



SSEA May 2020 Newsletter

News

Special Message from the SSEA President

Dear SSEA members and friends,

A few days ago, I received word that the price of an airline ticket I had purchased had been refunded due to the COVID crisis. The ticket was to Milan for our society's conference on close relationships in emerging adulthood. The refund reminded me just how much life has changed for all of us in the past several months. Change, loss, isolation, and uncertainty have become common occurrences for many, if not all of us. As the leadership of SSEA, we express our thoughts and best wishes to all of you.



I have thought a lot about how this crisis has impacted the lives of emerging adults. It certainly isn't a competition between various demographic groups regarding who has suffered the most but without a doubt the lives of many emerging adults have been affected. Graduations, weddings, and summer internships have been cancelled or postponed. The job market for graduates is tenuous and many emerging adults have lost their jobs including a disproportionate number of women. Changes and challenges associated with living situations, relationships, finances, summer travel plans, active lifestyles, health, and education plans all weigh on the minds of many young people. Many young people may not see themselves at high-risk for the disease which leads to life-as-normal behaviors that may present concerns for their own health and that of those around them. Many others are *very* concerned about the disease and those concerns are taking emotional tolls on them. There are emerging adults who may be particularly vulnerable to the affects of COVID-19 because of their marginalized status and the stigma, bias, and injustice that they may be experiencing as individuals or as part of broader systemic injustice. I worry about them.

In sum, our young people and their families and communities are experiencing

a wide range of issues at this time and the effects of the current situation will almost certainly have a lasting impact. As an organization, I believe we should be doing something to help. As the leading scholarly organization for the study of emerging adulthood, we should be an organization that people can look to for both information and resources, and an organization that can be at the forefront of empirically understanding the impact of the crisis on emerging adults. To that end, we would like to start gathering helpful information from our membership that might be disseminated via our social media channels and website. More details will be coming in the next few days but we would ask you to begin thinking about how you and your work might help emerging adults, their families, and communities at this time.

Finally, a word of hope and support to all of you at this time. I know that the emerging adults in our membership are not the only ones being affected. Many of us in higher education needed to shift to remote teaching. Clinicians needed to alter the ways in which they provided services. Research studies are being compromised in many ways. With schools and daycare services closing, work-family balance may be more of a challenge than ever before. In sum, these times are not easy. However, they do not need to be void of hope, joy, and peace. At the end of March, my family was supposed to hold a party to celebrate my mother's 80th birthday. Instead of an evening of food and celebration together as a family, we had to improvise. Over the phone, I talked my mother through the process of becoming familiar with Zoom (that in itself provided me with numerous laughs and memories as she has only had a smart phone for just over a year and only been texting for a few months so figuring out Zoom was an epic task). Then, on her birthday, we gathered as a family on Zoom and had an evening with my mom during which we asked her numerous questions about her life. I learned things about my mother that I hadn't known before. Grandchildren were mesmerized by the stories of life when mom was a child. Because we recorded the Zoom meeting, we now have a permanent record of those stories. Although an evening of food and laughter would have been fun (and we will still have that in the future with her), we have something much more meaningful; we have a lasting record of my sweet mother sharing some of the milestones of her life that can now be shared with her posterity for generations to come. As I think about that, I realize it is just one of many sweet silver linings, or, a phrase I like, "tender mercies", that this situation has provided me and my family. It is my hope that we can each take a moment to find and recognize precious moments of peace, calm, hope, and joy in the midst of everything else, and, if needed, that we will each be intentional about creating those types of moments. I hope that the result will be numerous tender mercies, silver linings, and gold nuggets of peace and joy for you.

Sincerely,

Larry Nelson
SSEA President

Emerging Adulthood Receiving an Impact Factor in 2020

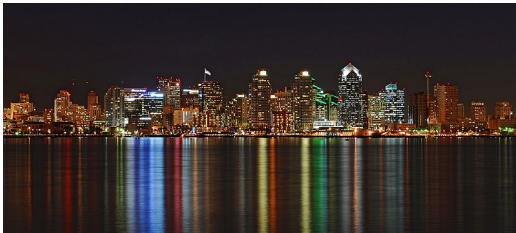
In July 2019, *Emerging Adulthood* was accepted into the Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports (JCR) index. *Emerging Adulthood* will receive its first official Impact Factor in the 2020 JCR release (June/July 2020). We will



make a formal announcement to the SSEA community once the impact factor has been officially assigned, but we wanted to share this positive news about the growth and visibility of the journal.

Events

2021 Conference on Emerging Adulthood, San Diego, CA



Save the date! The 2021 conference on emerging adulthood will be held in San Diego, CA on November 4-6.

