



# Collaboration that makes a difference

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Scripps Gerontology Center

*An Ohio Center of Excellence*



MIAMI UNIVERSITY

OXFORD, OH • EST. 1809



**Suzanne R. Kunkel, PhD**

Executive Director, Scripps  
Gerontology Center

University Distinguished  
Professor, Department of  
Sociology & Gerontology

Dear friends,

We are delighted to share the Scripps Gerontology Center 2018 Annual Report with you. It has been another year of meaningful projects and productive collaborations for us. For the second year in a row, we were the top unit at Miami University for external funding.

We never take for granted the dedicated individuals, diverse talents, and unique spirit that underlie our success. This past year, as part of our strategic plan, we took a 360° look at our organizational culture, an essential component of our ability to accomplish our goals. A survey sent to all of our staff members (82% participated) provided encouraging results about our collective values and the extent to which those values are reflected in how we work together. The report offered this summary: “We know our mission, work hard to meet it, feel valued, and are proud to work here.”

This process renewed our commitment to nourish our collaborative and productive workplace well into our next century. As we look forward to our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022, we are grateful to the previous generations of Scripps staff who gave us our roots and our wings. That appreciation was tinged with sadness as we grieved the loss of one of our past leaders, Bob Atchley, who passed away in November of 2018. His many legacies will endure within the core of who we are and what we do.

As always, we thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne Kunkel". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning.

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Our mission is to do work that makes a positive difference  
in the lives of aging individuals, their families and communities,  
and to meet the needs of aging societies.

**We accomplish this mission through excellence  
in research, education, and service.**



# Robert C. Atchley

1939-2018

Scripps Gerontology Center Director 1974-1998

## A visionary leader

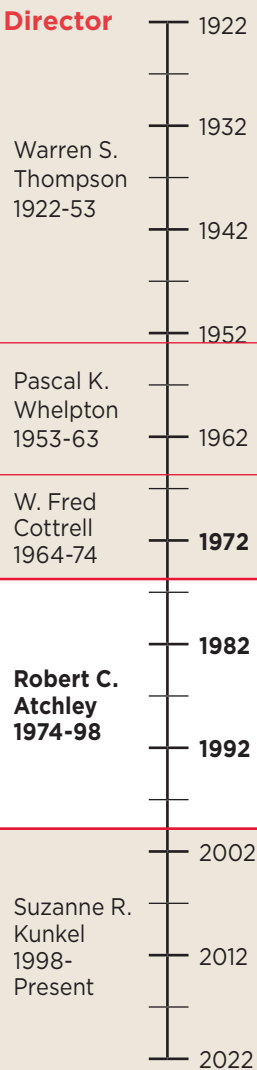
The world lost a pioneer in social gerontology when Bob Atchley, professor emeritus of sociology and anthropology and former director of Scripps Gerontology Center, passed away November 13, 2018. Colleagues and former students around the country will miss him, and will always remember him for his impact on the field of social gerontology in general and at Miami University in particular.

Bob's leadership paved the way for Scripps Gerontology Center to become one of the nation's top centers for education and research in aging. He was among the first generation of academics to articulate the impacts of aging for society, and he was a national leader in making the case for gerontology as a field of study.

As a manifestation of that vision, Bob wrote one of the first and most influential textbooks in the field. "Bob's *Social Forces and Aging*, first published in 1972, introduced so many to social gerontology at an important time in the development of the discipline," said Pam Mayberry, director of academic program support. Bob Applebaum, professor of gerontology, remarked that "Bob Atchley was writing a textbook before most universities had heard of gerontology." Jane Straker, director of research at Scripps, noted that his "contributions to the study of retirement and his work on continuity theory changed the way we think about aging and the later stages of life."



### Scripps Gerontology Center's leadership timeline



### Please share your memories

If you want to share a memory of Bob as a teacher, friend, mentor, or colleague, please write to us at [scripps@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:scripps@MiamiOH.edu).

There will be a special tribute to Bob at our 100th-anniversary event in 2022.



Read more online  
[bit.ly/visionary-atchley](https://bit.ly/visionary-atchley)

# Age-Friendly Oxford Initiative

collaborating to create a  
community for all ages



“Not only does the initiative work toward local community improvement, it provides an opportunity for Miami students to apply classroom learning and develop skills while working on a relevant issue that is also national and global.”

