News from the Chair:
Sharing With Our SALC Community (and Beyond)

Our Winter 2015 issue of the SALC Newsletter is chock-full of interesting and helpful information on how we can share our energy, ideas, and scholarship with one another and with the larger community. First, we provide information on the upcoming invited session, regular sessions, and roundtables at the annual ASA meeting in Chicago on August 22-25. These five sessions, along with the Matilda White Riley Lecture given by esteemed scholar Ken Ferraro, provide a supportive forum for presenters to share their research, discussants to share their insights, and audience members to ask questions and offer thoughts about our colleagues’ work. The high point of our annual meeting is always our SALC Mentoring Dinner, slated for the evening of August 24, the night before our Section Day on August 25. Details will follow in our next newsletter; student representatives Jennifer Caputo and Stacy Torres, Chicago-based SALC member Christine Himes, and our Mentoring Committee chair Janet Wilmoth are hard at work checking out venues and menus to accommodate our large and growing group of mentees and mentors.

Second, I am delighted to announce our slate of exceptional candidates for SALC officers for the 2015-16 year. A sincere ‘thank you’ to past-chair Ellen Idler who chaired the Nominations Committee, along with her dedicated team of committee members Glen Elder, Linda George, and Madonna Harrington Meyer. Please take the time to read the candidates’ thoughtful statements, and when ASA opens the election site, please vote! Importantly, your section membership must be renewed by March 31, 2015 in order to vote in our section’s election. Please join me in thanking the candidates for their willingness to step up and share their skills, ideas, and energy that are vital to our section’s activities.

Third, please nominate a colleague, student, or yourself for one of our section awards. The March 1, 2015 deadline is rapidly approaching to nominate a candidate for the Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award, Outstanding Publication Award, and Graduate Student Paper Awards. The Outstanding Publication Award rotates between a book or article every three years; this year, either is eligible. Please don’t be shy; the only way for members to learn about your outstanding work is if you or a colleague nominates it! For a sampling of past years’ winning publications, please see: http://www.asanet.org/sections/aging_sections_History.cfm

Fourth, one of the most rewarding aspects of SALC membership is learning about our colleagues’ work, and helping to spread the word about our new books, articles, and awards. To this end, please share your accomplishments with our Newsletter, listserv, Facebook page, section webpage (http://asasalc.org/) or Twitter account. We can post or tweet your work, and then members can share/re-tweet, and so on...with the hopes of spreading our research findings far beyond the confines of our own SALC membership! As many of you know, the White House Conference on Aging will occur later this year, and media interest in all-things-aging seems to increase every day. By getting our ideas out there, we are opening the door for the mass media to rely on us for our wisdom and expertise.

Fifth, this month’s newsletter introduces the feature Journal Showcase. Each issue will feature two journals that are potential venues for SALC members to publish their work. Please suggest journals for an upcoming Showcase.

Sixth, it’s nice to know a bit about our SALC colleagues, above and beyond their research findings! Please consider suggesting a member to be featured in Five Questions For..., and students to be highlighted in our Graduate Student Profiles.

Finally, let’s all thank Kristen Schultz Lee for her continued outstanding work in producing this newsletter!

Deborah Carr, SALC Chair, 2014-15.
Please join us August 22-25 in Chicago for an informative, engaging exchange of ideas and camaraderie at the annual ASA meeting. SALC day is August 25th.

More information will be forthcoming, but here is a list of the SALC sessions at the 2015 meeting:

**Invited session on Aging and Cohort Replacement as Engines of Social Change in Institutions.**
Organizer: Deborah Carr, Rutgers University and Ellen Idler, Emory University.
Speakers: Mark Chaves, Duke University; Bernice Pescosolido, Indiana University; Robert J. Sampson, Harvard University; Pamela J. Smock, University of Michigan

**Open session on Disability Over the Life Course (co-sponsored with section on Disability and Society).**
Organizer: Eva Kahana, Case Western Reserve University.
This session will explore the meaning, correlates and consequences of disability in childhood, adolescence, adulthood and later life.

