Since 1978, the Center for Gerontology has served as the focal point for interdisciplinary research and learning at Virginia Tech, making it one of the oldest university-level research centers on campus. We applaud the Center’s founders for having the foresight to recognize the importance of the study of aging, and thank our current university administrators for their continued support of the Center.

Throughout the past 30 years, numerous people associated with the Center, individually and collectively, have made it such a successful and long-lasting enterprise. In this special edition of the Center’s newsletter, we highlight the work undertaken by our core faculty, several of our faculty affiliates, staff, and students during the past five years (see the Spring 2003 issue of the Center’s newsletter for highlights of our first 25 years). In addition to our primary emphasis on applied and basic gerontological research that enhances the quality of life of older adults, the Center also reflects the other missions of the land-grant university through its education and outreach activities. Although not everyone who has contributed to the success of the Center and the study of aging at Virginia Tech is mentioned here, information about all of the Center’s activities and current faculty affiliates is available on our website: www.gerontology.vt.edu.

As we commemorate our past and create our future, I would like to acknowledge the faculty, staff, and students involved with the Center each year, and our external colleagues, community partners, and local older adult residents who assist us with our research and educational efforts. To all of you, I am most grateful and look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to advance the study and practice of aging.

~Karen
Center for Gerontology Faculty Affiliates
2003-2008

Faculty affiliates engage in research directly or indirectly related to aging, teach in the Graduate Certificate Program, serve on student committees, and are involved in various engagement efforts. In addition, they serve as ambassadors for the Center within the Virginia Tech community and beyond. During the past 5 years, 93 faculty members from 7 colleges representing 35 different departments or organizational units on campus served as Center affiliates.

Administration
- Development and University Relations
  Elizabeth A. Flanagan
- Equity and Inclusion
  Jane Ann Williams
- Outreach and International Affairs
  John E. Dooley

Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Academic Programs
  John Hess
- Animal and Poultry Sciences
  Edward J. Smith
- Dairy Science
  Katharine Knowlton
- Entomology
  Jeffrey R. Bloomquist
- Horticulture
  Diane Relf
- Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise
  Ruby H. Cox
  Brenda Davy
  Kevin Davy
  Paul Estabrooks
  William G. Herbert
  Mike E. Houston
  Shelly Nichols-Richardson
  Eleanor D. Schlenker
  Elena Serrano
  Jay H. Williams

Architecture and Urban Studies
- Institute for Community Health
  Sharon Dwyer
- Public Administration and Policy
  Larkin Dudley
- Urban Affairs and Planning
  James R. Bohland

Business
- Accounting and Information Systems
  Steven D. Sheetz
  James A. Yardley
- Economics
  Jeffrey Yau
- Hospitality and Tourism Management
  Muzaffer Uysal

Engineering
- Computer Science
  Athman Bouguettaya
  Doug Bowman
  Denis Gracanin
- Engineering Science and Mechanics
  Michael Madigan
- Industrial and Systems Engineering
  Kari L. Babski-Reeves
  Thurmon E. Lockhart
  Maury Nussbaum
  Tonya L. Smith-Jackson
  Eileen M. Van Aken
- Materials Science & Engineering
  Brian Love
  Mechanical Engineering
  Michael J. Furey

Liberal Arts and Human Sciences
- Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management
  Sophia Anong
  Julia Beamish
  Kate Carroll
  JoAnn M. Emmel
  Patti Fisher
  Rosemary C. Goss
  Celia Hayhoe
  Jihyun Kim
  Irene Leech
  Sherry Schofield-Tomschin
- Center for Gerontology
  Nancy Brossieo
  Victoria Curtis
  Anne H. Glass
  Karen A. Roberto
  Jyoti Savla
  Karen L. Wilcox
- Communication
  James Ivory
  Ashli Quesinberry-Stokes
- Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
  Jean B. Crockett
  Kusum Singh
- Human Development
  Katherine Allen
  Rosemary Blieszner
  Isabel Bradburn
  Megan Dolbin-MacNab
  April Few
  Alison Galway
  Tammy Henderson
  Shannon Jarrott
  Margaret Keeling
  Kee Jeong Kim
  Jay A. Mancini
  Fred Piercy
  Cindy Smith
  Michelle Stevenson
- Interdisciplinary Studies
  Neal King
- Science and Technology in Society
  Doris T. Zallen
- Sociology
  Toni M. Calasanti
  Jill Kiecolt
  John Ryan
  Bill Snizek
- Teaching and Learning
  Charles L. Baffi
  Kerry J. Redican
  Douglas R. Southard
The faculty’s active and successful involvement in scholarly activities, (writing grant applications, publishing articles, presenting research at conferences) brings national and international visibility to the Center for Gerontology and Virginia Tech. The following examples highlight the faculty’s areas of expertise and their knowledge about aging.

