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DIVIDED WE FAIL

AARP has launched a new initiative designed to mobilize U.S. voters around issues of common concern that bring together people of diverse political views.

Central to this effort is a growing awareness that Americans are more vulnerable as they think about their futures. Consider a few statistics from the "Divided We Fail" campaign:

- Just 1 out of 5 workers today have a traditional pension plan.
- Only 7% of workers contribute to an individual retirement account (IRA) on their own.
- Only half of all families have saved money in any kind of retirement account and the typical family has saved less than \$35,000.
- One out of three beneficiaries depend on Social Security for 90% of their income.
- 46 million Americans lack health insurance coverage. 29% of Americans report that they've omitted treatment, tests or prescription drugs because of costs.

Find more on "Divided We Fail":
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.1.19116>

For a recent book that underscores the issues addressed by "Divided We Fail" look at Jacob Hacker's THE GREAT RISK SHIFT. Get more details:
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.2.19116>

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#### HUMANITIES and AGING: Course Outlines

Do you find yourself looking for content in the humanities to enrich a class? Outlines for courses on humanistic gerontology are now available on-line:

DEATH AND DYING. For an Educational Module on Death and Dying, including ethics and advance directives:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.3.19116>

VALUES, DECISION MAKING, AND ELDERLY: A course outline is available:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.4.19116>

BIOETHICS. A course outline for "Bioethics and Aging" is available:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.5.19116>

See also "Medical Ethics: An Online Textbook" written and edited by Philip Pecorino:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.6.19116>

Find an on-line syllabus of a medical humanities course on "Aging":  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.7.19116>

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AWARD FOR UNIVERSITY RETIREE PROGRAM

The University of California at Berkeley has won a prestigious "Breakthrough Award" honoring the University's Retiree Work Opportunities Program.

To tap into the talent represented by retired faculty

and staff, the University of California at has created a website to connect former staff to short-term or part-time openings. Retired staff post profiles online listing skills, work history and preferences, and hiring managers then contact retirees about open jobs. Over 330 retirees and 240 hiring managers are now using the Retiree Work Opportunities site, and four out of five jobs listed are being filled by former UC Berkeley employees. Get more details about this program:
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.8.19116>

The Breakthrough Award competition, supported by the MetLife Foundation and administered by Civic Ventures, has named the top 10 nonprofit and public sector organizations which have demonstrated ways to provide meaningful public interest jobs for people over 50. These awards come as a report from The Conference Board finds that labor shortages are afflicting critical service areas, such as healthcare and social services. As aging Boomers retire, experts say, leadership shortage may worsen, threatening the nonprofit sector.

Get more about Civic Ventures and the Breakthrough Awards:
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.9.19116>

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#### INTERGENERATIONAL COURSE ON-LINE

The University of Pittsburgh has announced availability of an on-line, interactive course on Intergenerational Programs, based on the 13-year record of "Generations Together" and its Intergenerational Training Institute. The course is designed to help develop skills needed for success in the intergenerational field. Students read course materials, complete on-line assignments, and discuss the content with fellow students and instructors.

For details and registration contact Tracy Soska, Continuing Education, School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, at (412) 624-3711 or tsssw@pitt.edu.

For more about course content, contact Sally Newman, Emerita Professor and Course Coordinator at (412) 648-7155 or newmans@pitt.edu; or Dave Farley, at (412) 624-2066 or dfarley@ucsur.pitt.edu.

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## SERVICE LEARNING

Are your students looking to do a practicum or engage in service learning as part of their coursework?

A special issue of EDUCATIONAL GERONTOLOGY devoted to "Service-Learning in Gerontology Education" was edited by Rosemary Blieszner. Details are available:

<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.10.19116>

See also: ELDER CARE AND SERVICE LEARNING, A Handbook, by Susanne Bleiberg Seperson and Carol Hegeman (Greenwood, 2002).

AARP's Office of Academic Affairs has announced a new national service learning program, in which selected undergraduate and graduate students will volunteer with AARP offices on projects relevant to their course of study. If your department or university might be interested in serving as a pilot site with an AARP office (mostly located in state capitols) or with the National Office in Washington, DC, contact Karen Key at KKey@aarp.org.

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## BOOKS OF INTEREST

GERONTOLOGICAL PRACTICE FOR THE 21st CENTURY, by Virginia Richardson and Amanda Barusch (Columbia University Press, 2006).

HEALTH IN THE LATER YEARS, 4th Ed.,  
by Armeda Ferrini and Rebecca Ferrini  
(McGraw-Hill, 2007). Get details:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.11.19116>

AGING AND WORK IN THE 21st  
CENTURY (Applied Psychology Series),  
edited by Kenneth Shultz and  
Gary Adams (Earlbaum, 2007).

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#### WEB SITES TO SEE

INTERNET. "Internet Resources  
on Aging" is a database of  
900 of the best websites for  
people 50+, compiled by AARP.  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.12.19116>

HIGHER EDUCATION.  
Harvard Business School has developed  
a Working Paper on "Moving Higher  
Education to the Next Stage" exploring  
the implications of aging for lifelong  
learning. Find an overview of the  
paper, by Prof. Rosabeth Moss Kanter:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.13.19116>

GROWING OLDER, GROWING WISER.  
Get a rich collection of literary  
works and critical comments on  
positive aging:  
<http://news.aarp.org/UM/T.asp?A910.52851.3796.14.19116>

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This electronic newsletter  
is edited by Harry R. Moody at  
the AARP Office of Academic Affairs.  
TEACHING GERONTOLOGY contains items  
of interest to improve the teaching  
of aging in higher education.  
To submit items or request  
subscription changes,  
contact [hrmoody@aarp.org](mailto:hrmoody@aarp.org).

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