**Open session on Cross-National Comparisons of Life Course Transitions and Trajectories.**
Organizer: Christine Mair, University of Maryland-Baltimore County.
This session will focus on key life course transitions, including marriage, childbirth, work, and retirement, with attention to the ways that social, cultural, political, and economic contexts shape these transitions and trajectories.

Sociology of Aging and the Life Course (SALC) Section Business Meeting and Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award lecture by Ken Ferraro, Professor of Sociology and Director of Center on Aging and the Life Course at Purdue University.

**Roundtables.**
Organizers: Kristen Schultz Lee, SUNY-Buffalo and Jennifer Karas Montez, Case Western Reserve University.

**Sneak Peak at a SALC session at the 2015 meetings:**

**Open session on Sexuality over the Life Course.**
Organizer: Amelia Karraker, Iowa State University
This session will explore sexual identities, sexuality, and behavior over the life course.

**Family Socioeconomic Status, Gender, and the Mental Health Trajectories of Sexual Minority Youth Transitioning into Adulthood.** Alexa Martin-Storey, Université de Sherbrooke; Sarah M. Kendig, Arkansas State University; Robert Crosnoe, University of Texas at Austin

**Beyond the ‘cougar’ stereotype: Understanding middle-aged women’s experiences with age-hypogamous sexual relationships.** Milaine Alarie, McGill University

**Obesity and Sexuality among Older American Adults.** Soyoung Kwon; Markus H. Schafer, University of Toronto

**Sexual Freedom and Autonomy in Assisted Living Facilities.** Christina Barmon, Elisabeth O. Burgess, James R. Moorhead Jr., Georgia State University; Alexis A. Bender, U.S. Army Public Health Command
Candidates for Chair Elect

Jessica A. Kelley-Moore

Present Position: Associate Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Case Western Reserve University, 2007 – Present

Education: Ph.D., Sociology with a Graduate Minor in Gerontology, Purdue University, 2002. M.S., Sociology, Purdue University, 1997.

Positions Held in ASA:
Section on Aging and the Life Course: Council Member, 2008 – 2010; Distinguished Publication Committee, 2009; Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, 2011.

Recent Publications:

Blair Wheaton

Present Position: Professor of Sociology, University of Toronto


Positions Held in ASA:

Recent Publications:

Personal Statement:
The influence of the life course perspective in my work has only grown with time. I realized recently that everything I am doing in current research has a life course frame: I am developing a new instrument to measure the life history of “place” in lives, using a method that matches the major residences through life to existing Census or other contextual data. A new grant will follow up the 888 children interviewed as part of my family study in the 1990’s 25 years later, now aged 28-40, with a focus on the intergenerational transmission of gender egalitarian attitudes and their life course consequences for both girls and boys. As a section, SALC benefits from a committed and large membership, and strong leadership. The range of in-place traditions and initiatives is impressive. Because of the unique nature of the section, cross-cutting many areas of sociology, I encourage opportunities for the transplantation of ideas and approaches across areas, not only enriching each area, but also the influence of the life course and aging perspective in the entire discipline. In many ways, this section acts as a constant reminder to the whole discipline that, whatever we observe in our current lives, we must give attention to where it started. I hope to encourage new initiatives as well, e.g., focusing on publications, and relationships with other sections.
Candidates for Council
There are four candidates for two slots on the Council. The 3-year term begins in 2015.

Carol Aneshensel
Present Position:
Professor of Community Health Sciences, Vice Chair of the Department of Community Health Sciences, Fielding School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles

Personal Statement:
I am very pleased and honored to have been nominated for the position of Council Member for the Section on Aging and the Life Course. My work is in the area of stress and mental health, particularly during midlife and later, and concerns depression and cognition. My current work is on the impact of early life trauma on trajectories of stressful life experience over the life course. As a long-time but not very active member of the section, I would appreciate the opportunity to pay back the section for the many ways in which its activities have benefited me and my work over time. I welcome the opportunity to be of service to the section and its members.

Andrew London
Present Position:
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in Sociology, Faculty Associate in the Aging Studies Institute, Faculty Affiliate in LGBT Studies, Senior Research Affiliate in the Center for Policy Research, and Senior Fellow in the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, Syracuse University.

Personal Statement:
I am honored to be nominated for the SALC Council. Throughout my career, my research has focused on the health, care, and well-being of stigmatized and vulnerable populations, including people living with HIV/AIDS, caregivers, welfare-reliant women and their children, LGBT-identified individuals, the formerly incarcerated, and veterans. Thanks to my training in Sociology and Demography at PENN, my postdoctoral training with Carol Aneshensel at UCLA, and my current embeddedness in Aging Studies at Syracuse University, I am well-versed in, and increasingly attentive to, aging and the life course perspective in my work. Over the course of my career, SALC has become one of my primary academic homes. I would welcome the opportunity to serve a section that has fostered my intellectual growth and provided many opportunities for collaboration and friendship.

Aloen Townsend
Present position:
Professor of Social Work and Sociology and Chair of the PhD Program in Social Welfare, Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University

Personal statement:
It is an honor to be nominated for the SALC Council. Having been a member of ASA and this section since graduate school, ASA and SALC have served as intellectual and professional "homes" throughout my career. My research centers on family relationships, caregiving, and physical and mental health across the middle and later adult years. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to the future of SALC through participation as a member of Council.

Anna Zajacova
Present position:
Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Wyoming.

Personal statement:
It is an honor to have been nominated for the SALC Council Member position. For a number of years, I have enjoyed attending and presenting at Annual Meeting SALC sessions, looked forward to the stimulating and fun mentoring dinners, and followed with interest SALC active social media presence throughout the year. My research on social determinants of health during the life course has benefitted tremendously from all these activities SALC has organized so well. I would be thrilled to have the opportunity to give back and contribute to the continued success and further growth of the section.
Nominees for SALC Student Representative

Kate Cartwright  
**Present Position:** Doctoral Student, Emory University & MPH Student, New Mexico State University  
**Personal Statement:** I am currently a PhD candidate in sociology at Emory University, and I am simultaneously pursuing a MPH at New Mexico State University focusing on border health. My research primarily focuses on the health and well-being of Latino immigrants. My dissertation explores the social determinants of health and the Latino diabetes disparity using the National Health Interview Surveys, including how the social determinants of health influence diabetes outcomes for the Latino and non-Latino populations differently across age cohorts.

I developed an academic interest in the life course framework through taking an epidemiology of aging at Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health with a dynamic team of instructors, including SALC’s own Dr. Ellen Idler. I then served as a TA for a sociology of aging course and a social gerontology course at Emory, and I took a summer course in life course epidemiology at Columbia University’s Epidemiology and Population Health Summer Institute. However, perhaps my most humbling and inspiring academic experience related to the study of aging was the epidemiology of aging class I taught at a continuing care retirement community through Emory’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The average age of my students in this class was nearly 80 years old, which created a unique environment for dynamic and challenging discussions of the material.

I have been a member of SALC for two years now, and one of the highlights of the ASA meetings for me is the SALC mentoring dinner. I would be honored to serve as the student representative!

Adriana Reyes  
**Present Position:** Doctoral candidate and NSF Graduate Research Fellow in the Sociology and Demography Program at Pennsylvania State University  
**Personal Statement:** My research interests are in life course and aging, racial/ethnic and gender inequality, social stratification, immigration, and quantitative methods. My dissertation examines variations the contribution of family units to the household and changes in household economies during the great recession. I have also conducted forthcoming research on the topics of older immigrant health insurance in the United States, trends in cancer screening by citizenship, and cumulative advantage at older ages. As a student member of the Section on Aging and Life Course, I have greatly enjoyed getting to know both my peers and senior scholars at section events such as the mentoring dinner. I would be honored to represent the student community of SALC as the student representative.

Journal Showcase

Each newsletter issue will feature a brief introduction to two journals that SALC members may find as appropriate venues for their work. Please suggest journals that you’d like to see featured in future issues!

**Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences**

The *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, one of the flagship journals of the Gerontological Society of America, welcomes submissions from aging and life course scholars. The journal features methodologically rigorous, theoretically motivated work from a range of disciplines including sociology, psychology, epidemiology, demography, and other social science disciplines. The JGSS editorial team includes several members of our SALC section, including Editor-in-Chief Deborah Carr and Associate Editors J. Scott Brown, Feinian Chen, Jessica Kelley-Moore, Jim Raymo, and Jill Siguous. The most recent (January 2015) issue included work by SALC members Ben Cornwell, Megan Gilligan, Chris Marcum, Markus Schafer and others. For further information on submitting to the journal, see: [http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/geronb/for_authors/general.html](http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/geronb/for_authors/general.html)

**Journal of Marriage and Family**

*Journal of Marriage and Family*, one of the flagship journals of the National Council on Family Relations, features original research and theory, research interpretation and reviews, and critical discussion concerning all aspects of marriage, other forms of close relationships – often from a life course perspective. The journal features methodologically rigorous, theoretically motivated work from a range of disciplines including (continued on page 6)
Getting to Know You
We are pleased to share the second installment of our new newsletter feature, which debuted in the Fall 2014 issue: Graduate Student Profiles and Five Questions for ... The former profiles our graduate student or postdoctoral fellow SALC members who are or who will soon be on the job market. A sincere 'thank you' to Ynesse Abdul-Malak (Syracuse) and Eric Vogelsang (Wisconsin-Madison) for agreeing to be our second duo of featured students. Please nominate yourself or a student for an upcoming issue!

Our "Five Questions for..." introduces SALC members to one another, by providing a quick glimpse into our work and non-work lives. Thank you to Patti Thomas (Purdue University) for being the second of our SALC members to share some fun facts about herself! Please nominate yourself, a student, or a colleague for an upcoming issue. (If we do not receive nominations, we will do a random draw of our members for each issue...).

STUDENT PROFILES
Ynesse Abdul-Malak, Sociology PhD student, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University

Email: yabduulma@syr.edu
Website: http://asi.syr.edu/person/ynesse-abdul-malak/

Dissertation Title: Healthy Immigrants? Exploring Country of Origin, Early Life Events, Sponsorship Status, and Context of Reception in Relationship to U.S. Immigrant Women's Health

I was born in Haiti and immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 13. I am an RN and received a BS in Environmental Health and MPH at the American University of Beirut and have an MA in Sociology from Syracuse University where I’m currently pursuing a PhD in Sociology. My work focuses on understanding how social structures impact the aging processes of individuals over the life course with a special emphasis on U.S Caribbean immigrants. I have written a chapter in Grandparenting in the U.S., under contract with Baywood Publishing (I am also the co-editor of the volume). That chapter investigates how older Caribbean women’s health is affected by early life events and public policy. Drawing on in-depth interviews with 15 immigrant non-custodial grandmothers who immigrated to the U.S. from Latin America and the Caribbean, I analyze how grandmothering in the U.S. varies from the role in their countries of origin. I focus on how different cultural expectations complicate grandmothering for immigrant women, and how providing grandchild care shapes grandmothers’ health.

I am currently co-authoring a book manuscript, Grandparenting Children with Disabilities. I have so far interviewed a dozen grandparenting about their lived experiences of caring for a grandchild with a diagnosed disability. I am also co-authoring a chapter on immigrant aging for the edited volume, Gerontology: Changes, Challenges, and Solutions, under contract with Praeger. To date, I have presented my work at the Longitudinal and Life Course Studies Conference in Lausanne, Switzerland; the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Conference in Baltimore; and at Syracuse University graduate student conferences and undergraduate courses. In addition to researching and publishing, I enjoy teaching courses on aging, gender, and research methodology.

My dissertation is investigating how country of origin, early life events, sponsorship status, and context of reception in the U.S. impact immigrant women’s health. I am hoping that my dissertation will shed light on health disparities among various immigrant groups. Are all immigrants experiencing the same degree of healthy migrant effect? Are black Caribbean women experiencing similar health outcomes as Hispanic immigrants? These are some of many questions that will be addressed in my current and future scholarly works.
Eric Vogelsang, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dissertation Title: Self-Rated Health, Social Participation and ‘Older Places’
Email: evogelsa@ssc.wisc.edu
Website: http://vogue44.wix.com/home

I am a Ph.D. candidate in the Sociology department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and I expect to complete my dissertation in 2015. Broadly, I am interested in identifying the features of “age friendly communities” that impact older-adult health; and to understand how these qualities systematically differ across space.

For example, “What types of places are more or less conducive to having socially active older adults?” In one of my working papers, I find that older Wisconsin adults living in rural, sparsely-populated counties are less socially active than their counterparts in more-urban, higher-density counties. In particular, they are less likely to meet friends, participate in exercise groups, or engage in amenity-related activities (i.e., the arts, restaurants). This paper also highlights limitations of social participation indices (e.g., “low” versus “high” social activity), since I find that less than half of the social activities I test are associated with better health. In another of my current projects, I find that Japanese older adults living in municipalities experiencing the most extreme population aging report being more socially engaged than those living in other places. Conversely, I estimate that the probability of reporting poor health for these same individuals in ‘older places’ increases throughout older ages—markedly different than trajectories established in similar prior studies.

A portion of my research also examines how older adults subjectively assess and report their well-being. Specifically, I am interested in the methodological and health implications of individuals changing “reference points” as they age or as the environment around them changes. For example, one of my papers (published in the Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences) demonstrates that the well-established associations between self-rated health and mortality may understate the risk of death for oldest-old individuals with recent health improvements. In doing so, it makes the case that self-rated health is limited in its ability to capture certain health dynamics; one of its key theoretical qualities.

Prior to attending graduate school, I worked as a Certified Public Accountant; and as an English Teacher in Japan. My first-hand experience living in a society confronting rapid and extraordinary population aging motivated me to return to school and study these issues. In addition, watching my students begin to view the world with a critical eye inspired me to enjoy a career in which teaching was an integral component.

MEMBER PROFILE

Five Questions for... Patti Thomas

Patricia A. Thomas, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Center on Aging and the Life Course, Purdue University

Hometown? Glendora, California (in Los Angeles County)

Proudest accomplishment? I am the first Ph.D. in my family. My grandmother was especially excited about this and even asked to read my dissertation; when she read it she discovered that I put her name in the dedication, and she was even more thrilled.

Your first-ever job? I was a cashier at OfficeMax while in high school (and I received employee of the month once). My first academic job was a postdoc at the Population Research Center at University of Texas at Austin (which was a fantastic place to be a postdoc!).

A surprising fact about yourself? I have a black belt in karate.

Best piece of professional advice you’ve ever received? “Seek out and appreciate critique.” Cheerleaders are nice, but the best way to improve is to get honest feedback.
PUBLICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Books

**Latinos in an Aging World: Social, Psychological, and Economic Perspectives**
By Ronald J. Angel, Jacqueline L. Angel
Routledge – 2015

This book fosters a deeper understanding of the growing Latino elderly population and the implications on society. It examines post-WWII demographic and social changes and summarizes research from sociology, psychology, economics, and public health to shed light on the economic, physical, and mental well-being of older Latinos. The political and cultural implications including possible policy changes are also considered.

For more information, see: https://sites.la.utexas.edu/utaustinsoc/2014/03/11/latinos-in-an-aging-world/

Journal Special Issue

Featuring several SALC members, a Special Issue of *Social Science & Medicine* on "Education and Health: Contextualizing Causality" was published in February 2015. The Special Issue contains 24 exciting papers, several of which are authored by SALC members, including Mark D. Hayward, Robert A. Hummer, Ye Lou, and Zhenmei Zhang. The issue was guest-edited by Jennifer Karas Montez and Esther M. Friedman, with editorial assistance from Kaitlyn Barnes—all of whom are SALC members!