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


**BOOK CHAPTERS**


BOOKS


**Selected Faculty Affiliate Grants**

**Aging Effects on Intermittent Work Capacity**

Maury Nussbaum, L.A. Wojcik

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 2000-2004

**Effects of Aging on the Biomechanics of Slips and Falls**

Michael Madigan

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Special Emphasis Research Career Award, 2001-2004

**Assessment of Aging Visual Characteristic**

Michael Madigan

Toyota Motor Corporation, 2002-2006

**Building Web Services Infrastructure for Senior Citizens**

A. Bouguettaya, Denis Gracanin

National Institutes of Health, 2003-2006

**Gender Differences in Informal Care Work for Persons with Alzheimer’s Disease**

Toni M. Calasanti

Virginia Center on Aging, Alzheimer’s & Related Diseases Research Award Fund, 2003
Horticultural Therapy for Persons with Dementia: Advancing Preliminary Research
Shannon Jarrott, P. Diane Relf
Virginia Center on Aging: Alzheimer’s and Related Diseases Research Award Fund, 2003

Biomechanical Analysis of Slip-Induced Falls
Michael Madigan
The Whitaker Foundation, 2003-2006

Risk Factors and Controls for Falls From Heights
Maury Nussbaum, Michael Madigan
The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 2003-2008

Caregivers of Persons with Mild Cognitive Impairment: Information and Support Needs
Karen Roberto, Rosemary Blieszner
Alzheimer’s Association, 2003-2006

Insights into Violence Experienced by Older Women
Pamela Teaster, Karen A. Roberto
University of Kentucky Center for Research on Violence Against Women, Lexington, KY, 2003-2004

Muscle Strength and Age Effects in Balance Recovery
Michael Madigan, Maury Nussbaum
The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 2004-2006

Aging Families in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.
Tammy Henderson, Karen Roberto, Yoshinori Kamo
National Science Foundation, 2005-2006

Preventing Falls in the Elderly: Identifying High-Risk Fallers and Exercise Training for Improved Balance Recovery
Michael Madigan, M.E. Williams
Carilion Biomedical Institute, 2005-2006

Age: Automotive Seating and Comfort
Maury Nussbaum, K.L. Babski-Reeves
Virginia Tech Research Partnership with Hyundai Motor Company, Korea, 2005-2006

Aging and Disability Resource Center Evaluation
Karen A. Roberto
Administration on Aging and Center for Medicare and Medicaid, Virginia Department for the Aging, 2005-2008

Use of a Virtual Environment to Assess Real World Abilities in Older Adults Experiencing Memory Loss
Karen A. Roberto, D. Bowman, Paul Diamond
Virginia Tech-University of Virginia-Carilion Health System Collaborative, 2005-2006

Intergenerational Training Network
Andrea Taylor, Shannon Jarrott
Temple University: Center for Intergenerational Learning, 2005-2008

Inter-and Intra-Generational Examination of Family Influences on Individual Adjustment
KeeJeong Kim, Rosemary Blieszner
CLAHS Dean’s Fellowship Program, 2006

The Healthy Families Project
Rosemary Blieszner, Kirby Deater-Deckard, Douglas Southard
Virginia Tech-University of Virginia-Carilion Health System Collaborative Research Grant, 2006

Is Increased Water Consumption an Effective Weight Loss Strategy in Older Adults?
Brenda Davy
Institute for Public Health and Water Research, 2006-2008

Weight Loss and Arterial Stiffness in Older Adults with the Metabolic Syndrome
Kevin Davy
American Heart Association Grant-in-Aid, 2006-2008

Arterial Destiffening with Atorvastatin in Middle-aged and Older Adults with a Metabolic Syndrome
Kevin Davy
Pfizer Global Pharmaceuticals, 2006-2009

A Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Randomized Trial of the Efficacy of Dark Chocolate on Variables Associated with Neuropsychological Functioning and Cardiovascular Health: Clinical Findings from a Sample of Cognitively Intact Older Adults
David Harrison
The Hershey Company, 2006-2008

Effects of Obesity on Trip Recovery
Michael Madigan, Kevin Davy
Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center of Wake Forest, 2006-2007

Karen A. Roberto
Virginia Department for the Aging, between 2006-2007

Anti-inflammatory Actions of Atorvastatin in Human Adipose Tissue
Kevin Davy
Pfizer Global Pharmaceuticals, 2007-2009

Effect of Atorvastatin on Blood Pressure and Autonomic Function in Obese Middle-aged and Older Adults
Kevin Davy (Sponsor for Predoctoral Fellow, Jeb S. Orr)
American Heart Association, 2007-2009

Orthotics Fall Intervention For Older Adults
Michael Madigan
Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Harvey Peters Foundation, 2007-2008

Karen A. Roberto
New River Valley Agency on Aging, 2007

Understanding Mild Cognitive Impairment: Family Dynamics and Diversity.
Karen Roberto, Rosemary Blieszner
Alzheimer’s Association, 2007-2010

Increased Water consumption: A Self-Regulatory Strategy for Long-Term Weight Loss Maintenance
Brenda Davy
International Life Sciences Institute, 2008-2010

Angiotensin II Receptor Blockade and Adipose Tissue Inflammation in Obesity
Kevin Davy
The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, 2008-2010

*The first name listed is the primary investigator (PI) and subsequent individuals are Co-PIs.
Faculty Affiliate Awards

The Center’s core faculty, faculty affiliates, staff, and students have received numerous recognitions from a variety of organizations for their excellent research, scholarship, and accomplishments. Among the award winning faculty are . . .

