

## Shannon Power, MSW, LCSW, ACHP-SW

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### CURRICULUM VITAE

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#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Integrated model of dementia care navigation for Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias
- Social determinants of health, especially affecting rural medically underserved communities
- Digital health use and medical social work
- Community-based participatory research and mixed methods

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#### EDUCATION

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University of Georgia, Athens, GA

- Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work*** (expected May 2026) August 2022 – present
- Dissertation: *Towards Health Equity through Technology-Based Dementia Care Navigation*
  - Quantitative Methods in Family and Social Sciences Certificate (2025)

- Master of Social Work*** August 2017
- Summa cum laude (4.0 GPA)

- Bachelor of Social Work, Minor in Spanish*** May 2016
- First Honor Graduate Designation (4.0 GPA)
  - Study abroad at UGA Costa Rica

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#### ACADEMIC HONORS

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- 2024 UGA Social Work PhD Student of the Year
- 2017 School of Social Work MSW Student Commencement Speaker
- 2016 UGA Presidential Award of Excellence
- 2016 BSW Student of the Year
- 2015 UGA Amazing Student Award

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#### GRANTS AND FUNDED AWARDS

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- 2025 Grand Challenges for Social Work Doctoral Fellow (\$3,000)  
Grand Challenge: *Harness Technology for Social Good*
- 2025 NIH Predoctoral Fellowship (F31) (Reviewed, Impact Score: 33, Not funded)
- 2025 Gerontological Society of America SRPP Conference Travel Award (\$250)
- 2024 Dr. Puente and Dr. Ingram Conference Travel Award (\$1,000)
- 2023 Association for Gerontology Edu. in Social Work Pre-Dissertation Fellow (\$1,500)
- 2022 (to present) UGA Presidential Graduate Fellow Award (\$11,000/yr for 4 years)

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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University of Georgia School of Social Work, *Athens, GA*

***Graduate Research Assistant***

August 2022 – present

- *Dissertation Chair:* Jenay M. Beer, PhD
- Contribute to NIH clinical trial researching socially assistive robots, technology acceptance, and innovative interventions for older adults with or at risk for dementia in assisted living
- Lead county-wide dementia education and research in rural Georgia for the interdisciplinary Cognitive Aging Research and Education ([CARE](#)) Center of the Institute of Gerontology
- Conduct listening sessions and secure partnerships with community champions to tailor CARE services and support community-based participatory research
- Disseminate and maintain aging-related resources for accessible county-wide education
- Present at Institute of Gerontology lunch and learn sessions on research/education findings
- Experience with statistical analysis software including R, SAS, and MAXQDA

University of Georgia School of Social Work, *Athens, GA*

***Graduate Research Assistant***

August 2016 – May 2017

- *Mentor:* Orion Mowbray, PhD
- Investigated cancer distress and conducted review of cancer distress assessment measures
- Created 6-hour Continuing Education Unit (CE) course proposal on the screening and assessment of cancer distress and related interventions

Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities, *Athens, GA*

***Undergraduate Research Fellow***

January 2016 – May 2016

- *Mentor:* Mary E. (Caplan) Ager, PhD
- *Project title:* Understanding consumer borrowing among women receiving social assistance
- Analyzed qualitative data of participant interviews using grounded theory methodology

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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University of Georgia, *Athens, GA*

***Instructor in Social Work***

August 2024 – May 2025

- Prepped and instructed 3-credit hour course:  
SOWK 2154: Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare (Fall 2024, Spring 2025)
- 16-week, in-person

Ivy Tech Community College, *Lafayette, IN*

***Adjunct Faculty in Human Services***

January 2020 – December 2021

- Prepped and instructed 3-credit hour courses:  
HUMS 101: Introduction to Human Services (Spring 2020, Fall 2020)  
HUMS 102: Helping Relationship Techniques (Spring 2020, Fall 2020)  
HUMS 205: Behavior Modification (Spring 2021, Fall 2021)
- 8-week and 16-week courses both in-person and virtual via Zoom platform
- Adapted course syllabi and develop engaging curricula for class sizes of 10-15 students

