What Past Participants Say

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PURPOSE. The program provides advanced training in aging research to social work faculty. Participants develop knowledge and skills in research methodology and have the opportunity for extended contact with distinguished visiting professors and National Institute on Aging (NIA) staff. In addition, they work with colleagues from other institutions to design a research program in aging. Participants are challenged to emphasize methodological issues in their own courses and to provide opportunities of research experience to their students.

PROGRAM DESIGN. Those selected for Cohort 3 will attend an initial two-week institute, develop a research proposal over the following year and return for two follow-up sessions to share their progress. The initial institute will be July 16-24, 2006, in Duluth, MN. The first follow-up meeting will be held in winter 2007 and the second in summer 2007. These follow-up sessions will provide additional opportunities for networking and feedback on research proposals that participants develop.

APPLICANTS. Fifteen applicants will be selected. Applicants should be social work faculty with a tenure track appointment at a college or university and have a doctoral degree in social work or a related field. Multiple applications from the same institution will also be considered.

PREVIOUS INSTITUTES. Six cohorts of psychology faculty and two cohorts of social work faculty have participated in the program. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Participants have found their experience with the institute to be enlightening and inspiring. It has energized them to pursue aging research and has brought new enthusiasm to their teaching.

To date, more than 38 psychology participants and eight social work participants have secured research support from private foundations and/or state or federal agencies, including 18 from NIA. All of them have incorporated recent advances in their courses and have engaged their students in aging research. In addition, many participants and their students have published papers and given presentations at national and regional conferences.

NIA SUPPORT. A grant from the National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health will provide food, lodging and travel support for all applicants selected to participate in the program.

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**Program Design**

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**FACULTY.** The program will be co-directed by Barbara Berkman, Professor of Social Work, Columbia University and Chandra Mehrotra, Professor of Psychology, The College of St. Scholastica. In addition, the following scholars will serve as program faculty. Their institutional affiliations and the topics they will address appear below. Biographical sketches are available on the program Web site at www.css.edu/programs/iasw

- **Aloen Townsend**, Case Western Reserve University: *Research Design, Measurement and Analysis*

- **Susan Hughes**, University of Illinois-Chicago: *Evaluation of Interventions*

- **Marsha Seltzer**, University of Wisconsin: *Caregiving and Disabilities*

- **Keith Whitfield**, Penn State University: *Ethnicity and Aging*

- **Chandra Mehrotra**, The College of St. Scholastica: *Preparing Grant Applications*

NIA staff Robin Barr and Sidney Stahl will also address the institute participants. They will provide information on NIA support available for aging research and will make themselves available for personalized consultation both during and after the summer institute. Past participants have found such consultation highly beneficial.
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.

1. The applicant must have a doctoral degree in social work or a related field.

2. Preference will be given to applicants who are social work faculty with a tenure track appointment in a bachelor’s or master’s level program at a college or university.

3. The applicant must provide a letter of support from his/her dean indicating: (a) what institutional support will be provided to make a program of aging research possible; (b) how the conduct of aging research fits with the strategic plans of the institution; and (c) how research efforts begun at the institute will be sustained. Additional letters of support are also welcome.

4. Completed application, curriculum vitae and support letter(s) must be submitted by March 15, 2006.

We are especially interested in promoting diversity among program participants and encourage minority faculty members to apply.

To request application materials please contact:

Chandra M. Mehrotra, Ph.D.
The College of St. Scholastica
1200 Kenwood Avenue
Duluth, MN 55811-4199

(218) 723-6161
(218) 723-5912 (fax)

For additional information, please visit our Web site: http://www.css.edu/programs/iasw/ or contact the program co-directors Barbara Berkman at bb151@columbia.edu or Chandra Mehrotra at cmehrotr@css.edu
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