

ASA Section on Aging & The Life Course

fall 2003

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Section Members,

Our Section was conceived and named with foresight. More and more frequently researchers seem to be taking a life course perspective when addressing issues of aging. Greater recognition is being given to the idea that events and environments throughout life put their stamp on subsequent life. One clear indication of this recognition is the theme of this year's annual meetings of the Gerontological Society of America – "Our Future Selves: Research, Education, and Services for Early Development and Childhood in an Aging Society." I do not mention this to give publicity to another organization but to note that even an organization organized specifically to address issues of aging has incorporated an emphasis on the role that early life circumstances play in late life outcomes. We should be proud of the work done by members of our Section that has provided important leadership in spreading this approach to the lifecycle.

The theme of the ASA meetings this coming year is "Public Sociologies." Public sociologies transcend the academy and speak to a wider audience on important social issues. One of our open paper sessions at the 2004 meetings will be directly oriented toward this theme: Aging and the Life Course: Intersection with Public Policy. Section members should think outside the box and propose papers that will engage a wide audience for this session.

Begin now to plan for your participation in the annual meeting, to be held in San Francisco. Our Section day will be the first day of the meeting, Saturday, August 14th. This means that our two open paper sessions, our ten roundtable sessions, our distinguished scholar lecture (by Fredric Wolinsky), our business meeting, and our social event will all take place on this day.

There are a number of issues that the Section will continue to address this year. I will continue to work with David Ekerdt to encourage active participation of our Research Groups in the meetings. Dave has graciously committed himself to another year of work to resolve this topic. We are also looking at ways to integrate new scholars and emerging scholars (graduate students) into the Section and the profession. A good start was made this year with a social event in Atlanta directed toward students and new members.

Eileen Crimmins,
Section Chair

Section Business Meeting - 2003

The Business Meeting of the Section on Aging and the Life Course convened on Tuesday, August 19, 2003 at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association held in Atlanta, Georgia. David Ekerdt, Section Chair, presided.

2002 Minutes

The minutes of the 2002 Business Meeting (taken by Eleanor Palo Stoller) were distributed and approved.

Report of the Treasurer

(Eleanor Palo Stoller)

NOTE: ASA has changed the budget reporting format. We no longer receive itemized expenditures within categories and all figures are rounded to whole dollars. The more recent budget information received by the Section for 2003 included only 1st quarter income and expenses. Estimates provided by ASA for the 2002 annual meeting have been updated to reflect actual figures for all four quarters of 2002.

Net Assets:

\$8,031.00	June 30, 2003
\$7,192.00	June 30, 2002
\$8,787.82	June 30, 2001
\$6,936.02	June 30, 2000
\$7,689.81	June 30, 1999
\$1,014.00	Change (2003-2002) (+ 11.7%)
- \$ 1,595.82	Change (2002-2001) (- 18.2%)
\$1,851.80	Change (2001-2000) (+ 26.7%)

INCOME

Dues Income:

\$ 594.00	2003 (ASA estimate reflects only first quarter)
\$1,199.00	2002 (ASA estimate last year was \$1,121)
\$1,433.00	2001
\$1,353.00	2000
\$1,296.00	1999
- \$ 605.00	Change (2003-2002) (- 50.0%)
- \$ 234.00	Change (2002-2001) (- 16.3%)
\$ 80.00	Change (2001-2000) (+ 5.9%)

ASA Allocation for Section

\$1,980.00	2003
\$1,960.00	2002
\$2,224.00	2001
\$2,224.00	2000
\$2,126.00	1999
\$ 20.00	Change (2003-2002) (+ 1.0%)
- \$ 264.00	Change (2002-2001) (- 11.9%)
\$ 0	Change (2001-2000) (No Change)
\$ 98.00	Change (2000-1999) (+ 5.0%)

Other Income:

\$ 655.00	Proceeds from 2002 Book Raffle
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EXPENSES:

Reception and Annual Meeting Costs:

\$1,263.00	August 2002 (Reception: \$557; Other annual meeting expenses: \$457; Award expenses: \$250)
\$1,818.99	August 2001 (combined expenses for annual meeting)
\$1,681.21	August 2000 (combined expenses for annual meeting)
\$1,250.00	August 1999 (combined expenses for annual meeting)
- \$ 555.99	Change (2002-2001) (- 30.6%)
\$ 137.78	Change (2001-2000) (+ 8.2%)
\$ 431.21	Change (2000-1999) (+ 34.0%)

Cost of Section Newsletter:

\$ 385.00	2003 (First and second quarter expenditures only)
\$1,359.00	2002 Total
\$1,280.71	2001 Total

SUMMARY:

The 2003 budget reflects an increase of 11.7 percent in net assets over 2002. [In contrast, the Section experienced a decrease of 18.2% between 2001 and 2002.] This improvement reflects successful efforts to contain expenses for the annual meeting, which had risen in the two previous years, and the enormously successful book raffle.

Book Raffle Committee

(Maxi Szinovacz, Chair; Amy Pienta, Cheryl Ellman)

The raffle committee is soliciting books from members for next year's raffle. Donations should be new books rather than textbooks. This year's prizes included 30 books and subscriptions. (The drawing was held following the last session this day; winners were notified via e-mail.)

Election Results

Chair of the 2002-2003 Nominations Committee was Linda George.

Chair-Elect:	Kenneth Ferraro
Council:	Christine Himes
Council:	Fredric Wolinsky
Student Member:	Maureen Benjamins

Next year Section members will be electing a new Chair-Elect, a Secretary/Treasurer, two Council members and a Student member.

Membership Report

(Deborah Carr):

(The following is an expanded version of the report given at the Business Meeting.) Section membership has been remarkably stable over the past year. We currently have 483 members, compared to 484 at this time last year. However, Section Officers are committed to increasing our membership; this is critical if we hope to keep (and gain!) sessions at future ASA annual meetings. We are confident that we can achieve this goal and are particularly inspired by ASA's recent announcement that members are joining the 43 Sections in record numbers. As of September 2003, there are 20,170 section memberships, the highest total ever!

Our main strategies for increasing membership are: (1) encouraging lapsed Section members and lapsed ASA members to renew their membership; (2) encouraging current members to sponsor memberships for their students; and (3) developing new programs that meet important needs of Section members, thus encouraging them to remain members of the Section.

Marc Musick, former Membership Chair, and ASA provided me with names of all former Section members who are still ASA members (N=72) and all former Section members who are no longer members of ASA (N = 70). David Ekerdt and I sent an e-mail letter to each of these lapsed members, highlighting the benefits of Section membership and inviting them to re-enroll in our Section. Our efforts had an unintended (though important) outcome; many of our contacts were surprised to learn that they were no longer enrolled in the Section, and had unintentionally "unenrolled" due to ASA's somewhat Byzantine system of on-line registration! We hope that the ASA membership website has been improved, and that our members were able to formally re-enroll in the Section.

All Section members are strongly encouraged to invite their students and colleagues to enroll in the Section, or to sponsor a student membership. Members should contact me (e-mail carrds@rci.rutgers.edu) or consult the ASA membership website to join the Section. Be sure to remind potential members of the many benefits of Section membership, including:

- Section newsletter.
- Symposia and Roundtables at the Annual Meeting.
- Year-round research committees on a broad array of topics.
- Section membership directory.
- Professional development opportunities for students, including an annual paper competition, and mentorship.
- Distinguished Scholar presentation at our Business Meeting during the ASA Annual meeting.
- Our latest venture: an informal mixer at ASA annual meetings. The perfect opportunity to mingle, network, and enjoy the company of sociologists beyond the confines of the conference hotel!

ASA Council Members are committed to meeting the needs of current and future members, and would happily welcome comments from Section members about how the Section can best meet these needs. We believe that the single best way to recruit new members, retain current members, and reenlist lapsed members is to provide programs that enrich their professional lives.

Aging and the Life Course Listservs

(Tay MacNamara):

(The following is an expanded version of the report given at the Business Meeting.) In addition to the newsletter and website, the Aging and the Life Course Section manages two listservs (announcement and discussion) that provide information on both Section business and information related to aging. The **announcement listserv** is used to provide the latest news about the Aging and the Life Course Section. Typical announcements distributed through this listserv include updates on the section book raffle and the schedule of aging-related sessions for the next ASA conference. The distribution list, which is maintained by ASA, automatically includes the e-mail addresses of any person who has been a Section member within the past two months.

