

WATER AND PUBLIC HEALTH

APHA 137TH ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPO
NOVEMBER 7-11, 2009
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



GERONTOLOGICAL HEALTH SECTION AWARDS CEREMONY

**Monday, November 9, 2009
4:30-6:00 p.m.
Philadelphia Convention Center, Room 112A**



Photo from APHA 136th Annual Meeting, 2008

GREETINGS!

We have assembled an impressive awards portfolio that gives visibility to the issues in aging and recognizes those who have taken positive action in public health programs for older adults. These awards are associated with the Gerontological Health Section (GHS) Call for Abstracts. Further information regarding these awards, including submission procedures and deadline dates, are available on the APHA website at: www.apha.org and the GHS website at: <http://www.apha.org/membergroups/sections/aphasections/gh/>



Daniela B. Friedman, MSc, PhD, Awards Chair

Pankaja (PJ) Desai, MPH, MSW, Co-Program Chair
Ashley S. Love, DrPH, MPH, MS, Co-Program Chair
Jan Warren-Findlow, PhD, Co-Program Chair

GERONTOLOGICAL HEALTH SECTION

<http://www.apha.org/membergroups/sections/aphasections/gh/>



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to stimulate public health actions to improve the health, functioning and quality of life of older persons and to call attention to their health care needs. Gerontological Health Section members fulfill that mission in part through research and advocacy aimed at reforming governmental health care programs, particularly Medicare and Medicaid. Section members are also active in administration, direct service, research and education in community health promotion, community organizing, program development and evaluation, and other ways of bringing public health innovations to older people. The Section is also concerned with the health and social needs of the younger people with disabilities as they make their transition into the health care delivery system organized for older adults. Your expertise, involvement, and support are most welcome.

GHS LEADERSHIP

Elected Positions

Section Chair	2007-09	Nancy Miller
Section Chair-elect	2007-09	Susan Miller
Past Section Chair	2007-09	Bob Burke
Secretary	2007-09	Pat Alt
Governing Council	2008-11	Lené Levy-Storms
Governing Council	2007-09	James Swan
Section Council	2006-09	Helena Temkin-Greener
Section Council	2006-09	Janet Frank
Section Council	2007-10	Keith Elder
Section Council	2007-10	Lucinda Bryant
Section Council	2008-11	Daniela Friedman
Section Council	2008-11	Denys Lau

Appointed Positions

Program Chair	2009	Ashley Love
Program Chair	2010	Pankaja (PJ) Desai
Program Chair	2008	Jan Warren-Findlow
Membership Chair	2007-09	Daniel Meng
Awards Chair	2009-11	Daniela Friedman
Policy Chair	2007-09	Karen Peters
Newsletter Chair	2005-08	Steven Albert
Website/Listserv Chair	2007-09	Steven Wallace
Development Chair	2007-09	Gerry Eggert
APHA Action Board	2007-09	Karen Peters
AJPH Editorial Board	2007-10	Dana Mukamel
APHA Student Assembly Representatives	2007-09	Karon L. Phillips Christina Subers

ORDER OF AWARDS PRESENTATION

Presider..... Nancy Miller, PhD, Section Chair

Award for Lifetime Achievement

Winner..... Joan F. Van Nostrand, DPA

Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging and Public Health
Presented by Lené Levy-Storms

Winner.....Connie Evashwick, ScD

Aetna Award for Excellence in Research on Older Women and Public Health
Presented by Marcia G. Ory, PhD, MPH

Winner..... Matthew L. Smith, PhD

Aging and Rural Health Research Award
Presented by Daniela B. Friedman, PhD

Winner..... Jordan P. Lewis, PhD

Honorable Mention..... Lin Fan, MS

Honorable Mention..... Matthew L. Smith, PhD

Archstone Foundation Award for Excellence in Program Innovation
Presented by Nancy Miller, PhD

Winner..... Catherine J. O'Brien, MPH, MA
"PREPARE: Disaster and Emergency Preparedness for Long-Term Care Facilities"

Honorable Mention John M. Scholte, MDiv
"Intergenerational Teams Providing Respite Care for Caregivers"

Erickson Foundation Research Award
Presented by Connie Evashwick, ScD

Winner..... Marcia G. Ory, PhD, MPH

Winner..... Hillary R. Bogner, MD

Betty J. Cleckley Minority Issues Research Award
Presented by Carolyn A. Mendez-Luck, PhD, MPH

Winner..... Shubing Cai, MS

Honorable Mention..... Junling Wang, PhD

James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award
Presented by Dana B. Mukamel, PhD

Winner..... Steven A. Cohen, DrPH, MPH

Winner..... Yue Li, PhD

Honorable Mention..... Holly A. Beard, PhD

Nobuo Maeda International Research Award
Presented by Helena Temkin-Greener, PhD, MPH

Winner..... Marylou Cardenas-Turanzas, MD, DrPH

Honorable Mention..... Ngoyi K. Z. Bukonda, PhD, MPH

Retirement Research Foundation Student Awards
Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student Research Award
Presented by Denys T. Lau, PhD

Winner..... Esteban Calvo, PhD

Honorable Mention..... T. Nan Zheng, BS

Honorable Mention..... Shubing Cai, MS

Masters Student Research Award
Presented by Irena Pesis-Katz, PhD

Winner..... Julia B. Wenger, MPH

Honorable Mention..... Krystal E. Knight, MPH

Special Recognitions and Appreciation

GHS Awards Sub-Committee Chairs

Caryn D. Etkin, PhD, MPH and Denys T. Lau, PhD

Retirement Research Foundation Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student
Research Award

