



## Geriatric Education Centers

# PIPELINE

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### **The Carolina Geriatric Education Center University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill**

*Cristine Clarke, EdD; Ellen Roberts, PHD, MPH; Jan Busby-Whitehead, MD*

Faculty at North Carolina Central University, a historically black college/university, will attend faculty development in Gerontology and Geriatrics sponsored by the Carolina Geriatric Education Center in May. Dr. Sharon Williams of the UNC Department of Allied Health, Speech and Hearing Sciences will be the featured speaker. The half day program will engage up to 20 faculty in interdisciplinary discussions on topics such as the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in North Carolina, Advanced care planning (especially with persons with dementia) and health disparities across different ethnic and racial groups. Faculty from Dietetics, Psychology, Physical Education and Recreation, Public Health, and Nursing will integrate concepts in Gerontology and Geriatrics into their curriculum, research and community service over the course of the next year with support from the Geriatric Education Center.

### **Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, NTG Co-chair Group T**

*Kathleen M. Bishop, Ph.D.*

#### Meeting the Training Needs on Dementia and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

The Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center (FLGEC) has had a component on aging and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD) since the late 1990s due to the emerging need for education and training for health care providers on this growing population. Kathleen M. Bishop, Ph.D. has been a member of the IDD component of the FLGEC since the inclusion of this important topic. An area in specific need to address was the diagnosis and care for older adults with IDD who have some form of dementia. To help address that need Dr. Bishop joined the then newly formed National Task Group (NTG) on IDD and Dementia Practices in 2010. The National Task Group (NTG) on Dementia and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) was formed to address the growing issues related to dementia and adults with IDD. As part of the growing numbers of older adults with IDD, estimated to be over 700,000 in the US with numbers tripling by the year 2030, there are increasing numbers of adults diagnosed with dementia and other related health concerns many who are living with family and community caregivers (Bishop et al., 2013; Moran et al., 2013; NTG , 2012).

The organization of the group included the development of a number of sub-groups to address specific areas of concern with the first year devoted to gathering the demographics and identifying the issues. At the end of this process goals and tasks were established for each of the sub-groups. A collaborative document 'My Thinker's not Working' was published in 2012 to introduce the issues of concern presented by the group as well as provide recommendations to address these issues. This document can be found at <http://aadmd.org/ntg/thinker>.

The issues included the complex challenge for accurate diagnosis of dementia in older adults with IDD, lack of research and practice guidelines available, and the difficulty in maintaining quality of life for adults with a dual diagnosis of dementia and IDD along with

their caregivers. Another issue was the potential for increased frailty in the older caregivers who may also be impacted by their own dementia and the lack of knowledge within agencies who provide care for adults with IDD. Recommendations were made to address the numerous issues presented in the document including the development of a national training curriculum on dementia care practices specific to adults with IDD. Dr. Bishop co-chairs this initiative with over 100 volunteers working on the development.

The training curriculum currently is divided into sections including introductory information, health care advocacy, and dementia care guidelines based on the knowledge and experience of the workgroup consisting of researchers, health care providers, and trainers in the disability or dementia care field. On March 18<sup>th</sup> representatives from this group including Dr. Bishop presented an overview of this project to the monthly meeting sponsored by HERSA to invite participation by the GECs around the country in the development, dissemination, and coordination of regional training teams. The group will also be presenting the model of training at the AADMD 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Education Conference which includes the 2014 Princeton Meeting of the NTG on ID and Dementia Practices. To register for this conference please click on <http://aadmd.org/conference> or for further information on how to join this exciting initiative please feel free to contact Dr. Bishop at [bisbur1@earthlink.net](mailto:bisbur1@earthlink.net).

## **Houston Geriatric Education Center**

*Jess Hunt, B.S., Research Assistant I*

The Seventh Annual Geriatric Interprofessional Student Competition took place on Monday, April 7, 2014 at the Denton A. Cooley Center in Houston, Texas. Dr. George Stancel, Executive Vice President of Academic and Research Affairs at UTHealth, provided opening remarks about the seven year history of this competition, and the growing importance of interprofessional teamwork in healthcare. Five interprofessional student teams then presented the results of their semester-long projects before a panel of five faculty judges with expertise in geriatrics/gerontology.

