



Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting Member-Initiated-Meeting:

Introduction to the National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project Longitudinal Data Workshop

San Francisco Hilton Union Square, 333 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco CA
Union Square Room 17-18 on the 4th Floor

Wednesday, May 2, 2012
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

This workshop is free for all PAA Annual Meeting attendees. To register for the workshop, interested participants should email Katherine Morris (Morris-Katherine@NORC.org).

Abstract: This half-day workshop will introduce participants to the National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP), which is an interdisciplinary, population-based, longitudinal study of community-dwelling older adults aged 57 to 85 and their marital or co-resident romantic partners. The survey integrates biological measures with a social scientific questionnaire to understand the health and well-being of older Americans. This workshop is especially relevant to researchers interested in: aging, sexuality, and social relationships; social network analysis; multi-mode survey design; and the incorporation of biological measures of health in population research.

Principal Investigator Linda Waite will introduce workshop participants to the theoretical framework of the project, including the Interactive Biopsychosocial Model (IBM) that was developed for and guides the analytical approach of the study. Next, William Dale, co-investigator and Chief of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center, will review the opportunities for, challenges to, and the usefulness of incorporating NSHAP biomeasures and clinical assessments in longitudinal social science research. Finally, Phil Schumm, co-investigator and Senior Biostatistician in the Department of Health Studies, will present the sample design, data structure, and sample weights. Schumm will also review dyadic and social network data structure and methods of analysis. The workshop aims to provide participants with the necessary tools to access and analyze NSHAP Waves 1 (2005-2006) and 2 (2010-2011), including the partner, social network, and biomeasure data components.