

The South Carolina Center for Gerontology, is a consortium of Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, the Medical University of South Carolina, South Carolina State University, the University of South Carolina, Winthrop University, Lander University, Department of Health and Human Services, AARP South Carolina, South Carolina Geriatric Education Center, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control, South Carolina State Budget & Control Board, South Carolina Hospital Association and South Carolina Silver Haired Legislature. For more information about the Center, please visit our website: <http://www.cosw.sc.edu/gerontology>

FALL/WINTER 2007

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

aging

MATTERS

Director's Message

Now that the steaming heat of summer has subsided, I hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall in South Carolina. The last six months have witnessed several exciting new developments in research, education and service in gerontology in our state. Many of our SCCG members and friends have been playing key roles in these new developments. Representing a synergy of creativity and efforts from different parts of the state, these new developments call for a celebration, while their future impacts worth watching.

The review board which oversees the state's Centers of Economic Excellence (CoEE) program has recently approved an award of \$5 million for a new CoEE: SeniorSMART Center, a multidisciplinary collaboration between the University of South Carolina, Clemson University, and Health Sciences South Carolina. To enhance older adult independence, the Center's research will emphasize three key areas, each with an endowed chair: SHARP Brain (helping older adults maintaining intellectual activity); SMART Wheels (promoting seniors' independent mobility outside the home); and SMART Home (assisting seniors maintain independent living inside the home). With the rapid increase of older adults and their need to maintain independence, the approval of the award is no doubt an important step in aging research and technology.

Another great new development relates to the Palmetto State Geriatric Education Center, which has been recently funded. Aiming at enhancing access to quality care, improving patient outcomes and offering culturally sensitive and linguistically competent care to seniors, the Palmetto State Geriatric Education Center will develop, disseminate, and evaluate gerontological and geriatric training for students, faculty, and health professionals in various fields, including medicine, nursing, pharmacy, social work, public health and physician assistants across the state. To cover the three geographic areas of the state, training will be provided through a consortium of institutions, including the Medical University of

South Carolina, the University of South Carolina, Palmetto Health Richland, USC School of Medicine, Clemson University, and the Greenville Hospital system. The South Carolina Center for Gerontology is proud to be one of the state-wide partners for the brand new Palmetto State GEC!

In the service sector, the Lt. Governor's Office has just lunched the "Living Well South Carolina" program. Using a model developed and tested by medical researchers at Stanford University, this program offers classes to help individuals learn how to manage chronic diseases. Currently this program is at the pilot stage, covering 12 counties. This program is expected to be extended to all counties statewide in two years. I personally attended some of the planning meetings and was very impressed by the dedication and enthusiasm of the organizers and service providers.

At our Center, we also have some developments. At the last board meeting held on March 30 the Board reached a consensus regarding the SCCG summit. Instead of holding a separate summit, the Center will join the University of South Carolina and Clemson University to sponsor a combined aging conference, which replaces three previous conferences/events: Aging Research Day, the Clemson University aging symposium, and the SCCG summit. The first joint aging conference, titled "Aging Research to Practice: Mobility and Movement," will take place in spring 2008. I hope to see you there!

Enlarging the Center's membership and broadening the base of its Board are currently under discussion. To increase the Center's vitality and influence, board members have suggested inviting key policy makers as well as private sector stakeholders to join the Center. Discussion will continue at the next board meeting.

Best regards,

Rita J. Chou, Ph.D., MSSW
Assistant Professor
College of Social Work
University of South Carolina

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Palmetto State Geriatric Education Center

The recently funded Palmetto State Geriatric Education Center (PS-GEC) has the theme of the project is “*Quality in Geriatrics*,” focusing on four main cognates: Communication with Older Adults/Cultural Competence and Health Literacy; End of Life and Palliative Care; Quality Care and Practice Improvement; and Cognitive Vitality. The grant, housed in the USC School of Medicine Division of Geriatrics, has Victor Hirth, MD as the PI and Maureen Dever-Bumba, MSN, DrPH(c) as the Project Director.

