

The Geriatric Assessment Interdisciplinary Team (GAIT) Project

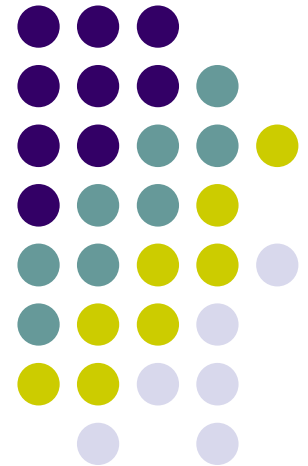
AHEC West



Central Maryland AHEC



Eastern Shore AHEC

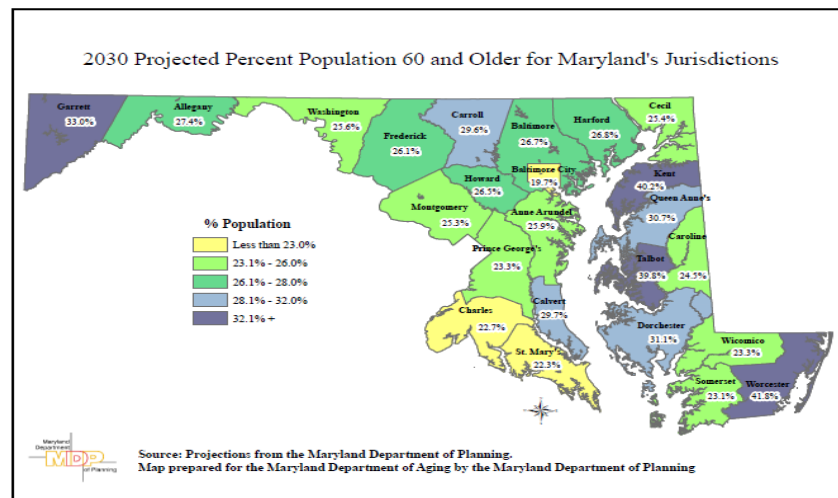
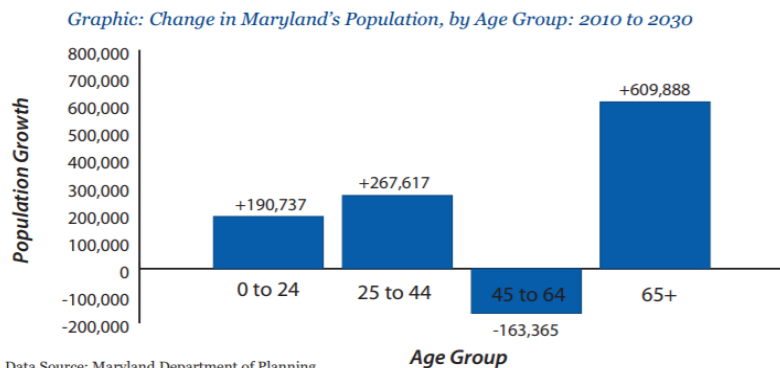


Funded by the Geriatrics & Gerontology Education and Research (GGEAR) program at University of Maryland, Baltimore Graduate School

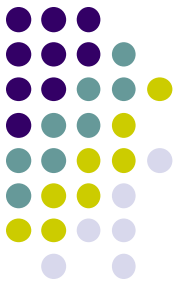


GGEAR AND Its Purpose...

- University-based program facilitating interprofessional educational, research, and service activities in the field of aging in partnership with campus affiliates and agencies & organizations serving Maryland's older adults and their caregivers
- Promote an age-educated workforce with the knowledge and tools to meet the needs and wants of our growing population of older adults

