This newsletter is packed with great information. As far as we know, no other program offers something like this to their students. It’s one of our many ways of showing how much we care about each of you. Whether it is organizing activities within classes or out (The Amazing Race was a blast!), advising students about their courses, or providing intergenerational activities, we pride ourselves on the student experience we offer. As of this week we have over 220 students signed up as secondary majors but after next week, when we graduate more than 50, we will find ourselves with lots of room for your friends and fellow classmates or even your brothers and sisters. Kelli Stallbaumer, who helped to write this newsletter, is leaving us this spring but she’s already signed up her younger brother and we had her older brother, Kyle, before her. So just before you head off for the summer recommend our secondary major to at least three other people. We’ll thank you for it! Have a great summer.

**ADVISING NOTE**

This time of year brings a flurry of activity. Studying for finals, finishing projects, attending graduation ceremonies, and of course spending time in the sunshine! Whether you are graduating or not we hope you will continue to stay in touch with us. We are here all summer, so please call if we can be of assistance. If you are still looking for classes to add to your enrollment for summer you might consider GERON 705 Sexuality & Aging, FSHS 300-ZH Families, Health & Illness, or FSHS 300-ZC LGBTQ Individuals & Families. For fall 2018 there is still space available in GERON 710 Creativity & Aging, GERON 715 Aging Veterans, or GERON 501, 502, or 503. If you still need permission to enroll in GERON 600 Seminar in Gerontology, please contact me. Good luck with your end of the semester projects and exams. Have a great summer!

Gayle

Pam
SEMINAR (GERON 600) MENTORS

The GERON 600—Seminar in Gerontology class uses older adult mentors who are assigned to individual students in the class. They have lots of life experiences to learn from. A big THANK YOU to the mentors for their contributions to our learning each semester.

“Although there is more than 64 years between us in age, we have a LOT in common. I am so grateful for GERON 600 in introducing me to Nathan.” -Gabby

I have loved getting to know Nathan. Nathan and I meet every Friday for coffee. We have developed a sweet friendship over the past couple of months. Usually our conversations begin with an update of how our weeks are going, but then they always evolve into deeper, thought-provoking topics. In the past we have discussed anything from issues I will face as a future physician to how he copes with being a widower. I’ve loved getting to know more about Nathan and everything he has accomplished in his life. He has so many valuable insights to share and I am so honored to be a friend that he chooses to open himself up to.

I think one of the coolest things I have realized as we have grown closer, is that although there is more than 64 years between us in age, we have a LOT in common. We both are driven to make positive impacts on the world around us. We both want to learn as much as possible about ourselves and others. We both are passionate about our respective areas: his being writing and spending time outdoors and mine being focused on medicine.

After graduation, we have plans to keep in touch via snail mail. We hope to visit each other throughout the years as well. I am so grateful for Geron 600 in introducing me to Nathan. My life has been extremely enriched by his presence.

-Gabby Fangman, Senior in Gerontology
CONGRATS MAY GRADUATES!

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The Center on Aging hosted the 6th Annual Amazing Careers in Aging Race on April 13th. Thanks to great weather and student’s competitive nature, participants learned about careers in aging and had fun while doing so! A big THANK YOU to everyone—students and sponsors—who helped make our Amazing Careers in Aging Race a huge success this year!
Who are we? & What do we do?

GAYLE DOLL
Gayle is the Director of the Center on Aging. She is the instructor for GERON 600—Seminar in Gerontology. Her research interests include Culture Change in Nursing Homes, Physical Functioning in Older Adults, and Sexuality in Long Term Care. She also serves as the director of the Great Plains IDEA Graduate Studies in Gerontology.

PAM EVANS
Pam is the Student Advisor and Office Manager in the Center on Aging. She is a great resource when helping students develop future course plans and career options. Pam manages applications to the masters and graduate certificate programs and is the office manager.

LACI CORNELISON
PEAK 2.0 Project Coordinator and GERON 315 instructor. PEAK 2.0 is a Medicaid quality improvement program for Kansas nursing homes to promote implementation of person-centered care: http://www.he.k-state.edu/aging/outreach/peak20/. Laci coordinates the program and is engaged in research related to program outcomes. She also has content expertise in dementia care and sexuality in long-term care settings.

KATHRYN SIGMAN
Katie is a course instructor for GERON 315—Intro to Gerontology. She also teaches the Creativity and Aging course (GERON 710). Katie is responsible for planning and coordinating the activities of the gerontology ambassadors and manages student activities.

STEPHANIE GFELLER
Stephanie is the coordinator for the Long-Term Care Administration program in the Center on Aging. She teaches the Seminar in Long-Term Care as well as GERON 315—Intro to Gerontology. Stephanie supervises student internships in the Administrator in Training (AIT) program and is also a member of the PEAK 2.0 Team.

MAGGIE SYME
Maggie is an assistant professor in gerontology in the Center on Aging and she teaches the GERON 600—Seminary in Gerontology online course. Her research interests are related to sexuality and aging. Maggie also runs the undergraduate research lab focusing on sexuality and aging.
2018 - 2019 AMBASSADORS

SHELBIE MCLAIN—junior majoring in Human Development and Family Sciences
MEGAN OCHOA—junior majoring in Nutrition and Health
MADISON ROCKERS—junior majoring in Family Studies and Human Services
DESIREE SCHIPPERS—junior majoring in English

Thank you to our 2017-2018 Ambassadors for all of your hard work!
Sarah McConnell, Mallory Wilhite, Megan Ochoa, Cameron Jackson, & Desiree Schippers

SUMMER READING

Lost & Found, by Brooke Davis
The Novel is told from a perspective of three eccentric characters – 7-year-old Millie, 82-year-old Agatha and 87-year-old Karl – who have each lost someone close to them. After Millie’s mother abandons her, the three embark on an emotional (and, at points, hilarious) road trip across Australia to find her. Together they will discover that old age is not the same as death, that the young can be wise, and that letting yourself feel sad once in a while just might be the key to a happy life.

This Old Man, by Roger Angell
This deeply personal account is a survey of the limitations and discoveries of great age, with abundant life, poignant loss, jokes, retrieved moments, and fresh love, set down in an informal and moving fashion. The author’s perceptions and humor links the pieces, his utter absence of self-pity, and his appreciation of friends and colleagues encountered over the course of a full and generous life.

Fast Lane to Sunset, by Anne Basto
Living in a small town in the Midwest, the six major characters come together in an unlikely alliance as they turn their backs on traditional retirement, and commit to an unconventional and more adventurous lifestyle. This adventure novel is about aging gracefully and not giving up. It’s about refusing to be marginalized. It’s about older people and younger people and memories of wars. Rich in detail, locales and humor.

Aging with Attitude: Better than Dying with Dignity, by Pauline Whitchurch
Truly hilarious original drawings of old folks storming into their golden years, with appropriate captions, will bring laughter to anyone’s life. No matter what your age, you’ll get a kick out of a generation that knows better, but couldn’t care less!

So Long, See You Tomorrow, by William Maxwell
On a winter morning in the 1920s, a shot rings out on a farm in rural Illinois. A man named Lloyd Wilson has been killed. And the tenuous friendship between two lonely teenagers—one privileged yet neglected, the other a troubled farm boy—has been shattered. Fifty years later, one of those boys—now a grown man—tries to reconstruct the events that led up to the murder. In doing so, he is inevitably drawn back to his lost friend Cletus, who has the misfortune of being the son of Wilson’s killer and who in the months before witnessed things that Maxwell’s narrator can only guess at.