



AAG National

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF GERONTOLOGY

April 2006

2005 – 2006

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From The President

Population ageing, fertility decline, health status and longevity are all closely associated with the wealth of nations and the wealth of local communities within nations. Australia, as a whole, is high in the comparative health and wealth stakes with correspondingly low fertility and a benignly ageing population in economic terms. For example, population ageing will impact less on rising health care costs than an upsurge in high technology medicine and new pharmaceuticals for all ages. In contrast, the poorest nations, and the poorest communities, are generally the most fertile, the lowest in health status and the shortest lived.

However we also see these factors in action in Australia. This occurs in sectors with lower socio-economic status and high unemployment; in specific groups including disadvantaged immigrant communities. This is particularly the case for indigenous Australians, where the 20 year gap in life span compared with the non-indigenous community and with indigenous groups overseas, is a national disgrace which requires immediate attention, sustained action and on-going national inquiry to seek causes and implement solutions.

Longevity and good health are thus closely related to wealth, income and opportunity, consistent with a pervasive belief that solutions to social disadvantage and deprivation are primarily economic and narrowly market driven. However, the benefits of economic growth may be accompanied by an increase in social inequality with declining life span (as in Russia) or a widening of the gap between rich and poor (as in the USA). Economic growth may also decrease the overall good by causing environmental degradation (as we see today in Australia and as we fear in a developing China and India). Moreover the underlying determinants of health, fertility and successful ageing are both complex and time related. As world populations have aged over the past 200 years, these determinants have changed; from defeating largely external or environmental factors in the 19th to mid 20th centuries (trauma, war, epidemics, starvation, absent sanitation and illiteracy); to addressing complex health and socio-economic issues in the second half of the 20th century (the rise of chronic systemic disease, nutrition and obesity, the changing role and status of women, the pursuit of full employment, rising levels of education).

While the market based approach of the past decades has led to gains in life span by maintaining or increasing the wealth of many nations, and reducing poverty in others (particularly in south-east Asia, China and India) it has by-passed Africa, failed to reduce the overall wealth gap between rich and poor countries, led to accelerated environmental damage, and it has not produced the much touted “trickle down effect” in many disadvantaged communities in wealthy countries such as USA and Australia.

Successful ageing or “Ageing Well, Ageing Productively”, which is our current national mantra, clearly needs a new approach for the 21st century; one that supplements and extends market based economic strategies on the

one hand and current public health policies on the other. Following the defeat of epidemic infections in the first stage of population ageing, public health has focused on reducing the 20th century burden of chronic heart, lung

and vascular disease through improved nutrition, physical exercise and smoking cessation. However this public health risk and medical intervention approach has patently failed our indigenous communities, who require more innovative methods to defeat disadvantage, poverty, poor health and high mortality; and this approach has limited value in other groups with low socio-economic status and high unemployment, such as disadvantaged migrant communities.

An alternative approach to reducing poor health outcomes and promoting healthy ageing, particularly in at risk communities, is promoting brain development in children and adults by improving education and employment opportunities. A body of research now confirms that brain size and intelligence in early life are important determinants of good health at older ages and of longevity. High literacy rates in the Indian state of Kerala have long been known to be independently associated with increased life span – the Kerala Paradox.

“We are what we eat” is at most a half truth. We are more an amalgam of nutrition, what we inherit (our genes) and brain development through good parenting, community supports and life-long education. The most important determinants of healthy ageing and longevity, in the modern world, are cognitive and behavioural. In the 21st century we need to move on from a purely physical and medical approach to health and ageing to one that embraces mental and cognitive activities. In underprivileged communities this means a focus on education at all levels; not only better schools and pre-schools but special access to tertiary and continuing education and job opportunities at high skill levels. Making such an educational approach universal and life-long would correspondingly benefit the whole society.

Tony Broe
President



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National Activities

Responding to the abuse of older people

The AAG has welcomed the rapid response of the Minister for Ageing, the Hon Santo Santoro, to the serious issues raised by recent allegations of sexual abuse at aged care facilities. These reports have forced us all to confront the fact that the sexual abuse of older people does happen. While it appears to be rare, it is extremely serious and disturbing when it happens.

The importance and topicality of this issue and of the wider issue of abuse of older people has led the AAG to begin drafting a *Position Paper*. Still in draft, this paper is the first to be developed through the newly established Policy Network, and all interested members are urged to comment and contribute. Copies of the draft statement are available from Janet Angel at janet.angel@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au. Once finalised, the paper will be posted on the AAG website.

The initial thinking behind this *Position Paper* is that knee jerk responses such as the introduction of mandatory reporting are to be avoided. Such responses may give the appearance of action but do not provide additional resources, either for the investigation of allegations or for the care and support of victims. Sexual assault is a crime and there is no need for a new system of mandatory reporting when there are already laws and procedures in place to deal with what are criminal offences. Rather than some new administrative system, there needs

to be in place procedures and training so that aged care providers know when to call in the police and sexual assault services, and how to assist and not hinder their investigations.

