

Regional Consortium of Community-Engaged Researchers: Brainstorming for Gerontology Research Opportunities

AS6-2072, 6th floor

Moderators: A. James Lee, PhD, Karen Devereaux Melillo, PhD, A-GNP-C, FAANP, FGSA, Co-Directors, UMass Lowell Center for Gerontology Research and Partnership; Deborah D'Avolio, Ph.D., BC-ACNP, ANP, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Center for Gerontology Research and Partnership, Member

Session Presenters

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Karen Devereaux Melillo

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Center for Gerontology Research and Partnership Members

Session Description

The Regional Consortium of Community-Engaged Gerontology Researchers was founded to expand opportunities for collaborative research, publication, and research funding. It was launched by the UMass Lowell Center for Gerontology Research and Partnerships in collaboration with the UMass CCTS Community Engagement and Research Section in 2013. Since then, the Regional Consortium has met annually at the UMCCTS Community Engagement and Research Symposium, and key recommendations and partnerships have resulted in sharing of resources and potential collaborations.

The purpose of this interactive breakout session is to expand the gerontology researcher network and brainstorm research ideas around community-engaged research opportunities. Utilizing a group facilitator, attendees will engage in dialogue about action steps, potential research collaborations, and funding opportunities.



UMass Lowell's Center for Gerontology Research and Partnerships

Brainstorming for Gerontology
Research Opportunities
March 25, 1:30-3:00 PM



The mission of the Center for Gerontology Research and Partnerships is to promote gerontological research and to facilitate collaborative relationships among interdisciplinary researchers that will advance knowledge and influence policy related to a diverse aging society.

Goals

- ▶ To foster academic/community partnerships between gerontological researchers in the academic setting and agencies serving the public health and individual health needs of the community of older adults.
- ▶ To promote and facilitate community-engaged research related to health, well-being, and the promotion of functional independence of older adults
- ▶ To provide education to professionals on issues related to the promotion of functional independence and the prevention of illness in older adults
- ▶ To foster collaborative relationships between researchers and community agencies for the purpose of promoting and conducting research and educational programs and seminars related to aging

Goals

- ▶ To promote the health, safety, well-being and education of the eldercare workforce and their employers so that they can provide high quality, reliable care to the rapidly growing elder population
- ▶ To promote scholarly discussions and impact change related to policy issues in the field of gerontology
- ▶ To disseminate findings at regional, national, and international conferences and peer-reviewed publications
- ▶ To pursue related research

Engaged Gerontology Researchers

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- ▶ It was launched by the UMass Lowell Gerontology Center in collaboration with the UMass CCTS Community Engagement and Research Section in 2013.





Planning for the Future

Brainstorming for Gerontology
Research Opportunities

Current Strategic Priorities

Developed at the Center's January Meeting
Using Nominal Group Technique

- ▶ Healthy Aging and Self-Management
(integrating IPE and health disparities)
- ▶ NINR P20 Center Grant
- ▶ Fall Risk
 - E.g., using PT interventions to prevent mobility loss
- ▶ Geriatric Syndrome
 - E.g., risk reduction

Potential Funding Sources

► Foundations

- The Retirement Research Foundation
- The Donaghue Foundation
- American Federation for Aging Research
- Tufts Health Plan Foundation

► Federal

- AHRQ Small Research Grant Program (R03)
- Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grants
- NIA Research Grants
- Administration for Community Living (formerly AOA)

► Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Where to Go Next?



- ▶ Who's Interested?
- ▶ What Do You Want to Do?
- ▶ Who's Willing to Take Leadership?
- ▶ How to Proceed? Next steps?
- ▶ Funding Source?
- ▶ Keys to Success?
- ▶ Timeframe?