Age Boom Academy
June 7 - 11, 2010
New York, NY
A Year of Great Change
AGE BOOM ACADEMY
June 7-11, 2010
Presented by the International Longevity Center-USA

Sponsored by The Atlantic Philanthropies
With support from American Foundation for Aging Research, the Gerontological Society of America, the Hebrew Home at Riverdale, SeniorBridge, the Mill Park Foundation Inc., Atria Senior Living Group, Inc., the Ellison Medical Foundation and MetLife Foundation

In partnership with The New York Times Company Foundation, The International Longevity Center established The Age Boom Academy in 2000, as an immersion seminar on aging and longevity issues for journalists who are designated as New York Times Fellows.

Monday, June 7:

8:30 a.m.  Breakfast

9:00 a.m.  Covering the Age Boom: A Strategic Approach for the Week Ahead; Introductions and Presentation of the 2010 New York Times Fellows

Everette E. Dennis, Ph.D.
Executive Director
ILC-USA

Jack Rosenthal
Senior Fellow
The Atlantic Philanthropies

9:15 a.m.  A Year of Great Change: A Focused Conversation on Aging in the News and Behind the Scenes

Robert N. Butler, M.D.
President and CEO
ILC-USA

9:30 a.m.  Discussion of Social, Economic, Policy and Scientific Drivers of Change Affecting Healthy Aging, Productive Engagement and Ageism – “What this means to Mrs. Jones.”

Harry R. Moody, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Academic Affairs
AARP

Greg O’Neill, Ph.D.
Director, National Academy on an Aging Society
Project Director
Civic Engagement in an Older America

10:30 a.m.  Comments and Questions
Monday, June 7:

10:45 a.m.  Silver Science and Centenarians (Scientific Change)  
Nir Barzilai, M.D.  
Director  
Institute for Aging Research  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

11:30 a.m.  Discussion

11:45 a.m.  Luncheon conversation with NYT Fellows and Age Boom Faculty Discussing Aging and Longevity Coverage – Reports from the Fellows

12:45 p.m.  Mapping the Changing Aging Scene – Intergenerational Concerns, Women, Minorities and Immigrants (Policy Change)

Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, Ph.D.  
Commissioner  
New York City Department for the Aging

Donna Butts  
Executive Director  
Generations United

1:30 p.m.  Discussion

1:45 p.m.  Assuring Human Rights of Older People (Social Change)

Robert N. Butler, M.D.  
President and CEO  
ILC-USA

Robert Blancato, M.P.A.  
National Coordinator  
Elder Justice Coalition  
President  
Matz, Blancato & Associates

2:30 p.m.  Discussion

2:45 p.m.  Connecting Business and Scientific Discovery (Economic and Scientific Change)

Michael West, Ph.D.  
CEO  
BioTime, Inc.

Embryome Sciences, Inc.

3:30 p.m.  Discussion

4:00 p.m.  Assuring Basic Care of Older People (Scientific Change)

Rosanne Leipzig, M.D., Ph.D.  
Vice Chair for Education  
Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development  
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
David Hamerman, M.D.
Senior Associate
International Longevity Center

Harrison Bloom, M.D.
Senior Associate
Director, Clinical Education & Consultation Service
International Longevity Center

4:45 p.m.  Discussion
Tuesday, June 8:

8:30 a.m.  Breakfast

9:00 a.m.  Health Care Reform -- What comes next (Economic Change)
            Humphrey Taylor
            Chairman, The Harris Poll
            Harris Interactive, Inc.

9:45 a.m.  Discussion

10:00 a.m. From the Experience Corps to Policy Solutions for an Aging Society
           (Policy Change)
            Linda Fried, M.D., M.P.H
            Dean
            Mailman School of Public Health
            Columbia University

10:45 a.m. Discussion

11:00 a.m. The Urgency of Gene Modifiers and Huntington’s Disease – Knowledge to
           Action (Scientific Change)
            Nancy Wexler, Ph.D.
            Higgins Professor of Neuropsychology
            Columbia University
            President
            Hereditary Disease Foundation

11:45 p.m. Discussion

12:00 p.m. Lunch – A conversation with Barbara Greenberg, President, Services for
           Grantmakers The Philanthropic Group

1:00 p.m.  Coping With and Finding Solutions For Caring for the Chronically Ill
           (Social Change and Economic Change)
            Eric Rackow, M.D.
            President and CEO
            SeniorBridge
            Professor of Medicine
            NYU School of Medicine

1:45 p.m.  Discussion

2:00 p.m.  The Challenge of Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery
           (Scientific Change)
            Howard Fillit, M.D.
            Executive Director
            Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation

2:45 p.m.  Discussion

3:00 p.m.  Evidence-based Psychosocial Interventions in Alzheimer’s Care
           (Social Change)
            Mary Mittelman, Dr.P.H.
            Director of Psychosocial Research and Support,
            Center for Excellence on Brain Aging
            And Research Professor, Department of Psychiatry
            NYU Langone School of Medicine

3:45 p.m.  Discussion
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>The Changing Role of the Pharmaceutical Industry (Economic Change)</td>
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<td>Olivier Brandicourt, M.D.</td>
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<td>President and General Manager</td>
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<td>Global Primary Care Business Unit</td>
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<td>Pfizer, Inc.</td>
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<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Implications of the New Healthcare Legislation and Medicare for</td>
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<td>Individuals in the Aging Society</td>
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<td>(Policy, Economic and Social Change)</td>
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<td>Karen Davis, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Impact and Implications of the Changing Safety Net – Social Security</td>
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<td>and Other Entitlements (Policy Change)</td>
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<td>Richard C. Leone, MPA, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>The Century Foundation</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch with discussion on health, work and financial security</td>
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<td>Michael W. Hodin, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Adjunct Senior Fellow</td>
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<td>Council on Foreign Relations</td>
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<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Living Arrangements – The Search for Life Satisfaction in Transitions</td>
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<td>From Home to Independent or Congregate Living (Social Change)</td>
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<td>Kristine Rogers</td>
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<td>Vice President, Active Aging</td>
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<td>Everette E. Dennis, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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2:00 p.m. **How To Live To 110** (Scientific and Social Change)