— Ann Whelpton, AFOI Co-leader

Around the world, communities are preparing for the opportunities and challenges associated with longer lives. In the U.S., the AARP Livable Communities initiative provides guidance and resources for communities interested in becoming “age-friendly.” Scripps is excited to be part of age-friendly efforts right in our own backyard through the Age-Friendly Oxford Initiative (AFOI), a five-year community improvement process for the City of Oxford and Oxford Township supported by a unique collaboration of community partners.

The seeds of this collaboration were planted more than ten years ago with the founding of the Oxford VillAGE Network (OVN). OVN is a grassroots advocacy and volunteer organization focused on older people and their families that promotes community, communication, and inclusion. Much of OVN's work is carried out in conjunction with Oxford Seniors, Inc., a thriving adult community center offering services to older residents of Oxford and Oxford Township.

In the fall of 2013, OVN hosted a day-long community forum at which Scripps Executive Director, Suzanne Kunkel, was a featured speaker. “There was an amazing community turnout with more than 130 people coming together to think about the concept of growing older in Oxford,” shared AFOI co-leader Jessie Leek, “what that might mean for people within our community and for our community in general.” The energy and interest from that initial forum evolved and in the fall of 2017, the AFOI was launched when the City of Oxford became a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities and the partners committed to actively working together towards age-friendly awareness and improvements.

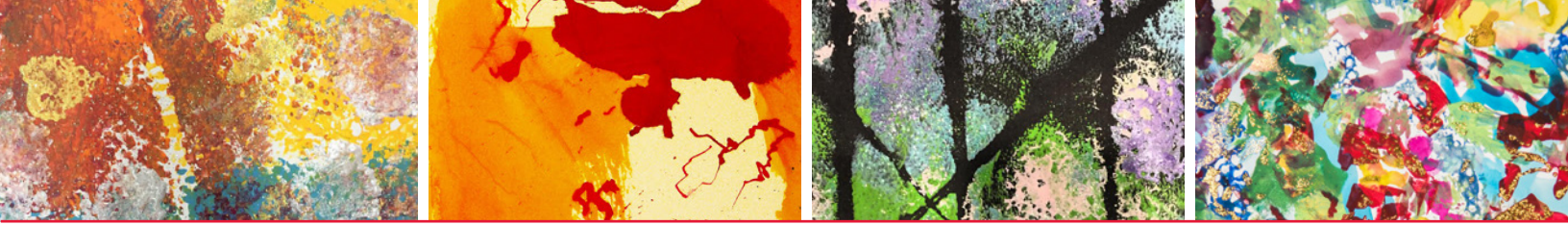
In 2018, Scripps collaborated with the AFOI to create and administer a community needs assessment survey to Oxford community members ages 50 and older. The findings of the needs assessment will inform the AFOI action plan to be implemented in years 3-5 of the initiative. In addition to research support, Scripps has also contributed graduate student time, administrative support, and educational resources for AFOI efforts.

Today, the AFOI includes representatives from many sectors of the Oxford community and AFOI co-leader Ann Whelpton credits the collaboration between OVN, Oxford Seniors, and Scripps with providing a balanced foundation for the work, “The unique expertise coming from each organization, combined with the vision and passion they all share, create far more substance and momentum for the initiative than any of the organizations could achieve on its own.”



Learn more about the  
AARP Livable Communities initiative  
[aarp.org/livable-communities](https://aarp.org/livable-communities)





## Opening Minds through Art (OMA)

collaborates with volunteers, facilitators, and organizations to

# build bridges across age and cognitive barriers through art

OMA's goal is to help create a society that values older adults with dementia by building genuine friendships between people with dementia and volunteers through art-making.



In 2018, **251 Miami University students**, invested **5,980 service-learning** hours at **eight local sites**.



[ScrippsOMA.org](http://ScrippsOMA.org)

### IN 2018 THE OMA PROGRAM

Was at **147 sites**  
in **21 states** and  
**2 countries.**

**62 sites are in Ohio.**

More than **425** facilitators  
have been trained.



Subscribe to OMA eNews  
[bit.ly/OMA-news-signup](http://bit.ly/OMA-news-signup)

### 2018 Honors

**Elizabeth "Like" Lokon**, founder and director of OMA received Miami University Alumni Association's Bishop Medal for service to humanity and the National Certification Council for Activity Professionals award for best practice in the delivery of activities services.



