Annual Report

Conference Series on Aging in the America: United States and Mexico

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I. Overview

The following is a summary of 2011-2012 activities of the competing renewal R-13 application for the international Conference Series on Aging in the Americas (CAA): U.S. and Mexico. The symposia in this series build on an extremely successful conference held in September of 2001, 2005, 2009, and 2010, the last two installments of which were funded by the R-13 grant application. The conference series involves a reception, lecture dinner on the first day of the meeting followed by two day scientific sessions aimed at increasing the knowledge related to the determinants and dimensions of healthful aging in the older Hispanics in the U.S. and Latin America. A second objective is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing data that can be used to better understand the role of social structures in promoting healthful aging. The speakers at the meetings are leaders in their respective fields and have extensive experience studying people from the U.S., Mexico, and the Americas.

In addition to invited speakers and keynote lectures, the CAA fosters the development of emerging scholars by sponsoring a peer-reviewed poster session at the end of the first day of the conference. A mentoring program and dinner allows emerging scholars to connect and share in a less formal setting than during the presentations.

The 2012 CAA entitled: National, International, and Comparative Studies of Hispanic Aging and Related Methodological Challenges focuses on methodological challenges of conducting cross-national comparative studies was held at the University of Southern California. Although substantive topics at past conferences involved cross-national research in the Hispanic population, the planning committee in consultation with the CAA Advisory Group objective recommended a fuller discussion on engaging in this line of research with both qualitative and quantitative methodologies, especially in the Latin American context. To do this, the invited speakers at the conference presented papers employing NIA data sets for analyses of Hispanic aging populations in U.S., Mexico, and Latin America, and the Caribbean, such as the Hispanic Established Populations for Epidemiologic Studies of the Elderly (H-EPESE), San Antonio Longitudinal Study of Aging (SALSA), Sacramento Area Latino Study on Aging (SALSA), Mexican Health and Aging Study (MHAS), Health and Retirement Study (HRS), Assets and Health Dynamics among the Oldest-Old (AHEAD), Puerto Rican Elderly Health Conditions (PREHCO); UCLA Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC), and other data sets that include the Mexican-origin and Hispanic respondents. The papers will focus on data quality issues, in particular longitudinal survey capabilities.

Below is the syllabus of conference paper topics:

2012 ICAA Co-Organizers: Kyriakos Markides, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Mark Hayward, University of Texas at Austin, and William Vega, University of Southern California

II. Conference Program
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<tr>
<th>Confirmed Speaker</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<td>Ronald Angel</td>
<td>Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin</td>
<td>After Babel: Language and the Challenges of Comparative Research</td>
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<td>Emily Agree</td>
<td>Center for Population Aging and Health, Hopkins Population Center,</td>
<td>United States Migration Experience and Depressive Symptoms among Older Mexicans</td>
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<td>John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Arias</td>
<td>Mortality Statistics Branch Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for</td>
<td>Estimated Period Life Tables for US Hispanic Sub-Populations</td>
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<td>Health Statistics, CDC</td>
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<td>Larissa Aviles-Santa</td>
<td>National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)</td>
<td>The Hispanic Community Health Study – Study of Latinos: Opportunities for</td>
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<td>Eileen Crimmins</td>
<td>USC/UCLA Center on Biodemography and Population Health, USC Davis School of</td>
<td>The Mexican Physiological Revolution: Putting Mexico in an International</td>
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<td>Mark Hayward</td>
<td>Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin, Health and</td>
<td>Does the Hispanic Paradox in Mortality Extend to Disability? A Comparison of</td>
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<td>Retirement Study</td>
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<td>Ladson Hinton</td>
<td>University of California, Davis, Sacramento Area Longitudinal Study of Aging</td>
<td>Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Research on Depression in</td>
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<td>(SALSA)</td>
<td>Older Latinos: Results from the Men’s Health and Aging Study</td>
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<td>Eliseo Perez-Stable</td>
<td>University of California, San Francisco, Helen Diller Family Comprehensive</td>
<td>Overview</td>
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<td>Jennifer Salinas</td>
<td>The University of Texas Health and Science Center at Houston</td>
<td>Border Health in the Shadow of the Hispanic Paradox: Issues in the Conceptualization of Health Disparities in Older Mexican Americans Living in the Southwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncan Thomas</td>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>Health of Mexicans in America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fernando Torres-Gil</td>
<td>UCLA Center for Policy Research on Aging</td>
<td>Aging policies and its effect on aging Hispanics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Wallace</td>
<td>UCLA Center for Health and Policy Research, UCLA School of Public</td>
<td>Healthy aging among Latino elderly in a health equity</td>
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A subset of papers were revised and appeared in a special issue of *Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology*, volume 28, no. 3 in 2013.

