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