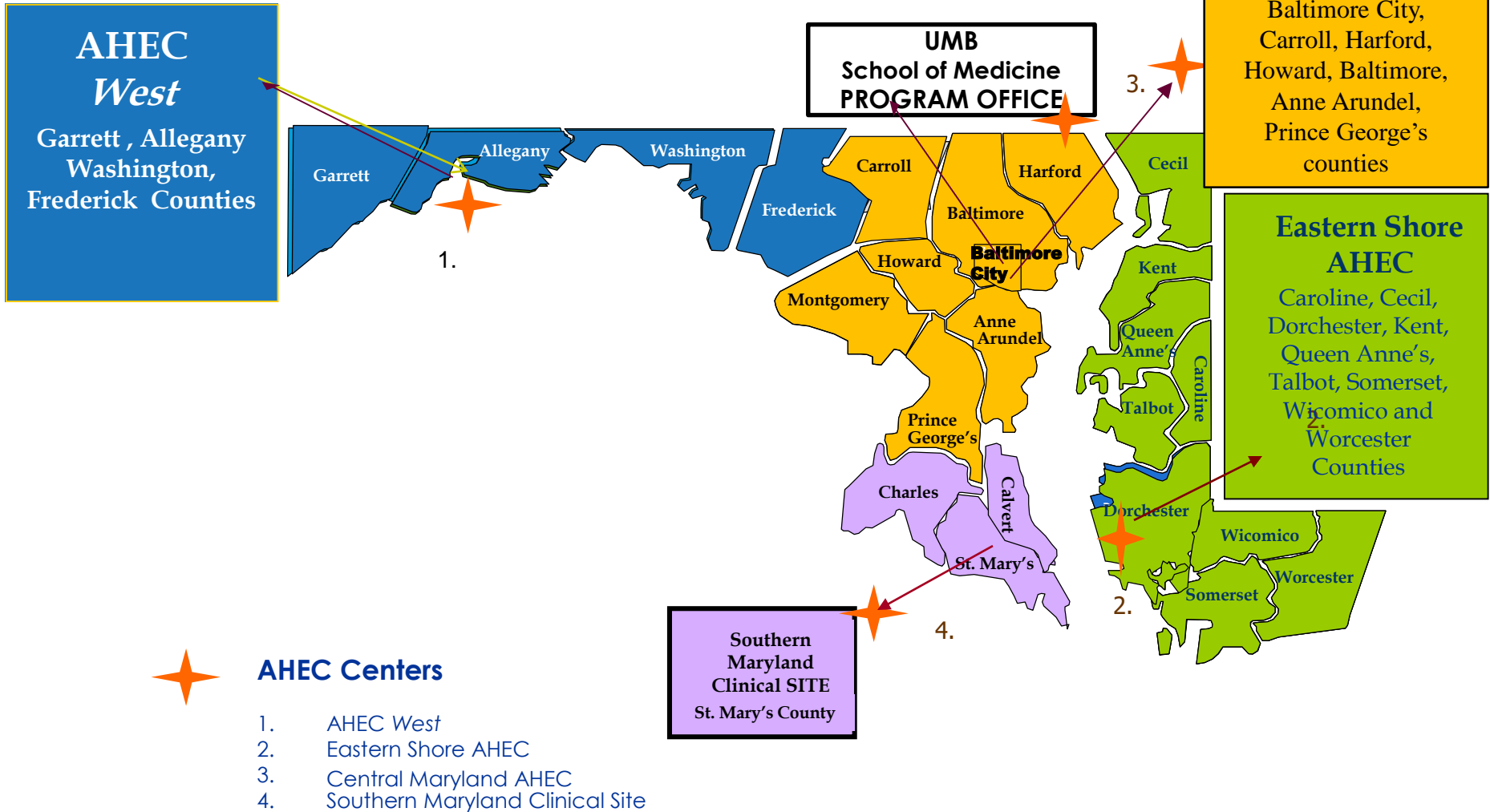


Sampling of GGEAR Activities

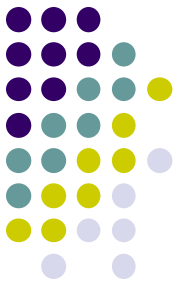


- Guest lecture courses across USM to stimulate interest in geriatric health & social service careers
- Partnership with the Center on Research on Aging to support interprofessional research opportunities among UMB faculty & students
- Serves on advisory boards (campus, state, national); collaborate with state and local agencies serving older adults in task forces; educational planning committees specific to older adults and their caregivers
- Partner with faculty to integrate aging content into existing courses/programs, cultivate programs that complement curriculum and allow students to learn and work collaboratively in interprofessional settings
 - On-Campus Interprofessional Case Conferences
 - Clinical Training Program at local LTC sites
 - GAIT Program (open to all USM health & social science students; coordinated by AHEC West, ESAHEC, Central MD AHEC)
- Supports educational outreach programs for healthcare profession students, practitioners, and the community throughout the state of Maryland
 - Caregiver Conferences in Southern MD, Howard Co
 - AHEC West, ESAHEC, Central MD AHEC

