

ASA Section on Aging & The Life Course



Summer 2008

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Home Page:

www.asanet.org/section_aging

Newsletter Editor

Renee L. Beard
Institute for Health Research and Policy
University of Illinois at Chicago
1747 W. Roosevelt Road, M/C 275
Chicago, IL 60608
Tel: 312-355-0780
Fax: 312-413-9835
Email: rbeard@ulc.edu

Boston Pops

Everyone knows something about Boston—especially its unique place in American history, its New England cultural roots, and its distinct immigration history. But in addition to knowing something of its Puritan beginnings, Paul Revere, the Boston Tea Party, the famous Revolutionary War battles, the Irish Catholic and other immigrant groups, and all of that, modern-day Boston is known for many other things. The greater Boston area is known for its institutions of higher education, for example, with its more than 100 colleges and universities. Or take sports. Almost everyone knows about the Red Sox—winning the major league baseball pennant in 2007 easily in only 4 games ... or the New England Patriots—and their outstanding 2007 season and stellar 2008 Super Bowl performance. And recently, everyone has undoubtedly heard about the Boston Celtics playing for the 2008 NBA championship, winning the series in six games—routing the lifeless LA Lakers by a score of 131-92 in game 6, to bring home their 17th NBA title.

Boston is an exciting city. Equally interesting as its unique history and its athletic prowess are Boston's richly diverse social and cultural characteristics. Demographically, the city of Boston has a youthful profile—19.8 percent of its population under the age of 18, 16.2 percent aged 18-24, 35.8 percent from 25 to 44, 17.8 percent from 45 to 64, and 10.4 percent 65 years of age or older. There is little question that in this respect Boston proper is bucking current national and international trends—the realities of population aging. Present day projections suggest that sometime within the next decade the human species will reach a watershed moment—people over 60 will outnumber children.

In August 2008, our section's program will focus on the theme of the "future of aging" at the American Sociological Association meetings in Boston. Indeed, the program has been built around several theoretical, methodological and substantive issues relevant to the future of aging research. The details of the SALC program are contained in the following pages (also on our website, at: <http://www.pop.psu.edu/asasalc/2008mtg.htm>).

I enthusiastically invite you to join me in Boston and participate in our SALC section day activities, to be held on August 1-2 at the ASA meetings. We will be "stepping out" and we "won't look back." I am sure it will prove to be a marathon of rewarding experiences for everyone.

Cheers!

Duane Alwin, Section chair (2007-2008)

**2008 Section on Aging and the Life Course
August 1st-2nd**

Program Highlights

- Roundtable and research group presentations—over 30 papers in all—on topics as diverse as the “theoretical advances in the study of aging and the life course” to “the political economy of aging.”
- The Matilda White Riley Lecture, presented this year by the 2007 Award winner, Len Pearlin, on “the life course and the stress process.”
- A set of submitted papers on the mixture of methodological approaches that stress the integration of methods.
- A set of invited papers focusing on the integration of demographic and developmental perspectives in the examination of the future of aging.
- A set of submitted papers on the future of inequality, health and aging.
- Business meeting and awards presentation.
- Mentoring dinner and program.

Section on Aging and the Life Course Roundtable and Paper Sessions

Friday, August 1, 2008

SALC council meeting, Chair: Duane Alwin

Scheduled time: 7:00-8:15 am , Building: Hilton Boston Back Bay

Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Aging and Life Course Research

Session Organizer: Kristen Schultz Lee (University at Buffalo-SUNY)

Discussant: Debra Street (University at Buffalo, SUNY)

Scheduled Time: 8:30-10:10am, Building: Sheraton Boston

Collective Efficacy in Exercise Adherence: A Mixed Method Study of Spousal Support and Diabetes Management, Elizabeth A Beverly (The Pennsylvania State University), Linda A. Wray (Pennsylvania State University)

Understanding the Experience of Stroke: A Mixed Methods Research Agenda, Philippa J. Clarke (University of Michigan)

Life Stories to Understand Diversity: Qualitative and Quantitative Comparisons, Janet Zollinger Giele (Brandeis University)

What Men Know about Prostate Cancer Screening: Discrepancies between Fixed Responses and In-Depth Interviews, Julie A. Winterich, Sara A. Quandt, Joseph G. Grzywacz, Thomas A. Arcury (Wake Forest University, School of Medicine)

Section on Aging and the Life Course Refereed Roundtables and Research Groups

Session Organizers: Jessica A. Kelley-Moore (Case Western) and Victor W. Marshall (UNC)

