Kerstin (Gerst) Emerson

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# *Academic history*

# Education

Ph.D. (Gerontology) University of Massachusetts Boston, MA2008

M.S. (Gerontology) University of Massachusetts Boston, MA2006

M.G.S. (Gerontology) Miami University, Oxford, OH 2002

B.A. (Economics, Psychology) University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 2000

# Professional and Research Experience

2021-present ***Director of Online Learning****,* College of Public Health, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

2019-present ***Clinical*** ***Associate Professor****,* Institute of Gerontology, Department of Health Policy & Management, College of Public Health, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

2017-2019 ***Clinical*** ***Assistant Professor****,* Institute of Gerontology, Department of Health Policy & Management, College of Public Health, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

2010-2017 ***Assistant Professor****,* Institute of Gerontology, Department of Health Policy & Management, College of Public Health, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

2008-2010 ***Post-doctoral Fellow,*** Sealy Center on Aging, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

2005-2008 ***Research Assistant*,** Gerontology Department, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

2002-2005 Analyst, Chronic Care & Disability Group, Thomson Medstat, Cambridge, MA

2000-2002 Graduate Assistant, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University, Miami, OH

# UGA Appointments and Affiliations

2019-present ***Affiliate,*** Grantsmanship Development Program; Owens Institute for Behavioral Research

2013-present ***Affiliate,*** University of Georgia Latin American & Caribbean Studies Institute

# *Scholarly Activities*

# A. Peer-Reviewed Publications (Note: Previously published under Gerst, K)

36. **Emerson, K.G**., Mois, G., Kim, D., & Beer, J. (2022). Gender differences in coping with long-term COVID-19 impacts among older adults. *Journal of Women & Aging,* 1-9 doi: 10.1080/08952841.2022.2036570

35. Peek, G., Green, L.E., Carswell, A.T. & **Emerson, K.G.** (2021) The influence of length of residence and home modifications on housing unit satisfaction: Implications for the aging population, published online first, *Housing and Society*, doi: 10.1080/08882746.2021.1996201

34. Zhang, D., Rajbhandari-Thapa, J., Panda, D., Chen, Z., Shi, L., Li, Y., Shen, Y., Ghimire, R. & Emerson, K. G. (2021). Linguistic isolation and mortality in older Mexican Americans: Findings from the Hispanic Established Populations Epidemiologic Studies of the Elderly. *Health Equity*, *5.1*, 375-381. doi: 10.1089/heq.2020.0139

33. Bower, K. & Emerson, K.G. (2021). Exploring contextual factors associated with suicide among older male farmers: Results from the CDC NVDRS dataset. In press at *Clinical Gerontologist,* doi: 10.1080/ 07317115.2021.1893885

32. Emerson, K.G. (2020). Coping with being cooped up: Social distancing during COVID-19 among 60+ in the United States. *Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health, 44,* e81.doi: 10.26633/RPSP.2020.81

31. Chen, Z., Ying, J., Ingles, J., Zhang, D., Thapa, J., Wang, R., **Emerson, K.G**., & Feng, Z. (2020). Gender Differential Impact of Bereavement on Mental Health and Quality of Life: Evidence from the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study, 2011-2015. *BMC Psychiatry, 20,* 514. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-020-02916-2>

30. Shovali, T. E., Bright, M. A., & Emerson, K. G. (2020). Children Raised by Grandparents or Nongrandparents: Which Have Greater Odds of High Academic Performance? *Children and Youth Services Review,* 118*.* doi: 10.1016/j.childyouth.2020.105389

29\*. Shovali, T. E., Emerson, K., Augusta, M. (2019). School-aged Children Living in Grandfamilies: Grandparent Caregiver Confidence in Community Resources Matters. *Child Welfare Journal, 97*(2)*.*

28\*. Prizer, L., Gay, J. Perkins, M., Wilson, M., Emerson, K.G., Glass, A, Miyasaki, J. (2018). A mixed-methods approach to understanding the palliative needs of Parkinson’s patients *Journal of Applied Gerontology,* 1-24, doi: 10.1177/. *J*733464818776794

27. Ewen, H., Emerson, K.G., Washington, T., Carswell, A., and Smith, M.L. (2017). Aging in place: Community-based services and resources in residential Settings among older adults. *Housing and Society, 46*(3), 129-143*.*doi: 10.1080/08882746.2017.1389577

26\*. Emerson, K.G., Boggero, I., Ostir, G. & Jayawardana, J. (2017). Loneliness among older adults: The impact of pain. *Journal of Aging and Health, 30*(9), 1450–1461*,* doi: 10.1177/0898264317721348

