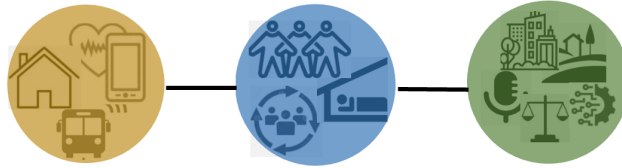


HOMeAGE

Advancing Research and Training on Ageing, Place and Home



— **HOMeAGE** —

*Advancing Research and Training on Ageing,
Place and Home*

Public Lecture and Training Sessions

Thursday 19th October

In-person and online

Institute for Lifecourse & Society,

University of Galway, Ireland

Eircode: H91 C7DK



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



Funded by
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About HOMeAGE

HOMeAGE involves a nine-country collaboration between leading research units, major intergovernmental organisations, international civil society actors and governmental and non-governmental organisations.

HOMeAGE aims to institute an interdisciplinary, intersectoral, and international programme of doctoral training and research that drives the development of new leaders in excellence for the advancement of evidence-based innovation on ageing in place.

HOMeAGE, tackles three interrelated challenges by pursuing three strategic objectives through the work of 12 Doctoral Researchers (DRs) and their individual research projects.



Challenge 1- Needs and Systems:

HOMeAGE will identify flexible and sustainable housing, community-care and mobility systems and critically assess their capacity to support community living needs, across various cultural and structural conditions.



Challenge 2 – Home and Belonging:

HOMeAGE will identify innovative place-based pathways for engagement as a means to create new channels for building a sense of home and belonging amongst diverse older populations, in diverse places.



Challenge 3 – Rights and Voice:

HOMeAGE will identify integrative frameworks, that are responsive to the diversity of older people and their places, to drive relevant and rights-based policy development on ageing in place.

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Public Lecture and Training Sessions

- 09:00 **Welcome and opening address - LCI G018**
Kieran Walsh, University of Galway, Ireland
- 09:10 **Research overview and approaches in ageing in place research**
Chair – Laura Christ, HOMeAGE Reference Group; Older Women’s Network, NL
- Theorizing place and ageing: Models and concepts from an Environmental Gerontology perspective***
Presenter – Frank Oswald, Goethe University, Germany
- The pre-conditions for ageing in place: A socio-economic perspective***
Presenters – Marco Arlotti and Micol Bronzini, Marche Polytechnic University, Italy
- 11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30 **Ageing in place policy overview: Research informed perspectives**
Chair – Kieran Walsh, University of Galway, Ireland
- Policy perspectives and agendas in ageing in place***
Presenter – Alana Officer, Demographic Change & Healthy Ageing, WHO
- Spatial justice and the right to an age-friendly community***
Presenter – Tine Buffel, UoM, the UK
- 13:30 **Lunch Break**
- 14:15 **Critical thinking and policy and scholarly debates in ageing in place**
Chair – Patricia Conboy, International Panel of Policy and Research Experts (IPPRE)
- Making research policy-relevant: Why place matters***
Presenter – Norah Keating, Global Social Initiative on Ageing, IAGG, (IPPRE), CA
- 15:15 **Coffee Break**
- 15:30 **Critical issues in research on ageing in place: A geographical gerontologist's perspective**
Presenter – Malcolm Cutchin, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, (IPPRE), US
- 17:00 **Wrap up & close**
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Session Abstracts and Learning Outcomes

Research overview and approaches in ageing in place research

Theorizing place and ageing: Models and concepts from an Environmental Gerontology perspective

Presenter – Frank Oswald, Goethe University, Germany

The aim of this contribution is to give an overview of selected theories addressing place and ageing interrelations, differentiating between first, second, and third generation models and emphasizing various fundamental concepts such as interaction, transaction, co-construction and co-constitution to understand person-environment inter-relations. Thus, the focus is on theorizing place and ageing from an environmental gerontology perspective. Moreover, it will be discussed how various theories can address enduring (e.g. interacting with the home environment) and novel challenges (e.g. increasingly digitalized world) of the place and ageing relationship.

