

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Vanessa Fabbre, PhD**  
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## EDUCATION

- 2014                    **Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work**  
The University of Chicago  
Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice  
Dissertation title: *Gender Transitions in Later Life*  
Committee: Gina M. Samuels, PhD (Chair), Colleen Grogan, PhD,  
Kristen Schilt, PhD, Jung-Hwa Ha, PhD
- 2006                    **Master of Arts in Social Work**  
The University of Chicago  
Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice  
Clinical Concentration in Older Adult Studies  
Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy
- 2001                    **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, *Magna Cum Laude***  
College of the Holy Cross  
Distinction: Phi Beta Kappa

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2021-Present            **Associate Professor**, The Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2014-2021              **Assistant Professor**, The Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2014-Present           **Affiliate Faculty**, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Washington  
University in St. Louis
- 2020-Present           **Faculty Associate**, Buder Center for American Indian Studies, Washington  
University in St. Louis

### **Scholarly Interests:**

queer gerontology; critical and anti-oppressive social work practice;  
interpretive methodology

### **Courses Taught:**

Social Justice and Human Diversity  
Direct Social Work Practice with Older Adults  
Social, Economic, and Political Environment  
Interpretive Methodology in Social Research

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book:

Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2018). *To survive on this shore: Photographs and interviews with transgender and gender nonconforming older adults*. Kehrer Verlag.

#### Reviews:

- *The Gerontologist*, by Christine Smith  
doi: 10.1093/geront/gny163
- *New York Journal of Books*, by Annette Lapointe  
<https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/survive-shore>

### Book chapters:

**Fabbre, V. D.**, Gaveras, E., Shabsin, A., Gibson, J. & Rank, M. R. (2019). Confronting stigma, discrimination, and social exclusion. In Mark R. Rank (Ed.), *Toward a livable life: A 21st century agenda for social work*. Oxford University Press.

**Fabbre, V. D.** & Siverskog, A. (2019). Transgender ageing: Community resistance and well-being in the life course. In Andrew King, Rebecca Jones, Kathryn Almack (Eds.) *Intersections of ageing, gender and sexualities: Multidisciplinary international perspectives*. Policy Press.

- Part of the Ageing in a Global Context series by Policy Press

### Peer-reviewed articles:

**Fabbre, V. D.**, Oswald, A. & Jen, S. (2025). Queer gerontology: Principles to advance rigor and justice. *The Gerontologist*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnaf112>

Kang, J., Lesorogol, C., & **Fabre, V. D.** (2024). Beyond disposable socialwork and towards ecosocial work: An ethnographic case study of Jjokbang-chon in Seoul, S. Korea. *Critical Social Work*.

**Fabbre, V. D.**, Taylor, C., Gaveras, E. & Sloan, S. (2023). Implicit and explicit spirituality in the lives of transgender and gender expansive older adults. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 66(8).

Fredriksen-Goldsen, K. I., Emlet, C. A., **Fabbre, V. D.**, Kim, H.-J., Lerner, J. E., Jung, H., Harner, V., & Goldsen, J. (2022). Historical and social forces in the Iridescent Life Course: Key life events and experiences of transgender older adults. *Ageing & Society*.  
doi:10.1017/S0144686X22000563

