

HOMeAGE

Advancing Research and Training on Ageing, Place and Home



— HOMeAGE —

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

**2nd Network-Wide Training Event
Meeting and Training Programme**

April 9th – 12th 2024

Venue: UNIVPM, Faculty of Economics, Piazzale R. Martelli, 8 - 60121 - Ancona, Italy

[\(link to the map\)](#)



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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.

Ancillary Meetings

9th April 2024

14:30 Steering and Supervisory Board Meeting
([UNIVPM, Faculty of Economics, Piazza Martelli 8, Ancona](#): Room Sala Consiglio)
Chair: Kieran Walsh

15:15 **Coffee break** (Patio of the University)

15:45 Welcome back plenary (Room: Sala Consiglio)

16:00 Research Working Group (WG) Meetings:

WG1: Chairs: Anu Siren & Francesco Barbabella (connected online) (Room: Sala Consiglio)

WG2: Chairs: Lucie Vidovicova & Frank Oswald (Room: T9)

WG3: Chairs: Alex Peine & Liesbeth De Donder (Room: T10)

17:00 Ancillary Meetings

HOMeAGE Reference Group (HRG): (Room: T9)

Doctoral Researchers (DR) Forum: (Room: T10)

17:45 DR Project Support Teams (PSTs) entry meeting: “*where did we leave off?*”

*See guidance document for PST members and room assignments

19:00 **Welcome aperitif**

Patio of the University

— HOMeAGE —

1st Network-Wide Training Event Programme 10-12th April 2024

Training Day 1 – 10th April

- 9:15 **Institutional welcome**
Representatives of UNIVPM & INRCA IRCCS (Room: Sala Consiglio)
- 9:30 **Welcome address**
Micol Bronzini (UNIVPM) & Giovanni Lamura (INRCA IRCCS)
- 9:45 **Introduction to HOMeAGE 2nd Training Event**
Kieran Walsh (Co-ordinator, University of Galway, Ireland)
- 10:00 **1. Theoretical Contributions on Ageing in Place (AIP) Systems - Public Event**
Chair: Giovanni Lamura (INRCA IRCCS)
- 10:05 **1.1. Challenges of emerging long-term care systems – Needs, rights and choices in Europe**
Kai Leichsenring (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria)
- 11:15 **Coffee break**
- 11:45 **1.2 Long-term care and the universal health coverage agenda: Establishing partnerships that can transform long-term care systems and service delivery**
Stefania Ilinca (World Health Organisation, Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark)
- 13:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00 **2. Methodological aspects of AIP research**
Chair: Marja Aartsen (Oslo Met, Norway)
- 14:05 **2.1 Strategies and challenges on inclusive approaches in Housing**
Rose Gilroy (Newcastle University, UK) – Public event
- 15:15 **Coffee break**

15:45 **2.2 Introduction to literature and systemised reviews**

Liesbeth De Donder (VUB, Belgium) & Kieran Walsh (University of Galway, Ireland)

16:45 **Project Support Teams**

Discussion on implications of theoretical and methodological presentations for DRs' individual projects

*See guidance document for PST members and room assignments

18:00 **Wrap up and Close**

19:30 **Social dinner**

Trattoria La Moretta, Piazza del Plebiscito 52, Ancona ([weblink](#))

Training Day 2 – 11th April 2024

9:00 3. Field site visits

The programme of the visits is below:

Time	Activity
9:00	Pick-up of participants from hotels
9:30	Visit of INRCA's "Laboratory for Movement Analysis & Robotic Rehabilitation"
10:30	Presentation of the "Smart Village" experience (UNIVPM, Faculty of Engineering)
11:30	Visit of the Social Farm "The smiling donkey" (Massignano, Ancona)
13:00	Light lunch at the social farm
14:30	Return to UNIVPM

14:30 4. Plenary discussion between HOMeAGE Reference Group (HRG) and DRs on the field visits

(Room: Sala Consiglio)