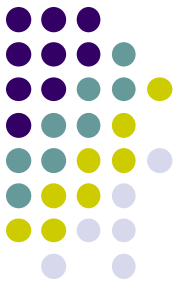
Connecting USM students to Geriatric Care in Rural and Underserved Sites



Maryland AHEC Programs



- Clinical Education
- AHEC Scholars
- Continuing Education
- Learning Resources
- Health Career Pipeline Programs
- Community Partnerships
- CHW Training Programs
- Interprofessional Education for USM students
 - (GAIT) GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT
INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM



What is GAIT...

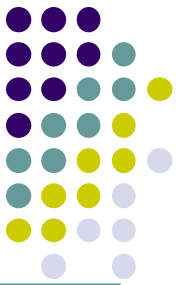
- Unique *NO COST* interprofessional learning experience open to health and social service students attending USM institutions
- Learning Outcomes
 - Increase sensitivity to challenges of later life and needs of older adults
 - Demonstrate understanding of comprehensive geriatric assessments (CGA)
 - Appreciate the value of interprofessional collaboration in providing quality person-centered geriatric care
 - Recognize career opportunities in geriatrics and gerontology
 - Identify resources to improve care in rural/underserved regions
- Hosted by various health and community-based care settings throughout Maryland

What is GAIT...

- Unique *NO COST* interprofessional learning experience open to health and social service students attending USM institutions
- Hosted by various health and community-based care settings throughout Maryland
- Components
 - Team Building Activities
 - Principles of Interdisciplinary Teamwork
 - Focus Topic Presentation
 - Aging Simulation Exercise
 - Medical Chart Reviews
 - Patient Assessments/Interviews
 - Interdisciplinary Team Planning
 - Team Presentations to Group and Host Site Staff
- Learning Outcomes
 - Increase sensitivity to challenges of later life and needs of older adults
 - Demonstrate understanding of comprehensive geriatric assessments (CGA)
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Sampling of Recent GAIT Experiences...



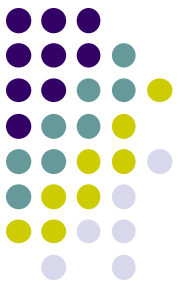
TOPIC	SITE	COUNTY
Function & Independence = Quality of Life	Heron Point of Chestertown	Kent
Rehabilitation of the Amputee	Chesapeake Rehabilitation Hospital	Wicomico
NICHE- Nurses Improving Care for Health System Elders	Atlantic General Hospital	Worcester
Dementia Care	Chesapeake Woods	Dorchester
Maintaining Social Connections for Healthy Aging: HEARING for HEALTH	Homewood at Williamsport – Independent Living	Washington
Supporting Staying at Home: Accurate Assessment critical to Effective Care in ADS	Diakon Adult Medical Day Services	Washington
PREVENTING READMISSION: Geriatric Rehabilitation to Safe Discharge	WMHS - Comprehensive Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit	Allegany
Living in the Community with Dignity & Purpose: Partnering with Caregivers to Maximize Independence	Daybreak Adult Day Services	Frederick
ALL-INCLUSIVE CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS Supporting Living in the Community	ELDERPLUS Johns Hopkins Bayview	Baltimore City
COMMUNITY BASED HOSPICE CARE In a Rural Community	Hospice of Garrett County	Garrett