Connie Evashwick, ScD, FACHE

Erickson Foundation Research Award

Allan Goldman, MPH

Archstone Foundation Award for Excellence in Program Innovation

Carolyn Mendez-Luck, PhD, MPH

Betty J. Cleckley Minority Issues Research Award

Dana B. Mukamel, PhD

James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award

Marcia G. Ory, PhD, MPH and Bruce Friedman, PhD, MPH

Aetna Award for Excellence in Research on Older Women and Public Health

Irena Pesis-Katz, PhD

Retirement Research Foundation Masters Student Research Award

Joseph R. Sharkey, PhD, MPH, RD

Aging and Rural Health Research Award

Helena Temkin-Greener, PhD, MPH

Nobuo Maeda International Research Award

Awards Program Editor

Jennifer L. Curry, MPH

Program Planning Assistance

Rachel Seymour, PhD

**Lifetime Achievement Award
WINNER**



Joan F. Van Nostrand , DPA

Health Resources and Services Administration
US Department of Health and Human Services
Rockville, MD

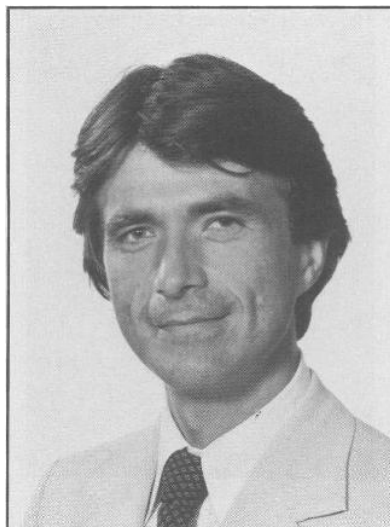
Dr. Joan F. Van Nostrand is a leading scholar and practitioner in health, aging and long term care. As the first Chief of the Long Term Care Statistics Branch with the Centers for Disease Control, she designed and administered a national program of research and dissemination on long term care, with an emphasis on nursing home use. As the Deputy Director of the CDC Division of Health Statistics, she planned and implemented a program on national statistics related to health services research. Most recently, as Director of Research for the Office of Rural Health Policy with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Dr. Van Nostrand coordinated the research activity of university-based research centers focused on rural health policy. Her current research focuses on home health and the role of Medicaid in rural areas, as well as the potential for health promotion interventions to reduce disability among older adults residing in rural areas. Her work has been recognized by the receipt of several awards, including an Administrator's Citation from HRSA and the Secretary's Award for Distinguished Services from the Department of Health and Human Services. As a founding member of GHS, Dr. Van Nostrand served as Chair, and was the 1993 recipient of the GHS Key Award, since renamed the Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging and Public Health.

Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging and Public Health

GHS Celebrates 25 Years of the Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging & Public Health

This November, the GHS is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging and Public Health. The 25th recipient of the Award is Connie Evashwick, ScD. Formerly the Key Pharmaceutical Leadership Award, in 1984 GHS recognized T. Franklin Williams, MD, as the first recipient. The award recognizes the best of past and present leadership concerned with ensuring the highest quality of life for our older population. Recipients are individuals and organizations who have provided leadership in the field of gerontological health, and include, but are not limited to, public officials, policy-makers, practitioners, teachers, and researchers.

In 2004, the Key Award was renamed the Philip G. Weiler Leadership Award in Aging & Public Health, in recognition of Philip G. Weiler. Dr. Weiler was a UC Davis Professor of Medicine and a founder of GHS. He served on the Governing Council and Executive Board of APHA and was a Key Leadership Award recipient in 1985. Dr. Weiler served as Chief Deputy Director for Preventive Health Services in the California State Department of Health, establishing one of the first adult day health centers in the country, co-authoring the first book on how to establish and manage such centers, and helping develop the Alzheimer's Disease Diagnostic and Treatment Centers. His training and passions reflected Dr. Weiler's lifelong interest in bringing important elements from social sciences, policy and planning, and public health to his work in geriatrics.



“Philip’s pioneer vision and efforts for the need for better local, state, and federal policies to care for older adults’ chronic health needs – including, but not limited to, Alzheimer’s Disease and HIV – remain not only current but highly relevant today, almost twenty years after his death.”

Lené Levy-Storms, PhD

GHS Governing Councilor, Incoming Chair Elect (2009-2011), and Niece of Dr. Philip Weiler

**Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging and Public Health
WINNER**



Connie Evashwick, ScD

St. Louis University
St. Louis, MO

Dr. Connie Evashwick is Professor of Health Management and Policy and Community Health at the School of Public Health at Saint Louis University. Dr. Evashwick holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from Stanford University and a master's and doctoral degree from the Harvard School of Public Health. She has many years of experience with the continuum of care and long-term care delivery systems, as well as a more recent interest in community benefit.

Dr. Evashwick's multifaceted career has included positions in academia, consulting, and direct operations management. She has been vice president of long-term care for two major health care systems and consulted with health systems, hospitals, and long-term care organizations across the nation. Dr. Evashwick has been active in professional societies in the health administration and aging fields, including being a Regent and Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and being chair of the Gerontological Health Section of the American Public Health Association. Dr. Evashwick has held an endowed chair at California State University Long Beach and served as the Dean of the SLU School of Public Health. She has authored over 112 publications, including twelve books. She has generated and managed over \$9 million in grants from private foundations and federal, state, and local government agencies.

