



February 2018

GERONTOLOGY UPDATE

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



There's some really great stuff in this newsletter! Better than what you're reading here in my note (so if you want to save time, skip ahead to some of the other stories). Most of what you'll find in this newsletter relates to exciting opportunities for you but I want to talk about another one that you may have heard about but not yet experienced---Seminar in Gerontology. This is the last required class we expect you to take and most of you will take it as seniors. In this course we match you with an older adult mentor. Ten days ago we had our first meeting for this semester. The students were apprehensive but willing. We jumped right in and I asked the students and their mentors to find three things they had in common. It's always really fun to see how these pairs connect but sometimes the coincidences are pretty interesting. This time one of our students found out that he had double-dated with his mentor's grandson. Another mentor and his student learned they had similar dog breeds and that they were "chick magnets." They sent a picture to me from the dog park this week. For me the very best part of this shared experience is that students and mentors alike learn that they are more alike than different. In my estimation if we all could learn that, it could make the world a much better place to live.

Gayle

ADVISING NOTE

Frequently asked Questions:

- To set up an advising appointment email your meeting availability to me
- Internships may sometimes be used for gerontology credit if they are in an aging-related organization and with **prior approval**
- The gerontology course schedule is at <http://www.he.k-state.edu/aging/academics/ugrad/course-schedule.html>
- DARS is rarely correct. Check with me to determine how close you are to completing your gerontology requirements
- You must apply for graduation for both your primary major and your secondary major. Instructions are online at <http://www.k-state.edu/ksis/help/students/stuGraduationApply.html>. Certificates are mailed approximately 1 month after graduation.

Pam



Inside this issue...

Note from the Director
Advising note... (1)

Calendar,
Summer Course Options,
Creativity & Aging (2)

Scholarships (3)

Amazing Careers in Aging
Race & Ambassador
Applications (4)

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Center on Aging

CALENDAR

<i>March 5</i>	Gerontology <i>Ambassador</i> Application Due
<i>March 9</i>	Gerontology <i>Scholarship</i> Applications Due
<i>March 19-23</i>	Spring Break
<i>March 26</i>	Summer/Fall Enrollment Begins
May 7-11	Spring 2018 Term Examinations
<i>May 12</i>	Undergraduate Commencement

CREATIVITY & AGING

Fall 2018

Interested in aging? Want to learn more about creativity? Check out Creativity and Aging (Geron 710), being offered on campus this fall!

Everyone is creative, however, we just don't always allow ourselves to be. Contrary to popular belief, research suggests that creativity increases as we age. In fact, the majority of all U.S. patents for new inventions are awarded to people over the age of 47. With age comes experience and freedom, both of which are springboards for better understanding the world and putting ideas together in new and exciting ways. In this class, students will learn about the changes that happen developmentally and psychologically as a person ages and how this affects creativity, as well as how creativity influences the aging process. Students will also experience hands-on activities that allow them to explore their own creativity through multiple mediums, such as music, drama, movement, and written language. Direct exposure to structured creative opportunities and meaningful interactions with older adults will help prepare students to design creative arts programs to benefit aging individuals.

The class will meet once a week on Mondays, 5:30-7:55 p.m.

GERONTOLOGY SUMMER COURSES

- ⇒ GERON 315– *Introduction to Gerontology*
**offered online*
- ⇒ GERON 705– *Sexuality & Aging*
**offered online*

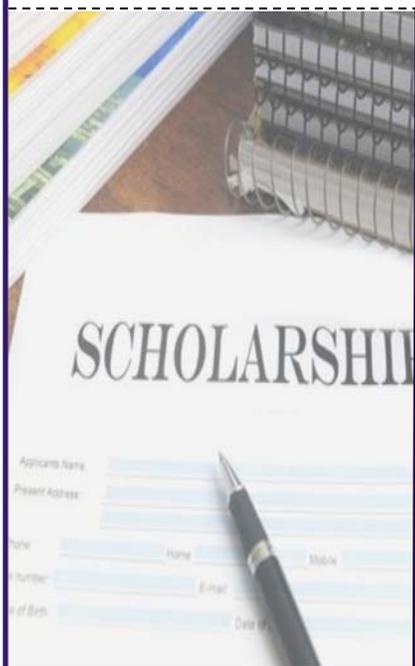
In addition to our GERON classes listed above, there are summer courses offered by other departments that will count as gerontology electives. Check out our course schedule at <http://www.he.k-state.edu/aging/>