25. Ewen, H. H., Washington, T. R**., Emerson, K. G.,** Carswell, A. T., & Smith, M. L. (2017). Variation in older adult characteristics by residence type and use of home- and community-based services*. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 14*(3), 330, doi: 10.3390/ijerph14030330

24\*. Prizer, L., Gay, J. Perkins, M., Wilson, M., Emerson, K.G., Glass, A, Miyasaki, J. (2017). Using social exchange theory to understand non-terminal palliative care referral practices for Parkinson’s Disease patients. *Palliative Medicine, 31*(9), 861-867.doi: 10.1177/0269216317701383

23. Ewen, H. H., Lewis, D. C., Carswell, A. T., **Emerson, K. G**., Washington, T. R., & Smith, M. L. (2017). A model for aging in place for apartment communities. *Journal of Housing for the Elderly*, *31*(1)*, 1-13,* doi: 10.1080/02763893.2016.1268555

22. **Emerson, K.G.** & Gay, J.L. (2017). Physical activity and cardiovascular disease among older adults: the case of race/ethnicity. *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity,* *25* (4), 505-509. doi:10.1123/japa.2016-0012

21\*. Graham, K. C., Smith, M. L., Hall, J.N., **Emerson, K. G**., & Wilson, M. G. (2016). Exploring changes in two types of self-efficacy following participation in a chronic disease self-management program. *Frontiers in Public Health, 4*(196), doi:10.3389/fpubh.2016.00196

20. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Jayawardhana, J. (2016). Risk factors for loneliness among elders. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, 64*(4), 886-887, doi: 10.1111/jgs.14053

19\*. Prizer, L. Gay, J. L., **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Froehlich-Grobe, K. (2016). Accelerometer-based activity in adults with physical limitations. *American Journal of Health Promotion, 30* (3), e101-e109

18\*. Miles. T.P., Allegra, J. Ezeamama, A., Simpson, C. **Gerst-Emerson, K**. & Elkins, J. (2016). In a longevity society, loss and grief are emerging risk factors for health care use: Findings from the Health and Retirement Survey cohort aged 50 to 70 years. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Care, 33*(1), 41-46

17. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Jayawardhana, J. (2015). Loneliness as a public health issue: The impact of loneliness on healthcare utilization among older adults. *American Journal of Public Health,* 1013-1019

16. **Gerst-Emerson, K.,** Wong, R., Michaels-Obregon, A. & Palloni, A. (2015). Cross-national differences in disability among elders: Transitions in disability in Mexico and the United States. *Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Social Sciences,*70(5), 759-768

15\*. **Gerst-Emerson, K**., Shovali, T.E. & Markides, K.S. (2013). Loneliness among very old Mexican Americans: Findings from the Hispanic established populations epidemiologic studies of the elderly. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics, 59*(1), 145–149

14. **Gerst, K.** & Burr, J. A. (2012). Welfare program participation among older immigrants. *Public Policy & Aging Report, 22* (2), 12-16

13. Burr, J.A., Mutchler, J.E. & **Gerst, K.**  (2012). Hispanic residential segregation and immigrant living arrangements in later life. *Population Research and Policy Review, 32*(1), 25-45

12. Burr, J. A., Mutchler, J.E. & **Gerst, K.** (2011). Homeownership among Mexican Americans in later life. *Research on Aging, 33*(4), 379-402

11. **Gerst, K.**, Michaels-Obregon, A. & Wong, R. (2011). The impact of physical activity on disability incidence among older adults in Mexico and the United States. *Journal of Aging Research, 2011,* 1-10

10. **Gerst, K.,** Ray, L.A., Samper-Ternent, R., Espino, D.V. & Markides, K.S. (2011). Self-reported urge urinary incontinence (UUI) among older Mexican American men: Risk factors and psycho-social consequences. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health,13*(6). 1110-1115

9. **Gerst, K.**, Miranda, P., Eschbach, K., Sheffield, K., Peek, M.K. & Markides, K.S. (2011). Protective neighborhoods: The impact of neighborhood percent Mexican American on depressive symptoms. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, *59*(2), 353–358

8. Burr, J.A., Mutchler, J.E. & **Gerst, K.** (2010). Patterns of residential crowding among Hispanics in later life: Immigration, assimilation, and housing market factors. *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, *65B*(6),773-782

7. **Gerst, K.** &Burr, J.A. (2010). Welfare use among older Hispanic immigrants: The effect of state and federal policy. *Population Research and Policy Review*, *30*(1), 129-150

6. **Gerst, K.,** Al-Ghatrif, M., Beard, H.A., Samper-Ternent, R. & Markides, K.S. (2010). High depressive symptomatology among older community-dwelling Mexican Americans: The impact of immigration. *Aging and Mental Health*, *14*(3), 347-354