Thomas Perls, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine and Geriatrics
Boston University School of Medicine
Founder/Director of the New England Centenarian Study

2:45 p.m. **Discussion**

3:00 p.m. **Alzheimer's Disease – Understanding Risks** (Scientific Change)

Richard Mayeux, M.D., M.Sc.
Director, Sergeivky Center
Professor of Neurology, Psychiatry & Epidemiology
Columbia University Medical Center

3:45 p.m. **Discussion**
Thursday, June 10:

8:30 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Aging in the Federal Government, A Conversation with Aging’s Top Federal Official (Policy Change)

Kathy Greenlee
Assistant Secretary of Aging
United States Department of Health & Human Services

9:45 a.m. Discussion

10:00 a.m. Advocating for Aging Policy

Stephen McConnell, Ph.D.
Aging Program Policy and Advocacy Program Executive
The Atlantic Philanthropies

10:30 a.m. The Longevity Prescription – Individual Solutions for Aging problems
Preview of book The Longevity Prescription by the ILC-USA and Dr. Robert N. Butler (Avery/Penguin, 2010) – news briefing for fellows
(Scientific Change)

Robert N. Butler, M.D.
President and CEO
ILC-USA

11:00 a.m. Depart for The New York Times

11:30 p.m. Luncheon, Conversation with The New York Times Reporters and Editors and Newsroom Tour

Hosted by:
Jack Rosenthal
Michael Weinstein

6:00 p.m. Academy Reception, The Century Association

The Digital Promise

Lawrence K. Grossman
Co-Chair
Digital Promise Project
Former President
NBC News & PBS
Friday, June 11

8:30 a.m.  Breakfast

9:00 a.m.  Navigating Political Change for Older People in Washington  
(Policy Change)

Harold Pincus, M.D.
Professor and Vice Chair for Strategic Initiatives  
Department of Psychiatry
Co-Director, Irving Institute for Clinical & Translational Research
Columbia University

9:45 a.m.  Discussion

10:00 a.m.  Depart for Site visit

10:45 a.m.  Luncheon and Tour of the Hebrew Home for the Aged in Riverdale  
Conversation on Overcoming Elder Abuse led by Daniel Reingold,  
Executive Director

1:00 p.m.  Depart by Shuttle to ILC

1:45 p.m.  Covering the Age Beat—from the Academy to Reality  
Roundtable Discussion

New York Times Fellows

Moderator:
Everette E. Dennis, Ph.D.
Executive Director
ILC-USA

2:30 p.m.  Adjourn
Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, Ph.D. was appointed Commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA) in December 2008, following a long career in both City government and the nonprofit sector. Most recently, she was President and CEO of Safe Space NYC, Inc., a nonprofit organization serving over 25,000 children and families in New York City. Before joining Safe Space, she served as Senior Vice President and Chief Executive for Agency Services at United Way of New York City. Barrios-Paoli's prior government service includes appointments at the Koch and Giuliani administrations — the Department of Employment, the Department of Personnel (now DCAS), the Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the Human Resources Administration. Additionally, she was the Executive Director of Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx. A graduate of the School of Anthropology of Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, Ms. Barrios-Paoli also holds a Masters degree and a PhD from the New School for Social Research. She is a former Trustee of the New School.

Nir Barzilai, M.D. is the Director of the Institute for Aging Research at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He was recently awarded the prestigious Ingeborg and Ira Leon Rennert Chair in Aging Research. Dr. Barzilai is Professor of Medicine and Molecular Genetics in the Department of Medicine and the Diabetes Research Center, and is a member of the Divisions of Endocrinology and Geriatrics. He is also the Director of the Montefiore Hospital Diabetes Clinic. Dr. Barzilai's interests focus on the basic mechanisms of the biology of aging. He was the recipient of the prestigious Beeson Fellow for Aging Research and the Senior Ellison Foundation award. He is supported by numerous grants (NIH, American Federation of Aging Research, The Ellison Medical Foundation, and The Albert Einstein College of Medicine) to investigate the reasons for the deterioration of glucose homeostasis with aging as well as to search for human longevity genes. Dr. Barzilai has published nearly 90 peer-reviewed papers, reviews and chapters in textbooks.

Robert Blancato, M.P.A. is President of Matz, Blancato, & Associates, a full-service firm integrating strategic consulting, government affairs, advocacy services and association and coalition management. Bob is the National Coordinator of the Elder Justice Coalition, a bipartisan, 581 member organization. From 2000-2006, Bob served as President of the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and remains on its Executive Committee. He currently serves as the Executive Director of NANASP, the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs. Bob is a former House staff member and spent 17 years on the House Select Committee on Aging. He also served as Executive Director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging and on the Policy Committee for the 2005 Conference. Bob most recently became Chairman of the Commonwealth Council on Aging in Virginia. He was appointed by Governor Tim Kaine. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University and a Masters of Public Administration from American University. He is on the adjunct faculty at the Erickson School of the University of Maryland in Baltimore County and has also taught at George
Washington University, Graduate School of Political Management and the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Maryland in Baltimore.

Harrison Bloom, M.D. is a Senior Associate with the International Longevity Center-USA (ILC-USA) and Associate Clinical Professor of Geriatrics in the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. Past positions include serving as the Chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine at St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital Center, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and as Vice Chairman for Clinical Affairs in the Department of Geriatrics at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Dr. Bloom’s main focus of concentration at the ILC is the International Clinical-Education and Consultation Service established to teach the principles of health care for older persons in developing countries. Dr. Bloom is the founder and director of this Service. Projects and teaching consultations thus far have been undertaken in Lebanon, Taiwan, Costa Rica, South Africa, Singapore, Mexico, Malta, Russia, Bulgaria, India, China, Malaysia and Turkey.

