



IAGG NEWSLETTER

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- 02 IAGG HEADQUARTERS
- 05 IAGG REGIONAL NEWS
- 06 IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS
- 13 UN ACTIVITIES
- 17 NATIONAL MEMBER SOCIETIES
- 20 UPCOMING EVENTS



IAGG HEADQUARTERS

13TH WORLD CONGRESS ON LONG TERM CARE IN CHINESE COMMUNITIES, BEIJING, CHINA ON SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2016



From September 24-26, 2016, the 13th World Congress on Long Term Care in Chinese Communities was held at the Run Run Shaw Conference Centre of the Renmin University of China. Hosted by the Association of Long Term Care for Elderly in Chinese Communities and Renmin University of China, the congress theme “All-inclusive Services on Long Term Care,” centered on improving the service system, enhancing capacity building and integrating various resources in service development.

At the forefront of the trend in population aging and need for long term care services development, the World Congress on Long Term Care in Chinese Communities has been held since 2002 in multiple cities including Hong Kong (2002, 2011), Taipei (2004, 2009, 2015), Shanghai (2005, 2010), Macau (2006, 2013), Beijing (2007), Hangzhou (2012), and Ningbo (2014). With attendance of more than 500 experts and practitioners in related fields each year, the congress has successfully established a platform for multidisciplinary exchange and collaboration.

Conference opening ceremony and keynote speeches

The opening ceremony and keynote speeches were respectively presided over by Prof. DU Peng (Director of Institute of Gerontology, Renmin University of China) and Prof. CHEN Gong (Director of Institute of Gerontology, Peking University). Heung Bong Cha, president of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics; WU Yushao, deputy director of the Office of China's National Committee on Aging; Professor XUE Chengtai, Department of Sociology at Taiwan University; ZHEN Bingliang, Party Secretary of the Center for Social Welfare in Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China; and LI Hongbing, deputy director of Beijing Municipal Civil Affairs Bureau, all delivered keynote speeches respectively. Among the keynote speeches, Prof. Heung Bong Cha, president of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, shared Korean experiences of long-term care for older persons, and spoke on issues of long-term care in Korea including universal coverage, target groups, social services or social insurance, delivery systems, quality of service, integrated community services, complementary models and efficient financing.

At the opening ceremony of the congress, HONG Dayong, vice president of the Renmin University of China, pointed out that the Chinese government is endeavoring to construct world-class universities. The Renmin University of China will make greater efforts to promote the development of advanced subjects and new interdisciplinary disciplines, continue to support the development of gerontological disciplines, strive to maintain and consolidate the leading position in the field of gerontology, and actively engage in the establishment of a comprehensive aging policy system in terms of promoting the development and improvement of the issue of aging, including long-term care. The Renmin University of China offers

IAGG HEADQUARTERS

a variety of disciplines related to gerontology, including sociology, anthropology, demography, and economics of population, resources and environment, which give a comprehensive advantage. More concerns about gerontology and related capacity building are also anticipated.

As a teacher in the Institute of Gerontology at the Renmin University of China, 95-year-old Prof. Wu Cangping told us that one hundred years of life is not a dream. From the perspective of philosophy, he pointed out that, older persons' health and longevity depend on the external environment; that is to say, existence determines health and longevity. He believes that humanities and the social environment are the most important factors affecting health and longevity. Health is the result of life-long behavior.

IAGG MEETING WITH UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL MR. BAN KI-MOON, NEW YORK, USA ON 12 DECEMBER 2016



United Nations Secretary-General Met Head of International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics

UN Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon (centre) met with Professor CHOI Sung-jae (left), Secretary-General of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics and Dr. Hans STÖHRER (right), representative of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics to the United Nations. 12 December 2016, United Nations, New York

IAGG Secretary-General Prof. Sung Jae CHOI, accompanied and assisted by IAGG Representative to the UN Prof. Hans STÖHRER, met with the United Nations Secretary-General Mr. BAN Ki-Moon on 12 December 2016. Also in attendance at the meeting were Mr. Stefan SCHWEINFEST, Director of the UN Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, attending on behalf of Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Mr. WU Hongbo, and Ms. Amal A RAFEH, Social Affairs Officer, UN Focal Point on Ageing, Social Integration Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, attending on behalf of head of UN Programme on Ageing Ms. Rosemary LANE, along with the executive assistants to the UN Secretary-General.

IAGG HEADQUARTERS

The purpose of the meeting was to present IAGG's recommendations to the United Nations Secretary-General in two main areas concerning ageing: the importance of the United Nations adopting an international convention on the human rights of older persons, and the importance of the United Nations hosting the presumptive Third World Assembly on Ageing in Korea in the year 2022, in follow up to the First World Assembly on Ageing held in Vienna, Austria in 1982, and the Second World Assembly on Ageing held in Madrid, Spain in 2002.

United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-Moon opened the meeting with general observations which recognized the significant phenomenon of the global ageing population, and the fact that international conventions on human rights have so far been adopted for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups such as children, women, and persons with disabilities, but have not yet been adopted for older persons.

Prof. CHOI introduced the organization of IAGG, including IAGG's membership structure, with 83 national member societies from 70 countries encompassing over 50,000 professionals worldwide, its activities, executives, and representatives to the United Nations, and IAGG's long standing relationship with the United Nations, including General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 1978, and Special Consultative Status since 2009.