Training will be provided through a consortium of four institutions which cover the geographic areas of the state. The University of South Carolina (USC) is the lead institution, with the USC Schools of Social Work and Pharmacy collaborating on projects. The other consortia members are the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), where the previous SC-GEC was housed; Clemson University (CU) and the SC AHEC main office and 4 regional offices located across the state. State-wide partners will include the SC Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA-CHCs), SC Lieutenant Governor’s Office on Aging, Coastal Carolina State University, the SC Center for Gerontology, and the Palmetto Health Richland (PH) and Greenville Hospital Systems (GHS).

The program will expand and disseminate curricula and programs including: (1) the development of an interdisciplinary virtual geriatric classroom and repository of materials; (2) develop new interdisciplinary curricula; (3) provision of 24 hours of faculty interdisciplinary training in health literacy ; (4) expand geriatric clinical placement sites and experiences for health professions students; (5) development and export of an interdisciplinary program in Palliative Care/End of Life; (6) expansion, via pilot study, the Senior Mentor program to Pharmacy and other disciplines; (7) development of the on-line core course capability of the USC Interdisciplinary Gerontology Graduate Certificate program and (8) support of geriatric education to practicing professionals through speakers, programs, and media.

Training to Prevent Mistreatment of Vulnerable Adults

With support from the SC Department of Health and Human Services, professionals at the University of South Carolina are working to develop a training program to prevent mistreatment of vulnerable adults for nursing homes across the state. The collaborative effort brings together two USC teams, each with demonstrated experience in community-derived practitioner education of national significance.

The Office for the Study of Aging , and the Center for Child & Family Studies have solicited input on training needs from a variety of stakeholders, including service providers who work with vulnerable adults, regulatory investigators, lawyers, law enforcement officers and policymakers. This project is a natural extension of the project team’s previous work on aging, victim services, and competency-based professional development, with products of national quality yet suited to SC communities. Proposed products include print and CD-ROM curricula and video vignettes, as well as a statewide training series presented to nursing home administrators and staff. Team members from the Office for the Study of Aging are Carol Cornman, Janet Merling and Courtney Davis. Those from the Center for Child and Family Studies are Dr. Dana Dehart, Jennifer Reid and Beck Sullivan.

If you are interested in talking with program developers about prevention needs, or if you would like further information on the initiative or the project team, please contact Carol Cornman at 803-777-5337 or cornman@gwm.sc.edu.

Policy Board

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The ARK Seeks Rural Dementia Care Partners

THE ARK in Summerville is seeking partners to develop rural dementia services in Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, and Orangeburg Counties. Through THE ARK's NOAH Project (Neighborhood Outreach Alzheimer's Help), community groups will receive assistance in creating local services for the 5,964 families coping with dementia in the Lowcountry.

"Families are more likely to use services that are easy to reach and run by their neighbors," said Don Bagwell, Community Outreach Coordinator for THE ARK. "Our goal is to create a basic framework of dementia services throughout the Lowcountry." Having local services in close proximity overcomes barriers of transportation and trust.

How Can the NOAH Project Assist your Town?

THE ARK recognizes that each community has its own unique identity, personality, and culture. Residents know their own needs, and are best suited to meet those needs if given the opportunity and the proper tools. THE ARK is a catalyst to help your town get started by:

- * Helping the community articulate and understand the needs of its dementia residents.
- * Assisting willing groups in creating both a vision and a plan of action.
- * Providing objective feedback and advice based on our own experience.

There is no fee for assisting your nonprofit organization.

What Assistance Is Offered?

- * Technical direction in organizing policies and procedures
- * Staff/volunteer training in dementia care techniques
- * Educational materials for caregivers and volunteers
- * Identification of grant funding sources
- * Review/critique of completed grant applications
- * Availability to provide advice and counsel as program grows

To date, The NOAH Project is assisting in the creation of adult respite care programs for Strawberry Assistance Center (Zions Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Berkeley

County) and Edisto Island Missionary Alzheimer's Support (Charleston County). Support groups are operating in Summerville, St. George, and Goose Creek, with new groups planned for St. Stephen, Hollywood, and North Charleston.