The **discussion listserv** is used to provide information about current developments in the field of aging. Typical information distributed through this listserv include job opportunities in the field of aging, announcements of new publications, and links to new aging related materials on the internet. Unlike the announcement listserv, the discussion listserv is not restricted to Section members. Additionally, members of the Section are not automatically included in the discussion listserv distribution list. Even if you are a member of the announcement listserv, you may not be a member of the discussion listserv. To add yourself to the discussion listserv distribution list, send an e-mail to majordomo@listserv.asanet.org and include in the body of the message: `subscribe aging`. You will be sent an e-mail asking you to confirm your request to join the listserv. After you complete the short confirmation process, you will be added to the distribution list. If you have aging-related news that you would like posted to the discussion listserv, please send it to: owner-aging@listserv.asanet.org. The current list moderator, Tay McNamara, will post the message on your behalf. If you have any questions about either listserv, please feel free to contact the list moderator directly (e-mail tay.mcnamara@verizon.net).

Awards and Recognition

Graduate Student Paper Award (presented by Award Committee Chair Merrill Silverstein; Committee members were Ellen Idler and Duane Alwin): **Krysia Mossakowski, Indiana University**

Distinguished Scholar Award (presented by Selection Committee Chair Eileen Crimmins; Committee members were Kenneth Ferraro and Jacqueline Angel): **Fredric Wolinsky, University of Iowa**. (Wolinsky will present the award lecture next year).

Dave Ekerdt announced that three Section colleagues passed away during the past year: **Tamara Hareven, Beth Hess, and Helena Lopata**. They mentored many of the current members and will be remembered.

Dave Ekerdt presented **Joy Pixley** with a certificate of appreciation for her service as Student Representative. **Kenneth Ferraro** and **Jacqueline Angel** received certificates of appreciation for their service as Council members.

Dave Ekerdt transferred leadership of the Section to **Eileen Crimmins**, new chair of the Section on Aging and the Life Course.

Information for the Section Business Meeting notes was provided by Eleanor Stoller.

Intergenerational Family Transfers in Aging Societies

Martin Kohli, Free University of Berlin

Section on Aging & the Life Course Distinguished Scholar Lecture

98th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association

August 19, 2003, Atlanta, Georgia

Contemporary aging societies are age-graded and to a large extent age-segregated societies. Their institutions tend to be age-homogeneous (Uhlenberg & Riley, 2000). Relations and transfers between generations are critical for maintaining age integration.

This is especially obvious at the level of the family. Families link lives far beyond the co-residing nuclear unit, most prominently along the generational lineage. The study of family transfers among adult generations is important for at least four main fields of sociological inquiry: for *life course research* where it follows the balance of giving and receiving across the life course, and highlights the position of the elderly as net givers; for *research on social security* where it complements our understanding of the family as a pillar of the contemporary welfare mix; for *stratification research* where it draws attention to the fact that the transfer of social status is not over at the beginning of adulthood but continues by other means; and for *research on social inclusion* where it shows that the family even in contemporary societies remains one of the key providers of social bonds or "social capital."

It should be stressed that intergenerational family relations are not always a "good" form of social capital: they may increase social inequality, and thus go against universalistic concerns; they may block the development of a more encompassing civil society (in the sense of what Edward Banfield [1958] called "amoral familism"); and they may even constitute an outright harmful version of social bonds, e.g., in the form of family-based criminal networks. This having been said, the remainder of this brief discussion will focus more on the positive aspects of family transfers (which are plentiful).

While there is already a considerable amount of economic work on family transfers, sociology has been slow to follow. Given their importance, this is surprising. One of the reasons for this neglect lies in what may be termed the "Durkheim-Parsons orthodoxy" of modernization theory, with its emphasis on the nuclearization of the family and the concomitant weakening of the bonds beyond the nuclear household, especially in monetary terms (Kohli, 1999).¹ The sociology of intergenerational relations has over the last three decades refuted this account for many dimensions of solidarity (Bengtson, 2001) but has not given due attention to material transfers. Stratification research has also suffered from this truncated version of modernization by focusing on labor market and public transfer incomes only, and neglecting wealth as a component of stratification (Spilerman, 2000).