- Li, Y., **Fabbre, V. D.**, & Gaveras, E. (2022). Authenticated social capital: Conceptualising power, resistance and well-being in the lives of transgender older adults. *Culture, Health and Sexuality*. doi: 10.1080/13691058.2022.2044519
- Gaveras, E., **Fabbre, V. D.**, Gillani, B. & Sloan, S. (2021). Understanding past experiences of suicidal ideation and behavior in the life narratives of transgender older adults. *Qualitative Social Work*. doi: 10.1177/14733250211051783
- Li, Y. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2020). The health and well-being of LGBTQ people in mainland China: The role of social work. *International Social Work*. doi: 10.1177/0020872820940018
- Prusaczyk B., **Fabbre V.D.**, Morrow-Howell N. & Proctor, E. K. (2020). Understanding transitional care provided to older adults with and without dementia: A mixed methods study. *International Journal of Care Coordination*. doi: 10.1177/2053434520908122
- Fabbre, V. D.** & Gaveras, E. (2020). The manifestation of multi-level stigma in the lived experiences of transgender and gender nonconforming older adults. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*. doi: 10.1037/ort0000440
- Kang, J., **Fabbre, V. D.** & Ekenga, C. (2019). “Let’s talk about the real issue”: Localized perceptions of environment and implications for ecosocial work practice. *Journal of Community Practice*, 27(3-4). doi: 10.1080/10705422.2019.1657218
- Fabbre, V. D.**, Jen, S. & Fredriksen-Goldsen, K. I. (2019). The state of theory in LGBTQ aging: Implications for gerontological scholarship. *Research on Aging*, 41(5), 495-518. doi: 10.1177/0164027518822814
- Prusaczyk, B., **Fabbre, V. D.**, Carpenter, C. R., & Proctor, E. K. (2018). Measuring the delivery of complex interventions through electronic medical records: Challenges and lessons learned. *eGEMs*. doi: 10.5334/egems.230
- Gerassi, L.B., **Fabbre, V. D.**, Howard, A.S., Edmond, T.E., & Nichols, A.J. (2018). How sex trading identities shape experiences of service provision: Insights from adult women with lived experiences and service providers. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 5(1), 74-87. doi: 10.1080/23322705.2018.1447198
- Fredricksen, J. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2018). Down Syndrome and Alzheimer’s Disease: Issues and implications for social work practice. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 61(1), 4-10. doi: 10.1080/01634372.2017.1393480
- Gerassi, L.B., Edmond, T.E., **Fabbre, V.D.**, Howard, A., & Nichols, A.J. (2017). Disclosing trading sex histories to providers: Barriers and facilitators to navigation of social services among women involved in commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. doi: 0.1177/0886260517746130
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2017). Queer aging: Implications for social work practice with LGBTQ older adults. *Social Work*, 62(1), 73-76. doi: 10.1093/sw/sww076

**Fabbre, V. D.** (2017). Agency and social forces in the life course: The case of gender transitions in later life. *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 72(3), 479-487. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbw109

- Editor's Choice Article

**Fabbre, V. D.** (2015). Gender transitions in later life: A queer perspective on successful aging. *The Gerontologist*, 55(1), 144-153. doi:10.1093/geront/gnu079

- Special Issue: Successful Aging

**Fabbre, V. D.** (2014). Gender transitions in later life: The significance of time in queer aging. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 57(2-4), 161-175. doi:10.1080/01634372.2013.855287

- Rose Dubrof Outstanding Article Award (Voted best article of 2014 in the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work* by the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work)

Makelarski, J.A., Lindau, S.T., **Fabbre, V.D.**, Grogan, C. M., Sadhu, E. M., Silverstein, J.C., Tran, T.T.T, Van Haitsma, M., Whitaker, E., & Johnson, D. (2013). Are your asset data as good as you think? Conducting a comprehensive census of built assets to improve urban population health. *Journal of Urban Health*, 90(4), 586-601. doi:10.1007/s11524-012-9764-9

**Fabbre, V. D.**, Buffington, A. S., Altfeld, S. J., Shier, G. E. & Golden, R. L. (2011). Social work and transitions of care: Observations from an intervention for older adults. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 54(6), 615-626. doi:10.1080/01634372.2011.589100

### Other publications:

Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2020). To Survive on This Shore: Selected photographs and interviews with transgender and gender nonconforming older adults. *Racial History Review*.

Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2019). To Survive on This Shore: Selections from the South. *Southern Cultures*, 25(2), 19-45. Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina Press.

### WORK IN PROGRESS

Jen, S., Oswald, A. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (Under review). Queering gerontology: A research poem and vision for our darkest days.

Thibodeau, H. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (Under review). Intersectionality and the no-finding finding in transgender older adults' narratives of home.

**Google Scholar Profile:** <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=dkeXtO4AAAAJ&hl=en>

## CURRENT PROJECTS

2022-Present **Leader and Collaborator**, *Principles of Queer Gerontology*

Conceptual project identifying and articulating contemporary principles of queer gerontological research and practice; to culminate in peer reviewed manuscript, special issue editorial project, and workshop.

2017-Present **Principal Investigator**, *Transgender Aging and the Life Course*

Interpretive data analyses of 86 in-depth biographical interviews with transgender and gender expansive older adults from the United States.

