

GEC PIPELINE



January – February 2009

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West Virginia Geriatric Education Center (WVGEC)

Nancy Daugherty, Program Coordinator

The WVGEC has been busily planning the Interdisciplinary Faculty Development Health Literacy Training Program that will be held in January 2009. This program provides 24 hours of training, including pre-work activities about the incidence of low health literacy and its impact on health outcomes. The face to face training includes a session from past trainees on the impact of the training on their individual practices. The participants also learn communication strategies and interactive exercises to increase understanding and utilization of the health literacy concepts. Rounding out the session is post training work that can utilize the AMA Health Literacy Training Kit and other tools to conduct health literacy training in their own communities. Written outcome reports are submitted with an emphasis on affecting patient outcomes.

Advanced Geriatrics Educators Skills Training, also know as AGES, will be conducted in March 2009. AGES faculty include faculty from the three medical schools in West Virginia who are experts in their field. One milestone obtained this year is having some of the modules available via SOLE, the secure on-line learning environment through the West Virginia University Health Sciences Center. By using SOLE, the actual time away from work can be reduced. This training was the brainchild of Konrad Nau, MD FAAFP, Associate Dean and Chair of the WVU School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine- Eastern Division of WVU. AGES was created for clinicians who care for the elderly and participate in the education of other health care professionals. It provides evidence and outcomes based resources in clinical geriatrics, as well as refining the educational skills to effectively teach. See Pipeline Calendar for specific dates.

January will see a revival of the monthly Geriatric Lunch and Learns at the Charleston Division of WVU. David Elliott, PharmD, will present the January session and Barbara Nunley, PhD, APRN, BC, will present a session entitled “Family Caregivers of Frail Elders: Burnout and Assessment.” Past topics have included Communication with the Alzheimer’s Patient, Understanding the Staging of Pressure Ulcers and Osteoporosis: Loving Your Bones. Lunch and Learns typically have about 50 – 60 participants in attendance.

Staff attended the pre-conference training session “Evaluating Geriatrics Education with Multiple Stakeholders: Using Logic and Intuition to Link Secondary and Tertiary Outcomes,” conducted by the National Training and Coordinator Collaborative (NTACC), and the 61st Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting. It was helpful to connect with other GECs across the country, learn about cutting edge programs and help engage policy makers in preserving and increasing funding for geriatrics programs.

Plans are underway for a needs assessment about geriatric education in the state to help guide future emphasis of the WVGEC. The WVGEC website has not been completed yet, but you can find some information at <http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/charleston/geriatrics>. You can also contact us at wvgec@hsc.wvu.edu, or by telephone: (304) 347-1208.

Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center (GREAT GEC)

Naushira Pandya, MD, CMD, Project Director

On Friday, December 05, 2008, faculty and staff of the GREAT GEC hosted an open house for NSU faculty, staff, students, the community and the state. The day started with a Grand Rounds presentation at noon presented by Dr. Douglas Beach, Florida Secretary of Elder Affairs. He spoke to a packed room in the Health Professions Division. In his presentation, Dr. Beach outlined the current status of elderly affairs in Florida. He highlighted the challenges the state faces with current budget deficits to support Medicare and long-term care. Many funding levels for elder programs are still at the 1980 levels. This is difficult, especially for Florida, where the number of persons over 55 has grown so rapidly in the last 30 years. He focused on the importance of community-based coordinated care for elders which includes increased attention to more positive and healthy aging. Society's view of aging has changed since the 1960s and 1970s. A 70-year-old today is viewed like a 58-year-old was in 1980! Dr. Beach stressed the importance of physical exercise, good nutrition, intellectual stimulation and social integration to help achieve positive aging and better overall health, even with chronic illnesses that may go along with normal aging.

