



Convened by: The University of Sydney

Major partners:

Australian National University

University of Queensland

Flinders University

Monash University

Curtin University of Technology

University of New South Wales

Postal address:

c/- CERA

Concord Hospital C25

Concord NSW 2139

Tel: 02 9767 8338 **Fax:** 02 9767 8339

Email: ageing.net@fhs.usyd.edu.au

Web: www.ageingwell.edu.au

Email Bulletin – September 2006

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to send you the September email bulletin on our developments and plans for the Ageing Well Research Network. If you have items that you wish to be included in future bulletins please do not hesitate to forward them to us.

BARC Policy and Practice Colloquium – Workshop summaries and discussion groups:

Summaries of the Network workshops that took place on the second day of the BARC Colloquium are now available on the Network website along with copies of the background issues papers provided to the participants. In addition, e-mail discussion groups have been set up to further develop the ideas discussed in these workshops. We encourage you to access this material and have your say by joining the discussion groups (go to www.ageingwell.edu.au/net_operate_capacity_policy.htm).

Call for research development workshop proposals:

Network Participant Members are invited to submit proposals for Network support for workshops bringing together researchers from different disciplines and locales to generate large-scale, multidisciplinary, ambitious research ideas. Funding of up to \$5,000 can be requested for each workshop. This amount is intended to cover airfares, accommodation and other costs associated with staging the workshop.

Applications must be submitted by a Participant Member of the Ageing Well Network who will convene the proposed workshop. Associate Members of the Network and researchers from outside the Network are welcome to participate in the workshops. Copies of the call for proposals and the 'Workshop Application' template are available on the Network website (www.ageingwell.edu.au/news_start.htm).

State Hub Activities:

NSW – a seminar entitled "On the Road in Later Years - Recent Research on Older Drivers" was presented on Wednesday 30 August 2006 by the Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG), in association with the NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Ageing (MACA), COTA (NSW) and the Ageing Well Network's NSW Hub. The Network was pleased to support the participation of Professor David Hensher from the Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies at the University of Sydney and Dr Judith Charlton from the Monash University Accident Research Centre.

Tasmania – the inaugural Tasmanian Ageing Well Research Network Symposium was held at the University of Tasmania (Hobart) on Friday 8 September 2006. The aim of the symposium was to facilitate an inter-disciplinary understanding of the key ageing issues faced by Tasmanians, and assist in the creation of collaborative partnerships across disciplines. The symposium was attended by 20 researchers, policy makers and key ageing constituencies (COTA, Positive Ageing Consultative Committee, and the Third Age Learning Network of Tasmania) and was sponsored by the "Population and Health" Theme Area of the University of Tasmania, with further support from the "Community, Place and Change" Theme Area.

Victoria – a forum on “Enabling Access and Independence – Translating Ageing Research Evidence to Practice and Policy” was held in Melbourne on Thursday 17 August 2006. The forum was in collaboration with the Victorian Departments of Human Services and Infrastructure, the Department of Victorian Communities, COTA (VIC) and AAG (VIC). The forum focused on examples of translating service access and transport research into practice and included small group workshops looking at issues to do with evidence-based research, improving collaborations between researchers, policy makers and practitioners and extending research programs to meet population level goals. A summary report will be made available on the Network website in due course.

Western Australia - the second symposium for Western Australia will take place on Tuesday 3 October 2006. The “Workshop on Ageing Research” will focus on the Independent Living and Social Participation Research Theme Area and will build on the issues and priorities discussed at the recent BARC Policy and Practice Colloquium (see the first item in this bulletin). A major aim of this workshop is the formation of collaborative research groups to address previously identified broad research questions aimed at developing specific research proposals. For more information contact Dr Peta Williams at Peta.Williams@curtin.edu.au or on (08) 9266 7782.

Research Theme Activities:

Independent Living and Social participation – planning is underway for a workshop on intergenerational issues which will take place in Brisbane on Monday 20 November 2006. The workshop will include Dr Sarah Harper, Director of the Oxford Institute of Ageing at the University of Oxford (United Kingdom), researchers from other Network Themes and possibly collaboration with researchers from the Future Generation Network for children and young people. The workshop will work towards shared research proposals.

Healthy Ageing – Colette Browning will be chairing a Network-sponsored session at the AAG Conference on “Social Well-being and Health in Older People: Findings from Longitudinal Studies in Australia”. The session will include presentations by investigators from three key longitudinal studies. Network Members are encouraged to attend the AAG conference (which takes place from 22 - 24 November 2006 – see conference reminders below) and to participate in the session.

