Hello everyone from a sometimes cold, sometimes warm, but always wet Ohio! I hope the winter quarter/semester is off to a great start. Having found the first snowdrops and some nameless yellow flowers beginning to push up in my yard, I am daring to hope that Punxsutawney Phil will be correct in his prediction of an early spring this year.

Although many of you may not be thinking too hard about this year’s ASA meetings yet, please note that our Section day is officially on the last day of the meetings, Tuesday, August 13th. Because we have an extra session, I am pretty sure that some of our section presentations will also fall on the day before, Monday, August 12th. Please mark those days in your calendars.

I know that many of you submitted papers to our roundtables session and our other three open sessions and we will announce those presentations as soon as we can. Additionally, following on the tremendous success of last year’s session of multiple short talks, Janet Wilmoth has put together a great lineup of invited speakers who will present on “Current Debates in Aging & the Life Course: Public Policy.” And no one will want to miss Eileen Crimmins’ Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award Lecture.

Another Annual Meeting tradition and great hallmark of our Section is the SALC Mentoring Dinner which provides opportunities for networking as well as connecting with old friends. NYC always presents a challenge to anyone organizing such an event but Janet Wilmoth has done a tremendous job finding the perfect location. Student representatives Stephanie Ureña and Phillip Cantu will be organizing a professional development program during the dinner. See page 3 for more details. It is especially important that we enable students to be able to afford to attend this dinner. If this is something that you or your department/center are able to donate to, please send an email to Janet Wilmoth. As soon as we receive word of your pledge, she will email an invoice. All individual donations are tax-deductible and you will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

Finally, it is really important that we all remember to renew our ASA and SALC memberships! We need to keep our membership rolls above 600 or we will lose a session in 2020. Gifting a membership to a colleague or a graduate student is a great way to help out. This can be done by logging in to the ASA site with your ASA ID, entering the name of the person you are gifting to, and paying with a credit card. Gift memberships must be made prior to July 31st, 2019.

Just enough room left for me to thank all the SALC members who do so much work behind the scenes, and to give a special shout out this time to the session organizers for this year’s meetings, all the committee members who are reading materials submitted for our various awards, and, as always, our terrific Newsletter Editors - Stephanie Ureña and Shannon Shen.

Elizabeth Cooksey
Chair, ASA Section on Aging and the Life Course
Invited Session: Current Debates in Aging and the Life Course: Public Policy
Organizer: Janet Wilmoth, Syracuse University
Chair: Andrew London, Syracuse University

This invited panel will discuss specific types of public policy that influence aging and the life course. Panelists will discuss a particular theme for 5 minutes each during the first half of the session then will take questions from the audience for the remainder of the session.

Topics and Presenters:
- "Structure, Policy and Cumulative Dis/Advantage Across Adulthood” – Dale Dannefer, Case Western Reserve University
- "Housing Assistance Policies and Child Health in the United States" – Andrew Fenelon, University of Maryland
- "Food and Nutrition Policies over the Life Course” – Colleen Heflin, Syracuse University
- "Social Support Policies and Peer Influences in a Life Course Perspective” – Mike Massoglia & Jason Robey, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- "US Immigration Policies and Health of Older Immigrants” – Zoya Gubernskaya, University at Albany-SUNY
- "Critical Social Policy Issues in Minority Aging” – Jacqueline Angel, University of Texas at Austin
- "Policies to Extend Working Lives” – Debra Street, SUNY- Buffalo and Áine Ní Léime, National University of Ireland, Galway
- "How Social Policies affect Grandparent Care Work” – Madonna Harrington Meyer, Syracuse University
- "Wealth Policy as Health Policy: A population aging perspective” – Courtney Boen, University of Pennsylvania
- "Structural Sexism and Life Course Health Outcomes: Implications for Public Policy" – Patricia Homan, Florida State University

Open Session: Social Policies to Mitigate Health Inequalities Among Older Adults Around the World
Session Organizers: Amélie Quesnel-Vallee (McGill University) & Jacqueline Angel (University of Texas, Austin)