# Collaboration makes a difference in our academic programs

**A close collaboration between the Department of Sociology and Gerontology and the Scripps Gerontology Center strengthens Miami University's gerontology programs.**



Through the Cottrell Leadership Program, Scripps offered student workshops on cultural diversity, StrengthsFinder assessment, and generational diversity in the workplace.

The BA in Gerontology, Master of Gerontological Studies, and PhD in Social Gerontology programs are housed in the Department of Sociology and Gerontology. Scripps provides staff support for program administration as well as financial support for students' thesis and dissertation research, professional travel and leadership training. Scripps senior research staff members mentor students and regularly serve on thesis and dissertation committees. This support and the opportunity for gerontology students to work with faculty members and research staff on Scripps research projects set our academic programs apart.



During the 2018 academic year, 17 graduate and 12 undergraduate students gained valuable experience as part of Scripps Gerontology Center research project teams. Student roles ranged from telephone interviewer to data analyst to co-author of journal articles. Through these experiences our students gain valuable research skills as well as an understanding of and appreciation for the social science research process.



Learn more about our programs  
[MiamiOH.edu/ScrippsAging/Academics](https://MiamiOH.edu/ScrippsAging/Academics)

**In academic year 2018 donors helped Scripps provide \$3,208**  
in support of student research and professional travel.



# Collaboration results in innovative academic program

The Social Entrepreneurship and Aging Certificate program was launched in Spring 2018. This innovative online program is the result of a collaboration between the Department of Sociology and Gerontology, the Scripps Gerontology Center, and the Farmer School of Business Institute for Entrepreneurship. Designed for professionals in the field of aging, entrepreneurs, and retirees planning for encore careers, the program provides the education and skills necessary to transform a creative idea for a product or service into a sustainable business plan.



**LONGEVITY  
DIVIDEND**



**PURPOSEFUL  
INNOVATION**



**SOCIAL  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

“We know people are living longer today than ever before. With this increasing longevity comes more opportunity for social entrepreneurs looking to innovate in an untapped market.”

— Aaron Abbott  
Visiting Assistant Professor,  
Sociology & Gerontology



Learn more  
[MiamiOH.edu/SEA-certificate](https://MiamiOH.edu/SEA-certificate)

## Qiu named Cottrell distinguished alumna



Quanhong “Cho” Qiu, who earned the Master of Gerontological Studies degree in 2001, was awarded the 2018 W. Fred Cottrell Distinguished Alumni Award on April 9. This award recognizes a Miami University gerontology graduate student alumni for outstanding leadership in the field of aging.

Qiu is currently the director of Compassionate Community Care, a home care agency she launched in San Francisco in 2002. During her campus visit Cho spoke with gerontology students and faculty about the process of turning her passion for serving others into a successful career.

**Are you a Miami University Gerontology alum?**

Update your contact information, and learn about upcoming alumni events.



Learn more [MiamiOH.edu/GTY-Alumni](https://MiamiOH.edu/GTY-Alumni)

# National research collaboration making a difference

Community-based organizations such as Area Agencies are uniquely positioned to address the social determinants of health.

The landscape of health and long-term care is shifting to better provide holistic person-centered and high-quality care for people of all ages. Age-friendly health systems and an increasing focus on the social determinants of health are manifestations of this shift. These frameworks both emphasize the integration of community-based services and supports with health care systems. **Thanks to a long-standing partnership with the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), and research collaborations with colleagues at University of California, Berkeley and Yale University, Scripps Gerontology Center is contributing information to help shape these transformations.**

The Aging Network has long been the hub for coordination and delivery of community-based services to older people nationwide. Our work with n4a has allowed us to document and support the capacity of these foundational organizations. Scripps and n4a have partnered for over a decade to conduct comprehensive Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Title VI organization surveys that describe their capacity, and help them chart the course for the future. That longitudinal survey data is also the basis for an exciting research collaboration with colleagues at University of California, Berkeley, and Yale University to analyze the impact of AAA partnerships on county-level health care utilization and spending across the US.