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

2013-2018 **Co-Creator**, *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*

Worked in collaboration with fine art photographer Jess T. Dugan on an interdisciplinary project that combined photographic portraiture and biographical interviews to illuminate the lived experiences of transgender and gender nonconforming older adults in the United States. Project culminated in book and traveling museum exhibition.

2017 **Consultant**, LGBT Aging Project (Boston, MA)

Consultant for Massachusetts Council on Aging-sponsored educational module for transgender awareness education in senior centers.

2012-2016 **Principal Investigator**, *Gender Transitions in Later Life*

Carried out an extended case method study on the nature of gender transitions in later life. Supported by the National Institute on Aging T32 Training Grant through the Center on Aging at the University of Chicago. Also supported by the Center for Health Administration Studies at the University of Chicago through a dissertation fellowship.

2010 **Investigator**, *Enhanced Discharge Planning Project*  
(Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL)

Lead research protocol development, data collection and qualitative analysis of process elements of Enhanced Discharge Planning Project, a social work intervention for high-risk patients moving from hospital to home.

2009 **Research Assistant**, *South Side Health and Vitality Studies*  
(University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL)

Coordinated fieldwork and data collection for pilot project mapping resources in six Chicago neighborhoods (South Side Resource Mapping Project).

2005      **Investigator**, *Arthur Quern Fellowship*  
(Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy)

Developed and carried out interpretive research project on gerontological interests of medical and social work students. Supervised by Gina M. Samuels, PhD.

## **SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### **Current:**

**Member**, Academic Freedom and Tenure Hearing Committee (University-wide), 2025-present

**FDE Reviewer and Mentor**, (2024-present)

**Co-Chair**, MSW Aging Specialization (2023-Present)

**Committee Member**, MSW Curriculum Committee (2023-Present)

**Lead Teacher**, Social, Economic and Political Environment (2020-Present)

**Faculty Advisor**, Doctoral students in gerontology (2014-Present)

**Committee Member (alternate)**, Promotion and Tenure Committee (2023-Present)

### **Past:**

**Brown School Open Classroom Presentation** (2022)

**Committee Member**, *Brown School Strategic Planning Task Force* (2019)

**Committee Member**, *Provost Appointed LGBT Advisory Committee* (2015-2019)

**Sub-committee**: Supporting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students (2017-2019)

**Sub-committee**: Education and Programming (2015-2016)

**Committee Member**, *Brown School Personnel Advisory Committee* (2017-2019)

**Committee Member**, *Brown School Committee on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity* (2015-2018)

**Special project**: The Use of ‘They’ in Academic and Professional Writing: Background and Recommendations for the Brown School

**Committee Member**, *Transgender Spectrum Conference Planning Committee* (2015-2017; 2019)

**Brown School 3D Presentation** (2019)

**Doctoral Program Professional Development Presentation** (2017)

**Brown School Orientation Facilitator**, *Self-Awareness Workshop* (2016)

**Brown School Research Without Walls Poster Contest Reviewer** (2015-2017; 2019)

**Committee Member (Ad hoc)**, *Brown School Academic Progress and Professional Integrity Committee* (2016; 2017)

**Consultant**, *Washington University Institutional Review Board* (2016)

**Moderator**, *Matthew Shepard Is a Friend of Mine* (Brown School Alumni Film Series, Spring 2016)

**Curator**, *Relationships and Representation: Perspectives on Social Justice Work*  
(Teaching Gallery Exhibit, Kemper Museum of Art, Fall 2015)

**Facilitator**, *Gender Diversity in the Classroom*  
(Diversity Committee Workshop on Teaching, Fall 2015)

**Facilitator**, *Screaming Queens*  
(Diversity Committee Film Screening and Discussion, Spring 2015)

## **DOCTORAL STUDENT ADVISING AND MENTORING**

### **Current:**

Dissertation committee: Soobin Park

Dissertation committee: Greg Gross

Area statement committee: Hilary Thibodeau

### **Past:**

Dissertation committee: Kakada Kuy

Title: Socioeconomic Determinants of Health and Well-Being in a Low Resource Setting: A Case of Older Adults Living in a Rural Setting in Northwestern Cambodia

Dissertation committee: Eleni Gaveras

Title: Housing Insecurity and Suicidal Behavior Among Transgender and Gender-Expansive Youth