Olivier Brandicourt, M.D. is President and General Manager of Pfizer’s Primary Care Business Unit, an organization with more than $22 billion in revenue. He has 20 years of international experience in the pharmaceutical industry, including executive responsibilities in France, the US, Canada and the UK, and has held senior positions across a range of disciplines, from Medical to Marketing to overall country/regional management. Before assuming his current position in October 2008, Olivier was appointed Senior Vice President/General Manager of Pfizer’s US Pratt Business Unit in February 2007. In this role, he was responsible for Pfizer’s cardiovascular portfolio in the US, representing approximately $6 billion in annual revenue. Previously, Olivier was Managing Director of the UK/Ireland subsidiary of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals for four years. He successfully led the organization during a period of intense change, beginning with the merger of the local subsidiary of Pharmacia in 2003, followed by the implementation of a new customer-oriented business model, which included a ground breaking Direct-To-Pharmacy distribution model. Olivier joined Pfizer in New York in 2000 as Regional President of Latin America and then assumed the role of Regional Vice President of Central and Southern Europe in 2002.

Robert N. Butler, M.D., President and CEO of the International Longevity Center-USA, is a world leader in gerontology and geriatrics. As the first director of the National Institute on Aging, Dr. Butler helped educate the nation about the dangers of Alzheimer’s disease and worked to make research a priority. At the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, he founded the nation’s first department of geriatrics where he is Professor of Geriatrics and Adult Development. He founded the International Longevity Center in 1990. Dr. Butler introduced the concepts of "Life Review" (1961), "Ageism" (1968) and "Productive Aging" (1983). He won the Pulitzer Prize for his book Why Survive? Being Old in America and is co-author with Myrna I. Lewis of Aging and Mental Health as well as The New Love and Sex After 60. His latest book, The Longevity Prescription was released in June 2010.

Donna Butts has served as the Executive Director of Generations United since 1997, the only national membership organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational policies, strategies and programs (www.gu.org). GU represents more than 100 national, state, and local organizations representing more than 70 million Americans GU’s mission is to improve the lives of children, youth, and older people through intergenerational collaboration, public policies, and programs. With over 30 years of experience working with non-profit organizations Donna has championed the effort for children, youth and aging organizations to work together promoting intergenerational approaches and combating efforts to pit the generations against each other.

A graduate of Marylhurst College in Oregon, Donna was selected to participate in Stanford University’s second Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders. In 1998, she was appointed by, then Health and Human Services Secretary, Donna Shalala to serve on the National Kinship Care
Advisory Panel. She was honored in 2004 with the National Council on the Aging's Jack Ossofsky award for leadership, creativity and innovation in programs and services for older persons and served as an at large delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging. Donna has been an invited expert to two United Nations convenings the most recent on intergenerational solidarity held in late 2007. Currently she co-chairs the International Consortium of Intergenerational Programmes.

Karen Davis, Ph.D., is president of The Commonwealth Fund, a national philanthropy engaged in health and social policy research. Previously, she served as chairman of the Department of Health Policy and Management at The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, where she was also a professor of economics. She was deputy assistant secretary for health policy in the US Department of Health and Human Services from 1977-1980. Prior to that, she was a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a visiting scholar at Harvard University, and an assistant professor of economics at Rice University. Among many other honors and awards, Dr. Davis received the Academy Health Distinguished Investigator Award in 2006 and was honored by the Institute of Medicine with the Adam Yarmolinsky Medal in 2007. She is on the Board of Directors of the Geisinger Health System, serves on the Panel of Health Advisors for the Congressional Budget Office, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Everette E. Dennis, Ph.D., is the International Longevity Center's Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director. He was founding President of the American Academy in Berlin and founding Executive Director of the Media Studies Center at Columbia University as well as Senior Vice President of the Gannett Foundation and Freedom Forum Foundation. An educator, author, and communications expert, Dr. Dennis is the Felix E. Larkin Distinguished Professor of Media Industries at Fordham's Graduate School of Business in New York, former dean of the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communications, and a former professor at the University of Minnesota. He is author and editor of more than 40 books on media and policy issues and has held three advanced fellowships at Harvard University.

Howard Fillit, M.D., a geriatrician and neuroscientist, is the founding Executive Director of the Institute for the Study of Aging, Inc. as well as its affiliated public charity the Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation, both of which are dedicated to funding drug discovery for Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Fillit was formally the Corporate Medical Director for Medicare at NYLCare Health Plans (now a division of Aetna, Inc.), where he was responsible for over 125,000 Medicare members in 8 regional markets. He has also had a distinguished academic career at The Rockefeller University and The Mount Sinai Medical Center (NY), where he is currently a clinical professor of geriatrics and medicine and a professor of neurobiology. Dr. Fillit has received many awards and honors, including the Rita Hayworth Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Alzheimer's Association. He is a fellow of the American Geriatrics Society, the American College of Physicians, the Gerontological Society of America, and the New York Academy of Medicine. Dr. Fillit is the author or co-author of more than 250 publications, including the leading international Textbook of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology. He served as a consultant to a variety of individuals, managed care organizations, health care systems, and pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.

Linda Fried, M.D., M.P.H., is the dean of the Mailman School of Public Health. An admired leader in aging and health, Linda Fried comes to Columbia from Johns Hopkins University, where she has spent the last 25 years, starting as a fellow in general internal medicine in 1982. She has been dedicated to expanding health promotion and prevention for older adults, with emphasis on the causes of frailty and disability. She is currently professor of medicine, epidemiology, health policy and nursing at Johns Hopkins and director of The Johns Hopkins
Center on Aging and Health, the Program in the Epidemiology of Aging at the Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology.

**Barbara R. Greenberg, MSW,** is President of The Philanthropic Group, a New York City consulting and management firm that provides services for grantmakers. www.philanthropicgroup.com. Her clients are donors, including individuals, families, foundations, and corporations, from start-ups to those with billions in assets. Greenberg designs thoughtful grantmaking strategies, and manages innovative funding initiatives that focus on aging, children and youth, environmental justice, community-building, and education. Before founding The Philanthropic Group, Greenberg was executive director of the Florence V. Burden Foundation, where she created and managed national grant programs in aging and criminal justice. Prior to that, she was an officer of The Travelers Companies where she directed the corporation’s national giving in aging as well as award-winning family caregiving and “un-retirement” programs for employees. She has served as a board member of Philanthropy New York (formerly the New York Regional Association of Grantmakers), Grantmakers in Aging, and the American Society on Aging.