- Students will be able to develop a critical understanding of theories and fundamental concepts in environmental gerontology.
- Students will be able to consider and appreciate theorizing place and ageing as a means to better understand enduring and novel empirical issues of person-environment exchange.

The pre-conditions for ageing in place: a socio-economic perspective

Presenters – Marco Arlotti and Micol Bronzini, Marche Polytechnic University, Italy

The impact of ageing in place cannot be taken for granted: not only is ageing in place not possible for everyone, but it may not even be necessarily a positive experience for someone. Specific contextual pre-conditions may strongly shape and mediate the relations between ageing in place and older people's well-being. Successful ageing in place depends on the accessibility of appropriate housing, on living in a safe neighbourhood, and on the possibility of social interaction. When older people are affected by functional limitations, the availability of care services or support provided from informal caregivers, may also be crucial. To understand the contextual limitations and pre-conditions of ageing in place this presentation intends to illustrate and discuss two specific issues, by considering the structure of housing systems and national care regimes in Europe as key factors.

Following this session, students will be able to:

- Understand the differences in housing systems and care regimes across Europe (descriptive level)
 - Critically understand of how these two dimensions impact ageing in place (interpretative level)
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Ageing in Place policy Overview – Research informed perspectives

Spatial justice and the right to an age-friendly community

Presenter – Tine Buffel, UoM, the UK

This presentation provides an overview of the main challenges and opportunities associated with developing age-friendly cities and communities to support ageing in place. It sets out the importance of a focus on social and economic inequalities, and their consequences, for research and policy on ageing in place. The implications of such inequalities for age-friendly policy and practice will be discussed, arguing that unless attention is paid to questions of inequality and social justice, such programmes run the very real risk of amplifying inequalities. An overview of the key challenges for the future of the age-friendly movement will be presented, together with a manifesto to inspire progress for the movement.

Following this session, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main challenges and opportunities associated with developing age-friendly cities and communities to support ageing in place;
- Critically evaluate research and policy debates on age-friendly cities and communities;
- Have an enhanced understanding of the limitations of ageing in place models and age-friendly policies.

Critical Thinking and Policy and Scholarly Debates in Ageing in Place

Making research policy-relevant: Why place matters

Presenter – Norah Keating, Global Social Initiative on Ageing, IAGG, Canada

Policy directives from the United Nations including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Decade of Healthy Ageing encourage governments to take action to improve wellbeing of people and of nations. These directives are aspirational. Governments must decide how or whether to act and in which policy domains. In this session we will discuss how regional and country contexts influence governments' understanding of global priorities, shape their public policy directions and highlight knowledge gaps that researchers can address. The Care Economy is used as an example of a policy framework that is understood and applied differently in Europe, North America and Africa.

Following this session, students will have an enhanced understanding of:

- How global agendas about ageing are interpreted within regional and country contexts;
- How researchers can translate research findings in ways that policy makers may find useful.
- What we can learn from regional policy agendas arising from the same global imperatives.

Critical Issues in Research on Ageing in Place: A Geographical Gerontologist's Perspective

Presenter – Malcolm Cutchin, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, US

This presentation will provide a geographical understanding of aging and place and suggest a set of emerging directions and opportunities for future research on the subject. Beginning with some



common themes in geographical thinking about place, I will expand the discussion into more novel ideas about place and aging, including relational theory and the place integration perspective, multi-scalar perspectives and spatial polygamy, participation and engagement in places, habits and embodiment of place, and the life course of people and places. These theories, concepts, and methodological issues provide excellent research prospects for new scholars in gerontology to contribute to the field.

Following this session, students should be able to:

- Learn some key features of geographical thinking on aging and place.
- Consider how their own projects may include geographical perspectives on aging and place to make novel contributions to the field.
- Find resources for further learning about the content of the presentation.