Dissertation committee: Jackie Coates

Title: Perspectives of Stress and Coping among Older, College-Educated African American Women: An Exploratory Grounded Theory Study

Dissertation committee: Joonmo Kang

Title: The Vulnerability of a Poor Urban Neighborhood to Extreme Weather Disasters and the Role of Ecosocial Work: The Case of Tongja-dong Jjokbang-chon in Seoul, South Korea

Dissertation committee: Yuekang Li

Title: Social Capital and Mental Health Among Chinese Older Adults

Dissertation committee: Austin Oswald (Hunter College-CUNY)

Title: Queering Age-Friendly New York City

Dissertation committee: Harry Taylor

Title: Risk Factors for Loneliness and Social Isolation Among Black Older Adults

Dissertation committee: Ellie Wideman

Title: Case Termination Reasons by Case Characteristics and Child Welfare Involvement

Dissertation committee: Beth Prusaczyk

Title: Care Transitions for Cognitively Impaired Older Adults

Dissertation committee: Lara Gerassi

Title: How Do I Fit? Understanding Barriers and Facilitators to Social Services among Women Involved in Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Identities, Traumas, and Substance Use

Dissertation committee: Lailea Noel

Title: A Phenomenological Approach to Understanding How Women Make Breast Cancer Treatment Decisions Within the Context of Communities

Area statement committee: Soobin Park

Area statement committee: Greg Gross

Area statement committee: Harry Taylor

Area statement committee: Yuekang Li

Doctoral research practicum advisor: Eleni Gaveras, Joonmo Kang

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Editorial Boards**

2022-Present Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences

2021-Present Journal of Gerontological Social Work

### **Manuscript Reviewer**

International Journal of Aging and Human Development

Journal of Aging and Health

Stigma & Health

Societies

Innovations in Aging

The Gerontologist

Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences  
Research on Aging  
Canadian Journal on Aging/La Revue Canadienne du Vieillissement  
Social Work in Health Care  
Journal of Applied Gerontology  
LGBT Health  
Gerontology & Geriatrics Education  
Journal of Gerontological Social Work

### **Professional Committee Work**

- 2015-2018     **Co-Chair**, Aging Services and Gerontology  
(Conference Cluster, Society for Social Work and Research)
- 2016-2018     **Member**, Membership Committee  
(American Society on Aging)
- 2013-2017     **Co-Convener**, Rainbow Research Group  
(LGBTQ Interest Group of the Gerontological Society of America)

### **INVITATIONAL LECTURES AND PANELS**

- Fabbre, V. D.** (Upcoming, September 2025). *Principles of Queer Gerontology*. Keynote speaker for the University of Connecticut LGBT Research Symposium.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (April 2024). *From LGBTQ+ Aging to Queer Gerontology*. Doctoral Theory Seminar. Crown School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice. The University of Chicago.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2023). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote Presentation for the National Creative Aging Conference.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (June 2023). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Presentation for San Francisco International Airport Pride Group.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (October 2022). Invited panel moderator. *Transgender and Gender Expansive Older Adults*. Advancing Excellence in Transgender Health Conference, Fenway Institute, Boston, MA.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (June 2022). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote address (virtual) for the SAGE Detroit Older Adult Summit.

- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (September 2021). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote address (virtual) for the Eastman Museum of Art, Rochester, NY.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (September 2021). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote address at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (October 2021). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote address for Eldercare Services of Massachusetts.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (February 2020). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote address at the University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, CO.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (April 2021). *The Health and Well-Being of Transgender and Gender Expansive Older Adults*. Presentation for Geriatric Grand Rounds, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2019). *“I’ve Got My Game On”: Insights from Trans Elders on Well-Being in Later Life*. Plenary address at the Transgender Spectrum Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Dugan, J. T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (September 2019). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Keynote address at the University of New Mexico Art Museum.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2017). *Vulnerabilities in the LGBTQ Community*. Invited panelist for discussion of LGBTQ issues at the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (June 2017). *Supporting Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Patients: Insights from Trans Aging Research*. Invitational presentation for the Missouri Psychological Association (MOPA) Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Fabbre, V. D.** & Dugan, J. T. (April 2017). *To Survive on this Shore*. Keynote address for Guest Lecture Series, Westfield State University, Massachusetts.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (March 2017). *National Forum on LGBT Aging*. Invited panelist for discussion of current trends in LGBT aging research and practice issues, American Society on Aging Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (September 2016). *The Extended Case Method in Social Science Research*. Lecture for the Qualitative Methods Interest Group at Washington University in St. Louis.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2015). *Defining Yourself for Yourself*. Keynote address for the Holobaugh Awards Ceremony, Washington University in St. Louis.

- Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2015). *Agency and Social Forces in the Life Course: The Case of Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Presentation for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Colloquium Series, Washington University in St. Louis.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2015). *Relationships and Representation: Perspectives on Social Justice Work*. Gallery Talk at Kemper Museum of Art, Washington University in St. Louis.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (May 2015). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: A Queer Perspective on Successful Aging*. Keynote presentation at the first Trans\*Festival in Kraków, Poland.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (April 2015). *Queer Aging*. Invited panelist for Careers in Aging Week, sponsored by University of Missouri, St. Louis, Washington University, and Saint Louis University.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (March 2015). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: A Queer Perspective on Successful Aging*. Keynote presenter at the Gerontology Research Speaker Series at Eastern Illinois University.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (March 2015). *Queer Aging: Perspectives on Research and Practice*. Keynote presentation at meeting of the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists (St. Louis).
- Fabbre, V. D.** (February 2015). *Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Keynote presentation for the Harvey A. Friedman Center on Aging Seminar Series, Washington University in St. Louis.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (January 2015). *Transgender Perspectives on the Life Course*. Invited panelist on transgender health at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

## PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

- Fabbre, V. D., Oswald, A. & Jen, S.** (June 2025). *Queer Gerontology: Principles for Advancing Rigor and Justice*. Paper presentation at the British Society of Gerontology Conference, Surrey, UK,
- Fabbre, V. D., Oswald, A. & Jen, S.** (November 2024). *Queer Gerontology: Principles for Advancing Rigor and Justice*. Symposium co-chair and paper presentation at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Seattle, Washington.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (November 2023). *Implicit and Explicit Spirituality in the Lives of Transgender and Gender Expansive Older Adults*. Paper presentation and Session Chair at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Tampa, Florida.
- Fabbre, V. D. (Discussant).** (November 2023). *Embracing the Queer Art of Failure in Gerontological Research and Education*. Gerontological Society of America Conference. Tampa, Florida.
- Fabbre, V. D. & Gaveras, E.** (2021, March). *The Manifestation of Multi-Level Stigma in the Lived Experiences of Transgender and Gender Expansive Older Adults*. Paper presentation as part of

the symposium, *Social Care for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Adults in Later Life*, at the American Society on Aging Annual Conference. <https://asaging.org/on-aging>

**Fabbre, V. D. (Discussant).** (2020, November). *Applied Scholarship in LGBTQ Aging: Implications for Policy and Practice*. Gerontological Society of America Conference.

Fredriksen Goldsen, K. I., Emlet, C. A., **Fabbre, V. D.**, Kim, H.-J., Lerner, J.E., Jung, H., Harner, V., & Goldsen, J. (2020, November). *Historical and Social Forces in the Iridescent Life Course: Key Life Events and Experiences of Transgender Older Adults*. Gerontological Society of America Conference.

Gaveras, E., **Fabbre, V. D.**, Gillani, B. & Sloan, S. (2020, April). *Understanding Suicidal Behavior in the Life Narratives of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. American Association of Suicidology. <https://www.aasconference.org/>

**Fabbre, V. D. & Gaveras, E.** (2019, November). *The Manifestation of Multi-Level Stigma in the Lived Experiences of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults*. Paper presentation at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Austin, TX.

**Fabbre, V. D.**, Jen, S. & Fredriksen-Goldsen, K. I. (2018, November). *The State of Theory in LGBTQ Aging: Implications for Gerontological Scholarship*. Paper presentation at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Boston, MA.

**Fabbre, V. D.**, Wayland, S., Larsen, B. & Mills, T. (2017, March). *LGBT Senior Housing: Critical Questions and Perspectives*. Symposium at the American Society on Aging Conference, Chicago, IL.

