



# Australian Association of Gerontology (Inc)

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Exploring the Meaning of Ageing through research, policy and practice

Gold Coast International Hotel  
9-11 November 2005

*Expanding  
Knowledge  
of Ageing*

There is to be an important and interesting ageing research conference on the Gold Coast this week. There will be presentations from Australia's leading researchers into ageing and from professionals, including clinicians, economists, demographers, lawyers and architects.

Organised by the Australian Association of Gerontology, the conference aims to bring together the many strands of learning which allow us to understand and manage the challenges posed by our ageing population.

"Ageing well is everyone's objective, but there is still much to understand about how this can be achieved" commented Acting Association President, Barbara Squires.

One keynote speaker is Jon Pynoos, Professor of Gerontology at the Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California in Los Angeles. With awards for his work in design and gerontology from national and international associations, his research includes falls prevention, housing modifications to improve caregiver health, and social policy. (*Wednesday 9 November, 10:00 AM*)

Also speaking is Dr Norman Swan the highly regarded, multi-award winning producer and broadcaster. Dr Swan will talk on the **Medical Research Scorecard**. Not surprisingly at a research focused conference, directions for future ageing research will be a hot topic at the conference. (*Thursday 10 November 9:00:AM*)

Other special events this year include:

- **100 Not-out: the Mature aged workforce**, Presentations followed by an industry panel which will address the challenges and opportunities faced by employers using mature age workers. The afternoon will be of interest not just to researchers but far more broadly to employers seeking to retain an experienced and competent workforce. (*Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November*)
- The Commonwealth National Speaker series **Building Better Communities**. Facilitated by Dr Keith Suter, well known social commentator, strategic planner, conference speaker, writer and broadcaster, the program focuses on designing living environments to keep older people living in the community. (*Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 10:00 AM*)
- The **Great Debate** will address the topic "**All residential aged care facilities should be bulldozed**". It will be informative, challenging and entertaining. The debate is to be chaired by Sue Pieters-Hawke and is a "not to be missed" conference highlight. (*Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 4:30 PM*)

National President:  
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- On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November Dr Lisa Jackson-Pulver of the Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit UNSW will talk on aboriginal longevity. In the afternoon the focus will be on the health of ageing Indigenous people. The symposium includes a presentation by Leon Flicker, Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Western Australia. (*Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2:30 PM*)

Other Speakers include:

- Professor Jeff Richardson, Faculty of Business and Economics at Monash University and Foundation Director of the Centre for Health Economics;
- Christine and Paul Bryden, drawing on personal experiences with early onset dementia;
- Bruce Campbell MBE, 2003, Senior of the year;
- Dr Mukesh Haikerwal, President of the Australian Medical Association;
- Paul Bell President of the Australian Local Government Association and the Local Government Association of Queensland.

A detailed program is available on our website at:  
<http://www.aag.asn.au/conference>

**For further information contact:**

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