Prof. CHOI proceeded to the first recommendation to the UN Secretary-General, and outlined several major reasons why IAGG strongly urges the adoption by the UN of an international convention on the human rights of older persons as soon as possible without delay. He concluded by stating why IAGG firmly believes that a new convention protecting the human rights of older persons would enable UN Member States to truly realize the "Society for All Ages" proclaimed as a theme of the International Year of Older Persons in 1999, to mitigate the social burdens of ageing, and to empower older persons to be full and active participants in the Society for All Ages.

Prof. CHOI proceeded to the second recommendation to the UN Secretary-General, explaining the background of the World Assembly on Ageing (WAA), the significant role IAGG has played in setting the agenda of the WAA, and the many reasons to host the Third World Assembly on Ageing in the Republic of Korea, including the facts that Asian countries hold the largest proportion of older population (age 60+) in the world, that Asian countries with their fast growing older population have not previously hosted the WAA, and so an Asian country would be a reasonable candidate venue for the next WAA.

Prof. STÖHRER offered supportive comments which linked the need for an international convention on the rights of older persons to the sustainable growth of society, and which emphasized IAGG's considerable professional and scientific support for an international convention and for the next WAA.

United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-Moon concluded the meeting with his recommendations to IAGG to seek Korean government support for the IAGG proposal for the next WAA, and to seek United Nations General Assembly support for the next WAA through a General Assembly resolution via the Third Committee of the United Nations.

IAGG REGIONAL NEWS

AFRICAN REGION

THE 2ND AFRICA REGION CONFERENCE OF GERONTOLOGY AND GERIATRICS, KENYA, DECEMBER 6-8

The 2nd IAGG Africa Region Conference took place 6-8 December in Nairobi, Kenya, preceded by three pre-conference events, namely:

(i) Master Class on families, ageing and care offered by the Global Social Initiative on Ageing (GSIA), (ii) a pioneering first introductory course in geriatric medicine convened by the South African Geriatrics Society and the International Institute on Ageing, United Nations Malta, and (iii) a preparatory meeting of representatives of Africa region national societies to lay the foundations for the full establishment of an Africa region Council in 2017.

The conference itself centered on the theme of 'Long term care systems for Africa: forging agendas'. While the 1st Africa Region conference 2012 in Cape Town underscored the breadth of substantive issues addressed in the African ageing debate, the 2016 Nairobi Meeting has fostered concerted in-depth deliberation on one critical thematic area: long term care.

To this end, the conference brought together some 120 researchers, policy makers, practitioners and advocates from 26 countries in Africa and beyond in 2.5 days of expert presentations and structured dialogue. Jointly, delegates examined current policy architecture, realities and models of LTC in the region — and distilled key principles and directions that an African agenda on LTC needs to include.

The perspectives raised and connections forged have established a foundation not only for setting, but for collaboration toward pursuing a research, capacity-building and policy agenda on LTC for Africa.

As two immediate outcomes in this regard, the African Union Commission, together with partners, will forge a Common Africa Position and results-based action framework on LTC, while the WHO Department of Ageing and Life Course is planning to collate resources to support action on LTC in the region

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

IAGG-GARN (GLOBAL AGEING RESEARCH NETWORK)

IAGG-GARN (GLOBAL AGEING RESEARCH NETWORK)

The IAGG GARN network focuses on research issues related to Frailty and Sarcopenia, Alzheimer's disease and nursing homes. To this effect, it collaborates from near and far in various working groups such as:

WORKING GROUPS

1. **The 2nd IAGG GARN / WHO Frailty Expert Group** meeting took place in Geneva on December 1 & 2, 2016, and was organized in collaboration with the European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis (ESCEO). Following the previous WHO Bulletin - Perspective paper on frailty, 23 international specialists gathered to draft a new concept paper on frailty and healthy ageing. Discussions included:

- The WHO Concept of Healthy Ageing and its implications
- Building and maintaining intrinsic capacity in the second half of life
- Frailty: experiences, challenges and lessons learned
- Operationalization of intrinsic capacity in primary health care settings
- Moving forward with integrated care

A final position paper will be submitted for publication;

2. **WORKSHOP on AEROAGING** was organized on November 7, 2016, in Toulouse and got together 25 international specialists in aging and aeronautics to discuss about aircraft structures and passenger aging. This scientific event was a joint collaboration between IAGG GARN, the Toulouse University Hospital, Airbus, ISAE (French School of Aerospace Engineering). A final position paper will be submitted for publication;

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to setting up actions, relaying initiatives and distributing tools on age-related research, the IAGG GARN Network is happy to assist its members in their search for collaborators and to promote job opportunities in the field. So, as an IAGG GARN center, do not hesitate to forward your job announcements to Constance de SEYNES (constance.de-seynes@univ-tlse3.fr) who will make the necessary arrangements to post the information on the IAGG GARN website and spread it amongst network members.

Below are three recent announcements that can be distributed to your teams, networks, laboratories and academics:

1. **UNITED STATES** - The Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University is conducting an international search for a Laboratory Director. They are seeking a senior investigator of international stature to lead its research program in nutritional bioactive compounds and functional foods research and healthy aging (formerly the Antioxidants Research Laboratory).

