

Application Due February 1



GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORK INITIATIVE

Faculty Scholars Program

The Faculty Scholars Program is funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation and administered by The Gerontological Society of America (GSA). It is a component of the nationwide Geriatric Social Work Initiative (GSWI), which seeks to expand the training of social workers who can improve the health and well-being of older persons and their families.

CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED IN SELECTION OF SCHOLARS

- Leadership potential
- Importance of the research area in improving the health and well-being of older adults and their caregivers
- Quality and feasibility of the research project
- Evidence of the research site's commitment to the project
- Evidence of the applicant's ongoing commitment to gerontology
- Nature and extent of involvement of applicant in educational, research and professional activities
- Extent of the institutional faculty sponsor's ability to foster the scholar's development
- Evidence of social work program's commitment to the applicant's academic and professional development in gerontology

NOTE: If you are interested in applying for the Hartford/VA Scholars Program, you will need to first submit a letter of intent and seek approval to apply using a special VA Scholar form. Visit the VA website at www4.va.gov/oaa/hartford.asp?p=15 for more details.



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The Gerontological Society of America

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SCHOLARS PROGRAM OBJECTIVES :

- The Gerontological Society of America, with funding from the John A. Hartford Foundation of New York City, will identify outstanding social work faculty committed to teaching, research, and leadership in the area of geriatric care. The Hartford Geriatric Social Work Faculty Scholars Program will provide these Faculty Scholars with the resources necessary to enhance their research, teaching, and leadership skills, and to support them in conducting research that addresses the health care of older adults and their caregivers. The program aims to enhance the effectiveness of Faculty Scholars as academic leaders, role models and mentors for future generations of social work professionals working in gerontology. The Scholars Program will foster an intellectually stimulating and supportive network of colleagues involved in research and teaching in gerontological social work who can train the next generation of social workers to provide care to older Americans.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant must be a doctoral level faculty member from an accredited social work education program in the United States.
- Applicant must be a United States citizen or have permanent resident alien status.
- Applicant must hold a full time rank of assistant or associate professor. Full professors are not eligible. Ordinarily, applicants should be no more than 12 years from acquiring their doctorates.
- Applicant must have at least one graduate degree from a social work program.
- Each applicant must identify an institutional faculty sponsor (not necessarily a gerontologist) who is preferably within their program. This institutional sponsor should be a recognized leader and can best help in the applicant's professional academic development.
- Each applicant must plan on teaching at least one course with substantial gerontological content. The applicant's social work program must provide evidence that aging is an important dimension of its overall content (number of faculty, courses, grants, etc.) and how an applicant's involvement in the Scholars Program will enhance the school's future initiatives in gerontology.
- There may be more than one applicant from a school and schools may receive multiple awards.
- Priority is given to applicants who show demonstrated leadership potential and who are at a stage in their development where they can benefit from the intensive exposure to issues in research and gerontological content, and a peer group in geriatric social work. For example, the program has funded Scholars who have recently finished their doctoral work and also have funded some educators and researchers who are turning their focus towards aging.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

There are three components designed to promote the Scholars' success as leaders in gerontological social work:

- A research project focused on improving the health and well being of older adults and their caregivers;
- Individualized professional development through a mentorship program to enhance the Scholar's effectiveness as a leader in gerontological research and teaching; and
- Career development institutes and workshops in which the Scholars will work together on research, teaching, communication and policy leadership skills.

THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Each Scholar will propose and implement a significant gerontological research project that addresses the effectiveness of social work in enhancing the physical, social, and psychological well-being of older adults. For example, previous projects have addressed the value and efficacy of social work interventions in improving access to health care and service delivery, enhancing the appropriate use of medical services, improving caregiving, reducing excess dependency, providing culturally sensitive services, and in decreasing the use of institutional care without impairing functional status and quality of life. Projects should reflect an awareness of the changing health care environment and attend to outcomes (individual, organizational, and/or systemic) that relate to improved and cost effective health care services. The project must be based in a practice or policy setting and must have institutional endorsement both from the Scholar's social work program and the research site. Support funds will be available through the grant for faculty release time and for research implementation needs.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Each Scholar, working with his or her institutional faculty sponsor, will design a professional development plan that will lead to new competencies, which will enhance professional leadership. These plans may be modified over time to better address the Scholar's goals. In addition to this institutional support, the Program will match the Scholar with a national gerontological social work researcher who will serve as their research mentor. These national mentors, who will be compensated for their time, will provide ongoing substantive and methodological review of the Scholars' research. The national mentors and institutional faculty sponsors will receive an orientation to the program, including the objectives and their expected roles. Professional development also will be enhanced through Program-sponsored career development institutes and workshops (see below) and networking opportunities.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES AND WORKSHOPS

The Scholars will participate in learner-centered educational institutes, as well as workshops held in conjunction with the GSA annual meeting. Attendance at the institutes and workshops is a required component of the Scholars Program. Institutes will focus on special skill-based topics—research, teaching, communication and policy leadership.