**Fabbre, V. D.** (2017, January). *Agency and Social Forces in the Life Course: The Case of Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Fabbre, V. D.** (2016, November). *Agency and Social Forces in the Life Course: The Case of Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Paper presentation at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Fabbre, V. D.** (2016, November). *Agency and Social Forces in the Life Course: The Case of Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Poster presentation at pre-conference workshop: The Development of Evidence-Based Practices: Expanding the Reach to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Older Adults, Gerontological Society of America Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Fabbre, V. D. & Dugan, J. T.** (2016, November). *To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Variant Older Adults*. Project presented at the Transgender Spectrum Conference, Washington University in St. Louis.

- Fabbre, V. D. (Discussant).** (2015, November). *LGBT Older Adult Experiences in Accessing Long Term Services and Supports*. Rainbow Research Group Sponsored Symposium at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2015, November). *Agency and Social Forces in the Life Course: The Case of Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Paper presented at the Transgender Spectrum Conference, University of Missouri, St. Louis.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2014, November). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: A Queer Perspective on Successful Aging*. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Washington, D. C.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2014, November). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: The Significance of Time in Queer Aging*. Paper presented at the Transgender Spectrum Conference, University of Missouri, St. Louis.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2014, February). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: The Significance of Time in Queer Aging*. Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2013, November). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: The Significance of Time in Queer Aging*. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2013, May). *Gender Transitions in Later Life: The Significance of Time in Queer Aging*. Paper presented at the LGBT Research Symposium at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- Fabbre, V. D.** (2013, April). *Gender Transitions in Later Life*. Paper presented at the Gender Matters Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, IL.
- Fabbre, V. D.,** Witten, T.M. (Co-Chairs), Siverskog, A., Knochel, K. A. (2012, November). *Multiple Perspectives on Transgender Aging*. Symposium at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, San Diego, CA.
- Fabbre, V. D.,** Buffington, A. S., Altfeld, S. J., Shier, G. E. & Golden, R. L. (2011, October). *Social work and transitions of care: Observations from an intervention for older adults*. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America Conference, Boston, MA.
- Altfeld, S., **Fabbre, V. D.,** Packard, M., and Shier, G. *From Hospital to Home: Evidence-Based Lessons from the Enhanced Discharge Planning Program*. (2011, April). Paper presented at the American Society on Aging/National Council on Aging Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Worman, T. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2011, April). *Sexuality and Aging*. Workshop at the American Society on Aging/National Council on Aging Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Grogan, C. & **Fabbre, V. D.** (2009, May). *Laying the Groundwork for Community and University Engagement: The South Side Health and Vitality Studies' Community Engagement and Living-Giving Census Projects*. Poster presented at the meeting of the National Institutes of Health

Conference, “Improving Health with Communities: The Role of Community Engagement in Clinical and Translational Research”, Bethesda, MD.

**Fabbre, V. D.,** Bright, D., Rooney, M, Golden, R. (2008, March). *Challenging the Medical Model: Bridging Hospitals and Communities*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Society on Aging/National Council on Aging Conference, Washington, D. C.

## DISSEMINATION OF WORK THROUGH MEDIA

2022 *Trans U.S. Seniors Fear Bleak Future in Residential Care*. Ben Ryan, Reuters.

2019 *WashU Expert: A ‘Powerful and Helpful’ Word: Merriam-Webster Chooses Singular ‘They’ as Word of the Year*. Neil Schoenherr, The Source, Washington University in St. Louis. (December)

2019 *Transgender People in the Midwest are Often Missing from National Conversation*. Samantha Stevenson, St. Louis Magazine. (November)

2018 *Interview with Jess T. Dugan and Vanessa Fabbre*. Jim Braude and Margery Eagan, Boston Public Radio. (November)

*Aging Can Be Hard for Those in the Trans Community*. Chloe Coleman, The Washington Post. (October)

*An Intimate View into the Lives of Transgender Elders*. Mitchell Kuga, them magazine. (September)

*20 Photos of Trans Elders Who Have Survived*. Christopher Harrity, The Advocate. (September)

*St. Louis Couple’s Overlapping Passions Led to Photo Exhibition of Older Transgender People*. Nancy Fowler, St. Louis Public Radio. (September)

*To Survive on This Shore: Jess T. Dugan and Vanessa Fabbre Explore the Diversity and Dignity of Transgender Experience*. Eileen G’Sell, Alive Magazine. (September)

*True Tales of Transgender Aging*. Melissa Meinzer, Out in STL. (September)

*“I Wanted to break Stereotypes.” The Photographer Capturing Transgender Life After 50*. Nadja Sayej, The Guardian. (August).