**Kathy Greenlee** was appointed by President Barack Obama as the fourth Assistant Secretary for Aging at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and confirmed by the Senate in June 2009. Ms. Greenlee brings over 10 years of experience advancing the health and independence of older persons and their families. Prior to becoming Assistant Secretary, Ms. Greenlee served as Secretary of Aging for the state of Kansas. In that capacity, she led a cabinet-level agency with 192 full-time staff members and a total budget of $495 million. Her department oversaw the state’s Older Americans Act programs, the distribution of Medicaid long-term care payments and regulation of nursing home licensure and survey processes. She also served on the board of the National Association of State Units on Aging. Before her tenure as the Secretary of Aging, Ms. Greenlee served as State Long-Term Care Ombudsman in Kansas, and the state’s Assistant Secretary of Aging. Ms. Greenlee also served as general counsel at the Kansas Insurance Department. During her tenure there, she led the team of regulators who evaluated the proposed sale of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas, and oversaw the Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas program. Greenlee also served as Chief of Staff and Chief of Operations for then Governor Kathleen Sebelius.

**Lawrence K. Grossman** is co-chair of Digital Promise, is former president of NBC News and PBS, advertising agency owner, holder of the Frank Stanton First Amendment Chair at the Kennedy School of Government, and senior fellow and visiting scholar at Columbia University. He currently serves as a trustee of Connecticut Public Broadcasting and various nonprofit health organizations, and as a Dupont-Columbia Journalism Award juror. He is the author of *The Electronic Republic: Reshaping Democracy in the Information Age.* (Viking/Penguin and The Twentieth Century Fund, 1996).

**David Hamerman, M.D.,** is a senior associate at the International Longevity Center and University Professor Emeritus at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, received medical degree from New York University College of Medicine, and completed medical residency training at Montefiore and Mount Sinai Hospitals in New York. He was one of the original faculty members at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine shortly after it opened, and then went on to Montefiore, its major teaching hospital, as the Chairman of Medicine. He subsequently founded the Division of Geriatrics at Montefiore-Einstein, and directed the Jack and Pearl Resnick Gerontology Center there. His research interests have been on basic aging mechanisms and how these relate to the inception and progression of chronic diseases. I wrote a book about this,
"Geriatric bioscience. The link between aging and disease", published in 2007 by the Johns Hopkins University Press.

Michael W. Hodin, Ph.D. is adjunct senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), researching the social, economic, and political consequences of aging populations. Previously, Dr. Hodin was vice president public affairs and policy, worldwide primary care at Pfizer, Inc., and served on its executive leadership and worldwide public affairs and policy leadership teams. Dr. Hodin joined Pfizer in 1979, in the corporate public affairs division. Over the years, he created and built Pfizer’s international public affairs capacity in over 120 country organizations, leading the transformation of public affairs in Pfizer and the pharmaceutical industry and pioneering moving these skills and capabilities into the development process of Pfizer medicines. His innovative approaches to public policy have driven strategic advances in intellectual property and trade, health reform solutions, more effective management of public health crises, and embedding stakeholder interests into core operations. Prior to joining Pfizer, Dr. Hodin served Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan on foreign and trade policy. He was also a visiting scholar at the Brookings Institution, writing on U.S. foreign economic policy, and held a Coro fellowship. He was an adjunct professor at Columbia and Georgetown Universities and lectured at these institutions, Oxford, and others in political science and international affairs departments and business schools.

Rosanne M. Leipzig, M.D., Ph.D., is the Gerald and Mary Ellen Ritter Professor (tenured) and the Vice Chair for Education of the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. Dr. Leipzig graduated from the University of Rochester, received her M.D. and Ph.D. (Human Genetics) at the University of Michigan Medical Center, completed her Internal Medicine residency at the University of Rochester and a Fellowship in Clinical Pharmacology at New York Hospital/Cornell University Medical Center and has been recognized with numerous awards. She was the recipient of one of the first Brookdale National Fellowships in Geriatric Medicine and was also named one of the first Joy McCann Scholars for exemplary leadership and mentorship in medical education. She has received the American College of Physicians Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award, the ACP-New York Laureate Award, and the Society of General Internal Medicine Mid-Atlantic Region award for excellence as a clinician-teacher, the 2008 Dennis Jahngren award from the American Geriatrics Society in recognition of her contributions to geriatrics education nationally, and was the 2008 honoree for the Friends and Relatives of the Institutionalized Aged (FRIA). She is a member of the Board of Directors for the American Board of Internal Medicine and serves on the United States Preventive Services Task Force.

Richard C. Leone, MPA, Ph.D. is President of The Century Foundation, a public policy research foundation in New York and Washington. His government experience includes service as Chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and as State Treasurer (Chief Financial Officer) of New Jersey. He also was administrative assistant to a Governor, executive assistant to a U.S. Senator, and Executive Director of a White House Task Force on the Cities. In the private sector, Mr. Leone was the President of the New York Mercantile Exchange, President of Atlantic Commodities (an oil trading firm), and a Managing Director at Dillon Read & Co., Inc., an investment banking firm. He is currently a director of a number of public companies. His analytical and opinion pieces on public policy topics have appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, Foreign Affairs, and other publications. He was editor or co-editor of several books including Social Security Reform: Beyond the Basics The War on
Our Freedoms, and Liberty Under Attack. He earned an MPA and a Ph.D. and was a member of the faculty at Princeton University.

