

Gero Science RIG Summary

Friday April 13, 2018

A total of 37 members attended the RIG.

Carol Rogers, Chair, led the meeting. She reviewed the lack of AV support to MNRS RIGS and explained the meeting would be conducted without PowerPoint.

Introductions of current leadership members included: Lisa Skemp, Chair Elect; Marianne Smith, Past Chair; Olimpia Paun, Awards Chair; Siobhan McMahon, Nominations Chair; Tom Blodgett, Communication Chair; and Clara Edward, Student Chair. Dr. Rogers also noted special appreciation for Rebecca Lorenz, RIG Chair 2015-2016, for her ongoing support and assistance with the leadership team.

Reminders included requests to (a) sign in to the meeting, noting area of research interest so we could have break out groups later in the meeting; (b) sign up for the RIG when renewing memberships annually; and (c) availability of new web-based resources.

Goals: (1) To advance Gerontological nursing science through evidence based practice, research, scholarship and policy; and (2) To influence current and future nursing care delivery to older adults.

Objectives/Focus: (1) Serve to connect MNRS members with an interest in Gerontological nursing throughout the year; (2) Recognize member's contributions to Gerontological nursing science through awards and dissemination of research highlights; (3) Advance Gerontological scholarship through collaborations that target shared presentations, publications, research, and policy endeavors; (4) Increase student involvement in the section by advancing leadership roles in all section committees and activities, and promoting independent student-identified endeavors; and (5) Provide an opportunity for section members to become involved with, contribute to and provide leadership within MNRS.

Awards Committee Report: Olimpia Paun, Awards Committee Chair, reported that there were four nominations for the PhD Dissertation Award. She was assisted by committee members Helen Lach, Janine Overcash and Debra Jansen in reviewing applications. The **2018 Awards** PhD Dissertation award was given to Nathaniel Schriener, PhD, RN, Case Western Reserve University for his project *Treatment Burden in Adults Living with Multiple Chronic Conditions Transitioning from a Skilled Nursing Facility to Home*. Dr. Schriener gave a brief presentation about his research approach and outcomes.

Nominations Committee Report: The report from Siobhan McMahon, Chair, was given by Chair Rogers.

Item 1. The Nominations Committee made a recommendation that terms of office be 2 years of service with staged year starting this year so the entire committee does not rotate off in the same year. There would continue to be no limit to the number of years of service. Terms of Office Recommendations included that current 3-year policy for chair continue; that is, Chair Elect is elected annually with a 3 year commitment to rotate through Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair. Other committees would have terms of 2 years each, including (1) Awards: (2018) Even years; (2) Nominations: (2019) Odd years; (3) Communication: (2018) Even years; and (4) Student co-chairs: (2018) Annual with 1 new student to be elected each year. Discussion by members included both pros (e.g., greater continuity in leadership; opportunities to mentor new committee

members to feel comfortable in the role) and cons (e.g., fewer opportunities for junior faculty/students to gain credentials via role participation; perhaps more difficulty with recruitment due to longer length of term). **Decision** was called to vote; majority present were in favor of 2 year terms.

Item 2. 2018 Ballot was reviewed and vacancies were discussed. Chair Elect Nominations included Howard Butcher, PhD, RN, University of Iowa, and Kimberly Oosterhouse, PhD, RN, Loyola University. Award Committee Chair included Olympia Paun, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, Rush University. Communication Committee Chair was vacant. Student Co-Chair Nomination was Mary O. Whipple, BA, BSN, RN, PHN, CCRP, University of Minnesota. A request for additional nominations from the floor did not elicit any additions to the slate. Chair Rogers asked for approval that non-competing nominations be approved by a verbal vote, which was unanimous. Paper ballots were distributed for Chair Elect, resulting in 13 to 15 vote in favor of Dr. Oosterhouse. Solicitations for the Communication Chair position will continue post-meeting.

Symposia Opportunities: Chair-Elect Lisa Skemp reviewed areas of interest identified on the sign-in sheet and grouped these into four broader areas for smaller group discussion. Possible themes by groups included: (1) Caregivers: “There is nothing informal about family caregiving” which could be an umbrella for diverse aspects of family caregiving to older adults; (2) Interventions: “Challenges and Solutions to Conducting Research with Older Adults” which similarly could provide a broad umbrella for diverse topics that focus on interventions; (3) Conditions in Late Life: “Exercise Fixes Everything – Or Does It” which could examine recommendations for exercise across diverse disease states along with opportunities and challenges to implementation, like walking outside, virtual reality programs, and OT/PT involvement; and (4) Senior Living in Community: “Emerging Models and Innovations for Aging Well” that could include review and discussion of challenges, opportunities, and policy issues related to assisted living settings, naturally occurring communities, and the Village concept. No members volunteered to lead symposia (for any of the four groups) and the decision was made that this topic would be addressed in the first post-MRNS meeting newsletter or email to the RIG members.

The Meeting was adjourned. Duration 1.5 hours.