



Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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School of Social Welfare
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Center's Web Site:

<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/aging>

Center's Faculty & Staff:

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The Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services conducts activities to improve services for California's elderly through research, education & collaboration. These activities are made possible through the generous support of the Kleiner Family Foundation and other donors.

Issue Highlights...

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Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging

The School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley, is pleased to announce the Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging. The Kleiner Fellow will receive full support, including tuition, fees, and living expenses, for a minimum of four years, to pursue doctoral studies in gerontology at Berkeley's School of Social Welfare.

Berkeley's doctoral program is designed to inspire independence and original thought, in pursuit of knowledge. The program aims to develop scholars who will make significant contributions to the knowledge base and profession of social work through excellent research, scholarship, teaching, policy development and analysis. Berkeley's highly-regarded doctoral program offers an individualized course of study designed to inspire independence and original thought, in the pursuit of knowledge. Through coursework, seminars, and individual tutorials, students develop research skills as well as expertise in the analysis of social problems, social science theories, and social welfare interventions. The program aims to develop scholars who will make significant contributions to the knowledge base and profession of social work through excellent research, scholarship, teaching, policy development and analysis. The School consistently ranks among the top schools in the country on the basis of contributions to the professional literature, faculty productivity, doctoral graduation rates, and in reputational studies.

The Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging supports an individually-tailored program of research experience and training. Fellows participate in collaborative research activities through the Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services, which brings together faculty and graduate students from the School of Social Welfare as well as other departments to address critical issues in aging. The Center conducts cutting-edge research designed to improve programs and services to meet the needs of a growing, diverse, and ever-changing population of older Americans.

The Berkeley campus boasts more than 40 faculty scholars currently engaged in basic and applied research in aging. In addition, Doctoral Fellows benefit from the availability of a variety of other aging resources, including Berkeley's Resource Center on Aging, Academic Geriatric Resource Program, Center for Research and Education in Aging, and Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging.

Further information about the Rose Kleiner Doctoral Fellowship in Aging, including application materials for the School of Social Welfare's Ph.D. program is available from the Admissions & Fellowship Office at the School of Social Welfare at socwelf@berkeley.edu or call 510/642-9042

2005-2006 Rose Kleiner Fellowship & Center Scholarship Recipients

Each year, several Masters of Social Welfare students are recognized for their academic and professional promise with the Rose Kleiner Fellowship in Gerontology and Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services Scholarships. Special recognition this year went to three outstanding students: Amanda Lee, Christabel Cheung, and Nicole Pecaut.

Amanda Lee was awarded a 2005-2006 Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services scholarship. Amanda has worked in various capacities with seniors for the last eight years. Last year, Amanda interned at On Lok Senior Health Services in San Francisco's Chinatown and had an enriching experience serving monolingual Chinese immigrant elders, as well as English-speaking participants. She is currently interning at New Leaf Services For Our Community, a non-profit multi-purpose counseling center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities in the Bay Area. She is working closely with their Outreach to Elders social services program.

Christabel Cheung also was awarded a 2005-2006 Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services scholarship. As part of her graduate studies, Christabel provided social services at North and South of Market Adult Day Health where she worked with a culturally and linguistically diverse clientele of older adults. Health where she worked with a culturally and linguistically diverse clientele of older adults. Her second-year field placement is at San Francisco General Hospital's Skilled Nursing Facility. Christabel also serves on the Board of Directors for Chinatown Community Development Center, a non-profit organization focused on advocacy, planning and development of affordable senior housing.

Nicole Pecaut was awarded the 2005-2006 Rose Kleiner Fellowship in Gerontology. Prior to starting the MSW program, Nicole served as the Director of Social Services at a skilled nursing facility in San Francisco specializing in the care of patients with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. In her first year MSW of the program, Nicole interned at Jewish Family and Children's Services of the East Bay as a case manager in their Older Adults Services department. Nicole is currently a medical social work intern at Hospice of Contra Costa County. ●



Amanda Lee



Christabel Cheung



Nicole Picaut

Family Caregiver Support Project

The Center recently published preliminary findings from its 2004 follow-up to the California Statewide Survey of Caregivers (CSSC). The 2004 study, supported by the Archstone Foundation, involved follow-up telephone interviews with a random sample of Californians who were providing care to an ill or disabled older adult. The new publication — entitled Family Caregiver Support Project Summary of Activities: Year One — is available at the Center's website.