1. Dasgupta, A., Allen, S. E., **Power, S. R.**, Washington, T. R., & Lewinson, T. D. (*In press*). Navigating crisis: A qualitative exploration of medical social workers' responses to ethical issues during COVID-19. *BMC Medical Ethics*.
2. Ager, M., Topple, T., **Power, S. R.**, Solaiman, S., & Talkin, B. (*In press*). "I'd rather owe Visa than owe the government another explanation": Borrowing as reclamation in the lives of women on public assistance. *Journal of Poverty*.
3. **Power, S. R.** & Yeo, H. (2025). Differences in digital health use of rural-urban Medicare beneficiaries. *Policy, Politics, and Nursing Practice*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/15271544251335917>
4. Sinha, G. R., **Power, S. R.** & Kursuncu, U. (2024). Exploring patterns in online discussions into the lingering impact of COVID-19, two years on. *Discover Health Systems* 3, 82.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s44250-024-00148-9>
5. **Power, S. R.**, Smith, K. N., Abedine, R., Burton, L. M., Adams, A. E., Beer, J. M. (2024). Family care partner perceptions of a social assistive robot to support connectedness and health behaviors in assisted living. In: Gao, Q., Zhou, J. (Eds). *Human Aspects of IT for the Aged Population. HCII 2024. Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, vol 14726. Springer, Cham.  
[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-61546-7\\_6](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-61546-7_6)
6. **Power, S. R.**, Washington, T. R., & Lewinson, T. D. (2024). Talk to the tablet: Technology's impact on medical social work practice during COVID-19. *Journal of Technology in Human Services*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15228835.2024.2343687>

### **Publications Under Review**

Washington, T. R., Lewinson, T. D., Cooper, Z., **Power, S. R.**, & Watkins, K. (*Under review*). Is it time for medical social work training to evolve? Insight gained during COVID-19.

**Power, S. R.**, Sinha, G. R., Neel, L., & Larrison, C. R. (*Under review*). Financial exploitation of older adults: A comparative mixed-methods analysis of legal aid intervention.

### **Book Chapters in Preparation**

**Power, S. R.** & Ager, M. (*Forthcoming, July 2027*). Elder fraud and financial exploitation. In Gilbert, N., Jensen, P. H., Meyer, T., Pfau-Effinger, B., & Ranci, C. (Eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Aging and Social Policy*. (Section II: Well-Being, social policy, and economic security in older age). Oxford University Press.

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## PRESENTATIONS

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### Oral Conference Presentations

(\* indicates Peer Reviewed Published Abstract)

1. **\*Power, S. R.**, Adams, A. E., Burton, L. M., Smith, K. N., & Beer, J. M. (2025, November 12-14). Facilitating resident interactions through robot-delivered trivia in assisted living settings. *Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA*.
2. **Power, S. R.**, Sinha, G. R., Neel, L., & Larrison, C. R. (2025, January 15-19). A mixed-methods study of affective, cognitive, and behavioral responses among financially exploited older adults. [Oral presentation]. *Society of Social Work Research Conference, Seattle, WA*.
3. **Power, S. R.**, Smith, K. N., Burton, L. M., Abedine, R. A., Adams, A. E., & Beer, J. M. (2024, July 30-4). Family care partner perceptions of a social assistive robot to support connectedness and health behaviors in assisted living [Conference proceedings]. *Human Computer Interaction International, Washington, D.C.*
4. **Power, S. R.**, Cooper, Z., Washington, T. R., Lewinson, T. D. (2024, January 10-14). Talk to the tablet: Medical social workers' interactions with technology during COVID-19. [Symposium session]. *Society of Social Work Research Conference, Washington, D.C.*
5. **\*Power, S. R.**, Smith, K. N., Abedine, R. A., Burton, L. M., Adams, A. E., & Beer, J. M. (2023, November 8-12). Exploring perceptions of a socially assistive robot in assisted living: Recommendations from family care partners [Conference session]. *Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL*.
6. **\*Power, S. R.**, Washington, T. R., & Lewinson, T. D. (2023, November 12-15). Medical social workers harness technology for social good during COVID-19 pandemic. [Roundtable discussion]. *American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA*.
7. Collier Shelton, A. D., **Power, S. R.**, Terry, J. B., De Neil Ingram, C. (2023, October 27). Towards empowerment in social work education-2.0: Co-creating, co-implementing, and co-evaluating a course. [Panel discussion]. *Council on Social Work Education, Atlanta, GA*.
8. **Power, S. R.**, Smith, K. N., Abedine, R. A., Burton, L. M., Adams, A. E., & Beer, J. M. (2023, July 24-26). Meeting a socially assistive robot in assisted living: First impressions of care partners [Conference session]. *Georgia Gerontology Society Annual Conference, Greensboro, GA*.

### Selected Invited Oral Presentations

1. **Power, S. R.** (2025). Empowering Caregivers: Essential Resources for Dementia CARE Support. *Dementia Topics in Primary Care: Screening, Diagnosis, and Long-Term Follow Up CE/CME Event, Statesboro, GA*.