A new dimension of the n4a/Scripps collaboration surrounds the Aging and Disabilities Business Institute (ADBI), developed in 2016 by n4a in partnership with leading organizations in the field. The goal of the ADBI is to provide tools, resources, training, and technical assistance to build and strengthen partnerships between aging and disability community-based organizations (CBOs) and the health care system. Scripps serves as the evaluator for this national center, examining the impact of the ADBI on contracting activity among CBOs and health care entities.

In 2018, Scripps administered the second of two national surveys requesting information about the number and nature of these contracts. Our results provide a wealth of information indicating CBOs are well-positioned to improve the health and well-being of their constituents through services and programs provided in partnership with health care organizations. Our work supports the ever-increasing importance of building partnerships between CBOs and health care entities to address social determinants of health, improve health outcomes, and reduce health care costs.



See related media online  
[MiamiOH.edu/ScrippsAging/Scripps-n4a](https://MiamiOH.edu/ScrippsAging/Scripps-n4a)



# Other current collaborations

In 2018 many of our projects included partnerships with other universities.

- » A Mixed-Methods Study of Middle-Aged and Older Adults: Lifelong Learning, Skills Proficiencies, and Employment in the U.S. and Selected OECD Countries, *Research Partner: University of Maryland Baltimore County*
- » Genetic Epidemiology of Ocular Health and Disease, *Research Partner: The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley*
- » Incorporating the Preferences for Everyday Living into Ohio's Nursing Homes to Improve Resident Care, *Research Partners: Pennsylvania State University and Tennessee Tech University*
- » Mapping Barriers to Community College Completion Among Older Learners: Identifying Malleable Factors to Improve Student Outcomes, *Research Partner: University of Michigan*
- » Quality, Private-Pay Price, and Consumer's Demand for Nursing Home Care, *Research Partner: Georgetown University*
- » System Factors and Racial Disparities in Nursing Home Quality of Life and Care, *Research Partner: University of Minnesota*



Learn more about these and other current projects  
[bit.ly/current-research](https://bit.ly/current-research)

## The Preferences for Everyday Living Inventory (PELI) project collaborates with Ohio nursing homes to improve residents' quality of life

PELI is a tool used to assess nursing home residents' preferences. It is one of five quality improvement indicators selected by the Ohio Department of Medicaid. The Preference Based Living team partners with nursing homes on ways to assess and honor nursing home residents' preferences for daily living.

Together with providers, the team co-developed and implemented the **Preferences for Activity and Leisure (PAL) Card Quality Improvement Project** to provide a person-centered communication intervention that supports relationship building.

Read more about this innovative project at [bit.ly/peli-pal](https://bit.ly/peli-pal)



Preference  
Based Living

### PAL CARD PROJECT

**35** Ohio nursing home providers have participated

**581** PAL Cards created

“For me, almost everything is about relationships. And this is a tool that could be used to increase our relationship with people, people who are in dire need of a relationship.”

Activities Director



Subscribe to PELI eNews  
[PreferenceBasedLiving.com](https://PreferenceBasedLiving.com)

# Collaboration is the cornerstone of our research

## IN 2018

Scripps staff and gerontology faculty produced

**33**

**publications in journals, books, and reports.**

 [bit.ly/Scripps-Publications](https://bit.ly/Scripps-Publications)

Scripps staff and gerontology faculty made

**60**

**presentations at national level meetings, and**

**26**

**presentations to state and local organizations.**

Scripps research and programs appeared in the news media

**120 times.**

 [bit.ly/Scripps-News](https://bit.ly/Scripps-News)

**Working with Miami University Scripps research fellows and staff from disciplines outside of gerontology provides a transdisciplinary perspective on aging issues.**

In 2018 our projects included researchers from Economics, Family Science & Social Work, Farmer School of Business, Finance & Business Services, Psychology, and Statistics.