*Portraits Depict Struggles and Joys of Older Transgender People*. Oscar Holland, CNN. (August)

*A Visual Record of the Joys, Fears and Hopes of Older Transgender People*. Jake Naughton, The New York Times. (August)

*Intimate Portraits Celebrate the Lives of Trans and Gender Nonconforming People Over 50.* Amanda Duberman, Huffpost. (September)

*WashU Expert: Transgender Candidate's Gubernatorial Nomination Opportunity to Learn.* Neil Schoenherr, The Source, Washington University in St. Louis. (August).

*Endlich im richtigen Körper.* Zeit Magazin. (German Magazine). (July)

*A Look at the Lives of Trans and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults.* Grace Birstengel, Next Avenue, PBS/Twin Cities. (April)

- 2017 Blog for the International Network for Critical Gerontology: *Queer Aging: Implications for Social Work Practice with LGBTQ Older Adults.* (December)

*What It's Like to Come Out Over 50.* Diane Glazman, VICE Media. (August)

*WashU Expert: Trump's Transgender Military Ban is 'Unfounded.'* Neil Schoenherr, The Source, Washington University in St. Louis. (August).

*Celebrating LGBT Pride Month: A Reading List for LGBT Older Adults.* Deborah Carr, Oxford University Press Blog. (June)

*WashU Expert: Bathroom is Source of Trauma for Transgender People.* Neil Schoenherr, The Source, Washington University in St. Louis. (February)

- 2016 Blog for the Institute for Public Health at Washington University in St. Louis online feature: "LGBT Health Issues." Title: *Queer Aging: Implications for Social Work Practice with LGBTQ Older Adults.* (September)

*Washington People: Brown School assistant professor explores gender, identity and aging.* Neil Schoenherr, The Source, Washington University in St. Louis. (March)

*WashU Expert: Whether or not it passes, South Dakota bill already impacting transgender students.* Neil Schoenherr, The Source, Washington University in St. Louis. (February)

*Multimedia Project that Highlights Transgender and Gender Variant Adults Coming to Mount Vernon.* Chris Kaltenbach, The Baltimore Sun. (February)

- 2015 *Confab Highlights LGBT Aging Research.* Matthew S. Bajko, The Bay Area Reporter. (December)

*The History of the Trans Community as Told by Its Aging Members.* David Rosenberg, Slate. (November)

*A Turning Tide. Photographer Jess T. Dugan and Professor Vanessa Fabbre debut “To Survive on This Shore,” a project capturing a historic generation of older transgender and gender-variant adults.* Krystin Arneson, Alive Magazine. (November)

*What is male privilege? Transgender people experience how men and women are treated differently.* Nancy Fowler, St. Louis Public Radio. (October)

*Finding their authentic selves: Transgender and over 50.* Abbey Goodman, CNN. (July)

*A 70 ans, ils ont fait le choix de changer de sexe.* Clément Bürge, Le Temps (Swiss Newspaper). (June)

*Interview: Vanessa Fabbre.* Grace Manger, The Parents Project. (June)

*WashU Expert: Caitlyn Jenner may be turning point in America’s awareness of transgender issues.* Neil Schoenherr, Newsroom, Washington University in St. Louis. (June)

*OMS anuncia que deixará de considerar transgeneridade um distúrbio.* Roberta Machado, Correio Braziliense (Brazilian Newspaper). (May)

*WashU Expert: Jenner letting go of ‘pressures to conform’ as he considers gender transition.* Neil Schoenherr, Newsroom, Washington University in St. Louis. (April)

*The Dam That Bursts, On Becoming a Woman in Later Life.* Jorge Rivas, Fusion. (April)

Guest blogger for American Society on Aging: “Aging Today Online.” Blog title: *To Survive on This Shore.* (April)

*Better Late Than Never.* Jacob Bernstein, The New York Times. (March)

*Photo Project Highlights Lives of Elderly Transgender Community.* Steve Annear, The Boston Globe. (February)

*What Being Transgender After 50 Looks Like.* Jorge Rivas, Fusion. (February)

*Transgender Elders Show us the Meaning of Survival.* Mitch Kelleway, The Advocate. (February)