Qualifications:

- Ph.D. and/or M.D., with established record of publications and funding in basic/translational research related to nutrition, cellular senescence, and lifestyle appropriate for appointment at the rank of Scientist I or Senior Scientist (equivalent to Associate Professor or Professor).
- Record of scientific leadership and ability to lead a multi-disciplinary team of investigators.
- Success in receipt and completion of extramural research grants and contracts.
- Ability to build upon and expand rich collaborative activities with other research teams at the HNRCA, Tufts, USDA-ARS and external investigators.

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

Nominations and Applications:

Both nominations and applications are welcome.

Nominations need to include complete name and address of the nominee. Individuals wishing to apply should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of research interest and leadership vision, and names of four professional references to Dr. Roger A. Fielding Ph.D. (roger.fielding@tufts.edu). Review of candidates will commence on January 1, 2017.

For further details, please read the position description available at <http://garn-network.org/documents/TUFTSUniversity201610-ARLsearchdescriptionfinal.pdf>

2. HONG KONG - The Jockey Club Institute of Aging at the Chinese University of Hong Kong has vacancy for two full time PhD students, working in the area of wellbeing for older adults, and also the impact of physical and social environments on various health outcomes. Graduates with social or health science backgrounds are preferable. The duration is three years. General requirements for PhD studies are available on the University website (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk>). Interested applicants can send their CVs to Prof Jean Woo (jeanwoowong@cuhk.edu.hk).

3. FRANCE - The G rontop le Toulouse University Hospital is an internationally-recognized institution for clinical research on aging. Its research activities are specifically focused on age-related conditions predisposing to disability (in particular, frailty and sarcopenia), Alzheimer's disease and healthcare systems for the elderly.

The G rontop le is currently recruiting three post-docs to be involved in ongoing research programs. One of these candidates will be committed to our Nutrition and Alzheimer's Prevention Trial. In particular, candidates should be able to enhance the G rontop le studies through the publication of scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals. English language fluency and adequate use of statistical software are required. Various positions according to the candidate's experience are available. We are especially interested in applicants having the potentialities for future independent research positions.

Applications should include:

- A brief cover letter explaining why you would like to join our Institute;
- Your curriculum vitae including your publications list; and
- PDF files of one or two full-text articles of yours

Applicants should send all these documents by e-mail and use the subject, "Application for a post-doc position at the G rontop le". Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for a phone interview and a subsequent in-person interview in Toulouse. Questions related to the positions should be addressed to Drs. Matteo Cesari (macesari@gmail.com) or Philippe de Souto Barreto (philipebarreto81@yahoo.com.br).

PROMOTION

The IAGG GARN network promotes the latest research findings on age-related issues by collaborating with a variety of Organizations:

WCO-IOF-ESCEO2017: March 23-26, 2017, Florence, Italy

The world's leading clinical conference on bone, joint and muscle health will present a unique program for healthcare professionals, researchers and young scientists. Abstract submission deadline: January 13, 2017.

Website: <http://www.wco-iof-esceo.org/>

Twitter: #OsteoCongress - <https://twitter.com/search?q=OsteoCongress>

Contact: Sophie Leisten (Humacom) - info@humacom.com

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

ICSFR2017: April 27-28, 2017, Barcelona, Spain

The 6th International Conference on Frailty and Sarcopenia Research goes forward to raise further awareness on the need to implement Frailty and Sarcopenia into clinical practice around the world. Abstract submission deadline: December 12, 2016. [Website: http://www.frailty-sarcopenia.com](http://www.frailty-sarcopenia.com)

IANA2017: July 23, 2017, San Francisco, USA

Held in conjunction with the IAGG 2017 World Congress, the 12th International Academy on Nutrition and Aging is dedicated to "Nutrition and maintaining functions with aging" and aims to promote a better understanding and implementation of nutrition and age-related diseases into clinical practice. See the program on the IAGG2017 website: <https://www.iagg2017.org/program/affiliate-group-meeting>

IAGG2017: July 23-27, 2017, San Francisco, USA

The 21st World Congress on Gerontology and Geriatrics is hosted by the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). The event is dedicated to "Global Ageing and Health: Bridging Science, Policy, and Practice." Abstract submission is over and registration opens on December 15, 2016. Early bird registration closes April 13, 2017.

[Website: https://www.iagg2017.org/](https://www.iagg2017.org/)

IAGG-CSO (COUNCIL ON STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS)

President: Claudia Meyer, MPH (PhD Candidate-La Trobe University, Australia)

Vice President: Shannon L. Freeman, PhD (University of Northern British Columbia, Canada)

Secretary-Treasurer: Katherine S. Hall, PhD (Veterans Affairs/Duke University Medical Centers, USA)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: VOLUNTEER LEADERS NEEDED TO JOIN THE IAGG-CSO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce that nominations for the 2017-2021 IAGG-CSO Executive Committee leadership positions are now being accepted. Briefly, the primary goals of the IAGG-CSO are to: 1) advance the creation and support of student sections in association with IAGG member societies; 2) unite gerontology/geriatrics students worldwide by fostering regional and international networking; and 3) actively contribute to IAGG Regional and World Congresses.

As a student or junior scholar (post-doc or trainee) you have the opportunity play an active role in IAGG-CSO's governance. This provides emerging scholars with a unique opportunity to become more involved with gerontology and geriatrics societies and their student sections around the world, to network and collaborate with colleagues and senior scholars, and to enhance their curriculum vita. Serving as an IAGG-CSO leader is an important step in building your professional portfolio and establishing yourself as an active member and future leader of your home gerontology/geriatrics organization.

