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e-Mail Bulletin – October 2007

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to send you the October e-mail bulletin on our developments in the last month 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. 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

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

- [Research Theme activities](#) Details of recent and upcoming Theme activities
- [State & Central Hub activities](#) Details of plans for an ERA workshop in Queensland, new Advisory Group members, and materials added to the website
- [AOG2007 Update](#) Follow-up from the recent Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Beijing
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Research Theme activities:

Healthy Ageing – The Healthy Ageing Theme, in collaboration with the Monash Research for an Ageing Society (MonRAS) and the Healthy Ageing Research Unit (HARU), presented a special seminar by Associate Professor Leng Leng Thang on “Necessary Connections: Linking the Generations” in Melbourne on Monday 15 October 2007. A/Prof Thang is currently head of the Department of Japanese Studies at the National University of Singapore and is a socio-cultural anthropologist with research interests on intergenerational programming, intergenerational relationships, ageing and gender. Her presentation focussed on the area of intergenerational programs, and research, and how Australian society can explore, and expand, the potential of generational connection for a better society. The seminar was attended by a select group of key people from MonRAS, HARU and Community Medicine who participated in a discussion identifying key topics, ways to further develop the field and international connections and the key role that Australian research can play.

Population Research Strategies - The ACT Intergenerational Forum: Ageing in the 21st Century was held on 30 October 2007. The forum was run by the ACT Student Section of the Australian Association of Gerontology and was supported by the PRS Theme along with the Illawarra Retirement Trust, the ACT Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing and the Office for an Ageing Australia. The primary aims of the event were to allow postgraduate students in the field of ageing to communicate their research to the broader Canberra community and to foster discussion about important themes in ageing between a wide range of people. The event was well-attended attracting over 120 people including older Canberrans, service providers, policy-makers, stakeholders and other researchers. There were several talks during the event, including six student presentations and a thought-provoking lecture by Dr Clive Hamilton and his daughter Myra on ‘Baby Boomer’s Attitudes Towards and Their Preparedness for Retirement’. The day ended with two discussion forums on: *Creating an Age Friendly Society: Expectations, Innovations, Policies and Attitude Change*; and *Research-Based Interventions and Assistive Technologies to Improve Quality of Life*. For more information or to listen to some of the presentations, please go to www.actintergenerationalforum.org

The PES Theme is also sponsoring a full day workshop to be run at ANU on **6 December 2007** on Modelling Household Structure and Family Support for the Elderly which will provide training in macrosimulation modelling of household structures with particular reference to the availability of family support for elderly persons. The workshop will be presented by Professor Zeng Yi and Dr Zhenglian Wang from Duke University. Specialist software, ProFamy, will be made available to participants free of charge. This software can provide detailed elderly living arrangements at national, state and small area levels. A copy of the workshop flyer and registration form is attached. Thanks to Network support, there is no registration fee. Numbers are limited and Network members are given priority – **so register your interest ASAP** by completing the registration form and sending it NOW to Vanessa Frame at Vanessa.Frame@anu.edu.au

State and Central hub activities:

Queensland – The State Node is planning a Queensland Symposium to be held in the 2nd half of 2008 at the University of Queensland St Lucia campus. This Symposium will be organised using Open Space Technology, so it will operate very differently from the more typical session-based format. The symposium is being planned as a 2-day event and more details will be available early next year.

The results of the 2005 National Emerging Researchers in Ageing Survey (NERAS) will be published in the Australasian Journal on Ageing in December 2007. So be on the look out for “Building capacity in ageing research: Implications from a survey of emerging researchers in Australia” by Bartlett, Underwood & Peach. A follow-up survey is planned for 2008 which will build on the findings of this initial study.

Planning for the 2008 ERA Workshop is underway. Preliminary indications are that Thursday 27 and Friday 28 March, 2008 are suitable dates. We would be happy to hear from anyone who knows this will clash in a major way with any other ageing research-related events – contact Linda Peach on L.Peach@uq.edu.au or 07 3365 4548.

New Network Advisory Group Members – The Network’s Advisory Group plays an extremely valuable role in advising on the Network on research agendas, translating and communicating findings, and facilitating the formation of research partnerships. We are pleased to announce that we now have additional representation on the Group from the Australian Association of Gerontology, National Seniors Association and the Productivity Commission. The expanded membership of the Group is now as follows:

Barbara Squires (Chair)	General Manager, Ageing, The Benevolent Society Past-President of the Australian Association of Gerontology
Melinda Bromley	Assistant Secretary Office for an Ageing Australia Department of Health and Ageing
Laurie Buys	President Australian Association of Gerontology
Joan Hughes	Chief Executive Officer Carers Australia
Greg Mundy	Chief Executive Officer Aged and Community Services Australia
Michael O’Neill	Chief Executive National Seniors Association
Glenn Rees	National Executive Director Alzheimer’s Australia
Mike Woods	Commissioner The Productivity Commission
Ian Yates	Chief Executive Officer Australian Council on the Ageing

Network website – additional materials added:

We are continuously working to provide a comprehensive listing of Network presentations and activities in the resources section of our website (www.ageingwell.edu.au/links_resources.htm). Over the recent months, we have loaded materials related to the following events:

May	“Research Collaborations with Consumers” Workshop	(see State activities)
June	“Research and Aged & Community Care Collaborations” Workshop	(see Other activities)
July	“Mars & Venus: Does Gender Matter in Ageing?” Special Conference	(see Other activities)
August	“Grandparents in Parenting Roles” Workshop	(see Other activities)
September	“The Prevention of Elder Abuse” Workshop	(see Other activities)
	“Ageing Workforce: What are the big questions?” forum	(see Theme activities)

AOG2007 Update

Welcome back to members who attended the 8th Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Beijing. From all accounts, it was a very successful conference. In particular, we would like to congratulate Associate Professors Keith Hill and Laurie Buys and the AAG team for their wonderful efforts in successfully bidding to hold the Asia Oceania Regional Congress in Melbourne in 2001. This is great news and reflects the key role Australia is taking in the ageing field in our region. The conference featured a special tribute to Professor Gary Andrews which included presentations by Professor Mary Luszcz on findings from the Australian Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ALSA) and Professor Hal Kendig on Gary's contribution to the region

Research funding:

Recent funding successes - in our last bulletin we published the details of several Network members who were successful in obtaining funding in the recent research grant rounds. We are pleased to extend our congratulations to two other research teams. Stacey, Upton and Wallace were awarded \$793,500 for an NHMRC Project Grant on the treatment of chronic venous leg ulcers. We are particularly pleased to see this project get up as it is one of a number of proposals arising from a Network sponsored Wound Healing Research Workshop which was run by Prof Helen Edwards at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in February. The workshop participants were also successful in obtaining a grant for \$50,000 to set up a wound healing community outreach service at QUT.

We would also like to congratulate Peter Saunders who, along with Bradbury, Bradshaw, Smeeding, and Abe, was awarded \$375,000 for an ARC Discovery Project on “Comparing the Living Standards of Children and Older People Within and Between Nations”. It is pleasing to see international projects of this calibre being funded.

Reminder - Alzheimer's Association- Investigator Initiated Research Grant (IIRG): The IIRG forms the backbone of the grant program for Alzheimer's Association in the US. Research grant applications must address a question or questions relevant to the 2008 areas of focus or a compelling issue in Alzheimer research pertinent to the applicant's special interest or expertise. Letters of intent must be received by **1 December 2007**. For more information go to

http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_investigatorinitiated.asp

Research Opportunities:

A Senior Research Associate position and an Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) PhD scholarship are available within the Ageing, Health and Services Research Team at the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS). These research opportunities have been funded by an ARC Linkage-Projects grant on “**Ageing Baby Boomers in Australia: Informing Actions For Better Retirement**” (ABBA) in collaboration with National Seniors. The successful applicants will work with a team of investigators including Hal Kendig and Kate O'Laughlin (University of Sydney), Mark Wooden (Melbourne University) and David De Vaus and Yvonne Wells (La Trobe University).

For more information about the APA(I) Scholarship, please see www.usyd.edu.au/ro/training/index.shtml, select 'Current research scholarships' and search for “boomers” under Research Scholarships (in “Show Me”) and by title (in “Optional Keywords”).

For more information about the Senior Research Associate position or to apply online, please visit <http://positions.usyd.edu.au> and search by reference number 116759. Specific enquiries about the role can be directed to Professor Hal Kendig on (02) 9767 8338. Enquiries about the recruitment process can be directed to Taya Solodin on (02) 9036 6525.

An additional Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) PhD scholarship will be available at La Trobe University as part of the above ABBA Study (contact Yvonne Wells on 03 9479 5809; Email: y.wells@latrobe.edu.au). Details of this opportunity will be publicised in due course.

Additional postdoctoral and scholarship opportunities currently at the University of Sydney - Applications are also invited for additional doctoral scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships within the FHS Research Teams (see www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/research_innovation/faculty_research_groups.shtml for details of the Faculty Research Groups and associated teams). Research possibilities with the Ageing, Health and Services Research Team may include: housing and aged care services; population health and disability in later life; and, dementia care. Expressions of interest regarding doctoral and postdoctoral research possibilities within the Ageing, Health and Services Research Team should be forwarded to Professor Hal Kendig, **by mid November if possible**, using the contact details above. See www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/scholarships for information on the FHS doctoral scholarships (applications **due 21 November 2007**) and www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/research_innovation/forms.shtml for information on the FHS postdoctoral fellowships (applications due **23 November 2007**).

Dementia Research and Quality Consultant - The Caulfield General Medical Centre in Melbourne is seeking an enthusiastic clinical researcher to implement research and quality activities related to dementia services. The successful candidate will have extensive clinical research experience and qualifications, experience in project management, well developed interpersonal and communication skills and demonstrated ability to work autonomously and in a team environment. **Applications close 9 November 2007**. More information is available in the attached flyer and on the web at http://bayside.etsolutions.com.au/career_details.html?id=5077 or from Liz Rand (03 9076 639, e.rand@cgmc.org.au) or Liz Mullaly (03 9076 6008, e.mullaly@cgmc.org.au).