Chair: Kieran Walsh

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 5. Interactive session with DRs and HOMeAGE Ethical Advisory Board members

(Rose Gilroy, Newcastle University, UK; Atiya Mahmood, Simon Fraser University, Canada; Mark Schweda, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany)

(Room: Sala Consiglio) (CLOSED SESSION)

17:30: Project Support Teams: Discussion on possible implications of field study visits and session on ethical issues for DRs' individual projects

*See guidance document for PST members and room assignments

18:30 Wrap up and Close

Training Day 3 – April 12th

- 9:00 **6. Critical research and policy perspectives on digitalisation for AIP**
(Room: Sala Consiglio)
Chair: Rodd Bond
- 9:05 **6.1 What it means to be poor is constantly changing: A global policy perspective on older people's digital inclusion.**
Patricia Conboy (member of IPPRE: International Panel of Policy and Research Experts)
- 10:00 **6.2. Interdisciplinary Critical Studies of Ageing, Technology and Digitalisation — Inspirations from Science and Technology Studies (STS)**
Alex Peine (Open University of the Netherlands)
- 11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:30 **7. Bridging the gap: How to have policy impact at the intersection of ageing research and international organizations?**
Philipp Hessel (UNECE, Geneva, Switzerland)
Chair: Yongjie Yon
- 12:30 **Closing session:** evaluation of current Training Event and preliminary hints on the next event in October 2024 in Frankfurt (Germany)
- 13:00 **Lunch and departure**

Session Abstracts and Learning Outcomes

Training Day 1 – April 10th

1.1 Challenges of emerging long-term care systems – Needs, rights and choices in Europe

Kai Leichsenring (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria)

The session will help understand the terminology and essentials of long-term care system analysis in the context of population ageing. Based on selected key-indicators (facts & figures), we shall discuss key challenges of emerging long-term care systems in Europe focusing on needs assessment, governance/funding, coordination/integration of service delivery, quality assurance.

At the end of this session, students will have:

- a shared understanding of the long-term care sector in the European context of population ageing;
- an overview of key challenges in the governance and delivery of long-term care across Europe;
- a broader understanding of salient issues of international, comparative research in the area of long-term care.

1.2 Long-term care and the universal health coverage agenda – Establishing partnerships that can transform long-term care systems and service delivery

Stefania Ilinca (World Health Organisation, Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark)

The session will introduce long-term care within a public health approach to healthy ageing and in the context of the continuum of care services across the life course, focusing on strategies and opportunities to promote long-term care system transformation across the European region. In particular, we will discuss the value of partnerships and how applied and policy-oriented research helps build an evidence base that can guide and accelerate system transformation.

At the end of this session, students will:

- Gain familiarity with WHO guidance and key policy and advocacy documents, including the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing and the global Framework for Countries to achieve an integrated continuum of long-term care services
- Understand the key policy priorities for long-term care system and service delivery transformation within the European space (EU and WHO European region)
- Reflect on opportunities for researchers to participate actively in the policy dialogue, support the translation of evidence into practice and promote higher societal impact of research

2.1 Strategies and challenges on inclusive and participatory approaches in Housing

Rose Gilroy (Newcastle University, UK)

This session will explore the growing prevalence and significance of participatory approaches in the design and development of service and support systems for older people. With a particular focus on housing and accommodation, this session will examine some key considerations with respect to developing inclusive participatory strategies, with diverse and distinct groups of older people. It will also examine and discuss common challenges and pitfalls regarding such approaches, and the sort of measures that may be useful in overcoming these issues. Finally, this session will consider some questions for future work concerning these approaches and their effectiveness and inclusive.

After this session, doctoral researchers will be able to:

- Identify some of the common principles of inclusive and participatory strategies for integrating the voice of older people into housing and service development approaches.
- Understand the challenges, and some potential solutions, with respect to the fairness and effectiveness of these approaches for older people.