Sociological explanations of intergenerational family transfers may emphasize either the institutional aspects of family and welfare regimes or the cultural aspects of values and preferences. Institutional variation between nation states occurs in three dimensions: Institutional regimes create different legal and normative obligations, e.g., legal obligations of support between generations that exist in the family-centered pattern of Germany (and to a lesser extent of France) but not in the individual-centered pattern of the US; institutional regimes create different needs for family transfers, as for example the costs for higher education in the US, or the costs for housing in Israel; and institutional regimes create different opportunities and restrictions - - a good case in point is the weakening of status and capital transmission through the family in "real socialist" countries (cf. Kohli et al., 2000). These types of institutional variation require comparative studies for which the requisite data are beginning to be made available.

My own work has been based on the German Aging Survey, a large representative survey of the West and East German population aged 40-85 in private households conducted in 1996, with a broad range of sociological and psychological variables of well-being, resources, productivity and social participation (cf. Kohli & Künemund, 2000; Szydlik, 2000). It includes both *inter vivos* transfers and bequests. As to the former, we show that transfers are given at a considerable rate (32 percent of our respondents have given, and 8 percent have received larger amounts of money or in kind or regular financial assistance to people outside their own household during the twelve months before the survey), that they occur mostly in the generational lineage, and that they flow mostly downward, from the older to the younger generations. The results from multivariate analyses show that transfers from parents to children depend on attributes of the parents (especially their income and wealth), the children (especially their need), and the parent-child relationship (especially contact frequency and residential proximity). There are East-West differences, but no significant gender differences, in contrast to what some smaller studies reveal to still have been the case a few decades ago. These results are similar to those obtained in France and the US, the only countries for which comparisons have so far been possible.

Values and preferences can be assessed by directly asking for transfer motives (Kohli & Künemund, 2003). A nonlinear principal component analysis of the motive questions of the German Aging Survey yields three dimensions: "unconditional giving" (e.g., "If my family members need help I will always be there"); "conditional" giving (e.g., "If someone wants to inherit from me, he/she should do something for it"); and separation (e.g., "Grown-up children should be able to stand on their own feet, and not expect support from their parents").

For motives, there is a gender effect as well as an effect of social stratification: women and people with higher education and prestige are more likely to give unconditionally. Motives are not trivial; they have a strong effect on behavior in addition to the socio-demographic variables. They may moreover be relevant for the "quality" of the transfers: It is important whether money comes with strings attached or not.

Inter vivos transfers are more interesting than bequests for two reasons: they reach their recipients earlier in life when needs – in terms, e.g., of starting a family and getting started in work, or of special crises such as a divorce or unemployment – are more acute, and they are part of an ongoing relation that includes other dimensions of solidarity and exchange. On the other hand, bequests present an interest of their own, not only because they are a quantitatively more important component of wealth acquisition – their relation to *inter vivos* transfers is about 3:1 – but also because they are more prominent as a field of institutional regulation and political discourse. For most of the 19th and 20th centuries the legal regulation of inheritance – on issues such as taxation or testamentary freedom – has been a highly contentious field (cf. Beckert, 2003). Inheritance has been an arena of debate on basic principles of society, and thus on its moral identity: on whether status reproduction is and should be meritocratic, on the extension of individual property rights, on family solidarity and closure, on civic obligation ², and on economic productivity and growth. In the US, for example, state intervention into the field of inheritance has been legitimated by three basic reasons: equality of opportunity, protecting democracy (against plutocratic wealth concentration), and protecting the children from being corrupted by unearned wealth.

Among the respondents of the German Aging Survey, almost one half have already received an inheritance; for about one fourth of these, the amount inherited has been above 50'000 Euro. The youngest age group (40-54 years) has inherited most often, which demonstrates a strong cohort effect that overcompensates the expected life course effect. There are massive differences between East and West Germany (more in the amount than in the rate of inheritance) but again no gender differences.