SCHOLARSHIPS

<p>Long-Term Care Administration Scholarship - Awarded to a student for the time period in which they will be doing their required practicum in long-term care administration in a Kansas skilled nursing facility.</p>	<p>The Lucille E. Reitz Scholarship in Gerontology -- Awarded to a student <i>enrolled in the College of Human Ecology</i> with an emphasis in gerontology at KSU.</p>	<p>Dan and Kathy Richardson Graduate Student Innovation Scholarship in Gerontology – Awarded to a graduate student enrolled in the gerontology program in the College of Human Ecology. Preference given to grad students participating in interdisciplinary collaboration to innovatively improve the lives, environment and well-being of individuals with disabilities.</p>
<p>Carol Ann Holcomb Scholarship in Gerontology -- Awarded to a senior with a minimum GPA of 3.0 in any curriculum with a secondary major in gerontology or a graduate student with an emphasis in gerontology <i>in the College of Human Ecology</i>. Preference will be given on the basis of financial need.</p>	<p>R.C. and Eva Finley Center on Aging Scholarship - Awarded to an undergraduate junior or senior properly enrolled in the Secondary Major in Gerontology or the Long-Term Care Curriculum through the Center on Aging; OR a graduate student accepted to the Masters Degree or Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. Preference given to students planning to devote their careers to working in the field of gerontology.</p>	
<p>The Maggie Higdon Scholarship - Awarded to a graduate student <i>enrolled in the College of Human Ecology</i> with an emphasis in Gerontology at KSU.</p>		<p>Edith L. Stunkel Endowed Assistantship – Undergraduate student enrolled in the Secondary Major in Gerontology or a graduate student enrolled in the Masters in Gerontology, selected on the basis of merit.</p>

Applications for scholarships in Gerontology are attached along with this newsletter. The deadline for scholarship applications is March 9 at 4 pm. Applications can be submitted to Pam Evans in the Center on Aging. Online students should send their applications to gerontology@ksu.edu.



A few years back the Center on Aging did a collaborative event with Meadowlark Hills. It was attended by many residents, lots of Meadowlark staff and some of our students. At the time, we didn't know that there was a visitor in our midst, a woman who had lived independently all her life in Hiawatha, Kansas and was now feeling that she needed more care. She happened to be in the community room when one of our students spoke about how much she had learned in our program and how she hoped to be able to use it to care for older people in her career. The woman, Vivian Nolte, was overcome that young people would be so excited about taking care of someone like her and the very next day the Center on Aging learned that she had created an endowed scholarship for students in gerontology. Vivian died just a few years later and she gave us a part of her farm to continue providing scholarships for the study of aging. Thanks to her vision, many of the students who apply for a gerontology scholarship through the Center on Aging will receive one.

AMAZING CAREERS IN AGING RACE



Race set to take place April 13,
4-6 pm

The Amazing Careers in Aging Race is the KSU Center on Aging's version of the CBS show, The Amazing Race, where K-State teams are pitted against each other to trek around campus in search of four destinations. At each destination teams will compete in a challenge – some physical and some mental – learning about careers in aging along the way. Only when the challenge is complete will the teams learn their next location. The competition will start at the Center on Aging office and teams will earn points by being the first to arrive at the destinations. Points will also be awarded to the challenge winner at each location. The team with the most points at the final destination will be declared the winner and receive the grand prize. In the event of a tie, a final tie-breaker challenge will determine the winner. Sign up in teams of **4 or 5** the Center on Aging (Justin 253) or email Sally Hodges at sjhodges@k-state.edu.



STUDENT AMBASSADOR APPLICATIONS

Gerontology ambassadors represent the Gerontology program by recruiting new students throughout the year, and by networking with students, faculty, alumni and business professionals. Ambassadors assist with the "Majors, Minors and More" fair, the annual "Amazing Careers in Aging Race," Open House activities, as well as participating in other student events. Ambassadors may be asked to meet with student groups or to give a short presentation in a class about the secondary major in gerontology.

Students who have a genuine interest in gerontology and interacting and networking are encouraged to apply for an ambassador position. Applications are due March 5th.

Applications can be found attached to this email or in Justin 253 and are due *March 5th*.

"My favorite part of being a Gerontology Ambassador is planning the Amazing Careers in Aging Race! The race provides an exciting way for any K-State student to explore several ways that studying gerontology can benefit them in any career. Working with the other amazing ambassadors, advisers, and sponsors is an added bonus!" -Sarah McConnell, 2017-2018 Ambassador

"What I have liked best about being an ambassador is being more involved with our program. It's the reason why I came to K-State. Being involved and planning the Amazing Race has been a way for me to grow in my confidence and leadership. I love getting to talk to classes and spread my love of older adults to others." -Mallory Wilhite, 2017-2018 Ambassador