In support of this and continued research on the association between education and health, the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research is providing free online access to the Special Issue for one year beginning February 15, 2015. You can find the issue here: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/127

Articles


Awards

Carrie L. Shandra (SUNY at Stony Brook) was recently awarded a National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) Switzer Fellowship, which supports scientific research related to the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities. The project, "Disability, Volunteering, and Employment Over the Life Course", utilizes data on three nationally representative samples from the United States to examine: 1) the factors associated with volunteering for adolescents and adults with disabilities, and 2) if and how participation in volunteering activities might increase employment success.
SALC Seeks Nominations for 2015 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award

This annual award honors a scholar in the field of aging and the life course who has shown exceptional achievement in research, theory, policy analysis, or who has otherwise advanced knowledge of aging and the life course. Letters of nomination should describe the nominee’s contributions to the study of aging and the life course that warrant consideration. Additional letters of support are encouraged but not required. Nominations will be carried over for one year. Materials should be sent by March 1, 2015 to:

Professor Jeylan Mortimer
Chair, SALC Matilda White Riley Award Committee
Life Course Center
Department of Sociology
University of Minnesota
1014 Social Sciences Building
267-19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
Email: morti002@umn.edu

SALC Seeks Nominations of Outstanding Scholarship

Outstanding Publication Award

This annual award honors an outstanding recent contribution to the field of sociology of aging and the life course as determined by the Outstanding Publication Award Committee. Eligible publications include original research reports, theoretical or methodological developments, and policy-related contributions. The outstanding publication may be an article, book, or chapter published within the past three years. The committee will consider nominations and self-nominations. The award will rotate between a book and an article (or chapter) at least once every three years.

Eligible nominations are limited to publications appearing from 2012-2014. A single author or one of the co-authors must be a SALC member. Only SALC members are permitted to make nominations. Nominations should be sent by March 1, 2015 to:

Professor Jacqueline Angel
Chair, SALC Outstanding Publication Award
LBJ School of Public Affairs
The University of Texas at Austin
P.O. Box Y
Austin, TX 78713-8925
Email: jangel@austin.utexas.edu

Graduate Student Paper Award

This annual award honors the outstanding paper written by a graduate student (or students) member(s) of the Section on Aging and the Life Course, as determined by the Graduate Student Paper Award committee. Papers authored or co-authored by students are eligible; faculty co-authorship is not allowed. Eligible student authors include master’s students and pre-doctoral student members of the section who are currently enrolled in a graduate program or who have graduated no earlier than December 2014.

Unpublished, under review, accepted, or published papers are eligible. If published, the paper should have appeared within the past two calendar years (e.g., a paper nominated in 2015 may have been published anytime during 2014 or 2015). Unpublished papers should not exceed 9,000 words of text (not including references, tables, etc.). All nominations are due by March 1, 2015. Self-nominations are encouraged. To be nominated, send a hard copy and electronic version of the paper to the Chair of the Graduate Student Paper Award Committee along with a completed and signed nomination form (available online). The award consists of $250 presented to the winner at the Business Meeting of the Section, held during the annual ASA meeting.

Professor Andrea Willson
Chair, SALC Graduate Student Paper Award Committee
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Information Needed

In an effort to keep SALC members connected, each newsletter will contain information on recent transitions. If you have a professional announcement (tenure and promotion, employment change) or personal information (marriages, births, tributes to recently deceased members) please send information to: kslee4@buffalo.edu. The newsletter is usually distributed three times a year in the fall, winter, and summer.

The deadline for submitting information for the next newsletter is Friday, July 3rd.

Give the Gift of SALC

Gifting section memberships for graduate students has become very popular in the last several years. Help sustain and increase our membership counts; a gift membership for students is a great way to mentor them and give them access to information about the section. The ASA Membership department has rolled out a new mechanism to help facilitate gift memberships. Instead of writing to the ASA Membership department with a list of members, individuals can log into the membership site (http://asa.enoah.com/Home/My-ASA/Gift-Section) and pay for them directly.

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