Richard Mayeux, M.D., M.Sc. is Gertrude H. Sergievsky Professor of Neurology, Psychiatry and Epidemiology at Columbia University. He is currently the director of the Gertrude H. Sergievsky Center, a center devoted to the epidemiological investigation of neurological diseases, and the co-director of the Taub Institute for Research on Alzheimer Disease and the Aging Brain at Columbia University Medical Center. Over the past 22 years, Mayeux has led a population-based investigation of AD and other age-related disorders in northern Manhattan that uncovered the relationships between AD and environmental and medical risk factors, the genotypic variability of apolipoprotein-e risk among different ethnic groups and the relationship of alterations in lipid metabolism and risk of dementia. He also leads a study investigating genetic variants in large, multiply affected Hispanic families in the Dominican Republic and directs the NIA Late-Onset Alzheimer’s Disease Family Study. He has received many honors including The Leadership and Excellence in AD Award from the NIA, and the 2007 Potamkin Prize. In 2008 he received the John Stearns Award for Lifetime Achievement in Medicine from the New York Academy of Medicine, and in 2009 the Henry Wisniewski Lifetime Achievement Award in Alzheimer’s Disease Research from the Alzheimer Association.

Stephen McConnell, Ph.D. is currently Vice President for Advocacy and Public Policy at the Alzheimer’s Association, will join The Atlantic Philanthropies to lead its Ageing Program’s policy and advocacy work in the U.S. As Ageing Program Policy and Advocacy Program Executive, McConnell will be responsible for strategic planning and management for policy and advocacy efforts, including health-related and civic engagement initiatives. He will also work on other policy-related projects across Atlantic’s programs and geographies. He will begin his work with Atlantic July 21, based in Washington. Steve has extensive experience in ageing, health and long-term care policy and advocacy issues on the federal and state levels, and he will be a tremendous asset for Atlantic and for our grantees, Atlantic’s Ageing Program Director Brian Hofland said in making the announcement today. McConnell joined the Alzheimer’s Association, a national voluntary health organization with a nationwide network of chapters, in 1989, when he opened its Washington, D.C., public policy office. He served as the Association’s Interim President and CEO in 2002. He previously spent seven years on Capitol Hill as Chief of Staff for the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging and as a staff member of the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Aging. McConnell holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and a B.A. from the University of Southern California. He was the recipient of the prestigious Maxwell A. Pollack Award for Productive Aging from the Gerontological Society of America and the American Society on Aging ASA Award for national leadership in public service and advocacy.

Mary S. Mittelman, Dr.P.H. is an epidemiologist who has been evaluating psychosocial interventions for family members of people with Alzheimer’s disease for more than two decades. She received her Dr.P.H. in psychiatric epidemiology and an M.S. in biostatistics from Columbia University School of Public Health. Dr. Mittelman is Director of the Psychosocial Research and Support Program of the NYU Center of Excellence on Brain Aging and Research Professor in the NYU Langone Medical Center Department of Psychiatry. In 2009 she received the first global award for Alzheimer's psychosocial research from Alzheimer's Disease International/ Fondation Mederic Alzheimer. For more than 20 years she has been Principal Investigator of the NYU- Spouse Caregiver Intervention (NYUCI) study, which has been funded by the NIH since 1987, as well as other studies of psychosocial interventions for people with cognitive impairment, dementia and their family members. Dr. Mittelman’s research showed that counseling and support for spouse caregivers and their families can have a major impact on the time a person with AD can remain at home. The research demonstrates the long-term effectiveness of
counseling and support for caregivers in reducing symptoms of depression and the severity of	heir reactions to the behavior of their family members with dementia and in maintaining
caregiver physical health. The mechanism through which the intervention achieves these
outcomes is by improving the support and assistance from family members and friends. The
intervention’s effects on caregiver well-being lasted through nursing home placement and death
of the person with dementia. In 2009 she received the first global award for Alzheimer’s
psychosocial research from Alzheimer’s Disease International/Fondation Mederic Alzheimer
(March 2009)

Harry R. Moody, Ph.D., is Director of Academic Affairs for AARP. Before coming to AARP,
he served as Executive Director of the Brookdale Center on Aging at Hunter College and
Chairman of the Board of Elderhostel. He is the author of many articles and several books on the
humanities and aging, including Aging: Concepts and Controversies (now in its 6th edition);
Ethics in an Aging Society; and The Five Stages of the Soul: Charting the Spiritual Passages That
Shape Our Lives, translated into seven languages worldwide. Dr. Moody edits a monthly e-
newsletter, “Human Values in Aging,” which explores the role of growth and creativity in later
life.

Greg O’Neill, Ph.D. is director of the National Academy on an Aging Society
(www.agingsoociety.org), a Washington, DC think tank on population and aging issues. Greg
specializes in the demographics of aging, civic engagement, and work and retirement. His
publications include The State of Aging and Health in America, a national and state-by-state
report card on healthy aging. His recent article: “The Baby Boom Age Wave: Success or
Tsunami?” appears in a book titled, Boomer Bust? Economic and Political Issues of the Graying
Society (Praeger Publishers, 2009). He received his PhD in Sociology from Duke University with
a concentration in population studies.

Thomas Perls, M.D., Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Medicine and researcher in the study of
aging at Boston University School of Medicine. He has been He attended the University of
Rochester School of Medicine followed by Harvard Medical School where he received his
training as a geriatrician. Dr. Perls directs the New England Centenarian Study, now in its
fifteenth year; it is the largest genetic and social study of centenarians and their families in the
world (www.bume.bu.edu/centenarian). Dr. Perls also directs the National Institute on Aging’s
Long Life Family Study and he is the author of www.livingto100.com, a life expectancy
calculator. On another front, Dr. Perls is also a well known and outspoken critic of the anti-aging
industry and its marketing of purported nostrums and elixirs, particularly hormones. Recently, he
testified before the United States Congress as its expert on growth hormone and anti-aging
quackery.

Harold Alan Pincus, M.D. is Vice Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia
University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons and Director of Quality and Outcomes Research
at New York Presbyterian Hospital and Associate Director of Columbia’s Irving Institute for
Clinical and Translational Research. Dr. Pincus also serves as a Senior Scientist at the RAND
Corporation. Previously he was Director of the RAND-University of Pittsburgh Health Institute
and Executive Vice Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh,
where he still maintains an adjunct professorship. He is the National Director of the Health and
Aging Policy Fellows Program (funded by Atlantic Philanthropies), the Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation’s National Program on Depression in Primary Care: Linking Clinical and Systems
Strategies and the John A. Hartford Foundation’s national program on Building Interdisciplinary
Geriatric Research Centers. Dr. Pincus has also served as the Deputy Medical Director of the
American Psychiatric Association and the founding director of APA’s Office of Research and
Executive Director of the American Psychiatric Institute for Research and Education. Prior to joining the APA, he was the Special Assistant to the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health.