After orientation, an introduction to team dynamics, and a three-hour training session on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias in January, each team visited a pre-assigned assisted living or long term care facility over the course of three months to perform a needs assessment with formal caregivers of patients with dementia. With the results of the needs assessment, the teams then designed programs and made recommendations that would help in reducing compassion fatigue and improve job quality. Facilities who welcomed the student teams were St. Dominic Village, Belmont Village, and The Forum at Memorial Woods.

Each team produced a written plan that described the results of the needs assessment, outlined their plans and recommendations, and included journals from their facility visits and team interactions. In their 12-minute competition presentations, teams used multiple methods of presentation from video footage, short skits, role play, posters, Prezis, and PowerPoint presentations to summarize their findings. Each team was judged on their written product and their live presentation; judging criteria included knowledge, innovation, critical thinking, quality, completeness, evidence of interprofessional approaches, and ability to summarize. After the closest scoring outcome in the history of the Interprofessional Student Competition, the judges declared Team 5, The Burn Outs, as the winning team. The Burn Outs' faculty liaison was Nahid Rianon, MD, DrPH, H-GEC faculty member, who commented on the incredible chemistry and teamwork The Burn Outs displayed over the course of their three month project. Other H-GEC faculty members served as team liaisons and judges.

This year's student competition produced a satisfaction level of 91%, the highest percentage since the first year of operation, in 2008. One student commented that the competition was "good practice for [their] future careers because medicine and health [...] problems require an interdisciplinary approach."

## **Meharry Consortium Geriatric Education Center – MCGEC, Nashville, TN**

*Grace Smith, LMSW, MCGEC Project Manager, Meharry Medical College*  
*Anna Lea Cothron, Program Coordinator, Vanderbilt University*

The Meharry Consortium Geriatric Education Center (Meharry Medical College, Tennessee State University and Vanderbilt University) report the following activities as part of MCGEC's Alzheimer's Supplemental Funding Award. Vanderbilt and Mental Health America of Middle Tennessee are partnering with MCGEC on the Alzheimer's supplement to train health professionals throughout Tennessee.

Vanderbilt and TN QIO (QSource) are presenting three long term care regional learning sessions in Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville TN on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. The interactive trainings entitled “Dementia, Difficult Behaviors and Reducing Antipsychotic Use” targeted nursing home professionals and featured small group work and case study discussions. The training is designed to increase understanding of dementia, the causes of related behavioral issues, and evidence based interventions for preventing and/or dealing with challenging behaviors. Specific topics include the prevalence of dementia and related healthcare costs, the history of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Quality Indicators, ACA and initiatives to reduce antipsychotic use in LTC settings, behavioral interventions for residents with dementia, documenting the need for antipsychotics when behavioral interventions are not effective and resources for training long term care staff. The Memphis learning session drew 67 long term care professionals (directors and assistant directors of nursing, administrators, nurse managers and allied health staff) representing 18 nursing homes in West Tennessee. Evaluation results indicated that the training effectively increased understanding of different types of dementia, various causes of behavior and evidence based non-pharmacological interventions. Participants noted that the case studies, small group exercises, assessment/root cause analysis tools and review of antipsychotic drugs were most helpful. (At press time, outcome data was only available for the Memphis session.) This training is conducted by Geriatric Faculty from Vanderbilt School of Nursing.

For more information, please contact Anna Lea Cothron at [annalea.cothron@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:annalea.cothron@vanderbilt.edu).

Another MCGEC partner, Mental Health America, will offer a “2014 Alzheimer’s Update: Trends in Research and Treatment” for medical professionals on May 15, 2014 in Chattanooga, TN at the Erlanger Medical Center. CMEs are being offered through MCGEC. Dr. Dean Hartley, Director of Science Initiatives at the National Alzheimer’s Association, is the keynote speaker. Additional sessions include Caregiver Burden and Depression: Implications for Practice, Clinical Guidelines on Alzheimer’s Diagnosis and Treatment, Case Study Medical Grand Rounds, and Beyond the Office Visit: Guide to Resources and Referrals. Community partners include the Alzheimer’s Association, UT College of Medicine and Erlanger Medical Center.