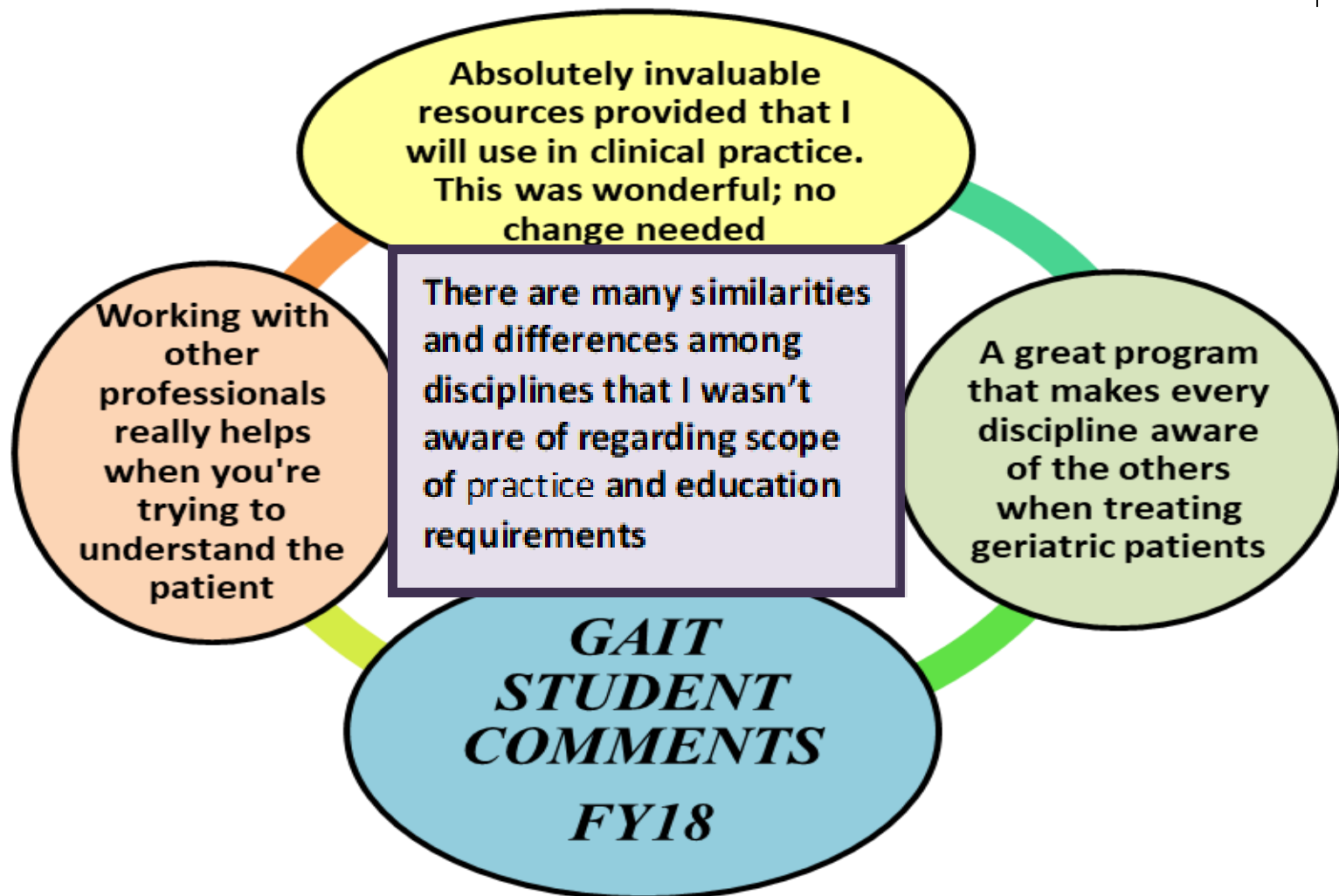
What to Expect...

- Simulation activities to raise awareness of changes associated with aging
- Team-building activities focused on
 - Principles of CGA
 - Effective person-centered communication
 - Principles of interdisciplinary collaboration
- Site activities
 - Tour
 - Focus topic presentation
- Team-based activities
 - Chart Reviews & Observations
 - Interviews with older adults, family and/or staff
 - Interdisciplinary Team Planning
 - Presentation to Group and Host Site Staff