**Eric C. Rackow, M.D.** is President and Chief Executive Officer of SeniorBridge, a national health management company. He is also Professor of Medicine at the New York University School of Medicine and immediate past President of NYU Hospitals Center. He is a national authority on critical care medicine, complex care management, and healthcare delivery systems. At NYU, Dr. Rackow was responsible for ensuring the quality of medical services and promoting continued excellence in patient care, medical education, and clinical research. Previously, he served as Chief Medical Officer at NYU Hospitals Center and Chairman of the Department of Medicine at St. Vincent’s Hospital and Medical Center of New York. After earning his MD at the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center, he served as Chief Resident in Internal Medicine and completed a fellowship in Cardiology. Dr. Rackow is the author of 184 articles and 40 chapters on the care of patients with complex medical problems. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Weil Institute of Critical Care Medicine, dedicated to education and research in caring for patients with severe illness or injury. Dr. Rackow is a fellow of the American College of Physicians, American College of Critical Care Medicine, American College of Cardiology, and American College of Chest Physicians. Recently, he received the distinguished award of Mastership of the American College of Physicians.

**Khristine Rogers** joined Atria Senior Living Group in 2001 where she held several Division Sales and Marketing Director Roles before becoming Vice President of Engage Life in 2004. In her current role as Vice President of Active Aging, she oversees the national Engage Life programs offered at all Atria communities, which aim to provide interesting and meaningful program experiences for independent, active seniors with a focus on helping them maintain their identity and self esteem. She also leads Atria’s Life Guidance program, which focuses on seniors living in Atria’s specialized memory care neighborhoods. She can speak to the importance of social interaction for seniors and how Atria uniquely approaches its Engage Life and Life Guidance/dementia programs to ensure that residents continue to be active and do things that they love. She can also speak to late life transitions, specifically the impact of relocating from home to congregate living environments and how seniors and their families can successfully maintain independence and a sense of self during this process. Prior to joining Atria, she held a variety of sales, marketing, and operations roles with HCR/Manor Care, Horizon’s Rehabilitation, and Parkside Medical Services Corporation serving seniors in independent, assisted living, subacute, specialized memory care, and acute care settings.

**Jack Rosenthal** is the first Senior Fellow of The Atlantic Philanthropies, an international foundation that supports research, service and advocacy in the fields of aging, children and youth, reconciliation and human rights, and population and health. He has been called on to assess the future of media, journalism and the news. He was the President of The New York Times Company Foundation. He joined *The New York Times* in 1969 as its Chief Urban Affairs Correspondent in Washington, and subsequently became an editor and editorial writer. In 1982, he won the Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing. From 1993 to 2000, he edited *The New York Times Magazine*. Earlier in his career, he was Special Assistant to both Attorney General Robert Kennedy and Attorney General Nicholas de B. Katzenbach. In 1966, the Washington press corps voted him the outstanding press officer in the government. He was a fellow at Harvard’s Institute of Politics, specializing in urban affairs and became the principal editor of the Presidential Commission Report on Urban Riots (the Kerner Report). Before *The Times*, Mr. Rosenthal was *Life* magazine’s first urban affairs correspondent.
Humphrey Taylor is the Chairman of The Harris Poll, a service of Harris Interactive. Previously he was Chairman and CEO (1992-1997) and President (1981-1992) of Louis Harris and Associates. He has had overall responsibility for more than 8,000 surveys in 80 countries, for governments, corporations, and foundations, on such subjects as housing, insurance, transportation, welfare planning, marketing, communications, banking, industrial relations, education and health care. He has testified to Congressional Committees and Subcommittees on Social Security, health care cost containment, Medicare, aging, policies affecting disabled people, drug exports, the taxation of employee benefits, and privacy. He has made presentations in the White House and on Capitol Hill on these subjects, and on Health Maintenance Organizations, productivity, consumerism, health promotion and disease prevention. He has published many articles and papers on survey research and public policy, and broadcasts frequently on radio and television. Over his working life, Humphrey has authored over 1,000 columns, papers, op-ed page articles, and book chapters. He has written editorial page articles for the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and (London) Times.

Michael West, Ph.D. is the Chief Executive Officer of BioTime, Inc. (NYSE AMEX: BTIM) and Embryone Sciences, Inc. of Alameda, California. The Companies are focused on developing an array of research and therapeutic products using human embryonic stem cell technology. He received his Ph.D. from Baylor College of Medicine in 1989 concentrating on the biology of cellular aging. He has focused his academic and business career on the application of developmental biology to the age-related degenerative disease. He was the Founder of Geron Corporation of Menlo Park, California (Nasdaq: GERN) and from 1990 to 1998 he was a Director, and Vice President, where he initiated and managed programs in telomerase diagnostics, oligonucleotide-based telomerase inhibition as anti-tumor therapy, and the cloning and use of telomerase in telomerase-mediated therapy wherein telomerase is utilized to immortalize human cells. From 1998 to 2007 he was President and Chief Scientific Officer at Advanced Cell Technology, Inc. (OTCBB: ACTC) where he managed programs in animal cloning, human somatic cell nuclear transfer, cell differentiation, and ACTCellerate, a technology for the multiplex derivation and characterization of clonal human embryonic progenitor cell lines.