In June, MCGEC is offering a free, three-part Gerontology Continuing Education series at the VA hospital in Nashville. The Friday programs are: June 6<sup>th</sup> – Dementia Care Revisited, June 13<sup>th</sup> – Elder Care, and June 20<sup>th</sup> – Discharge Planning & Transitions of Care. By partnering with Senior Helpers, an in-home services provider, we are able to offer three hours of nursing and social work accredited ethics training as part of this series. This inter-professional training will cover: Dementia - Person Centered Care and Reducing Use of Anti-Psychotics, A Positive Physical Approach to Dementia Care, Alzheimer’s Disease Update, Palliative Care for Patients with Dementia, The Elder Care Journey, Reducing Caregiver Burden & Depression, Strategies for Managing Multiple Chronic Conditions & Transitions of Care, Reducing Adverse Events and Hospital Readmission, and Ethical Dilemmas in Discharging Older Patients.

For more information, please contact Grace Smith at [gssmith@mmc.edu](mailto:gssmith@mmc.edu).

## **Ohio Valley Appalachia Regional Geriatric Education Center – OVAR/GEC**

*Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D., Director*  
*Hardin Stevens, MA, Associate Director*

For the past two years, the OVAR/GEC has partnered with Dr. Greg Jicha of the University of Kentucky’s Sanders-Brown Center on Aging. For the last two presentations, Dr. Jicha has discussed the following topics regarding Alzheimer’s disease: “Safety Precautions in Older Patients: Medications, Driving Risks, and the Home Environment” and “Part I: Confidentiality and Privacy of Health Information, Part II: Recognizing Medical Conditions that Mimic Dementia”. Dr. Jicha’s live videoconference programs were held October 13, 2013, December 5, 2013, February 6, 2014, and April 3, 2014 for 260 trainees who received 390 training hours. The distance learning trainings were attended by 5 to 8 disciplines with an average of 10 sites.

CECentral at the University of Kentucky is finalizing the archived trainings that will be available to a national audience at no charge at [www.cecentral@dementia](http://www.cecentral@dementia). In the fall of 2013, 58 individuals from both national and international locations (e.g., AZ, CA, GA, and United Arab Emirates) also accessed the trainings.

## Stanford Geriatric Education Center

*Dolores Gallagher-Thompson PhD, Director*  
*Kala Mehta DSc, MPH, Evaluation Consultant*  
*Marian Tzuang, MSW, Program Coordinator*

### Newly funded project: Global Caregiving - iSupport for Dementia Family Caregivers

Stanford Geriatric Education Center Director Dolores Gallagher-Thompson is the PI on a newly funded technology grant from the Alzheimer's Association National Office. By 2030 people living with dementia will total to 66 million world-wide, and this will double every 20 years. Care for these patients rests primarily with family members, and the stress of this burden often causes serious medical and social problems. Currently available caregiver interventions have primarily been developed and tested in high income countries such as the U.S. and Europe. They are generally time and labor intensive and therefore costly to mount. What is needed is a flexible solution that overcomes barriers commonly experienced by caregivers (e.g., stigma of having a relative with dementia and practical issues like cost, lack of access to services and/or lack of flexible work schedules). Low cost computer interventions are now available to reduce caregiver stress, which can be accessed through the internet. Such programs can offset barriers to help seeking efforts, such as poor transportation, limited resources to provide respite breaks from caregiving, avoiding the stigma of having a demented person in the household, etc. Unfortunately, the available programs have not been developed for use in low income and third world countries.

Funded by the Alzheimer's Association National Office, this project brings together expert collaborators from the World Health Organization, Stanford University School of Medicine and the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Bangalore, India, to develop a flexible internet portal to address this overwhelming need. The proposal has two phases. In the first phase all relevant successful interventions will be reviewed to search for tools and strategies that are amenable to modification for use on the internet. These will be packaged in modular form and shaped so that they are user friendly and feasible to use in practical situations. The modules will then be evaluated by a panel of health professionals and end use caregivers. Feedback from this group will be used to refine the intervention procedures. In the second phase the programs will be integrated into a three-month intervention package, which will be tested in a randomized control trial against an education only condition. The program will be tested first in Bangalore, India, because of its high rate of dementia, lack of available resources for caregivers and high internet penetration. iSupport will have several innovative features that will distinguish it from the typical Alzheimer's focused website currently extant: it will consist of a series of modules on specific, evidence-based caregiver knowledge and skills. Topics such as stress management and addressing behavioral disturbances will likely be included, along with others, depending on specific feedback from Phase I focus groups and the international Advisory Group. The portal will feature high interactivity and attractiveness and provide a forum for caregivers to communicate with one another, and be accessible via computers, tablets and smartphones.