The principal objective of the study is to provide a better understanding of caregiver service utilization patterns with implementation of the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP). Specifically, the recently-released report provides analysis in the following areas: (1) sufficiency of local caregiver support programs; (2) barriers inhibiting service use and possible ways to overcome these barriers; (3) impact of service use for caregivers and care recipients; (4) resources available to ethnically and racially diverse populations; and (5) effect of the NFCSP and its possible improvements.

The preliminary results show that caregivers appear to be receiving more, and perhaps better, support from community services at the end of the study period than they were two years earlier, when the NFCSP was first implemented. They are using more services, have fewer unmet needs, and seem to have less emotional distress and financial hardship. They also report fewer barriers to service use. Even when caregivers do not actually use a service, for example, they are more likely than before to know where to obtain the service if they find that they need it.

However, there remain a number of substantial service gaps. Nearly one in five caregivers has not used any caregiver support services. Among eleven service types examined, respite and counseling are least likely to be used; moreover, those who do use respite and counseling services are least likely to say that their needs are met by doing so. Given the central role of respite and counseling services in efforts to assist caregivers, it is especially important to consider ways to improve the availability of these services as well as their responsiveness to the needs of various types of caregivers.

The Center Research Team will present its findings in the coming months to its Advisory Committee, consisting of key stakeholders and experts regarding the needs of caregivers. In addition, the findings will be presented at the 58th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America on November 19th in Orlando, Florida. In the coming months the Center's Research Team also will continue to conduct detailed statistical analyses to further illuminate the ways in which services meet caregivers' needs as their care situations change over time. ●



Advisory Committee

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Kleiner Family Foundation

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On Lok Senior Health Services

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Charlene Silva, *Director*, Aging & Adult Services, San Mateo County

New Student Staff Members

Amanda Lehning is a first year PhD student in Social Welfare. She received a B.A. in History from the University of Delaware in 2000. In 2005 she earned a Master in Social Service degree from Bryn Mawr College. While attending graduate school, she worked in the social services department of a long term care facility, and for the past year she served as a Research Assistant for Polisher Research Institute, a geriatric research center located in the suburbs of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is currently working on the Family Caregiver Support Project, analyzing data regarding differential service use among caregivers.

Winnie Hung is an Undergraduate Research Apprentice for the Center. She is a third-year student pursuing her B.A. in English and in Public Health. Previously she has been involved in volunteer work at the Asian Community Nursing Home in Sacramento, Oakland Asian Students Educational Services, and the Richmond Youth Court. Recently, she interned at the California Program on Access to Care and hopes to gain more insight into social work and program development. After attaining her B.A., she would like to pursue a J.D. and an M.P.H. She is currently assisting with the development of research reports at the Center, and will also assist with literature reviews, manuscript preparation, and presentation development.



Desi Owens

New Coordinator, UC Berkeley, Center on Aging

Desi Owens, MS, MSW, LCSW, a graduate of UC Berkeley's Master's program in Social Welfare, recently accepted the Academic Coordinator and Campus Planner position with the UC Berkeley Academic Geriatric Resource Center. Guy Micco, MD, is the Center's Director and Diane Driver, PhD, is the Center's Resource Specialist and was the Academic Coordinator from 1984-2004 before retiring from the position. The Center is the coordinating mechanism for activities in aging on the UC Berkeley campus, and also serves as a clearinghouse for information on aging activities both on and off campus.

Desi has worked in the field of aging for about 16 years in various capacities including direct clinical work, program development and management, applied research, education, and administration. In addition, she has worked over the past 5 years with the UC San Francisco Institute for Health and Aging on a DHS-funded Breast Cancer Rescreening Evaluation Project, a project to improve access to breast and cervical cancer screening among underserved women.

Desi has worked in a variety of settings including community mental health centers, long-term care settings, adult day health care programs, community health clinics, and academic settings. Her areas of interest include: aging and the arts, Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, caregiving, death and dying, healthcare among underserved communities, long-term care, and mental health issues.

For information about the Resource Center on Aging please visit:

<http://ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~aging>

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