2.2 Introduction on how to perform literature and systematic reviews -

Liesbeth De Donder (VUB, Belgium) & Kieran Walsh (University of Galway, Ireland)

This interactive workshop session will examine literature reviews and systemised forms of literature reviews and their role in addressing complex research questions related to ageing in place. Concentrating on those reviews being currently developed by doctoral researchers, the session will explore the purpose and the scope of different kinds of reviews, and identify some of the shared and specific steps involved. Doctoral researchers will have the opportunity to discuss the role of the literature reviews in their study, and outline some of the key challenges and benefits of the process. Supportive strategies and constructive suggestions will be provided throughout the session.

After this session, doctoral researchers will be able to:

- Understand purpose, scope and application of different kinds of reviews, in the context of ageing in place research questions.

- Identify some of the key challenges in pursuing these reviews, and some of the key approaches that will help ensure their success

Training Day 2 – April 11th

3. Field Site Visit

This session will involve three site visits related to the broad topic of needs and systems. These visits include - 1) a local laboratory specialised in testing robotic and other technological solutions to promote ageing in place; 2) the presentation of the “Smart Village” experience; 2) an educational farm specialised in programmes of “social farming” to promote ageing in place in rural areas.

After the field visits Doctoral Researchers will be able to

- Appreciate current levels of technological advancement in supporting people to age in place;
- Understand the potential application of digital and smart home devices in a village model setting;
- Comprehend the impact of local social innovation on fostering and supporting sustainable forms of ageing in place

4. Plenary discussion between HomeAge Reference Group (HRG) and DRs on the field visits (*Room: Sala Consiglio*)

Chair: Kieran Walsh

The purpose of this session is to facilitate an exchange between the HOMeAGE Reference Group Members and Doctoral Researchers with regards to learnings from the site visits. The focus will be on critically examining these forms of innovation in the context of the lived experience of different and diverse populations ageing in global settings. While this is an open discussion it is expected that the conversation will address barriers and facilitators and resources and constraints with regard to leveraging the impact of these innovations.

After this session Doctoral Researchers will be able to:

- Appreciate the tensions and dilemmas regarding the potential realities of these kinds of innovations and their likely positive impacts and impediments;
- Appreciate the lived experience perspective with respect to interventions and pilot programmes and the success factors that need to be considered.

5. Interactive session with DRs and HOMeAGE Ethical Advisory Board members

(Rose Gilroy, Newcastle University, UK; Atiya Mahmood, Simon Fraser University, Canada; Mark Schweda, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany) (*Room: Sala Consiglio*) **(CLOSED SESSION)**

This session is part of the role of the Ethics Advisory Board in overseeing and advising on the networks adherence and performance with respect to ethical considerations. The session will provide DR's with an opportunity to reflect on the potential ethical issues and the risk inherent within their own research projects and to consider the kinds of mitigating factors that might be put in place to circumvent these issues and challenges.

After this session Doctoral Researchers will be able to:

- More readily reflect on ethical concerns, issues and risks with respect to their individual research projects;
- Actively consider ways to address and ameliorate this challenges and risks.

Training Day 3 – April 12th

6.1 What it means to be poor is constantly changing: A global policy perspective on older people's digital inclusion.

Patricia Conboy (member of IPPRE: International Panel of Policy and Research Experts)

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a growing global policy focus on counteracting digital divides, including between high-income countries and low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). This session will examine older people's digital access and barriers in LMICs; trends in policy and practice regarding inclusion of under-served groups, including older people; and strategic potential for the emergence of enabling environments to enhance ageing in place.

After this session, doctoral researchers will be able to:

- Navigate the policy landscape regarding global digital divides, understand the roles and priorities of stakeholders, and the implications for older people in LMICs in a context of global demographic ageing.
- Critically appraise gaps in policy concerning older people's digital access and potential strategies to address those gaps.