Open Session: Secondary Data Sources for Research on Aging
Session Organizer: Liana Sayer (University of Maryland)
Discussant: Deborah Carr (Boston University)

Open Session: Contextual Influences on Life-Course Transitions
Session Organizer: Dale Danefer (Case Western Reserve University)

Open Session: SALC Refereed Roundtables
Session Organizers: Patricia Thomas (Purdue University) & Mieke Beth Thomeer (University of Alabama, Birmingham)
Save the Date
2019 SALT Mentoring Dinner

The annual mentoring event includes dinner, a program, and the chance for graduate students to engage with section professors. This year’s dinner will be held from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. on Monday, August 12, 2019 at the Syracuse University Lubin House, 11 E 61st St, New York, NY 10065. The location a 10-15 minute walk or short cab ride from the conference hotels. Take note that seating is limited to 100 guests and tickets must be purchased in advance. Information on how to purchase tickets will be distributed in July. Janet Wilmoth, Stephanie Ureña, and Phillip Cantu are working on an exciting program, so stay tuned for more information. We look forward to seeing you there!

Journal Showcase

Research on Aging (ROA), peer-reviewed and published eight times a year, is an interdisciplinary journal designed to reflect the expanding role of research in the field of social gerontology. For over three decades, scholars, researchers and professionals like yourself have turned to ROA for the latest analyses on the critical issues facing today’s elderly population. This journal is a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). Average time from submission to first decision: 37 days

2017 Impact Factor: 2.000

2017 Ranking: 14/36 in Gerontology
Jennifer Karas Montez

Present Position: Professor of Sociology, Gerald B. Cramer Faculty Scholar in Aging Studies, Faculty Associate of the Aging Studies Institute, Faculty Affiliate of the Center for Policy Research and the Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University

Education: PhD (Sociology), University of Texas at Austin, 2011
MA (Sociology), University of Houston, 2004
MS (Statistics), Purdue University, 1994
BS (Mathematics), Purdue University, 1992

Positions Held in ASA
- Chair-Elect & Chair, Nominations Committee, Section on Medical Sociology, 2018 & 2019
- Session Organizer, Section on Aging and the Life Course, 2018 & 2013
- Council Member, Section on Aging and the Life Course, 2015-2017
- Distinguished Paper Award Committee, Section on Population, 2014-2016 (chair in 2016)
- Student Representative, Section on Aging and the Life Course, 2008-2010

Publications:

Personal Statement: I would be thrilled to serve as Chair of the ASA Section on Aging and the Life Course. The SALC section has been my intellectual home since my first year in graduate school, thanks to the encouragement, mentorship, and friendship of so many SALC members. We are a truly incredible section. Over the years, I have been involved in SALC in several capacities, such as council member, program committee, and student representative. I’d be happy to serve as chair and ensure that our section stays strong, vibrant, and inclusive; that we continue to invest in our members and create opportunities for them to shine, such as through our section awards and the mentoring dinner; and that we continue to offer a robust conference program using new and exciting formats such as "flash talks."

Kim Shuey

Present Position: Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada.

Education: Postdoctoral Fellow, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2001-2003
Ph.D., Sociology with a Certificate in Gerontology, Florida State University, 2001

Publications:

Personal Statement: My career in sociology has been heavily influenced by SALC scholars, many of whom have been former chairs of the section, and I am therefore very honored to receive this nomination. SALC has been my intellectual home since graduate school, and I have benefited greatly from the mentoring, support, and recognition for early scholars (student paper award in 2000 and the Outstanding Publication Award in 2009) that the section has provided. Following training by aging scholars at Florida State, the role of the life course perspective in my work developed during my post-doc years with Glen Elder and has continued to shape all of my research endeavours. Now, I thoroughly enjoy teaching both graduate and undergraduate students about the seemingly endless possibilities a life course approach offers for understanding the social world and I am most happy to see students approach their interests in a more holistic and imaginative manner. My life experiences as the first member of my family to go to college and as an expat who sought a more accepting social and policy environment for my family have drawn me to the study of early life origins, life course pathways, and processes of cumulative inequality. My current research includes investigations that are aimed at joining health, aging, family, and stratification literatures, as I strongly believe that life course scholarship holds the potential to bridge existing methodological and substantive divides within sociology and across disciplines. Although SALC scholars cut across many areas of sociology, we are unified by a unique interest in time, process, and context that is crucial to our discipline, and as section chair I would help to strengthen connections and promote the cross-fertilization of ideas. My seven years as Graduate Chair have also heightened my awareness of the importance of mentoring, and in addition to supporting ongoing efforts within the section I would explore additional ways to include students and early career scholars.
~ Candidates for Council ~