**III. Consensus Building Session**

The consensus building session for the 2012 ICAA was held on the third day of the conference, September 13, 2012, between 2-4 pm. As in the past, this was an important and useful mechanism to get detailed feedback on the substance, conduct of the conference, and suggestions for future conferences, topics of continuing interest, as well as making new scientific acquaintances. Conference questions were fielded from the audience by Co-Presiders Jacqueline Angel and Kyriakos Markides. Three Scribes, Lisa Yarnell and two additional scribes documented the session on laptop computers and a mark-up board for the audience to view. After the session, graduate student scribes consolidated their notes recorded by computer and on the mark-up board in order to generate a report (notes will be reviewed by Principal Investigator Jacqueline Angel). This combination of different disciplinary perspectives, including sociology, psychology, economics, biology, medicine among others served to enrich the multidisciplinary conversation on critical new methodological directions in Hispanic health and aging with an emphasis on people of Mexican-origin. For a summary see 2012 ICAA Proceedings [http://sites.utexas.edu/caa/files/2014/07/2012-ICAA-Proceedings.pdf](http://sites.utexas.edu/caa/files/2014/07/2012-ICAA-Proceedings.pdf)

**IV. Poster Session**

The 2012 ICAA received a total 22 poster submissions from which 4 posters were selected to make oral presentations, as well as present a poster at the conference. The posters selected for oral presentations are the following:

1) Measurement bias in neuropsychological tests due to socioeconomic and race/ethnic differences among Spanish and English-speaking populations using a multi-dimensional model.

   Presenter and affiliation: Frances M. Yang, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Department of Medicine; Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Division of Gerontology; Institute for Aging Research, Hebrew Senior Life
   Classification: Emerging Investigator/Junior Faculty

   Co-Authors: Donald A. Lloyd, Ph.D., USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging; Luis Miguel F. Gutiérrez Robledo, Instituto de Geriatría, Institutos Nacionales de Salud de México; Hector M. González, Ph.D., Wayne State University School of Medicine; William A. Vega, Ph.D., USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging

2) Childhood poverty and depressive symptoms for older adults in Mexico: A life-course analysis

Presenter and affiliation: Philip M. DiMura, State University of New York at Albany, School of Public Health
Classification: Graduate Student

Co-Authors: Lenore Gensburg MS, Elizabeth Grubert DrPH

4) Age, Heart Conditions, and Co-Ethnic Concentration among Aged Mexican-Americans in the Southwestern U.S.

Presenter and affiliation: Joseph L. Sáenz – The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, TX
Classification: Graduate Student in Population Health Science – Sociomedical Science

The following list of poster finalists are all invited to present a poster at the conference:

1) Project Title: Migration, Masculinity, and Aging: The Impact of migration and health among Mexican Exbraceros

Presenter and Affiliation: Emma Verónica Cervantes Cano, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales
Classification: Graduating Undergraduate in Sociology

Co-Authors: S. J. García, V. Montes de Oca, and R. Sáenz

2) The Effect of Household Structure, Social Support, and Neighborhood-Settlement Environment on Financial Strain: Evidence from the Hispanic-EPESE

Presenter and Affiliation: Carlos Díaz-Venegas, Ph.D., Rehabilitation Sciences Academic Division & Research Center, University of Texas-Medical Branch
Classification: Postdoctoral Fellow

Co-Authors: Karl Eschbach, Ph.D., Jacqueline L. Angel, Ph.D.

3) Disclosure of Depression Diagnosis among Older Latinos in Los Angeles

Presenter and Affiliation: Dahlia Fuentes, University of Southern California, School of Social Work
Classification: Doctoral Student
Co-Author: María P. Aranda

4) Differences in BADL, IADL and Cognitive Status in a Costa Rican Sample of older adults

Presenter and Affiliation: M. Garnier-Villarreal, The University of Kansas, Department of Psychology
Classification: Doctoral Student

Co-Authors: D. Johnson; M. Salazar-Villanea

5) Latino older adults’ perceptions of new citizenship status: Findings from a qualitative study

Presenter and Affiliation: Mercedes Hernandez, MSW, University of Southern California, School of Social Work
Classification: Doctoral Student

6) Racial/Ethnic Variation in Pain following Inpatient Palliative Care Consults

Presenter and Affiliation: Jeff Laguna, University of Southern California, Davis School of Gerontology
Classification: Doctoral Candidate & Research Assistant