We are looking for volunteers to fill 3 positions on the IAGG-CSO executive committee: President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. If you are interested in becoming involved and taking advantage of these wonderful opportunities, please take the time to nominate yourself for the position that fits you best.

To be eligible to serve in one of the IAGG-CSO leadership positions, you must be a current member of an IAGG member organization. A full list of eligible gerontology/geriatrics societies can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/zof2c4w>. If appointed to a position, you must maintain your society membership throughout the term of your position, be committed to attending IAGG Regional and World Congresses, and attend regular virtual meetings of the IAGG-CSO Executive Committee.

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

Interested applicants should submit the following:

- Complete biographic information including:
 - a) Degree(s)
 - b) Position/title
 - c) Institution
 - d) Membership in gerontology/geriatrics professional societies
- A current curriculum vita (limit 4-5 pages max)
- A brief explanation (maximum 250 words) describing:
 - a) Your top choice of leadership positions (President, Vice President, or Secretary-Treasurer)
 - b) What you hope to get out of the governance experience
 - c) The new ideas that you would like to implement if appointed/elected
 - d) The past experiences that you have had that will help you if appointed/elected

All materials must be submitted to iaggcso@gmail.com

Thank you in advance for taking advantage of this opportunity. We look forward to receiving your applications.

UPCOMING EVENTS: THE IAGG WORLD CONGRESS 2017

Registration for the World Congress is now open, and includes a reduced fee for student members. Discounted registration is available to individuals who are a citizen of or reside in a country found on the United Nations list of least developed countries (<http://tinyurl.com/zuzaloe>). E-mail info@iagg2017.org to receive a special comp code to register at this rate.

The IAGG-CSO has partnered with the IAGG and GSA student organization ESPO to offer several exciting and informative program offerings during the 2017 IAGG World Congress. Detailed information (date, time, location) of these events will be available on the 2017 World Congress website (www.iagg2017.org). Some notable highlights include:

- Pre-conference workshop on July 23, 2017 (12:30-16:30): "Crossing Geographic and Disciplinary Boundaries: Professional Development for Emerging Scholars."

Registration for this event is required, and is processed separately from the conference registration.

- Symposium on July 24, 2017 (8:00-9:30): "Collaborative Networks for Emerging Scholars: Local, Regional, and International Perspectives."

TRAVEL BURSARIES FOR IAGG 2017 WORLD CONGRESS: APPLY NOW!!

The IAGG-CSO is offering student travel scholarships to offset travel expenses incurred in attending the IAGG 2017 World Congress. These awards will be provided to students/trainees who show outstanding potential to make significant contributions in gerontology and geriatrics and whose applications demonstrate specifically how travel assistance for the World Congress will further develop this potential. Please visit the IAGG 2017 website for further details (www.iagg2017.org/travel/travel-award). Deadline to submit materials: February 13, 2017.

The IAGG 2017 World Congress is also offering travel scholarships (separate from the IAGG-CSO) in the amount of 1,000 USD to support students, post-docs, or junior faculty. Applicants must be from one of the least developed countries to qualify. Visit the IAGG 2017 website for further details (www.iagg2017.org/travel/travel-award). Deadline to submit materials: January 31, 2017.

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

IAGG-CSO EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Xenia Dolja-Gore

Degree(s): B. Math, Grad Dip Med Stat, M Med Stat, PhD

Title: Research Fellow

Department/Division: Research Centre of Generational Health and Ageing

Institution: The University of Newcastle

Institution Location: Newcastle, NSW Australia

How did you get interested in the field of aging?

I became interested in health research when I started working for the Health Services Research Group (HSRG) in 1990. This work was quite varied and covered a number of health related areas. I continued working for the HSRG (having some time off for 4 children on the way) until I moved to the Research Centre for Generational Health and Ageing where I focus more on equity of access to services.

What are your key responsibilities at your job and/or school?

I conduct statistical analyses on our health related research projects and provide statistical advice and support to other project personnel when needed.

Tell us a little about your most recent activities/accomplishments?

My most recent accomplishment and, in fact, the most significant component of all my activities for the last few years has been the completion of my PhD. This involved an evaluation of the Government's Better Access Scheme (BAS) initiative which is intended to provide improved outcomes for people with mental health problems. My research also examined the equity of access to the BAS across different generations of women, and patterns of usage of participants accessing the BAS.

How long/why did you become a member of IAGG and why is it important for other students to join/attend IAGG?

My supervisor, Prof Julie Byles, has a strong interest in health and ageing, is a supporter of the IAGG and she introduced me to it. It is important for other students to join to maintain a strong, supportive environment. Greater numbers provide for more varied ideas and a richer support network.

Do you have any tips for emerging gerontology and geriatrics scholars?

I recommend that they get involved in the IAGG and take the initiative to approach the more senior members to discuss their ideas and research areas. They have always been very friendly, open and honest with me, and genuinely interested in the work I was doing.

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

IAGG-GSIA (GLOBAL SOCIAL INITIATIVE ON AGEING)



Front row: Agnes Nanyonjo, Bongiwe Pakkies, Shinga Chigeza, Sheila Shaibu, Wale Mobolaji, Anne-Margriet Pot, Hueng Bong Cha

Back row: Norah Keating, Sue Yeandle, Tarryn Blouws, Janine van Aardt, Moses Changala, Hilda Akinyi Owii

Missing: Jaco Hoffman

A Master Class on Families, Ageing and Care took place on December 5 and 6 in Nairobi, Kenya. Participants were early career scholars from 5 countries in sub-Saharan Africa: Zambia, South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya and Botswana. The Master Class was held as a preconference event to the 2nd IAGG Africa Regional Congress on Setting Agendas for Long-Term Care Systems for Africa.