As mentioned earlier, one of the controversial aspects of family transfers is their role in the reproduction of social inequality. The empirical results so far show that ongoing *inter vivos* transfers do not increase income inequality among their recipients, while bequests clearly do (Attias-Donfut & Wolff, 2000; Künemund et al., 2003).

Another controversy centers around the “equal division puzzle”: While parents target *inter vivos* transfers predominantly to their more needy children, bequests go to all children equally (including sons and daughters). There is no obvious economic explanation for this because both altruistic as well as strategic motives for bequest would predict unequal amounts (Bernstein & Severinov, 2000). There is no obvious institutional explanation since equal division is the empirical rule even in the US where (in contrast to France and Germany) there is almost complete testamentary freedom. The only possible explanation seems to be one of value change: The individualization of modern societies has made the principle of equal worth of every person one of their overriding concerns.

Finally, there is a controversy about the link between private and public transfers (Kohli, 1999). The private transfers of the family flow in the opposite direction of the public transfers of the welfare state. The welfare state has mostly crowded out private monetary support for the elderly, but it has enabled the family to perform other functions (crowding in, cf. Künemund & Rein, 1999). Many (especially low-income) elderly depend on their public pensions in order to be able to give *inter vivos* transfers ³ and leave a bequest. Should it be concluded that pensions are too generous? There are other implications of this private/public link that make for a different conclusion: Enabling elderly pensioners to support their descendants may not only create more support among the young for the public generational contract, it also institutes the family as an efficient insurance system against non-normative life course risks and as an effective agent of social cohesion.

¹ Durkheim went so far as to predict that inheritance would lose its salience in modern societies. Economic estimates of the proportion of the aggregate wealth of contemporary cohorts that is due to bequests – as opposed to life-cycle accumulation – vary widely, with a plausible number for the US of about 40 percent (DeLong, 2003). This is clearly much less than before the industrial revolution, but much more than our received sociological stories tell us.

² “He who dies rich dies in disgrace” (Andrew Carnegie).

³ Mean *inter vivos* transfers amount to 3400 Euro a year for our whole sample, and 3700 Euro for those aged 60+. The aggregate net yearly giving by the German elderly (60+) represents a sum of 18 billion Euro, or 9 per cent of the total public pension sum. While giving is determined by the income and wealth position of the givers, it also occurs to a considerable degree among the lower income strata where dependency on the public transfers is almost total.

Editor's note: The references cited in Dr. Kohli's talk are not reproduced here due to space limitations. Please see the Section website for this information (www.asanet.org/sectionaging).

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Dale Dannefer ('05)
Karl Pillemer ('05)
Christine Himes ('06)
Fredric Wolinsky ('06)

Student Members

Adam Perzynski ('04)
Maureen Benjamins ('05)

***Aging and the Life Course Section Program, 99th Annual Meeting
August 14-17. San Francisco, California***

Open Submission Paper Session: Socioeconomic and Race/Ethnic Influences on the Life Course

Organizer: Eileen Crimmins
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Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191
e-mail crimmin@usc.edu

Open Submission Paper Session: Aging and the Life Course: Intersection with Public Policy

Organizer: Stephen Crystal
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research
Rutgers University
30 College Avenue
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Refereed Round Tables and Research Groups

<p>Organizers: Christine Himes Center for Policy Research 426 Eggers Hall Syracuse University Syracuse, NY 13244-1020 e-mail clhimes@syr.edu</p>	<p>Fredric D. Wolinsky Department of Health Management and Policy College of Public Health The University of Iowa 200 Hawkins Drive, E205 General Hospital Iowa City, IA 52242 e-mail wolinskyf@mail.public-health.uiowa.edu</p>
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Business Meeting and Distinguished Scholar Session (Lecture by Fredric Wolinsky)

