The ongoing COVID pandemic undermines the social resources known to preserve health and well-being among older adults. This deeply affects developmental tasks, as traditional paths to fulfilling generativity are impaired. Generativity, a later life stage of seeking to nurture and contribute to the next generation, is accessible through volunteering. This pandemic has revealed gaps in our knowledge of the challenges and adaptations to generativity and meaningful social engagements for older adults. To address this, the author conducted an ethnographic study at four key sites of volunteer engagement by older adults from 2021 to 2022, utilizing a community-based study of older volunteers. Methods included participant-observation at public events and in-depth interviews with 14 key informants. This was a novel study period, post-vaccine, when hopes were raised, but not always achieved for return to generative activities. Analyses revealed three key themes: threats to the foci and spheres of generative expression (Rubinstein, et al., 2015) enacted through volunteering; difficulties and successes creatively crafting new modes to reestablish prior social ties; and threats to full-adult personhood. These themes were linked to altered capacities, experienced during quarantine, to participate with and contribute to the community. Fulfilling later life generativity is intrinsically linked to the ability to participate in community social life, but the pandemic limited opportunities and prompted new challenges and solutions. This paper highlights the need for research to prepare for threats from future disasters and pandemics that challenge meaningful participation and generativity for older adults.

DO INTERNALIZED AGE STEREOTYPES MEDIATE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUNTEERING AND SELF-EFFICACY AMONG ADULTS 50+?

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Volunteering is associated with increased self-efficacy among older adults, and self-efficacy has been shown to mediate the relationship between ageism and health. A growing, compelling body of literature based in stereotype embodiment theory identifies significant, negative public health impacts of internalized age stereotypes. Yet, little research explores whether volunteering may both reduce internalized ageism and enhance self-efficacy as people age. This cross-sectional study examined whether internalized age stereotypes mediate the relationship between volunteering and self-efficacy for adults 50+. A convenience sample of volunteers (n = 165) 50+ years of age residing in the U.S. Mountain West was recruited. A 15-minute, online survey was utilized. The independent variable was number of volunteer hours per week (mean = 6.45, SD = 5.38). The dependent variable was self-efficacy measured by five items from the five-point, Likert-type general self-efficacy scale (α = .83; mean = 4.81, SD = 1.08). Drawing from the self-stereotypes of aging scale, the indirect effects of five internalized positive (e.g., “wise” and “capable”) and five negative (e.g., “grumpy” and “helpless”) age stereotypes were tested. Results indicate that increased internalized positive, but not negative, age stereotypes partially mediated the relationship between volunteer hours and self-efficacy while holding constant age, gender, race, self-rated health, functional limitation, education, employment, and previous volunteer experience. Although positive age stereotypes have long been considered a form of ageism, the results of this study suggest that internalized positive age stereotypes may function as a form of esteem to promote enhanced psychosocial health as people age.

EXAMINING THE PROCESS OF COMMUNITY-DWELLING OLDER ADULTS CREATING A LEGACY OF VALUES

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Creating a legacy of values (e.g., legacy letter) is a way to promote generativity by communicating emotional and supportive instruction (e.g., values, life lessons) to others. This study aimed to a) understand the process of how older adults create a legacy of values, b) identify contextual factors surrounding creation, and c) describe older adults’ experiences of creation. We recruited community-dwelling older adults who had previously created a legacy of values to participate in semi-structured interviews. Interpretive description guided data collection and analysis. We initially coded the transcripts deductively, based on the literature, and inductively; data were organized into categories (i.e., by contextual factors and process steps) and analyzed using constant comparison to identify patterns. Participants (n=16) had a mean age of 72.3 years (SD=5.8, range=65-83), most were female (n=14), and all had children and identified as non-Hispanic White. Motivations for creation included aging, transitions, or events (e.g., travel). Participants tailored the contents (e.g., life lessons) and format to recipients, revised their legacy of values over time, and recommended the process to others. The creation process was non-linear, iterative, and influenced by participants’ personal and familial contextual factors. Synthesis of these findings resulted in developing the Process Model for Creating a Legacy of Values, which depicts the iterative and interconnected nature of the content, process, and experience of creating a legacy of values. Our findings indicate older adults are seeking resources to create their legacy of values in a self-directed way, and that it is an acceptable, accessible, and relevant process.