Based in Summerville, THE ARK operates adult respite care programs in Summerville and St. George, and provides Alzheimer's family support services, such as educational programs, support groups, family consultations, and corporate care (caregivers in the workplace).

For Additional Information, please contact:

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The NOAH Project is made possible with grants from:

Lt. Governor's Office on Aging/ Alzheimer's
Resource Coordination Center
ElderCare Trust Fund
HCR-ManorCare Foundation
The Joanna Foundation
Roper St. Francis Foundation

In Memoriam

Dr. Andrew Weinberg

Former President of SCGS, Dr. Andrew Weinberg, passed away at his residence surrounded by his loving family on February 6, 2007 after a long battle with cancer. He was 52.

Dr. Weinberg worked as the Chief of Geriatrics and Extended Care at the Dorn VA Medical Center and was a Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of South Carolina. He has also been affiliated with Yale, Harvard and Emory universities.

Throughout Dr. Weinberg's career he published 45 journal articles, 20 books or book chapters, and 22 abstracts, editorials, reviews or letters. He



also served proudly as a flight surgeon in the United States Navy and was mobilized for both Iraqi wars.

Surviving are his devoted wife, Alicia; children James, Jenna, Bethany, and Jocelyn; his parents; and a sister, Jill. Alicia and their two children have moved back to Massachusetts to be closer to family.

Dr. Weinberg loved his family, was a history buff, enjoyed the beach, was passionate about geriatrics and a consummate educator. We all knew him best as President of SCGS. He revived the organization to where SCGS received the "State Affiliate Achievement Award" from AGS for 2006. His legacy will live on with us forever!

Young Meth Users at Risk of Increased Brain Degeneration

MUSC study uses animal model to suggest meth triggers deficits later in life

Charleston, SC, (August 15, 2007) – Young adults who use methamphetamine may be more vulnerable to age-related brain degeneration when they grow older, according to new animal research released from the Medical University of South Carolina.

The study examines the idea that methamphetamine puts young users at risk of developing deficits later in life (similar to Parkinson's disease) in individuals with depletion of glial derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF). This protein protects and repairs dopamine in areas of the brain related to movement control. Loss of nerve cells that produce dopamine is a major factor associated with Parkinson's disease. Those who have a low level of the protein are considered more susceptible to age-related brain degeneration as a result of methamphetamine use.

“Methamphetamine intoxication in any young adult may have deleterious consequences later in life, although they may not be apparent until many decades after the exposure,” McGinty said. “These studies speak directly to the possibility of long-term public health consequences resulting from the current epidemic of methamphetamine abuse among young adults.”

In their work, published August 15 in *The Journal of Neuroscience*, Jacqueline McGinty, Ph.D, MUSC Departments of Neurosciences and Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences professor, and her colleagues examined the role of GDNF in mice. At 2.5 months of age, the equivalent of adolescence in humans, mice with a partial GDNF gene deletion were compared to mice without the gene deletion; both were given either methamphetamine or saline injections four times over an eight-hour period. McGinty's team discovered that the effects of this methamphetamine binge were exacerbated in the mice with the GDNF deletion. In addition, at 12 months, the GDNF-depleted mice moved significantly less than genetically normal mice treated with methamphetamine.

Future studies might involve identifying the reasons for increased vulnerability to methamphetamine in GDNF-depleted mice in order to help minimize the harm methamphetamine causes to the brain.

“The emergence of behavioral deficits in animals months after methamphetamine discontinuation may be relevant to human methamphetamine abusers,” says Nora Volkow, MD, director of the National Institute for Drug Abuse. “It suggests that even though their current use may not result in deficits, as they age these deficits will become manifest.” Volkow did not participate in the study.

The work was supported by the U.S. Army and the National Institutes of Health.

The Journal of Neuroscience is published by the Society for Neuroscience, an organization of more than 36,500 basic scientists and clinicians who study the brain and nervous system.