5. **Gerst, K.** (2009). Supplemental Security Income among older immigrants from Central and South America: The impact of welfare reform. *Journal of Aging and Social Policy, 21*(4), 297-317

4. Beard, H.A., Al-Ghatrif, M., Samper-Ternent, R., **Gerst, K.** & Markides, K.S. (2009). Trends in diabetes prevalence and diabetes-related complications in older Mexican Americans from 1993/1994 to 2004/2005. *Diabetes Care, 32*(12),2212-2217

3. Burr, J.A., **Gerst, K.**, Kwan, N. & Mutchler, J.E. (2008). Economic well-being and welfare program participation among older immigrants in the US*. Generations, 32*(4), 53-60

2. **Gerst, K.** & Burr, J.A. (2007). Planning for end-of-life care: Black-White differences in the completion of advance directives. *Research on Aging*, *30*(4)*,* 428-449

1. Baker, L.A., Cahalin, L.P., Gerst, K. & Burr, J.A. (2005). Productive activities and subjective well-being among older adults: The influence of number of activities and time commitment*.* *Social Indicators Research, 73*(3), 431-458

*\*co-authored with graduate student*

# Encyclopedia Entries/Chapters/Invited Reports/Technical Reports

10. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Burr, J.A. (2013). “The Demography of Minority Aging”. In K. Whitfield and T. Baker (Eds). *Handbook of Minority Aging.* New York: Springer

9. Markides, K.S.& **Gerst-Emerson, K**. (2013). “Introduction: Minorities, Aging, and Health”. In K. Whitfield and T. Baker (Eds). *Handbook of Minority Aging.* New York: Springer

8. **Gerst, K.,** Michaels-Obregon, A. & Won (2012). “BMI and transitions to disability among older adults in Mexico and the United States”. In J.L. Angel, F.M. Torres-Gil, and K.S. Markides (Eds).  *Health and Health Care Policy Challenges for Aging Latinos: The Mexican-Origin Population* New York: Springer.

7. Markides, K.S., & **Gerst, K.** (2011). “Immigration, health and aging in the United States”. In R. Settersen and J.L. Angel (Eds.), *Handbook of the Sociology of Aging*. New York: Springer.

6. Gerst, K. (2011). “Power of Attorney”. In Martha Craft-Rosenberg and Shelley-Rae Pehler (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Family Health,* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

5. Burr, J.A., Mutchler, J.E. & **Gerst, K.** (2010). “Public policy and populations of color”. In Hudson, R.B. (Ed.). *The New Politics of Old Age Policy (2nd edition)*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press.

4. Gerst, K. & Mutchler, J.E. (2009). “Poverty, later life”. In Carr, D. (Ed). (2009) *Encyclopedia of the Life Course and Human Development (3 vols.).* Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA.

3. Burwell, B., Gerst, K., & Tell, E. (2006). *The nursing home liability insurance market: A case study of Ohio*. Report prepared for the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

2. Saucier, P., Burwell, B., & Gerst, K. (2005*). The past, present, and future of managed long term care.* Cambridge, MA and Portland, ME: Thomson Medstat and the University of Southern Maine, Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service. Report prepared for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning & Evaluation, Department of Health & Human Services.

1. Crisp, S., Eiken, S., Gerst, K. and Justice, D. (2003). *Money follows the person and balancing long-term care systems: State examples.* Report prepared for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Division.

**Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations**

74. \*Amarant, D. & **Emerson, K.G**. (2022). Affirming Life by Discussing Death. Paper accepted to the annual meeting of the Georgia Gerontology Society.

73.\*Mois, G., **Emerson, K.G.,** Washington T.R., Beer, J.M. (2021). Understanding the Role of Communication Technology in Facilitating Social Connectivity and Addressing Loneliness. Poster accepted to the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America.

72\*. **Emerson, K.G.,** Kim, D., Mois, G., Beer, J. (2021). *Covid-19 And Older Adults: Coping With Long-term Pandemic Precautions.* Paper accepted to the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America.

71. Beer, J.M., Boccanfuso, L., Collette, B., **Emerson, K. G.**, Gibson, P., Mois, G., Ramachandran, A. & Renzi-Hammond, L. (2021). *Robot-Led Piano Lessons May Improve Cognitive Function: A Feasibility Study in a Sample with Mild Cognitive Impairment.* Paper accepted to Human Factors an Ergonomics Society Conference.