HOW TO PUBLISH: GUIDANCE FROM GSA’S JOURNAL EDITORS

Suzanne Meeks1, Rozalyn Anderson2, Steven Albert3, Derek Isaacowitz4, and Karen Jung5, 1. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, United States, 2. University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, United States, 3. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States, 4. Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 5. The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, District of Columbia, United States
Each year the GSA publications team sponsors a symposium to assist authors who wish to publish in GSA’s high impact and influential journals. The first part of the session will include five brief presentations from the editors of The Gerontologist, Innovation in Aging, and the Journals of Gerontology Series A and B plus journal managing editors. We will integrate practical tips with principles of publication ethics and scholarly integrity. The topics will be as follows: (1) Preparing your manuscript: strong and ethical scholarly writing for multidisciplinary audiences, (2) common problems that affect peer review, (3) addressing translational significance and fit to journal expectations, (4) transparency, documentation, and Open Science; and (5) working with Scholar One. Following these presentations, we will hold round table discussions with editors from the GSA journals portfolio. At these round tables, editors will answer questions related to the podium presentations and other questions specific to each journal. Intended audiences include emerging and international scholars, and authors interested in learning more about best practices and tips for getting their scholarly work published.

PREPARING YOUR MANUSCRIPT: STRONG AND ETHICAL SCHOLARLY WRITING FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY AUDIENCES
Suzanne Meeks, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, United States

This presentation will emphasize the importance of plain, good writing. Editors read 10 or more manuscripts per week with pressure to reject 80-90% of them. If the point and contribution are not clear in a quick scan of the paper, it will not be reviewed favorably. I will provide tips for writing that are commonly violated in submissions, provide references for additional writing support, cover expectations for language consistent with GSA’s Reframing Aging initiative, and discuss some common publication ethics issues that arise during the review process, including author contributions and embedding your scholarship in the context of prior work.

COMMON PROBLEMS THAT IMPACT PEER REVIEW
Rozalyn Anderson, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, United States

This presentation will review the most common issues that affect how reviewers see a manuscript submission. These include clarity, use of figures, and attention to existing research, especially establishing the significance and novelty of the work, and how to frame a narrative. I will also address responding to peer review. The focus will be on the biological science perspective (Journals of Gerontology Series A), but these issues are relevant to all submissions to GSA journals.

DEFINING TRANSLATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE IN GERONTOLOGY
Steven Albert, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States

Innovation in Aging requires a statement from authors on translational significance. This requirement forces authors to consider the implications of their research for changing some component of aging. How does the research address a challenge posed by aging bodies, minds, relationships, or societies? The editorial board has developed criteria for assessing translational significance. Translational research must meet at least one of three criteria. It (i) must predict or explain a health or behavioral outcome, (ii) be advanced enough in deployment or development to assess these effects, and (iii) have a clear pathway to large-scale program delivery or change in clinical practice. The criteria rule out some kinds of submissions, such as scale development, single-case studies, or reviews of literature. We use these criteria to structure each article’s required translational statement. Rethinking translation may help focus research across the full set of GSA journals.

TRANSPARENCY, DOCUMENTATION, AND OPEN SCIENCE
Derek Isaacowitz, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Some GSA journals are especially interested in promoting transparency and open science practices, reflecting how some subdisciplines in aging are moving toward open science practices faster than others. In this talk, I will consider the transparency and open science practices that seem most relevant to aging researchers, such as preregistration, open data, open materials and code, sample size justification and analytic tools for considering null effects. I will also discuss potential challenges to implementing these practices as well as reasons why it is important to do so despite these challenges. The focus will be on pragmatic suggestions for researchers planning and conducting studies now that they hope to publish later.

GSA MANAGING EDITORS’ PERSPECTIVE ON SUBMISSION DOS AND DON’TS
Karen Jung, and Kathleen Jackson, The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, District of Columbia, United States

In this presentation, the managing editors of GSA’s peer-reviewed journals will discuss how the editorial offices operate and their roles in the publishing process. The topics will include how to navigate the ScholarOne submission system, why it is important to read the Instructions to Authors, and how authors can work with the editorial offices to increase the visibility and impact of their published articles.

SESSION 2340 (SYMPOSIUM)

IT’S A COOL LITTLE TOOL: PROVIDER PERSPECTIVES ON IMPLEMENTING PAL CARDS DURING COVID-19
Chair: Katherine Abbott Discussant: Natalie Douglas

This symposium describes the implementation of a person-centered care (PCC) communication tool in nursing homes. PCC is a philosophy that recognizes “knowing the person” and honoring individual preferences. The communication tool is based on an assessment of NH resident likes and dislikes via the Preferences for Everyday Living Inventory (PELI). The PELI is an evidenced-based, validated instrument that can be used to enhance the delivery of PCC. The Preferences for Activity and Leisure (PAL) Card was