Following the Grand Rounds, the GREAT GEC held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its newly remodeled center at 3446 South University Drive in Ft. Lauderdale. Over 100 guests attended the special event. The festivities began with the official ribbon cutting by Dr. Anthony Silvagni, Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Dr. Douglas Beach. Dr. Naushira Pandya hosted the open house, along with the GEC interdisciplinary faculty and staff from throughout the Health Professions Division. Dr. Silvagni spoke to those attending, highlighting the importance of the Center in serving Florida's elderly population through student recruitment and interdisciplinary leadership in developing models of coordinated care. He commended the Center's faculty and staff for the involvement of so many disciplines in the GEC and for making the Center an outstanding interdisciplinary example. Several community partners attended this special event, including the GEC's consortium members from throughout South Florida.

Eastern Pennsylvania/Delaware Geriatric Education Center (EPaD GEC)

Tarae Waddell, BS, Education Coordinator

Christine Arenson, MD, Director

EPaD GEC is pleased to announce Implementing Interprofessional Geriatric Curriculum: A Team-Based Faculty Development Fellowship. This interactive and meaningful experience will take place Thursday, June 18 – Saturday, June 20, 2009, at Thomas Jefferson University, Dorrance H. Hamilton Building, 1001 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Faculty teams will participate in a 9-month mentorship and on-line curriculum following the on-campus summer intensive experience.

This fellowship is targeted at interprofessional teams of educators responsible for teaching future health and social service professionals how to care for older adults in a collaborative model. The course covers principles of geriatric care, health literacy tools and guidelines, curriculum development and fundamentals of designing, implementing and evaluating interprofessional education. Sessions are taught through demonstrations, self-study, small and large-group sessions, e-learning, role-playing and post-course mentoring.

Interested teams of healthcare educators must apply in order to be considered to participate in the fellowship. The team application will include a description of the interprofessional geriatric curriculum to be implemented, a brief description of the educational environment and targeted learners and evidence of support from appropriate educational and academic leadership (i.e. course directors, chairs, curriculum committees and/or deans). The fellowship is FREE; participants will be responsible for the cost of lodging and meals while in Philadelphia. Application materials for this educational experience will be available in early February at the following website: <http://epadgce.jefferson.edu/>.

Georgia Geriatric Education Center (GGEC) Launches Online Learning Portal

Donna Q. Butler, PhD, MSW, Project Coordinator

In an effort to provide geriatric training for healthcare professionals, especially those practicing in underserved areas of the state, the Georgia Geriatric Education Center (GGEC) recently launched its online learning portal. The portal, accessible via <http://training.geron.uga.edu>, features training modules appropriate for professional development, as well as modules for personal enrichment.

For healthcare professionals, the modules have been approved for CEUs and CMEs. Topics include dementia, oral health, palliative care, health promotion and chronic disease management, normative aging, public health and older Georgians, ethnogeriatrics, geriatric care management and incontinence. Registration is required and there is a nominal fee to cover the cost of processing the credit awards. Additional modules on health literacy, end-of-life care and falls and fall prevention will be added throughout the coming weeks.

For those interested in geriatric topics for personal growth, the section designated as *GET-AGE* offers modules covering many areas of importance for caregivers, career-changers and elders. It is sponsored in part by the Gerontology Education & Training Alliance (*GET-AGE*), a statewide collaborative partnership that is interested in making more gerontology training available to those who work with older adults and have received funding through a grant from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation. When participants complete modules, they can print out a transcript at any time showing the modules they have taken.

The GGEC is a collaborative endeavor among The University of Georgia Institute of Gerontology in the College of Public Health, the Mercer University School of Medicine, Armstrong Atlantic State University College of Health Professions and the Georgia Neurosurgical Institute.

Western Reserve Geriatric Education Center (WRGEC)

Kathleen Ondus, MSN, GCNS-BC, Associate Director

The **WRGEC-CASE** co-sponsored the Third Annual Integrative Therapies Conference entitled “STRESS: Clinical Perspectives and Prescriptions for Wellness” on October 24, 2008. There were 115 attendees, representing a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, counselors, psychologists, chaplains/clergy and rehab therapies. The keynote speaker, Willoughby Britton, PhD, faculty member at Brown University, spoke on “The Pathophysiology of Stress and Depression.” Douglas Moore, PhD, a psychologist and life coach, spoke on “The Evidence for Energy Medicine and Energy Psychology in Integrated Care.” Attendees participated in afternoon break-out sessions consisting of didactic and experiential opportunities related to massage, energy medicine, mindfulness meditation and art therapy.