The Orientation Institute, to be held in October, will focus on building the relationship between the Scholars and their national mentors around the Scholars' research agenda. During this initial institute the Scholars and mentors will meet together for small group sessions, expert consultation and planning sessions. The Scholars will actively participate in shaping subsequent institute agendas. Workshops held in conjunction with the GSA's annual meeting in November of each year will further develop the Scholar's skills in communications, dissemination of knowledge, and technological competencies.

In addition, the program director and staff will develop ongoing mechanisms for fostering networking and collaboration among Scholars and national mentors.

PROJECT FUNDING

The program will support up to ten (10) Scholars. Two-year grants of \$50,000 per year beginning September 1 will be made to their social work institution on behalf of the Scholars. Grants should be used to offset the Scholar's time commitments to the program by supporting salary and benefits (to a maximum of \$45,000) and to provide funds for travel to national professional meetings and/or research and statistical consultation, as well as other costs related to the Scholar's project. Travel and expenses related to attending institutes and yearly GSA meetings will be provided by the program. The Scholar's social work program is expected to provide evidence of support for the institutional faculty sponsor so that the sponsor will be available to the Scholar. There are no indirect costs allowed to the school.

Faculty Scholars Program Committee

David E. Biegel, PhD
Case Western Reserve University

Namkee Choi, PhD
University of Texas at Austin

Ruth Dunkle, PhD
University of Michigan

Nancy R. Hooyman, PhD
Ex-Officio
University of Washington

Amy Horowitz, DSW, PhD
Fordham University

Rosalie A. Kane, PhD
University of Minnesota

James Lubben, DSW, MPH
Ex-Officio
Hartford Doctoral Fellows Program

Philip McCallion, PhD
State University of New York
at Albany

Victoria Raveis, PhD
New York University

Stacey Kolomer, PhD
Ex-Officio
University of Georgia

Michael W. Parker, DSW
Ex-Officio
University of Alabama

Principal Investigator & National Program Director

Barbara Berkman, DSW, PhD
Columbia University, New York
Email: bjberkman@gmail.com

Program Officer

Linda Harootyan, MSW
The Gerontological Society
of America
Email: harootya@geron.org

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The program is directed by Dr. Barbara Berkman, Principal Investigator, under the advisement of a National Program Committee of leaders in gerontological social work. The Gerontological Society of America provides the overall administration and fiscal management for the project.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Each applicant must send an original (bound) plus 1 CD with the entire application in one PDF file, which must include the following in the order listed (A-L):

Please visit www.gswi/programs/hfs for examples of past scholar proposals that received funding.

- A. Applicant Data Sheet;
- B. A current curriculum vitae that includes teaching experience, research, professional responsibilities, and publications;
- C. A letter from the applicant describing personal and professional interest in gerontology, reasons for seeking support through this program, relevant experience and training, and commitment to this area. Applicant also should address the question, What brings you to the call of gerontological leadership? Please include the course(s) with gerontological content you plan to teach in years 1 and 2. In addition, identify other researchers at your university (outside of social work) who are interested in your area of research. Is there potential for collaboration? (Maximum 2 pages);
- D. A rigorous proposal describing the research that the applicant plans to undertake, including the problem statement, theoretical perspective, detailed methods, analysis plan, and potential significance in improving the healthcare and well being of the elderly and/or their caregivers. Articulate the importance of the research to health and aging. [How does the research demonstrate the intersection among social issues, health, and aging?] The proposal should begin with an abstract of no more than 350 words, double-spaced. The full proposal should be a maximum length of 15 pages, not including abstract or references, double-spaced, minimum 12 pt. type size. At least 5 pages should be devoted to the methodology and feasibility of the study. A detailed research timetable, beginning September 1 and ending August 31, must also be included. If this is a resubmission, a letter stating how the proposal addresses the reviewer's comments from the prior submission must be included;
- E. A plan for professional development during the two-year program, including a description of goals (e.g. what competencies are required to enhance professional leadership and effectiveness in teaching and research). In addition, how the applicant plans to attain these competencies (e.g., attend seminar courses, attend special workshops, use available consultation) and how will these help the applicant be a more effective leader and change agent (Maximum 3 pages, double spaced, minimum 12 pt. type size);
- F. A letter from the applicant's dean or director which should:
 - a) confirm release time for scholar's activities, attesting to institutional support for the applicant's current and future role in the program;
 - b) indicate how the institutional faculty sponsor's time with the scholar will be supported;
 - c) document current program's capacity in gerontology, e.g. curriculum, grants, faculty, and other initiatives;
 - d) outline institutional resources available to the candidate, e.g. secretarial support, computer availability; and
 - e) include a tentative plan for integrating and using the expertise and experience gained by the applicant through the Scholars Program in the social work program's future programming.
- G. A letter of commitment from the institutional faculty sponsor (not necessarily a gerontologist) from within the social work program who will support and advise the applicant in implementing the professional development plan. If the candidate is from a BSW program, he or she may select an institutional sponsor from the institution at large. The letter should outline the sponsor's background and competencies, proposed involvement in the applicant's professional development, and ability to help the applicant form linkages with relevant colleagues and institutions. The faculty sponsor's CV also should be included. The Program reserves the right to call the institutional faculty sponsor for additional information;