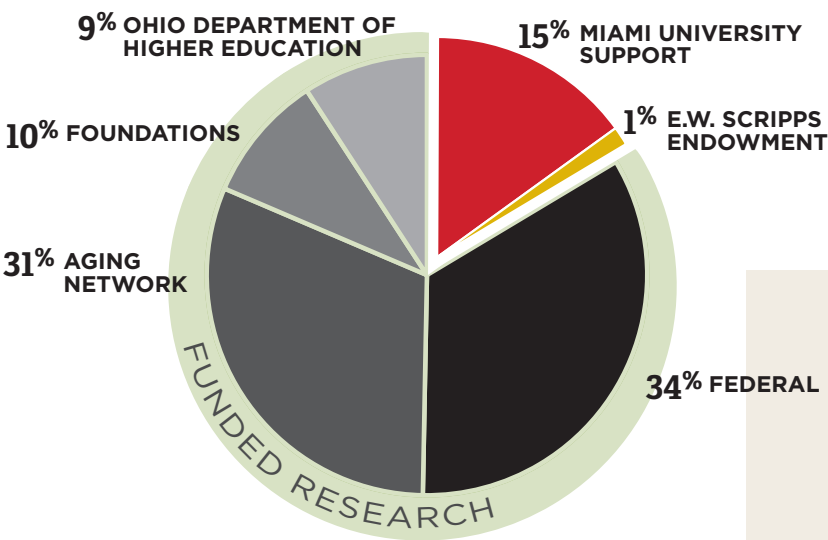
**Our work with other universities multiplies the impact of our work on a national level.**

In 2018 we worked with researchers from ten other universities including Penn State, University of Maryland Baltimore County, University of Michigan, and University of Minnesota.





# 2018 Operating budget \$3,362,205



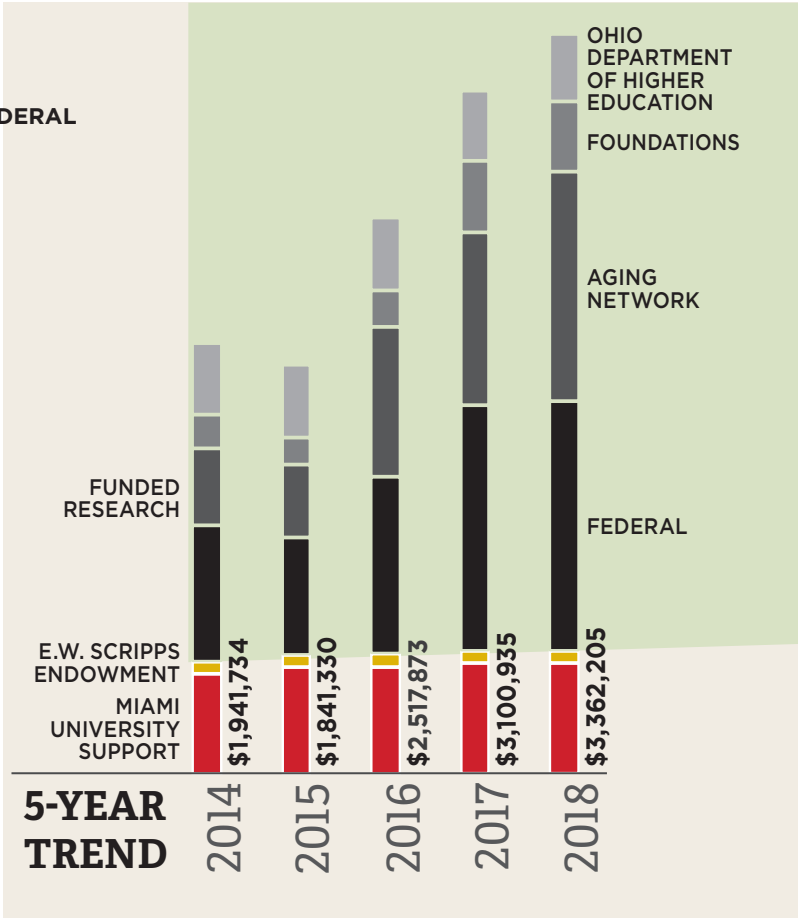
Our diversified funding portfolio and commitment to excellence in research began with the **original 1922 endowment from E. W. Scripps.**

**Miami University provided 15% of our 2018 budget. Externally-funded contracts and research grants generated 84% of our 2018 budget.**

Our leadership in education and research, as well as our focus on external funding, are **important contributions to the greater Miami University community.**

## 2018 RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

- 41** RESEARCH PROJECTS
- 2.8+** MILLION DOLLARS
- 17** PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS
- 44** INDIVIDUALS ON GRANTS
- #1** RANK IN EXTERNAL FUNDING AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY



# A new Scripps space devoted to collaboration

In 2016, the Scripps leadership team began to envision a physical space to foster collaborative, interdisciplinary research and creation of innovative programs. Thanks to a lot of support and teamwork along the way, the Scripps Gerontology Center Collaboratory was completed in December of 2018. This creative and versatile space has become the preferred setting for all kinds of meetings and work sessions.