Katherine R. Allen, Human Development
Visiting Scholar, University of Alberta, 2006
Petersen Visiting Scholar in Family Gerontology, Oregon State University, 2005-2006
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship, 2007

Julia Beamish, Apparel, Housing, & Resource Management
Delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising, 2006
Fellow, World Demographic Association, 2008
Manuscript Prize, Best Paper on Senior Housing, American Real Estate Society, 2007

Martha Ann Bell, Psychology
Fellow of Division 7, Developmental Psychology, American Psychological Association, 2007

Jim Bohland, Executive Director, National Capital Region Fellow, World Demographic Association, 2008

Rosemary Blieszner, Human Development
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising, 2006
Visiting Scholar, Luther Seminary, 2007
Editor, Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences, 2008-11

Toni Calasanti, Sociology
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship, 2006
Visiting Scholar, University of Crete, 2006
Richard Kalish Innovative Publication Award, Gerontological Society of America, 2006
University Alumni Award for Excellence in Research, 2007
Petersen Visiting Scholar in Family Gerontology, Oregon State University, 2008-2009

Brenda Davy, Human Nutrition, Food, and Exercise
Future Nutritional Leader Award, International Life Sciences Institute, 2008

Kevin Davy, Human Nutrition, Food, and Exercise Fellow, American Heart Association, 2008
Fellow, Council of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism, 2008

Megan Dolbin-MacNab, Human Development
National Institute on Aging Summer Institute Fellowship, 2005

Elizabeth A. Flanagan, Vice President for Development and University Relations
Distinguished Alumna, Curry School of Education, University of Virginia, 2006

Rosemary Goss, Apparel, Housing, & Resource Management
Manuscript Prize, Best Paper on Senior Housing, American Real Estate Society, 2007
Fellow, World Demographic Association, 2008

David W. Harrison, Psychology
VT Student Alumni Association’s Favorite Professor Award, 2006

Celia Hayhoe, Apparel, Housing, & Resource Management
Distinguished Fellow Award, Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education, 2007

Shannon E. Jarrott, Human Development
Virginia Association on Aging Outstanding Gerontology Educator Award, 2004
Southern Gerontological Society Best Practices Award, 2006
University Alumni Award for Outreach Excellence, 2006
Charles A. Lewis Research Award for the top publication in horticultural therapy, 2007
Fellow, Gerontological Society of America, 2008

Maggie Keeling, Human Development
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Outreach, 2006

Jay A. Mancini, Human Development
Virginia Association on Aging Outstanding Educator Award, 2003
Honor Award for Excellence, 4-H/Army Youth Development Project, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2006

Alumni Distinguished Service Award, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 2007
Fellow, World Demographic Association, 2008

Jerome A. Niles, Education, Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences
Administrative Leadership Award, Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, 2007

Fred Piercy, Head, Human Development
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Outreach, 2006
College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising, 2007
Outstanding Contributions to Marriage and Family Therapy Award, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 2007

Karen A. Roberto, Center for Gerontology Southern Gerontological Society
Gordon Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist Award, 2004
Research Fellow, Center for Social Change Research, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia, 2004
Visiting Scholar, James Madison University, 2005
University Alumni Award for Excellence in Research, 2006
Fellow, World Demographic Association, 2007

John Ryan, Chair, Sociology
Alumni Recognition Award, Sociology Department, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, West Virginia University, 2006

Doris T. Zallen, Science and Technology in Society
Outstanding Faculty Award, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, 2007

Dean Jerry Niles speaking at the Center’s 2007 celebration
Center for Gerontology
Research Development
Grant Awardees

Building Community among Neighbors: Intergenerational Programming for Elders and Children

Social and Cultural Factors in Internet-Mediated Diabetes Care of Rural Appalachia Elders
John Ryan, Rachel L. Holloway, and Peggy L. de Wolf, 2003

A National View of Grandparents Rearing Grandchildren on TANF
Tammy L. Henderson, 2004

Preventing Trips with Trip Recovery Training
Michael L. Madigan, 2005

Technological Barriers to Diabetes Management Among Older African-Americans
Tonya Smith-Jackson, 2005

Do Women Who Feel Strong Have Strong Bones?
Shelly Nickols-Richardson, William Herbert, Kerry Redican, and Tonya Smith-Jackson, 2006

Center for Gerontology
Student Awards

AARP Memorial Fund Scholarship
Matthew Komelski,
Human Development, 2008

Center for Gerontology Futures Board Scholarship
Nancy Brossioe,
Human Development, 2003
Denise Love-Norris,
Human Development, 2004
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2005
Aaron C. Weintraub,
Human Development, 2007
Krysten Pujari,
Counselor Education, 2008

Peggy Lavery Gerontology Research and Professional Development Awards
Rashida M. Madraswala,
Interior Design, 2003
Melissa S. Gladwell,
Human Development, 2003
Mary Elizabeth Bowen,
Sociology, 2004
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2004
Sharon Dale Rogers,
Human Development, 2004

Nancy Brossioe,
Human Development, 2005
Dana Beth Stauffer,
Human Development, 2005
Valentina Lukyanova,
Sociology, 2006
Brienne L. Winston,
Human Development, 2006
Sharon L. Fenyk,
Health Promotion, 2007
Lauren Ermann,
Counselor Education, 2008
Brandy McCann,
Human Development, 2008

