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## e-Mail Bulletin – January 2009

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable festive season and are pleased to send you the first e-mail bulletin for 2009 with details of recent and upcoming ageing related activities.

If you have items that you wish to be included in future bulletins please do not hesitate to forward them to us. Please feel free to forward this bulletin on to anybody else who may be interested. If you have received this bulletin via secondary sources and would like to be added to the distribution list please e-mail your request to [ageingnet@usyd.edu.au](mailto:ageingnet@usyd.edu.au)

### Inside this issue (click on the links provided below):

- [Network activities](#) Details of recent Queensland activities plus reminders re ERA activities and the Population Theme International Travel Bursary Scheme
- [Publications in ageing](#) Details of the launch of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Research into Practice briefing paper
- [Ageing news](#) Details of NHMRC Capacity Building Grant funded projects, congratulations to Busse Award winner Kaarin Anstey, details of new AAG Executive Officer Tony Coles, and a call for input into a policy paper on falls-related brain injuries.
- [Ageing-related opportunities](#) Details of travel scholarships, PhD scholarships and ageing research positions.
- [Upcoming conferences](#) Details of upcoming conferences and symposia

### Network Activities:

#### Queensland workshop - Evidence Translation in Ageing Research Workshop

Professor Desley Hegney, Queensland State Convenor for the Network, chaired the above workshop on 11 December 2008 which dealt with the dual themes of *continence among older Australians* and *end of life family carer health*. The workshop was funded by the Network's Healthy Ageing Theme and Queensland Hub and involved leading researchers in the two areas from 7 universities across the country along with policymakers and care providers. Research agendas relating to continence and end of life carer health were discussed and national collaborative teams were set up to develop research grant applications.

**Queensland planning committee** – a meeting of Network members in Queensland along with representatives of key stakeholder groups took place on 17 December 2008 and laid the foundations being laid for the Queensland Hub 2009 event, *The Positive Ageing Journey*. The one day event, to be held later this year, aims to cater for community and professionals alike and will offer those in attendance a range of ideas to enhance their own ageing journey through descriptive seminars, practical demonstrations and hands-on learning. While still in its infancy, the event has already attracted interest from a number of ageing organisations with a growing possibility that it may be run as a collaborative event. The next working group meeting, planned for February, should help finalise some of the outstanding details, with date and program details to follow.

While on the topic of the Queensland Hub, we would also like to pass on our congratulations and best wishes to Professor Desley Hegney, who will be taking up a position as Professor of Nursing in the Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies at the National University of Singapore. Dr Deborah Parker from the UQ/Blue Care Research and Practice Development Centre will take over from Desley as Queensland Hub Convenor and will be ably assisted by Dr Tim Henwood, the Network Project Officer for Queensland.

**Reminder – ERA Exchange Programme 2009** - Applications are open for the ERA Exchange Programme. Under this scheme, funding is provided for PhD candidates to undertake national or international exchanges. Further information and the online application form can be found at [www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB228D28SP89F](http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB228D28SP89F). **Applications close on 27 February 2009.**

**Reminder - ERA Database** - If you, or someone you know, would like to have details included (or updated) on the ERA database, please go to [www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB228LRS7ECSK](http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB228LRS7ECSK). In particular, we would appreciate it if you would pass this link along to any commencing honours, masters, PhD or Professional Doctorate students in ageing research. This form requests basic contact and academic details and takes only a couple of minutes to complete.

**Reminder – National Survey of Emerged Researchers in Ageing (EMRANS)**. If you have been conducting research in ageing in Australia for over 3 years and have not yet completed this national online survey, please go to <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB2287LZLDFS6> to take the survey. It is anonymous, takes about 10 minutes to complete and asks interesting questions about your career development in ageing research and your opinions about the current and future status of ageing research in Australia.

#### **Reminder – PRS International Travel Bursaries Scheme**

The Network's Population Research Strategies (PRS) Theme has released an International Travel Bursaries Scheme for postdoctoral members of the Network seeking travel support to participate in international conferences. A copy of the application form which outlines the selection criteria is available at [www.ageingwell.edu.au/download/PRS\\_Theme\\_International\\_Travel\\_Bursaries\\_Flyer.doc](http://www.ageingwell.edu.au/download/PRS_Theme_International_Travel_Bursaries_Flyer.doc). Completed applications should be emailed to Mark Petricevic ([Mark.Petricevic@anu.edu.au](mailto:Mark.Petricevic@anu.edu.au)) by **20 March 2009**. For more information about this scheme please contact Mark on (02) 6125 1456.