Contact: Heather Woolwine, (843) 792-7669 or woolwinh@musc.edu

About MUSC

Founded in 1824 in Charleston, The Medical University of South Carolina is the oldest medical school in the South. Today, MUSC continues the tradition of excellence in education, research, and patient care. MUSC educates and trains more than 3,000 students and residents, and has nearly 10,000 employees, including 1,300 faculty members. As the largest non-federal employer in Charleston, the university and its affiliates have collective annual budgets in excess of \$1.3 billion. MUSC operates a 600-bed medical center, which includes a nationally recognized Children's Hospital and a leading Institute of Psychiatry. For more information on academic information or clinical services, visit www.musc.edu or www.muschealth.com.

Other Aging News

Amella, E.J. (MUSC). Service to aging community: Editorial Board, [Geriatric Nursing](#); Editorial Advisory Board, [Journal of Gerontological Nursing](#); Editorial Board, [The Journal of Nutrition, Health and Aging](#); Alzheimer's Association (National Research Awards): Proposal reviewer; Gerontological Society of America, Abstract Reviewer.

Carlton, D. (MUSC). A description of Dr. Carlton Donald's work, which focuses on prostate cancer in older African American men, was featured in the April 2007 edition of the

Hair, Etc. magazine, a health and beauty magazine with a predominantly African American readership.

Kurent, J. (MUSC). Franke Home Long Term Care Advisory Board; South Carolina Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis – South Carolina Chapter Advisory Board.

SC Geriatrics Society Membership/Geri Journal Subscription. Email Jean Pals, RN, President at jean.pals@va.gov or Rhonda Harden at rhonda.harden@palmettohealth.org to request membership form and/or subscribe to the Geri Journal.

Educational Interventions for Managers/Supervisors to Improve Recruitment and Retention of Direct Service Workers in Home and Community Based Services

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services chose the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid agency to receive intensive technical assistance (TA) from CMS' National Direct Service Workforce Resource Center to address recruitment and retention of direct care workers in long term care community settings.

SCDHHS in conjunction with University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health, Office for the Study of Aging's Carol Cornman, Marcia Lane and Courtney Davis have completed a needs assessment of the issues surrounding recruitment and retention of direct care workers. Through the assistance provided by the Research and Training Center on Community Living, University of Minnesota, best practice strategy models that have proven effective in recruitment

and retention have been identified for a training package for the managers/supervisors of community and residential care facilities (CRCF) and Personal Care Aides provider agencies.

An introductory workshop has been provided for managers/supervisors of community and residential care facilities in South Carolina. Several facilities have expressed interest in learning more about these strategies and will be included in future workshops to practice the strategies. An additional component will be to duplicate this process with the personal care aide provider agencies. Once these strategies have been tested in pilot locations, they will be made available in a training package for statewide usage.

For additional information, please contact Carol Cornman at 803-777-5337 or cornman@gwm.sc.edu.

Aging Grants

The Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging (Columbia, South Carolina) Alzheimer's Demonstration Grants to States Program. The Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging received a grant from the Administration on Aging for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The project partners are the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging, the SC Alzheimer's Association, the Trident Area Agency on Aging, and the Medical University of South Carolina Alzheimer's Disease Clinical Core Research Group. Project Director is Terri Whirrett, MSW from the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging. The grant seeks to improve access to home and community based services for individuals with Alzheimer's and related dementia by targeting underserved and minority populations. The project also expands consumer choice and consumer-directed long term care support for caregivers through the Aging and Disability Resource Center, the SC Alzheimer's Association and the Family Caregivers Support Program to affect systems change, \$433,333 (2007-2008).

Amella, E.J. (PI) (Medical University of South Carolina) & **Laditka, S.** (Co-Investigator) (USC Columbia). Spreading the Word: Dissemination of Meals at Home, SC Nutrition Research Consortium, \$20,000 (2007-2008).

Blackledge, J. Hirth, V. (South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services), Health Education and Living to Help Yourself (HEALTHY), Prevention Partnership Grants, \$219,218 (2006-2007).

Blanck, E. (PI) (USC School of Medicine) Vitamin D in South Carolina Seniors, (2007-2008).

Eleazer, G.P. Project Director, **Poole, D.L., Logan, W.P., Hirth, V.A., Dye, C., Williams, H.G., Brooks, J.O., Laditka, J.N., Baskins, J.P.,** (Co Project Directors) (USC School of Medicine & USC Columbia), The South Carolina Center for Older Adult Independence (CoEE): Promoting Independence for Older Adults: the SeniorSMART Center. SC Commission on Higher Education, \$10,000,000 (2007-2011).