Additional information to come!

SSEA Thematic Conference May 2020

We would like to again send a warm thank you to all who helped plan the cancelled SSEA Thematic Conference in Milan for May 2020. We are so grateful for the hard work put in by the conference chairs, Margherita Lanz, Semira Tagliabue, and their team in Milan. We regret that we were not able to see our many SSEA friends in Milan, but we look forward to seeing you again in San Diego.

May Spotlights

Editor Spotlight

"A Farewell of Sorts to *Emerging Adulthood*"

A special message from the current editor: Moin Syed

On July 1, 2020 I will pass on the editorial helm of *Emerging Adulthood* to Dr. Christine Ohannessian, thus concluding my long affiliation with the journal. I have been with the journal since the literal beginning: I was on the committee that selected the publisher, SAGE, was on the committee that selected the first editor, Dr. Manfred van Dulmen, served as an Associate Editor under Manfred's leadership, and then assumed the editorship in 2016. Now seems like an apt time to part ways—in June 2020 the journal will receive its first impact factor. I personally believe that impact factors have done much more harm than good across the sciences, but it is a fact within the broader academic system that having an impact factor confers legitimacy. It is a sign that *Emerging Adulthood* has "made it." To banally use a developmental metaphor, perhaps this is akin to the journal reaching "adulthood," and I am

pleased to have played my part in helping get it there but also pleased to watch it continue and thrive from an arms' length. Of course, this was not a solo effort by any means, and I am hugely indebted to my outstanding editorial team over the years, who have done consistently stellar work. Click [here](#) to read the full statement

Member Spotlight

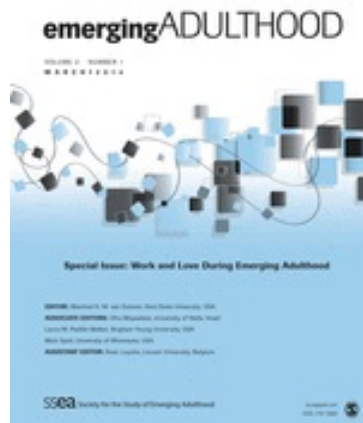
Shelby M. Astle, B.S.
Applied Family Science Masters Student at Kansas State University



"As someone who is interested in sexuality and sexual development, emerging adulthood is a time period that has caught my attention due to the increased sexual exploration and identity development that happens during this life period. I'm intrigued at how emerging adults make sense of their sexual socialization from prominent sources in their lives (e.g., family, peers, media, sexual/romantic partners) and how they incorporate that into their sexual identity development as young adults. I'm also on the tail end of emerging adulthood myself, so I connect with the experiences of this population."

Click [here](#) to read the full interview

Article Spotlight



This month we highlight a recent manuscript entitled "Navigating the College Years: Developmental Trajectories and Gender Differences in Psychological Functioning, Cognitive-Affective Strategies, and Social Well-Being" by authors Colleen S. Conley, Jenna B. Shapiro, Brynn M. Huguenel, and Alexandra C. Kirsch.

In this article, the authors examined how college presents unique opportunities and stressors that challenge psychosocial adjustment of emerging adults. Specifically, this 4-year longitudinal study examines multiple aspects of adjustment in 5,532 college students from immediately pre-college across each of 4 academic years. Results indicated significant changes in psychosocial functioning across college, including important and impactful gender differences related to these changes. Interested in reading more? Check out this article in the *Emerging Adulthood* journal and linked below.

Access the article here:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2167696818791603>

Topic Network Updates

Identity Topic Network

The Identity Topic Network would like to announce that after several years of strong leadership, the current chair (Joe Schwab) and co-chair (Johanna Carlsson) will be stepping out of their roles. Thank you to Joe and Johanna for all the contributions they have made as the chairs of this topic network. In happy news, we would like to introduce and welcome Margarita Azmitia as the new chair of the topic network. Welcome! With that in mind, the topic network is still looking for a new emerging scholar co-chair to help lead. We are hoping to encourage growth and development of the topic network by getting some fresh perspectives and ideas from new chairs. If anyone is interested in the co-chair position, please email Abby Goldstein (abbyl.goldstein@utoronto.ca).

Media Topic Network

Recognizing the potential stress faced by our members during these unusual times, the Media Topic Network shared the following references and resources in our last newsletter. The references included tips for managing mental health and psychological well-being during the outbreak of COVID-19 and ideas for moving classes online:

- [Mental Health and Coping During COVID-19: Tips from CDC](#)
- [Going Online in a Hurry: What to Do and Where to Start](#)
- [Tips and Tools for Teaching Online in a Pinch](#)
- [“Higher Ed Learning Collective” Facebook Group](#)

In face of the global crisis, we'd like to share some positive news: Our TN members have been productive in their research. Since the end of 2019, our members have published a total of 20 journal publications on topics related to technology and media use. We've shared the list the publications in our April TN newsletter. We hope everyone is staying safe and well!