6.2. Interdisciplinary Critical Studies of Ageing, Technology and Digitalisation Inspirations from Science and Technology Studies (STS)

Alex Peine (Open University of the Netherlands)

This presentation gives an overview of recent theorising about the mutual shaping of ageing and technology. Based on several examples, I demonstrate some of the common problems that traditionally haunt technology development targeted at older people. These problems boil down to the fact that the relations between ageing and technology have remained under-

theorized, which has led to an “interventionist logic” that often causes ageism in technology development and innovation policy. I then present concepts and theories from the field of Science and Technology Studies (STS) – essentially critical studies of technology and society – and show how they can rectify some of the problems of the interventionist logic. I conclude with an alternative model – the co-constitution of ageing and technology – and highlight how such critical theorizing can help understand the role of older people in a digitalizing society better.

After this session, doctoral researchers will be able to:

1. Understand the development and relevance of Science and Technology Studies within the field of ageing research, and its capacity to nurture critical approaches.
2. Explore a critical scholarship concerning digitalisation in ageing societies, and the need to conceptualise and empirically study the drivers and determinants of inclusive digital technologies and process.

7. Bridging the gap: How to have policy impact at the intersection of ageing research and international organizations?

Philipp Hessel (UNECE, Geneva, Switzerland)

This presentation explores the intersection of (doctoral) research and policy development in the context of ageing populations. Drawing on the speaker's own experience navigating this space, the talk will discuss concrete ways of including a policy dimension into the planning, implementation, and dissemination of (doctoral) research projects. Participants will also gain insights into influencing policy through research, with a focus on entry points and strategies specifically relevant to ageing issues at the international level. Furthermore, the talk will offer perspectives on how to bridge the gap between policy and research throughout one's career.

Learning outcomes:

- 1) Insights into how to include a policy perspective into (doctoral) research;
- 2) Strategies on how to influence policy in the field of ageing.

About the Research Working Groups

HOMeAGE Research Working Groups (RWGs) 1-3 will monitor the alignment of specific IRPs with challenge objectives. This will be completed during regular WG meetings and WG annual reports.

It is suggested that each research working group should aim to meet at least once per quarter. This for example would involve two online meetings (between the network-wide training events) and two meetings at each of the training events (which for 2024 will be April/October). Working group leaders are asked to keep a record of when these meetings occur and a short description of what was discussed – the meeting agenda should suffice for this. WG leaders can also advise the co-ordinator/project manager of any issue or questions that arise during working group meetings.

Working Group Membership

HOMeAGE comprises of seven working groups, which are tasked with delivering each of its work packages. There are three research working groups (RWGs), with one dedicated to each challenge: needs and systems; home and belonging; rights and voice. There are four implementation working groups (IWGs): management and coordination; training and supervision; dissemination, exploitation and impact; and ethics.

- Doctoral researchers and associated partners are all members of their corresponding challenge RWG (e.g. if you are linked to a project on needs and systems, you are a member of that working group).



WG1- Needs and systems

Co-leads: Francesco Barbabella (INRCA) and Anu Siren (TAU)

- DRs 1-4 doctoral researchers: Lu Stoisser; Susan Thapa; Petra Zist; Fatemeh Hatami
- DRs 1-4 supervisors: An-Sofie Smetcoren; Giovanni Lamura; Micol Bronzini; Marco Arlotti; along with the WG leaders.
- DRs 1-4 associated partners: Carlos Chiatti and P. Olivetti; Ann Petermens; Herwig Teugels; Steven O'Hern; Susan Nordbakke



WG2- Home and Belonging

Co-leads: Lucie Vidovicova (MU) and Frank Oswald (GUF)

- DRs 5-7 doctoral researchers: Roua Shaban; Petra Tamasova; Preetha Joseph
- DRs 5-7 supervisors: Friedrich Wolf; Anna Wanka; Csaba Szaló; Sharon Walsh; Stephen O'Neill, Kieran Walsh; along with the WG leaders.
- DRs 5-7 associated partners – Jane Barratt; Jan Lorman; Chris Ryan.



