



E-NEWS

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GILBREA NEWS

During these very challenging times, we are so proud of the community support and dedication that has been exhibited within Hamilton, Canada and internationally. We especially want to thank the doctors, nurses, researchers, and front line staff who have been the MVP's in the fight against COVID-19. Our thanks are extended to all workers who have provided much needed support to the older adult community.

In spite of what is going on in the world right now, we wanted to keep our readers up to date with upcoming scheduled programming and provide an update of past events. We will provide updates if any promoted events are postponed and/or cancelled on the Gilbrea website and our social media platforms.

Announcement: COVID-19

In our best efforts to help flatten the curve, the Gilbrea Centre team will be working remotely. We will continue to check our email frequently and post updates on our social media platforms. Please email gilbrea@mcmaster.ca if you would like to contact us.

Stay Safe!

IN THIS ISSUE

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GILBREA ASSOCIATE MEMBER

We would like to welcome Nicole Dalmer as the newest Associate Member of the Gilbrea Centre!

Nicole Dalmer MLIS, PhD is Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Health, Aging and Society at McMaster University. Under the supervision of Dr. Meridith Griffin and Dr. James Gillett, she explores the role of public libraries' spaces, materials, and programming in mitigating older adults' feelings of isolation. Through this project, she is part of a team seeking to develop university-community research platforms. She is also a Co-Investigator on BCONNECT@Home, a More Years Better Lives-CIHR international study that looks at the role and creative integration of digital communication devices in later life. She recently completed her SSHRC-funded doctorate in Library and Information Science at The University of Western Ontario's Faculty of Information and Media Studies. Working at the intersections of information and care, Nicole studied how changes in information availability, aging in place policies and contexts, and evolving family responsibilities collectively shape who is able and who is expected to be informed within dementia care contexts. Her research has been published in *Ageing & Society*, *Journal of Aging Studies*, *Dementia*, and *Library & Information Science Research*.



STUDENT AWARDS

Each year, the Ronald Bayne Gerontology Award and the E.B. Ryan Scholarship is awarded by the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the director of the Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging.

The Ronald Bayne Gerontology Award was established in 1999 by Barbara Bayne to honour Dr. Ronald Bayne's valuable contribution to the study of Gerontology at McMaster University. Social Sciences and Humanities graduate students conducting research in the field of aging are eligible for the award.

The E.B. Ryan Scholarship was established in 1997 using funds raised by a performance of the play "Letter from Wingfield Farm" and is awarded to Social Sciences and Health Sciences graduate students conducting research in the field of aging.

We would like to congratulate this year's winners:

2019-20 Ronald Bayne Gerontology Award: Blessing Ojembe (PhD Student, Social Gerontology, Department of Health, Aging & Society)

Blessing holds an M Sc in Gerontology from the University of Southampton, United Kingdom and a BSc in Social work from the University of Nigeria. Blessing's work focuses on aging, loneliness, social isolation and social exclusion. Blessing is currently a member of the Gilbrea Students Group, McMaster University; and the Emerging Researchers and Professionals on Aging – African Network (ERPAAAN). Blessing's hope is that through her PhD research, culturally specific programs and interventions that will address loneliness, social isolation and integration among racialized older Canadians will be developed. Blessing believes that the future of gerontology lies in getting the younger generation to be involved in the study of aging, globally. Hence, she hopes to be an aging mentor/teacher to the younger generation.

2019-20 E.B. Ryan Scholarship: Rachel Dunsmore (MA Student, Department of Health, Aging & Society)

Rachel has completed two Bachelor of Arts at the University of Winnipeg (Conflict Resolution Studies and Honours Sociology). Rachel is preparing to study the current knowledge base regarding the medicalization of aging. Is aging, a lifetime process which is largely socially determined or molded, being re-cast as a medical problem in need of treatment(s)? What are the ways/mechanisms in which this is occurring and what are its effects? Rachel is interested in cross-cultural perspectives of aging, the life course, and intergenerational relations as a way of challenging individualism.

