

Policy and Practice on Ageing: Informed by evidence

Building Ageing Research Capacity

Colloquium

4 & 5 July 2006

National Museum of Australia
*Lawson Crescent
Acton Peninsula, Canberra ACT*

Presented by:



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Department of Families, Community Services
and Indigenous Affairs

Department of Veterans' Affairs



ARC/NHMRC Research
Network in Ageing Well

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Aims

The Colloquium is a collaborative initiative, organised under the auspices of the Building Ageing Research Capacity (BARC) Project, to address the need for improvement in the translation of ageing research evidence into policy and practice. Encouraging Australians of all ages to adopt healthy lifestyle behaviours, better spending and saving habits, and to adequately plan for the future are critical to an ageing Australia.

During the Colloquium, policy makers and academic researchers in the field of ageing and representatives from peak bodies and industry will be encouraged to develop new relationships and networks to further the policy relevant knowledge on ageing, including appropriate interventions and practical applications.

Day 1 is an initiative of the BARC Project. It has been designed to inform participants of recent developments relevant to the National Research Goal of *Ageing Well, Ageing Productively* and inspire discussion around ways to progress the development and uptake of the evidence base.

Day 2 is an initiative of the jointly funded Australian Research Council /National Health and Medical Research Council Research Network in Ageing Well. It will provide the opportunity for those with an interest in evidence-based policy and practice to build links with the ageing research community through workshop-based activities.

Key Principles

The Colloquium will be driven by five key principles:

- **Strategic, priority-driven research** can enhance the health, social, cultural and economic well-being of older Australians;
- Decisions that impact on the health, social and economic well-being of older Australians should be based on the **best available evidence**;
- The Australian Government can improve the quality and relevance of ageing research by setting **clear priorities for research** and funding of organisations, such as the NHMRC, ARC, and policy departments of government;
- **Stakeholders and consumers should be engaged** effectively to improve the relevance of ageing research to policy development and practice; and
- **Evidence should be targeted** and provided to those able to use it in a form most likely to lead to its translation into practice.

Background

The Productivity Commission Report *Economic Implications of an Ageing Australia* highlighted productivity as a crucial element for maintaining economic growth in the face of an ageing population. Building knowledge to support continuing economic and social participation of seniors is crucial as Australia's population ages.

The Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council's Report *Promoting Healthy Ageing in Australia* further emphasised the importance of healthy and productive ageing with a vision for an additional 10 years of healthy living for all Australians by 2050. These gains will come from preventing or delaying the onset of the diseases and disabilities of ageing and managing them better; from changes in the social environment to support greater participation by older people; and changes in the built environment to enhance independence. These changes need to be supported by research evidence from a variety of disciplines.

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Day 1, 4 July 2006

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registrations and tea/coffee
- 9:00 - 9:10 Welcome
Dr Penny Allbon, *Director, Australian Institute of Health & Welfare*
- 9:10 - 9:20 Opening address
Dr Diane Gibson, *Head, Welfare and Housing, Australian Institute of Health & Welfare*
- 9:20 - 10:30 Keynote addresses: Research Informing Policy
Mr Andrew Podger
Prof Peter Saunders
- 10:30 - 11:00 Morning tea
- 11:00 - 12:30 Panel Discussion: Policy-relevant research and evidence-based policy: getting the alchemy right
Mr Wayne Jackson, *Department of Families, Communities & Indigenous Affairs*
Prof Sue Richardson, *National Institute of Labour Studies*
Prof Helen Bartlett, *Australasian Centre on Ageing*
Mr Glenn Rees, *Alzheimer's Australia*
Mr Adam Graycar, *Cabinet Office, SA*
Mr Mike Woods, *Productivity Commission*
- 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 - 2:30 The existing evidence base
Mr Kevin Vassarotti, *Office for an Ageing Australia, Department of Health & Ageing*
Mr Phil Lindenmayer, *Department of Families, Communities & Indigenous Affairs*
Dr Peta Miller, *Office of the Safety and Compensation Council, Department of Employment & Workplace Relations*
Dr Eileen Wilson, *Department of Veterans' Affairs*
- 2:30 - 3:45 Panel Discussion: Future development of the evidence base: government, academic and consumer perspectives
Dr Laurie Buys, *Australian of Association Gerontology*
Prof Marc Budge, *School of Medicine, ANU*
Ms Alley Peck, *Australian Association of Local Governments*
Mr Greg Mundy, *Aged Care Services Australia*
Mr Malcolm Greig, *Australian Bureau of Statistics*
Dr Susan Dann, *National Seniors Productive Ageing Centre*
Ms Fiona Lynch-Magor, *Office for an Ageing Australia, Department of Health & Ageing*
- 3:45 - 4:00 Afternoon tea