Section Officers, Committees, and Other Assignments: 2003-2004

<p>Chair Eileen Crimmins</p>	<p>Council Duane Alwin ('04) Ellen Idler ('04) Dale Dannefer ('05) Karl Pillemer ('05) Christine Himes ('06) Fredric Wolinsky ('06)</p>	<p>Committee on Nominations David J. Ekerdt (Chair) (+ 3 members to be appointed)</p>	<p>Ad Hoc Committee on Research Groups David J. Ekerdt (Chair) Christine Himes Karl Pillemer Maximiliane Szinovacz</p>
<p>Chair-Elect Kenneth Ferraro</p>	<p>Council Student Members Adam Perzynski ('04) Maureen Benjamins ('05)</p>	<p>Distinguished Scholar Award Kenneth Ferraro (Chair) Duane Alwin Ellen Idler</p>	<p>Membership Chair Deborah Carr</p>
<p>Past-Chair David J. Ekerdt</p>	<p>Program Committee Eileen Crimmins (Chair) (+ 2 members to be appointed)</p>	<p>Graduate Student Paper Award Merril Silverstein (Chair) Dale Dannefer Karl Pillemer</p>	<p>Listserv Manager Tay McNamara</p>
<p>Secretary/Treasurer Eleanor Palo Stoller</p>		<p>Book Raffle Committee Amy Pienta (Chair)</p>	<p>Homepage Manager Ronald P. Abeles</p>
			<p>Newsletter Editor Laurie R. Hatch</p>

Calls for Nominations

Award for Distinguished Scholarship

This award honors a scholar in the field of aging who has shown exceptional achievement in research, theory, policy analysis, or aging and the life course. Please describe the nominee's contributions that are the basis for your suggestion. Additional letters of support are not required but are encouraged. Nominations should be submitted by April 1, 2004 to Kenneth Ferraro, Purdue University, Department of Sociology, Stone Hall, 700 W. State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2059; phone (765) 494-4407; e-mail ferraro@purdue.edu.

Graduate Student Paper Award

The Section invites original student papers on any topic related to sociology of aging and the life course. Papers co-authored with faculty members are ineligible. Papers already published are eligible if they appeared in print after January 1, 2002. Self-nominations are encouraged. An award of \$250 is presented to the winner at the Business Meeting of the Section, held during the ASA Annual Meeting in August of each year. Send three (3) copies of the nominated paper in the ASA format by June 1, 2004 to Merril Silverstein, Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California, 3715 McClintock St., Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191; phone (213) 740-1713; e-mail merrills@usc.edu.

Section Officers

We welcome your nominations now, including self-nominations, for the election of Section officers in 2004. We are seeking nominees for Chair-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, two Members of Council, and Student Member of Council. Contact or send names to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, David Ekerdt (e-mail dekerdt@ku.edu).

Help Wanted

Section Webmaster

Our long contributing colleague Ron Abeles has managed the website for many years. For this, we all owe Ron a debt of gratitude. His willingness to develop and maintain the website has resulted in our having the best ASA Section site. Ron is ready to remove his mantle as web guru and pass it to a new member of the Section. Volunteers and nominations should be forwarded to Eileen Crimmins (e-mail crimmin@usc.edu).

Book Raffle Committee Members

Maxi Szinovacz and her committee successfully reinvigorated the Aging and Life Course Section's annual book raffle in recent years. The new Chair of the Book Raffle Committee, Amy Pienta, is seeking volunteers from the Section to help solicit books from publishers for the raffle. Please contact her if you are interested in serving on the Book Raffle Committee (e-mail apienta@umich.edu).

Centennial Celebration in 2005

The American Sociological Association will turn 100 years old in 2005. The ASA is planning some special events to celebrate this event at the 2005 annual meeting in Philadelphia, but this centennial also represents a grand opportunity for our Section to reflect on its past—and learn from its history.

A Centennial Celebration Committee is being formed to organize the review of the Section and plan activities for the 2005 annual meeting. The Committee will interview founding members of the section, compile records, and prepare a brief history. Members, including student members, interested in serving on this *ad hoc* Committee, should contact Kenneth Ferraro, Purdue University, Department of Sociology, Stone Hall, 700 W. State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2059; phone (765) 494-4407; e-mail ferraro@purdue.edu.

News of Members

Stephen J. Cutler, University of Vermont, has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar to do research and lecture at the University of Bucharest in Romania during the 2003-2004 spring semester.

Amy Pienta has taken a position at Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan. She has affiliations with the Population Studies Center and the Michigan Center for the Demography of Aging at the University of Michigan.

Katherine Newman has been named to the National Research Council Committee to Assess Progress of Behavioral and Social Science Research on Aging.

