



Syracuse University Aging Studies Institute

Aging Studies Institute Newsletter

Fall 2019

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Jennifer Karas Montez and Shannon Monnat both awarded R24 grants from NIH National Institute of Aging

Jennifer Karas Montez and Shannon Monnat were both awarded a R24 grant from the NIH National Institute on Aging. The R24 mechanism provides infrastructure support for advancing specific high-priority areas of behavioral and social research of relevance to aging. These are highly-competitive 5-year grants, awarded to only 7 teams across the country.

Jennifer is the Co-PI on a renewal of the highly successful NIA R24 **Network on Life Course Health Dynamics and Disparities in 21st Century America**. The purpose of this Network is to stimulate research and disseminate data and analytic resources to better understand trends and disparities in U.S. adult health and longevity across the life course and different geographic contexts. Shannon is a Co-Investigator on the R24 award.

Shannon is also the Co-PI on a new NIA R24 **Network on Rural Population Health and Aging**. This new Network will bring together a multidisciplinary group of scientists to study the multilevel and multidimensional exposures shaping and being shaped by health and aging trends among different rural populations and regions.

Merril Silverstein is the Recipient of the Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award

Merril Silverstein, Marjorie Cantor Professor of Aging Studies, is the recipient of the Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award from the American Sociological Association's Section on Aging and the Life Course. This annual award honors a scholar in the field of aging and the life course who has shown exceptional achievement in research, theory, policy analysis, or who has otherwise advanced knowledge of aging and the life course.

Madonna Harrington Meyer was a guest on Wharton Business School radio program and Podcast Work and Life

Madonna Harrington Meyer was a guest on the Wharton Business School radio program and Podcast Work and Life with Steve Friedman. She discussed the indescribable joys of grandparenting as well as some of the new underbelly for grandparents who provide care for their grandchildren that can cause high levels of stress and strain as grandparenting intensifies.

<https://asi.syr.edu/madonna-harrington-meyer-featured-on-wharton-business-radio-show-work-and-life/>

ASI NEWS

Merril Silverstein to study religion, prosocial values among millennials

Approximately one-third of millennials and post-millennials – young adults born 1981 and later—profess to have no connection to religion, according to the Pew Research Center. Yet evidence points to their strengthened humanitarian values and prominent spirituality. The degree to which religion is decoupled from the prosocial goals and spirituality in contemporary young adults is one of many research questions to be addressed in the project “Spirituality and Prosocial Values in the Absence of Religion Among Millennials and Their Families.” Full Article: <https://falk.syr.edu/religion-spirituality-social-change/>

Jennifer Karas Montez is the Recipient of the 2019 Milbank Quarterly Early Career Award

The Milbank Quarterly Early Career Award in Population Health recognizes significant contributions to population health science by individuals early in their careers. The award emphasizes contributions that integrate insights from multiple disciplines contributing distinct bodies of knowledge to the challenge of understanding and addressing population health issues.

To learn more go to: <https://iaphs.org/conference/award-winners/>

Madonna Harrington Meyer interviewed for article in The Christian Science Monitor and Guest Columnist in the Democrat and Chronicle

Madonna Harrington Meyer was interviewed for the article, “Beyond birthday cards and hugs: The rise of intensive grandparenting.” featured in the Christian Science Monitor . To read the article click [here](#). Harrington Meyer was also a Guest Columnist in the Democrat and Chronicle. To read her article, “Fresh Air Fund breathes joy into lives of families, kids.” click [here](#).

Welcome new ASI Faculty Associate Emily Wiemers



Emily Wiemers is an economist specializing in the economics of aging, economic demography, and labor economics. She focuses her studies on change over time in economic well-being and the role of the family and intergenerational ties in mitigating the effects of economic insecurity.

Her writings have been published in *Demography*, *Population Development Review*, *The Gerontologist*, and *Review of Economics of the Household*, among others. She has also been quoted in the Boston Globe, Salon, The Atlantic, and the Wall Street Journal.

Prior to joining Maxwell she was an associate professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

ASI EVENTS

Fall 2019

**Center for Aging and Policy Studies (CAPS)/Cornell Population Center (CPC)
Annual Conference**

November 1, 10:00 - 4:00, 312 Lyman Hall

Vikesh Amin, Associate Professor of Economics, Central Michigan University

*“Mental Health, Schooling Attainment and Polygenic Scores: Are There Significant
Gene-Environment Associations”*

November 21, 4:00 - 5:00, 312 Lyman Hall

ASI Holiday Luncheon

December 13, 12:00 - 1:30, 312 Lyman Hall

Spring 2020

Leonard Burman & Collen Heflin, Professors of Public Administration & International Affairs

Discussion on the implications of the chained CPI for federal programs that serve older adults

February 28, 12:00 - 1:00, 314 Lyman Hall

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Elder Justice: Unlocking the Potential of Restorative Practices

An interdisciplinary and international seminar with speakers from the fields of social work, sociology, psychiatry, public health, law, and criminology exploring the use of restorative justice to address elder abuse.

(Co-sponsors: Cuse grant, ASI, Falk College, School of Social Work and the Law School)

April 3, 8:45 - 5:00, College of Law, Dineen Hall (pre-registration required)

ASI Year End Breakfast

April 30, 9:00am - 10:30am, 312 Lyman Hall

Recent Publications

Landes, S.D., Stevens, J. D., and Turk, M.A. 2019. "Heterogeneity in Age at Death for Adults with Developmental Disability." *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research*. Online Early. doi: 10.1111/jir.12672.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/jir.12672>

Silverstein, M., Zuo, D., Wang, J., and Bengtson, V.L. 2019. "Intergenerational Religious Participation in Adolescence and Provision of Assistance to Older Mothers." *Journal of Marriage and Family*. Online Early. doi: 10.1111/jomf.12592

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/jomf.12592>

Wilmoth, J.M., Landes, S.D., and London, A.S. 2019. "The Health of Male Veterans in Later Life." *Annual Review of Gerontology and Geriatrics* 39. doi: [10.1891/0198-8794.39323](https://doi.org/10.1891/0198-8794.39323).

Marini, C.M., Fiori, K.L., Wilmoth, J.M., Pless Kaiser, A., Martire, L.M. 2019. "Psychological Adjustment among Aging Vietnam Veterans: The Role of Social Networks in Reengaging with Wartime Memories." *Gerontology*, Published online, September 10, 2019, doi: [10.1159/000502340](https://doi.org/10.1159/000502340)

Recent Grant Awards

Merril Silverstein (PI), Doug Wolf (Co-I), Maria Brown (Co-I)

"Intergenerational Antecedents of Care to Older Adults Approaching the End of Life With and Without Dementia"
National Institute of Health

Merril Silverstein (PI), Maria Brown (Co-I), Sara A Vasilenko (Co-I)

"Spirituality and Prosocial Values in the Absence of Religion Among Millennials and their Families"
John Templeton Foundation

Jennifer Karas Montez (Co-PI), Shannon Monnat (Co-I)

"Network on Life Course Health Dynamics and Disparities in 21st Century America"
NIH National Institute of Aging (R24)

Shannon Monnat (Co-PI)

"Network on Rural Population Health and Aging"
NIH National Institute of Aging (R24)

Submit your news items, announcements,
awards, personal accomplishments, jobs,
births, moving, etc. to

asi-news@maxwell.syr.edu