S. J. Ritchey Endowed Scholarship
Denise Love-Norris,
Health Promotion, 2003
Christina M. Gigliotti,
Human Development, 2004
Stephen G. Guil,
Human Nutrition, Foods, & Exercise, 2004
Mary Elizabeth Bowen,
Sociology, 2005
Brienne Winston,
Human Development, 2005
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2005-2007
Teena Felton,
Human Nutrition, Foods, & Exercise, 2006
Sharon Fenyk,
Health Promotion, 2006
James L. Ford,
Human Development, 2007
Sung-jin Lee,
Apparel, Housing, & Resource Management, 2008
Jessica Erin Mabry,
Human Nutrition, Foods, & Exercise, 2008

Vetra R. Mancini and Jay A. Mancini Research Prize
Christina M. Gigliotti,
Human Development, 2005
Soyoung Lee,
Human Development, 2006
Elise M. Cole,
Human Development, 2007

Other Student Awards

AARP Scholars 2005
Mary Elizabeth Bowen, Sociology
Nancy Brossioe, Human Development
Erica K. Husser, Human Development

AARP Andrus Foundation, Doctoral Leadership Development Program
Alicia Z. Almada,
Sociology, 2003

American Association of Housing Educators, Graduate Paper Award
Benjamin Kuttintara,
Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, 2003

Cunningham Fellow, Graduate School
Aaron Weintraub,
Human Development, 2007

Elderhostel K. Patricia Cross Doctoral Research Grant
Jill Harrison-Rexrode,
Sociology, 2008

Graduate Student Association Research Symposium’s Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities Awards, Graduate School
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2007
Sung-Jin Lee,
Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, 2007

Graduate Student Endowed Scholarship, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences
Sung-jin Lee,
Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, 2007

GrantMakers in Aging Fellows Program
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2005

Harold A. Schlenker Scholarship, Department of Human Development
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2005
Aaron Weintraub,
Human Development, 2008

James D. Moran Memorial Endowed Scholarship, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2005
Sung-Jin Lee,
Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, 2007

Jerry Hulic Serving Spirit Fellowship Award, Department of Human Development
Matthew F. Komelski,
Human Development, 2007

Margaret Barnes Intergenerational Scholarship, Department of Human Development
Aaron Weintraub,
Human Development, 2008

Mattie J. T. Stepanik Caregiver Award, Rosalyn Carter Institute
Aaron Weintraub,
Human Development, 2007

New River Valley Community Response Coalition, Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Performance in Disaster Mental Health Response
James Ford,
Human Development, 2008

Vetra R. Mancini and Jay A. Mancini Research Prize
Christina M. Gigliotti,
Human Development, 2005
Soyoung Lee,
Human Development, 2006
Elise M. Cole,
Human Development, 2007
Ora Goodwin Roop Scholarship, 
College of Liberal Arts and Human 
Sciences
Nancy Brossoie,
Human Development, 2006
Erica K. Husser,
Human Development, 2007

Southern Gerontological Society Media 
Award
Erica K. Husser, 
Human Development, 2006

Virginia Association on Aging, 
Outstanding Doctoral Student
Jeremy B. Yorgason, 
Human Development, 2003
Sharon Dale Rogers,
Human Development, 2004

Virginia Association on Aging, 
Outstanding Master’s Student
Christina M. Gigliotti, 
Human Development, 2004
Brianne L. Winston, 
Human Development, 2005

Virginia Citizen Scholar
Darrell K. Shomaker, 
Commonwealth Campus Program, 2007

William Preston Society Master’s Thesis 
Award in Social Sciences at Virginia 
Tech
Brianne L. Winston, 
Human Development, 2005

Fall 2003

Oh-Jung Kwon. PhD ’91, Associate 
Professor of Housing, Department of 
Consumer Science and Housing, KonKuk 
University, Seoul, Korea
Demographic Changes and Housing Is- 
sues for Older Koreans

Spring 2004

Janet Ramsey, PhD ’95, Associate Pro- 
fessor, Congregational Care Leadership, 
Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN
What’s faith got to do with it? Aging well 
through spiritual resiliency

Susan Leigh Star. Professor, Department 
of Communication, University of Califor- 
nia, San Diego
Lived Residual Categories: The Uncer- 
tainties of Chronic Pain Among Doctors, 
Researchers and Patients

Harold G. Koenig, Professor, Psychiatry & 
Medicine, Duke University Medical 
Center & Founder/Director, Center for 
Study of Religion/Spirituality and Health 
Religion, Spirituality, and Health: History, 
Research and Application

Martha Anderson, MA, RN, CS 
Director of Carilion Center for Healthy 
Aging
Clinical Aspect of Healthy Aging

Fall 2004

M. Jean Turner, Associate Professor, 
University of Arkansas
Building Bridges Across Generations: The 
Conundrum of In-law Relationships

Judith L. Warren, Professor & Exten- 
sion Gerontology Specialist, Texas A&M 
University
Building Community Capacity for Baby 
Boomer Aging

Spring 2005

Marieke Voorpostel, Doctoral candidate 
in Sociology at Utrecht University, Nether- 
lands
Support in the Adult Sibling Relationship: 
A Comparison with Friendship

Shannon Jarrott, Assistant 
Professor, Human Development and 
Faculty Research Fellow 
Randomized Clinical Trials 
in Behavioral and Social 
Sciences: Gerontological 
Applications

Special Recognitions

Carlene Arthur, Administrative Assistant, 
Center for Gerontology
Certified Professional Secretary, 2006
Virginia Tech Research Administrator 
Program Certificate, 2008

The Center for Gerontology
Senior Navigator Compass Rose Spirit of 
Wisdom Award, 2004

Center for Gerontology 
Research Forum and 
Graduate Certificate 
Celebration Speakers 
2003-2008

Each year, the Center sponsors a series 
of research forums which are attended by 
faculty, students, and community profes- 
sionals and residents. Speakers for the 
forums include faculty affiliates, visiting 
distinguished scholars, and alumni.