WG3- Rights and Voice

Co-leads: Alex Peine (OU) and Liesbeth De Donder(VUB)

- DRs 8-12 doctoral researchers: Jianmei Zhou; Nil Meral; Pamela Suero; Fatima (Anna) Salomoni; Pippa Winship
- DRs 8-12 supervisors: Kieran Walsh; Marie Mahon; Matthias Drilling; Tine Buffel; Mark Hammond; along with the WG leaders.
- DRs 8-12 associated partners: Nat O'Connor; Hank Herman Nap; Julia Wadoux; Marja Aartsen; Paul McGarry; Thiago Herick de Sa; Fabien Neuhaus;

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 Project Support Teams

A Project Support Team (PST) will be established for each DR (12 PSTs in all), with the aim of ensuring a match between network-wide training and DR needs through entry and exit meetings at each training event. The PSTs will also ensure IRP alignment with HOMeAGE objectives, and will provide an additional research quality and student welfare check. PSTs will comprise two academic, one non-academic and one HRG (see below) member and will meet at least twice a year.

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

Training Day 1 – April 10th Biographies



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.



Giovanni Lamura leads the Centre for Socio-Economic Research on Ageing at IRCCS INRCA (Italy’s National Institute of Health and Science on Ageing). He graduated in economics, achieved a PhD in Life course and social policy (University of Bremen, Germany), and was visiting fellow at the University of Hamburg-Eppendorf (Germany) and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy & Research (Austria). His interests focus on international research on family and long-term care; migrant care work; interdisciplinary research on ageing. He has led several European projects on long-term care issues, including the use of new technologies to support care delivery and reduce the burden of family carers.



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.



Kai Leichsenring is Executive Director at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, since 2016. His research background is in Political Sciences/Social Policy (Dr.phil., University of Vienna) and Organisational Development Consultancy. He specialised in comparative and applied social research and policy consultancy with a focus on population ageing, health and long-term care, and related issues such as governance and financing, quality management, labour conditions, user involvement and informal care. Apart from coordinating many national and European R&D projects he collaborated with regional and national governments, and international agencies (UNECE, OECD, WHO, Worldbank, UNDP). He has represented the research community at the UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing and its Bureau since 2016. Moreover, he designed and facilitated workshops, conferences and trainings, and published a wide range of reports, articles and books, e.g.

- [*A research agenda for ageing and social policy*](#) (Ed. with A. and Sidorenko) Cheltenham 2024: Edward Elgar.
- *Long-term care in Europe – Improving policy and practice* (Ed. with J. Billings and H. Nies). Basingstoke 2013: Palgrave Macmillan.



Dr. Stefania Ilinca is Technical Officer for long-term care with the WHO Regional Office for Europe, a Senior Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health and a Salzburg Global Seminar fellow. She has extensive experience working at the interface between policy and research, dividing her time between policy advice, technical support, applied research and advocacy efforts. Her work focuses on innovation and service design in health and long-term care systems and discrimination and inequity in access to health and long-term care, with particular attention to strengthening care delivery for people with complex needs, supporting integrated care models and improving access to needed care over the life course.



Marja Aartsen, PhD, currently works as research professor at NOVA-Norwegian Social Research of Oslo Metropolitan University. She is a social gerontologist and specialized in longitudinal research on social relations, social exclusion, loneliness, and cognitive functioning in the second half of life. She is interested in social issues related to aging in place and active or successful ageing. Recent research projects and collaborations include gendered pathways to exclusion from social relations (GENPATH, until 2021), the COST Action reducing old-age social exclusion (ROSENET, until 2020), and multidimensional approach to social exclusion and its health consequences (AMASE). She

is associated partner in the HOMeAGE doctoral network and previous editor of the European Journal of Ageing (until 2022).