There are four candidates for two slots on the Council. The 3-year term begins in 2019.

Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk
Present Position: Assistant Professor of Sociology, University at Buffalo, SUNY
Personal Statement: Since graduate school, SALC has been one of my favorite ASA sections, for its collegiality, its mentorship, and the high-quality and important research conducted by its members. I am honored to be nominated for the SALC council. My current research focuses on chronic pain: its measurement, its social and medical precursors and consequences, and its treatment. I have a particular interest in using life course theories and models to understand pain trajectories and social disparities therein. I would be happy to "pay forward" the professional mentorship I have received from SALC by serving on the council and helping to continue the section’s impressive tradition of scholarly and mentoring programs.

Jason Houle
Present Position: Assistant Professor of Sociology at Dartmouth
Personal Statement: It is an honor to be nominated for the SALC council. My research primarily focuses on processes of social stratification and mobility in the United States, and the social determinants of health and mental health across the life course. Much of his current work asks how rising indebtedness and access to credit has impacted social, economic, and psychological well-being in the United States, and how the consequences of indebtedness vary by life course stage. I have benefited greatly from my membership in SALC over the years, and would welcome the opportunity to serve a section that is so central to my research and professional identity.

Ronica N. Rooks
Present Position: Associate Professor of Health and Behavioral Sciences, University of Colorado Denver
Personal Statement: It is an honor to be nominated for an At-large SALC Council member position! My research focuses on social-ecological explanations for racial and ethnic disparities in cardiovascular diseases and health promotion through productive activities and social capital building among seniors. Serving on SALC Council would be an opportunity to further connect with those interested in aging and the life course in my home discipline in Sociology, while learning about SALC’s infrastructure and leadership goals, funding structure, research advocacy efforts, and support mechanisms for research and teaching in aging and the life course. As an interdisciplinary scholar in aging, I currently serve as a Member-at-Large for the Behavioral and Social Science Committee in the Gerontological Society of America (11/2018-11/2020) and have previously served as a Member-at-Large for the Colorado Public Health Association (9/2017-9/2018) and International Sociological Association (7/2014-6/2018). I would be happy to serve SALC Council in various capacities, including: the mentoring dinner or mentoring in general, networking sessions, SALC conference sessions, writing for the newsletter, etc. Thank you for this opportunity to possibly serve.

Amélie Quesnel-Vallee
Present Position: Canada Research Chair in Policies and Health Inequalities, Associate Professor of Sociology and Epidemiology at McGill University
Personal Statement: I am delighted and honoured to be nominated for the SALC council. Ever since I was a graduate student, SALC has been the main reason I look forward to ASA: for the research of course, but also for the kinship and community that I found in the section. The research carried out by SALC members is a constant source of inspiration for my work on the impact of social policies on health inequalities among older adults. I have benefited tremendously from the section’s generous mentorship, notably as a past recipient of its Student Paper Award (with Miles Taylor in 2004), and I have tried to give back over the years (listerv editor 2005-07; local organizer for the mentorship dinner 2006; session organizer 2019). I would welcome the opportunity to ramp up that service commitment through the council position.
~ Candidates for Student Representative ~

Catherine García (née Pérez)

Present Position: Doctoral Candidate in Gerontology at the University of Southern California