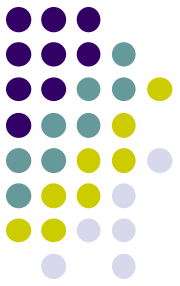




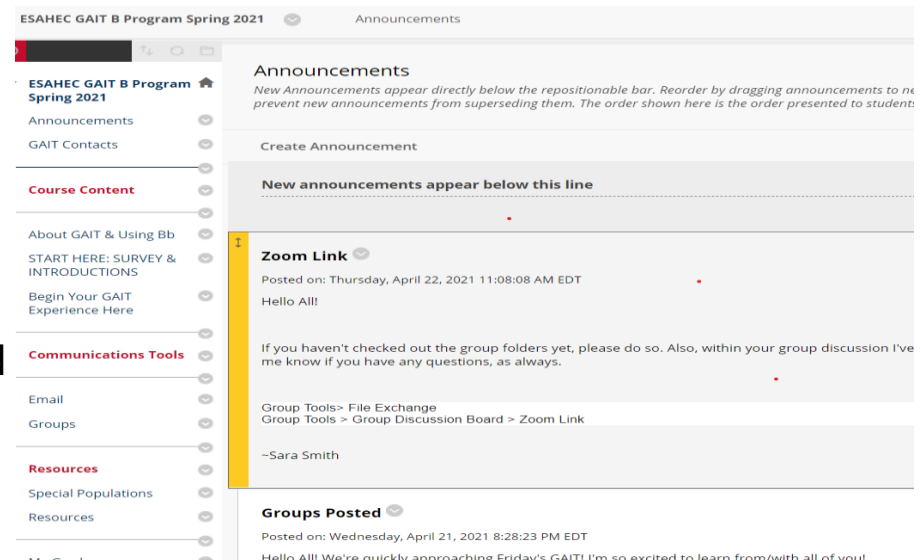
Student Reflections...



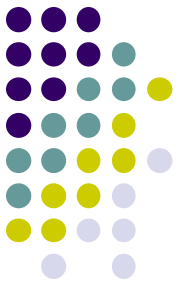
Responding to Covid-19 Challenges: The Virtual Platform



- Delivery Methods: Blackboard and Zoom
 - Topics varied, all virtual GAITS required completion of pre/post journal entries and surveys)
- Mix of asynchronous and synchronous activities
 - Asynchronous (4-5 hours; Bb open for 5 days before synchronous activities)
 - Videos
 - Articles (required & recommended)
 - Discussion Threads
 - Assigned group 'cases'
- Synchronous (4 hours)
 - Presentations by experts in their field
 - Small group 'case' discussions
 - Large group student presentations