Fellowship Positions – the University of Newcastle:

The Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing (RCGHA) at the University of Newcastle is keen to hear from recent PhD graduates who may be interested in the 2007 Research Fellowship Scheme. This scheme is designed to support outstanding early career researchers seeking to commence an academic/research career and provides appointments of up to 5 years duration. Applicants must have a PhD or equivalent Doctoral qualification awarded no earlier than 1 January 2002. The application must be submitted to the university by Monday October 30 2006. The application form and related information is available from <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/research/fellowships.html>. People wishing to work with RCGHA should contact Professor Julie Byles at Julie.byles@newcastle.edu.au

In addition to the above fellowship, an additional four fellowship positions are available at the Newcastle Institute of Public Health. At least one of these fellowships will be to work within a strong trans-disciplinary Centre to promote and facilitate research into ageing across university, health service and community sectors. The successful Fellow will have considerable experience in dealing with population data from routine data sources and from longitudinal population surveys. They are seeking a suitably qualified researcher who can undertake longitudinal analyses of linked data to answer questions of public health significance and to lead research using data from large data sets. People wishing to apply for this fellowship should contact Professor Julie Byles, Director, Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing at Julie.byles@newcastle.edu.au. The link for the web advert for the Fellowships is available at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/employment/519.pdf>. Applications Close Wednesday 4 October 2006.

Internet Resource:

Ageing Research Online - the September edition of the Ageing Research Online Newsletter has just been released and is available at www.aro.gov.au/aro/NewsletterFiles/September_2006_newsletter.pdf. If you haven't already done so, we encourage you to make use of the many resources on the ARO website (www.aro.gov.au) including the Research, Course and Grant Directories and the Ageing Well Literature Database. We would also like to welcome the ARO to it's new home at the Office for an Ageing Australia.

AARP "Human Values in Aging" Newsletters – AARP in the US produces a monthly email newsletter for those interested in humanities, ethics and aging. To subscribe use the "Sign Up Now" link at www.aarp.org/research/academic/aarp_office_of_academic_affairs_enewsletters.html.

Ageing-related Presentation:

Professor Eva Jeppson Grassman, Professor in Social Work at Stockholm University (Sweden) and Chair of Linköping University's National Institute for the Study of Ageing and Later Life, will be giving a talk on "Swedish Models for Care for the Aged and People with Disabilities: formal, informal and the voluntary sector". The presentation will take place from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm on Thursday 2 November 2006 in room 424, Level 4, Education Building A35, Manning Road, University of Sydney. For more information please contact Dr Ruth Phillips at r.phillips@edfac.usyd.edu.au. Please RSVP by Friday 27 October 2006 to Ann Stavropidis at a.stravopodis@edfac.usyd.edu.au or on (02) 9351 4038.

Ageing-related Publications:

The AIHW recently released a report entitled "Life Expectancy and Disability In Australia 1988 to 2003" examining the question of whether or not the number of years lived with illness or disability has fallen or risen as overall life expectancy has lengthened. This report is available at:

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10357>

"Knowledge Transfer and Australian Universities and Publicly Funded Research Agencies" – while not specifically ageing-related, this report to the Department of Education, Science and Training may be of interest to members interested in the process of knowledge transfer. The report is available at:

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/research_sector/policies_issues_reviews/key_issues/commercialisation/knowledge_transfer.htm#Full_Report

Upcoming Conferences:

The 8th Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics - "Aging Diversity in Asia-Oceania: Health, Participation, Security and Sharing" will be taking place in Beijing from 22 - 25 October 2007. The Scientific Program Committee is preparing the programme and is calling for proposals for invited symposia, invited young investigator colloquia, self-organised symposia, workshops, and roundtable discussions. Proposals and applications should be submitted by email to Dr. Biao Chen at kitty_gzq@tom.com by Sunday October 15 2006. Further details can be found at www.aog2007.org

The CEDA National Conference - Demographic Destiny: Addressing the challenges of an ageing population will be held in Sydney from 23 – 24 October 2006. More details can be found at ceda.com.au/public/events/25162.html

Medicine, Ageing and Nutrition 2007 is the conjoint scientific meeting of the Australian Society of Geriatric Medicine (ASGM) and the Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand (IMSANZ), in association with the International Academy of Nutrition and Aging (IANA). The conference will be held in Adelaide from 5 – 8 September 2007. The deadline for abstracts is Friday 30 March 2007. More details can be found at www.fcconventions.com.au/MedicineAgeingandNutrition2007

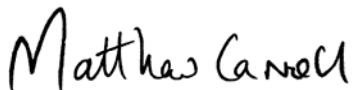
Conference Reminders:

International Conference on Healthy Ageing & Longevity	13 – 15 October '06	www.longevity-international.com
The Australian Falls Prevention Conference	5 – 7 November '06	www.powmri.edu.au/AFP2006
The Ageing in New Zealand Conference	13 November '06	www.gerontology.org.nz
Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) Conference	21 November '06	www.chs.usyd.edu.au/era2006
Australian Association of Gerontology Conference	22 – 24 November '06	www.aagconference2006.com
Carers NSW Conference	8 – 9 March '07	www.carersnsw.asn.au
2007 Alzheimer's Australia National Conference	29 May – 1 June '07	www.alzheimers2007conference.com.au
The 20 th Anniversary Cognitive Ageing Conference	12 – 15 July '07	www.cos.gatech.edu/cac/cac_du.htm

The full program for the AAG conference is now available at www.aagconference2006.com/program.asp. Highlights include the focus being given to dementia with addresses being given by Sallyanne Atkinson and Professor Henry Brodaty, and to elder abuse with an address by Professor Sue Kurrle, and of course the Network-sponsored seminar on "Social Well-being and Health in Older People".

That's all for this month.

With best wishes,



Matthew Carroll
Senior Project Officer

22 September 2006