wichita State, TX) and

Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk (Assistant Professor at SUNY-Buffalo State), and the award committee chair, Patricia Drentea, (Professor at University of Alabama at Birmingham).

The committee had 6 papers to review and used a scoresheet (rating things like literature review, methods, clear hypothesis (if relevant), presentation of findings, related to aging and the life course etc.) with 3 categories per item rated. Each reviewer filled out a scoresheet on each paper (thus there were 18 scoresheets). This produced a clear winner.

**Outstanding Publication Award, Anne Barrett**

Report:

The award this year is for an article by Jielu Lin and Jessica A Kelley (2017) “From Noise to Signal: The Age and Social Patterning of Intra-Individual Variability in Late-Life Health,” *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 72(1): 168-179.

**Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award 2019, Toni Calasanti**

Committee: Toni Calasanti (Chair)  
Tyson Brown  
Cathy Liu  
Linda Waite

Report:

First, let me thank the committee members for their time and thoughtful review of everyone nominated. All the nominees for this award were highly deserving, with excellent records of scholarship that represent important contributions and strong commitment to aging and the life course. Choosing from among these excellent nominees thus was not simple. But after careful consideration, we ultimately agreed upon the winner, Merril Silverstein, who is presently the Marjorie Cantor Professor of Aging Studies at Syracuse University

Across his illustrious career, and more than 150 publications, Professor Silverstein has employed a life course perspective on aging and family life, particularly in relation to intergenerational relations. Funded by such bodies as the National Institute on Aging, the National Science Foundation, and the John Templeton Foundation, his work has demonstrated not only that family members are important for wellbeing in old age, but he has made clear the importance of variations in kinds of social networks and modes of intergenerational relations, which influence the ways that resources are shared across generations. His high-impact scholarship has moved beyond the United States to such other countries as Sweden and the Netherlands; and he has added nuance and complexity to his work on intergenerational relationships by attending to ambivalence as well as change across time, policies, social contexts, and cultural practices. Given the legacy of Matilda White Riley, we would note the capacity of his research for improving the lives of elders.

Reflecting both the esteem with which his colleagues hold him, and his additional contributions to aging and the life course, Professor Silverstein has served in many important service capacities, including the Chair of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Section of The Gerontological Society of America, and as editor of the flagship journal, *Journal of*

*Gerontology: Social Sciences* (from 2010-2014). In these roles, as well as through his commitment to graduate students' training and expansion into international research, Professor Silverstein has been a leader in the field and is ensuring its continued growth. As his letter of nomination summarized, he "is a highly productive scholar, outstanding mentor, and dedicated colleague." We are pleased to be able to award this recognition to him.

### **2019 Outstanding Mentor Award**

2019 Committee: Madonna Harrington Meyer, Chair, [mhm@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:mhm@maxwell.syr.edu)  
Jane McLeod, [jmcleod@indiana.edu](mailto:jmcleod@indiana.edu)  
Brian Grossman, [brg@uic.edu](mailto:brg@uic.edu)  
Ben Cornwell, [btc49@cornell.edu](mailto:btc49@cornell.edu)

### **2019 Solicitation Posting:**

**\*NEW\*** SALC Mentoring Award

We are seeking nominations for the first Section on Aging and the Life Course Mentoring Award! SALC has a rich legacy of mentoring, both of students and junior faculty. We want to honor this history by recognizing SALC members who have distinguished themselves as mentors in the field of aging and the life course. Submit a nomination of a candidate by March 1, 2019. Letters of nomination should describe the nominee's contributions to mentoring in the area of aging and the life course that warrant consideration. If multiple persons wish to nominate a person, we strongly encourage co-signers on a single nomination letter. Nominations should be sent to Madonna Harrington Meyer at [mhm@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:mhm@maxwell.syr.edu). All nominations are due by March 1, 2019. **For 2020, Madonna recommends changing title to Outstanding Mentor Award.**

Report:

The committee consisted of Madonna Harrington Meyer, Chair, Jane McLeod, Brian Grossman, and Ben Cornwell. For this first year of the award, we received three nominations for the Outstanding Mentor Award. The committee was unanimous that Mark Hayward was the clear winner. Not only was his record of mentoring long and deep and impressive, the nomination letter prepared by Jennifer Karas Montez was much more comprehensive than the other two. We urge those preparing nomination letters to have multiple co-signers on letters, indicate where co-signers are working now, and think broadly about types of mentorship.

### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed

### **VI. NEW BUSINESS: Elizabeth Cooksey**

1. **Thanks to Outgoing Council, Committee Chairs, Ongoing Committee Members:**  
Elizabeth Cooksey
2. **Introduction New SALC Chair:** Elizabeth Cooksey (chair 2018-2019)  
Elizabeth Cooksey introduced Toni Calasanti as the incoming 2019-2020 chair.

### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

8:02 am