The means for evaluation included participants completing attitudinal scales prior to the conference. The two scales used were: The Holistic Complementary and Alternative Health Questionnaire (M.E. Hyland, G. T. Lewith, & C. Westoby) and CAM Health Belief Questionnaire (D. Lie and J. Boker). A post-survey using the same scales will be done with attendees three months after the conference. In addition, participants will be asked to report changes in practice that resulted from what they learned.

WRGEC – Cleveland State University (CSU), a consortium member of the WRGEC, has organized a monthly seminar series designed to highlight Cleveland’s unique and outstanding organizations serving older adults. Each month students, faculty and staff visit an organization that provides an overview of its services and a tour of its facility. Some of these visits are being video-taped and will be posted on the CSU website: <http://www.csuohio.edu/cos>, with a link to the WRGEC site. Organizations hosting a visit include co-sponsor (in addition to the WRGEC) the Benjamin Rose Institute, the Eliza Jennings Home and the MetroHealth Senior Health and Wellness Center.

The Consortium of New York Geriatric Education Centers

Jennifer Griffith, MA, Program Manager

The Consortium of New York Geriatric Education Centers completed the Manhattan, Bronx, Queens and Utica Core Trainings for the 2008-2009 year and will now focus on upcoming electives.

On January 9, 2009, the elective “Mental Health and Quality of Life Improvement” will take place at the Manhattan VA Medical Center. Program participants will learn about: behavioral problems and their treatment in dementia, diagnosis and course of depressive illness in older persons, mental health aspects of bereavement and widowhood, and medical co-morbidity and mental health outcomes of emergencies and disasters. Faculty members for this elective include: John Toner, EdD, PhD; Barry Gurland, MD; Barnett Meyers, MD; Peter Birkett, MD; Mark Nathanson, MD; and Davangere Devanand, MD.

The Consortium of New York Geriatric Education Centers will partner with The Geriatric Mental Health Alliance of New York and Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging and Longevity to present a Best Practices Presentation in Geriatric Mental Health. Robert Higgins, MPP, from New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) will present on Models of Substance Abuse Treatment for Older Adults on January 20 at Hunter College School of Social Work. This presentation will give an overview of the issues faced by older adults with substance abuse disorders, including the dynamics of substance abuse among this population and information about effective treatment models for older adults.

“Hospitalized Older Adults and Palliative Care” will be offered on January 21, 2009, at VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Manhattan, NY. This elective will provide a comprehensive overview of palliative care, focusing on the most important health, psychosocial and spiritual issues. Additionally, it will cover hazards of hospitalization (e.g. bedsores, delirium and deconditioning) and when older adults with disabilities are hospitalized. Faculty members for this elective include Nancy Miller, LMSW; Louisa Daratos, LCSW, ACSW; Paulina Kim, MD, MPH; Lauren King, MSW; and Ellyn Stein, PhD.

On February 5, the elective “Caregiving: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities” will be offered at Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging and Longevity. This training examines caregiver roles from yesterday and today; identifies teamwork strategies for successful caregiving; provides assessment strategies; discusses flourishing caregiving programs, approaches and resources; and self-care tips for the professional caregiver. Faculty members for this elective include: Les Rosenzweig, RD; Nisha Rughwani, MD; Beverly Collier; John Genke, LCSW; and David Yanofsky, LCSW.

“Transforming Long Term Care” will be presented by Andrea Sherman, PhD, and Ethel Mitty, EdD, RN, on February 11 at Visiting Nurses Services in Manhattan, NY. This workshop will show examples of long-term care that range from skilled nursing facility care to assisted living and community based support systems. The broad range of assistance that constitutes long-term care results in confusion and disagreement about what long-term care is, and how it is distinct from medical care. Topics for this elective include: who needs long term care and why; the existing levels of care and funding stream; new approaches to care such as the Eden Alternative; and best practices for healthcare professionals during the discharge and care planning process.