Scheduled Time: 10:30-12:10pm, Building: Sheraton Boston

Table 1. Early and Mid-Life Influences on the Life Course

Impact of War and Military Service over the Life Course: The Case of Vietnamese Men in Northern Vietnam, Bussarawan Puk Teerawichitchainan (Population Council)

Masculinity and Health Care Seeking among Midlife Men: Variation by Social Context, Kristen W. Springer (Rutgers University), Dawne M. Mouzon (Rutgers University)

Mattering and Subjective Life Expectancy among Adolescents, Gregory Clark Elliott (Brown University), Susan M. Cunningham (Holy Cross College)

Studying Aging through a Science and Technology Lens, Kelly A. Joyce (College of William & Mary), John B. Williamson (Boston College), Laura A. Mamo (University of Maryland)

Table 2. Political Economy and Aging

Deconstructing Media Discourse of Successful Aging from the Perspective of Critical Gerontology, Julia Rozanova (University of Alberta)

Symbolic Politics, Social Policy, and the Senior Rights Movement, Renee L. Beard (Holy Cross College), John B. Williamson (Boston College)

The Effect of Licensure Type on the Policies, Practices, and Resident Composition of Florida Assisted Living Facilities, Stephanie Woodham Burge (Univ of Oklahoma), Debra Street (SUNY-Buffalo)

Multilevel Analysis of Elderly Poverty: Taiwan's Case in a Comparative Perspective, Tsui-o Tai (University of California, Irvine)

Table 3. Research Group on Age and Consumption Presider: David J. Ekerdt (University of Kansas)

Consumption, Aging, and Metaphors of the Body, Diane M. Watts-Roy (Boston College)

Feeling 'Guilty' About Growing Old: Women's Attitudes and Experiences of Aesthetic Anti-Aging Surgeries, Abigail T. Brooks (Boston College)

Old Omnivores & Socioemotional Selectivity Theory, Jill Harrison-Rexrode (Virginia Tech)

Sustainable Consumption? Confidence and Concerns among Midlife and Older Individuals, Debra Street (SUNY-Buffalo), Kriston T. D'Amuro (SUNY-Buffalo)

Table 4. Research Group on Parent-Adult Child Relations Presider: J. Jill Sutor (Purdue Univ)

Intergenerational Coresidence of Older Adults and Married Children in Japan: Accommodations of Needs, Culture, and Power, Emiko Takagi (Temple Univ), Merrill Silverstein (U South California)

Just the Two of Us?: How Parents Influence Adult Children's Marital Quality, Corinne E. Reczek, Hui Liu, Debra Umberson (University of Texas at Austin)

Parental Marital Transitions and Intergenerational Transfers to Adult Children Within Families, Adam D. Shapiro (University of North Florida), R. Corey Remle (Wake Forest University)

Parental Ambivalence Across the Life Course: A 10-Year Longitudinal Study, Elaine Wethington (Cornell University), Claire M. Kamp Dush (Ohio State University), Sarah M. Hertzog (Cornell)

Table 5. Social Construction of Disability and Health Presider: Eva Kahana (Case Western)
Social Dimensions of Late-Life Disability, Eva Kahana (Case Western Reserve University), Jessica
A. Kelley-Moore (Case Western Reserve University), Boaz Kahana, Jane A. Brown
The Effect of Disability Onset on Concurrent Residential Mobility and Changes in Living Arrange-
ments, Moderators, and Subsequent Consequences, Michelle Cheuk (University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill)
The Meanings Underlying Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Use in Later Life,
Patricia Ann Khokher (McMaster University)
The Demented Identity: Potential or Paradox?, Christine Marie Schneider (Case Western Reserve)

Table 6. Social Dynamics in Late Life

Care Work and the Emotional Dimension of Care, Rebecca A. Siders (Case Western)
Neighborhood Environment and the Well-Being of Older Adults, Ye Luo (University of North
Florida and NORC at University of Chicago)
Older People as Volunteers: Motivations, Contexts, Opportunities and Challenges, Nina Glasgow
(Cornell University)
“We Came Here for Community”: Social Cohesion among Residents in Age-Graded Facilities,
Tetyana P. Shippee (Purdue University)