**Aetna Award for Excellence in Research on
Older Women and Public Health
WINNER**



Matthew L. Smith, PhD, MPH
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Matthew Lee Smith, PhD, MPH, CHES, CPP, is a Research Scientist (Post-Doctoral Fellow) at the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Public Health and President/Director of MLS Health Services, Incorporated, a public health consulting firm. He currently serves as a Research Investigator/Measurement Advisor to several state and national initiatives including the Administration on Aging's Evidence-Based Disease Prevention Program Initiative, the NIH-funded Health Maintenance Consortium Resource Center, and the Texas Healthy Lifestyles Program. Matthew serves as a Faculty Research Affiliate of the Program on Healthy Aging (School of Rural Public Health), the Institute for Obesity Research & Program Evaluation (Texas Agrilife), and the Child & Adolescent Health Research Lab (Texas A&M University). He is also a Faculty Advisor for the Aggie Representatives Educating About College Health and the Alpha-Pi Chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma, a national health education honorary. Matthew is the Legislature and Advocacy Committee Chair for the Texas School Health Association and hosts and produces a weekly health talk-show, *Brazos Valley Health*, on KEOS 89.1FM College Station/Bryan. Matthew received his Bachelor's degree in Public Health Education and Masters of Public Health (MPH) from Indiana University – Bloomington and his PhD in Health Education from Texas A&M University – College Station. He has established expertise in survey research methodology, measurement, instrumentation, and evaluation. Matthew's research and evaluation efforts investigate lifestyle and socio-ecological impacts on health risk behaviors across the lifespan.

**Aging and Rural Health Research Award
WINNER**

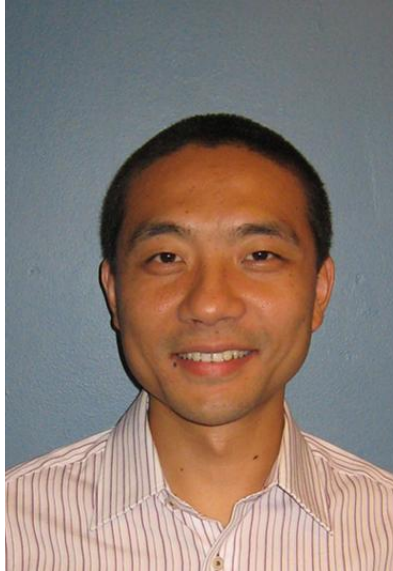


Jordan P. Lewis, PhD, MSW
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Fairbanks, AK

Dr. Jordan Lewis is an Assistant Professor with the UAF Alaska Native Studies Department at the University of Alaska Fairbanks where he will be teaching the Cultural Knowledge of Native Elders, mentoring students and assisting with the new Indigenous Studies doctoral program, as well as continuing his community health work in Bristol Bay, and statewide. He has been involved with numerous professional conferences and organizations where he has presented his dissertation research and continues to engage in community health research with Indigenous elders.

Dr. Lewis received his doctoral degree in Cross-Cultural Community Psychology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), where he did his research with Alaska Native elders in Bristol Bay (SW) Alaska to establish an Alaska Native definition of successful aging. He was also actively involved with the Alaska Native Social Workers Association at the UAF and served as the Vice President for the National Association of Social Workers, Alaska Chapter. His research interests include rural community health, circumpolar health issues, Indigenous gerontology, and cross-cultural health care.

**Aging and Rural Health Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Lin Fan, MS
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Lin Fan is a doctoral student in the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine, University of Rochester. He has been involved in several research projects including emergency department visits among rural elderly people, geriatric syndromes among elderly cancer patients, vulnerability among elderly cancer patients. He is currently a research assistant at James P. Wilmot Cancer Center, University of Rochester Medical Center.

Lin Fan received his Master's degree in Public Health from Shanghai Medical College, Fudan University in China, where he completed his thesis on public health personnel in rural China. Lin Fan's research interests include rural health issues, primary care, health insurance, aging issues and health disparity. Lin Fan currently has an article under review on emergency department visits among rural elderly.

**Aging and Rural Health Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Matthew L. Smith, PhD, MPH
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Dr. Matthew Lee Smith, PhD, MPH, CHES, CPP, is a Research Scientist (Post-Doctoral Fellow) at the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Public Health and President/Director of MLS Health Services, Incorporated, a public health consulting firm. He currently serves as a Research Investigator/Measurement Advisor to several state and national initiatives including the Administration on Aging's Evidence-Based Disease Prevention Program Initiative, the NIH-funded Health Maintenance Consortium Resource Center, and the Texas Healthy Lifestyles Program. Matthew serves as a Faculty Research Affiliate of the Program on Healthy Aging (School of Rural Public Health), the Institute for Obesity Research & Program Evaluation (Texas Agrilife), and the Child & Adolescent Health Research Lab (Texas A&M University). He is also a Faculty Advisor for the Aggie Representatives Educating About College Health and the Alpha-Pi Chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma, a national health education honorary. Matthew is the Legislature and Advocacy Committee Chair for the Texas School Health Association and hosts and produces a weekly health talk-show, *Brazos Valley Health*, on KEOS 89.1FM College Station/Bryan. Matthew received his Bachelor's degree in Public Health Education and Masters of Public Health (MPH) from Indiana University – Bloomington and his PhD in Health Education from Texas A&M University – College Station. He has established expertise in survey research methodology, measurement, instrumentation, and evaluation. Matthew's research and evaluation efforts investigate lifestyle and socio-ecological impacts on health risk behaviors across the lifespan.