University of New England Maine Geriatric Education Center

Judith A. Metcalf, APRN, BC, MS, Director

Health literacy is formally defined this way: “The degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.” Only 12 per cent of American adults have proficient health literacy skills – skills needed to navigate our complex health system and care for oneself and one’s family.

One solution, suggested by major national health policy bodies, is for health professionals to write and teach using plain language, also called clear health communication. This will help close the typical gap between the high literacy levels at which health professionals communicate and the limited literacy skills of American adults. To assist health professions faculty in this process the University of New England Maine Geriatric Education Center will offer a 24-hour continuing education program for Health Professions Faculty: “**Health Literacy and Plain Language: Skills for Clear Health Communication.**” This course will be offered **Wednesday, January 28 through Friday, January 30, at the Pine Tree Arboretum in Augusta, Maine.** Course topics for each day include: **Wednesday, January 28:** Defining the problem, the solution and the evidence: Health literacy, plain language and the links to senior health, health outcomes and patient safety; How to assess patient materials using evidence-based guidelines; Skills to write and teach using plain language. **Thursday, January 29:** Case study in developing patient information, including organizational and visual techniques to enhance accessibility; Cultural Diversity/Cultural Competency: Integration with plain language and clear health communication; eHealth: Role of technology in healthcare and patient information; discussion of Maine HealthInfoNet. **Friday, January 30:** Tools, techniques and resources to teach health professions students: Taking new learning back to the classroom or care site; initial curriculum planning.

For more information about registration, contact Marolyn Bissonnette at: (207) 602-2589 or email: mbissonnette@une.edu. For more information about course objectives or learning activities, contact Sue Stableford at (207) 221-4567 or email: ssableford@une.edu. Also visit the University of New England Maine Geriatric Education website at www.une.edu/mainegec.

National Training and Coordination Collaborative (NTACC) Geriatric Education Centers

Julianne Manchester, PhD, Project Director

AGHE 2009 Symposium

Exploring the Logic of Health Literacy Training and Evaluation: Measuring Secondary and Tertiary Effects in Geriatric Education

Plan to attend the NTACC’s health literacy symposium at AGHE’s annual conference. The symposium will be held February 27, 2009, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Please continue checking AGHE’s website, <http://www.aghe.org/site/aghewebsite/>, for updated information. Several faculty from the NTACC’s Leadership Team and Advisory Panel will be discussing the evaluation of health literacy programming in stakeholder-rich environments.

The first paper, “Stakeholder-Based Health Literacy Programming,” will discuss literature (characteristics, notions of causal chains) that informs health literacy programming. Learn about common barriers encountered in health literacy implementation and ways to anticipate obstacles to data collection. Implications for evaluation of spillover effects and multi-site evaluation will be discussed. The second paper, “Measuring Secondary and Tertiary Effects of Geriatrics Education,” will explore secondary – Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSAs) and competencies – and tertiary effects measurable with health literacy programming. Quantitative and qualitative measures pertaining to the effects of educational interventions will be discussed. Special emphasis will be given to patient-level

assessments and secondary data sets on health outcomes, and how the two may be integrated into evaluation planning. The third paper, “Logic Modeling for Formative and Summative Evaluation,” will discuss the NTACC evaluation continuum. Participants will learn to approach the questions of formative and summative evaluation using systems-based logic modeling. Both objective (observational) and subjective (self-report knowledge) measures, as well as target groups, across the two domains will be discussed.

Discussants and Faculty: Rob Fischer, PhD; Judith L. Howe, PhD; Jurgis Karuza, PhD; Julianne Manchester, PhD, MA; Patrick Murray, MD, MS; Elyse Perweiler, MPP, RN; Julia Hannum-Rose, PhD; Rosellen Rosich, PhD; Joan Weiss, PhD, RN, CRNP

NTACC Interactive Evaluation Activities at AGHE

The NTACC and a few GEC partners will be holding interactive evaluation exercises scheduled for 3:45 p.m., February 27, 2009, around program-specific logic modeling and evaluation planning. We invite you to attend – to network with GEC peers and perhaps learn new ways of linking programming with measurement. Please look for additional details in upcoming e-mails from the NTACC. Feel free to check the NTACC’s website, <http://ntacc.bhpr.hrsa.gov/>, for updated information.