Finance Topic Network

Hello, colleagues and friends! The biggest update we have for you is that the topic network previously called Work, Career, and Finance was so wonderful that it has been split into two topic networks: 1) Work and Career, and 2) Finance. We are now the chairs of the Finance topic network, and we enthusiastically welcome all whose research or interests are connected to emerging adults and finance. We hope to expand our membership and strengthen our connections.

We have had many outstanding finance-related publications in *Emerging Adulthood* recently. Here are some:

Burcher, S. A., Serido, J., Danes, S., Rudi, J., & Shim, S. (2018). Using the expectancy-value theory to understand emerging adult's financial behavior and financial well-being. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696818815387

Cherney, K., Rothwell, D., Serido, J., & Shim, S. (2019). Subjective financial

well-being during emerging adulthood: The role of student debt. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819879252

Damian, L. E., Negru-Subtirica, O., Domocus, I. M., & Friedlmeier, M. (2019). Healthy financial behaviors and financial satisfaction in emerging adulthood: A parental socialization perspective. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819841952

Fonseca, G., da Silva, J. T., Paixão, M. P., Crespo, C., & Relvas, A. P. (2019). Future hopes and fears of Portuguese emerging adults in macroeconomic hard times: The role of economic strain and family functioning. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819874956

Lanz, M., Sorgente, A., & Danes, S. M. (2019). Implicit family financial socialization and emerging adults' financial well-being: A multi-informant approach. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819876752

LeBaron, A. B., Marks, L. D., Rosa, C. M., & Hill, E. J. (2020). Can we talk about money? Financial socialization through parent-child financial discussion. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696820902673

Ranta, M., Punamäki, R. L., Chow, A., & Salmela-Aro, K. (2019). The economic stress model in emerging adulthood: The role of social relationships and financial capability. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819893574

Sirsch, U., Zupančič, M., Poredoš, M., Levec, K., & Friedlmeier, M. (2019). Does parental financial socialization for emerging adults matter? The case of Austrian and Slovene first-year university students. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819882178

Vosylis, R., & Erentaitė, R. (2019). Linking family financial socialization with its proximal and distal outcomes: Which socialization dimensions matter most for emerging adults' financial identity, financial behaviors, and financial anxiety?. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696819856763

Vosylis, R., & Klimstra, T. (2020). How does financial life shape emerging adulthood? Short-term longitudinal associations between perceived features of emerging adulthood, financial behaviors, and financial well-being. *Emerging Adulthood*. doi:10.1177/2167696820908970

Congratulations to all these authors!

Looking ahead, we will have a topic network meeting at the 2021 conference. We are also considering planning a finance-specific symposium, panel discussion, or pre-conference event, depending on interest. Please let us know if you are interested in participating in any of these. Also, please let us know if you have any specific hopes for the topic network or any announcements that may be relevant to our members.

Finally, it is a challenging time for all of us. We hope for the health and well-being of members and their families during the COVID-19 emergency.

Best,
Jinhee Kim and Ashley LeBaron
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Additional Notices

Thank you(s) and Welcome

SSEA and the Communications Committee would like to say a huge thank you to our chair, Alan Meca, who is stepping out of the position this month and into a new role with SSEA. Alan has been a tremendous asset to SSEA and the Communications Committee, and has shown incredible leadership in this position. Thank you for all your hard work and guidance during your time as our chair! Welcome to Kristin Anders, who will be serving as the new chair of the Communications Committee and to Shelby Astle, our new co-chair.

Further, we would like to share a thanks to the former chair of the Membership Committee, Oana Negru-Subtirica of Babeş Bolyai University (Romania), who is now serving on the Governing Council and thanks to Rimantas Vosylis of Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania) who has agreed to continue to serve as co-chair. Welcome and thanks to Luzelle Naudé of University of the Free State (South Africa) who has agreed to serve as chair of the Membership Committee.

Newsletter Feedback

In the interest of serving our members, the SSEA Communications Committee is requesting suggestions for future newsletters. We would greatly appreciate it if you could complete this short survey:

https://odu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cCiaPFVicY5WOk5

Join the SSEA

SSEA membership is open to researchers, students, educators, policy makers, and practitioners interested in development during this period of life. Members contribute to building SSEA, a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the understanding of development in emerging adulthood (ages 18-29) through scholarship, education, training, policy, and practice. To join SSEA, visit the membership page.