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Day 1 cont., 4 July 2006

- 4:00 - 4:30 **Summary**
Policy perspective:
Ms Fiona Lynch-Magor, *Assistant Secretary, Office for an Ageing Australia, DoHA*
Research perspective:
Prof Helen Bartlett, *Director, Australasian Centre on Ageing*
- 4:30 - 4:45 **Introduction to Day 2**
Prof Hal Kendig, *National Convenor, ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well*
- 4:45 - 5:00 **Concluding comments**
Dr Keith Suter
- 5:00 - 7:00 **Drinks reception**

Day 2, 5 July 2006

- 8:30 - 9:00 **Registrations and tea/coffee**
- 9:00 - 10.00 **Plenary session: Building excellence and collaboration**
Brief interviews by Keith Suter with the following people then open discussion:
Prof Hal Kendig, *National Convenor, ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well*
Dr Diane Gibson, *Head, Welfare and Housing Group, AIHW*
Ms Barbara Squires, *Director, Centre for Ageing, The Benevolent Society Chair, ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well Advisory Committee*
- 10.00 - 10.20 **Ministerial address**
Senator the Hon Santo Santoro, *Minister for Ageing*
- 10.20 - 10.35 **Morning tea**
- 10.35 - 11.55 **Concurrent workshop sessions: Research development and communication processes**

Workshop 1: Consumer-led research
Dr Susan Dann, *National Seniors Productive Ageing Centre*
Prof Hal Kendig, *National Convenor, ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well*

Workshop 2: Dissemination and translation of ageing research
Ms Barbara Squires, *Director, Centre on Ageing, The Benevolent Society*
Dr Matthew Carroll, *ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well*
Prof Marcia Ory, *Director, Health Promotion & Ageing, Texas A&M University System*

Workshop 3: Consultancies in aged care research: governments, universities & the private sector
Mr Warwick Bruen, *Consultant*

Workshop 4: Building collaborative research with industry
Mr Paul Sadler, *CEO, Aged & Community Services NSW & ACT*
A/Prof Laurie Buys, *Queensland Institute of Technology*

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Day 2 cont., 5 July 2006

11.55 - 12.00 Break

12.00 - 12.45 Reporting back on Network priorities and options for directions
Chair: Dr Keith Suter

12:45 - 1.30 Lunch

1:30 - 3.00 Workshop sessions: Network themes & BARC strategic priorities

Workshop 1: Productivity and economic security

Prof Sue Richardson, *Director, National Institute of Labour Studies, Flinders University*

Prof Peter Saunders, *Social Policy Research Centre, University of NSW*

Workshop 2: Independent living and social participation

Prof Helen Bartlett, *Director, Australasian Centre on Ageing, University of Queensland*

Prof Duncan Boldy, *Centre for Research on Ageing, Curtin University of Technology*

Workshop 3: Healthy Ageing

Prof Colette Browning, *Healthy Ageing, Monash Institute of Health Services Research*

Prof Mary Luszcz, *Psychology and Gerontology, Flinders University*

Workshop 4: Population research strategies

Dr Judith Healy, *Senior Fellow, Research School of Social Sciences, ANU*

Prof Hal Kendig, *National Convenor, ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well*

3.00 - 3.15 Afternoon tea

3.15 - 4.00 Reporting back from workshop sessions: Network theme priorities and future directions

Chair: Dr Keith Suter

4.00 - 4.15 Thanks and concluding comments

Prof Hal Kendig, *National Convenor, ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well*

Ms Fiona Lynch-Magor, *Assistant Secretary, Office for an Ageing Australia, DoHA*

Dr Diane Gibson, *Head, Welfare and Housing Group, AIHW*

4.15 Close

Bus transport has been arranged for participants requiring transport to the airport, leaving the National Museum at 4.30.

The *Building Ageing Research Capacity* project is an initiative of

**The Office for an Ageing Australia,
The Australian Government Department
of Health and Ageing**

In partnership with

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

*Australia's national agency for health and welfare
statistics and information*

The ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well

*aiming to increase the scale, focus, and capacity of Australian
research to inform national efforts to respond constructively to an
ageing society and is a major sponsor of the
BARC Colloquium 2006*

**The Office of the Australian Safety and
Compensation Council, Australian Government
Department of Employment and
Workplace Relations**

**The Australian Government Department
of Families, Community Services
and Indigenous Affairs**

and

**The Australian Government Department
of Veterans' Affairs**

are major sponsors of the BARC Colloquium 2006

The Colloquium will be facilitated by Dr Keith Suter, professional consultant on strategic planning, futurist, social commentator, and President of the *United Nations Association (NSW)* and the *Society for International Development (Sydney Chapter)*.