About the Doctoral Researcher Forum

A Doctoral Researcher (DR) Forum will be established as a peer-support network and will provide a collegial space for knowledge exchange and methodological discussion. The Forum will comprise of all Doctoral Researchers. The Forum will convene once a quarter virtually (using Zoom/Blackboard collaborative classrooms) and in person once every 6-months during training events.

About the HOMeAGE Reference Group (HRG)

The HOMeAGE Reference Group (HRG) will provide insight on ‘on-the-ground’ advocacy issues and a critical ‘lived experience’ perspective within network-wide training and project supervision. As civil society actors, the HRG is not meant to be representative of older populations in Europe or internationally, but will assist in embedding critical ‘lived experience’ perspectives within HOMeAGE research and network-wide training. HRG members will sit on Project Support Teams, the Steering Board, and Network working groups.

Objectives:

1. To embed a ‘lived experience’ perspective within network-wide training and project supervision.
2. To provide insight and guidance on key topics related to ageing in place from a grass-roots perspective.
3. To facilitate the participation of older adult advocates and policy stakeholder experts in HOMeAGE activities and events.

HOMeAGE Reference Panel Members are:

1. Laura Christ, Older Women’s Network, Netherlands
2. Rodd Bond, Active Retirement Ireland, Ireland
3. Vassilis Louziotis, 50+Hellas, Greece
4. Soteris AVGOUSTIS, PASYDY, Cyprus
5. Amanda T. Warren, FATEC/Catalonia, Spain
6. Katalin Papp, Hungary

About the International Panel of Policy and Research Experts

The International Panel of Policy and Research Experts (IPPRE) will lead a peer-review process providing a critique of learning materials and the learning outcomes for network-wide training. Comprising of academic and non-academic experts, five panel members will support HOMeAGE to deliver gold-standard transferable training that fosters cross-sector innovation. It will comprise of: Patricia Conboy, formerly of HelpAge International; Norah Keating, Global Social Initiative on Ageing; Malcolm Cutchin, Pacific North West University; Vanessa Burholt, University of Auckland; Susanne Iwarsson, Lund University.

Speakers, Chairs and Panellists



Kieran Walsh is Professor of Ageing & Public Policy in the Discipline of Economics, and Director of the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG) at the University of Galway, Ireland. His research focuses on social exclusion in later life, life-course transitions and trajectories, and place, community belonging and a sense of home. Kieran is focused on translating research into real-world impact and integrating lived experience of those experiencing entrenched exclusion in the design of impactful research, services and teaching programmes. Kieran was the Chair of the former ROSEnet COST Action network on ‘Reducing old-age social exclusion’ (2016-2020), and is currently Scientific Coordinator of the Marie-Sklodowska Curie doctoral training network on ‘Advancing research and training on ageing, place and home’ - HOMeAGE.



Laura Christ is a social gerontologist (MA). She worked as coordinator of the Working Group Sociology-Social Gerontology at Netherlands Institute for Social Sciences/SISWO, was director of the National Office to combat Age Discrimination (LBL), coordinator of the Center for Ageing Issues (CVO/VU), head of the Knowledge Center Older People (Netherlands Institute Care and Welfare, NIZW). From 2002 until her retirement in 2020 she participated in Grundtvig - and Erasmus+ partnerships with a focus on the contributions and participation of older people in society. Laura is member of Netherlands Association of Social Gerontology, board member of Older Women's Network Netherlands and member of Older Women Network Europe. She participates in AGE Platform Europe Taskforces with a focus on human rights, ageism, advocacy, gender equality and age-friendly environments. Themes that have been a common thread in her career. Laura is mother of three children, grandmother of nine grandchildren. She lives with her husband in Amsterdam (NL)



Frank Oswald, PhD, is Professor for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research (IAW), Chair of the Frankfurt Forum for interdisciplinary Ageing Research (FFIA) at the Goethe University, Germany and Director of the Center AGING for Early Career Researcher at the Goethe Graduate Academy (GRADE). He is a psychologist by training and author / co-author of several articles in the area of Gerontology and Psychology. His research interests are contexts of adult development, issues of person-environment transaction and transitions in old age, housing, ageing in place, relocation and the role of technologies in later life. He has conducted research in the field of environmental gerontology on the local, national and European levels.



