

Linking Geriatrics and Gerontology Series Scheduled for 2012

The Oklahoma State University College of Human Sciences Department of Human Development and Family Sciences will host two events in 2012 as part of the Linking Gerontology and Geriatrics series, focusing on Oklahoma's aging population. The Linking Gerontology and Geriatrics Workshop will be held February 18, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. on February 18, 2012, in 432 Human Sciences on the OSU campus. Registration fees are \$30 for the public and \$20 for students until January 21.

The 2012 Linking Geriatrics and Gerontology Workshop, entitled *Grandparents Rearing Grandchildren: Expectations and Experiences*, provides material to help make the experience of grandparents raising their grandchildren easier. The event will feature over 6 expert speakers sharing information about older rural Oklahomans.

These speakers include grandparents Joe and Judith Ridden; Jane Garner, Programs Field Representative with the Community Relations Unit in the Aging Services Division; Dr. Eugene Hoyt, internist at the BlackHawk Health Center; and Donna Jackson, a lawyer specializing in elder law and estate planning.

The second event in the Linking Gerontology and Geriatrics series is the 2012 Linking Geriatrics and Gerontology Conference, *Disaster Preparedness: Addressing Ethics, Well-Being, and Options*, will be held June 1- 2, 2012, in the OSU Wes Watkins Center. The conference has three information tracks and will feature speakers focusing on Bioethics and Ethics, Disaster Preparedness, and Health and Well-Being.

In addition to the Human Development and Family Science Department, sponsors and co-providers of the series include the Oklahoma IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, The Institute for Creativity and Innovation at OSU, the OSU School of Fire Protection and Safety, the Oklahoma Geriatric Education Center, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma AgrAbility, The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center College of Nursing, the OSU Center for Veterinary

Health Sciences, and the OU College of Medicine Donald W. Reynolds Department of Geriatric Medicine.

The Linking Geriatrics and Gerontology series targets individuals in rural health care professions and those who actively assist aging adults. The series focuses on helping participants identify the links between gerontology and geriatrics, while also learning to apply evidence-based information to enhance the best practices or fill professional practice gaps of individuals working with older adults.

For more information about Linking Gerontology and Geriatrics events or to register visit humansciences.okstate.edu/okgec or contact Tammy Henderson at tlhokgec@okstate.edu or (405) 744-8350.