Marcia Ory provides leadership for Active for Life, a RWJF funded National Program Office. This program was recently named one of the top industry innovators in North America by the International Council on Active Aging.

Matilda Riley sends greetings to her many friends in the Section. She is busily at work since Jack's death finishing their book on the 70-plus years of their JOINT LIVES. Matilda is in their house in Maine (e-mail rileym@suscom-maine.net) and hopes to regain strength enough to attend meetings in another year. She wishes best of luck to you in this year's sessions!

Recently Published

Katherine Newman. 2003. *A Different Shade of Gray: Mid-Life and Beyond in the Inner City*. New York: The New Press.

Timothy J. Owens. 2003. "Self and Identity." Pp. 205-32 in *Handbook of Social Psychology*, edited by John Delamater. New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.

Peter J. Burke, **Timothy J. Owens**, Richard T. Serpe, and Peggy A. Thoits, editors. 2003. *Advances in Identity Theory and Research*. New York: Kluwer/Plenum.

Following are the first three books in a series on the life course and aging, edited by Vern Bengtson and Victor Marshall. Anyone interested in discussing publication possibilities with the series can contact victor_marshall@unc.edu.

Vern L. Bengtson and Ariela Lowenstein, editors. 2003. *Global Aging and Challenges to Families*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

Walter Heinz and **Victor W. Marshall**, editors. 2003. *Social Dynamics of the Life Course. Transitions, Institutions, and Interrelations*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

Gerald Handel. 2003. *Making a Life in Yorkville: Experience and Meaning in the Life Course Narrative of an Urban Working-Class Man*. New York: Aldine De Gruyter (first paperback edition).

The University of Minnesota is pleased to announce a postdoctoral position, a National Research Service Award, sponsored by the NIMH, on the psychosocial determinants of mental health and adjustment, with emphasis on childhood, adolescence, and the transition to adulthood. Full-time, 12-month research training is provided. The appointment is for 2 years maximum, subject to review at the end of the first year. This interdisciplinary program emphasizes the changing social contexts of development; life course trajectories of mental health and behavioral adaptation; longitudinal assessment and analysis; at-risk populations; and social policy. A series of core seminars and a research apprenticeship are key program elements. This interdisciplinary program includes core faculty members from the Department of Sociology; the Institute of Child Development; and the School of Public Health's doctoral program in Health Services Research, Policy, and Administration. U.S. citizens or residents are eligible. The award provides an annual stipend in accordance with NRSA guidelines, tuition, fees and medical insurance. Postdoctoral candidates, who have received a Ph.D. in a social science discipline or an equivalent terminal degree, such as an M.D., public health, or nursing degree by June 2004, should provide a letter describing current research interests, a complete vita, university transcript, three letters of recommendation, and samples of written work. For full consideration, send postdoctoral application materials to Professor Jeylan Mortimer at the Life Course Center, Department of Sociology, 1014 Social Sciences Building, 267-19th Avenue South, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, for admittance in June 2004 or thereafter. Review of applications will begin November 1, 2003. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

The School of Public Health at UIC, through the Health Research & Policy Centers, is currently accepting applications for predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships in Gerontological Public Health. This training program is sponsored by the National Institute on Aging and provides funding support for up to 4 years for predocs and 2-3 years for postdocs.

This is an integrated multidisciplinary program with academic faculty and researchers in public health, gerontology, geriatrics, epidemiology, biostatistics, psychology, sociology, disability and human development, medicine and occupational therapy. The goal of the program is to develop highly trained future faculty and researchers in health and aging. This program focuses on developing research skills through mentoring, a comprehensive curriculum, presentations and publications, and internal workshops and seminars. Fellows will be matched with a faculty mentor working in their area of interest for intensive training, collaboration and scholarship.

Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Candidates must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. For more information, see our website at: www.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/hrpc/centers/rha.html. Or please contact: Jan Warren-Findlow, Gerontological Public Health Training Program Coordinator, Center for Research on Health & Aging (mc 275), 850 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 400, Chicago, IL 60607, e-mail: jwarre2@uic.edu, phone: 312/413.9809, fax: 312/996.2703.