7) A Case of Double Jeopardy in the Obesity Epidemic

Presenter and Affiliation: Annie Lee, UCLA, Department of Sociology
Classification: Doctoral Student

8) Transnational Aging: Disparities among Aging Mexican Immigrants

Presenter and Affiliation: Verónica Montes de Oca, Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México (UNAM)
Classification: Emerging Investigator/Junior Faculty

Co-Authors: Sáenz, and S. J. García

9) Project Title: Length of Stay in Nursing Homes and Post-Discharge Living Arrangements: A Comparison of Hispanics and Non-Hispanics

Presenter and Affiliation: Stipica Mudrazija, LBJ School of Public Affairs and Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin - stipica.mudrazija@utexas.edu
Classification: Doctoral Candidate

10) Language and Age Equivalence in the Patient-Reported Outcomes Information System (PROMIS®) Physical Functioning Items
Presenter and Affiliation: S. Paz, PhD, MS, UCLA, Center for Health Improvement for Minority Elders - shpaz@ucla.edu  
Classification: Emerging Investigator/Junior Faculty

Co-Authors: K. Spritzer, BA, UCLA; L. Morales, PhD, MD; University of Washington; R. Hays, PhD, UCLA

11) Left out of the Equation: Older Immigrants and Health Insurance Coverage

Presenter and Affiliation: Adriana Reyes, Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology - amr5763@psu.edu  
Classification: Emerging Investigator

12) Breaking Barriers: Using Promotores to Identify Elder Abuse in an Urban Latino Community

Presenter and Affiliation: Marti Riparetti-Brown, USC Davis School of Gerontology - riparett@usc.edu  
Classification: Doctoral Student

13) Profiles of cognitive performance and physical activity in old age: Characterization by gender and age in an urban sample from Costa Rica

Presenter and Affiliation: Mónica Salazar-Villanea, PhD, University of Costa Rica, Escuela de Psicología - monica.salazar@gmail.com  
Classification: Emerging Investigator/Junior Faculty

Co-Authors: M. Garnier-Villarreal; E. Montenegro-Montenegro; D. Johnson

14) Project Title: Predicting the Likelihood of being a Current and Former Smoker in Aged Mexican American with Nativity, Language, Generational Status, and Contact with Anglos

Presenter and Affiliation: Carlos Siordia, CH & PM, UT-Medical Brach, Galveston - casiordi@utmb.edu  
Classification: Emerging Investigator/Junior Faculty

15) Neighborhood Perception and Health among Older Mexican Americans

Presenter and Affiliation: Samuel Stroope, Baylor University, Department of Sociology - sam_stroope@baylor.edu  
Classification: Doctoral Student

16) Cross-border aging and caregiving among older Mexican immigrants in California

Presenter and Affiliation: Jacqueline M. Torres, MPH, MA, UCLA Jonathan and Karin Fielding School of Public Health, Department of Community Health Sciences - jacquemtorres@gmail.com
Classification: Doctoral Student

Co-Authors: Kathryn G. Kietzman, Eva M. Durazo, Anne Soon Choi, Carolyn Mendez-Luck, A.E. (Ted) Benjamin, Steven P. Wallace

17) Testing Sociocultural Explanations for Latino Health Paradoxes: The Case of Social Support and Depression

Presenter and Affiliation: Edna Viruell-Fuentes, Assistant Professor, Illinois University, Latina/Latino Studies - eviruell@illinois.edu

Co-Author: Flavia C. D. Andrade
Classification: Emerging Investigator/Junior Faculty

18) Who stays and who leaves? An empirical examination of the demographic characteristics of Mexican elderly return migrants

Presenter and Affiliation: Alma Vega, University of California, Berkeley, Department of Demography - almav@demog.berkeley.edu
Classification: Doctoral candidate

IV. Evaluation
Dr. Robert Wallace, MD, MS and the Irene Ensminger Stecher Professor of Epidemiology and Internal Medicine, Department of Epidemiology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics served as the External Evaluator. He attended the three day 2012 ICAA conference to provide an overall external assessment of the conference. Overall his comments were extremely positive in terms of planning, content, and scientific dissemination. His detailed assessment is available in Appendix E http://sites.utexas.edu/caa/files/2014/07/2012-ICAA-Proceedings.pdf. Similar conclusions were reached in data collected in the internal evaluation, independently conducted by Dr. Wallace and by Dr. Lisa Yarnell, a post-doctoral fellow in the Educational Psychology program at the University of Southern California.