**Archstone Foundation Award for Excellence in
Program Innovation
WINNER
“PREPARE: Disaster and Emergency Preparedness for Long-Term Care
Facilities”**



Catherine J. O'Brien, MPH, MA
Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging
Evanston, IL

Ms. Catherine O'Brien is Director of Workforce Research at Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging in Evanston Illinois. She has led several grant-funded programs focused on providing training and education to the long-term care workforce, including an initiative to promote person-centered care practices by long-term care staff and the PREPARE disaster and emergency preparedness project. She is currently co-directing a project funded by the Illinois Department of Public Health to provide cultural competency training to long-term care staff in Illinois. Ms. O'Brien has a Master's in Public Health/Epidemiology and is a doctoral student in Public Health/Community Health Sciences, with a concentration in Gerontology, at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her research interests related to aging include health disparities, physical activity, how the social and physical environments affect health for older adults, and research methodology.

**Archstone Foundation Award for Excellence in
Program Innovation
HONORABLE MENTION
“Intergenerational Teams Providing Respite Care for Caregivers”**



John M. Scholte, MDiv
New Alternatives, Inc. – Legacy Corps
San Diego, CA

Mr. John M. Scholte is the Program Director for Legacy Corps, an intergenerational respite care program, of New Alternatives, Inc. He works in partnership with Aging and Independent Services County of San Diego and participates as a research site with the University of Maryland Center on Aging. He has worked in the field of gerontology for the last fifteen years with a focus on intergenerational programming. Mr. Scholte received his Master’s Degree from Western Theological Seminary in Holland Michigan. He has worked in marketing and public relations for retirement communities in San Diego and was the administrator of the first Intergenerational Day Care Program in Southern California prior to starting the Legacy Corps Program.

“NEW” Erickson Foundation Research Award

This new GHS award recognizes excellence in research pertaining to positive aging. The Erickson Foundation created this award to celebrate research that explores aspects of active, healthy aging, particularly creating healthy communities. Dr. John Parrish, President of the Erickson Foundation, is very interested in translating research into practice, particularly in retirement communities. The Erickson Foundation Award for Excellence in Research recognizes “high caliber research that significantly advances our understanding of functional (physical), social, psychological, financial and/or civic dimensions of positive aging, on either the individual or community level, and/or enhances the impact of such scientific advances on public policy.” Dr. Parrish commented on the award, “We at the Erickson Foundation are delighted to inspire and celebrate research that shows the state of the art of active, healthy aging at both the individual and community levels. We are eager to encourage translation of research into everyday practice by the individual or community, and the visibility given to the research award is one way to do this.” The criteria for selecting the award winners are importance of the topic for positive aging, innovation, research methodology, implications for practice or policy, and broad dissemination of the findings.



**Erickson Foundation Research Award
WINNER**

**“Falls Prevention as a Pathway to Healthy Aging:
Statewide Implementation and Dissemination of an Evidence-Based Program”**



Marcia G. Ory, PhD, MPH
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Dr. Marcia G. Ory, PhD, MPH, is Regent Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Health, School of Rural Public Health (SRPH) at The Texas A&M Health Science Center in College Station, Texas. She is committed to research and practice that enhances the health and well-being of persons across the life-course. In her role as Director of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) sponsored Active for Life ® National Program Office, she is examining how evidence-based programs can be translated to community settings, expanding program research and sustainability. Under this RWJF initiative, she has also been working with a panel of national experts to develop the EASY, a new Screening Tool for helping identify a safe and effective physical activity program. With colleagues, she has established a Learning Network to serve as the communications hub for a Building Healthy Communities Initiative. Finally, she is exploring intergenerational approaches to obesity prevention through co-leadership of the RWJF Texas Childhood Obesity Prevention Policy Evaluation. Locally, she is involved in the Brazos Valley Obesity Prevention Network, and a member of Live Smart Texas, a statewide Coalition of over 80 organizations dedicated to reversing the obesity epidemic in Texas. As a primary Investigator in the Texas Healthy Aging Research Network, she serves as a liaison to the Administration on Aging’s Evidence-Based Program Initiative, helping to guide state-wide efforts funded by the Division of Aging and Disability Services to implement and evaluate evidence-based health promotion programs throughout Texas. Additionally, Dr. Ory is the Principal Investigator on a five-year NIH Health Maintenance Resource Center charged with serving as the coordinating hub for a twenty-one grant consortium designed to improve research on long-term behavioral change associated with healthy living.

Erickson Foundation Research Award
WINNER
**“Executive Function, Depression, and Five-Year Morality in Elderly
Primary Care Patients”**



Hillary R. Bogner, MD, MSCE
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Hillary R. Bogner, MD, MSCE is an Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bogner earned her Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in Psychology with honors from the University of Chicago and received her medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed a residency in Family Practice at the Thomas Jefferson University where she was Chief Resident in her third year. In addition, she received the Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bogner now has an NIMH-funded R01 Award building on a randomized clinical trial carried out in primary care to study trajectories of depressive symptoms and medical comorbidity in relation to the outcomes of Major Depression and suicidal ideation at 2 years. In addition, grant funding from the American Diabetes Association and the American Heart Association focuses on depression in older adults with diabetes and cardiovascular disease, the goal of which is to develop treatment for depression that is integrated with the treatment of chronic conditions such as diabetes. She is also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Generalist Physician Faculty Scholar. Her line of research has the theme of medical comorbidity among older adults; for example, her work has described how medical comorbidity affects treatment for depression and how depressed older adults in an intervention were about half as likely to die over the course of a 5-year follow-up compared to persons in usual care.