Fall 2005

Brian de Vries, Professor of Gerontology, 
San Francisco State University
The Potential of Friendship in Late Life

Elizabeth Barham, Visiting professor 
from the Federal University of Sao Carlos, 
Brazil
Investigating Invisible Work: Putting Fam- 
ily Eldercare Providers on the Map

Spring 2006

Katherine Allen, Professor, Erica Husser, 
doctoral student, Virginia Tech
Intergenerational Conversations About 
Older Women’s Sexualities

Karen Fingerman, Berner Hanley University 
Scholar and Associate Professor, Child 
Development & Family Studies, Purdue 
University
You Used to be More Annoying: Emotional 
Changes in Relationships across Adulthood

Spring 2005

I-l: Rosemary Blieszner, Karen Fingerman, and 
Karen A. Roberto
Fall 2006

**Toni Calasanti**, Professor, Sociology, Virginia Tech and **Kathleen F. Slevin**, Chancellor Professor of Sociology, College of William and Mary

*Age Matters: Re-aligning Feminist Thinking*

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Spring 2008

**Jon Hendricks**, Professor, Sociology, Oregon State University

*Building on a Strong Foundation: The Future of Gerontology*

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Fall 2007

**Jyoti “Tina” Savla**, Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech, Human Development and the Center for Gerontology

*Dysregulation of Daily Cortisol Rhythm in Caregivers*

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Spring 2008

**Bill Kallio**, Virginia State Director, AARP

*Divided We Fail-Fixing the Health Care and Financial Security Crises in this Country*

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The Gin Game

In honor of the 30th Anniversary of the Center, Sue Ott Rowlands, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and David Johnson, a faculty member in the Department of Theatre Arts performed “The Gin Game”, written by D.L. Coburn and Directed by Gregory Justice. This two-act, four-scene play about a woman in her twilight years, Fonsia Dorsey, who enters a “home for the aged” and is, for a while, saved from melancholy by the crusty charm of Weller Martin. The sardonic Weller cajoles Fonsia into playing a series of gin games on the home’s sunlit porch. As they seemingly become close companions, much is revealed about their respective regret-filled lives—to the steady shuffling and playing of cards. Their mutual need for solace is momentarily satisfied, until Weller’s pent-up rages, and Fonsia’s subtle needling, build to a terrible confrontation.

The production was performed on October 28 for an audience of Center for Gerontology Future’s Board members, university faculty, students, staff, and community visitors.
Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Recipients, 2003-2008

The Center for Gerontology is the administrative unit for the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Program, a Program of Merit as designated by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. The Certificate is awarded to Commonwealth Campus students and to master’s and doctoral students who complete a set of gerontology courses, a practicum, and research in conjunction with their degree requirements. Students combine their major studies and a concentration in gerontology with the goal of contributing to improving the quality of life for older adults through teaching, research, and practice in their chosen fields.

2003

Nancy Brossoie
Christina M. Gigiotti
Melissa S. Gladwell
Rashida Madraswala
Amy S. Powell
Dawn Viers-Yaun

Human Development
Human Development
Human Development
Apparel, Housing, and
Resource Management
Human Development
Human Development

2004

Brandy L. Bratton
Adrienne C. Byrne
Jeannette Steeves
Emily Maples Stumb

Human Development
Health Promotion
Apparel, Housing, and
Resource Management
Interior Design

2005

Krista Geller
Audrey J. Kemp

Human Development
Human Development

2006

Cara Bailey
Mary Elizabeth Bowen
Lauren Butterfield
Gina Caniano
Stephen Guill
Teresa Lyons
Peggy Wimmer

Urban Affairs and Planning
Sociology
Apparel, Housing, and
Resource Management
Landscape Architecture
Human Nutrition, Foods,
and Exercise
Commonwealth Campus
Sociology

2007

Marya C. McPherson
Titilola Obliade
Jane Roberts
Darrell K. Shomaker

Human Development
Human Development
Human Development
Commonwealth Campus

2008

Sharon Fenyk
James Ford
Erica Husser

Health Promotion
Human Development
Human Development

2007 Gerontology Certificate Recipients
l-r: Jane Roberts, Titilola Obliade, and Darrel Shomaker

2006 Graduate Certificate Recipients: l-r: Libby Bowen, Gina Caniano, Lauren Butterfield, Peggy Wimmer, Stephen Guill, and Teresa Lyons

2008 Gerontology Certificate Recipients: l-r: Sharon Fenyk, Jim Ford, and Erica Husser
In the 5 years since our 25th anniversary, 26 students have completed the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. We have included updates from many Certificate alumni in this issue, ranging from our first recipient to very recent ones. As you will see, they are using their gerontology knowledge and expertise in research, instruction, community agencies, health care and pharmaceutical settings, professional organizations, advocacy groups, and residential facilities. We are extremely proud of the dedication to gerontology displayed by our Certificate alumni and very pleased about their many accomplishments.

