

Approximately 9 % of those aged 65 and over have a cognitive impairment due to a variety of causes including Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), Parkinson's disease, traumatic brain injury (TBI), and stroke. Few technology solutions have been directed towards supporting older adults with cognitive impairments and the literature regarding the efficacy of these solutions is sparse. In this symposium, we describe our new Center called ENHANCE (Enhancing Neurocognitive Health, Abilities, Networks, and Community Engagement), which is focused on developing technology support for aging adults with a cognitive impairment due to MCI, TBI, and Stroke. Sara Czaja will provide an overview of the conceptual framework, goals, and structure of ENHANCE, and describe the STRUMM project, that focuses on the design and evaluation of an innovative intelligent adaptive software package aimed at providing cognitive and social support to aging adults with cognitive impairments. Wendy Rogers will discuss the ENACT project, a longitudinal needs assessment focusing on understanding the needs, challenges, and support preferences of our target population and informal caregivers. Neil Charness will describe the AUGMENT development project, which is concerned with developing an instructional support tool for mobility activities, such as wayfinding, locating, and using transportation services. Finally, Walter Boot will discuss the DREAM development project, which is focused on developing a technology-based cognitive aid to support prospective memory activities. Michelle Bourgeois will serve as the discussant for the symposium and highlight the unique opportunities and challenges associated with ENHANCE.

STRUMM: AN INTELLIGENT, ADAPTIVE SOFTWARE PACKAGE FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH A COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

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Many older adults have a cognitive impairment (CI), which negatively impacts on their quality of life and threatens their independence. In this presentation, we provide an overview of the conceptual framework, structure, and processes of our multi-site Center, ENHANCE, which is focused on developing technology support for aging adults with a CI. ENHANCE has two cross-site research projects, two cross-site development projects, training, and dissemination components. A core battery of measures is collected across all projects. We also discuss the Supportive Technology Resources through Usability & Machine-learning Methods (STRUMM) research project, which focuses on an innovative intelligent adaptive software package aimed at providing cognitive and social support, and support for resource access to aging adults with a CI. STRUMM is designed to meet the user's varying cognitive needs. Finally, we present preliminary data regarding the perceived usability and value of STRUMM from our clinical partners and potential user groups.

EVERYDAY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR COGNITIVE TASKS: CHALLENGES FOR PERSONS WITH COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

Wendy Rogers,¹ Raksha Mudar,² Maurita Harris,³ Elizabeth Lydon,¹ Widya Ramadhani,¹ Sara Czaja,⁴ Walter Boot,⁵ and Neil Charness,⁵ 1. *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, United States*, 2. *University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, United States*, 3. *University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, United States*, 4. *Weill Cornell Medicine/Center on Aging and Behavioral Research, New York, New York, United States*, 5. *Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, United States*

ENACT (Everyday Needs Assessment for Cognitive Tasks) is an exploration and discovery project to gather information on challenges in daily and community living experienced by individuals aging with compromised cognition due to mild cognitive impairment, traumatic brain injury, or post-stroke. We are exploring their challenges through a longitudinal needs assessment study involving interviews with older adults with cognitive impairment and their care partners. We will describe the study development process wherein we interviewed subject matter experts, including persons with professional (neurology, rehabilitation, gerontology) or personal experience with individuals who have cognitive impairment. Based on their collective insights, we selected the following categories of activities for the ENACT in-depth interviews: health, social engagement, transportation, domestic life, and leisure/recreation. The ENACT longitudinal data will provide insights to guide development of adaptive, context-sensitive technology-based supports for the AUGMENT, DREAM, and STRUMM projects described in this symposium, as well as other initiatives.

AUGMENT: NAVIGATION APPS INSTRUCTION FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

Neil Charness,¹ Walter Boot,¹ Sara Czaja,² Wendy Rogers,³ Nicholas Gray,⁴ Dorota Kossowska-Kuhn,⁵ and Michael Pervratil,⁵ 1. *Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, United States*, 2. *Weill Cornell Medicine/Center on Aging and Behavioral Research, New York, New York, United States*, 3. *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, United States*, 4. *Psychology Department, Florida State University, Florida, United States*, 5. *Psychology Department, Tallahassee, Florida, United States*

Augmenting User Geocoordinates and Mobility by Enhanced Tutorials (AUGMENT) is a development project in the ENHANCE Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center aiming to promote community engagement for aging adults with cognitive impairment (CI) from stroke, traumatic brain injury, and mild cognitive impairment. AUGMENT aims include 1) providing proof of concept that a robust instructional package can support successful use of existing, complex navigation apps, Google maps and rideshare app Uber, by a diverse set of people with CI; and 2) providing proof of product by testing performance with and without instruction. We discuss the needs assessment phase and development of new tests to assess wayfinding abilities and reported difficulties with navigation, using a control sample of 384 community-dwelling older adults. We found that self-reported navigation difficulties are predicted (R-square = .28)

by gender, a spatial orientation test, self-reported memory ability, and severity of memory difficulty.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE DREAM SYSTEM: DIGITAL REMINDERS FOR EVERYDAY ACTIVITY MEMORY