**Betty J. Cleckley Minority Issues Research Award
WINNER**



Shubing Cai, MS
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Ms. Cai is a PhD candidate in the Health Services Research and Policy program at the University of Rochester. Her prior training was as a physician and she practiced Internal Medicine in China for two years. She has been involved in several research projects related to the aging population, such as the effect of the work environment on quality of care and costs in nursing homes, the effect of state policy and insurance status on the quality of care in nursing homes, and the effect of race on health outcomes among the nursing home population.

Ms. Cai is expected to get her PhD from University of Rochester this November. In her doctoral theses, Ms. Cai examines the within-facility and the across-facility disparities in hospitalization risks for Medicaid and private pay nursing home residents.

**Betty J. Cleckley Minority Issues Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Junling Wang, PhD
University of Tennessee
Memphis, TN

Dr. Wang is an Assistant Professor at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, Division of Health Outcomes and Policy Research. Dr. Wang conducts research on racial and ethnic disparities and pharmaceutical economics and policy. Her research has been funded by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation-American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy-American Federation of Pharmaceutical Education, the Bureau of TennCare, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufactures of America Foundation, Roche Diagnostics, the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, Eli Lilly, and Merck. Dr. Wang primarily teaches data analysis methods and pharmacoeconomics for Ph.D. and Pharm.D./Ph.D. students. She received her Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research from the University of Maryland in 2005 focusing on the application of quantitative analysis in outcomes research and pharmacoeconomics. She has Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Medicine and Health Economics, respectively, from China. Dr. Wang has published 20 research articles in peer-reviewed journals, such as *Health Affairs*, *Health Services Research*, *Medical Care Research and Review*, *Chest*, *Pharmacoeconomics*, and *Pharmacotherapy*. She has made numerous presentations in various professional meetings.

**James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award
WINNER**



Steven A. Cohen, DrPH, MPH
Tufts University
Boston, MA

Dr. Steven Cohen is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at the Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts. He completed a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Mathematics at Brandeis University, a Masters of Public Health at Tufts University School of Medicine, and a Doctorate of Public Health in Population Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. His dissertation research earned him the Paul A. and Esther C. Harper Award in Population and Family Health Sciences from Johns Hopkins. Dr. Cohen's main research interests include the demography of the aging population in the United States and how the aging of the population will affect the provision of health care services to seniors. As a member of the Tufts Initiative for the Forecasting and Modeling of Infectious Diseases (InForMID), he has been involved with a variety of research projects assessing the social and demographic dynamics impacting influenza transmission from children to seniors. His published research centers primarily upon the social epidemiology of infectious disease in seniors, as well as the escalating health care labor force shortage in the United States to provide adequate care for seniors as the population ages. Dr. Cohen also seeks to investigate the application of demographic methods in public health aging research to enhance the quality of research and also published several research articles surrounding this topic. Current research activities include assessing over- and under-utilization practices of preventive services in seniors in Massachusetts, a state with universal health insurance coverage, continuing research on herd immunity in seniors against influenza by vaccinating children, and assessing population-level factors involved with intergenerational influenza transmission.

**James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award
WINNER**



Yue Li, PhD
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Dr. Li is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Iowa. He is currently funded by the National Institute on Aging to conduct research related to 1) the development of appropriate quality indicators for nursing home long-term care residents; 2) the effectiveness of state technical assistance programs on improving nursing home quality of care; and 3) the role of physician referral in mental-disorder-related disparities in access to high quality cardiac care.

Dr. Li received a PhD degree in Health Services Research and Policy from the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 2005. His research interests include quality of care assessment, nursing home policies for quality improvement, and disparities in healthcare quality. Dr. Li publishes articles in gender differences in healthcare seeking behaviors for treatment of urinary incontinence, in methods to evaluate quality of care based on health outcomes, and in mental-disorder-related disparities in quality and safety of cardiac care. These articles appear in leading academic journals such as *Medical Care*, *Health Services Research*, *Health Services & Outcomes Research Methodology*, *The Lancet*, and *Critical Care Medicine*.

**James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Holly A. Beard, PhD
University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, TX

Dr. Beard is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Sealy Center on Aging in the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB). While at UTMB, her research has focused on the prevalence and impact of diabetes in older Mexican Americans and also the association between self-identified social standing and health among older adults in Mexico. Prior to coming to UTMB, she was an Assistant Research Professor at Boise State University where she was funded by multiple state agencies to evaluate chronic disease self-management programs and also to assess the health and social needs of older adults statewide.

Dr. Beard received her PhD in Health Services Research from Old Dominion University (ODU) in 2007. Her research interests include chronic disease, social determinants of health, aging, and minority health issues. Dr. Beard has published articles on trends in diabetes prevalence among older Mexican Americans aged 75 and older, high depressive symptoms and the impact of immigration, and the nutritional status of older American Indians/Alaskan Natives.