Personal Statement:
I am a doctoral candidate in Gerontology at the University of Southern California with a Master of Science in Sociology from Florida State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of California – Los Angeles. My research interests include aging and the life course, social determinants of health, neighborhoods, biodemography, and quantitative methods. With aging parents from Puerto Rico and Honduras, I have witnessed first-hand the unique challenges facing the older Hispanic population. My life experiences have engendered a strong commitment to addressing health disparities, and I am particularly motivated to gain a better understanding of sociocultural variation in the Hispanic health and aging experience. My research is focused primarily on how race/ethnicity influences health and well-being across the adult life course, and how sociocultural variation, which includes socioeconomic, migratory, cultural, behavioral, and linguistic experiences, leads to unique health and aging trajectories among Hispanics. My dissertation uses data from the Health and Retirement Study to examine multilevel information on sociocultural factors and the neighborhood environment to advance understanding of the risks for developing diabetes and hypertension among older Hispanics by nativity and country of origin.

I am excited about having the opportunity to serve as a SALC student representative to assist students develop their research interests, engage in mentorship opportunities, and increase involvement in this amazing section. The SALC section provides opportunities for scholars and students to meet like-minded colleagues; to be encouraged in their pursuit of life course and aging scholarship; to actively shape the scholarly discourse on social issues related to aging; and to receive ongoing mentorship that supports professional development. I want to be a part of the support team that promotes and facilitates what this section offers. I am passionately committed to supporting our section, so students can maximize their membership and have meaningful experiences through this section. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve on the SALC council as your student representative!

J. Dalton Stevens

Present Position: PhD student in sociology at Syracuse University, Aging Studies Institute Affiliate

Personal Statement:
I would be honored to serve as a SALC student representative. I am a PhD student in the Syracuse University (SU) Department of Sociology studying disability over the life course. My dissertation uses in-depth interviews to understand the social factors that shape pathways taken by young adults with disabilities during the transition to adulthood to promote policy solutions that will better accommodate young adults with disabilities. As a research assistant in the SU Aging Studies Institute, I am collaborating with Professor Scott Landes and Dr. Peggy Turk on a project detailing the mortality trends of people with developmental disability in the US. The first publication in this line of research, “The Obscuring Effect of Coding Developmental Disability as the Underlying Cause of Death on Mortality Trends for Adults with Developmental Disability: A Cross-Sectional Study Utilizing U.S. Mortality Data from 2012-2016,” is forthcoming in British Medical Journal: Open. I am also working with Professor Madonna Harrington Meyer on two projects, one examines Medicaid and disability and the other food insecurity in old age. Additionally, I have published a history of disability in sociology with Professor Tom Gerschick, entitled “Invisibility, Visibility, Vilification, and Near Silence: The Framing of Disability in the Early Years of The American Sociological Society” in Research in Social Science and Disability. A chapter from my MA thesis “Stuck in Transition with You: Rooting, Returning, and In(ter)dependence for Men with Mobility Impairments” won the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award from the Disability & Society Section of the ASA and is presently under review.

From 2016-2018, I served as graduate student representative to the faculty for the SU Department of Sociology. I currently serve as the student director of the Midwest Sociological Society where my responsibilities include shepherding student ideas to the MSS board, organizing student programming, and developing the Undergraduate Scholars Program with Professor Diane Pike. As an active member of SALC who has attended the annual mentoring dinner and session sessions, I hope to expand my involvement in SALC by representing my fellow graduate students as the student representative.

Five Questions for Deborah Carr

Hometown?
I grew up in Cranston, RI. Cranston has a special place in pop culture as the hometown of Love Story character Jenny Cavilleri. Rumor has it that it’s the inspiration behind The Family Guy locale of Quahog.

Proudest Accomplishment?
Professionally, I’m proud that I’ve been entrusted by my colleagues to edit Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences. It’s great fun to read and help shape the latest science on aging, and to help junior scholars sharpen their work and share it with the academic community and ideally, the media and general public.

Your first-ever job?
I was a paper girl and delivered the Providence Journal to residents at the low-income senior apartments in my neighborhood. It was my first up-close lesson in social gerontology!