70. Mois, G., Collette, B., Renzi-Hammond, L. M., Boccanfuso, L., Ramachandran, A., Gibson, P., **Emerson, K. G.**, & Beer, J. M. (2021). *Utilizing a Socially Assistive Robot to Increase Access to Cognitive Training Resources*[Poster Presentation]. Poster submitted to the Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference. Virtual Conference

69. Mois, G., Collette, B., Renzi-Hammond, L. M., **Emerson, K. G.**, Schultz, S. A, Datta A., Anderson C. L., Boccanfuso, L., Ramachandran, A., Gibson, P., & Beer, J. M. (2021). *Utilizing a Socially Assistive Robot to Increase Access to Cognitive Training Resources*. Poster accepted to the meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research.

68\*. **Emerson, K.G.,** Kim, D., Mois, G., Beer, J. (2020). The impact of COVID-19 safety recommendations on adults age 60 and older: A qualitative study. Poster accepted to the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America.

67\*. **Emerson, K.G.,** Kim, D., Mois, G., Beer, J. (2020). Coping with the impact of COVID-19 safety recommendations: The importance of pets. Poster accepted to the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America.

66. Shovali, T. E., Bright, M. A., & **Emerson, K. G.,** (2020). Children raised by grandparents or nongrandparents: Which have greater odds of high academic performance? Poster accepted to the annual Gerontological Society of America Conference.

65. **Emerson, K.G.**, Scott, D. & Urbana, B. (2020). Culturally Competent Care: Not Just a Catchy Catchphrase. Symposium accepted at the ADRC Healthy Communities Summit. Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.

64. Anderson, M., Proctor, C., **Emerson, K.**, Davis-Olwell, P., Hein, K., Wells. R. (2020). Program evaluation: A toolkit for collecting graduate outcomes data. Presentation accepted to the ASPPH Undergraduate Public Health and Global Health Education Summit.

63\*. Mois, G., Collette, B.A., Renzi-Hammond, L.M., Boccanfuso, L., Ramachandran, A., Gibson, P., **Emerson, K.G**., & Beer, J.M. (2020). Understanding Robots’ Potential to Facilitate Piano Cognitive Training in Older Adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment. Paper accepted at Human Robot Interaction conferences. Note: *Proceedings of conferences published*

62. Alweshah, A., **Emerson, K.G.**, Everett, S., Kajder, S. B., White, K.J. & Poproski, R. (2020). SoTL Scholars: Expanding the Boundaries of Scholarship on Teaching and Learning. Paper accepted at the University Systems of Georgia Teaching and Learning Conference, Athens, GA. Conference Cancelled due to COVID-19.

61. Bower, K. & **Emerson, KG.** (2020). Suicidality in older adulthood: A review of the CDC NVDRS national dataset. Abstract accepted to the annual meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Norfolk, VA.

60. **Emerson**, **K**., Pan, A\*. & Huang, H. (2019). Life expectancy with chronic disease among older Mexican Americans. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX.

59. **Emerson**, **K**., Pan, A\*., Huang, H. & Markides, K. (2019). Healthy life expectancy of older Hispanics: The influence of neighborhood characteristics. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX.

58. Shovali, T. & **Emerson, K.** (2019). Exploring Racial-Ethnicity Differences in Services Used by Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. Poster accepted at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX.

57. **Emerson, K.,** Pan, A\*. & Huang, H. (2019). Exploring life expectancy calculations by race/ethnic groups - quantity versus quality of life. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Georgia Gerontological Society, Greensboro, Georgia.

56. Shovali, T. E., & **Emerson, K.** (2019). Grandparents raising grandchildren: Grandparents’ confidence in obtaining community resources benefits grandchildren. Poster presented at the 40th Annual Southern Gerontological Society conference, Miramar Beach, FL.

55. Pan, A.\*, Huan, H. & **Emerson, K.** (2019). Disability free life expectancy among very old Mexican Americans. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society conference, Miramar Beach, FL.

54. **Emerson, K.,** Dave, I.\* & Huang, H. (2018). Survival analysis among very old Mexican American: the importance of immigration. Poster accepted at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.

53. **Emerson, K.** (2018). Loneliness as a public health issue: What can we do about it? Paper presented at the Annual State of Public Health in Georgia conference, Athens, GA.

52. **Emerson, K.** & Smith, K\*. (2018). Combating loneliness among older adults: Interventions and research. Paper accepted at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society and the Georgia Gerontology Society, Lake Lanier, Georgia.

51. Augusta, M. \*, Shovali, T. E., & **Emerson, K. G.** (2018). Grandfamilies in America: Examining the role of grandparents’ formal service use in grandchild outcomes. Poster presented at the 28th annual Southeastern Student Mentoring Conference in Gerontology and Geriatrics, St. Pete Beach, FL.

50. Prizer, L\*., Gay, J. Perkins, M., Wilson, M., Emerson, K.G., Glass, A, Miyasaki, J. (2017). The unmet palliative needs of Parkinson’s Disease patients. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Asheville, NC.