The goals of the Master Class were to support participants to:

- Increase their understanding of issues of family structure, interaction and care within African and international contexts
- Enhance their personal research programs related to families, ageing and care
- Develop their work for submission to the International Journal of Care and Caring
- Contribute their knowledge to discussions at the Africa Regional Congress on the place of families in systems of LTC in Africa.

Mentors were Norah Keating, GSIA Director; Jaco Hoffman, North-West University and Oxford University; Anne Margriet Pot, World Health Organization; and Sue Yeandle, University of Sheffield. They led discussions on the state of knowledge on families and care in African contexts; international perspectives on families, ageing and care; and global principles for long term care. A briefing about the new International Journal of Care and Caring held during the Master Class provided an opportunity to connect with the IJCC's Regional Editorial Group for Africa.

The next GSIA Master Class will be held at the IAGG World Congress in San Francisco on July 23.

The topic is Population Ageing and Liveable Environments of Older Persons. See: https://www.iagg2017.org/images/documents/MasterClass_PopulationAgeing.pdf for information on the master class and https://www.iagg2017.org/images/documents/GSIA-2017-Master-Class-Application-form_2016-11-02.pdf for applications. Note that the deadline for applications is January 31, 2017.

IAGG SUB-ORGANIZATIONS

ISG (INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR GERONTECHNOLOGY)

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The new President of ISG is Prof. William (Bill) Kearns. Our new Secretary General and Treasurer are respectively Lawrence Normie and Pauline van den Berg. Furthermore, from January 2017 onward the new Editor-in-Chief is Prof. Yeh-Liang Hsu. More information about our Executive Committee can be found [here](#).

The ISG Board and Executive Committee wishes to express their gratitude to the former president Prof. Andrew Sixsmith. Likewise, the former Secretary General, Dr. Ryan Woolrych, and Treasurer, Dr. Alexander Peine are thanked for their dedication and hard work. The ISG society wishes the incumbent Executive Committee a fruitful tenure.

ISG SYMPOSIUM AND CONFERENCE

The International Society for Gerontechnology is preparing a symposium for the IAGG 2017 conference. Several members of ISG will attend IAGG 2017. Furthermore, preparations are being made for the ISG 2018 World Conference, to be held in St Petersburg, Florida. The conference theme is "Evolving Designs for our Future Selves." More information can be found [here](#).

We would love to stay in touch with you. Find us on [Twitter](#) , [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

UN ACTIVITIES

IAGG PARTICIPATES AT UNITED NATIONS CIVIL SOCIETY WORKSHOP, 11 DECEMBER 2016

IAGG Secretary-General Prof. Sung Jae CHOI attended a civil society Workshop on Advancing the Campaign to Elaborate a United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older Persons, held on 11 December 2016, at New York University School of Law, organized and hosted by the Australian Human Rights Centre, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. The workshop aimed to mobilize civil society and influential allies to come together to share experiences and develop strategies to ensure that the momentum to establish a convention is sustained and strengthened going forward, ahead of the 7th Session of the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA). The workshop featured interactive panel discussions by Mr. Mateo ESTRÉMÉ, Deputy Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations and Chair of OEWGA, representatives from the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as by representatives from several leading international non-governmental organizations and advocates working to advance the human rights of older persons.

IAGG PARTICIPATES AT UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY 7TH WORKING SESSION OF OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON AGEING, 12 - 15 DECEMBER 2016



IAGG Secretary-General Prof. Sung Jae CHOI, accompanied by IAGG Secretary-General-Elect Prof. Toni ANTONUCCI, IAGG Representatives to the UN Prof. Martha BIAL and Prof. Hans STÖHRER, represented our organization IAGG at the Seventh Working Session of the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA), which was held 12-15 December 2016, at United Nations Headquarters in New York. IAGG has participated in all Sessions of the OEWGA since its inception in 2011.

Established by the United Nations General Assembly by resolution 65/182 on 21 December 2010, the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing is mandated with the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons, by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons, and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering the feasibility of further instruments and measures. The first six Sessions of the OEWGA were held in April 2011, August 2011, August 2012, August 2013, July-August 2014, and July 2015, respectively.

Despite the political impasse confronting previous Sessions of the OEWGA, there was a growing sense among delegations from UN Member States and representatives of civil society that a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons is inevitable. In his closing remarks to the Sixth Session, OEWGA Chair Mr. Mateo ESTRÉMÉ acknowledged the tension between the nations for and opposed to a convention, and urged member states to work on parallel tracks: continuing to identify the gaps of implementation in current instruments and to start working on the text of a convention. This, he declared, is part of our mandate from the General Assembly and of our obligation to “the one billion older persons of today and the more than 6 billion older persons of tomorrow.”

The Seventh Session of the OEWGA, held 12-15 December 2016, brought together at least 30 UN Member States who made statements, and at least 87 registered civil society participants, representing 43 non-governmental organizations, including IAGG, from all regions across the world.