A surprising fact about yourself?
I have had many jobs. To name a few—scooping ice cream at Baskin Robbins, waitressing at a Chinese restaurant, working the Burger King drive-thru, being a bank teller, sorting and bagging costume jewelry, playing piccolo in a for-hire marching band at Catholic church feasts, selling diamond rings at Sears, and reporting on commercial real estate development for a business magazine in the late 1980s (when a now very public figure was making ‘huge’ deals...).

Best piece of professional advice you’ve ever received?
The best advice I’ve received is “don’t make the reader work so hard.” A theoretically and methodologically brilliant study will have minimal impact if frustrated readers struggle to make sense of the garbled or bloated text. With practice and multiple revisions, every author and paper can reach its potential.

Deborah Carr
Professor & Department Chair of Sociology, Boston University
I am an Assistant Professor of Family, Health, and Policy at the University of Utah in the Department of Family and Consumer Studies with expertise in family demography, gender, the life course, and health. My research focuses on the consequences of the Second Demographic Transition (SDT) for health disparities and social inequalities and has resulted in two integrated streams of research with manuscripts published in journals such as Journal of Marriage and Family, Gender & Society, Social Science & Medicine, Advances in Life Course Research, and Journal of Youth and Adolescence. I am a two-time winner of the Graduate Student Paper Award from the Section on Aging and the Life Course (2007; 2010), and I was the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding New Professional Award from the National Council on Family Relations. Additionally, my research has been featured in the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Time, and the Atlantic, amongst numerous other media outlets.

My first stream of research involves understanding how families have changed during the SDT in the U.S. and what consequences this has had for children and couples’ well-being. Several studies highlight my work in this area. Given substantial shifts in the occurrence, timing, and sequencing of marriage and parenthood in the life course, I examine how discrepancies between individuals’ expectations and their actual marital and parental experiences affect psychological distress and mental health. My work demonstrates that recent cohorts have generally not anticipated their marital and parental experiences and that these unexpected life course pathways result in increases in psychological distress. More recently, my colleagues and I have been exploring shifts in the division of housework in couples and its consequences for relationship quality. Our research demonstrates not only that egalitarian sharing of housework among parents has increased among recent cohorts, but that egalitarian arrangements are increasingly associated with greater relationship quality in couples.

My future research will extend these lines of work. For example, my colleagues and I are conducting research examining the causes of shifts in the household division of labor among recent cohorts. We are also exploring factors that explain the association between gender egalitarianism and relationship quality.

My second research stream explores how the SDT has exacerbated racial/ethnic and socioeconomic differences in family formation and how this pertains to health disparities and inequalities across groups. Examples of my research in this area include examinations of race/ethnic differences in family formation intentions and their role in explaining race/ethnic differences in family formation outcomes in the U.S. In a recent published study, a colleague and I examined how the association of marriage with mental health in the U.S. varies by social class, finding that the mental health benefits of marriage decrease as socioeconomic status increases. We find that this is due to the fact that the stress buffering resources that marriage provide (e.g., social support, sense of mattering, etc.) are superfluous for the economically disadvantaged. The findings highlight that the retreat from marriage among the poor and working-class are an important factor in increasing health inequalities.

A new major initiative in this stream of research investigates the role of exposure to non-intact families and neighborhood disadvantage in youth -- especially the concentration of female-headed households -- for health behaviors and outcomes across the early life course. This project examines not only how exposure to non-intact family households and neighborhood disadvantage early in the life course affect health trajectories, but also how family and neighborhood environments interact to condition these trajectories. This research aims to improve our understanding of the circumstances in which family structure and neighborhood environments affect health and health disparities by acknowledging that exposure to non-intact family environments and neighborhood disadvantage vary across the early life course, and that cumulative exposure to these environments likely has long-lasting effects on health behaviors and outcomes.