The Results: Student Journal Entries

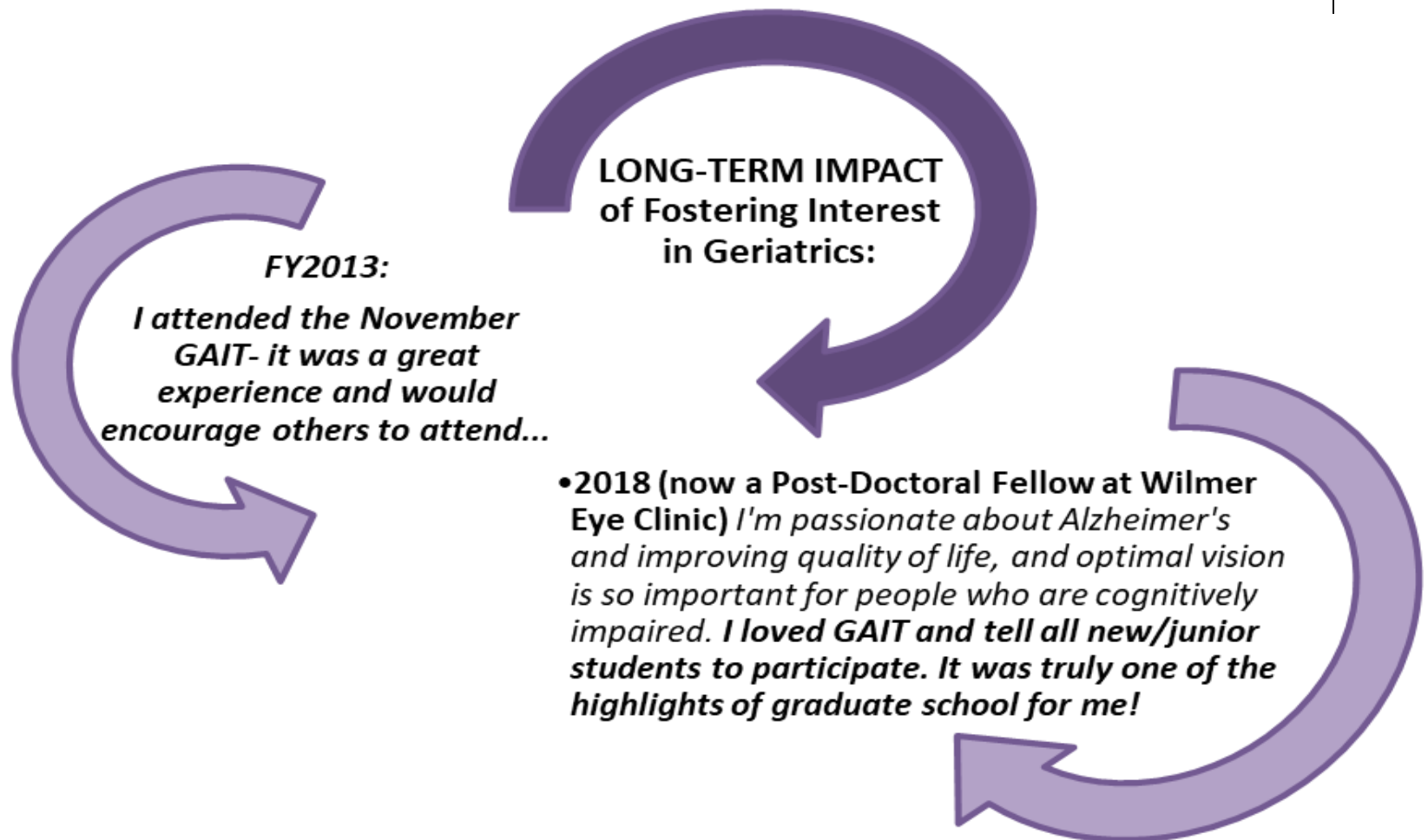
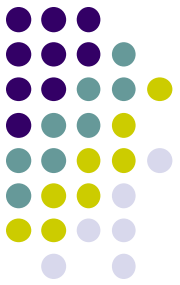


“Wow; what an experience! I enjoyed learning that there is a whole team of professionals to treat the patient that walks through my practice door, and that I’m not alone and don’t have to be great at everything in order to effectively treat my patient... I was able to exchange contact information with them and establish what I hope will be long-term professional relationships.”

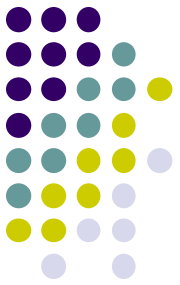
“Being able to effectively work with other health care professionals as a team for patient care is a great skill. These exercises have shown me how important that teamwork is for patient care and how helpful other specialists are.”

“This activity served as a paradigm of things I should address moving forward. I am grateful for this activity, and I also look forward to implementing the knowledge I obtained in my future practice.”

GAIT Impact...



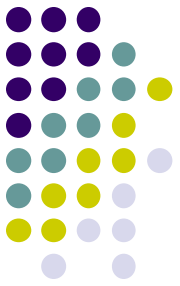
GAIT Registration...



- Check with your adviser at the start of each semester or the program calendar found on the GGEAR website (www.umaryland.edu/gerontology) for offerings and locations
- Register online for the GAIT(s) that best fit your schedule
- Check your email for confirmation and instructions

PLEASE contact the GAIT Coordinator immediately if your plans to attend change!

Contact Information...



- **Central Maryland Locations** (www.centralmarylandahec.org)
 - GAIT Contact: Meredith Hochman (meredithhochman@centralmarylandahec.org)

- **Eastern Shore Locations** (<https://esahec.org/programs/>)
 - GAIT Contact: Carroll Scully (cscully@esahec.org)

- **Western Maryland Locations** (<https://ahecwest.org/geriatric-programs/>)
 - GAIT Contact: Joy Taylor (jtaylor@ahecwest.org)

- **General Information about GAIT or GGEAR**
 - Diane Martin, Ph.D., Director
 - 410-706-4327 or diane.martin@umaryland.edu
 - www.umaryland.edu/gerontology