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#### **Publications in ageing:**

**Research into Practice briefing paper** - We would like to congratulate The Benevolent Society and the Social Policy Research Centre (University of NSW) for the upcoming launch of the 2nd *Research into Practice* briefing paper by the NSW Minister for Ageing, Disability Services and Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon. Paul Lynch MP on **25 February 2009**. The briefing paper deals with *promoting social networks for older people in community aged care* and senior community care workers and coordinators are encouraged to attend. The launch will be followed by a seminar by Associate Professor Michael Fine on older people's social networks and a Presentation by the Social Policy and Research team about research conducted with the Eastern Suburbs Community Options program about social isolation. For more information, contact Carly Fitzsimons on 9339 8077 or [carlyf@bensoc.org.au](mailto:carlyf@bensoc.org.au)

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#### **Ageing news:**

**NHMRC Capacity Building Grants** - The Network would like to congratulate Professor Perminder Sachdev from the University of NSW and his team of collaborators who were awarded a major NHMRC Capacity Building Grant focussed on the *Prevention and management of mental disorders in older Australians*: The team were awarded \$2.4 million for a 5-year project aiming to develop young researchers to translate knowledge of the major neuropsychiatric problems that Australia's ageing population will face in the next 50 years, dementia, mild cognitive impairment and depression, into better health outcomes for older Australians.

The Network would also like to congratulate Network collaborator Professor Louisa Jorm from the University of Western Sydney. Louisa and her team were awarded a Capacity Building Grant for a project focussing on the other end of the life course – i.e. *Building capacity for research to improve health services for mothers, babies and children*.

**Busse Award in the Social and Behavioural Sciences** – We would like to congratulate Professor Kaarin Anstey, Director of the Ageing Research Unit at the Centre for Mental Health Research and Convenor of the Network's Population Research Strategies Theme, who has been awarded the Busse Award in the Social and Behavioural Sciences. The Busse Award is an international, highly competitive award for research in Gerontology and is given every 4 years at the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics Congress. Prof Anstey will give a lecture at the IAGG Congress in Paris this year where she will receive the award. Well done Kaarin!

**New AAG Executive Officer** – We are pleased to pass on the news that Dr Tony Coles has recently taken on the position of Executive Officer for the Australian Association of Gerontology. Tony was previously with the Office for an Ageing Australia in the Department of Health and Ageing so is well known to many in the ageing research community. We look forward to working with Tony and our friends at the AAG over the course of 2009. Tony can be contacted on [eoaaag@aag.asn.au](mailto:eoaaag@aag.asn.au)

**Call for input on a falls-related Traumatic Brain Injury policy paper** - Brain Injury Australia is the National peak Acquired Brain Injury advocacy organisation representing, through its State and Territory member organisations, the needs of people with an ABI, their families and carers. As part of its work, Brain Injury Australia writes policy papers for the Australian Government. The next one, due at the end of March, will be on falls-related Traumatic Brain Injury, particularly in older people. As part of its preparation of the policy paper, Brain Injury Australia is interested in hearing from researchers, rehabilitation clinicians, allied health professionals with an interest in falls-related Traumatic Brain Injury prevention, outcomes, management and support.

Network members are invited to get in contact directly with the Executive Officer of Brain Injury Australia, Nick Rushworth, on (02) 8507 6555 or via e-mail; [nick.rushworth@bia.net.au](mailto:nick.rushworth@bia.net.au)

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**Ageing-related opportunities:**

**The CASS Foundation- Post-Doctoral Travel Grants for Early Career Researchers (ECR)**

The travel grants are available to assist ECRs attending international conferences. In most cases, CASS will consider an ECR to be a researcher who is within seven or eight years of the start of their research career. The award amount can be up to \$6,000 or eighty percent of the travel cost. The closing date for applications is **27 February 2009**. For more information go to [www.cassfoundation.org.au](http://www.cassfoundation.org.au)

