Notes from the Director

Spring has come early this year (not that anyone is complaining!) It has been a busy year as we have made a home in our new School of Health and Human Services. There have been many accomplishments this year that we can be proud of, especially our active participation in the community through service-learning, internships, volunteering, and community-based research. We have raised money for the Alzheimer’s Association this fall and are in the process of raising funds for the Heart Association Walk coming up in April! This spring our student groups have also been collecting personal care items for elders in need.

While we are nearing the end of spring semester, it is not over yet! I hope to see you at our upcoming colloquia, open house, and other events! As always, just a few reminders:

- Careers in Aging Week: Don’t miss the fun! We have four exciting events scheduled for CIAW,

Notes from the Gerontology Graduate Coordinator

Since I usually start out with a summary of the weather this will be no exception. Well actually since the weather has been exceptionally odd perhaps not. Is it winter, spring or summer? Seems to depend on the day and the time so we’ll skip ahead!

We will have a booth at the Minnesota Gerontological Society conference this year on April 27th at the Earl Brown Center. There will also be students and faculty presenting at the conference. We hope you can make it – it is a wonderful opportunity to network, be involved with a professional organization and find out what’s happening in Minnesota and the region. And this year we will have our new t-shirt design on display (and for sale)! Can’t
Director’s Notes Continued

including: Tuesday, March 27: Gerontology Colloquium “Don’t Be a Target of Healthcare & Consumer Fraud” Atwood Voyageur North, 12:30-1:30pm; Tuesday, April 3rd “Aging Services Panel” 12:30-1:30 PM SH 204; Tuesday April 3rd Gerontology Program Open House, 3-5pm SH 112; Thursday April 5th “Aging Careers Panel” 1:00-2:30 PM, Atwood – Voyageurs North.

Summer & Fall Classes in Aging: Students, now is a good time to start thinking about registering for Summer and Fall classes (see page 7 for the upcoming Fall course offerings). Be sure to check in with your advisor (Dr. Phyllis Greenberg – Master’s and Certificate Students; Dr. Rona Karasik – undergraduate minors) to make sure your program is on track!

Sigma Phi Omega (the National Academic Honors and Professional Society in Gerontology) and the SCSU Gerontology Club. Sigma Phi Omega “seeks to promote scholarship, professionalism, friendship, and services to older persons, and to recognize exemplary attainment in gerontology/aging studies and related fields.” Students, faculty, and community professionals are encouraged to join!

Also, all are welcome to join “The Gerontology Club” which was formed in conjunction with our local Sigma Phi Omega chapter. Now is a great time to get involved!

Alumni Survey: GERO Program Alumni, we want to hear from you! If you haven’t already done so, please take a minute to fill out our on-line survey. You can take it at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J2TZJRK or you can also find it on our webpage www.stcloudstate.edu/gerontology.

Gerontology Program Website: Opportunities and information abound on our website: http://www.stcloudstate.edu/gerontology. Be sure to check out sections on careers in aging, internships, volunteer opportunities and more! If you would like to have information about an upcoming event or opportunity posted on the site – contact me at rjkarasik@stcloudstate.edu.

Enjoy this beautiful spring!

Rona
Rona J. Karasik, Ph.D.
Professor & Director, Gerontology

Don’t forget to track our American Heart Association Heart Walk

The American Heart Association is the largest voluntary health organization working to prevent, treat and defeat heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. These diseases, the Nation's No.1 and No.4 killers, claim more than 813,000 American lives a year.

The Gerontology Club and Sigma Phi Omega will be participating in the American Heart Association St. Cloud Heart Walk on April 28th, 2012 at the CentraCare Health Plaza. The walk starts at 8:50 and ends at 10:30. A team will be walking that day and there are opportunities to walk and raise money or simply to raise money. If you wish to participate in this exciting event visit the Gerontology website at www.stcloudstate.edu/gerontology.
The Gerontology Club and Sigma Phi Omega hosted a Personal Care Items Drive in Spring 2012. The drive was a great success and a variety of items were collected for older adults in need. Originally the Club was interested in hosting a food drive for older adults but after connecting with community partners they realized that although food items are a great need it would be most beneficial to host a personal care items drive. The St. Cloud State University campus was very supportive of the drive and many items were collected and will be donated to Catholic Charities for older adults in need. Thanks to everyone who supported these efforts!

Welcome SPO MEMBERS

From left to right: Jennifer Bungert, Jenny Writz, and Paula Woischke.
Graduate Coordinator’s Notes Continued

make it to the conference? Well t-shirts will be available right here on campus.

This semester’s graduation will be both exciting and a little sad. Several of our graduate students will be hooded (provided of course they are completed or well on their way to completion) this Spring. A big congratulations to: Kari Robinson, Nancy Schellinger, Jenny Writz and Katie Nordberg! Very Proud of all of you and will miss you – which of course means you need to finish!

I also want to take this opportunity to say thank you to our amazing graduate assistants: Paula Woischke, Jenny Writz, Hannah Nordell, Anand Moddu and Chizoma Njoku. They have done an amazing job!! They have brought skills, creativity and enthusiasm to what they do and to the Gerontology Program. This will be Jenny’s and Anand’s last semester as GAs and we will definitely miss them and wish them well.

For the first time we will be offering GER 208 Introduction to Gerontology this summer. I’m very excited at the prospect of teaching this course and have some wonderful components planned. Don’t forget that this course counts as a Diversity Course and meets Goal Area 5.

Registration will soon begin for Fall Semester. If you are a graduate student either in the Masters or Graduate Certificate Program be sure to make an appointment to see me. If you would like more info on our graduate programs or would just like to take a grad course please stop by, call me or email me (SH 364, 320-308-3156 or pagreenerg@stcloudstate.edu).