Table 7. Theoretical Advances in the Study of Age and Life Course

Experience, Social Structure and Later Life: Meaning and Old Age in an Aging Society, Dale
Dannefer (Case Western), Robin Shura Patterson (Case Western)
Growth and Decline of Religiosity Across Time and Age, Vern L. Bengtson (University of Southern
California), Gary Horlacher (University of Southern California), Norella M. Putney, Merrill
Silverstein (University of South California)
Epistemological Advances in Studying the Demography of Aging, Elias Olukorede Wahab (Lagos
State University)
Theory of Agency in Social Gerontology, Neal King (Virginia Tech), Toni Calasanti (Virginia Tech)

Table 8. Work and Retirement

Japanese Older Workers: Policy Suggestions for the U.S., Masa Higo (Boston College)
Reasons for Leaving Employment in Later Life: In Search of the ‘Bridge Job’, Maximiliane E.
Szinovacz (University of Massachusetts Boston), Hsiaoyin Chung (University Of Massachusetts-
Boston), Kaori Mitsui (University of Massachusetts Boston), Adam Davey (Temple University)
Retirement of U.S. Elderly in Foreign Countries: Social and Health Care Issues, Amin Iftekhar
(University of North Texas)

**Section on Aging and the Life Course.
Matilda White Riley Lecture**

Chair: William R. Avison, (University of Western Ontario)
Scheduled Time: 2:30-3:30pm, Building: Sheraton Boston

The Life Course and the Stress Process: Conceptual Affinities and Differences, **Leonard I. Pearlin**,
(University of Maryland-College Park)

SALC Business Meeting

Scheduled Time: 3:30-4:10pm, Building: Sheraton Boston

Section on Aging and the Life Course Invited Session.

The Future of Aging: Integrating Demographic and Developmental Perspectives

Session Organizer and Presider: Kenneth F. Ferraro (Purdue University)

Scheduled Time: 4:30-6:10pm, Building: Sheraton Boston

Demographic and Developmental Perspectives on Military Service and Men's Health in Later Life, Janet M. Wilmoth (Syracuse University), Andrew S. London (Syracuse University)
Developmental and Demographic Perspectives on Midlife, Eliza K. Pavalko (Indiana University)
Trajectory Analysis: A Key to Linking Demographic and Developmental Perspectives, Linda K. George (Duke University)
Growth Curve Modeling and Disentangling Age and Cohort Patterns, Scott M. Lynch (Princeton University), Tin-Chi Lin (Princeton University)

Section on Aging and the Life Course Reception

Scheduled time: 6:30-8:10 pm, Building: Sheraton Boston

SALC Mentoring Dinner and Program

Friday, August 1, 7:30-10pm
Vinny T's of Boston
867 Boylston Street

There will be a cash bar at 7:30, and dinner is at 8. A short program honoring past chairs of the section will be held during the evening.

IT IS NECESSARY TO RESERVE A TICKET AS SPACE IS LIMITED.

To reserve a ticket, email victor_marshall@unc.edu with the number of tickets and category of ticket required.

To pay for your ticket(s), either send a check, made out to "SALC American Sociological Association," to Victor Marshall, UNC Institute on Aging, 720 MLK Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill NC 27599-1030, OR bring your check to the ASA. (We prefer to receive payment ahead of time).

Reserved tickets can be picked up at the dinner or earlier, at the conference, and from Miles Taylor or Victor Marshall (look for them in SALC sessions and at the reception).

Tickets are \$15 for students, \$25 for faculty and \$50 for guests.

Saturday, August 2, 2008

**Section on Aging and the Life Course Paper Session.
The Future of Social Inequality, Health, and Aging**

Session Organizer: Angela M. O'Rand (Duke University)

Organizer and Presider: Dale Dannefer (Case Western Reserve University)

Discussant: Deborah Carr (Rutgers University)

Scheduled Time: 8:30-10:10am, Building: Sheraton Boston

Cumulative Advantage and Cognitive Change: Is Aging Kinder to the Better Educated?, Duane F. Alwin (Pennsylvania State University), Linda A. Wray (Pennsylvania State University), Willard L. Rodgers (University of Michigan)

Early Life Health Status and Its Effects on Educational Trajectories, Cheryl Elman (The University of Akron), Linda A. Wray (Pennsylvania State University)

Financial Assistance Patterns from Midlife Parents to Adult Children: A Test of the Cumulative Advantage Hypothesis, R. Corey Remle (Wake Forest University)

The Size of Health Selection Effects, Alberto Palloni, Robert G White (University of Wisconsin - Madison), Carolina Milesi (University of Chicago)

Work and Family Sources of Inequality in Health Care Coverage for Mexican-Origin Women, Jennifer Karas Montez (University of Texas-Austin), Jacqueline L. Angel (University of Texas-Austin), Ronald J. Angel (University of Texas-Austin)

SECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Section's Ad Hoc Committee on Publications is seeking your help! Over the past year, the Council has been active in exploring publication possibilities. We greatly appreciate the feedback already received by the membership and would like additional information about your preferences and interests prior to the annual ASA meetings in Boston. So, to make the most effective use of the remaining time, we developed a short online survey (about 5 minutes). The survey also provides an opportunity for you to give us feedback about a wide array of Section activities.