**Australian Rotary Health PhD Scholarship – Investigating Parkinson’s Disease**

The **closing date for applications for the above PhD scholarship is 2 March 2009**. The value of the PhD Scholarship is \$25,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years. Application forms are available from [www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au](http://www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au)

**SPRC travel scholarship to participate in the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) Summer Workshop**

Ageing researchers looking at cross-national comparisons of household income and wealth may be interested in the above workshop from **5-11 July 2009**. The Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) is facilitating the participation of Australian researchers with a travel scholarship covering the workshop fees. Attendees will need to fund their own travel. Early career researchers (including PhD students) are encouraged to apply, but more experienced researchers are also eligible. **The application deadline is 2 March 2009**. For more information go to [www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/LIS\\_Workshop\\_09.html](http://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/LIS_Workshop_09.html)

**Project Manager and a Research Officer, Curtin University**

Curtin University, in conjunction with the GLBTI Retirement Association, is seeking to appoint two highly motivated people for a Lotterywest funded project on Retirement Accommodation and Aged Care Issues for Non-Heterosexual Populations. Both positions will be appointed on a part time basis for a period of 12 months. Full job descriptions and application can be obtained by contacting Jude Comfort on (08) 9266 2365, 0422 654 244, or [j.comfort@curtin.edu.au](mailto:j.comfort@curtin.edu.au). **Applications close on 2 February 2009**.

**Research Officer – John Richards Initiative, Albury-Wodonga Campus, La Trobe University**

A full-time, fixed-term (Level A) position is available with the John Richards Initiative for Aged Care in Rural Communities, Faculty of Health Sciences. The position Reference Number is 50024826. **The closing date for the position is 6 February 2009**. For more information go to:

<http://seek.com.au/users/apply/index.aspx?Sequence=69&PageNumber=1&JobID=14808449&cid=jobmail>

**Postdoctoral Researcher/Junior Research Fellow, ARC funded Healthy Ageing study, University of Tasmania**

The above position is available with the Community Engagement for Productive Ageing Study. The study is focused on rural regions in Tasmania as the basis for national strategy development. The research is examining the looming social and economic challenges flowing from an ageing population by addressing triggers to social disengagement and designing service frameworks that can be used before people become isolated and dependent. **The closing date for applications is 13 February 2009**. For more information go to [http://jobs.admin.utas.edu.au/positions/pd\\_detail.aspx?PositionId=929](http://jobs.admin.utas.edu.au/positions/pd_detail.aspx?PositionId=929)

## Upcoming Conferences and Symposia:

**Ageing in America**, the 2009 Annual Conference of the American Society on Aging and the National Council on Aging takes place from **15-19 March 2009** in Las Vegas, USA. The ASA-NCOA Conference, with nearly 4,000 attendees, is a showcase for programs and projects that can be replicated, a forum for policy discussion and advocacy, and a prime source of information on new research findings in aging. For more information go to [www.agingconference.org](http://www.agingconference.org)

**The Australian Lifestyle and Medical Association (ALMA)** will be running its first annual National Lifestyle Medicine Conference from **20-22 March 2009** in Sydney at the Manly Pacific Hotel. Alma is a multi-professional group formed to provide scholarship and action on issues linked to lifestyle diseases. A large part of their work and membership is focussed on issues to do with ageing well. For more information about ALMA or the conference please go to [www.alma-inc.com.au](http://www.alma-inc.com.au)

**The 24<sup>th</sup> Alzheimer's Disease International Conference** will take place in Singapore from **25-28 March 2009**. The conference brings together scientists, clinicians, care professionals, family carers, volunteers and people with dementia. This multidisciplinary event will provide a unique opportunity to examine achievements and priorities in Alzheimer's research, innovative techniques in the management and care of people with dementia, identify policy issues affecting people with dementia and feature training workshops for Alzheimer's associations. For more information go to [www.adi2009.org](http://www.adi2009.org)

**Reminder - the 2009 AAG (NSW Division) Rural Conference: Ageing in a Changing Environment** will be taking place at the Broken Hill Entertainment Centre from **1-2 April 2009**. **The call for papers has been extended and will now close on 6 February 2009**. For more information go to [www.aagruralconference.com](http://www.aagruralconference.com)

**The i-CREATe 2009 conference** will take place in Singapore from **22-26 April 2009**. The conference is dedicated to promote ageing and disabilities technologies and to improve the lives of those with developmental disabilities, their families and professionals who work with them. for more information go to <http://icreate.start-centre.com/icreate2009>