Rose Gilroy is Professor of Ageing, Planning and Policy in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, Newcastle University, UK. Her work focuses on the transactional relationship between older people and their place that embraces how people individually and collectively may influence their environments. Her latest book “Planning for an Ageing Society” was published by Lund Humphries in February 2021. Rose is committed to change and much of her work is action oriented. She is Chair of Newcastle Age Friendly City and the founder of the Future Homes Alliance that will be building multi-generational housing in the centre of Newcastle.



Liesbeth De Donder is Professor Adult Educational Sciences at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, where she teaches the courses “Community Development and Participation”, “Care, ethics and inclusion” and Master Thesis Seminar. Liesbeth is director of the Society and Ageing Research Lab, where she leads the research programme "Care and caring neighbourhoods". Liesbeth was coordinator of several national and European projects such as Wellbeing and Dignity of Older

People (WeDO), Detection, Support and Care of Older people: Prevention and Empowerment (D-SCOPE), and the European Social Fund project on Culturally Sensitive Care Ambassadors. In Flanders, she has been pioneering research on Caring Neighbourhoods since 2014. She received the VUB Excellent PhD Supervision Award in 2021 and published more than 100 papers in leading peer-reviewed journals in the fields of gerontology, care, education and social work.

Training Day 2 – April 11th Biographies



Soteris Avgoustis is general secretary of PA.SY.D.Y. Pensioners Union since 2010. His degree is in political sciences from Pantion University of Athens, Greece. The main goals of the union is to safeguard and promote the interests of its members, to organize excursions, dinners and other recreational activities for its members, to organize lectures and other informative activities, and to cooperate with European and International organisations promoting the interests of the pensioners. It also cooperates with similar organizations from other countries.



Rodd Bond was founder and director of the Netwell Centre, within the School of Health and Science at Dundalk Institute of Technology. Rodd graduated in architecture from Oxford Brookes University in 1982 launching a career that spanned from hospital master planning in the USA and Pakistan, to ageing-and-place research and innovation in Europe. Rodd's core interest is 'design as systematics', and the interrelationship between environmental structure and peoples' health and wellbeing. Rodd supported the formative stages of the WHO's age-friendly cities movement, and is committed to human development through place-making, and social innovation. Rodd supported the European Commission in the development of the first Action Plan for

Innovations in Age-Friendly Buildings, Cities and Environments, within the European Innovation Partnership on Active & Healthy Ageing. Since 2019, Rodd has been working independently across architectural practice, policy and research, taking inspiration from people, place and planet.



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).



Katalin Papp graduated as a paediatric nurse and worked in the paediatric unit. After a few years she went back to a secondary school to teach nursing students. When the BSc nurse program started in Hungary – in 1993 – she applied for the University of Debrecen Faculty of Health. Her qualifications are: paediatric nurse, nurse-teacher BA, pedagogy MA and education organizer MA. In 2010 she received her PhD degree in Health Science. She participated in the teamwork – in the developing and redeveloping the curricula for BSc health workers as well as for the MSc nurse education. She presented oral or poster presentations. She takes part in international conferences or congresses five or six times a year. She is often a member of international research projects. She organizes

local and international meetings, seminars and conferences. She has been on business trips in many

European countries. She is an editor of a national professional journal and three international journals. She is a reviewer of four international journals. She wrote 89 articles. She wrote textbooks for health care students. She is a member of ETNA and ENNE international associations. She is a board member of the Chamber of Hungarian Health Care Professionals and her responses for international relationships.



Vasileios (Vassili) Louziotis holds a BA in Economics (University of Athens, Greece) and an MBA (Louisiana State University). He was employed by Mobil (later ExxonMobil) for 35 years, holding various positions, initially in the Greek affiliate and later in the European Organization of the company, based in London and Brussels. His last position (2004 - 2009) was Training Manager for Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Following his retirement, he served as an Advisor to the Greek Confederation of Pensioners (2013- 2015) and is a member of the Advisory Board of 50Plus Hellas, an NGO focusing on the rights of older people (2015 - present). He also represents 50Plus Hellas in the Council of AGE Platform Europe, an umbrella organization of more than 100 NGOs

from across Europe.