Have a wonderful semester.

Phyllis

Thinking about an internship in Summer or Fall Semester?

Don’t forget! You must talk to Dr. Rona Karasik as soon as possible if you are considering an Internship in the Summer or Fall semester. Make an appointment today rkarasik@stcloudstate.edu.

The SCSU Gerontology Program was awarded a $200 grant from The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) (via the Geriatric Social Work Initiative) to support the program’s Careers in Aging Week activities April 1-7, 2012. Activities include a Careers in Aging Panel and the Gerontology Program Open House 3-5pm, Thursday, April 5.
**Kudos**

- Dr. Rona Karasik (Director, Gerontology) and two SCSU Gerontology Graduate students partnered with faculty and students at Messiah College in PA to research and present the following conference paper on February 24, 2012:


- Dr. Rona Karasik (Director, Gerontology) serves as one of the teaching faculty preceptors at the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) 2nd Annual Teaching Preconference Institute February 23, 2012:


- Dr. Phyllis Greenberg (Graduate Coordinator, Gerontology) presented a Webinar in partnership with the Minnesota Gerontological Society


- Dr. Phyllis Greenberg (Graduate Coordinator, Gerontology) presented at the University of Minnesota Center on Aging about Sexuality and aging


**Book Reviews**


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**Thank you Graduate Assistants!**

Thank you to the Gerontology Program Graduate Assistants! A special thank you to Jenny Wrizt and Anand Moddu, it will be their last semester as Graduate Assistants. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the Gerontology Program! Also thank you to Graduate Assistants Chizoma, Paula, and Hannah.
Congratulations Graduates of 2012

You did it! Congratulations to:

- Katie Nordberg
- Kari Robinson
- Nancy Schellinger
- Jenny Writz

These individuals will be graduating with a Master’s of Science in Gerontology this Spring. Congratulations on all your accomplishments.

Open House Supporters

Several local businesses helped make the annual Gerontology Open House a great success! The following businesses and organizations donated door prizes to the open house. Thank you for your support:

- Space Aliens
- TFC Bank
- Old Chicago
- Burger King
- Chuck’s Hair
- House of Pizza
- Pacific Wok
- Holiday Gas Station
- Great Clips
- Sodexo Food Services
- Husky Book Store
- La Casita
- Pizza Ranch

New Logo and T-shirts!

The St. Cloud State Gerontology program is unveiling a new look! The new logo and tag line will be featured on t-shirts that will be coming out soon. If you are interested in ordering a t-shirt stay tuned to our website www.stcloudstate.edu/gerontology or email noha0902@stcloudstate.edu. All t-shirt sales support student events such as making it possible for students to attend conferences!
## Undergraduate Courses

### Gerontology
- GERO 208 01: Introduction to Gerontology*  
  MWF 10:00AM-10:50
- GERO 208 02: Introduction to Gerontology*  
  T Th 11:00 AM-12:15 pm
- GERO 405 01: Aging and Diversity *  
  T 5:15-8:00 pm
- GERO 411 01: Aging Policy and Programs  
  T Th 3:30-4:45 pm
- GERO 425 01: Dementia and Aging  
  MW 3:00-4:15 pm
- GERO 444 01: Internship  
  Hours Arranged

* Meets Liberal Education Goal Area #5 and Diversity Requirement.

### Psychology
- PSY 345 01: Psychology of Death and Dying  
  W 6:00-8:45 pm
- PSY 345 02: Psychology of Death and Dying  
  Online

### Nursing**
- NURS 306 01: Nursing Care of Older Adults  
  M 9:45-11:45 am
- NURS 307 01: Nursing Care of Older Adults Clinical W  
  7:00-9:00 pm Th 8:00 am-2:30 pm
- NURS 307 02: Nursing Care of Older Adults Clinical T  
  6:00-8:00 pm W 8:00 am-2:30 pm

** Nursing courses are only open to nursing students.

### Community Studies
- CMTY 333 01: Studying Communities  
  T, Th 11:00 am–12:15 pm

### Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
- FIRE 479 01: Social Insurance  
  M, W, F 11:00-11:50 am

## Graduate Courses

### Gerontology
- GERO 505 01: Aging and Diversity  
  T 5:15-8:00 pm
- GERO 511 01: Aging Policy and Programs  
  T Th 3:30-4:45 pm
- GERO 525 01: Dementia and Aging  
  MW 3:00-4:15 pm
- GERO 630 01: Aging and Community  
  M 5:00-7:45 pm
- GERO 644 01: Internship  
  Hours Arranged
- GERO 650 01: Research Methods and Design in Gerontology W  
  5:00-7:45 pm
- GERO 696 01: Practicum (Plan C Option)  
  Hours Arranged
- GERO 697 01: Starred Paper (Plan B) Preparation  
  Hours Arranged
- GERO 699 01: Thesis  
  Hours Arranged

### Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
- FIRE 579 01: Social Insurance  
  M, W, F 11:00-11:50 am

### Counselor Education and Education Psychology
- CEEP 678 01: Introduction to Graduate Statistics  
  M 12:00-2:45 pm
- CEEP 678 02: Introduction to Graduate Statistics  
  M 5:00-7:45 pm

The Gerontology Program offers an Undergraduate Minor, Masters and Graduate Certificate. For more information visit the program website at [http://www.stcloudstate.edu/gerontology](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/gerontology) or contact Dr. Rona Karasik at rjkarasik@stcloudstate.edu (for Undergraduate students) or Dr. Phyllis Greenberg at pagreenberg@stcloudstate.edu (for Graduate students).
Support the **SPO and GERO Club**
and track their progress as they participate in the
**American Heart Association Heart Walk**
*April 28th*

*Learn how you can support the SPO and Gero Club inside this issue of Gerontology Times!*