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e-Mail Bulletin – September 2007

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to send you the September 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):

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- [State & Central Hub activities](#) Details of plans for an ERA workshop in Queensland, the recent elder abuse workshop and a new Network Participant
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- [ARACY New Investigators](#) Details of the ARACY Future Generation New Investigators Network for early career researchers studying children and youth
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- [Recent publications](#) A new book on regulating aged care and the September issue of the AJA
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Research Theme activities:

Healthy Ageing – As noted in the previous e-mail bulletin, the Healthy Ageing Theme, in collaboration with the Monash Research for an Ageing Society (MonRAS) and the Healthy Ageing Research Unit, will be presenting a special seminar by Associate Professor Leng Leng Thang on “Necessary Connections: Linking the Generations” next Monday **15 October 2007** from 2:00 – 4:00 pm in Seminar Room G19, Building 75, Monash University, Clayton Campus. As seats are limited, please **RSVP today** to monras@adm.monash.edu.au

Productivity and Economic Security – The PES Theme hosted a special session on workforce ageing at the 36th Annual Conference of Economists (ACE07), Hobart, Tasmania on 24 September 2007. The panel discussion session was titled 'Ageing Workforce: What are the big questions?' and was chaired by Sue Richardson, Director of the National Institute of Labour Studies. The panel was comprised of leading Australian labour economists: Bob Gregory (ANU); Garry Barrett (University of NSW); Lisa Magnani (UNSW); Martin O'Brien (UOW); and, Bruce Felmingham (UTAS).

Each panel spoke on what they think are the most pressing and researchable questions about the consequences of an ageing workforce that economists should focus on. These questions were discussed amongst the panel with contributions from the floor. Materials from the session, including copies of the discussion documents from each of the panellists, will be loaded on the Network website at www.ageingwell.edu.au/links_resources.htm

Population Research Strategies - The PRS Theme is also supporting the ACT Intergenerational Forum: Ageing in the 21st Century at Old Canberra House, ANU on **30 October 2007** from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Keynote lecture: The forum will include a keynote by Dr Clive Hamilton, The Australia Institute on Baby Boomers' Attitudes Towards Retirement. This event is free however registration is essential. To register by call Chris on (02) 6125 1489 or go to <http://actintergenerationalforum.org>

State and Central hub activities:

Queensland – The Queensland state node has commenced a pilot of the Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) mentoring scheme. Twenty mentors and protégés have been paired up and are meeting regularly to help our emerging researchers build research capacity in the field. We will have more information later in the year about the success of the scheme, but early reports indicate that this is largely a positive experience for both mentors and early researchers. Once the pilot is completed, it is hoped to find a way of managing a nationwide mentoring scheme for early researchers in ageing in the future. Discussions around how this might be managed are continuing.

The Queensland hub is planning a 2-day ERA workshop in **early 2008**, to be held at the University of Queensland St Lucia Campus. The workshop will aim to provide students and other emerging researchers in ageing with opportunities to further develop their knowledge and skills in research approaches and career development in the field. To provide students with a variety of perspectives, we intend to involve a number of ageing research 'gurus' from Australia and elsewhere. The workshop is currently in the early stages of planning, so watch this space as more details become finalised.

Central – the Network, in collaboration with the Australian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (ANPEA) held a workshop on 19 September in Melbourne. There were 17 participants in the workshop representing research, policy and ageing constituencies. A highlight of the workshop was a presentation by Professor Anthea Tinker from the Institute of Gerontology at King's College London on the UK Study of Abuse and Neglect of Older People along with presentations on the state of research in Australia and policy perspectives across a number of states. The discussion at the workshop identified a number of key priorities including the need for a national prevalence study and the importance of the looking at the experience of older people in the context of their relationships. A summary of the workshop will be made available on the Network website in due course along with copies of presentations. Associate Professors Gerry Naughtin and Elizabeth Ozanne will be leading this initiative on behalf of ANPEA and the Network.

