

**Office of Geriatrics and Interprofessional Aging Studies**  
**Topics in Gerontology Program**  
<http://aginged.osu.edu>

**Authors**

**Keith A. Anderson, MSW, Ph.D.**

**Associate Professor, College of Social Work, University of Montana**

Sexuality in Later Life

Myths and Realities of Aging

Health and Aging

Issues of Abuse and Neglect in the Aging Population

Dr. Anderson has a BA from Dickinson College, an MSW from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a Ph.D. in Gerontology from the University of Kentucky. He is also a Hartford Faculty Scholar in Geriatric Social Work. Before working as a professor and a researcher, Dr. Anderson worked as a clinical social worker at The Washington Home, a nursing home and hospice located in Washington, DC.

Dr. Anderson's research focuses primarily on the well-being of older adults and their caregivers, understanding and improving quality of life in long-term care settings (such as nursing homes), and death, dying, and bereavement issues. His teaching focuses on aging, social gerontology, social welfare policy, and bereavement. Dr. Anderson's work has appeared in many professional journals, newspapers, and websites.

**Lizzy Miles, MA, MSW, LSW**

Myths and Realities of Aging

Health and Aging

Issues of Abuse and Neglect in the Aging Population

Lizzy Miles received her MSW from The Ohio State University. She also has an MA in Journalism and Communication and a BA in Communication from The Ohio State University. Lizzy has an eclectic career background in patient satisfaction research and retail database marketing. Her primary area of interest is in social work in hospice. Her specific research areas of interest include Alzheimer's caregivers and the disenfranchised grief of health care workers. She is a hospice volunteer as well as a Red Cross Disaster Action Team volunteer. She is a blogger, a contributing writer for Opentohope.com, and a member of the Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC).

**Prevent Blindness Ohio**

A Sight for Sore Eyes: Age-Related Eye Disease

Eyes Wide Open: Preventing Vision Loss

The Ohio Affiliate of Prevent Blindness celebrates 50+ years as Ohio's leading volunteer nonprofit public health organization dedicated to preventing blindness and preserving sight. Founded in 1957 by US Senator John Bricker and Lion's Club Member Bob Morrison with support from Nationwide, the Ohio Department of Health and Delta Gamma Fraternity, PBO serves all 88 Ohio counties. We provide direct services to more than 800,000 Ohioans annually and educate millions of consumers about what they can do to protect and preserve their precious gift of sight. Prevent Blindness is the country's second-oldest national voluntary health organization.

From the beginning, Prevent Blindness' mission has remained steadfast - to prevent blindness and preserve sight. Our goal is to prevent the 50% vision loss that is needless and help all Ohioans enjoy good sight for life.

**Allison Gibson, MSW, LSW, Ph.D.**

Understanding Younger-Onset Alzheimer's Disease

Allison Gibson, MSW, LSW, completed her Ph.D. at The Ohio State University's College of Social Work. Allison also received her MSW and BSW from The Ohio State University. Her practice experience and scholarship focus on social work practice with Alzheimer's families, coping strategies and resiliency, caregiving, and issues at the end of life.

Allison has published in such journals as the *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias* and the *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*. She is a reviewer for the *Journal for Social Work Education* and the *Journal of Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment*. Allison has presented her work in a wide range of national and local forums. In 2012 she was recognized as one of the "100 Buckeyes You Should Know" by the OSU

**John Davis, MD, Ph.D.**

Caring for the Aging LGBT Community

Dr. Davis joined the OSU faculty in 2008 as a Clinician-Educator with a focus on immunocompromised hosts. He is a Fellow Member of the American Society of Transplantation and a Member in Training of The Infectious Diseases Society of America. His practice covers a broad spectrum of Infectious Diseases with an emphasis on immunocompromised hosts. In July of 2012, Dr. Davis was named the Associate Dean for Medical Education at the Ohio State University College of Medicine. Dr. Davis' special interests are clinical and educational. His clinical interests are primarily with the infectious diseases of the immunocompromised host, broadly defined to include patients living with HIV, patients who have undergone solid-organ or bone-marrow transplantation, and patients who are maintained on immunosuppressive agents for other reasons. Dr. Davis' educational interests and activities are diverse. They span the spectrum of medical education, from undergraduate and pre-professional education, including medical education and residency/fellowship training, through to continuing medical education for experienced physicians.

**Bradley Schnedl, MD. Candidate**

Caring for the Aging LGBT Community

Bradley Schnedl is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio. He traveled across the country for his undergraduate studies and attended the beautiful University of California, Los Angeles, where he graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry. After graduation, he taught high school Biology and Chemistry to ninth and tenth-grade students in Los Angeles. He later pursued his medical education at The Ohio State University College of Medicine in 2011. As a student at OSUCOM, he has served as an active leader in his medical school class. He has served as Vice President of the Landacre Honor Society, the research honor society at the College of Medicine. Bradley also is a class elected Student Representative on Student Council. He also has a strong interest in medical education. He participates actively as one of the Co-Presidents of PEER, a student-run organization dedicated to providing academic services to fellow medical students. Also, Bradley was recently selected to serve a one-year term as the AAMC Student Member to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the national accrediting body for all 241 medical schools in the country. Bradley intends to pursue a residency in Internal Medicine upon graduation in May 2015, with plans to specialize in Cardiology.