UN ACTIVITIES

The Seventh Session of the OEWGA set a milestone with the adoption of a decision for the participation of National Human Rights Institutions in the work of the Working Group. The National Human Rights Institutions will make a valuable contribution to the work of the Open-ended Working Group and to fulfilling its mandate of enhancing the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons.

The Seventh Session of the OEWGA heard presentations by the Independent Expert on the Enjoyment of All Human Rights by Older Persons, Ms. Rosa KORNFELD-MATTE; engaged in dialogue with the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Ms. María Soledad Cisternas REYES, to draw parallels between the development of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and a possible multilateral legal instrument on the human rights of older persons; and included panel discussions to examine recent regional developments in the field of the human rights of older persons, as well as the positive human rights implications for older persons of many recent multilateral processes in the fields of housing and infrastructure, health, and sustainable development.

The IAGG delegation delivered an Oral Statement to the Seventh Session of the OEWGA, read by Prof. BIAL. In its statement, IAGG recognized that many developed nations fear the financial costs and national budget implications of developing and implementing a legally binding instrument for the rights of older persons. IAGG proposed, with the assistance of IAGG member societies, to research and compare the costs versus benefits of such an instrument, and expressed the belief that as older persons gain in rights to education, job retraining, decent work and pensions, all economies will be more productive, reducing potential financial burdens on developed nations.

As in previous Sessions of the OEWGA, UN Member States divided between those delegations, mostly from the developed northern nations, who expressed views regarding the need to better implement the existing international legal framework, and those delegations, mostly from the developing and southern nations, as well as the unanimity of civil society organizations in attendance, who expressed views regarding the inadequacy of existing international human rights instruments and the need for development of an international legally binding instrument on the human rights of older persons, under a human rights approach, centered on older persons as specific rights holders.

Despite this apparent impasse, a breakthrough emerged in the concluding debates regarding the way forward, with the northern nations conceding and proposing to focus on specific substantive issues of content of a possible international instrument, rather than to further debate the need for a convention.

In view of this way forward, most delegations expressed common agreement on the future work of the Open-ended Working Group, to focus the debate on areas where further protection of the human rights of older persons is needed, as well as elements of relevance to older persons that need to be better addressed by the international community in order to allow older persons to fully enjoy their human rights. Some of these areas of rights relevant to older persons that were mentioned include:

- equality and non-discrimination (discrimination on the basis of age);
- neglect, violence and abuse (ageism);
- autonomy and independence;

UN ACTIVITIES

- accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access);
- right to health and access to health services;
- access to justice;
- social protection and social security (including social protection floors);
- economic security;
- right to work and access to the labour market;
- education, training, life-long learning and capacity building;
- participation in the public life and in decision making processes;
- social inclusion;
- contribution of older persons to sustainable development; and
- long term and palliative care.

In conclusion, the OEWGA Chair Mr. ESTRÉMÉ proposed the Working Group to continue this substantive discussion within these clusters and to focus the deliberations of the next Eighth Session on two of these focus areas: (a) equality and non-discrimination; (b) neglect, violence and abuse; and (c) autonomy and independence. The Chair further encouraged Member States and civil society to continue active debate during the inter sessional period, including regional discussions and call for inputs, working in collaboration with the Independent Expert, whose mandate has been extended by the Human Rights Council through resolution A/HRC/RES/33/5

UN ACTIVITIES

IAGG DELIVERS ORAL STATEMENT TO UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY 7TH WORKING SESSION OF OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON AGEING, DELIVERED ON 14 DECEMBER 2016, BY IAGG REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN PROF. MARTHA BIAL

**SEVENTH SESSION OF OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON AGEING
ORAL INTERVENTION BY IAGG
December 14, 2016**

IAGG, an association of professionals and researchers in Gerontology and Geriatrics with 81 member societies in 70 countries, is strongly committed to protecting the human rights of older persons. We urge the adoption by the United Nations of an International Convention on the Human Rights of Older Persons as soon as possible.

We are aware that many developed nations fear the financial costs and budget implications of developing and implementing such a legally binding instrument for the rights of older persons. We think it is time to research and compare the costs versus benefits to developed countries as well as to developing countries that may have fewer legal protections for the rights of their older citizens. We believe that as older persons in both developing and developed countries gain in rights to education, job retraining, decent work and pensions, all economies will be more productive. This will reduce the unequal financial burden on developed nations.

We also believe that a legally binding instrument will be a very effective strategy to achieve 8 of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (specifically, Goals 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, & 17).

We would be glad to reach out to our member societies, who may be able through their research to find the data that answer this question of costs versus benefits.

Thank you.

NATIONAL MEMBER SOCIETIES

BELARUSIAN REPUBLICAN GERONTOLOGICAL PUBLIC ASSOCIATION – PRESIDENT ANDREI ILNITSKI

Recent activity of our association has been in developing projects concerning the prevention of dementia, early revealing of this age-related pathology, supporting of patients with dementia and their relatives, improving of therapeutic technologies in dementia clinics, informing and stimulating of discussion in the society about this spectrum of important problems. We have organized pilot dementia projects in a few regions of Belarus and together with colleagues from the Union for Mental Health of Russia - in the Moscow region of the Russian Federation.