Eleazer, G.P. (USC School of Medicine) (PI) CME/MOC Bridging Grant, Atlantic Philanthropies to the American Geriatric Society, USC Subcontract \$34,109 ((2006).

Ford, M.E. (PI) (Medical University of South Carolina). AT&T Foundation, AT&T Foundation Prostate Cancer Initiative: Reducing Prostate Cancer in the Underserved. The purpose of this grant is to provide and evaluate prostate

cancer screening programs for rural and underserved communities in South Carolina. The project will be evaluated on partnerships in the underserved communities, effectiveness of communication tools, annual calendar of activities and response rates, hiring and effectiveness of outreach staff, efficacy of activities, and impact on the number of new cancer patients diagnosed in these communities and their successful experience from initial diagnosis to treatment to follow up in the health care system, \$250,000 (2007-2010).

Hirth, V., (PI) (USC School of Medicine) & **Gajadhar, R., Bell, R., Eleazer, G.P., Wieland, D., Dever-Bumba, M., Stewart, T.,** Chief Resident Immersion Training in the Care of Older Adults (CRIT), American Geriatrics Society/John A. Hartford Foundation, \$110,000 (2007-2009).

Hirth, V. (PI) (USC School of Medicine), **Granholm, L.,** (Medical University of South Carolina) & **Dye, C.,** (Clemson University), (Co-PI), South Carolina Aging – Research Network (SCARN) Infrastructure Grant \$250,000, Palmetto Health total \$96,000 (2007-2008).

Mainous, A.C. (PI) (Medical University of South Carolina). CTSA Institutional Pilot Project Program, Role of Telomeres with Insulin Resistance and Coronary Disease in Health Care Disparities, \$48,166 (2007-2008).

Mainous, A.C. (PI) (Medical University of South Carolina). Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Studying the Quality of Diabetes Care for Ethnic Minorities, \$74,806 (2007).

Mathews, M. (PI) (USC School of Medicine). Stay in Balance - to Improve Fall Risk in Community Dwelling older Adults (2007-2008).

Mills, F. (PI) (USC-Columbia) & **Tirrito, T.,** Dissertation Chair. Theological Orientation as a Determinant of Social Service Provision to Older Adults, John A. Hartford Doctoral Fellowship, \$70,000 (2006-2008).

Mylinki, J., Fuerst, R., Eleazer, G.P., (USC School of Medicine) Geriatrics for Education Specialists Initiative: Geriatrics Education for Specialty Residents Program (GRS) AGS/Hartford Foundation, \$32,000 (2007-2009).

Philipose, M., Harrison, B., Reder, S., Hedrick, S., Wieland, D., consultant, (USC School of Medicine) Technology for Long-Term Care Project (TLC), Intel Research Seattle (2007).

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Reuben, D. (PI) (USC School of Medicine) (Co-PIs) **Eleazer, G.P., Landefeld, S.**, Hartford Grant to the American Geriatrics Society, Geriatric Leadership Development Initiative – Phase II. \$58,389 (2007-2011).

Stepanikova, I., (PI), **Eleazer, G.P., Stewart, T., Wieland, D.** (USC School of Medicine). Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Non-Verbal Communication Between Physicians and Elderly Patients: A Pilot Study,” USC Research Foundation. \$49,544 (2007-2008).

Tilley, B.C. (PI) (Medical University of South Carolina) NIH/NINDS, Parkinson's Disease Clinical Trial: Statistical Center Administrative Supplement (Minority Recruitment Trial), \$74,065.74 (2006-2007).

Wieland, D. (PI) (USC School of Medicine) Evaluation of Bringing Elders Wellness Enrichment for Lasting Life [Be Well], Lutheran Homes and Hospices of South Carolina, Duke Endowment, \$500,000 (2007-2010).

Wieland, D. (PI) (USC School of Medicine) Evaluation of Private-Pay Home Assisted Living in a Lutheran Social Service Network, Thrivent Foundation, \$300,000 (2006-2009).