ALZHEIMERS WALK

On January 25th 2020, the Gilbrea Student group participated in the annual Walk for Alzheimer's at McMaster Innovation Park. With the support of the McMaster/Hamilton Community, the student group raised \$1,590 which will significantly help the Alzheimer's Society continue to make a difference in the lives of people with dementia. Congratulations to the student group who won the prize for the largest donation among a group at the event, and to Stefania Cerisano who won the prize for highest individual contributor (raising \$825).

A shout-out to Gilbrea Co-Chairs Hannah Song and Stefania Cerisano who organized this year's walk. Thank you to everyone who participated and donated and we look forward to next year's walk!



STUDENT MEMBERS

The Gilbrea Centre student group welcomes students with an interest in social studies of aging. Each month, the student group meets to discuss a journal article of their choosing. Keep an eye on the Gilbrea Student twitter page (@GilbreaStudent) for dates and times of the next Journal Club meeting. Everyone is welcome to join in on the conversation!

The student group will be hosting a Death Cafe in the near future. This event allows participants to join in an open conversation about death and dying in a relaxed, welcoming environment. More details will be released once a new date has been scheduled.

Interested in joining the student group? Learn more about the Centre and its current student members by visiting <http://gilbrea.mcmaster.ca/people> or contact gilbrea@mcmaster.ca.

PROJECT RESULTS

“Meanings of (Im)mobilities: A ‘New Mobilities’ Perspective” – Project Results

Amanda Grenier (Co-PI), Meridith Griffin (Co-PI), Alex Papaioannou, Rob Wilton, Gavin Andrews, Jim Dunn, Equity Burke (RA), Blessing Ojembe (RA)

On behalf of everyone at the Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging, we would like to extend a thank you to all of the participants of the research project “Meaning of (Im)mobilities: A New Mobilities Perspective, funded by MIRA (McMaster Institute for Research on Aging). We have compiled the results into a [brief document](#) outlining the three main findings and overall conclusions from this study.

These project results help to broaden current knowledge related to mobility and aging. It shifts the state of knowledge on mobility (and immobility) and can be used to inform debates and practices with regards to aging. We are pleased to announce that the research results of the Mobility Project have been published in the Journal of Aging Studies.

The citation for this article: Grenier, A., Griffin, M., Andrews, G., Wilton, R., Burke, E., Ojembe, B., Feldman, B & Papaioannou, A. (2019). Meanings and feelings of (Im) mobility in later life: Case study insights from a ‘New Mobilities’ perspective. *Journal of Aging Studies*, 51, 100819. P. 1-10

If you would like a copy of the above publication, please contact the Gilbrea Centre: gilbrea@mcmaster.ca.

COMMUNITY PARTNER

We would like to welcome the [Red Shawl](#) as our newest community partner. Red Shawl is a volunteer driven and managed women’s community organization aspiring to improve communities; woman by woman. Red Shawl offers programs for women and young girls to improve their skills, education and leadership for workplace, families and communities. With better skills, education and leadership qualities women gain better economic prospects which is a huge step towards bridging the gender gap and achieving gender parity. It is also a key step towards higher participation of women in the labour force and higher economic growth in Canada.



MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

Andrews, G. J. (2020). Working social assemblages: Towards a new geography of social work. *Geography Compass*, 14(1), e12475. [View Article](#)

Dion, M. L., Díaz Ríos, C., Leonard, K., & **Gabel, C.** (2020). Research Methodology and Community Participation: A Decade of Indigenous Social Science Research in Canada. *Canadian Review of Sociology/Revue canadienne de sociologie*. [View Article](#)

Dunn, J. R. (2019). Housing and Healthy Child Development: Known and Potential Impacts of Interventions. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 41. [View Article](#)