The design phase began with a Miami University senior interior design studio, taught by Katherine Setser. The student teams took on the challenge of transforming a former office into a multipurpose area for working creatively with one another and our many partners. They gathered information about the organization's needs, then developed and presented their proposals for layout, color, finishes, furniture and technology. A proposal was selected by the Scripps leadership team and construction began in spring of 2018.

Marilyn Scripps, the great-granddaughter of E.W. Scripps (who founded in 1922 the Scripps Gerontology Center's forerunner, the Scripps Foundation for Research in Population Problems) was instrumental in making the Collaboratory a reality. In addition to generous financial support, the entrepreneur and philanthropist facilitated a connection with Rookwood Pottery in Cincinnati (which she owns) that resulted in the visual centerpiece of the Collaboratory space: a Rookwood tile installation designed to inspire creativity. The room also includes furnishings to support various group sizes and types of interaction, a write-on wall, and a touchscreen platform. The Scripps Collaboratory is in high demand as a work space for research project teams, strategic planning workgroups, and Scripps collaborations that include local, state, and national partners.



*photo courtesy of @RookwoodPottery*



See the transformation of this space in before and after photos  
[MiamiOH.edu/ScrippsAging/Collaboratory](https://miamiOH.edu/ScrippsAging/Collaboratory)



# Sustaining benefactors

- » E. W. Scripps Fund
- » P. K. Whelpton Fund
- » W. Fred Cottrell Leadership Development Fund
- » Colonial Long-Term Care Research Award Fund
- » Franklin Foundation Fund
- » Opening Minds through Art (OMA) Fund

## 2018 donors

The following have generously supported our mission by making charitable contributions totaling \$126,289.94 in 2018.

Robert Applebaum  
Sue Hyser Atchley  
Tonya K. Barger  
Richard L. & Mary E. Bement  
Beth A. Bernhardt  
Sarah W. Blumenthal  
Jennifer May Brockman  
David L. Brown  
Auriel L. Buchanan  
Mary Ryan Burr  
Matthew A. Cable  
Scott B. & Suzanne Nenni Clark  
Michael J. Scott & Torey W. Corrado  
Robert L. & Nancy Sohngen Cottrell  
Phyllis A. Cummins  
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Gayle Fiedeldej  
Jennifer A. Fiedeldej  
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Sue Tamber Housman  
Leigh Ismael  
Jewish Communal Fund  
Cheryl Johnson  
Marilyn Button Juarez  
Ruth L. Kaplan  
Nora Klein

Suzanne Kunkel  
Bradford L. & Elizabeth J. Lokon  
James A. & Carol Young Longenecker  
Ashley M. Martin  
Steven J. & Elise S. Martin  
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Steven R. & Susanne Brower Sadler  
Brianne L. Safer  
Olivia J. Saulnier  
Marilyn Scripps  
Tiffany A. Shea  
Jane Straker  
Steven H. & Daphne Yu Suh

David R. Sunderland  
Constance Swank  
Anastacia L. Thomas  
Becky Thompson  
Hannah C. Thompson  
Michael S. Tucker  
Ulmer & Berne LLP  
Rebecca Utz  
Helen B. Marks Waits  
Gina K. Warmouth  
Anthony & Sally Weber  
David T. & Susan Woznicki

## The P.K. Whelpton legacy continues its impact

The P.K. Whelpton Memorial Lecture Series brings a nationally known scholar to Miami University each fall.

In 2018, Janet Wilmoth, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Aging Studies Institute at Syracuse University, shared her insights about the long-term impact of military service. Events included meetings with faculty, staff, and students, as well as the public lecture.