Nancy Wexler, Ph.D., is Higgins Professor of Neuropsychology in the Departments of Neurology and Psychiatry of the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University, as well as the President of the Hereditary Disease Foundation. Involved in public policy, individual counseling, genetic research, and federal health administration, Dr. Wexler is a member of the National Academy of Science, she is most widely known for her important scientific contribution on Huntington's disease. Since 1979, Wexler has led a research study in Venezuela of the world’s largest family with Huntington's disease, developing a pedigree of over 18,000 individuals and collecting over 4,000 blood samples which helped lead to the identification of the Huntington's disease gene at the tip of human chromosome 4. These same blood samples have assisted in the mapping of other disease genes, including those responsible for familial Alzheimer's disease, kidney cancer, two kinds of neurofibromatosis, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), dwarfism and others. One result of this work was the development of a presymptomatic test which could tell who is carrying the fatal gene prior to the onset of symptoms. Wexler received an A.B. from Radcliffe in 1967 and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan in 1974. She currently holds or has held numerous public policy positions, including Chair of the Joint NIH/DOE Ethical, Legal and Social Issues Working Group of the National Center for Human Genome Research, Chair of the Human Genome Organization (HUGO) and Member of the Institute of Medicine.
Dinner Speaker

“The Digital Promise”

Lawrence K. Grossman

Co-Chair
Digital Promise Project
Former President
NBC News & PBS

Lawrence K. Grossman is co-chair of Digital Promise, advertising agency owner, holder of the Frank Stanton First Amendment Chair at the Kennedy School of Government, and senior fellow and visiting scholar at Columbia University. He currently serves as a trustee of Connecticut Public Broadcasting and various nonprofit health organizations, and as a Dupont-Columbia Journalism Award juror. He is the author of The Electronic Republic: Reshaping Democracy in the Information Age. (Viking/Penguin and The Twentieth Century Fund, 1996).

He served eight years as President of PBS (1976-84) before spending four years as president of NBC News (1984-88). An alumnus of Columbia University, since the late '80s he has become a foremost authority on media studies and tours the country giving lectures and interviews.
Adriane Berg writes on aging and retirement issues for leading magazines and is a widely known speaker at industry conferences on successful aging and the Boomer Cohort. She is the author of 13 books, most recently, How Not To Go Broke at 102 (Wiley, 2008) and was national keynoter for USA Today retirement seminars. She is also a well-known radio and television personality, currently hosting the Longevity Club internet radio show, wrote and hosted "IRS Tax Beat" on FNN, and “Money Talks” on The Learning Channel, and has made multiple appearances on OPRAH, GOOD MORNING AMERICA and REGIS. Her web presence includes: newjerseylifemagazine.com, longevityclubonline.com, agelesstraveler.com, yourbignumber.com, women&co.com, moneyinsider.msn.com, abcnews.com, ivillage.com, finance.com, benefitmall.com, incard. Ms. Berg is a founder of the Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and served as chair of the New York State Bar Association's Subcommittee on Estate Planning. She holds a J.D. from the New York University School of Law, where she was an Editor of the Law Review.

Donald Allport Bird is professor of Journalism at Long Island University, where he serves on the George Polk Awards Committee and from which he received the David Newton Award for Teaching Excellence. He graduated from Rutgers—The State University as a Henry Rutgers Scholar and earned his Ph.D. at Indiana University in Folklore and Mass Communications. He has devoted nearly forty years to mass communications teaching, administration, writing and consulting, sixteen at LIU as journalism chair. In addition to teaching at corporations such as NBC and Pfizer and at military bases in five states, Dr. Bird has lectured on the First Amendment, environmental reporting, new media and media economics at Renmin University in Beijing, China, Beijing Normal University, Nankai University in Tianjin, Fudan University and Hua Dong University in Shanghai and Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. Dr. Bird recently was appointed as an English Language Officer (contract) with the International Visitors Leadership Program, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, of the U.S. Department of State.

Bette Dewing covers aging and women’s issues for the New York weekly, Our Town where she writes a “generalist” column called “Dewing Things Better,” which is also published in the West Side Spirit. The column frequently takes up issues affecting seniors and persons with disabilities. Over the years she were for the feminist journal, Prime Time, which was associated with the National Association for Women. She took on such topics as ageism and society’s segregation by age. Her writing about and advocacy for pedestrian safety and conditions affecting the handicapped won her recognition from civic groups and legislators. She was the subject of a tribute by U.S. Representative Carolyn VBB. Maloney in the Congressional Record, which hailed her for “enhancing pedestrian safety, focusing the attention of government officials on urban ills

Leigh Donaldson is a weekly opinion columnist for the Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram whose news and feature articles on international/national/regional politics, business, social issues, history, art, culture and travel have appeared in print and online publications such as American Legacy Magazine, Progressive Media Project, World Report, The Public Press (San Francisco), Common Dreams.org News Center, Fiscal Policy Institute, American Visions

Thomas Goldsmith has worked in daily journalism as a reporter and editor since 1983. He began his career at the Tennessean in Nashville and remained there for 20 years, starting as a correspondent, covering the thriving music scene for seven years and moving up the editing ladder to assistant managing editor for local news, a masthead job, in the early 2000s. In 2003, he moved back to his hometown of Raleigh, N.C., to take a job as features editor at the News & Observer, switching back to reporting in 2006 to take the newly created position of generations reporter. His aging reporting has taken in legislative issues, health and fitness for older people, developments in long-term care, as well as the financial well-being and exploitation of older people. In 2009, he received the statewide AARP’s journalist of the year honor.

Richard Griffin writes a newspaper column on aging that appears regularly in some 40 urban and suburban publications of the Boston-area Community Newspaper Company. For six years, he also wrote a weekly column on spirituality that was published in the Eagle-Tribune, a newspaper in Lawrence, Massachusetts that circulates in more than 25 communities of northern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. In addition to his columns, he has collaborated on two books, has written numerous articles and reviews, and has been a frequent commentator on public television broadcasts. In his first career, when a Jesuit priest, he served as Catholic chaplain at Harvard University. After moving into the field of aging, he directed elder services for the City of Cambridge and has acted as a consultant to many organizations in Greater Boston.

Katie Hamilton writes a weekly newspaper column, Do It Yourself or Not, which is syndicated by Tribune Media Services at www.diyornot.com and is featured in Money magazine (March, 2010) as "one of the 20 best money Web sites." The focus of the long running column is a cost analysis of hundreds of home improvement projects that explains the cost of a job and the skills required to help readers decide if they want to do the work themselves or hire a contractor. The column, written with her husband and partner Gene, went online in 1996 as part of AOL and HouseNet.com, the Web site they founded and sold to R.R. Donnelley & Sons. Among their 20 books are the popular Home Improvement for Dummies® and Fix It and Flip It.