49. **Emerson, K.G.,** Washington, T., Smith, M.L., Carswell, A. and Ewen, H. (2017) Community-based services and resources in a residential setting: Location matters. Poster accepted to the 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, San Francisco, CA

48. Muruthi, J.R\*. Lewis, D. & **Emerson, K**. (2017). Mental health service utilization among aging Latino and Asian Americans: The role of social capital. Poster accepted to the 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, San Francisco, CA

47. Smith, M. Carswell, A.T., Ewen, H., **Emerson, K.G.**, Washington. T. (2017).  Objective and subjective views on home safety across housing types of older adults.  Poster submitted to 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics,  San Francisco, CA

46. Johnson, M.A., Bignell, W., **Emerson, K.G.**, Chatterjee, S., Ewen, H. & Cude, B. (2017). Experiences of university retirees with using a health insurance exchange. Paper submitted to the American Public Health Association, Atlanta, GA.

45. Shovali, T, & **Emerson, K. G.** (2017). Service learning in gerontology courses: Making use of technology. Resource Exchange presented at the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education Annual Conference, Miami, FL.

44. Ewen, H. H., Carswell, A. T., **Emerson, K. G.**, Smith, M. L., & Washington, T. (2017). Preparing residential service coordinators for work with low-income elders. Paper presented at the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education Annual Conference, Miami, FL.

43. Prizer\*, L.P., Gay, J.L., Perkins, M.M., Wilson, M.G., **Emerson, K.G.**, Glass, A.P., & Miyasaki, J. (2016). Palliative care referral for Parkinson's patients: An application of social exchange theory, Paper accepted at the 4th World Parkinson Congress, Portland, OR.

42. Prizer\*, L.P., Gay, J.L., Perkins, M.M., Wilson, M.G., **Emerson, K.G**., Glass, A.P., & Miyasaki, J. (2016). The long-term palliative need of Parkinson's disease patients: A mixed methods study. Paper accepted at the 4th World Parkinson Congress, Portland, OR.

41**. Emerson, K.G.,** Boggero, I. \* & Jayawardhana, J. (2016). The relationship between loneliness and pain among older adults. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA

40. Prizer\*, L.P., Gay, J.L., Perkins, M.M., Wilson, M.G., **Emerson, K.G**., & Glass, A.P. (2016). The long-term palliative needs of Parkinson’s Disease patients: A mixed methods study. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA

39. Prizer\*, L.P., Gay, J.L., Perkins, M.M., Wilson, M.G., **Emerson, K.G.,** & Glass, A.P. (2016). Palliative care referral for Parkinson's patients: An application of social exchange theory. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in New Orleans, LA

38. Haltiwanger, C.\*, Hou, S-I., Dye, C**., Emerson, K.G.,** & Davis, M. (2016). Evaluation of South Carolina older adult state-based HOME-Delivered meal program. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Denver, CO.

37. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Jayawardhana J. (2015). Predictors of loneliness in elders: The Impact of Race/Ethnicity. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.

36. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Gay, J. (2015). The relationship between physical activity and cardiovascular disease risk: Racial/Ethnic differences. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.

35. Ewen, H., Smith, M.L. & **Gerst-Emerson, K.** (2015). Short distance migration among older adults. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.

34. Shovali, T.E & **Gerst-Emerson, K**. (2015). High-tech versus high-touch in Gerontology courses. Resource Exchange presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Nashville, TN.

33. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** & Glass, A.P. (2014). Black-White differences in loneliness among elders in the US. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC

32\*\*. **Gerst-Emerson, K.**  & Long, Everett\*. (2014). Obesity and healthcare trends among older adults in Mexico from 2001 to 2012: A comparison of the MHAS data. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Conference on Aging in the Americas, Boulder, CO.

31. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** , Shovali, T.E\*. & Markides, K.S. (2013). Loneliness among very old Mexican Americans. Symposium presentation at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.

30. **Gerst-Emerson, K.** (2013). Master’s in public health and aging: Opportunities for program development. Organizer and presenter of symposium at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, St. Petersburg, FL.

29. Prizer\*, L. Gay, J. L. & **Gerst-Emerson, K.** (2013). Accelerometer-based activity in adults with Physical limitations.Presentation at the annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Medicine, San Francisco, CA.

28. **Gerst, K.** & Eschbach, K. (2012). Social cohesion and trust among older Mexican Americans living in high density ethnic neighborhoods. Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.

27. **Gerst, K.** Samper-Ternent, R. & Michaels-Obregron, A. (2012). Does frailty have the same implications for older adults in Mexico and the United States? Symposium presentation at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA

26. Holtzen, H. & **Gerst-Emerson, K.** (2012). The Use of federally assisted rental housing among older immigrant renters in the U.S. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, San Francisco, CA.