Cara Bailey '07, St. Paul, MN: I am a Policy Coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Human Services in the Managed Care Development and Payment Policy Division, special needs purchasing. I coordinate quality assurance and performance improvement policies and serve as the unit’s liaison to other divisions within the agency serving older adults and persons with disabilities.

Dawn Barnes '96, Floyd, VA: I just received my 20-year service pin with Virginia Cooperative Extension, Floyd County. I am a Senior Extension Agent with Family and Consumer Sciences and in recent years, my programming has focused on Financial Literacy and Consumer Education for all age groups.

Libbey Bowen '06, Detroit, MI: Since completing the Certificate I have been a post-doctoral fellow at the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University. It has been great and I am looking forward to the next big move, which is happening soon, we’re just not sure where!

Nancy Brossio '03, Radford, VA: I completed my PhD in Human Development at VT in December 2007! I have worked at the Center for Gerontology as project manager, data analyst, and team member. In 2007, I accepted a position as Senior Research Associate for the Center for Health Policy, Planning, and Research at the University of New England (UNE) in Portland, Maine. I have just returned to the Blacksburg area after accepting a position at the Center for Gerontology as a Senior Research Associate. I intend to remain with the Center, developing my own research on vulnerable populations and communities.

Adrienne Byrne '03, Richmond, VA: After graduation, I briefly returned home to Canada before returning to Virginia, this time landing in Richmond in the fall of 2004. I took a position with a 225-bed nursing home as an Admissions Assistant. After 6 months I was promoted to Community Liaison, and then Admissions Director. In the fall of 2005 I joined Brighton Gardens Assisted Living (a Sunrise Senior Living community) as a Community Relations Associate and was quickly promoted to Director of Community Relations. Along with my team, we have been in the top of the Mid-Atlantic region in Sales/Occupancy for approximately the last 3 years!

Gina Caniano '06, Denton, TX: I am currently pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of North Texas in Applied Gerontology. In addition to school, I work as a research assistant at the Retina Foundation of the Southwest. My responsibilities include community outreach, assessing patients’ vision by using various eye tests, and recruiting participants for clinical trials. I recently got engaged and will be getting married next May.

Marsha Carolan '96, East Lansing, MI: I am a tenured Associate Professor at Michigan State University in the Department of Family Ecology. I have been involved in research that focuses on diverse families and on issues related to health, in particular obesity. I have not been involved formally in research related to gerontological issues but I have used my training at Virginia Tech in gerontology as a critical lens into every subject that I teach, at the practice and policy level.

Donna K. Dawson '00, Butner, NC: It is hard to believe that the Center for Gerontology is 30 years old. Just seems like yesterday that I was in Jim McAuley’s methods class at VCU and neither of us knew about VT! I continue as Administrative Director for the Geropsychiatry and Medical Services Units at one of the state psychiatric facilities in NC. We (staff and patients) are excited to be moving into a brand new state-of-the-art facility in June so I am busy pulling all of the articles that I can find on relocation issues for older persons. On a personal note, like many of my cohort, I continue the unpredictable but blessed journey of care-giving for a parent.

Alison Galway '98, Blacksburg, VA: Since receiving the Graduate Certificate in 1998, I have been serving as Director of Adult Day Services at Virginia Tech.

Christina Gigliotti '05, San Diego, CA: I am currently the Community Health Program Supervisor for the Shiley-Marcos Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC) at University of California, San Diego (UCSD). I facilitate community programs, give presentations, and develop and disseminate outreach materials. I provide outreach and education about Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias to area physicians and potential participants. I am also an adjunct faculty member at California State University, San Marcos and San Diego State University in the departments of Human Development and Gerontology. I have taught undergraduate and graduate level courses on theory, policy, and evaluation. My husband and I are expecting our first child in August.

Anne Glass '90, Athens, GA: I earned my Gerontology Certificate while completing my Ph.D. through the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, and the Center Director at the time, Jim McAuley, served as co-chair of my dissertation committee. I am the first Certificate alumna who has served on the Center’s Advisory Futures Board (while I was employed at the corporate level of the Carilion Health System) and also came back to work at the Center as the Project Coordinator for a grant from 2002 to 2005. I am now employed as the Assistant Director of the Institute of Gerontology and Assistant Professor of Health Policy & Management in the College of Public Health at The University of Georgia, and I am also the Associate Director of the Georgia Geriatric Education Center.

Catherine E. Habegger '84, Shamokin Dam, PA:Greetings from central PA! After many years of volunteering in public schools and community organizations, I began working as a substitute water fitness instructor for a largely older adult class at the local YMCA in 2003. I now lead approximately 75% of these classes weekly, as well as teach swim lessons, in addition to my duties as a certified lifeguard. I am 59 years old, and use my education every day!

