

**Final Report – Professional Development Grant  
International Conference on Aging and Society – 2013**

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**RESTATEMENT OF PROBLEM**

This grant helped to fund my attendance to the International Conference on Aging and Society in Chicago, Illinois.

**REVIEW OF THE WORK / PROCEDURE**

I presented research entitled “Alternatives to Bureaucratic Rituals in Nursing Homes: Considering the ‘CARE Model’ and Possibilities of Culture Change.” Attending the conference enhanced my understanding of research trends in violence against elders and nursing home maltreatment. It also allowed me to expose my scholarship to sociologists and gerontologists with solid backgrounds in the area of nursing home research.

**OUTCOMES**

I attended the conference and presented my research. Specifically, I met with many other scholars carrying out research on nursing home related topics. Conversations with those contacts will allow me to fine-tune the conference paper and subsequently submit it to *The International Journal on Aging and Society* for possible publication.

**CONCLUSIONS**

This grant allowed me to attend a conference and make beneficial contacts in the field I might not have been able to make without extra funding. I feel that I have built a lasting network with scholars from other countries, including Canada and Japan, who will prove beneficial as I move my research agenda forward. The conference also exposed me to a variety of topics I was previously unfamiliar with that directly relate to my research. Aside from research, I plan to use the information gathered from sessions I attended in several of the classes I am responsible for teaching. This includes Psychosocial Aspects of Death and Dying and Social Gerontology. With the success of this experience, I plan to apply for similar grants in the future in order to aid my scholarship and teaching.