25\*\*. Shovali, T.E.\* & **Gerst, K.** (2012). Validating the loneliness scale in very old Hispanic Americans. Paper accepted at the Australian Association of Gerontology National Conference, Brisbane, Australia.

24. **Gerst, K.** & Connors, H.L. (2012). Fostering effective classroom discussions*.* Resource exchange held at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Arlington, VA.

23. **Gerst, K.,** Michaels-Obregon, A. & Wong, R**.** (2011). The effect of obesity on ADL disability onset among older adults in Mexico and the US.Symposium paper presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA

22. Samper-Ternent, R., **Gerst, K.** & Markides, K.S. (2011). Successful aging: Application of a model for older Mexican Americans. Poster presented at the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, San Antonio, TX.

21. **Gerst, K.** & Connors, H.L. (2011). Survival guide for new teaching faculty. Resource exchange held at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Cincinnati, OH.

20. Samper-Ternent, R. **Gerst, K**, Ray, L., Michaels-Obregon, A. & Ottenbacher, K. (2010). Predictors of remaining non-frail: A positive approach to aging. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.

19\*\*. **Gerst, K.** & Samper-Ternent, R. (2010). Successful aging: applying the model to older Mexican Americans. Poster presented at the Colombian Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, Bogotá, Colombia

18. **Gerst, K.,** Miranda, P.Y., Sheffield, K., Peek, M.K. & Markides, K.S. (2010). Protective neighborhoods: The influence of percent Mexican American on depressive symptoms.Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Dallas, TX.

17. Connors, H.L., Baker, L. & **Gerst, K.** (2010). Community based learning in aging classes. Resource exchange held at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Reno, NV.

16. **Gerst, K.** & Peek, M.K. (2009*).* Impact of subjective and objective neighborhood measures on depression among older Mexican Americans.Presentation at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Atlanta, GA.

15. **Gerst, K.,** Al-Ghatrif, M., Beard, H.A., Samper-Ternent, R. & Markides, K.S. (2009). High depressive symptomatology among older community-dwelling Mexican Americans: *The impact of immigration.* Presentation at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Atlanta, GA.

14\*\*. **Gerst, K.** & Beard, H.A. (2009). Late life obesity and malnourishment in Mexico: the impact of early childhood conditions. Poster presented at the Third Conference on Aging in the Americas, Austin, TX.

13\*\*. **Gerst, K.,** Ray, L.A., Samper-Ternent, R. & Markides, K.S.(2009). Risk factors of urinary incontinence among older Mexican American males and its consequences. Poster presented at the 2nd European Congress on the Aging Male, Budapest, Hungary.

12. **Gerst, K.**, Connors, H.L. & Baker, L. A. (2009). Using movies and online video media to supplement the aging curriculum.  Resource exchange held at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, San Antonio, TX.

11. **Gerst, K.** (2008). Changes in SSI participation among elderly immigrants from Central and South America before and after welfare reform.  Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, National Harbor, MD.

10. Burr, J. A., Mutchler, J.E. & **Gerst, K**. (2008). Hispanic-White spatial distribution patterns in metropolitan areas and household composition among older persons. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, National Harbor, MD.

9. Burr, J. A., Mutchler, J.E. & **Gerst, K**. (2008). The prevalence of mixed citizenship status households among older Mexican Americans.  Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, New Orleans, LA.

8. **Gerst, K.**, Connors, H.L. & Baker, L. A. (2007). Using literature in aging classes. Resource exchange held at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Baltimore, MD.

7. **Gerst, K.** Burr, J.A. & Mutchler, J. E. (2007). SSI participation of older Mexican Americans and immigrants in the United States. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.

6. Mutchler, J.E., Burr, J. A. & **Gerst, K**.  (2007). Mixed status and multigenerational households: The case of older Mexican Americans.  Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Birmingham AL.

5. Connors, H.L., **Gerst, K.** & Baker, L. (2007). Improving peer mentoring through involvement in students activities. Discussion session held at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Portland, OR.

4. Burr, J.A., Mutchler, J.E., Prakash, A.,Poey, J.& **Gerst, K**. (2006). Intergenerational living arrangements among older immigrants. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Dallas, TX.

3. **Gerst, K.** & Burr, J.A. (2006). Racial disparities in documenting and discussing end-of-life wishes. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Dallas, TX.

2. **Gerst, K.** (2006). Factors predicting formal and informal advance directive completion in community-dwelling elders. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Gerontology Association, Worcester, MA.

1. **Gerst, K.** (2006). Talking about and acting on end of life care: Factors influencing advance directives completion. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Indianapolis, Indiana.