In conclusion, to date, no innovative tool exists which can be easily scaled up. After the successful completion of this program, we hope that this generic portal will serve as a template for other countries seeking to implement similar programs and eventually contribute to the reduction of the global costs of dementia.

## The West Virginia Geriatric Education Center – WVGEC

*Hanna Thurman, LGSW, MSW, MPA, Training Coordinator*

West Virginia Geriatric Education Center Director, David Elliott, PharmD, CGP, AGSF, Todd Goldberg, MD and faculty partner, and Vanessa Ferrari, GEC Executive Assistant will present the *Interprofessional Simulation Learning Activity: Cognitive Assessment of Older Adults* toolkit for an educational resource sharing session at the 2014 Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society. The toolkit is a training module designed for students or residents and provides participants the opportunity to assess a cognitively impaired patient while emphasizing skills in teamwork and communication. Upon completion, students/residents will be able to assess an older adult with cognitive impairment, demonstrate competency with a team of health care professionals, develop a plan of care, and assess caregiver burden.

Fulfilling the ongoing goal of disseminating information about the impact of health literacy on patient health status, Charlotte Nath, RN, EdD, CDE, Sara Jane Gainor, MBA and Nancy Daugherty, WVGEC Associate Director are presenting two sessions entitled "Health Communication that Makes Sense to Older Adults." The May 1<sup>st</sup> session in Charleston, WV takes place at the National

Association of Social Workers - WV Chapter meeting, the largest state chapter meeting in the nation. Held in Morgantown in the northern part of the state, the second session is part of the Summer Institute on Aging, a conference for social workers sponsored by WVU's School of Social Work and School of Public Health.

Planning is underway for the WVGEC's Geriatrics Leadership Summit entitled "Shaping the Future" to be held June 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. At the Summit, stakeholders will identify future geriatrics educational priorities, review current successes and opportunities and recommend activities that promote evidence based interventions to improve the care of older adults in our state. WVGEC is currently soliciting input in identifying the needs of the aging population as they pertain to GEC statutory purposes via a needs survey. The survey will help the GEC understand what stakeholders think are the most pressing needs and opportunities for interprofessional geriatrics education and training for health professions students, faculty and practitioners in WV.

A group of 30 engaged health professionals in medicine, pharmacy, nursing, social work, physical therapy, and counseling attended the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Advanced GERiatrics Skills (AGES) Training. Twenty five of those individuals received the AGES Certification.

Hanna Thurman, WVGEC Training Coordinator completed the Respecting Choices® – Last Steps Advanced Care Planning Instructor and Faculty Recertification. WVGEC will continue to partner with the WV Center for End of Life Care in teaching health professionals how to have conversations about advance care planning and the WV POST form.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
May 1, 2014 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	NASW-WV session entitled "Health Communication that Makes Sense to Older Adults?" Sara Jane Gainor, MBA	Charleston, WV	Hanna Thurman <a href="mailto:hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu">hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu</a> 304-347-1225
May 6, 2014 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. <i>Pacific Time</i>	16 <sup>th</sup> Annual Updates on Dementia Conference	Crowne Plaza Hotel 1221 Chess Dr. Foster City, CA 94404	Register online at: <a href="http://edconference.kintera.org/FosterCity2014">edconference.kintera.org/FosterCity2014</a>
May 15, 2014	2014 Alzheimer's Update: Trends in Research & Treatment	Erlanger Medical Center Chattanooga, TN	Grace Smith, Meharry Consortium GEC <a href="mailto:gsmith@mmc.edu">gsmith@mmc.edu</a>
May 16, 2014 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	American Geriatrics Society Education Showcase <i>Interprofessional Simulation Learning Activity: Cognitive Assessment of Older Adults toolkit</i>	Orlando, FL	Hanna Thurman <a href="mailto:hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu">hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu</a> 304-347-1225
May 21-23, 2014	<a href="#">Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program, Spring</a>	University of California Los Angeles, CA	Christy Lau, MSSW <a href="mailto:christylau@mednet.ucla.edu">christylau@mednet.ucla.edu</a> 310-312-0531 <a href="http://geronet.ucla.edu/reynolds-apply">http://geronet.ucla.edu/reynolds-apply</a>
May 22, 2014 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Training	Wheeling, WV	Hanna Thurman <a href="mailto:hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu">hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu</a> 304-347-1225
May 28, 2014 12:00-1:00 p.m.	Geriatrics Lunchtime Learning "Bracing for the Boom: Managing Mom's Medications"	Charleston, WV	Hanna Thurman <a href="mailto:hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu">hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu</a> 304-347-1225 Access this program via webcast at: <a href="http://www.camcinstitute.org/education/catalogs/geriatrics.htm">http://www.camcinstitute.org/education/catalogs/geriatrics.htm</a>