Marco Arlotti (PhD in Economic Sociology) is researcher at the Department of Economics and Social Sciences, Marche Polytechnic University, where he teaches “Welfare and comparative social policies” and “Sociology of Entrepreneurship” (MA level). His research focuses on population ageing, long-term care policies and anti-poverty schemes. Over the years, he has been involved in several international and national collaborative projects dealing with social policies and welfare systems. From 2015 to 2020 he has been secretary and treasurer of ESPAnet-Italy, the Italian research network for social policy analysis. Since 2014 he is editorial assistant of “Politiche Sociali/Social policies”, published by Il Mulino on behalf of ESPAnet-Italy.



Micol Bronzini is an Associate Professor in Economic Sociology at the Department of Economic and Social Sciences at the Marche Polytechnic University. She is on the board of the Italian Association of Sociology. She is also affiliated with the University of Florence for the project “Age-It. Ageing well in an ageing society”, financed by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, where she is responsible for the stream of research on new housing needs connected with the ageing population. Her main research areas concern health, healthcare and housing policy and she develops mainly qualitative methodologies.



Tine Buffel is a Professor of Sociology and Social Gerontology at the University of Manchester, where she directs the Manchester Urban Ageing Research Group (MUARG). Tine has published widely in the field of ageing, with a particular focus on social and environmental issues associated with ageing populations. Her research career has been distinguished by a commitment to working with community groups to study and address equity and social justice issues. She is particularly interested in studying questions related to neighbourhood and local community in later life, social inequality and exclusion, urban development, and how to create ‘age-friendly’ cities and communities.



Alana Officer holds a degree in Health Science (Podiatric Medicine) and Master's degrees in Applied Science – Exercise and Sports Science (research) and Public Health. Alana started her career as a clinician in Australia and England before holding a number of technical and managerial positions working on disability, health and development in West and Central Africa, Europe, South Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific. Alana joined WHO in 2006 and was the Coordinator for the Disability and Rehabilitation Team (DAR) until 2014. Alana joined the Department of Ageing and Life Course in July 2014, responsible for the Organization’s work on age-friendly environments. In January 2020, Alana became the head of a new unit in WHO on Demographic Change and Healthy Ageing (DHA). In this role she coordinates the Secretariat for the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing. Alana continues to oversee the Organization’s work on age-friendly physical and social environments, including the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities and the Global Campaign to Combat Ageism.



Patricia Conboy is an adjunct lecturer with the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG). Previously Interim Director of Global Ageing, Advocacy, and Campaigns at HelpAge International (London), Patricia has extensive professional experience in international and national policy on ageing and older people. In her role with the ICSG, Patricia advises on strategic areas of research development with a view to informing policy change in the area of ageing, human rights and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Patricia is also a key contributor to ICSG's MSc in Ageing and Public Policy.



Norah Keating Norah Keating holds academic appointments at University of Alberta, Canada; Stirling University, UK; and North-West University, South Africa and is director of the IAGG Global Social Issues on Ageing. Her research interests are in families and ageing and in the physical and social contexts that can include or exclude older persons. She has longstanding relationships with the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization and has recently written a [research agenda](#) to frame the action items on the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2022). She is advisor to research programmes on social aspects of ageing in Indonesia, UK, Netherlands and South Africa.



Malcolm Cutchin is the director of Research, School of Occupational Therapy in Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences. He holds a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Kentucky. He has nearly 30 years of teaching, research, and administrative experience at four previous academic institutions: Middlebury College, University of Texas Medical Branch, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Wayne State University. He has been the Principal Investigator or Co Investigator on 10 NIH research awards and has published over 100 peer reviewed articles, book chapters, and edited volumes. In addition to occupational science and occupational therapy, he has research interests in health geography, environmental gerontology, population health and health disparities, and social determinants of health.