Reminder - Alzheimer's Australia Research's 2007 Dementia Grants Program – Two Sylvia and Charles Viertel Scholarships in Dementia for \$30,000 P/A for three years are currently available. Applications for these two scholarships will close on **31 November 2007**. Further information can be found at www.alzheimers.org.au/content.cfm?infopageid=3741

Reminder - The Eastern Australia Dementia Training & Study Centre (EADTSC) is offering scholarships of \$5,000 towards fees and professional development activities for undergraduate and postgraduate students who can demonstrate a special interest in the care of people with dementia and, in exceptional circumstances, to people who are not undertaking a university based course. For an application form and frequently asked questions, please go to <http://dementia.uow.edu.au/core-activities.html#s>. The **closing date is Friday 30 November 2007**.

Upcoming Conferences and Symposia:

The Monash Research for an Ageing Society 2nd Research Conference *Interdisciplinary research into ageing – making it work for you* will be taking place on **19 November 2007** at the Hemisphere Conference Centre Moorabbin, Melbourne. The conference will be opened by Ms Jane Herington (Director, Aged Care, Victorian Department of Human Services). The conference will include a Forum exploring the theme “Making interdisciplinary research work for you” to workshop various aspects of multidisciplinary research. A copy of the conference flyer is attached. More information, including the registration form, is available at <http://www.monash.edu.au/research/ageing/conference2007.html> or from Dr Anita Matusan on (03) 9905 1879 or anita.matusan@med.monash.edu.au

Final Reminder - The 2007 Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) Conference will take place in Adelaide on 20 November 2007 just prior to the AAG National Conference. ERA 2007 aims to showcase the latest ageing-related research from a range of disciplines and will provide the opportunity for emerging researchers to interact with a range of people including other students, academics, policy makers and practitioners. The ERA 2007 conference will include a workshop on “After the PhD” in which a panel of recent PhD graduates who have earned peer respect within their chosen field of ageing will discuss a diverse range of opportunities and pathways available for those with doctorates in the area. More information, including the workshop flyer, conference program and registration details, are available at www.ageingwell.edu.au/era2007/

Final Reminder - The 40th National Australian Association of Gerontology conference will take place in Adelaide on 21-23 November 2007. The conference will include a Network-lead 2-part symposium on the “Future Directions in Ageing Research – Showcasing the Successful AWAP Projects” chaired by Mary Luszcz (SA Co-Convenor). More information is available at www.aagconference.com

The 8th Annual Scientific Meeting of the International College of Geriatric Psychoneuropharmacology will be held at UNSW Scientia from **3-6 September 2008**. This landmark meeting serves to foster cross-fertilisation of scientific knowledge among clinical and preclinical scientists from different related disciplines. The theme for the 2008 meeting is "Protecting and Repairing the Ageing Brain". The program will include healthy brain ageing and the full range of neuropsychiatric disorders in the elderly, including dementias, MCI, late onset schizophrenia, mood and anxiety disorders of late life, sleep disorders, Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders, stroke and cerebrovascular disease. For further information please email: icgp2008@unsw.edu.au

Planning is underway for the 13th Alzheimer's Australia Conference 2009 to be held in Adelaide from **2-5 June- 2009** Adelaide. The theme of the 2009 conference will be "The Power is Now: Moving on dementia". Details of the conference, including abstract submissions, registration, and conference program, will be loaded on the Alzheimer's Australia website (www.alzheimers.org.au/) as they become available.

Conference reminders:

MonRAS Interdisciplinary Research into Ageing	19 November '07	www.agingresearchinitiative.monash.org/
6 th Emerging Researchers in Australia (ERA) Conference	20 November '07	www.ageingwell.edu.au/era2007/
The 40 th National Aust. Association of Gerontology Conference	21 – 23 November '07	www.aagconference.com
Australia's welfare 2007 Conference	6 December '07	www.aihw.gov.au/eventsdiary/aw07
International Conference on Aging, Disability & Independence	20 – 23 February '08	www.icadi.php.ufl.edu
6 th World Congress on The Aging Male	21 24 February '08	www.kenes.com/aging-congress
World Congress of Health Professions	March '08	www.worldhealthcongress.org/
International College of Geriatric Psychoneuropharmacology	3 – 6 September '08	www.icgp.org/mission.html
IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics	5 – 9 July '09	www.gerontologyparis2009.com

Network Operations

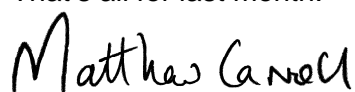
We would like to offer our congratulations to Melissa Graf, the Network Administrative Officer, who taken up a promotion position elsewhere within the University. We thank Melissa for her hard work on behalf of the Network and wish her well in her new role. Donna McDonald is stepping in to manage the office until a replacement person has been located. If you know anybody who may be interested in working with us please direct them to job number 115738 on the University of Sydney positions website at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/positions/>.

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	www.aag.asn.au/recent_news/about_news.htm
AAG national newsletters	www.aag.asn.au/publications/pub_newsletter.htm
ARO newsletters	www.aro.gov.au/newsletters/index.html

That's all for last month.



Matthew Carroll
Program Manager
7 November 2007