NTACC Webinar Series Focuses on Evaluation Methodologies for GECs:

Needs Assessment Approaches in a GEC Context

January 22, 2009, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST

<https://connect.case.edu/needsassessment/>

The National Training and Coordination Collaborative (NTACC) is looking forward to delivering the third webinar in a series to address evaluation topics pertinent to GEC programming. The webinar series focuses on a range of evaluation topics, including formative and summative evaluation planning, instrumentation development and program-level logic modeling, to name just a few.

This webinar focuses on the purposes, benefits and outcomes of needs assessment. Participants will learn the questions of needs assessment, steps in design and suggestions for using primary and secondary data sources. Quantitative and qualitative approaches will be illustrated. Discrepancy, or gap, analysis will be discussed as a means to identify training needs. A discrepancy analysis from the NTACC’s semi-annual assessment and a case example from the Arkansas GEC will be presented.

(1.5 hours) E-Course Syllabus

- I. What is a “need”? What is “needs assessment”?
- II. Relationship with Program Evaluation
- III. Types of Needs and Needs Assessment
- IV. Purposes and Benefits of NA
 - A. Differentiating Concerns, Needs, Solutions
 - B. Identifying “What Is,” “What Should Be,” and “What is Likely”
- V. Phases of Needs Assessment
- VI. Measuring Needs
 - A. Primary Data Sources (Quantitative-Qualitative)
 - B. Secondary Data Sources (National, Institutional, Local)
 - C. Discrepancy Analysis (NTACC Semi-Annual Results)
 - D. GEC Case Example: Arkansas GEC

*Faculty: Ronni Chernoff, PhD
Julianne Manchester, PhD
Patrick Murray, MD*

For more information on any of these NTACC Resources, contact Vanessa Astraitis, NTACC Project Coordinator: (216) 778-8367, vanessa.astraitis@case.edu.

Montana Geriatric Education Center (MTGEC)

Gayle Hudgins, PharmD, Director

2008 Geriatric Health Screenings Results

During 2008, 73 health professions students traveled more than 10,000 miles across Montana to conduct 59 geriatric health screenings at pharmacies, senior centers, assisted living facilities, Community Health Centers, Indian Health Centers, a pow-wow and the Montana University System WellChecks. Under the direction of clinical specialist Kerry Haney, RPh, FASCP, pharmacy, social work, physical therapy and nursing students were trained in conducting the tests noted below and providing counseling on the results. The table shows the numbers of patients and tests conducted:

Total Patients	Bone Density	HbA1c	Lipids	Balance	Total Tests
1,254	959	339	492	56	1,846

As in the past, pharmacy students from The University of Montana (U of M) were the main participants, primarily due to conflicting academic schedules among the other disciplines. But students in their last year of course work for the DPT, BSN and MSW degrees were added to the mix, thanks to the efforts of faculty from U of M and Montana State University (MSU) systems. MSU College of Nursing and Montana Tech Nursing Program faculty allowed students to conduct the tests and plan events as part of their community health course work. U of M School of Social Work students provided memory and depression screening in an assisted living center, and balance and falls assessments were performed by U of M PT students. Many students participated in more than one screening event as noted in the following table:

Student Participation	Pharmacy	Nursing	Physical Therapy	Social Work	Total Students
Number of individual students	54	9	8	2	73
Number of events completed	181	24	11	6	222

Approximately, 40 per cent of the total number of patients screened had abnormal results. To collect information about patient outcomes, each person with an abnormal result is given a card with prepaid postage to report what action he or she has taken, if any, to help improve his or her health. This could be a change of lifestyle or diet, visit with a health professional or the addition of supplements or medications. In addition, they are asked about their satisfaction with the screenings. If the card is not returned in a month, two follow-up telephone calls are attempted. MTGEC expects to have about the same number of screenings next year. We are already ringing in the New Year with scheduled events.

Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM)

Nicki Guthrie, BA, Secretary

Jan Yonker, MSA, Deputy Director

On December 8, 2008, the Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM) co-sponsored the 21st Annual Michigan State University (MSU) Geriatric Symposium “Caring for Culturally Diverse Adults: Four Perspectives.” The overall goal of the program was to assist participants in providing culturally competent quality care to their older adult patients. Conference presenters identified some of the unique aspects and challenges of aging within four specific cultural communities. Faculty and participants also discussed ways in which to integrate this cultural knowledge into practice and policy development.

The symposium opened with a welcome from GECM Director Jeffrey Dwyer, PhD. Margaret Aguwa, DO, MPH, Associate Dean for Community Outreach and Clinical Research in the College of Osteopathic Medicine at MSU, delivered the keynote presentation “All the World’s a Stage,” in which she discussed the ever-increasing demographic and diversity changes in the U.S. population and their impact on the health care systems. Dr. Aguwa reminded us of our similarities as well as our differences and noted that meeting the health care needs of at risk elderly patients transcends cultural competency. Subsequently, Linda Keilman, MSN, GNP-BC, Assistant Professor in the College of Nursing at MSU, presented two vignettes from the video “Worlds Apart.” Ms. Keilman also provided commentary and insights about the challenges of the patients interviewed in the video.

Scholars and experts representing the symposium’s four perspectives delivered the following presentations: Margie Rodriguez LeSage, PhD, LMSW, Assistant Professor in the MSU School of Social Work, spoke about “Aiming for Quality Health Care for Older Latinos: A Matter of Culture, Language and More.” Olivia Washington, PhD, PMHNCNS-BC, NP, LPC, Director of the Healthier Black Elders Center, Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research in Detroit, MI, presented on “The Healthier Black Elders Program (HBEP): A Model for Building Research Community Partnerships in Urban Communities.” Rose Khalifa, RN, BSN, Executive Director of Metro Healthcare Services in Detroit, MI, delivered a presentation titled “Middle Eastern (Arab/Chaldean) Perspectives: A Culturally Relevant, Culturally Sensitive and Culturally Competent Approach.” Jerilyn Church, MSW, Executive Director of American Indian Health and Family Services in Detroit, MI, spoke about “American Indian Perspectives: Considerations in Caring for Native Elders.”

The symposium concluded with a thoughtful wrap-up delivered by Gary Anderson, PhD, Professor and Director of the School of Social Work at MSU. The day was a great success with 87 attendees representing a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work and dentistry. Conference evaluations indicated that most found the information helpful and valuable. Many participants indicated that they will make changes to their practices, including: ensuring a better understanding of their patients’ different cultures and medical preferences; providing competent, qualified interpreters for patients; listening more to their patients’ needs and concerns; asking more questions about preferences; looking beyond the medical issues as possible reasons for “non-compliance;” and providing more education to clinicians and colleagues on cultural competence.