Here is a link to the survey, which will be open from June 15th to July 15th. Be sure that you click "done" when you finish.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=x_2fqaN7eHTwc2RA8eD7tfCg_3d_3d

Thank you for your cooperation. The results will be tallied for the committee report and submitted to Council prior to the annual meeting. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions:

Cheryl Elman, Ad Hoc Committee chair: cheryl2@uakron.edu

Dear SALC members,

Section members are encouraged to participate in ASA's Member-Get-A-Member campaign and specifically to enlist new members to our Section: Encourage your colleagues and students to join SALC!

The 2008 ASA Member-Get-A-Member campaign ends July 15. Let's make this year a record-breaking one! ASA membership is on a calendar year basis. This special offer is limited to 2008 members and 2008 new memberships (renewed memberships are not eligible). Grand prize winner will be notified by August 1, 2008.

Information on the ASA campaign is given below.

Diane Brown
SALC membership chair

2008 Member-Get-A-Member Campaign

The American Sociological Association challenges ASA members to encourage their colleagues, students, and others interested in the discipline of sociology to join ASA for 2008. Each current member who sponsors a new member is eligible for special recognition and 2008 rewards.

In our 2007 campaign, more than 100 members brought at least one new member into the Association and received discounts on their 2008 dues. For this year's campaign, sponsors are eligible for discounted 2009 membership dues and our grand prize—a \$500 Amazon.com gift certificate.

Current members are our best source for new members who could benefit from all the ASA has to offer.

Every time a new member joins ASA, we are made stronger. A vital and growing ASA expands public knowledge of the discipline of sociology, creates new networking opportunities, makes our professional association more representative of the discipline as a whole, and advances sociology worldwide.

Publication of the *Agenda for Social Justice, Solutions 2008*

The SSSP is pleased to offer you the *Agenda for Social Justice, Solutions 2008*, which represents an effort by our professional association to nourish a more "public sociology" that will be easily accessible and useful to policy makers. It is also a way to give something back to the people and institutions that support our scholarly endeavors. We hope that you find it helpful in your challenging work of crafting successful solutions to contemporary social problems. In all, it contains 11 pieces by SSSP members, covering a variety of social problems in three sections: global issues, Americans at risk, and health & welfare. This is an effort on the part of scholars at the Society for the Study of Social Problems to disseminate the findings in social problems research as freely and as widely as possible. The web page for the project is located here: <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/323>. On that page, you can download the full version, and you can link directly to the one-page briefs and individual chapters. The chapters are available for free download, and may be suitable as cost-effective supplementary readings in many social problems-related courses.

Section on Aging and the Life Course 2008 Election Results

Congratulations to the winners of our recent SALC election of officers, whose terms begin following the 2008 Boston meetings.

Chair-elect

Peter Uhlenberg
University of North Carolina

Council members

Dennis Hogan, Brown University
Ross Macmillan, University of Minnesota

Student representative

Jennifer Karas Montez, University of Texas – Austin

The chair-elect is a member of Council for three years—a year each as chair-elect, chair and past-chair. Council members serve for three years, and the student representative to council serves a two-year term.

The section appreciates all those who were willing to stand for election.

Section on Aging & the Life Course:

Chair

Duane Francis Alwin
326A Pond Lab
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802

Chair-Elect

Eliza K. Pavalko
Indiana University
Ballantine Hall 744
1020 E. Kirkwood Ave
Bloomington, IN 47405-7103

Past Chair

Jacqueline L. Angel
University of Texas-Austin
P.O. Box Y
Austin, TX 78713-8925

Secretary-Treasurer

Anne Barrett
Florida State University
526 Bellamy Building
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2270

Council

Deborah Carr (08)
Sidney M. Stahl (08)
Cheryl Elman (09)
Richard A. Settersten (09)
Jessica A. Kelley-Moore (10)
Victor W. Marshall (10)

Student Members

Sara Marian Moorman (08)
Jori Sechrist (09)