May 29, 2014 11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. <i>Pacific Time</i>	Preventing Elder Investment Fraud: Assessing for Vulnerability to Financial Exploitation  <i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Robert Roush, Ed.D., MPH Co-Presenter: Alana Golden, Public Information Officer III. California Department of Business Oversight.	Berg Hall A, Room 230, Li Ka Shing Center for Learning and Knowledge 291 Campus Drive, Stanford, CA 94305	Marian Tzuang, Program Coordinator, <a href="mailto:mtzuang@stanford.edu">mtzuang@stanford.edu</a> 650-721-1023 RSVP to <a href="mailto:stanfordgec@stanford.edu">stanfordgec@stanford.edu</a> by Tuesday, May 20, 2014.
June 3-4, 2014	25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Saint Louis University Summer Geriatric Institute: The Silver Years	St. Louis, MO	Kathy Leonard <a href="mailto:kleona12@slu.edu">kleona12@slu.edu</a> 314-977-8848 <a href="http://aging.slu.edu/">http://aging.slu.edu/</a>
June 4, 2014 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Summer Institute on Aging session entitled "Health Communication that Makes Sense to Older Adults?" Charlotte Nath, CDE, RN Sara Jane Gainor, MBA Nancy Daugherty, Associate Director	Morgantown, WV	Hanna Thurman <a href="mailto:hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu">hthurman@hsc.wvu.edu</a> 304-347-1225
June 4-5, 2014	Rocky Mountain Alzheimer's Summit	Cheyenne, WY	Catherine Carrico, PhD <a href="mailto:ccarrico@uwyo.edu">ccarrico@uwyo.edu</a> <a href="http://www.uwyo.edu/geriatrics">www.uwyo.edu/geriatrics</a>
June 6, 13 & 20, 2014	Gerontology Continuing Education series: Dementia Care Revisited; Elder Care; Discharge Planning & Transitions of Care	VA – TN Valley Healthcare System Nashville, TN	Grace Smith, Meharry Consortium GEC <a href="mailto:gssmith@mmc.edu">gssmith@mmc.edu</a>
June 11, 2014 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. <i>Eastern Time</i> 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. <i>Central Time</i> 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. <i>Pacific Time</i>	The "Active Shooter" in Long Term Care and Assisted Living Communities  <i>Presenters:</i> Kathy Knight, RN, BSN, CHEC; Judy A. Metcalf, ANP-BC, MS, FMGS	Online	Marian Tzuang, Program Coordinator <a href="mailto:mtzuang@stanford.edu">mtzuang@stanford.edu</a> 650-721-1023 <a href="http://sgec.stanford.edu/events.html">http://sgec.stanford.edu/events.html</a> . Online registration: <a href="http://app.certain.com/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x1745360f444">http://app.certain.com/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x1745360f444</a>
September 10-13, 2014	31 <sup>st</sup> Annual Intensive Course in Geriatric Pharmacy and Board Review	Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel Los Angeles, CA	Anne Hu, MPH <a href="mailto:annehu@mednet.ucla.edu">annehu@mednet.ucla.edu</a> 310-312-0531
September 10-13, 2014	31 <sup>st</sup> Annual UCLA Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine and Board Review	Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel Los Angeles, CA	Anne Hu, MPH <a href="mailto:AnneHu@mednet.ucla.edu">AnneHu@mednet.ucla.edu</a> 310-312-0531
October 4, 2014	2014 Geriatric Update	Boone Business Center, Trevecca Nazarene University Nashville, TN	Mary Ann Ruley, Meharry Consortium GEC <a href="mailto:mruley@mmc.edu">mruley@mmc.edu</a>
October 14, 2014 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Long-Term Care Conference 2014: Getting to the Heart of Person Centered Care	Honolulu, HI	Michiko Inaba, M.D. Conference Program Director

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