By combining life course principles such as the normative life course, life course trajectories, and cumulative disadvantage with social stress principles such as primary and secondary appraisal, event-based stress, and stress proliferation my aim is to continue my research in the above areas to improve our understanding of the often unanticipated and unintended consequences of demographic shifts in family formation and family processes.
Emerging Scholar

Adriana Reyes, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Policy Analysis and Management
Cornell University
E-mail: a.reyes@cornell.edu

I am an Assistant Professor of Policy Analysis and Management at Cornell University. Prior to joining Cornell, I completed an NIA funded postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan Population Studies Center under the mentorship of Robert Schoeni. I received my Ph.D. in Sociology and Demography from Penn State in 2016, where I worked closely with Melissa Hardy. My research focus is on family demography and health disparities across the life course. I am particularly interested in how family ties provide social capital to help individuals navigate the life course, and how these family ties perpetuate inequalities across race and class.

My research examines racial and ethnic differences in living arrangements. I am interested in understanding how the complexity of households reflects both cultural and economic strategies in the organization of household resources and family contributions. My research finds that extended family households have very unequal contributions towards household expenses, although Hispanics have the least unequal contributions among race/ethnic groups. I also find that forming extended family households does not provide the same benefits to all groups. In future work I hope to continue to unpack how extended family living arrangements are important for health and wellbeing across the life course.

In collaborative research, I expand my study of race/ethnic differences in family households to study family members’ geographic proximity using the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID). The intergenerational connections among families provide large amounts of social and informal support. Spatial proximity to family conditions the amount of interaction and assistance exchanged among family members. While large race/ethnic differences in living arrangements have been established, less is known about race/ethnic differences in kin proximity. Using PSID, we study both race differences in geographic distance between generations as well as the factors that account for differences in distance between family members.

Another area of my research focuses on health disparities by race, ethnicity, and nativity among older adults. Much of this work attempts to unpack the heterogeneity among immigrants, by investigating differences by gender, age of migration, and region of origin. In this work I have examined disparities in immigrant healthcare access, mortality, income inequality, and disability. Documenting and understanding the sources of health disparities for marginalized groups is motivated by a desire to understand the social structure of inequalities and the mechanisms that sustain them.


Send nominations for Emerging Scholars to:

Elizabeth Cooksey, SALC Chair
cooksey.1@osu.edu
News & Announcements

Member Publications

Publication by SALC Member Tirth Bhatta, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas


Publications by SALC Member Carolyn C. Perrucci, Professor of Sociology, Purdue University

- Richard Hogan and Carolyn Cummings Perrucci, "We Know about Reagan, but Was There a Clinton Effect? Earnings by Race, Gender, Marital and Family Status, 1993 and 2000." Critical Sociology (Online First) First Published October 4, 2018. https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518812668

Publication and Op-Ed by SALC Member Stacy Torres, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of California, San Francisco


In a San Francisco Chronicle op-ed about pedestrian safety in Oakland, Stacy argues for the necessity of prioritizing pedestrian safety and calls attention to walkability as a crucial component of aging in place for elders and people of all ages. https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/article/We-must-prioritize-pedestrian-safety-in-Oakland-13600031.php?

Help our section grow!

Our section membership numbers are directly linked to the number of paper sessions SALC is allocated for the following year’s annual meeting. More sessions mean more opportunity for you to share your work at ASA. Take a moment to share with at least one potential new member (perhaps your student, a colleague, etc.) about your SALC experience. The best way to encourage the long term health of our section and a diversity of aging and life course scholarship is to bring in new scholars. Please consider supporting our section in this way and help us reach our 2019 membership goal!

You can gift a membership to a colleague or a graduate student. To do so, log in to the ASA membership portal using your ASA ID, enter the name of the person to whom you would like to gift a membership, and pay with a credit card. You can sponsor multiple persons at once. Note: student gift memberships can only be made before July 31, 2019.

Tell your colleagues and students about SALC today. Every member counts!
**Call for Announcements**

Submit your announcements, recent publications, and other news to be included in our next newsletter!

Announcements for the Summer newsletter should be emailed by **June 2019** to co-editors Stephanie Ureña (su06c@my.fsu.edu) & Shannon Shen (sshen@tamusa.edu)

You can peruse previous newsletters, read about your membership benefits, and more at our section website:


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**We are on Facebook!**

Join our Facebook group to get engaged with the SALC community and be notified of the latest research, events, and job opportunities related to our section.

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/SALC.ASA/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SALC.ASA/)

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