



# 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Gerontology Society Conference

August 9-11, 2021

Legacy Lodge, Lanier Islands

## Call for Proposals

### **What is the Georgia Gerontology Society?**

The Georgia Gerontology Society (GGS) is a statewide multidisciplinary professional network that educates, serves, and advocates for older adults and their families. We are the largest state organization of multidisciplinary professionals in the field of aging. GGS reaches across the state to connect, support, and educate those working with older adults and their families.

### **About the GGS Annual Conference**

The theme for the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual GGS Conference is *The Road Forward: Intersectionality in Aging*. Intersectionality is a lens through which "categories of race, class, gender, sexuality, nationality, ability, ethnicity, and age - among others - [are viewed] as interrelated. Intersectionality is a way of understanding and explaining complexity in the world, in people, and in human experiences."<sup>1</sup>

Together we will examine how intersecting identities influence strengths and barriers that older adults experience and discuss ways to honor lived experience by acknowledging diversity. Our three-day conference provides attendees with the opportunity to hear about new and innovative practices, develop new collaborative partnerships, network with colleagues from across Georgia, and leave inspired and informed to improve the lives of older adults from all backgrounds.

### **Our Attendees**

This conference attracts social/human service agencies, government entities, students, academic professionals, healthcare service providers, senior housing professionals, retirees, older adults, caregivers, and others interested in aging issues.

### **Accommodations**

The Annual Conference will be held at the Legacy Lodge at Lanier Islands (7000 Lanier Islands Pkwy, Buford, GA 30518). A special rate of \$159 a night (plus applicable taxes and fees) has

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<sup>1</sup> Collins, P. H., & Bilge, S. (2020). Intersectionality. John Wiley & Sons

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been approved. Reservations must be made by July 21, 2021. Please visit <https://georgiagerontologysociety.org/2021-annual-conference/> for reservation information.

### **Speaker Compensation**

Please note that GGS does not pay a speaker's fee, travel accommodations, or any other forms of compensation for workshop presenters or poster presenters. In addition to the opportunity to share your information with our attendees, you will receive a discounted conference registration of \$150 for a student/retiree or \$250 for a professional. You are not required to register if you are only planning to attend your session.

### **CEUs**

GGS will apply for various CEUs. If your proposal is accepted, you agree to provide any requested information needed for these applications. In addition, you agree not to use your presentation or poster as a means to market your company or product. If you have any questions about what is acceptable with regards to crediting your organization, please contact [administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org](mailto:administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org).

### **Questions/Concerns**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the GGS Executive Director at [administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org](mailto:administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org) or 404-780-3380.

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## **Conference Tracks**

You are invited to share your expertise, research, and promising practices in the field of aging by submitting your proposal for a presentation and/or poster session to the Georgia Gerontology Society. The five conference tracks are listed below. We encourage you to consider how you could approach your topic from an intersectional lens. While proposals that do not address intersectionality in aging will still be considered, priority will be given to proposals that are directly relevant to the conference theme. We are also asking presenters that incorporate the theme to include suggestions for how to address any challenges or concerns discussed.

### ***Organizational Excellence***

This track will focus on best practices to strengthen business operations and build professional capacity. Possible topics include workforce development, grant writing/fundraising, recruitment and retention, leadership development, strategic planning, marketing, volunteer management, program evaluation, compliance and accountability, quality improvement programs, etc.

*Proposals in this track could incorporate the conference theme by discussing strategies for increasing representation from underrepresented groups in leadership positions, considering workforce climate when assessing recruitment and retention issues, culturally-appropriate and inclusive marketing, and so on.*

### ***Medical/Mental Health***

This track will focus on tools and resources for those who serve older adults in an outpatient or long-term care setting. Innovations in treating specific diseases, drug management, and community resources for patients and partnership opportunities for medical practices are possible topics. In addition, this track will highlight the challenges, resources, and innovative practices addressing the mental health needs of older adults. Special consideration will be given to proposals addressing the opioid crisis in the older adult population. Please note that proposals should be applicable to a multidisciplinary audience and not only to medical professionals.

*Proposals in this track could incorporate the conference theme by discussing unique mental health needs of older adults from minority groups or by highlighting health disparities and tailored programming for older adults from various groups.*

### ***Living with Dementia***

This track will focus on empowering people living with dementia and their care partners to live more fully. Possible topics include person-centered care, addressing the stigma of dementia, resources for people living with dementia, best practices for professionals to better serve people living with dementia, etc. Special consideration will be given to proposals that include an individual living with dementia as a presenter.

*Proposals in this track could incorporate the conference theme by discussing topics such as health disparities in dementia, cultural differences in caretaking, in how people view their*

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*diagnosis, in treatment priorities and in approaches, in culturally based resilience, support, and/or strengths.*

### ***Advocacy and Ageism***

This track will focus on approaches, innovations, and opportunities to combat ageism and advance advocacy. Fighting ageism is necessary to truly advance the causes that are important to older adults. Possible topics include learning new approaches to advocacy, the power of grassroots advocacy, strategies for addressing ageism, etc.

*Proposals in this track could incorporate the conference theme by discussing the ways in which ageism interacts with other isms (sexism, racism, etc.) that people experience and how we can use that information to best support our clients. Proposals could also discuss areas of concern within particularly vulnerable or marginalized groups of older adults that need to be emphasized and addressed in policy and advocacy.*

### ***Well-Being & Meaningful Engagement***

This track will focus on best practices and programs being implemented to improve well-being and quality of life of older adults and caregivers/care partners. All aspects of well-being will be considered with particular emphasis on the importance of meaningful engagement. Possible topics include physical, spiritual, and emotional health, nutrition, and evidence-based prevention, etc.