Presentations

Bondo, B. (Lt. Governor's Office on Aging), **Oldendick, R.** (USC Institute for Public Service and Policy Research), & **Cimino, W.** (Office of Research and Statistics). South Carolina's Use of Evidence-Based Research. Workshop at the American Society on Aging/National Conference on Aging, Chicago, Illinois, (2007).

Bondo, B. (Lt. Governor's Office on Aging). South Carolina's Growing and Diverse Population. Workshop for the South Carolina Seventh Annual Oral Health Forum titled: Oral Health in South Carolina: Building Synergy for Success, Columbia, South Carolina (2007).

Breland, H. (MUSC). Home Safety for African American Elders with Rheumatic Conditions. Poster Presentation. RCMAR annual meeting, Los Angeles, California (2007).

Bushly, A., Forti, E.M. & Kennedy, B. (MUSC). Community-Based Participatory Research. National Rural Health Association Annual Minority & Multicultural Health Conference, Anchorage Alaska (2007).

Choi, G., Tirrito, T., & Mills, F. (USC Columbia). Involvement and Interest of Religious Organizations to Provide Services to Caregivers. Council on Social Work Education's 53 Annual Program Meeting, San Francisco (2007).

Ford, D., Zapka, J.G., Hennessy, W., Johnson, L., Knott, K. (MUSC). Getting on the Same Page – Critically Ill Patients' Reports of Disease Severity and Care in the ICU. Podium Presentation, American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Salt Lake City, UT, (2007).

Forti, E.M. & Lentsch, E. (MUSC). Oral Cancer Examination. South Carolina Primary Health Care Association Clinician Retreat. Myrtle Beach, SC, (2007).

Forti, E.M. & Lentsch, E. (MUSC). Training Primary Care Providers in Conducting an Oral Cancer Screening. 5th Annual Head and Neck Research Workshop, Charleston, SC, (2007).

Forti, E.M. (MUSC). Cultural Competency. National Rural Health Association Annual Minority & Multicultural Health Conference, Anchorage Alaska, (2007).

Geldhauser, H., Taylor, M.A., & O'Connor, E. (Clemson University). The Return to Work Among Academics: The Importance of Social Factors. Presented at SIOP, Division 14 of the American Psychological Association (2007).

Granholm-Bentley, L. (MUSC). Dinner Speaker, American Society for Neural Therapy and Repair. Clear Water, Florida (2007).

Granholm-Bentley, L. (MUSC). Invited Speaker, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Research Triangle Park, North Carolina (2007).

Kurent J. (MUSC). Caring for the Terminally Ill: Facts, Myths and Misperceptions. Lutheran Hospice Volunteer Conference, Columbia, South Carolina, (2007).

Kurent J. (MUSC). Neuroethics, Professionalism, Palliative Care and the Patient with End-stage Neurological Disease: Focus on ALS. MUSC Neurology Grand Rounds, (2007).

Kurent J. (MUSC). Ethics, Professionalism, and the Hopelessly-ill Patient: The Patient with ALS. MUSC Department of Medicine Grand Rounds, (2007).

Kurent J. (MUSC). Hidden Messages: Identifying Pain and Other Symptoms in Dementia Patients. The Alzheimer's Association South Carolina Chapter and Franke at Seaside, (2007).

Kurent J, Knoefel J, Slatkin N. (MUSC). Advanced Palliative Care and Symptom Management of Patients with ALS, Alzheimer's Disease, and Parkinson's Disease. Breakfast symposium, American Academy of Neurology, Annual Meeting, Boston, (2007).

Kurent J, Bernat J, Wolfson J. (MUSC). Persistent Vegetative State: Evolving Medical, Ethical and Legal Issues for the Neurologist. Breakfast symposium, American Academy of Neurology, Annual Meeting, Boston, (2007).

Kurent J. (MUSC). Medical-Ethical Challenges in the Diagnosis and Management of Patients in the Persistent Vegetative State. Invited speaker, National College of Probate Judges Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, VA, (2007).

