



Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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The Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services conducts activities to improve services for California's elderly through research, education & collaboration. These activities are made possible through the generous support of the Kleiner Family Foundation and other donors.

Issue Highlights...

- Creating Aging-Friendly Communities Conference
- Kleiner and Center Scholarship Recipients
- Hartford Doctoral Fellows
- Joint Appointment for Alumni
- Training on Aging Research Topics – Mental Health
- Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging

Creating Aging-Friendly Communities

The Center hosted an innovative online conference—*Creating Aging-Friendly Communities*—with more than 750 people participating from around the world. This unique conference synthesized current knowledge regarding proven strategies for helping communities respond effectively to the aging of their populations. There were over 30 separate presentations on topics ranging from rethinking transportation and housing options to how to create lifelong career and learning opportunities. Featured speakers included U.S. Assistant Secretary for Aging Josefina Carbonell; Jennie Chin Hansen, AARP; Sandra Markwood, Executive Director of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging; Jody Kretzmann, Co-founder of the Asset-Based Community Development Institute, and other national experts on aging and community development. In addition to live events and pre-recorded presentations, participants were able to use a variety of online communication modalities to share best practices and actively engage with others, including instant messaging, virtual meeting rooms, and structured collaborations. Finally, participants had easy access to key research findings, reports and website links.

Demand for the conference far exceeded the Center's initial estimate of 300 registrants, and we had to restrict participation to 750 participants representing 47 states and spanning 17 countries. To facilitate further dissemination, conference materials are now available for the general public at www.agingfriendly.org. This website includes access to conference presentations, networking opportunities, and links to practical tips, models, tools, and training materials. In addition, the Center has created a listserv on the website to keep conference participants and others informed about new resources as they become available.

The website also provides an opportunity to participate in the Creating Aging-Friendly Communities Community of Practice (CoP), an intensively-supported process that includes monthly expert speakers, access to peer-to-peer and expert technical assistance with leading experts in aging and community development, monthly community case studies, monthly issue challenges to help address significant problems and opportunities communities face, and ongoing networking opportunities.

The great success of the Creating Aging-Friendly Communities online conference was made possible through generous funding from Helen Andrus Benedict Foundation, MetLife Foundation, Sierra Health Foundation, and The California Endowment.

2007-2008 Rose Kleiner Fellowship & Center Scholarship Recipients

In recognition of their academic and professional promise, two Masters of Social Welfare students were awarded Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services Scholarships and one student was awarded the Rose Kleiner Fellowship in Gerontology. The Rose Kleiner Fellowship is supported by a generous gift from the Rose and Eugene Kleiner Family Foundation in honor of Rose Kleiner (MSW '77), a leader in gerontological case management and home care.

Lindsey Barnum was awarded one of the 2007-2008 Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services scholarships. Her first year internship was at The Claremont House, a retirement community in Oakland. Lindsey is currently an intern at Adult Protective Services in San Francisco.

Nicole Muller also was awarded one of the 2007-2008 Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services scholarships. Prior to entering UC Berkeley's MSW program, Nicole was an In-Home Support Services worker. Last year she interned at Laguna Honda Hospital, working with elders in long-term care. Nicole is currently an intern at Adult Protective Services in San Francisco. After graduation Nicole hopes to continue to work in Adult Protective Services.

Katherine Morris was awarded the 2007-2008 Rose Kleiner Fellowship in Gerontology. Katherine has spent the past several years working with older adults in various capacities. Prior to entering UC Berkeley's MSW program, she was an enrichment specialist at The Claremont House for nearly two years. Last year she interned at the City of Oakland's Linkages program where she provided case management services to help elders, who were at-risk for institutionalization, to remain living in their own homes. Katherine is currently interning at The Redwoods, a retirement community in Marin County, where she provides case management and supportive group and one-on-one counseling to residents in the Independent Living portion of the facility. After graduation, Katherine hopes to continue her work in a senior housing setting and to pursue her LCSW.

Lindsey Barnum

Nicole Muller

Katherine Morris

Graduate Research Associates Receive Hartford Award

Two Center Graduate Research Associates, Erica Auh and Kristen Gustavson have received Hartford Doctoral Fellowships from the Gerontological Society of America as part of the John A. Hartford Foundation's Geriatric Social Work Initiative (GSWI). The GSWI is a multi-faceted initiative to help cultivate faculty leaders in gerontological education and to help define and promote the special role of social workers in improving and providing vital services to older adults.

The prestigious Hartford Doctoral Fellowship provides dissertation support, mentorship and leadership development for outstanding social work doctoral students. The Hartford Doctoral Fellowship was created to help foster the next generation of geriatric social work faculty as teachers, role models and mentors for future generations of geriatric social workers. Each student receives a \$50,000 award as well as a \$20,000 matching grant from the UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare. Erica's dissertation focuses on "Activities in Retirement: An Examination of Retirees' Activity Patterns and Factors Affecting Their Participation." Kristen's dissertation examines "Late Life Depressed Mood: Experience, Knowledge, and Understanding."

Both students previously had received Hartford Pre-Dissertation Awards. Erica and Kristen have worked at the Center since the Fall of 2003.. For more information about the Geriatric Social Work Initiative, go to their website at www.gswi.org.

Insert Pictures of Erica Auh, Kristen Gustavson,



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Center Alumni Accepts Joint Appointment

The Center is proud to report that its former Graduate Research Associate, **Nancy Giunta** (PhD '07), has accepted a joint appointment at Hunter College as an Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work and Director of Special Projects at the Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging & Longevity. Dr. Giunta also received the prestigious Hartford Doctoral Fellowship for her dissertation titled "Caregiver Support Programs and Policies: A Mixed Methods Evaluation of Implementation Efforts in 50 States." Dr. Giunta began working at the Center in 2000.

START-MH Scholarship Recipients Selected

Kristen Gustavson, a Graduate Student Researcher at the Center, was selected from a national competition to participate in the Summer Training on Aging Research Topics - Mental Health (START-MH) program this summer. Conducted by the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, with support from the National Institute of Mental Health, this program gives students an opportunity to gain research experience while working with a faculty mentor.

Working with Dr. Andrew Scharlach, Kristen will analyze data from her dissertation research exploring the meaning and experience of depressed mood in later life. Upon completion of the ten-week START-MH training program, Kristen will give a poster presentation at a conference held at UC San Diego.

Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging

The School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley, offers the Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging. Kleiner Fellows will receive full support, including tuition, fees, and living expenses, for a minimum of four years, to pursue doctoral studies in gerontology at Berkeley's School of Social Welfare.

Berkeley's doctoral program is designed to inspire independence and original thought, in pursuit of knowledge. The program aims to develop scholars who will make significant contributions to the knowledge base and profession of social work through excellent research, scholarship, teaching, policy development and analysis.

The Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging supports an individually-tailored program of research experience and training. Fellows participate in collaborative research activities through the Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services, which brings together faculty and graduate students from the School of Social Welfare as well as other departments to address critical issues in aging.

Individuals interested in the Kleiner Fellowship apply by completing the School of Social Welfare's Ph.D. application. For more information or to request an application packet for Fall 2009, contact the Admissions & Fellowship Office at the School of Social Welfare at socwelf@berkeley.edu or call 510/642-9042.