- H. Letters of support from two colleagues (excluding the applicant's Institutional Faculty Sponsor), including at least one from outside the applicant's school or discipline (letters of support will not be accepted under separate covers; copies of these letters should be included in all copies of the application). The Program reserves the right to call the references for additional information;
- I. Letter(s) of support for the Scholar's research from the director of the site(s) in which the applicant's proposed research will be undertaken; or, if the research utilizes a dataset, the letters should come from a leader in the area of study who can attest to the importance of the study;
- J. An institutionally-approved proposed budget for each year of the award, specifically describing how the \$50,000 per year award will be allocated (use budget template). This budget must be signed by the applicant and the fiscal officer of the institution. No indirect costs are allowed to the school, and tuition remission for research assistants is not permitted;
- K. Budget must be accompanied by a budget narrative that explains each item; and
- L. A maximum of three articles or other written materials, e.g. selected chapter(s) from a book or manuscript that illustrate the applicant's scholarship.

SELECTION PROCESS

Each application will be reviewed by three members of the Program Committee. Applicants selected as finalists will be presented to the Program Committee for additional review and discussion. Those candidates selected as Scholars will be notified in April, with awards effective September 1. All Scholars and mentors are expected to attend the opening institute in October.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Scholars will be required to submit an updated C.V. and progress report each year, including self-assessment of achievement of project goals and professional development, a description of problems in project implementation, and an outline of plans for the next reporting period. In addition, reports will be submitted by institutional faculty sponsors. Scholars will be responsible for notifying the program director of any circumstances that might adversely affect their ability to meet their project or professional goals. The Scholars Program staff will work with the Scholar to develop a satisfactory resolution to any problems that arise in implementation. The program director will review the first year's progress reports and use them as the basis for recommendations for continued funding. The program reserves the right to withdraw funding after one year if the Scholar is not demonstrating appropriate progress.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEB. 1

Each applicant must send an original plus 1 CD with the entire application in one PDF file to:

The Gerontological Society of America

1220 L Street, Suite 901

Washington, DC 20005-4018

ATTN: Hartford Faculty Scholars Program in Geriatric Social Work

NOTE: If you are interested in applying for the Hartford/VA Scholars Program, you will need to first submit a letter of intent and seek approval to apply using a special VA Scholar form. Visit the VA website at www4.va.gov/oaa/hartford.asp?p=15 for more details.

CHECKLIST

- Applicant Data Sheet
- Curriculum vitae
- Letter from applicant
- Research proposal (including abstract)
- Professional development plan
- Letter from the dean/program director
- Letter of support from institutional sponsor
- Letters of support from two colleagues
- Letter of support from practice/research site director Institutionally-approved budget (use template)
- Budget narrative
- Up to three examples of scholarly work (articles, etc.)

For more information about the Hartford Faculty Scholars Program and other Geriatric Social Work Initiatives funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation, explore the website: www.gswi.org.



GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORK INITIATIVE

Applicant Data Sheet

Name and Degrees

Academic Rank

School

Address

City State Zip

Work Phone

Fax

E-mail

Full-time faculty Yes No

Please indicate which level you teach BSW MSW Both

Title of Proposed Project

Graduate Degrees

Degree and Year	Institution

Home Address

City

State

Home Phone

Fax

E-mail

Preferred mailing address Business Home

How did you hear about the Hartford Faculty Scholars Program?

Dean or Director

Name

Title & Academic Rank

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

E-mail

Institutional Sponsor

Name

Academic Rank

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

E-mail

Financial Officer

Name

Title

Address

City

State

Zip

Fax

E-mail