



# KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

## CENTER ON AGING

October 2013 Gerontology Update

[www.ksu.edu/aging](http://www.ksu.edu/aging)

### NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I just took a few minutes to read through this newsletter to decide what to highlight in my note. What a great job Laci and Julie have done!!! As you read through these pages don't forget that Laci truly has your perspective in mind as she is also a graduate of this program. Laci and I were delighted to open the pages of *The Gerontologist* (the peer review journal for GSA) yesterday to discover her article in print. If you become a member of GSA (there's an article about that later in the newsletter) you will have access to this journal and many other meaningful opportunities. I highly recommend student membership--worth every dime. One more thing about GSA, consider attending this year's conference in New Orleans in November. You will have the opportunity to meet your Great Plains faculty. Best wishes for a successful fall semester.

*Gayle*

### NOTE FROM THE ADVISOR

This summer it became clear to me that we need to help our students not only explore their passion for aging but also how to earn a living doing what you love. This is really a personal journey but learning what others have done to earn a living in this field is one way to get some insight into this endeavor. This summer we had nine students graduate from this program, so I took some time to catch up with them. Melanie Metzler and Barb Molter's stories of life after graduation are included in this newsletter. I hope to continue to include some stories like this in upcoming newsletters to spark some ideas to help you in your job hunt post graduation. We love to hear from you, so please share your personal career journeys with us so we can pass them forward!

*Laci*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Pictured to the right is the face of the sundial that is in the center of the quad, the lawn area bordered by Waters Hall on the north, Willard Hall on the east, Hale Library on the south and Leasure Hall on the west. The Quad is crossed by intersecting sidewalks. The sundial at the intersection was donated by the class of 1908 and the quote on it states "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be."



# GRADUATE UPDATES

## Where are they now?



GPIDEA Graduate Barb Molter (on left) and Center on Aging Director Gayle Doll at May 2013 Graduation

Barb Molter is currently a department assistant for nurse researchers at Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University. She acts as a research assistant in collecting data from caregiver's and patients enrolled in studies, many of whom are older adults. On the advanced cancer study, she interviews caregivers who have lost their spouse, sibling, child, friend or relative 2 months after death. Often times the caregiver is an older adult and retired. The senior caregiver's are much easier to contact and tend to spend much more time on the phone than the younger caregivers. In another study, she interviews caregiver's whose loved one is either in an ICU on a vent, or in a LTAC or nursing home and in some cases, died in the aforementioned facilities. Overall, her work is very involved with older persons and research.

She is also an events coordinator, liason for the school of nursing and University Hospitals and she assists PhD students with their projects. She recently was invited to co-author a paper entitled "Voices of Gratitude" with Drs. Maryjo Prince-Paul and Barbara Daly. She hopes to have more opportunities to collaborate with her team members and increase her participation in writing manuscripts from the studies they conduct.

Before graduating, Melanie Butler worked for TFi Family Services in foster care. After graduation she started her AIT at McCrite Retirement Plaza in Topeka. She was recently offered a new position as the apartment director of the independent and assisted living apartments. She currently is the operator (similar to administrator at a LTC facility) of the independent and assisted living apartments. They have 60 assisted living beds and 86 independent living apartments.

# SEPTEMBER IS GSA MEMBERSHIP MONTH!

The world of gerontology is rapidly changing. And you don't need anyone to tell you that the best way to keep up to date is to interact with the top professionals in the field.

GSA fosters real relationships that encourage important and necessary exchanges between aging authorities throughout the world. GSA membership gives you an opportunity to share a collective purpose with others -- the advancement of gerontological research, education, and practice.

Whether it's discussing the latest topics at the Annual Scientific Meeting, finding a long-lost colleague in the membership directory, or reading a friend's article in one of our many journals, GSA keeps you connected to your field. Apply for a GSA membership now!

**GSA  
STUDENT  
MEMBERSHIP:  
\$75.00**

**The GSA Student  
Membership includes:**

The Gerontologist

Journals of  
Gerontology Series B



For more info visit:  
<http://www.geosociety.org/>

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# The Kansas State University Gerontology Club

The Center on Aging has recently minted the newest organization on campus, the Kansas State University Gerontology Club. The purpose of this organization shall be to foster an environment in which students and community members who are passionate about working with, and for, older adults can join together to promote successful aging, engage in intergenerational activities, and provide service opportunities to an aging population.



## **INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED FROM A FAR?**

Just e-mail [geronclub@ksu.edu](mailto:geronclub@ksu.edu) to become a member! You will receive meeting minutes and information about upcoming events. We can even video conference you at our next meeting. If you have any questions please e-mail [geronclub@ksu.edu](mailto:geronclub@ksu.edu) and for more information check out our new website: <http://www.he.k-state.edu/aging/club/>

“We don’t stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing.”  
- George Bernard Shaw

# Campus Coordinator Q & A

## **Where can I find the list of classes being offered each semester?**

There are several places to find a schedule of courses each semester.

1. The K-State Great Plains IDEA website is updated in October with spring courses and in March with summer and fall courses. The five-digit iSIS class number is provided in parenthesis as soon as it is available. <http://www.k-state.edu/ksugpidea/enrollment/>
2. The Division of Continuing Education has a course search where you can view information about Great Plains IDEA Gerontology courses, but this site requires that you know the name or catalog number of the course. <https://eis.dce.ksu.edu/CreditReg/CourseSearch/> You can also find course information on the K-State Class Schedule, but keep in mind both face to face and distance courses are listed here! <http://courses.k-state.edu/schedules.html>
3. The Great Plains IDEA Gerontology matrix provides a projected schedule of courses for the next few years. This information can be helpful for planning and is updated annually by the program faculty (usually in the fall). <http://www.hsidea.org/programs/course-matrix/?program=geron>

## **How do I enroll in a course?**

Log into iSIS <http://isis.ksu.edu> with your K-State eID and password. Find the five-digit iSIS class number and follow these instructions: <http://www.k-state.edu/isis/help/students/stuAddClass.html>

## **What if I need to drop a course?**

In order for a drop to be official, students must drop the course in iSIS. Step-by-step instructions are available here: <http://www.k-state.edu/isis/help/students/stuDropClass.html>

After you drop the course in iSIS, please email me (gpideacc@ksu.edu) as well as your instructor. You will be held to the drop and refund deadlines set by K-State, your home institution.

If you have questions about this process or problems, don't hesitate to contact me!

## **What if I receive an "error" message when I try to enroll?**

Send me an email containing the course name and I will help you problem solve! Sometimes the error message is set when a course reaches capacity, other times, it appears by error.

## **What if my course is taught by a partner institution?**

Great Plains IDEA is a consortium of institutions that work together to offer degree programs fully online. Even though K-State is your home institution you will take courses taught by faculty at each of the partner universities.

You will always enroll in your courses through iSIS at K-State, but when the course is taught by a partner institution, you will access the course through that university. The Campus Coordinator at the teaching institution will contact you with information about how to access the course. If you have not received access instructions within 10 days of the first day of class, please contact me.

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