



Gerontological Nursing Science Research & Implementation Interest Groups (RIIG)

Letter from the Chair



Hello MNRS Gero RIIG Members!

Seeing many of you at our Gero RIIG's January annual business meeting was exciting! I hope you all are having a wonderful start to the Spring semester! The leadership team has been busy preparing for the past couple of months with the MNRS annual conference fast approaching. The conference is scheduled for February 28 - March 2, 2024, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is sure to be exciting and I look forward to seeing you in person and catching up!

I am pleased to share that the Gero-RIIG will host one competitive symposium, "Cognition, Function, and Behaviors in Aging" on Friday, March 1 from 8:30-10:00 AM. Please plan to attend the session to hear about the incredible work being done by your fellow Gero-RIIG members.

In addition, our student representatives will be hosting an exciting "Living Legend" event presented by Dr. Kathleen Buckwalter on Thursday, Feb 29th from 5 – 6 pm. This event is open to all scholars of our Gero RIIG as well as other RIIGs, including early career trainees as well as mid-career and senior researchers. Please plan to attend this event, bring your colleagues, students, and/or friends from other RIIGs, and learn about (and share) experiences on professional growth, career development, and more!

I encourage everyone to consider applying for one of our open leadership positions for the 2024-2025 cycle. I started the chair-elect position around this time last year, and quickly transitioned to the chair role in early April. The Gero RIIG leadership team has been so supportive and wonderful that I felt my transition was very easy and smooth. I say it all the time, participating on this team truly is a pleasure. It is a highly productive, kind, and most importantly FUN group. I look forward to our leadership team meetings every month and always leave feeling refreshed, but also accomplished. Please see the nominations section for more details about open positions and how to submit your nomination.

I want to take this time to thank all those currently serving on the leadership team. You make this job so easy and worthwhile. I feel so lucky to have had the opportunity to work with you all through the past year. I am so excited to see the results of all our hard work and reconnect at the conference!

Thank you everyone for all you do to advance the state of gerontological nursing science! I look forward to connecting with you all at the conference! If you see any of our leadership team members at the conference, please be sure to thank them for their service to the RIIG!

All the best,

Wen Liu, Gero-RIIG Chair 2023-2024

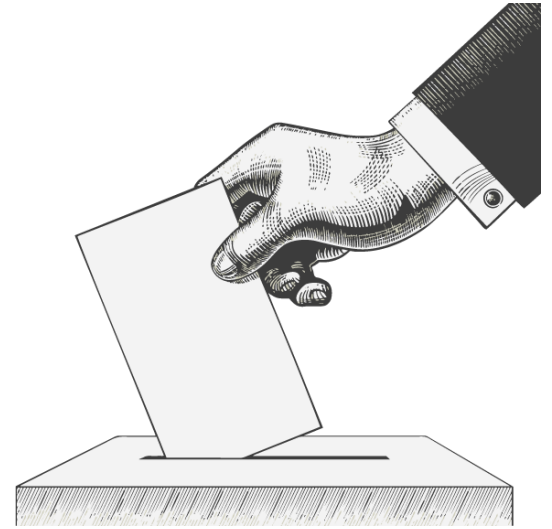
Opportunities for Leadership Positions



Our RIIG is seeking nominations for the offices of **Chair-Elect, Awards Chair, Communication Chair, and Student Representative** for our **2024 election to be held following the annual MNRS meeting**. Chair-elect serves a three-year term that progresses to Chair and Past-Chair positions in subsequent years. All other committee Chairs serve a two-year term.

Serving as a committee member and/or officer in the Gerontological RIIG is an excellent opportunity to share your expertise with nursing colleagues in the region. Please consider nominating a colleague, student, or yourself for one of these offices, and as importantly, joining a committee to familiarize yourself with the work! Additionally, you will gain service experience and broaden your professional network.

Please send your nominations and any questions about these positions to our Nominations Committee Chair, Adele Crouch at adnielse@iu.edu.



Positions Available

The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 8, 2024.

Leadership Position	Position Description
Chair-Elect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assists the chair with monthly meetings as needed. This might include preparation for the meeting, taking minutes during the meeting, or other tasks as needed. (Monthly)Assists in the preparation of symposia submissions. This might include providing input for topics for the symposia, reviewing documents for the call for symposia submission, and assisting with the review of abstracts received for symposia. (May - July)Assist the chair with preparation for the annual GRIG meeting that happens during the annual conference (Jan. - Conference)
Awards Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update call for awards/award description materials (Aug.)Recruit and identify volunteer award reviewers and communicate the list to MNRS (Aug.-Sep.).Review awards (if there is a tie), along with the review committee. Notify MNRS (Dec.-Jan.).Attend and present the awards at the spring annual conference Gero RIIG meeting.Serve as the Gero RIIG representative on the MNRS Grants Review Committee (Nov.-Dec.).
Communications Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend monthly leadership meetings, report communication committee activities, and gather leadership information for inclusion in the newsletter.Schedule and facilitate the communication committee meeting monthly.Collaborate with members of the communication committee to publish 4 newsletters annually (March, May, Aug, Nov).
Student Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in the GRIG leadership meetings and provide a student perspective. (Monthly)Engage with GRIIG leaders and other student representatives to promote student member involvement in the GRIG.





2024 Conference Highlights

- “Living Legend” Student Event with Kathleen Buckwalter
Thursday, February 29 @ 5:00-6:00 PM
- Competitive GRIIG symposium: Cognition, Function, and Behaviors in Aging.
Friday, March 1 @ 8:30-10:00 AM
- Paper Session G: Gerontological Nursing Science, Palliative & End of Life Care, Health Promoting Behaviors Across the Lifespan, Physiology Behavior, Genomics & Society
Saturday, March 2 @ 9:45-11:15 AM

GRIIG Student Representatives Letter



Greetings GRIIG Student Members!

We hope this newsletter finds all our student scholars well and enjoying all this semester has to offer.

Upcoming Events:

February 28-March 2, 2024: MNRS 48th Annual Research Conference at the Hyatt Regency – Minneapolis, MN. The theme is: " Nursing Research in the Future>>>>Exploring the Driving Forces."

- During the conference, there will be a student meet and greet with living legend Dr. Kitty Buckwalter. Don't hesitate to contact one of us if you have any suggestions or want to be a part of the planning process.

***MNRS is resource-filled; consider visiting the website: www.mnrs.org.

As always, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions, recommendations, or comments throughout the semester; we would love to hear from you!

--GRIIG student representatives Saida Jaboob, Erica Perryman, and Meina Zhang



Meina Zhang, PhD student



Saida Jaboob, PhD candidate



Erica Perryman, PhD student



American Heart Month



February is also American Heart Month. This is a time when the nation raises awareness of heart disease. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in older adults in the United States. The American Heart Association and other organizations reinforce the importance of heart health and the need for more research in cardiovascular diseases. For more information, please visit <https://www.heart.org/en/>

Step Into the Mission



The MNRS Foundation is hosting a walk-a-thon at the 2024 MNRS Annual Research Conference. Your registration (\$15 per person) will go towards funding the New 'Step-Up' Grant. In this event, teams of five participants will walk together around Minneapolis, MN to win prizes. Let's see who can get the most steps!

Winners receive a discount on the 2025 conference registration!

- 1st place team receives \$100 off each
- 2nd place team receives \$75 off each
- 3rd place team receives \$50 off each



For more information, please go to <https://mnrs.org/foundation/foundation-walk-a-thon/>

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IOWA

Geriatric Education Center

Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program

This newsletter is provided in collaboration with the Iowa Geriatric Education Center (IGEC), supported by the Iowa Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (Iowa-GWEP), College of Nursing, University of Iowa. For more information about the Center, please visit <https://igec.uiowa.edu/> or email us at geriatric-education@uiowa.edu.