New Network Participant – As noted in the previous bulletin, the Network is keen to recognise the contributions of researchers actively involved in the Network. We are pleased to announce that Associate Professor Michael Fine, Deputy Director of the Centre for Research on Social Inclusion at Macquarie University is now a Participant of the Network. Michael has been actively involved with the Network and has participated in meetings between the Network and key policy and constituency groups on social exclusion and on promoting research collaborations with the aged and community care sector.

Research funding:

Recent funding successes - the Network is pleased to congratulate Network members who were successful in obtaining funding in the recent research funding rounds. Brief details of the funded projects that we are aware of are provided below. Please feel free to send on details of any other grants that haven't been listed here and we will include them in the next bulletin.

Investigators	Grant details
NHMRC Project Grants	
Broe, Jackson Pulver, Chalkley & Grayson	What is the burden of dementia in urban dwelling Indigenous Australians? - \$1,403,450
Browning, Kendig, Thomas, O'Connor & Sims	Health, wellbeing, disability and service pathways in older (80+) Australians - \$358,850
Budge, Storey, Tonkin, Wong, Reid & Ames	Aspirin for the prevention of cognitive decline in the Elderly: a Neuro-Vascular Imaging Study (ENVIS-ion) from ASPREE - \$1,271,100
Byles, Parkinson, Young, Doran & Robertson	Tracking the impact of drug regulatory actions: consumer health outcomes, risk-benefit issues and policy framework - \$421,000
Canning, Sherrington, Lord, Fung, Close & Latt	Exercise therapy for prevention of falls in people with Parkinson's disease: a randomised controlled trial - \$574,000
Cumming, Le Couteur, Kennerson, de Cabo, Naganathan, Sambrook	Sirtuins and the molecular epidemiology of frailty in older men - \$468,000
Lack, Wright & Kennaway	Comparing light and cognitive behaviour therapies for the treatment of sleep maintenance insomnia in older adults - \$370,000
Lord, Sturnieks, Fitzpatrick, Rogers & Sherrington	Impaired stepping as a risk factor for falls in older people - \$541,650
Fiatarone Singh, Blair, Singh, O'Sullivan, Simar & Baune	A randomised controlled trial of progressive resistance training in older type 2 diabetics at cardiovascular risk - \$806,250

ARC Discovery Projects	
Harding, Brown & Thurecht	Improving Government Policy Making and Needs-Based Delivery of Services: Innovative Techniques to Enhance Administrative Data by Adding Socioeconomic Status - \$172,934
Luszcz, Anstey, Cobiac, Walker, Miller, Giles, Ward & Hayles	How Individual and Societal Resources Contribute to Ageing Well through the Fourth Age: The Australian Longitudinal Study of Ageing - \$681,352
ARC Linkage Grants	
Harding & Brown	Population Ageing, Health Status and Health Outlays: Assessing Impacts and Policy Options During the Next 40 Years - \$76,881
Kendig, Wells, Wooden, O'Loughlin & De Vaus	Ageing Baby Boomers in Australia (ABBA): Informing Actions For Better Retirement - \$475,662
Walker, Stafford, Robinson, Orpin, Boyer, Carty, Marsh & Daly	Community Engagement for Productive Ageing: Models to support rural healthy ageing through the maintenance of community involvement and contribution - \$289,944
Wicking Trust Major Strategic Initiative Grant	
Bartlett & Travers	'Silver Memories – Implementation and Evaluation' (To measure the impact of a new 24 hour radio program on loneliness and social isolation of older people living in residential and community settings). Australasian Centre on Ageing, The University of Queensland in partnership with 4MBS Classic FM Radio - \$310,000

A number of the above grants align with Network activities and we are particularly pleased to see the major grant for Broe et al. which fits in with Network Special Interest Group on Indigenous Ageing lead by Tony Broe and Lisa Jackson Pulver. The Kendig et al. linkage project on the baby boomers builds on the Network's collaboration with the National Seniors Association on consumer-led research. The grants to Browning et al. for the MELSHA study and Luszcz et al. for the ALSA study reflect the value placed on supporting existing longitudinal studies and fits in with the Network's support for the DYNOPTA project which was funded under the Ageing Well, Ageing Productively program and which links together nine Australian longitudinal studies, including MELSHA and ALSA. Finally, we are pleased to see the grant on rural ageing with Judi Walker, Peter Orpin and Kim Boyer who ran the Network-supported rural ageing workshop earlier this year.