*\*co-authored with graduate student*

*\*\* International Conference*

**Grant Support**

Funded Grants/Contracts

2019 Co-Investigator (5%, Beer, PI) “Robot-Assisted Cognitive Training for Socially Isolated Older Adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment”. $105,000. National Institutes of Health. (SBIR).

2017 Principal Investigator. “Healthy Life Expectancy Among Older Hispanics: Individual and Neighborhood Influences”. $142,500. NIH National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R03)

2017 Co-Investigator (5%, Sandersen, PI). “Healthy Aging: Older Adults Fostering Felines”. $48,102. Morris Animal Foundation

2016-7 Co- Investigator (50%, Phaedra Corso, PI) “Evaluation of Yellow Dot”. Program Evaluation

Contract. Georgia Department of Public Health. ($49,681)

2013/4 Principal Investigator. “Burden of Obesity in Mexico and the United States: A cross-cultural comparison”. University of Georgia Internal Grant. College of Public Health Research Advisory Committee, UGA. ($5,818)

2012/3 Principal Investigator “Disability Prevalence among Mexican Elders”. University of Georgia Research in Diversity Seed Grant. Office of the Vice President for Research/Office of Institutional Diversity. ($2,000)

2008-10 Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship “Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award T32

AG000270”. National Institute on Aging (PI: James Goodwin).

# *Instruction*

# Teaching Experience

# Courses taught at University of Georgia:

* GRNT 3000/3000E\* Introduction to Gerontology (In-person and online format)
* GRNT 4960/70/80\* Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO)
* GRNT 6650/6650E\* Aging in Society (In-person and online format)
* GRNT 6700 Psychology and Aging (in person only)
* GRNT 6750/6750E\* Mental Health and Aging (In-person and online format)
* GRNT 7100E Foundations of Aging (online only)
* GRNT 7800E\* End of Life and Older Adults (online only)
* GRNT 8200 Public Health and Aging (in person only)
* FYOS 1001\* First Year Odyssey: Death and Dying (in person only)

*\*new courses proposed and developed*

# Courses taught at other institutions:

Data Research Methods for Managers (Instructor, Graduate online course)

* University of Massachusetts (Boston, MA)

Minorities, Aging and Health (Assistant teacher, Graduate Seminar)

* UTMB (Galveston TX) Department of Preventative Medicine & Community Health

Aging, Health, and Society (Assistant teacher, Graduate Seminar)

* UTMB (Galveston TX) Department of Preventative Medicine & Community Health

Mental Health and Aging (Adjunct Faculty, Undergraduate Seminar)

* Holy Cross (Worcester, MA) Center for Interdisciplinary and Special Studies, College of the

Introduction to Gerontology (Adjunct Faculty, Undergraduate Lecture)

* University of Massachusetts (Lowell, MA) School of Health and Environment

# *Public and Professional Service*

2021 ***Keynote speaker***, Talking about Books Book Club, Athens Clarke County Library

2020- 2021 ***Advisory Council Member,*** Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program, Athens Community Council on Aging

2017-2018 ***Annual Meeting Program Committee Co-Chair*** *(appointed)****,*** Association of Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE)

2017-2018 ***AGHE Representative,*** Gerontological Society of America’s Program Committee

2016-2019 ***Board Member*** (elected)***,*** Georgia Gerontology Society

2016-2018 ***Co-chair***, Scholarship Committee Co-chair,Georgia Gerontology Society

2016-2018 ***Institutional Representative,*** Association of Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE)

2016- present ***Editorial Board,*** *Journal of Aging and Health*

2016-2018 ***AGHE Representative,*** Gerontological Society of America’s Research, Education and Practice (REP) Committee

2016***Thematic Track Leader-***Translating Research to Education and Training, Association for Gerontology in Higher Education

2016 ***Member,*** AGHE Conference Program Committee

2015 ***Editorial Board,*** *Gerontology & Geriatrics: Research*

2013 ***Associate Editor,*** *Handbook of Minority Aging*

2010- 2011 ***Co-Area Editor***, American Sociological Association’s Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology (TRAILS) - Family and Social Gerontology

2009- present ***Abstract Reviewer*,** Gerontological Society of America, Social Research, Policy and Practice Section (Annual)

2008- 2010 ***Assistant Editor,*** *Journal of Aging and Health*

2006 ***Chair Appointee,*** Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization (ESPO), Gerontological Society of America,Nominations Committee

2006 ***Chief Proctor,*** American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology Examinations

**External Grant Reviewer:**

* **Michigan Health Endowment Fund**- Healthy Aging grants (2016)