2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
January 7, 2009 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Health Literacy	Stony brook University Medical Center	Melissa Simpson LIGEC@stonybrook.edu
January 9, 2009	Mental Health and Quality of Life Improvement	Manhattan VAMC, NY	Jennifer Griffith cnygec@mssm.edu (718)584-9000 X3850 www.nygec.org
January 20, 2009	Models of Substance Abuse Treatment for Older Adults	Hunter College of Social Work Manhattan, NY	Yusyin Hsin YHsin@mhaofnyc.org (212)614-6313 www.nygec.org
January 21, 2009	Hospitalized Older Adults and Palliative Care	VISIONS Manhattan, NY	Jennifer Griffith cnygec@mssm.edu (718)584-9000 X3850 www.nygec.org
January 29 – 31, 2009	Interdisciplinary Faculty Development Health Literacy Training Program	Pullman Plaza Hotel Huntington, WV	Mary Annie mannie@hsc.wvu.edu (304)347-1295
February 2 – March 13, 2009	Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD) Distance Course	Sitka, AK	Marilyn Durocher marilyn.durocher@uas.alaska.edu (907) 747-7748 Or 1(800)478-6643 x 7728 www.alaskagec.org
February 5, 2009	Caregiving: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities	Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging & Longevity Manhattan, NY	Jennifer Griffith cnygec@mssm.edu (718)584-9000 X3850 www.nygec.org
February 6, 2009 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Best Practices in Long Term Care	Gurwin Jewish Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Commack, NY	Melissa Simpson LIGEC@stonybrook.edu
February 11, 2009	Transforming Long Term Care	Visiting Nurse Services Manhattan, NY	Jennifer Griffith cnygec@mssm.edu (718)584-9000 X3850 www.nygec.org
February 11 – 13, 2009	Donald W. Reynolds Mini-Fellowship Program in Geriatrics at UCLA	Los Angeles, CA	Anne Hu, MPH annehu@mednet.ucla.edu (310)312-0531
February 19 & 20, 2009	Falls Prevention Conference, presented by the Miami Area Geriatric Education Center and the Health Foundation of South Florida	Hilton Deerfield Beach, FL	MAGEC magec@med.miami.edu (305)355-9123 http://www.miami.edu/magec
February 20 – 21, 2009	Geriatric Medicine Update: Cardiovascular Disease Conference	Little Rock, AR	Sue Porbeck, CHS SMPorbeck@uams.edu (501)257-5543 www.agec.org
February 27, 2009 12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Community Connections: Let's Talk Late-Life Depression	South Regional – BCC Library 7300 Pines Blvd. Pembroke Pines, FL	MAGEC magec@med.miami.edu (305)355-9123 http://www.miami.edu/magec
March 3 – 4, 2009	Northern Region Geriatric Education Center Summit: We Are All Elders in Training	Fairbanks, AK	Jan Hinde anjlh6@uaa.alaska.edu (907) 474-1833 or 474-7011 Or Larry Roberts fflnr@uaf.edu (907) 474-7011 www.alaskagec.org

March 20 – 22, 2009	Advanced Geriatrics Educators Skills (AGES) Certification Program	Country Inn and Suites Conference Center Beckley, WV	Mary Annie mannie@hsc.wvu.edu (304)347-1295
April 3, 2009	California Council on Gerontology and Geriatrics Annual Meeting: It Takes a Village: Toolkits for Care Management	CSU Northridge Northridge, CA	Victoria Muravlenko vmuravlenko@mednet.ucla.edu (310)312-0531
April 3 – 4, 2009	Leadership and Management in Geriatrics UCLA	Long Beach, CA	Susan Kwan skwan@mednet.ucla.edu (310)312-0531
April 21, 2009 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Parkinson's Disease: Sharing Wisdom	Reno, NV	Diann Jones dsjones@medicine.nevada.edu (775)682-8470
April 25 – 26, 2009	2 nd Annual Interdisciplinary Geriatrics Symposium: Addressing the Clinical Challenges of Elder Care	Nova Southeastern University, Main Campus Fort Lauderdale, FL	Sona Hromulak, MSc, MBA gec@nova.edu (954)262-1078 http://www.nova.edu/gec/events.html
July 10 – 12, 2009	California Association of Long Term Care Medicine Annual Meeting: Bringing Quality Home	Los Angeles, CA	Brian Manning bmaning@mednet.ucla.edu (310) 312-0531
September 23 – 26, 2009	26 th Annual UCLA Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine & Board Review	Marina Del Rey, CA	Pamela Jackson-McCall prjackso@mednet.ucla.edu (310) 312-0531
October 13, 2009	7 th Annual Conference: Health Literacy	Billings, MT and videoconference sites across the state	Kirsten Towgood kirsten.towgood@umontana.edu (866) 506-8432 http://mtgec.umontana.edu

The Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM) is not responsible for the content of the newsletter, other than GECM articles. GECM edits to enhance readability and format only. Please submit articles to: gecm@msu.edu.