For 2018, we are planning together with our Russian colleagues to hold a large international conference dedicated to medical and social prevention and managing of demented patients and their relatives in Moscow. The Belarusian Republican Gerontological Public Association will organize the scientific part of this conference, and the Union for the Mental Health of Russia will manage the financial part of this event. In this letter you will find the official proposal from the Union for the Mental Health of Russia for your cooperation.

PORTUGUESE GERIATRICS AND GERONTOLOGY SOCIETY

The Geriatrics and Gerontology Society of Portugal is currently involved, in collaboration with the Portuguese Ministry of Health, in updating the National Guidelines on the control of pain in the elderly patient and developing a campaign on incontinence. Here is a list of the main activities of the Society for the coming year 2017:

- The Almada Update in Geriatric Medicine Course. April 7-9, Almada
- The Oporto Update in Geriatric Medicine Course. September 14-15, Oporto
- The 38th Annual Scientific Meeting of the PSGG, November 22-24, Lisbon
- Online Course for Caregivers (jointly with the Spanish Geriatrics and Gerontology Society)

SAN MARINO ASSOCIATION OF GERONTOLOGY AND GERIATRICS – PRESIDENT GIAN CARLO GHIRONZI

During 2016, the San Marino Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics founded a special section on Movement Disorders, with the special inclusion of Parkinson's disease and syndromes. This section is already efficient, giving support to the patient through clinical and therapeutic information as well as to families and caregivers.

The rehabilitation courses were also implemented with adapted and selected physical exercise, special kinds of music, soft dancing, in order to maintain and increase the state of mental and physical autonomy. A group of over 70 patients regularly attend this rehabilitation course. The section is coordinated by Dr STUMPO Maurizio, neurologist of the San Marino State Hospital.

On December 16th 2016, the 4th edition of the Second Level Master in Geriatric Medicine will be completed and will start the 5th edition (for more information please find below the pdf).

SWEDISH GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY – PRESIDENT SUSANNE IWARSSON

The Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (Forte) decided to finance 9 major six-year research programs for research on ageing, under the theme "Ageing, Demography and Health". Also under the other themes of this major call such as "Equal living conditions" there were programs relevant for ageing approved. The proposals were reviewed by international expert panels including also representatives for knowledge users in Sweden. This is of course very important for research on ageing in Sweden for the years to come.

NATIONAL MEMBER SOCIETIES

For more information, see this link: <http://forte.se/en/news/428-million-sek-to-strengthen-high-priority-research/>

The Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH) just completed a first-time course for postdoctoral researchers in ageing and health. Exceeding our expectations, the majority of applicants were from outside Sweden, including one person from outside Europe (the U.S). Thus, 14 participants have met at different places in Sweden during three 2-day workshops, with online communication in between. The course examination was held in Stockholm on Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2016, and course participants very much appreciated this new initiative.

BRITISH GERIATRICS SOCIETY

Age and Ageing: Sarcopenia Collection online

Age and Ageing is the British Geriatrics Society's scientific journal. The journal's impact factor has risen to 4.201, making it 7th out of 49 journals in the Si: Geriatrics & Gerontology category.

Sarcopenia – the loss of skeletal muscle mass and function that accompanies ageing – is now an established pathophysiological entity. There is increasing appreciation of its importance, and a growing, although incomplete, understanding of its causes. It is closely linked to physical frailty, and we are now at a point where detection of sarcopenia is beginning to be incorporated into clinical practice, and where potential interventions are beginning to undergo large clinical trials. This online collection of sarcopenia papers is therefore timely.

We have selected key references that showcase the development of the field, how definitions of sarcopenia have evolved, evidence on the prevalence, causes, and adverse effects of sarcopenia, as well as reviews of current therapy and insights into how the field might evolve in future. We hope that the collection will give readers not only an overview of the current state of the art, but a sense of how far we have travelled in sarcopenia research over the last few decades. http://oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/ageing/sarcopenia_collection.html

British Geriatrics Society Movement Disorders Section Conference, 27th January 2017, Crowne Plaza, Birmingham, UK

The meeting highlights current clinical practice and provides a platform to present research outcomes and showcase successful service delivery for healthcare professionals working in the field of movement disorders. <http://bit.ly/BGSMDs17>

BGS Spring Scientific Meeting, 24-26th April, 2017, Newcastle, UK

The BGS Spring meeting 2017 will cover the latest scientific research and the best clinical practice in care of older people. Our ageing population is stimulating extensive NHS service redesign to deal with the challenge of caring for larger numbers of older people both in and out of hospitals. This conference will cover core areas of interest to all specialists responsible for the health care of older people in the United Kingdom. (<http://bit.ly/BGSSpr17>)

BRITISH SOCIETY OF GERONTOLOGY

British Society of Gerontology Annual Conference 'Do Not Go Gentle – Gerontology and a Good Old Age' 5-7 July 2017

The general theme of the conference is The Art of Ageing: reflecting the diversity of gerontology in Swansea and

NATIONAL MEMBER SOCIETIES

across the world; from arts based methodology to innovative dissemination and engagement strategies and of course not forgetting the style in which the population ages. This cultural turn is also reflected in the title of the conference

“Do Not Go Gentle: Gerontology & A Good Old Age” incorporating the Welsh Poet Dylan Thomas and the ethos of ageing as a positive and stereotype defying period of life. For more information <http://www.britishgerontology.org/events-jobs-news/bsg-events/bsg-2017-conference.html>

IRISH GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL AWARDS 2016



Two senior specialists, who both qualified from University College Cork (UCC), have had their contributions to the health and well-being of older people recognised by the Irish Gerontological Society.