**Nobuo Maeda International Research Award
WINNER**



Marylou Cardenas-Turanzas, MD, DrPH
University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, TX

Dr. Cardenas-Turanzas is a Senior Statistical Analyst specializing in health services and outcomes research in the Department of Critical Care Medicine at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She recently led a study using data from the Mexican Health and Aging Study (MHAS/ENASEM) database that may provide critical evidence to decision-makers in Mexico on the needs of patients with chronic diseases regarding palliative care and end-of-life services. She is currently conducting timely research on the use of do not resuscitate orders and the withdrawal or withholding of medical treatments to patients with cancer who have reached an irreversible and terminal stage of the disease after admission into the critical care unit.

Dr. Cardenas-Turanzas received her M. D. degree from the Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas in Tampico, Mexico and completed her medical residency at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico City, Mexico. She later practiced and taught Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social in Mexico, City. In 2004, she received her doctorate in public health in Health Services Organization from The University of Texas, School of Public Health and during that time she participated in assessing the performance of emerging optical technologies for the detection of cervical cancer. Her research interests include end-of-life issues, aging in developing countries, health disparities and women's health issues.

Dr. Cardenas-Turanzas has published peer-reviewed manuscripts on the place of death of patients with cancer in Mexico, outcomes related to the end-of-life of patients with cancer in the intensive care unit, gender disparities in survival of patients with bladder cancer, and on the performance of standard technologies approved for the screening and diagnosis of cervical cancer.

**Nobuo Maeda International Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Ngoyi K. Z. Bukonda, PhD, MPH
Wichita State University
Wichita, KS

Professor Ngoyi K. Zacharie Bukonda was born in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He holds a Ph.D. degree (1994) in Pharmacy Administration (major) and in Public Health (minor) and a master's degree (1989) in Public Health (major in Public Health Administration) from the University of Minnesota. His dissertation is entitled "Commitment to the primary health care strategy and adoption of essential drugs in Sub-Saharan Africa." He completed his undergraduate education at the Institut Supérieur des Techniques Médicales (ISTM, Kinshasa, 1974 and 1981). From 1974 to 1987, he worked in the Congo successively as Hospital Administrator (General Hospital of Bukavu), Deputy Chair and Instructor at the Medical Institute of Kindu, Chief of Bureau of Human Resources within the Ministry of Health, Lecturer in the School of Health Systems Management at ISTM (Kinshasa), chief of Division for On-the-Job Training and Health Systems Research, and Health Planner for the Rural Health Project (SANRU). While in the Congo, he was also elected and he assumed the position of President of the national association of health systems managers [Association des Administrateurs - Gestionnaires des Institutions de Santé (AGIS)]. He has pursued a dynamic academic career. This started at Southern Illinois University where he served from 1994 to 1997 (Health Care Management). He then served at Northern Illinois University from 1997 to 2007 (Public Health and Health Education). He joined Wichita State University in August 2007 where he serves as an associate professor of Public Health Sciences.

Dr. Bukonda has developed a strong interest in the health and aging issues of internally displaced peoples (IDPs). He is a member of the Aging Research Task Force at Wichita State University. Moreover, he has a wide range of research interests, has received numerous research and teaching awards and has published several manuscripts. More recently, he was inducted in the National Alpha Eta Honor Scholarship Society for Allied Health (2008), selected as a fellow of the Coleman Foundation Faculty Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program (2009), and admitted as a fellow of the Leadership Academy (Wichita State University, College of Health Professions, 2008). He has also been recognized by reputable scientific organizations at the global level: He was invited by UNESCO as a speaker at the 2008 UNESCO Global Research Seminar; he was invited by the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) to serve as facilitator of the 2008 Session of the Institute on Health, Politics and Society in Africa held in Dakar, Senegal from 6th to 31st October 2008.

**Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student Research Award
WINNER**



Esteban Calvo, PhD
Harvard University
Boston, MA

Dr. Esteban Calvo received his PhD (2009) and M.A. (2007) in Sociology from Boston College, and earned a professional degree in Sociology (2002) from Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile. Currently, he is enrolled in the M.S. in Public Health at Harvard University and works at the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Dr. Calvo's research interests include aging and the life course, social and psychological determinants of health and well-being, comparative public policy and policy analysis, and quantitative methods. Much of his works aims to understand what factors influence the happiness and health of older adults, and to evaluate policies that directly or indirectly contribute to improved psychological and physical well-being. Geographically, his focus has been on the United States, Latin America, and China.

**Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



N. Tracy Zheng, BS
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

N. Tracy Zheng is a PhD student in the Health Services Research and Policy program at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. She received her B.S. in finance and law from BeiHang University (Beijing, China). In the course of her doctoral studies, she started to work as a Research Assistant on a project funded by the National Institute of Aging, examining the relationship between work environment, organizational performance and quality of care in nursing homes. N. Tracy Zheng's primary research interests are focused on the organization of nursing home care, quality of care for end-of-life residents, and the relationships between the two.

**Laurence G. Branch Doctoral Student Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Shubing Cai, MS
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Ms. Cai is a PhD candidate in the Health Services Research and Policy program at the University of Rochester. Her prior training was as a physician and she practiced Internal Medicine in China for two years. She has been involved in several research projects related to the aging population, such as the effect of the work environment on quality of care and costs in nursing homes, the effect of state policy and insurance status on the quality of care in nursing homes, and the effect of race on health outcomes among the nursing home population.

Ms. Cai is expected to get her PhD from University of Rochester this November. In her doctoral theses, Ms. Cai examines the within-facility and the across-facility disparities in hospitalization risks for Medicaid and private pay nursing home residents.