Cynthia Hessin leads decision-making and production of local information programming for Rocky Mountain PBS. As executive producer and host, she is chiefly responsible for the weekly news discussion program, Colorado State of Mind, and also oversees and produces a variety of other projects for the statewide network, including Life Wise, programming for senior adults. Her honors include regional and national honors from the Society of Professional Journalists, and the Association for Women in Communications; as well as the Colorado Broadcasters Association. She has also earned six regional Emmy awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Heartland Chapter, for writing, producing and performance. A Denver-area native, Hessin previously worked as a news reporter and anchor at Denver television stations KCNC News 4 and KMGH Denver’s 7, where she specialized in government and policy news.
Catherine Mayer is London Bureau Chief for Time, a role that has been extended to cover the U.K., Ireland and Germany. Before taking up this position, she worked as Senior Editor for TIME Europe, Middle East and Africa. Mayer joined Time in 2004 after a lengthy stint as a foreign correspondent for Focus magazine; Germany’s leading news weekly, reporting from Europe and South East Asia. She has also served as Deputy Editor for International Management – the journal of European Business and occupied the same position at Business Traveller magazine. She began her career at The Economist. She was co-opted to work for the Commission for Africa, the non-governmental initiative spearheaded by Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and Bob Geldof, at its inception in February 2004. She founded its German section and acted as an advisor. She makes frequent appearances on radio and TV current affairs programmes. She has published numerous articles in the British and international press. She was President of the Foreign Press Association in London from June 2003 until June 2005. She is writing a book about the revolution in the perception and realities of age and ageing. Amortality: The Pleasures and Perils of Living Agelessly, the book is due to be published by Random House in the spring of 2011. Mayer was born in the USA and holds dual US and British citizenship.

James Ridgeway is Senior Washington Correspondent for Mother Jones, where he writes both articles for the magazine and a weekly web column on MotherJones.com. He also writes pieces for the Guardian and Counterpunch, and collaborates on original short videos, available at RidgewayNg.com. He served as Washington Correspondent for the VILLAGE VOICE for more than thirty years, where he wrote the weekly “Mondo Washington” column, as well as features on national and international politics. Earlier in his career, he worked for The New Republic, Ramparts, and the Wall Street Journal and was co-founder and editor of the political newsletters Hard Times and The Elements. His writing has also appeared in Parade, Harper’s, The Nation, George, The Economist, Natural History, Audubon, the New York Times Magazine, and other magazines and newspapers worldwide. He is the author of sixteen books, including, most recently, THE 5 UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT 9/11 and IT’S ALL FOR SALE: The Control of Global Resources.

Matt Sedensky is a reporter in the Miami bureau of The Associated Press who covers aging, the elderly and general news. Sedensky joined the AP in 2002 in Hartford, Conn., transferring later that year to Honolulu, and in 2004 to Kansas City, Mo. Since 2006, he has been based in Miami. Sedensky was part of the AP teams that covered Hurricane Katrina and the Virginia Tech shootings, and has also reported extensively on the capture of the BTK serial killer and the death of starlet Anna Nicole Smith. He has frequently written about religion, including an award-winning series on the rise of the extremist Kansas minister Fred Phelps and an investigation into Pope Benedict XVI’s handling of sex abuse cases prior to his ascension to the papacy. His coverage has been focused primarily on aging issues since 2008. Prior to joining AP, Sedensky spent a year at The New York Times as an editing intern on the foreign desk and a metro reporting intern. He has also worked for the Connecticut Post, The Village Voice and Arthur Frommer’s Budget Travel Magazine. He is a graduate of New York University and a native of Bridgeport, Conn.

Gary Stix covers neuroscience at Scientific American where he has served as special project editor for the magazine’s annual single-topic special issues, including one on the nature of time that won a National Magazine Award. He was also editor for the magazine’s quarterly special issues on topics ranging from aging to the science and technology of sports. He started several monthly columns for the magazine, including one on the workings of technology, another on intellectual property and one on what happens behind-the-scenes when academic and corporate laboratories develop new technologies. Before coming to Scientific American, he was an editor at IEEE Spectrum and he began his career working at several regional newspapers.
Pauline Tam is the health and medical reporter for the Ottawa Citizen in Canada. During a 16-year newspaper career, she has covered arts, local news, business, technology and education. She has also worked as an editorial page columnist. In 2006, she was part of a reporting team that won a total of seven prizes, including the National Newspaper Award, Canada's top journalism honour, for a project on palliative care. That same year, Pauline was awarded a fellowship on aging from the International Longevity Center in New York. In December 2008, she was awarded a Knight Science Journalism Fellowship in medical reporting from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In April 2009, Pauline won an award for excellence in health-care reporting from the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario.

Chandra R. Thomas is an award-winning journalist who is currently completing a 2010 Kiplinger Public Affairs Journalism Fellowship, a journalism training program at The Ohio State University. Her multimedia project centers around the rebuilding of an historic African-American community of mostly seniors in New Orleans that was destroyed by hurricane Katrina. The former staff writer for Atlanta Magazine was named Journalist of the Year for 2007 by Region III of the National Association of Black Journalists for a body of work she produced in 2006, including a feature story about Katrina victims exiled in Atlanta and the first in-depth account of the controversial Genarlow Wilson teen sex case. The latter helped contribute to a change in Georgia law and the young man's early release from prison. She was named 2007 Print Journalist of the Year by the Atlanta Press Club and in 2009 she won a Mental Health America feature writing award for the work she completed as part of the Rosalynn Carter Mental Health Journalism Fellowship Program. Her freelance work has appeared in Essence, Ebony, People, Newsweek and Upscale magazines. The proud New Orleans native and Clark Atlanta University graduate has served as an associate producer for Fox 5's Good Day Atlanta program and a contributor to National Public Radio's "News & Notes" program. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and mentoring aspiring young journalists.