Walter Boot,¹ Neil Charness,¹ Sara Czaja,² Wendy Rogers,³ Edie Sanders,¹ Robin Stuart,¹ and Ronald Andringa,¹

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Prospective memory, the ability to remember to execute an intention in the future, is crucial for the performance of many everyday tasks important for independent living. Prospective memory abilities decline with age, and older adults living with mild cognitive impairment (MCI), cognitive impairment due to traumatic brain injury (TBI), and cognitive impairment due to stroke are especially susceptible to prospective memory failures. The goal of the Digital Reminders for Everyday Activity Memory (DREAM) project is first to establish proof of concept for an adaptive cognitive aid to support the prospective memory of older adults with various cognitive impairments, and then establish proof of product in studies examining the use of a working prototype within the lab and within participants' homes. Data will be presented from initial work verifying product requirements through engagement with stakeholders, including subject matter experts, older adults with cognitive impairments, and their care partners.

Session 2230 (Symposium)

ESPO AND ACADEMY FOR GERONTOLOGY IN HIGHER EDUCATION SECTION SYMPOSIUM: A NEW NORMAL IN TEACHING? INCORPORATING UNCONVENTIONAL AND CREATIVE IDEAS INTO GERONTOLOGY CURRICULUM

Chair: Lauren Bouchard

Co-Chair: Yan-Jhu Su

Discussant: Marilyn Gugliucci

This symposium is intended to highlight novel, applied examples and classroom activities in gerontology curriculum. In accordance with the AGHE gerontological education competencies, these authors will provide insightful and fun connections to arts/humanities, popular culture, technology, and current events to inspire conversation, interest, self-reflection, and empathy in the classroom. The first author will discuss social media (e.g., TikTok) as a segue to difficult classroom conversations regarding negative stereotypes and ageism in society. Presenter two will discuss cross-field educational connections between music education and gerontology. Next, presenter three will put present a unique activity regarding technology, homeownership, and retirement with a competitive flair. Presenter four utilizes documentary to encourage empathy in nursing. Finally, presenter five will present a timely class debate regarding United States political office and ageism that is sure to create lively and relevant conversation.

DECODING TIKTOK: UTILIZING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS ABOUT AGEISM

Lauren Bouchard, *Concordia University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, United States*

Understanding ageism is a key aspect of gerontological curriculum. Media examples (e.g., television and movies) can be effective tools, and yet gerontological educators should stay updated on new media trends to encourage student interest. This presentation will explore a new social media application (i.e., TikTok) to help students recognize and dismantle their own ageist beliefs. The presenter will describe and explain the classroom activity, instructions for finding and downloading content, as well as the social media application itself. In this activity, students brainstorm their preconceived notion of older adults to catalyze open discussion regarding societal beliefs. Next, a few video examples, with both positive and negative portrayals of older adults are presented for discussion. Students may also bring other examples for participation credit to this class. This symposium presentation will include an interview activity guide, additional breakout group instructions, and other tips for creating impactful class discussion on ageism.

INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION MODEL IN THE STUDY OF AGING: EXAMPLE AND COURSE DESIGN

Yan-Jhu Su, *University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, Massachusetts, United States*

Collaboration among various disciplines is essential to the gerontology curriculum because it is a new and comprehensive subject. This presentation will discuss the design of interdisciplinary courses to include practical applications in the study of aging. The presenter will share examples based on personal experience to illustrate how music and psychology may be applied to the study of aging. In addition, the presentation will include analysis of actual course designs to show how different fields can be integrated in the classroom setting. This symposium presentation intends to improve cross-discipline applications as well as help students contribute to and benefit from the study of aging.

ASSESSING KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND BELIEFS OF NURSES ABOUT LGBTQ OLDER ADULTS USING A DOCUMENTARY VIDEO

Suzanne Dutton, *Sibley Memorial Hospital/Johns Hopkins, Washington, District of Columbia, United States*

Statistics reveal that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) older adults experience health disparities and barriers to accessing healthcare because of discrimination and fear of disclosing sexual orientation. Nurses receive limited education regarding care for LGBTQ older adults. This study exposed nurses to the documentary, *Gen Silent*, which details LGBTQ older adult experiences. The objective of the study was to increase participants' understanding of LGBTQ health disparities. A one-group pre-/post-test design was conducted to test the effect of the documentary on knowledge and attitudes about LGBTQ health. A total of 379 nurses participated in the study. A questionnaire including a 16-item standardized scale and an open-ended question asking how participants would change their practice was administered before and after the intervention. Findings revealed statistically significant increases in LGBTQ knowledge and inclusive attitudes. This research supports the use of a documentary as an educational method related to LGBTQ older adults.