**Master's Student Research Award
WINNER**



Julia A. Wenger, MPH
Tufts University
Boston, MA

Julia Wenger is a Data Analyst at Tufts University School of Medicine, Department of Public Health and Family Medicine. Her current research examines the use of complex statistical modeling to predict disease patterns in the older adult population. Her research focuses on spatiotemporal patterns of influenza as well as the impact of social phenomena on these seasonal trends. Her previous research experience was in the field of psychology where she examined the relationship between corporal punishment, religious ideology, and attitudes toward the right to peace and conducted a field test of national juvenile competency evaluations. Wenger received her bachelor's degree in psychology at Boston University and her master's of public health degree with a concentration in epidemiology and biostatistics at Tufts University School of Medicine.

**Master's Student Research Award
HONORABLE MENTION**



Krystal E. Knight, MPH
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Krystal Elaine Knight is currently an Associate Member of the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI). This past summer, she was a Somers Intern through NASI and had been placed at the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Aging Services in Washington, DC. As a NASI intern at CARF, Ms. Knight researched California's regulatory and budget environments and their possible effects on mandatory accreditation of assisted living, adult day care, and skilled nursing programs.

Ms. Knight received her Master of Public Health with a concentration in Public Health Management and Policy from the University of Florida (UF) in May of 2009, where she worked with the Mid-Florida Area Agency on Aging's Office of Consumer Affairs to develop a program process evaluation tool for its first area-wide media campaign. Ms. Knight has over 5 years of experience in the aging services field, mostly in skilled nursing facilities. Her research interests include aging in place, improving quality of life for low-income seniors, and issues related to senior housing and long-term care.

AWARD REVIEWERS

We would like to thank the following individuals for assisting with the review process:

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Towson University*

Allan Goldman, MPH
Georgia Division of Aging Services*

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If you are interested, please contact Daniela B. Friedman, MSc, PhD

dbfriedman@sc.edu

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The GHS would like to welcome its new members.

October 2008 – September 2009

Erica Abel, PhD
Shahin Ahmed, MD
Wajiha Akhtar
Michele Alexander
Carrie Allen, PharmD
Fred Andres
Muhammad Salman Ashraf, MD
Dianne Benjamin, EdD
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N. Tracy Zheng, BS

Formative History of the GHS

At the 1974 Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, of all the hundreds of program sessions, there was only one relating to aging. That session was sponsored by the Public Health Nursing Section. Maggie Kuhn, head of the Gray Panthers, was the Speaker who evoked enthusiasm in the audience.

Anne Zimmer spoke from the audience and asked those present to sign up if they felt that they would support an effort to add public health issues of the elderly to the agenda of APHA. Anne took those names and the issue to the APHA Action Board who designated an Action Board Task Force on Aging. Anne Zimmer was named Chairperson of the group for 1974 and again in 1975. In 1976 & 1977, the Executive Board approved the Task Force on Aging, again with Anne Zimmer as the Chair. The Executive Board action brought more visibility and funds. During those years the Task Force was very active. Participation by seniors was actively sought. Support was also obtained from: The National Institute on Aging; The Maryland Office on Aging; The Gerontological Society of America; The National Council on Aging; Staff from Congressional committees on Aging; and Geoff Gordon and Alana Davidson from APHA.

There was no one more influential in these efforts than Philip Weiler, MD, MPH, MA. He contributed essential inside knowledge of the workings and advocacy within APHA, and he contributed on the Governing Council and the Executive Board. He gave of his knowledge, his wisdom and most of all, his energy. He was always there with unflagging counsel, problem solving and influence. Without his efforts, it is likely that the Gerontological Health Section would not exist.

During those years the Task Force persevered in focusing attention on the public health issues related to aging, not only the elderly. Priorities included providing a visible resource on issues related to aging within APHA and interacting with other APHA sections to bring attention to the multi-disciplinary nature of aging and public health. We also: contributed to The Nation's Health; developed 3 to 5 scientific sessions at APHA annual meetings; set-up a booth in the Exhibit area; made additional efforts to increase the understanding and visibility of issues of aging within APHA; organized year round efforts to increase membership; and pushed for Section status.

Philip created a network of knowledgeable individuals able to analyze legislation and help prepare testimony. Our move toward Section status meant overcoming the opposition of some of the professional leadership of APHA who expressed concern that aging was lacking widespread interest, and professed that section status was not a good idea because they were protecting us from the embarrassment of not being able to develop and maintain the required 500 members.

In 1978, through advocacy by Philip Weiler, Anne Zimmer, as Task Force Chair, was invited to present a report to the Program Development Board. It was at that time that the issue of creating the Gerontological Health Section was allowed to proceed to the Governing Council, although the Executive Board did not endorse the proposal. It was with great glee that we witnessed a very supportive Governing Council vote establishing the Section.

Developments in the GHS

The Mission of the Section has remained consistent over the years--to improve the health, functioning, and quality of life of older people and to bring public attention to their unmet health and long term care needs. The Section has several avenues to fulfill this Mission.

First, we encourage scholarship through competition for eight awards made at each Annual Meeting of APHA. These Awards include best papers on older person's health and long term care needs; women, minorities, persons who live in rural areas, and persons who live outside the US (international). We also make awards for best papers by "new investigators" (persons within 5 years of their last degree) and students. To promote excellence in practice, we have an award that recognizes innovative practice in public health for the older population. Our most publicized recognition goes to those who show outstanding leadership in the field of public health and aging and to those who have demonstrated a sustained career of scholarship and/or public service in the field.