**The 2009 National Australian Conference on Evidence-based Clinical Leadership** will take place from **27-29 May 2009** at the National Wine Centre, Adelaide. The conference is hosted by the Joanna Briggs Institute and the theme for this year is 'the perfect blend of evidence and practice'. The conference will bring together the experiences of evidence-based researchers and reviewers, guideline developers, clinicians, educators, policy makers, administrators and consumers to work toward improving techniques and methods of getting evidence into practice. The first day focuses specifically on Aged Care. **The call for abstracts will close on 9 February 2009**. For more information go to [www.joannabriggs.edu.au/events/2009NAC/home.html](http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/events/2009NAC/home.html)

**IAGG 2009 Update** – the conference convenors have released the registration details for the upcoming 19th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Paris from **5-9 July 2009**. Australia is among the leading countries with 64 abstracts submitted to date and over 100 registrants. **The closing date for abstracts is 31 January 2009 (i.e. tomorrow!)**. For more information go to [www.gerontologyparis2009.com](http://www.gerontologyparis2009.com)

**The National Dementia Research Forum** will take place in Sydney on **24-25 September 2009**. The forum is hosted by the Hosted by the Dementia Collaborative Research Centres (DCRCs) and will bring together researchers, clinicians, service providers, carers and people with dementia. More information will be provided over the coming months at [www.dementia.unsw.edu.au](http://www.dementia.unsw.edu.au)

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## Conference reminders:

Ageing in America (Las Vegas, USA)	15 – 19 March '09	<a href="http://www.agingconference.org">www.agingconference.org</a>
National Lifestyle Medicine Conference	20 - 22 March '09	<a href="http://www.alma-inc.com.au">www.alma-inc.com.au</a>
Alzheimer's Disease International Conference (Singapore)	25 – 28 March '09	<a href="http://www.adi2009.org">www.adi2009.org</a>
Transitional Care for Older People	26 – 27 March '09	<a href="http://www.changechampions.com.au">www.changechampions.com.au</a>
AAG (NSW) Rural Ageing Conference	1 – 3 April '09	<a href="http://eastcoastconferences.com.au">http://eastcoastconferences.com.au</a>
i-CREATe 2009 conference	22 – 26 April '09	<a href="http://icreate.start-centre.com/icreate2009">http://icreate.start-centre.com/icreate2009</a>

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National Evidence-based Clinical Leadership Conference	27 – 29 May '09	<a href="http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/events">www.joannabriggs.edu.au/events</a>
IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, Paris	5 – 9 July '09	<a href="http://www.gerontologyparis2009.com">www.gerontologyparis2009.com</a>
2009 HILDA Survey Research Conference	16 – 17 July '09	<a href="http://www.melbourneinstitute.com/hilda">www.melbourneinstitute.com/hilda</a>
13th Alzheimer's Australia Conference 2009	2 – 5 June '09	<a href="http://www.alzheimers.org.au">www.alzheimers.org.au</a>
2nd International Microsimulation Conference, Ottawa	8 – 10 June '09	<a href="http://www.microsimulation.org">www.microsimulation.org</a>
ACSA 2009 National Conference	13 – 16 September '09	<a href="http://www.acsa2009.com.au">www.acsa2009.com.au</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> ERA Conference	22 – 23 October '09	under construction
42 <sup>nd</sup> National AAG Conference	25 - 27 November '09	<a href="http://www.aagconference.com/">www.aagconference.com/</a>

**General reminder – Stay in Touch:**

To stay in touch with the broad range of ageing-related activities in Australia we encourage you to go to the websites of the Australian Association of Gerontology and the Ageing Research Online. Links to the relevant sections are provided below:

AAG recent news	<a href="http://www.aag.asn.au/recent_news/about_news.htm">www.aag.asn.au/recent_news/about_news.htm</a>
AAG national newsletters	<a href="http://www.aag.asn.au/publications/pub_newsletter.htm">www.aag.asn.au/publications/pub_newsletter.htm</a>
ARO newsletters	<a href="http://www.aro.gov.au/newsletters/index.html">www.aro.gov.au/newsletters/index.html</a>

That's all for this month!



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