**Manuscript Reviewer:**

* *The Lancet- Public Health*
* *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences*
* *Health Services Research*
* *The Gerontologist*
* *American Journal of Epidemiology*
* *Social Science and Medicine*
* *Social Science Research*
* *Health Equity*
* *Journal of Affective Disorders*
* *Behavioral Medicine*
* *Research on Aging*
* *Journal of Applied Gerontology*
* *Journal of Aging and Social Policy*
* *International Journal of Aging and Human Development*
* *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*

**Professional Association Memberships:**

Gerontological Society of America (Fellow status) (2007-present)

Sigma Phi Omega (International Honor Society in Gerontology) (2006-present)

# *Press, Recognitions, and outstanding achievements*

**Awards/Honors/Fellowships**

• Inducted into Delta Omega (Beta Chi Chapter) honors society, 2021

• Named as one of “10 Women of UGA Online to Honor on International Woman's Day”, 2021

• Awarded fellow status in the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), 2020

• College of Public Health Service Award winner, College of Public Health, UGA, 2020

• UGA Career Center recognition for contributing to student career development, 2019, 2021, 2022

• Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Scholar, UGA, 2019-2020

• Regents Teaching Excellence Award for Online Teaching Nominee, UGA, 2019, 2020

• College of Public Health Outstanding Teaching Award winner, College of Public Health, UGA, 2018

• UGA Graduate School Outstanding Mentoring Award Nominee, UGA, 2018

• Center for Teaching and Learning Online Learning Fellow, UGA, 2016, 2017

• Center for Teaching and Learning Lilly Teaching Fellow, UGA, 2012-2014

• Funded Participant, National Institute on Aging Summer Institute on Aging Research, 2009

• Funded Participant, University of Michigan National Poverty Center Workshop, 2009

• Graduate Student Speaker Award, University of Massachusetts Boston, 2009

• Gerontology Service Award, University of Massachusetts Boston, 2008

• Poster Award, Population Association of America, 2008

• Margaret Clark Award, Wayne State University, 2006

**Selected Media Interviews:**

* **Georgia Health News, WABE,** (February, 2021) “Will Georgia ease rules for visitors in long-term care facilities?”
* **Atlanta Fox 5 News and Atlanta Channel 11 News** Interviews on social isolation among persons practicing social distancing. (April, 2020)
* **Atlanta WABE radio** segment entitled “Loneliness and seniors during the coronavirus” (April, 2020)
* **Georgia Public Broadcasting:** radio show “On Second Thought” interview on segment tilted “How Loneliness That Lingers Could Affect Your Health – And What To Do About It”. (December, 2018)
* **Georgia Public Broadcasting:** radio show “On Second Thought” interview on segment tilted “Dangerously Lonely”. (February 15, 2016)
* **106.7 Atlanta News Radio** interviewed on about loneliness and older adults (February 3, 2016)
* **Georgia Public Broadcasting:** radio show “On Second Thought” interview on segment titled “Taking care of aging loved ones can be complicated…and expensive”. (May 6, 2015)
* ***Mundo Hispanico/New American Media:*** Quoted in “Vulnerable Latino elders face shortage of geriatric health professionals” (March 15, 2015).
* **Public Health Impact:** WNEG-TV (Episode 37, 2014). Speaking on aging workforce
* ***New American Media***: Quoted in “Growing old, sick and Latino in the south without papers” (March 16, 2012).
* **Public Health Impact**, WNEG-TV: (Episode 26, 2012), speaking on gerontology (archived at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g33W3UwQ5VY)

**Selected Media Coverage of Research:**

National:

* Wall Street Journal “The Goal: Longer Life With Less Loneliness”
* Washington post “Loneliness grows from individual ache to public health hazard.
* Forbes “Crises Like The Pandemic Don’t Make People Less Optimistic”
* Huffington Post “New Research Highlights the Physical Ills of Social Isolation”
* US News & World Report “Loneliness doesn’t take a holiday”.
* American Medical News “Doctors asked to consider loneliness in senior health assessment”.

# HCN Healthcare News. “Should Physicians Measure Loneliness as a Vital Sign?”

* Science Daily “Chronic loneliness in older adults leads to more doctors' office visits, study finds.”
* McKnight's Long-Term Care News “Researchers recommend attacking loneliness to lower seniors' costs, doctor visits.”
* The WorldNews Network “Chronic Loneliness Leads to More Doctors’ Office Visits, Georgia Study Says”.
* WUGA “UGA Study Links Depression to Increased Doctor Visits in Elderly”.

International:

* United Kingdom.Senior Housing UK. “Chronic loneliness in older adults leads to more doctors visits study finds.”
* Australia.6 minutes: Australian Doctor Education. “Chronic loneliness leads to more GP visits.”
* Germany.Aponet. “Senioren: Arztbesuche vertreiben die Einsamkeit. “.
* Nigeria. Pressreader.com. “Lonely Seniors Visit Doctors More Often.