Raeann Hamon '86, Grantham, PA: I’ve been a faculty member at Messiah College since leaving Virginia Tech (22 years). I am currently the Director of the School of Education and Social Science, but normally serve as Professor of Family Science and Gerontology and Chair of the Department of Human Development and Family Science. Shortly after joining the MC faculty, I created our minor in gerontology. I currently teach sociology of aging, dynamics of family interaction, and strategies of family life education. I have also done research and published articles and books on topics including filial responsibility, families in later life, mate selection, intergenerational relationships and service-learning, and family science and gerontology pedagogy.

Julieta Holguín '97, Washington, DC: I am currently serving as Director of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) Education and Leadership Development Group.

Wayne Juddkins '99, Webster City, IA: After graduating with my Certificate in Gerontology, I started a public guardianship program with Southwest Virginia Legal Aid in Christiansburg, acting as legal guardian for up to twenty people, many of whom were older persons. I am now living in Webster City, Iowa with my wife Brandi, son Tucker (7) and daughter Charlotte (5). I teach part time in the Psychology Department at Iowa Central University, and am currently starting my own business providing in-home services to children with mental health issues. To impress my Iowa Central students, I cite findings from life-span research published by Katherine Allen, Karen Roberto and Rosemary Blieszner and proudly proclaim, “That was my thesis committee!”

Sue Creech Liptrot '02, Surrey, British Columbia: Since receiving the Certificate, I have been teaching nursing at Kwantlen University College in British Columbia, Canada. One of my goals when work-
ing with nursing students is to assist them in developing a love and respect for older adults as they explore their roles in the profession of nursing.

Jan McGilliard '89, Blacksburg, VA: I worked for the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, a regional governing body of the Presbyterian Church, USA for 15 years as Associate for Older Adult Ministries, working with 14 regions of churches on issues of aging...teaching workshops, organizing, advocating programs. For the past four years I have been self-employed with ElderConnections, teaching workshops on a wide variety of subjects related to aging. I have led two grandparent/grandchild tours to Great Britain and am a certified intergenerational specialist, organize congregational care at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, and am a certified lay preacher.

Marya C. McPherson '07, Blacksburg, VA: I recently accepted a faculty position at Virginia Tech as an Outreach Coordinator with the VA Career VIEW team. I currently develop and conduct workshops/trainings and help maintain a website to provide optimal statewide educational and programmatic career development supports to a diverse array of youth and adults. I focus on tailoring effective supports and strategies for people who must overcome unique barriers as they strive to create and sustain a successful career path. To continue my long-term work in family violence intervention and prevention, I remain active on the regional Task Force on Domestic Violence among Older Adults.

Jan Ramsey '95, Roanoke, VA: I am currently teaching aging courses at Luther Seminary, the only seminary in the US with a formal aging concentration (to my knowledge). I am also continuing my writing and research work with Dr. Rosemary Blieszner on resiliency and spirituality.

Sandra Reynolds '97, Washington, DC: After earning my Certificate, I taught as an adjunct professor at Virginig Tech and worked on research projects at the Center for Gerontology. I then spent three years as the Data Acquisition Manager of the Georgia Centenarian Study at the Institute of Gerontology, University of Georgia. When the grant period ended, I moved to the Washington, DC area where I worked as the branch manager of a home health organization located in a Hyatt senior living community. Currently, I am the manager of Eldercare Locator, a national referral source for older adults and caregivers, administered by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

Jane Roberts '02, Sarasota, FL: I conducted an elder needs assessment in the Southwest Florida region under the auspices of the Health Resources and Services Administration, and a review of human services agencies’ disaster preparedness for elders in that region. I have been active in presenting my work on eliminating ageism in the workplace at state and national conferences, and I am the 2008 chair-elect of a regional chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Jen Scanlon-Mogel '99, Utica, NY: When I graduated from Virginia Tech, I went to work for Alterra Assisted Living Company from 1999 until 2004. I started out as a Community Sales Representative and was then promoted to Regional Sales Manager for NY State. I signed my position as Regional Sales Manager in September 2004 to work for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals as a Professional Healthcare Representative in the Neurology Division and am currently in the Urology/Respiratory Division. My husband Matt and I are proud parents of 16-month-old Dylan.

Jeannette Steeves '05, Orlando, FL: I am currently teaching interior design classes at The International Academy of Design and Technology in Orlando, Florida, and free-lancing in kitchen and bath design. My goal is to initiate a kitchen and bath course of study at The Academy. I am concurrently writing a book based on my dissertation research - interior design features that support, enhance and, in some cases, determine the ability of an individual to maintain independence late in life. I have written several articles for the Senior Resource Alliance's on-line newsletter and serve on their housing council.

Alan C. Taylor '98, Syracuse, NY: I recently accepted a faculty position in the Department of Child Development and Family Relations at East Carolina University. My family and I are excited to be mov-
Past Center Directors…

Founding director and former dean **S. J. Ritchey** retired from Virginia Tech. He lives in Blacksburg, and is busy pursuing a new career as a novelist. Since 2005, he has published *Scams and Murders*, *Runaway Witness*, *Gene Factor*, and *Blackmail Plus*. When Dr. Ritchey retired, his family, friends, and former students endowed a scholarship in his honor, which is awarded annually through the Center for Gerontology to students pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology.