*Proposals in this track could incorporate the conference theme by discussing topics such as culturally inclusive programming – for example, ways to ensure that sexual education programming is inclusive of all sexual orientations and doesn't just make assumptions based on age, or discussing supportive interventions specifically targeted to marginalized sub-groups such as those experiencing mental health challenges, those living with dementia, people experiencing poverty, and so on.*

### **Presentation Formats**

Regardless of the type of presentation you choose, we are asking all presenters to provide an engaging session for our attendees with learning objectives. Presentations in any of the following formats are welcome. All proposals will be required to specify a strategy they will use to make the presentation fun, engaging, and/or interactive.

**Workshop:** A “how-to” or “best practice” session with an emphasis on Q&A. This format should emphasize exchange of information and the demonstration and application of ideas, techniques, and skills in the field of aging.

**Panel Discussion:** A small group of panelists sharing different perspectives on a subject related to the field of aging.

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**Informative Presentation:** Educational sessions with emphasis on the latest research, trends, and initiatives.

**Poster Session:** Posters are the visual display and summary of research, interventions, or programs. Authors must be present during the Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup> President's Reception to discuss their work. Project activities and/or results are displayed in graphs, tables, pictures, and text. Authors have an opportunity for short discussions of their work with conference attendees.

## **Fees**

All presenters will be given the discounted rate of \$250. Student and Retiree presenters will be given the discounted rate of \$150. If you are only able to present your session and will not be attending any other session, luncheon or event then no fee is required. Please email the Executive Director at [administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org](mailto:administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org) if you are not planning to register for the conference.

## **Equipment**

A computer with Microsoft PowerPoint, LCD projector, and screen are provided in each room. Presenters are asked to bring their presentations on a flash drive. (Check with your IT department if there are encryption concerns.)

## **Notification**

You will receive notification that your submission was received. If you do not receive notification within 5 days of submission, please contact [administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org](mailto:administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org). You will receive notice of whether your proposal has been accepted by February 28, 2021.

## **Proposal Submissions**

It is preferred that submissions be sent electronically through the GGS website. [Click here](#) to access the submission form. Some users have expressed problems using the online form. GGS has been unable to correct this issue as it appears to be a computer setting on the user's end. It is strongly suggested that you type out your submission and copy and paste it into the form so you will not lose your proposal if there is a problem. If you are unable to use the online form, you may complete the included form and email it to [administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org](mailto:administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org).

Concurrent sessions are 60 minutes with a maximum of four presenters, including panel formats. All proposals should include the following information. Incomplete forms will not be considered.

1. Title, Conference Track, and Presentation Format – Please make certain to include the presentation or poster title, track, and presentation format at the beginning of each proposal.
2. Primary Contact Person and List of Presenters – Please make sure that the following are included in the proposal: the primary contact and ALL presenter names, title, agency, mailing and email addresses, telephone and fax numbers. The primary contact will receive

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all correspondence related to the presentation and is responsible for forwarding such information to all presenters.

3. Learning Objectives – List three learning objectives for each presentation. The objectives should be measurable. For example: By the end of this session, participants will be able to discuss risk factors for heart disease.
4. Presentation Summary – Please provide a 40 – 50 word summary of the proposed presentation. This description will be used in the conference program for all approved sessions.
5. Presentation Details – Include a more detailed description of the presentation including key topic and elements and should not exceed 300 words.
6. Conference Theme – Please describe how your presentation relates to this year’s conference theme (The Road Forward: Intersectionality in Aging), if applicable. Presentations that do not specifically relate to the conference theme will still be considered, but priority will be given to those that do.
7. Intended Audience – Describe the intended audience for your presentation. Include those most likely to benefit from your session.
8. Technology (A/V) Needs – Request any of the items that are not listed under Equipment (on previous page). This includes a microphone, internet access, speakers, flip charts, etc.
9. Presenter Short Bio – Provide brief bios for all presenters included in your proposal. Include each presenter’s experience and training that qualifies them to participate in the proposed presentation.
10. Presenter Resume/CV – Provide a Resume or CV for all presenters. This is needed for our CEU applications.

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## 2021 Presentation & Poster Session Submission Form

<b>Title:</b>
<b>Please list which track(s) you would like us to consider for your submission. You can choose more than one.</b>
<b>Presentation Format (mark with an X):</b> Workshop:            Panel Discussion:            Informative Presentation:            Poster Session:
<b>Primary Presenter/Contact Person:</b>
Name:
Title:
Agency/Organization:
Email:
<b>List of Other Presenters (if applicable):</b>
<b>Three Measurable Learning Objectives:</b>
<b>Presentation Summary (40-50 words for use in the program):</b>

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**Presentation Details (no more than 300 words):**

**Intended Audience:**

**Please describe how your presentation relates to this year's conference theme (The Road Forward: Intersectionality in Aging), if applicable. Presentations that do not specifically relate to the conference theme will still be considered, but priority will be given to those that do.**

**Equipment Needs:** A computer with Microsoft PowerPoint, LCD projector, and screen are provided in each room. Presenters are asked to bring their presentations on a flash drive. Please indicate below any additional A/V needs you would like to request such as a microphone, ability to play sound, etc.

**Please email a brief bio and resume/CV for each presenter to [administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org](mailto:administrator@georgiagerontologysociety.org). Your submission will not be considered complete until receipt of these items.**

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