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. The Association anticipates funding 55 awards under the IIRG program. Each total award is limited to US\$240,000 (direct and indirect costs) for up to three years. Letters of intent must be received by **1 December 2007**. For more information go to http://www.alz.org/professionals_and_researchers_investigatorinitiated.asp

Scholarship Opportunities:

Alzheimer's Australia Research's 2007 Dementia Grants Program – the AAR has just announced two (2) Sylvia and Charles Viertel Scholarships in Dementia - \$30,000 P/A for three years. Applications for these two scholarships will close on **31 November 2007**. As previously announced, the AAR is also offering the following four Postgraduate Scholarships, applications for which will close on **31 October 2007**:

- Hunter Postgraduate Research Scholarship into the Causes of Alzheimer's disease - \$23,000 P/A for 3 years.
- 2 AAR Postgraduate Research Scholarships in Social Research and Dementia - \$25,000 P/A for 3 years.
- George Hicks Postgraduate Scholarship into Dementia Prevention and Risk Reduction Research (for Victorian researchers only) - \$23,000 P/A for 3 years.

Further information can be found at www.alzheimers.org.au/content.cfm?infopageid=3741

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**.

Future Generation Research Network “New Investigators Network”:

The ARACY ARC/NHMRC Future Generation Research Network is a large group of researchers, policy makers and practitioners from a broad range of disciplines who are together seeking ways to build a better future for Australia's children and young people. Funded at the same time as our Network, they are seeking to reach broadly parallel outcomes relating to those at the younger end of the lifespan and our two Networks are collaborating on issues of joint importance such as intergenerational research and research capacity building.

In line with this, we are pleased to announce that the Future Generation Network is now inviting applications from suitably qualified early career researchers for their exciting new initiative, the “New Investigators Network”. The overall purpose of the New Investigators Network (NIN) is to build the capacity of early career researchers to make best use of complex longitudinal data, to work across disciplines, and to transfer knowledge on child and youth health, development and wellbeing into policy and practice. Up to 10 early career researchers will be selected for the initial intake, and will be supported for the period from January 2008 to December 2009. Further information is available from www.aracy.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=New_Investigators_Network or from Anna Drylie on (03) 9345 4164 or annad@aracy.org.au. Please note the deadline for applications is Friday **9 November, 2007**.

Ageing-related Publications:

Regulating Aged Care: Ritualism and the New Pyramid by John Braithwaite (ANU), Toni Makkai, (Australian Institute of Criminology) and Valerie Braithwaite (ANU). This book is a major new contribution to regulatory theory in which the authors compare the accomplishments of nursing home regulation in the US, the UK and Australia during the last 20 years and in a longer historical perspective. They find that gaming and ritualism, rather than defiance of regulators, are the greatest challenges for improving safety and quality of life for the elderly in care homes. More details are available on the Edward Elgar Publishing website at http://www.e-elgar-publicpolicy.com/Bookentry_DESCRIPTION.Jasso?id=12540

The Australasian Journal on Ageing (AJA) September issue is now available. The list of publications in the AJA is provided below. Click on the titles below to access the PDFs of each document:

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Policy Update

[Outcomes from the Aged Care Review](#)

Warren P Hogan. Pages 104–108

Research Articles

[Independent living units: Managing and renewing an ageing stock](#)

Sean McNelis. Pages 109–114

['Ngana minyarti? What is this?' Development of cognitive questions for the Kimberley Indigenous Cognitive Assessment](#)

Kate Smith, Dina LoGiudice, Anna Dwyer, Jenny Thomas, Leon Flicker, Nicola T Lautenschlager, Osvaldo P Almeida and David Atkinson. Pages 115–119

[Perceptions of elder abuse among Australian older adults and general practitioners](#)

Edward Helmes and Marianela Cuevas. Pages 120–124

Innovations in Aged Care

[Ward-based protocols can improve assessment and management of urinary tract infections in hospitalised patients](#)

David Henley, Huong Nguyen and Charles A Inderjeeth. Pages 125–130

[The introduction of electronic medication charts and prescribing in aged care facilities: An evaluation](#)

Pippa Burns, David A Perkins and Karen Larsen and Andrew Dalley. Pages 131–134

[Well for Life: Evaluation and policy implications of a health promotion initiative for frail older people in aged care settings](#)

Rosemary McKenzie, Lucio Naccarella and Catherine Thompson. Pages 135–140

Brief Reports

[Factors associated with self-reported use of oral health services among older Melbourne residents](#)

Rodrigo Mariño, Colette Browning and Hal Kendig. Pages 141–144

[The financial impact of entering aged care](#)

David Cullen. Pages 145–147

Upcoming Conferences and Symposia:

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. More information is available at www.ageingwell.edu.au/era2007/

Reminder - The 40th National Australian Association of Gerontology conference website 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 Australia's welfare 2007 Conference: Disadvantage and Diversity will be taking place on **6 December 2007** at the Marquee Hotel in Canberra. The conference, presented by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, will provide a forum for debate and discussion on some of the welfare issues facing Australia including ageing and aged care. The conference will also include the launch of AIHW's flagship publication Australia's welfare 2007. More information, including a copy of the program and registration form, is available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/eventsdiary/aw07/index.cfm> or from Janine Martin on (02) 6244 1012 or janine.martine@aihw.gov.au

The International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence (ICADI) will be held in St. Petersburg, Florida from **20-23 February 2008**. ICADI is hosted by the University of Florida and will focus on approaches to support people as they age in maintaining independence in daily living at home, at work and in the community. More information is available at www.icadi.php.ufl.edu

The 6th World Congress on The Aging Male will take place from **21-24 February 2008** in Tampa, Florida, U.S.A. This important congress provides the most comprehensive look at the causes and consequences of male ageing with the overall goal of improving the health and quality of life, of men in their later years. Early bird registration deadline next Monday **15 October 2007**. More information is available at www.kenes.com/aging-congress

Conference reminders:

Regional Congress of Gerontology & Geriatrics	22 – 25 October '07	www.aog2007.org
ACT Intergenerational Forum	30 October '07	http://actintergenerationalforum.org/
APS Psychology and Ageing Interest Group	1 – 3 November '07	www.groups.psychology.org.au
Geriation National Conference	11 – 12 November '07	www.geriation.com.au/conference
New Zealand Association of Gerontology Conference	12 – 16 November '07	www.gerontology.org.nz
6 th Emerging Researchers in Australia (ERA) Conference	20 November '07	www.ageingwell.edu.au/era2007/
Australia's welfare 2007 Conference	6 December '07	www.aihw.gov.au/eventsdiary/aw07
The 40 th National Aust. Association of Gerontology Conference	21 – 23 November '07	www.aagconference.com
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/
IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics	5 – 9 July '09	www.gerontologyparis2009.com

Network Operations – note from Hal Kendig

On behalf of the Network Management Committee, I am pleased to announce that Matthew Carroll has stepped up to the position of Program Manager for the Network. As many of you will know, Matthew has progressively taken on additional responsibilities since his commencement with the Network in April 2006 and is now managing the operations of the Network. I am sure you will join with me in congratulating Matthew on his new responsibilities.

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

On the topic of newsletters, we would like to send out congratulations to the AAG for their new E-news newsletter and we look forward to seeing their new website which is nearing completion.

That's all for last month. Bon voyage for those of you on the way to the 8th Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Beijing,



Matthew Carroll
Program Manager
12 October 2007