*To Survive on this Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Variant Older Adults.* Nancy Fowler, St. Louis Public Radio. (January)

2014 *Need for Authenticity Drives Gender Transitions in Later Life: Brown School Professor Researches Significance of Time in Queer Aging*. Neil Schoenherr, Newsroom, Washington University in St. Louis. (August)

## HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

2025 Fellow, Gerontological Society of America  
 2020 Faculty Achievement Award  
 (Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work)  
 2020 Brown School Excellence in Teaching Award  
 2017 Brown School Excellence in Teaching Award  
 2016 Gerontological Society of America Travel Award  
 (Travel award in association with pre-conference workshop: *The Development of Evidence-Based Practices: Expanding the Reach to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Older Adults*)  
 2015 Rose Dubrof Outstanding Article Award  
 (*Gender Transitions in Later Life: The Significance of Time in Queer Aging* voted best article in the Journal of Gerontological Social Work in 2014)  
 2015 Audre Lorde Academic Exploration Award  
 (Holobaugh Honors for outstanding work in LGBTQIA\* Communities, Washington University in St. Louis)  
 2013 Caroll L. Estes Senior Scholar Award, Honorable Mention (Gerontological Society of America, Social Research, Policy & Practice Section)  
 2013-2014 Dissertation Award (Center for Health Administration Studies, University of Chicago)  
 2011-2013 National Institute on Aging T32 Pre-Doctoral Trainee  
 (Center for Demography and Economics of Aging, University of Chicago)  
 2010 Pre-Dissertation Award (Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work)  
 2006 Sonia G. Berz Award for Outstanding Work in Aging  
 2005 Arthur Quern Fellowship (Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy)  
 2001 William J. Fulbright Student Grant  
 2000 Phi Beta Kappa Society  
 2000 Psi Chi Honor Society in Psychology  
 1999 Charles A. Dana Merit Scholarship

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2009-Present **Member**, Gerontological Society of America (GSA)  
 2009-Present **Member**, Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW)  
 2015-Present **Member**, North American Network in Aging Studies (NANAS)  
 2015-2020 **Member**, Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)  
 2005-2015 **Member**, American Society on Aging (ASA)

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, State of Illinois (2008-2020)

## ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2011-2014     **Instructor, SOCIAL INTERVENTION: DIRECT PRACTICE**  
Primary introductory social welfare course required for first year graduate students at the Crown School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice at the University of Chicago.  
(Years 2011-2012 & 2013-2014)

## SOCIAL WORK AND RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2012-2014     **Psychotherapist, The Center on Halsted (Chicago, IL)**  
Participated as volunteer psychotherapist in community-based setting through weekly sessions with older LGBTQ clients and participation in clinical supervision.
- 2012-2014     **Evaluation Consultant, School of Social Service Administration (Chicago, IL)**  
Co-developed and carried out the evaluation of a professional development program on social work with older adults for post-Masters practicing social workers.
- 2006-2010     **Facilitator, LGBT Caregiver Support Group, The Center on Halsted (Chicago, IL)**  
Founder and facilitator of psychotherapeutic and educational support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender caregivers.
- 2006-2008     **Coordinator, Older Adult Programs, Rush University Medical Center (Chicago, IL)**  
Coordinated clinical social work services and program development for hospital-based health promotion and disease prevention program. Responsible for patient and family resource center, counseling services for older adults and family caregivers. Assisted in management of staff, student interns, grant writing, and strategic development.
- 2003-2004     **Instructor, Institut Universitaire pour la Formation des Maitres (Strasbourg, France)**  
Recipient of a teaching grant from the French Ministry of Education for English language development in post-graduate educational programs for primary school teachers.
- 2002-2003     **English Teacher, Parkway Adult Education and Literacy Program (St. Louis, MO)**  
Certified Instructor for English as a Second Language and Adult Basic Education. Responsible for planning and teaching Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Level classes.
- 2001-2002     **Fulbright Grantee, U.S. State Department (South Korea)**  
Recipient of a William J. Fulbright Student Grant through the U.S. State Department for the 2001-2002 academic year in the Republic of Korea. Taught English and cross-cultural studies in a Korean high school, studied Korean language and culture through a year-long home stay with a Korean family and supplemental classes at Ganada Language Institute.