2. Cline, N., **Power, S. R.**, & Xu, J. (2022). Care Planning for the Future. *Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Lafayette, IN.*
3. Cline, N., Jones, T. I., & **Power, S. R.** (2018). How to Break Bad News with the Palliative Care Team. *CME Presentation at IU Arnett Hospital, Lafayette, IN.*
4. **Power, S. R.** & Bostock, S. (2017). Student Commencement Address. *Presentation at UGA School of Social Work graduation ceremony, Athens, GA.*
5. **Power, S. R.** (2014). Student Address. *Presentation at the UGA School of Social Work 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala, Atlanta, GA.*

#### Poster Conference Presentations

(\* indicates Peer Reviewed Published Abstract)

1. **Power, S. R.** (2024, November 13-16). Digital health and older adult well-being: The mediating role of social technology use. [Poster presentation]. *Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Seattle, WA.*
2. **Power, S. R.**, Smith, K. N., Abedine, R. A., Burton, L. M., Adams, A. E., & Beer, J. M. (2024, November 7). Lessons learned from family care partners on socially assistive robots in assisted living. [Poster presentation]. *Precision One Health Conference, Athens, GA.*
3. **Power, S. R.** & Yeo, H. (2024, January 10-14). Predictors of digital health use for rural and urban Medicare beneficiaries. [Poster presentation]. *Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference, Washington, DC.*
4. \*Sinha, G. R., **Power, S. R.**, Kursuncu, U., Rampuria, M. (2023, November 12-15). Darker effects of Covid-19: Exploring the impact of pandemic on social quality of people on reddit. [Poster presentation]. *American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.*
5. \***Power, S. R.**, Smith, K. N., Abedine, R. A., Burton, L. M., Adams, A. E., & Beer, J. M. (2023, November 12-15). Assisted living with a social robot: Benefits and concerns of family care partners [Poster presentation]. *American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.*

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#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW)
- Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
- Society of Social Work Research (SSWR)

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## LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

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- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Active, *State of Georgia* #CSW008210
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Active, *State of Indiana* #34008998A
- Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Social Worker (ACHP-SW), Active

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## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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Private Practice, *Athens, GA*

**Therapist, Licensed Clinical Social Worker**

March 2023 – present

- Provide Supportive Psychotherapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to clients aged 19-45 years old, through in-person and virtual individual 1-hr sessions
- Typical areas of support include anxiety, depression, burnout, life transitions, identity exploration, difficult relationships, grief and loss

Indiana University Health Arnett Hospital, *Lafayette, IN*

**Palliative Care Social Worker**

January 2018 – July 2022

- Built new inpatient palliative care program by fostering community relationships, creating resources, and delivering educational presentations
- Supported patients and families through complex end-of-life decision making and advance care planning using evidence-based practice (*Respecting Choices*®)
- Initiated outpatient services by offering advance care planning at primary care clinic
- Addressed hospice and psychosocial needs of patients through discharge planning, case management, and brief therapeutic interventions

University Cancer and Blood Center, *Athens, GA*

**Oncology Social Worker**

May 2017 – November 2017

**Clinical Master of Social Work Intern**

August 2016 – April 2017

- Addressed psychosocial concerns through initial assessments and brief therapeutic interventions (CBT, supportive psychotherapy)
- Procured \$5,000-\$10,000 medication assistance grants for un-/under-insured patients
- Facilitated financial toxicity screening program using evidence-based COST measure to target patient financial distress
- Implemented distress screening program and assessed patients with high distress scores to meet practical and emotional needs

Social Empowerment Center, *Athens, GA*

**Community Support Individual**

May 2016 – December 2016

- Managed adolescent caseload (7-10 clients) and taught goal-oriented interventions including anger management and coping skills
- Provided rehabilitative, environmental, resource support to assist child and family
- Completed Intake Assessments and Comprehensive Child and Family Assessments

Advantage Behavioral Health Systems, *Monroe, GA*

***Clinical Bachelor of Social Work Intern***

August 2015 – May 2016

- Lead groups (8-20 clients) in Psychosocial Rehabilitation program and documented progress of clients with severe mental illness
- Created daily lesson plans focused on CBT/DBT skills, mental health education, medication management, and expressive arts

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**LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

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**Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW)**

*Elected Student Representative to Board*

2025 – present

*Student Ad-Hoc Committee Member (Communications)*

2024 – 2025

**University of Georgia, *Athens, GA***

*School of Social Work Doctoral Program Committee Member*

2023 – 2024

**Indiana University Health Arnett Hospital, *Lafayette, IN***

*West Central Region Mortality Committee Member*

2021 – 2022

*End of Life Steering Committee Member*

2021 – 2022

*Resiliency in Serious Events (RISE) Team Member*

2019 – 2022

*Cancer Committee Social Work Representative*

2018 – 2022

*Nursing Preceptor for palliative care rotation*

2019 – 2020

*Organizer for holiday gift drive benefiting patients' families*

2019

*Respecting Choices Advance Care Planning Trained Facilitator*

2018

**Phi Alpha Honor Society for Social Work, *Athens, GA***

*Co-President, Founding Member*

2015 – 2017

**Mercy Health Center, *Athens, GA***

*Social Services Volunteer*

2014 – 2018

**UGA Miracle, *Athens, GA***

*Family Relations Committee Member*

2013 – 2015