# 2018 team

## Researchers, Staff, and Gerontology Faculty

**Aaron Abbott, MGS**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Katherine Abbott, PhD, MGS**

Robert H. and Nancy J. Blayney Professor, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Robert A. Applebaum, PhD**

Scripps Director of the Ohio Long-Term Care Research Project; Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Tonya K. Barger**

Scripps Administrative Assistant

**Linda Barrett, MGS**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**J. Scott Brown, PhD**

Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Karl Chow, MFA**

Scripps Survey Research Technician

**Phyllis A. Cummins, PhD**

Scripps Assistant Director of Research, Senior Research Scholar; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Maureen Cunningham**

Scripps Accounting Technician

**Kate de Medeiros, PhD**

O'Toole Family Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology; Affiliate, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**Joan Fopma-Loy, PhD, RN**

Scripps Project Manager of Opening Minds through Art (OMA)

**Lisa Grant**

Scripps Program Associate

**Katie (A. Katherine) Harrington, MS, MA**

Scripps Research Associate

**Alexandra N. Heppner**

Scripps Research Assistant

**Jennifer L. Heston, PhD, LISW**

Scripps Research Scholar

**Cheryl Johnson**

Scripps Director of Finance & Operations

**Erin Kelly, MSW**

Scripps Research Associate

**Jennifer M. Kinney, PhD**

Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Suzanne R. Kunkel, PhD**

Scripps Executive Director; University Distinguished Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Kim Snow Logsdon**

Communications Specialist

**Elizabeth "Like" Lokon, PhD**

Scripps Director of Opening Minds through Art (OMA)

**Pamela Mayberry, MGS**

Scripps Director of Academic Program Support

**Kathryn B. McGrew, PhD**

Scripps Senior Research Scholar

**Sara J. McLaughlin, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Ian "Matt" Nelson, MGS**

Scripps Research Scholar

**Elizabeth Rohrbaugh**

Scripps Assistant Director of Opening Minds through Art (OMA)

**Jane K. Straker, PhD**

Scripps Director of Research, Senior Research Scholar; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Janardan Subedi, PhD**

Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Becky Thompson**

Scripps Program Associate

**Jonathon Vivoda, PhD, MPH**

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Gerontology

**Traci L. Wilson, DPhil**

Scripps Research Associate

**Meghan Young, MGS**

Scripps Research Associate

**Joshua Zak**

Scripps Interactive Media Specialist for Opening Minds through Art (OMA)



# 2018 team

## Research Fellows

*Appointment as a Scripps Research Fellow acknowledges significant ongoing contributions to research and scholarship in the field of aging by current and emeritus Miami University faculty.*

**Katherine Abbott, PhD, MGS**

Robert H. and Nancy J. Blayney Professor,  
Assistant Professor, Sociology  
& Gerontology

**Helaine Alessio, PhD**

Professor & Chair, Kinesiology & Health

**Robert A. Applebaum, PhD**

Professor, Sociology & Gerontology

**John Bailer, PhD**

University Distinguished Professor  
& Chair, Statistics; Affiliate Member,  
Sociology & Gerontology

**William P. Berg, PhD**

Professor, Kinesiology & Health

**John Bowblis, PhD**

Associate Professor, Economics

**J. Scott Brown, PhD**

Professor, Sociology & Gerontology

**Jennifer Bulanda, PhD**

Associate Professor, Sociology  
& Gerontology

**Dennis Cheatham, MFA**

Assistant Professor, Art

**Angela Curl, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Family Science  
& Social Work

**Kate de Medeiros, PhD**

O'Toole Family Associate Professor,  
Sociology & Gerontology; Affiliate,  
Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies

**Bob De Schutter, PhD**

C. Michael Armstrong Assistant  
Professor, Interactive Media Studies

**Cameron Hay-Rollins, PhD**

Professor & Chair, Anthropology

**Jennifer M. Kinney, PhD**

Professor, Sociology & Gerontology;  
Director of Graduate Studies,  
Sociology & Gerontology

**Kelly Knollman-Porter, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Speech Pathology  
& Audiology

**Sara J. McLaughlin, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Sociology  
& Gerontology

**Elise Radina, PhD**

Professor & Chair, Family Science  
& Social Work

**Amy Roberts, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Family Science  
& Social Work

**Sherrill Sellers, PhD**

Professor, Family Science & Social Work

**En-Jung Shon, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Family Science &  
Social Work

**Janardan Subedi, PhD**

Professor, Sociology & Gerontology

**Jonathon Vivoda, PhD, MPH**

Assistant Professor, Sociology  
& Gerontology

**Liz Wilson, PhD**

Professor, Comparative Religion





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