Our first full-time director, **William J. (Jim) McAuley**, left Virginia Tech in 1994. He pursued academic careers at the Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and University of North Carolina at Charlotte before moving to his current position as Professor of Health Policy at George Mason University. Dr. McAuley is currently serving as Editor-in-chief of *The Gerontologist*, published by the Gerontological Society of America. He also serves as Long-term Care Scholar in Residence at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in Washington, DC and is working on a project aimed at planning long-term care for Maryland through 2030.

Center for Gerontology Futures Board Members 2003-2008

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<th>Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Christopher</td>
<td>Virginia Department for the Aging</td>
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<td>Jay DeBoer</td>
<td>Virginia Department for the Aging</td>
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<td>Patrick Finnerty</td>
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<td>Bill Kallio</td>
<td>AARP Virginia</td>
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<td>Kye Kim</td>
<td>Memory Disorders Clinic, Salem Veterans Affairs Medical Center</td>
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<td>Aubrey Knight</td>
<td>Geriatric Medicine, Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
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<td>Richard Lindsay</td>
<td>Geriatric Medicine, University of Virginia</td>
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<td>Marilyn Maxwell</td>
<td>Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc.</td>
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<td>Sallie Morgan</td>
<td>Rappahannock/Rapidan Community Services Board</td>
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<td>Linda Nablo</td>
<td>Virginia Department for the Aging</td>
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<td>Gail Nardi</td>
<td>Virginia Adult Services/Adult Protective Services</td>
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<td>Tulane Patterson</td>
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<td>Robert Peck</td>
<td>Premier Consulting Services, Inc.</td>
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<td>Debbie Petrine</td>
<td>Commonwealth Care Of Roanoke</td>
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<td>Sue Ranson</td>
<td>Good Samaritan Hospice, Inc.</td>
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<td>Judi Reid</td>
<td>Commonwealth Council on Aging, Virginia Department for the Ageing</td>
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<td>Katie Rooper</td>
<td>SeniorNavigator</td>
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<td>Harriette Shivers</td>
<td>Anderson, Desimone, &amp; Green, PC</td>
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<td>Terry Smith</td>
<td>Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services</td>
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<td>Marcia Tetterton</td>
<td>Virginia Association of Home Care</td>
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<td>Cathy Thompson</td>
<td>Family Service of Roanoke Valley</td>
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<td>Diana Wallace</td>
<td>Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, Inc.</td>
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<td>Susan Williams</td>
<td>LOA-Area Agency on Aging</td>
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<td>Jane Woods</td>
<td>Driftwoods Consulting</td>
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Futures Board Members 2006-front row, Sue Ranson, second row, l-r: Karen Roberto, Kye Kim, third row, l-r: David Crews, Cathy Thompson, Diana Wallace, fourth row, l-r: Cindi Jones, Harriette Shivers, Frank Peck, last row, l-r: Sue Williams, Ferne Moschella, and Bill Kallio

Members of 2007 Futures Board with Aaron Weintraub, Futures Board Scholarship recipient, l-r: Kye Kim, David Crews, Aaron Weintraub, Sue Ranson, Cathy Thompson, Debbie Petrine, Karen Roberto, Cindi Jones, Dick Lindsay

Members of 2008 Futures Board with Kristen Pujari, Futures Board Scholarship recipient, l-r: Julie Christopher, Susan Williams, Cindi Jones, Kristen Pujari, David Crews, Marilyn Maxwell, and Kye Kim
Contributing to the Center for Gerontology does make a difference!

Please make a contribution now to help support ongoing gerontology programs such as student scholarships, special publications, student conference participation, and other professional development activities. Visit www.givingto.vt.edu or the Center for Gerontology's website at www.gerontology.vt.edu.

Center for Gerontology Foundation Fund
This fund is used at the discretion of the Director to support and advance the work of the Center faculty and students.

AARP Virginia Tech Memorial Fund for Gerontology
Initial funds from the generous contributions of AARP Virginia and others in honor of the 32 students and faculty lost at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007 have been placed in an endowment account. Additional contributions are needed to ensure a perpetual memorial to those we have lost. One $500 competitive award will be given to a student enrolled in the Gerontology Graduate Certificate program yearly.

S. J. Ritchey Endowed Scholarship
This is a competitive scholarship for students enrolled in the Gerontology Graduate Certificate Program. Preference will be given to students (1) majoring in foods, human nutrition, or international foods and nutrition, or (2) whose research emphasis is in the area of health and aging. One or two awards of $3,000 will be made yearly.

Peggy Lavery Gerontology Research and Professional Development Award
This is a competitive research and professional development award for students enrolled in Gerontology Graduate Certificate Program. One or two awards of $500 each will be given yearly to cover research costs incurred in the thesis/dissertation process or the costs of a professional development activity such as attending a gerontology-related professional conference or workshop.

Center for Gerontology Futures Board Research Scholarship
This is a competitive scholarship for students who are currently enrolled in the Gerontology Graduate Certificate Program or who have completed a degree/certificate in Gerontology at another University and are currently pursuing a graduate degree with a focus on aging at Virginia Tech. One scholarship will be awarded in the approximate amount of $1,200.

Vetra R. and Jay A. Mancini Research Prize
This is a competitive research prize for doctoral students in the Department of Human Development. The recipient of this award will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and motivation necessary to successfully pursue an active research career within academia. Doctoral students in all specialty areas within Human Development are eligible to apply. One $500 Research Prize is awarded yearly.

Contact Us
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