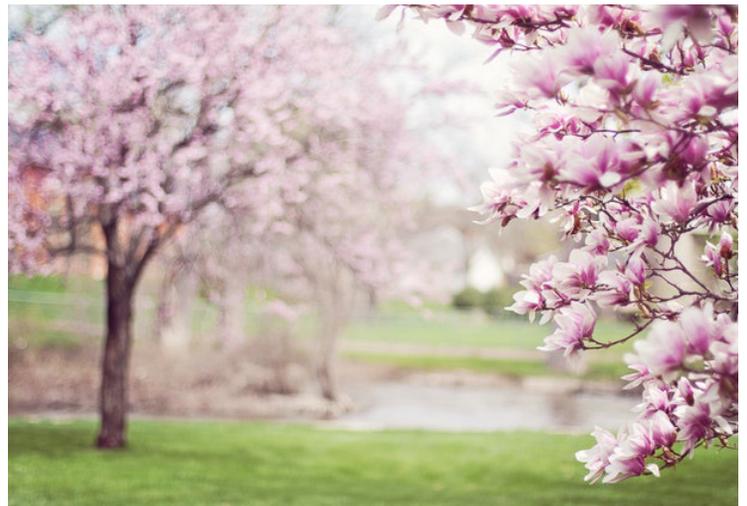
Grenier, A., Phillipson, C., and Settersten, R. (Eds) (2020). Precarity and ageing: Understanding insecurity and risk in later life. *Bristol, Policy Press* [View Book](#)

Herron, R., **Skinner, M.**, Kontos, P., Menec, V., & Bar, R. (2020). Beyond Therapy: Exploring the Potential of Sharing Dance to Improve Social Inclusion for People Living with Dementia. *In GeoHumanities and Health* (pp. 57-70). [View Article](#)

Sussman, T., Barken, R., & **Grenier, A.** (2020). Supporting Older Homeless Persons’ Positive Relocations to Long-Term Care: Service Provider Views. *The Gerontologist*. [View Article](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

Interested in learning more about becoming an Associate member of the Gilbrea Centre? Please e-mail gilbrea@mcmaster.ca



UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 gilbrea centre for Studies in Aging 2020 SEMINAR SERIES

In Case You Missed It

Social Disadvantage, Gentrification, and Aging in Place: Implications for Chronic Conditions

Ronica Rooks, Fulbright Canada Fellow
Associate Professor, University of Colorado Denver
Watch Now: <https://youtu.be/d6eHt9mORaY>

The seduction of successful aging: Imag(in)ing older age in comics and graphic novels

Nicole Dalmer Postdoctoral Fellow, , Trent University
Lucia Cedeira Serantes, Assistant Professor, The University of Western
Ontario
Watch Now: <https://youtu.be/VCrI5dyO380>

Full details available at :
<https://gilbrea.mcmaster.ca/events>

IN THE NEWS

- **Amanda Grenier**, senior scientist at Baycrest was featured at the [30th Annual Rotman Research Institute Conference](#) held on March 8th to 10th, 2020 in Toronto, Canada.
- **Laura Tamblyn-Watts** discusses [long-term care](#) amid the coronavirus pandemic in the Toronto Star.
- Toronto Star article "[Mass shootings and other acts of violence are about more than just mental illness](#)" written by **Mat Savelli**.
- Learn more about the **Hamilton Seniors Isolation Impact Plan (HSIIP)** and seniors social isolation in an article entitled "[Battle social isolation by getting to know your neighbour](#)" written by Pat Spadafora.
- MIRA (McMaster Institute for Research on Aging featured Gilbrea Student member **Rachel Weldrick**'s research on social isolation in later life at their [MIRA trainee event](#).
- **Rachel Zhou**, Gilbrea Associate Member, challenges society to consider how the infrastructure of economic globalization can "facilitate and create risks to the flow of items essential to the public good, including health," in [The Conversation](#).
- More than 30 women and workplaces with McMaster connections were nominated for [YWCA Hamilton's Women of Distinction Awards](#), including Gilbrea Student member, **Stephanie Hatzifalithis**.

CONNECT WITH US

Connect with us to learn more about upcoming events, opportunities, and more!

Help us profile your research, student opportunities, and new publications! Send them to gilbrea@mcmaster.ca



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