Amanda T. Warren -FATEC – Federation of Seniors Associations of Catalunya, volunteer, Barcelona, Spain. At FATEC for 3 years, I participate in projects to reduce the digital divide and those involving international collaboration. I am also a volunteer at Amics de la Gent Gran (Friends of the Elderly) where we work to reduce loneliness in older people via personal companionship and activities. Professionally, I am a project manager in Urban Mobility and have two decades of experience in Germany and Spain in marketing communication. Furloughed from the Volkswagen Group during the Covid-19 pandemic, I started Vidalii which offers remote tech help to older adults to resolve any challenge requested. Recently, I have invested in VERMUT, an app which has created a space for people

with years of life experience to make new friends and enjoy endless activities they can also offer themselves. In a next career step I hope to do project management in the senior sector, perhaps around urban mobility.



Dr. Atiya Mahmood is a Professor at the Department of Gerontology at Simon Fraser University. She has a PhD in Architecture/Environment-Behaviour Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her training is in environmental gerontology and her research focuses on health and built environments for older adults with a specific interest in neighbourhood environments, mobility/walkability, active living and pro-social behaviour/social engagement of diverse groups of older adults in community-based and supportive housing. She has over two decades experience in qualitative and mixed methods research in the areas of environment-behaviour studies and aging and built environment.



Mark Schweda heads the Department of Ethics in Medicine at the Department of Health Services Research of Faculty VI - Medicine and Health Sciences at Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg. Prior to this, he was assistant professor at the Department of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine of the University Medical Center Göttingen, where he attained the *venia legendi*. Schweda was a Junior Research Fellow at the Lichtenberg-Kolleg / Göttingen School for Advanced Study (2014-2015) and spent research stays at the Center for Science, Technology, Medicine and Society of the University of California, Berkeley (2012), the Department of Philosophy of the San Francisco State University (2011), as well as at the Center for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics at the University of Lancaster (2009). His academic qualification at the Humboldt University at Berlin and the University of Nottingham (UK) included philosophy, German philology and journalism.

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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 the policy arena, ranging from partnership working at community level through to policy influencing at national, European and global levels. 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.



Alexander Peine is Full Professor of Culture, Innovation and Communication at the Open Universiteit. His research links two pertinent societal developments (i) population ageing, including the challenges it allegedly poses for care and health systems, and (ii) technological change, including the push towards more interactive and 'smarter' technologies. In simple terms, Alex studies what population ageing means for the way we organise and direct technology and innovation, and, vice versa, how technology and innovation have come to shape how we age and how we imagine the future of health and care. In this research, he likes to combine the theories and methods of Science and Technology Studies (STS) and Social Gerontology or Age Studies. Alex is the founding chair of the Socio-gerontechnology Network and the Chair of the societal advisory board of the EU's

Joint Programming Initiative "More Years, Better Lives" (JPI-MYBL). Before joining the Open University, Alex was an Associate Professor at Utrecht University, the laureate of a prestigious Max Weber post-doctoral fellowship at the European University Institute in Florence, and a Principal Investigator at Berlin University of Technology.



Dr. Yongjie Yon is the Technical Officer for Ageing and Health at the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark. Leading the healthy ageing programme for the WHO European Region, he supports 53 Member States in implementing the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing. Dr. Yon was a Doctoral Fellow with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and holds a PhD in Gerontology from the University of Southern California. He has published extensively on public health and ageing and prior to his current role, he served as a Policy Analyst for ageing policies with the Federal Government of Canada.



Philipp Hessel is Associate Population Affairs Officer with the Population Unit of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). He holds a PhD in demography from the LSE and has published widely on issues related to ageing, health and social policy. Before joining the UNECE, he worked as an assistant to a Member of the European Parliament as well as in research, including five years as Associate Professor at the School of Government of the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia.