**AGESW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program**

 **Announcement & Application**

**Project Co-Directors**

Marla Berg-Weger, Ph.D., LCSW Tracy Schroepfer, Ph.D.

marla.bergweger@slu.edu tschroepfer@wisc.edu

314-977-2151 608-263-3837

The Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGE*SW*), along with support from the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) will begin accepting applications for its Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program the first of January 2019. Social Work/Social Welfare doctoral students who, at the time of application, are in the first year of their program are eligible to apply. Selected Fellows will receive more than ten hours of training delivered by nationally recognized faculty who are experts in the field of gerontological social work. The training will be delivered at the 2019 Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference and will cover the following topics: teaching, publishing, qualitative and quantitative methods, networking, and dissertation. A webinar will also be held the following spring.

**Program Outcomes**

Upon completion of participation in the AGE*SW* Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program, participants will have the skills necessary to:

* Engage in teaching, quantitative and qualitative research, and publishing
* Seek financial support for their dissertation research in gerontology
* Develop a career plan that demonstrates a combined record of work experience, teaching experience/interests, and a research agenda in the field of aging.

**Participant Benefits**

* A $1,200 stipend to attend the pre-conference AGE*SW* Pre-Dissertation Fellows Training at the GSA Annual Meeting
* One-year membership to AGE*SW*
* Registration for the GSA Annual Meeting
* One-year membership to GSA
* Ongoing mentoring from a member of AGE*SW*
* Participation in a webinar on a topic to be determined by the cohort.

**Program Eligibility**

An applicant must at the time of application:

* Have a Master’s degree in Social Work
* Be enrolled in a social work doctoral program (full or part time) in the U.S.
* Be in the first year of their doctoral program if attending full-time or the equivalent if attending as a part-time student

Note: Multiple applicants from a given doctoral program may be selected

**Questions:** Contact Dr. Marla Berg-Weger (bergwm@slu.edu)

**The Application**

* Applicant Information (see next page—please submit typed copy)
* Applicant’s Curriculum Vita
* A two-page single-spaced personal statement indicating:
1. Applicant’s educational journey and post-MSW experience prior to entering the doctoral program
2. Interest in gerontological social work research and education
3. Career goals upon graduation and ways in which the Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program may be helpful in reaching those goals
* A letter of support from an institutional faculty sponsor indicating 1) the applicant’s match to the Program’s goal of preparing doctoral students for academia and 2) the applicant’s capacity to develop into a competitive candidate for an academic career
* A letter confirming $600 institutional support from applicant’s program director for attending the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA)

**By the application deadline of May 1, 2019, applications are to be submitted as one PDF file via email to Tracy Schroepfer at tschroepfer@wisc.edu.**

**Selection Process**

Applicants will be chosen based on the AGE*SW* Advisory Council criteria:

 Personal Statement **[60%]**

 Letter of Support **[20%]**

 Institutional Support **[20%**]

**Program**

Full-day Pre-Conference Training Program at the 69th Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America to be held in 2019 including:

* + Interdisciplinary research
	+ Quantitative-qualitative-mixed method research proposals
	+ Writing for publication
	+ The role of teaching in your academic career
	+ Seeking funding for gerontological dissertations

Daily Eye-Opener Sessions

* + Day 1 Building Your Mentoring Support
	+ Day 2 Building Your Plan for Funding Support
	+ Day 3 Next Steps

Follow-up Web-based GSA and AGE*SW* sessions to be held in Spring 2020

**Questions:** Contact Dr. Marla Berg-Weger at marla.bergweger@slu.edu

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**Contact Information:**

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Doctoral Program Information:**

**Institution and Program**

**Address**

**Dean/Director (include email address)**

**Doctoral Program Director (include email address)**

**Date of Program Entry**

 **Full-Time** **Part-Time**

**Institutional Support:**

**Faculty Sponsor (Name and Title)**

**Faculty Sponsor Telephone and Email Information**