**Donald Mack, MD, FAAFP, CMD**

Frailty and the Older Adult

Dr. Mack received his Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree from The Ohio State University and completed a Family Medicine Residency at the Toledo Hospital in Ohio. He is board-certified in Family Medicine and also has a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatrics and Hospice and Palliative Medicine. He is a Certified Medical Director in Long Term Care from the American Medical Directors Association (AMOA). Currently, Dr. Mack is the Director of Geriatric Education

for the Ohio State University Family Medicine Residency program, the Chair of the Geriatric Task Force for the new OSU medical school curriculum (began in 2012), and the faculty mentor for the Geriatric Student Interest Group. His goal is to increase interest and knowledge in Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine among medical students, resident physicians, fellows, healthcare workers, and others in the field of aging, with the ultimate goal of improving the care of senior citizens. In Dr. Mack's own words, "I want to make sure that we have highly skilled providers to take care of our aging world, my family, and eventually, me!"

**Sarah Rusnak, MS. RD, LD**

Is There An App for That? Nutrition, Fitness, and Aging

Sarah has a Master of Science in Foods and Nutrition with an emphasis in Instructional Technology. For the last four years, Sarah has worked as a Clinical Research Bionutritionist at The Ohio State University Clinical Research Center. She also works as a Clinical Instructor in the Division of Medical Dietetics and Health Sciences. Her areas of focus are nutrition informatics, dietary analysis, and technology to educate students, professionals, and the community. Sarah has given many presentations on nutrition informatics at various meetings, including the Michigan Dietetic Association Annual Meeting.

**Janine Overcash, Ph.D., GNP-BC**

Cancer and the Older Adult

Janine Overcash is a Professor of Clinical Nursing and the Co-Director of Co-Director of the Academy for Teaching Innovation, Excellence, and Scholarship. Dr. Overcash is also a nurse practitioner in the Senior Adult Oncology Program at the James Cancer Hospital Stefanie Spielman Comprehensive Cancer Center specializing in the care of the older person. Dr. Overcash is recognized as a Fellow in the National Academy of Practice, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and the American Academy of Nurses. Dr. Overcash, along with Dr. Lodovico Balducci, assisted in the design and management of one of the first geriatric oncology programs located at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute in Tampa, Florida. Dr. Overcash has authored over fifty peer-reviewed journal articles in the area of geriatric assessment. Dr. Overcash's research interests include understanding falls, performance status, and independence in older cancer patients. Dr. Overcash speaks nationally and internationally on aspects of geriatric assessment and care of the older person diagnosed with cancer.

**Amy Elliot, Ph.D., Director for Research and Evaluation for Pioneer Network**

The First 24 Hours: An Unfolding Case Study in Person-Directed Care

Dr. Elliot is the Director for Research and Evaluation for Pioneer Network, a national center for developing person-centered long-term care delivery systems. In this role, Amy is responsible for demonstrating a sound business case that illustrates positive cost and quality outcomes resulting from person-centered care at the organization, state, and federal policy levels. She has authored book chapters, case studies, and publications to support this focus. Her professional experience, coupled with a strong personal commitment to further the scope of public policy for elders, is instrumental in her efforts to disseminate person-centered innovation at Pioneer Network. Amy is an alumnus of Ohio State, earning her doctorate in Public Policy with a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Aging. Amy credits her experience with the Specialization in Aging as foundational to pursuing positive transformations for our culture of aging.

**Patrice Rancour, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC**

Complementary and Alternative Therapies for the Older Adult.

Patrice has been in the health care field for over 45 years as a clinician, educator, and consultant. A mental health clinical nurse specialist, she received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing at Ohio State University. Patrice's primary areas of interest include working with life-threatened individuals and their families, psychoneuroimmunology, complementary and alternative therapies, spirituality and healing, end of life care, and grief and loss issues. She presents at numerous conferences and symposiums and has authored 40 papers, chapters, and books, including *Tales from the Pager Chronicles* and *The Pager Chronicles Vol. II*. All things being equal, when she isn't working, she would instead, be wandering the shoreline of a particular barrier island off the coast of Georgia. For more information, visit [Patrice's website](#).

**Ruth Emptage, PharmD, CGP**

Optimizing Medication Management for Older Adults

Dr. Emptage has been teaching Doctor of Pharmacy students at The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy since 1996. She obtained her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 1993 from OSU and then went to the University of Illinois at Chicago to complete a 2-year Pharmacy Residency/Fellowship in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy. Her clinical practice during her time at The Ohio State University began as a Clinical Pharmacist at the Columbus Neighborhood Health Centers, where she helped optimize medication therapy of adult patients. In 2000, Dr. Emptage began providing home medication assessments to primarily older adults through a combined project with UfeCare Alliance and the Cardinal Health Foundation. Currently, Dr. Emptage provides comprehensive medication reviews to community-dwelling older adults in Franklin County in an educational model. Dr. Emptage also offers lectures and presentations on various topics relating to optimizing medications in the older adult patient.

**Jennifer S. Browning, MS, RN, ANP-BC**

Falls and the Older Adult

Jennifer S. Browning, MS, RN, ANP-BC has been in the healthcare field for over 25 years as a clinical nurse specialist, educator, researcher, conference presenter, and publisher. Jennifer received her BSN and MS in nursing and completed an Adult Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Program at The Ohio State University. Her interests include falls prevention and injury reduction, the ethical practice of the bedside clinician, surgical and critical care throat assessment, and using complementary modalities at the bedside. Jennifer has also made over 130 presentations throughout her career at a variety of gerontological, nursing, patient safety, and other symposia, conferences, grand rounds, and more. She has authored several publications and educational materials. Currently, Jennifer is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Medical-Surgical Nursing Department at The Ohio State University Medical Center. Outside of work, Jennifer is an avid runner and has participated in over 50 marathons nationwide.