Professors Cillian Twomey and Davis Coakley, both of whom qualified in medicine in the early 1970s, were awarded the Irish Gerontological Society's (IGS) president's medal by IGS president Mo Flynn.

The medal presentation was made last week at the IGS annual scientific meeting in Killarney, Co Kerry. It is the Irish society's highest accolade and recognises both men's contribution of medical care and education for improving the lives of older people.

Prof. Twomey, a native of Mallow, Co Cork, was appointed as the first specialist in geriatric medicine at Cork University Hospital (CUH) in 1979. He contributed greatly to the welfare of medical practitioners through his work with the Irish Medical Organisation. He was elected president of the IMO in 1988. In 2000 he was appointed chairman of Comhairle na nOspideal developing specialist services and consultant posts in the health service.

Prof. Coakley, from Cork city, excelled academically at UCC and later was awarded his MD for research on neurological diseases. In 1979 he was appointed as geriatric physician at St James's Hospital in Dublin and eight years later became TCD's first professor of geriatric medicine.

Over the past 30 years Prof Coakley was the driving force behind the research-based Institute for Ageing on the St James's Hospital campus which was launched in 1987. With government, HSE and philanthropic funding, the new 116-bed Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing (MISA) building opened earlier this year.

IGS president Mo Flynn said: "It is a great honour to recognise the contribution both doctors have made towards the care of older people and their dedication in supporting and encouraging a new generation of researchers, nurses, doctors and social scientists in gerontological services.

"Both Davis and Cillian still have a lot to contribute in their respective interests in medical history and the hospice movement. The IGS is very proud to count them among our leading and most inspiring members as signified and recognised by these medals," Ms Flynn added.

Further details from:

Miriam Ahern, IGS Tel: 086-804 4594, Email: Miriam.ahern@irishgerontology.com

Issued: October 5th 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

Month/Date/Year	Event	Venue
February 9, 2017	5th Executive Committee Meeting	San Francisco, USA
July 23-27, 2017	21st IAGG World Congress	San Francisco, USA
2021	22nd IAGG World Congress	Buenos Aires, Argentina

IAGG WORLD CONGRESS

21ST WORLD CONGRESS, SAN FRANCISCO, USA, JULY 23-27, 2017



The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) will be hosting IAGG's 21st World Congress in San Francisco, USA. In view of GSA's long experience in organizing major events and of the city's important conference facilities, IAGG 2017 will be sure not to disappoint. The theme of this future milestone will be "Global Ageing and Health: Bridging Science, Policy, and Practice." In the meantime visit the congress website launched in June 2013.

Key dates

April 1, 2016: Call for Abstracts Opens

July 15, 2016: Deadline for Abstract Submission

December 15, 2016: Notifications of Abstract Decisions, Registration and Accommodations Open, Call for Late Breaking Abstracts

February 15, 2017: Late Breaker Submission Deadline

May 2, 2017: Early Bird Registration Deadline

July 23-27, 2017: The 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics

(dates subject to change)

Contact: info@iagg2017.org

Website: <http://www.iagg2017.org>

Call for Nominations

2017 Busse Research Awards

To promote international research in gerontology, the Busse Research Awards again will be given at the 21th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in San Francisco, CA July 23-27, 2017. Two gerontologists (late junior to mid-career) will be selected. One award will recognize a scientist from the social/behavioral sciences; the other from the biomedical sciences. Awards are \$8,000 (USD) each, plus up to \$4,000 (USD) for travel/living expenses. Awardees must present a lecture based on their research at the conference. Deadline for receipt of nominations: November 1, 2016.

For information and application forms, visit [WEBSITE: http://centerforaging.duke.edu/busse-research-awards_or_contact](http://centerforaging.duke.edu/busse-research-awards_or_contact):

UPCOMING EVENTS

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Busse Research Awards
Center for Aging, Box 3003

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FAX: +1(919) 684-8569
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22nd WORLD CONGRESS 2021, ARGENTINA, 2021



The Argentine Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics (SAGG) and the Argentinean Society of Gerontology (AGA), both Society members of IAGG, united together to present their candidacy in view of hosting the 22nd IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics scheduled for 2021.

YEAR-END THANK YOU MESSAGE FROM PROF. HEUNG BONG CHA & PROF. SUNG JAE CHOI

The year 2016 was filled with many memorable events and IAGG would like to thank each and every one of you who has shown your heartfelt support for promoting the mission of IAGG.

IAGG will continue to endeavour to support research and training of gerontology and geriatrics around the world. We wish you all a Happy New Year in 2017.

IAGG ADMINISTRATION

➤ IAGG ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE NOW!

Invoices for 2016 Annual Dues have been sent to member associations and societies. Please send your dues to the Korea Exchange Bank as indicated below. Any questions about dues or payments should be sent by e-mail: iaggseoul@hotmail.com

➤ INFORMATION FOR WIRE TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP DUES TO IAGG BANK ACCOUNT:

Bank name: Korea Exchange Bank
Bank address: 181, 2-ka, Eulji-Ro, Chung-Ku, Seoul, Korea
Bank account #: 650-009094-236
SWIFT Code: KOEXKRSE
Beneficiary: IAGG

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FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/IAGG.INFO?ref=hl>
TWITTER: https://twitter.com/IAGG_Seoul