Second, the GHS section has an active scientific program at the APHA Annual Meetings. Many of our members who are leaders in research, practice, and policy, present their work at those meetings. We also foster the development of the next generation of leadership in the field by being open and inclusive in our scientific program and section governance. As a moderately sized section, we are able to provide many opportunities for informal mentorship and advancement to junior scholars.

Finally, we promote knowledge about public health and aging through communications beyond our section. In 2005 the APHA focused on aging issues in its national publicity for Public Health Week. The APHA newspaper, *The Nation's Health*, has regularly drawn on the expertise of section members for articles on aging issues. The APHA scientific journal, *American Journal of Public Health*, has devoted several special sections to public health issues of the elderly.

The Section is governed by its members through a democratic process of annual elections, business meetings at the Annual APHA Meeting, and regular conference calls. Our Section membership has been steady for the past several years at around

500 persons. Section members have been recognized by APHA for both outstanding scholarship and outstanding leadership, both within APHA and in the larger academic community.

Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the Gerontological Health Section is its advocacy and research aimed at improving breadth and scope of the Medicare and Medicaid Programs. These are the primary means of "health" support for Older Americans. We also advocate for "community based long term care coverage" for all adults with disabilities under the federal Medicare Program. Our Section has long prided itself for bringing financing and service delivery innovations to the public health arena. Our future is bright due to the quality of the scholarship and advocacy of all of our Members. The Mission of the Gerontological Health Section will remain unfulfilled as long as older Americans remain unable to remain in their own homes or apartments for as long as medically possible.



GHS Section Chairs

- 1978 – 1980 Tom Hickey, DrPH (thickey@umich.edu)
1980 – 1981 Anne Wilder Zimmer, MS (annenicol@aol.com)
1981 – 1982 Stanley J. Brody, JD, MSW
1982 – 1983 Philip G. Weiler, MD, MPH
1983 – 1984 Laurence G. Branch, PhD (lgbranch@hsc.usf.edu)
1984 – 1985 Pearl German, ScD, MA (psgerman@hsr.jhsph.edu)
1985 – 1987 James G. Zimmer, MD, DTPH (james_zimmer@urmc.rochester.edu)
1987 – 1989 Joan F. Van Nostrand, DPA (jvan_nostrand@hrsa.gov)
1989 – 1991 David L. Rabin, MD, MPH (rabind@gunet.georgetown.edu)
1991 – 1993 Marcia G. Ory, PhD, MPH (mory@srph.tamhsc.edu)
1993 – 1995 Susan L. Hughes, DSW, MSW (shughes@uic.edu)
1995 – 1997 Robert H. Binstock, PhD (rhb3@po.cwru.edu)
1997 – 1999 Gerald M. Eggert, PhD, MSW (gmeggert@aol.com)
1999 – 2001 Richard Fortinsky, PhD (fortinsky@nso1.uchc.edu)
2001 – 2003 Connie Evashwick, ScD (cevashwi@slu.edu)
2003 – 2005 Steven P. Wallace, PhD (swallace@ucla.edu)
2005 – 2007 Robert Burke, PhD (hsmreb@gwumc.edu)
2007 – 2009 Nancy A. Miller, PhD (nanmille@umbc.edu)
2009 – 2011 Susan C. Miller, PhD (susan_miller@brown.edu), Chair Elect

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

2003 Laurence G. Branch, PhD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CITATION

2002 Gerald M. Eggert, PhD, MSW

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- 2008 Carroll L. Estes, PhD
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2004 The Archstone Foundation, Joseph F. Prevratil, JD, President & CEO

GERONTOLOGICAL HEALTH SECTION LEADERSHIP AWARD

- 2003 Susan L. Hughes, DSW
2002 Retirement Research Foundation, Marilyn Hennessy, President
2001 John W. Rowe, MD
2000 James J. Callahan, Jr., PhD

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- | | | | |
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| 1998 | Robyn I. Stone, DrPH | 1989 | Pearl S. German, ScD |
| 1997 | Judith Feder, PhD | 1988 | Robert L. Kane, MD |
| 1996 | Terrie "Fox" Wetle, PhD | 1987 | Stanley J. Brody, JD, MSW |
| 1995 | Bruce C. Vladeck, PhD | 1986 | Anne W. Zimmer, MS |
| 1994 | Joshua Wiener, PhD | 1985 | Philip G. Weiler, MD |
| 1993 | Joan F. Van Nostrand, DPA | 1984 | T. Franklin Williams, MD |
| 1992 | Robert H. Binstock, PhD | | |
| 1991 | Laurence G. Branch, PhD | | |

AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

- 2008 Fernando M. Torres-Gil, PhD
- 2007 Bleddyn Davies, OBE, AcSS, DPhil, MA and David L. Rabin, MD, MPH
- 2006 Gerald M. Eggert, PhD, MSW and Nobuo Maeda, PhD
- 2005 Robert H. Binstock, PhD
- 2004 Pearl S. German, ScD
- 2003 James G. Zimmer, MD, DTPH (Lond.),
- 2002 T. Franklin Williams, MD, and Carter Catlett Williams, MSW
- 2001 Martha McSteen

CHAIR'S CITATION

- 2006 Stuart H. Altman, PhD
- 2005 Donna Cox, PhD, MA, Lakitia Mayo, BSW, Donna Wright, and Kris Krisberg
- 2004 Brenda R. Wamsley, PhD, MSW
- 2002 Nancy A. Miller, PhD



Wisdom of the Elders, APHA 136th Annual Meeting, 2008