Kurent, J. (MUSC). Medical Ethics and Disparities in the Treatment of Pain: Ethnic Minorities, Women and the Elderly. SCMA Bioethics Committee Annual Retreat, Hilton Head, SC, (2007).

Kurent J. (MUSC). Medical Futility Policy: A Work in Progress. South Carolina Bioethics Initiative Annual Meeting, (2007).

Kurent J. Charleston Panelist. (MUSC). Living with Grief: Before and After Death. Hospice Foundation of America National Teleconference, (2007).

Lemon, S., Zapka, J., Li, W. (MUSC). Multi-Level Associations with Body Mass Index in an Ecological Intervention Promoting Weight Control Among Hospital Employees. Poster Presentation, American Academy of Health Behavior, Savannah, GA, (2007).

Lemon, S.C., Zapka, J.G., Cranos, C. (MUSC). Self-Management of Mild Heart Failure: Feasibility of a Patient-Centered Intervention. Oral Presentation, Society of Behavioral Medicine's 28th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, Washington, DC (2007).

Mills, F. (USC Columbia). Characteristics of Religious Congregations that provide Programs and Services to Older Adults. Council on Social Work Education's 53rd Annual Program Meeting, San Francisco, (2007).

Reaves, T. (MUSC). Epithelial-Dependent Antibody Interactions at the Intestinal Surface, Clemson University INBRE/EPSCoR, (2007).

Reaves, T. (MUSC). Epithelial-Dependent Antigen Interactions at the Luminal Surface of the Intestine: Basic Science to the Bedside. (Poster). RCMAR Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, California, (2007).

Schuller, K.L., Jenkins, C., & Neal, D. (MUSC). Trust and Diabetes Self-Care. Professional Meetings of the American Diabetes Association, Chicago, IL, (2007).

Presentations continued on page 7

Presentations *continued from page 6*

Tilley, B.C., Mainous, A., Smith, D., Elm, J., Struman, K. (MUSC). Recruiting Older Diverse Populations into Studies of Parkinson's Disease: A Mixed Methods Approach to Development of an Intervention. (Abstract), 9th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Experimental Neuro Therapeutics (ASENT). Washington, DC, (2007).

Tilley, B.C. (MUSC). Clinical Trial Statistics. American Society for Experimental Neurotherapeutics, 9th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (2007).

Tilley, B.C. (MUSC). Recruiting Diverse Populations into Studies of Rare Diseases: A Mixed Methods Approach, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, (2007).

Tilley, B.C. (MUSC). Using Mixed Methods to Develop a Recruitment Approach for Diverse Populations with Parkinson's Disease. University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, (2007).

Tilley, B.C. (MUSC). Using Mixed Methods to Develop a Recruitment Intervention. RCMAR Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, (2007).

Tirrito, T., Choi, G., & Mills, F. (USC Columbia). Global Concern: Caregiver's Spirituality and its Influence on Policy, 15th International Consortium for Social Development, Hong Kong, China (2007).

Recent Publications

Bellamy, G., Forti, E.M., Snider, L. (2006) (MUSC). Recruitment and retention of a quality health workforce in rural areas: Oral health. National Minority and Multicultural Health Committee. National Rural Health Association Policy Board. <http://www.nrharural.org/pagefil/policybriefs.html>

Bjerken, S.A. Boger, H.A., Nelson, M., Hoffer, B.J. Granholm, A.C., Stromberg, I. (2007) (MUSC). Effects of glial cell line-derived neurotrophic factor deletion on ventral mesencephalic organotypic tissue cultures. *Brain Research*, 1133(1): 10-9.

Boger, H.A., Middaugh, L.D., Patrick, K.S., Ramamoorthy, S., Deneby, E.D., Zhu, H., Pacchioni, A.M., Granholm, A-Ch., and McGinty, J.F. (In press 2007) (MUSC). Long-term consequences of methamphetamine exposure in young adults are exacerbated in glial cell line-derived neurotrophic factor heterozygous mice. *Journal of Neuroscience*.

Braun, U.K., Beyth, R.J., Ford, M.E., McCullough, L.B. (2007) (MUSC). Defining limits in care of terminally ill patients. *British Medical Journal*, 334:239-241.

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