Media reports indicate that routine police checks on all potential employees and volunteers will be one outcome from the recent publicity, following high level advisory meetings convened by the Minister. This is a step forward and will stop people who have been convicted of fraud, theft or violence gaining access to frail or vulnerable older people. However, convictions for sexual assault are rare and it would be more effective if "working with children" checks were extended to include those who work with adults who are vulnerable to abuse because of frailty, dementia or disability. Such checks would go a long way towards stopping sexual predators who can no longer easily gain access to children moving into jobs in aged care. There is anecdotal evidence that dementia facilities and disability services are increasingly being targeted in this way.

Sadly, no community can prevent criminal acts by individuals. Aged care providers need to know how to detect sexual assault promptly if it happens and to respond appropriately. The other area that should be promoted is the development by aged care providers of policies and procedures that will help to prevent abuse of all types

and assist them to respond promptly and appropriately.

Highlighting the importance of the issue of abuse of older people and its relevance to members and others, Associate Professor Susan Kurrle, Curran Chair in Health Care of Older People, University of Sydney, will give the 2006 David Wallace Address at the AAG National Conference in Sydney in November 2006. Prof Kurrle will present on *Treatment or mistreatment: Medication as an agent of abuse of older people*.

To further strengthen the AAG's contribution to this important policy agenda, the AAG (NSW) will hold a one-day symposium on *Abuse of Older People* in Sydney on 15 June 2006. This is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, sponsored by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (www.inpea.net). The Symposium will bring together a range of experts who will outline what constitutes the abuse of older people and how to recognise and respond to it. The Symposium will have a special focus on sexual assault of older people, especially those in residential aged care. (See notice in this Newsletter for further details).

Barbara Squires

Immediate Past President of the AAG

Vale Elsie Harwood

Dr Elsie Harwood AM, MA, PhD, DSc(hc), FAPsS, AFBPsS, a pioneer in the field of the psychology of ageing, died on 31 December, 2005, aged 94. A life member of the AAG and the very first David Wallace presenter, Elsie was a lecturer and researcher in psychology at the University of Queensland, where she made major contributions to the understanding of the psychology of ageing and to the growth of psychology as a major discipline.

Her pioneering work in geropsychology was acknowledged in 1992 by the Australian Psychological Society, which instituted the Elsie Harwood Award for a final year psychology honours thesis. She also pioneered what today might be considered trauma counselling and also human resources management, when during WWII, she became a member of the Volunteer Emergency Psychological Service assessing soldiers on return from active service and those recruits experiencing training difficulties.

Starting as an Assistant Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Queensland, in 1955 she became Senior Lecturer and later Reader in Psychology. On retirement in 1976 she was appointed Honorary Research Consultant (Gerontology Research). In 1957 she completed one of the University's first PhDs. In 1966 with Dr George Naylor she commenced a project popularly known as "Operation Retirement". It was this work that provided a guide to elderly people about what was possible during retirement – especially new learning and re-learning. In 1970 she was appointed to the Neurosurgical Case Conference at the Mater Hospital.

Her awards include Honorary Doctorate of Science from UQ, Member of the Order of Australia and Honorary Life Membership of Friends of Antiquity. In recent years she put her own research into practice, becoming a member of a group which met regularly to read Homer and other classical texts (in the original Latin and Greek.)



Dr Elsie Harwood

A popular teacher, Elsie was respected by students and colleagues and seen by many as one of the most potent influences in their lives. To quote her nephew Paul Harwood "She was never fashionable but always fun."

National Activities

New Website

The AAG is pleased to announce its revised and expanded web site – located at www.aag.asn.au. The new site has more background information about the AAG and capacity for all Divisions to include information about local activities. The site has new pages for policy issues, indigenous ageing and the Student Section. It is anticipated the Student Section will include some form of mailing list in the near future. Thanks to Janet Angel and Chris Shanley for coordinating the content and Joe Stewart from Graphmap for building the new site.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Committee

The main focus in recent months has been to develop activities at the Divisional level. Victoria has had a successful presentation (see State Activities in this newsletter). In South Australia Rob Ranzjin convened a meeting on 17 March of interested members with a view to developing proposals for both the 2006 and 2007 conferences, and also to consider how to contribute to the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Committee. A face-to-face indigenous network meeting is scheduled for 5 April at QUT in Brisbane.

The committee has identified potential indigenous speakers for the 2006 Conference and Pat Anderson from the NT and currently Chair of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health has tentatively accepted an invitation to present.

Membership increase

Membership of the AAG has increased over the past year. This was helped considerably by a number of people who joined at the National Conference at the Gold Coast last November. It has also been helped by Divisions organising an active local program of meetings, conferences and other activities that provide networking opportunities for members. All members are encouraged to explore what chances they have to promote membership of the AAG to their colleagues.

National Aged Care Alliance (NACA)

AAG representatives have almost finalised the paper *AHMAC and Beyond: A strategic Framework for the Health Care of Older Australians*. This work has been led by AAG National President, Professor Tony Broe. Now sent to NACA members for formal signing off, it is expected that it will be presented to the Council of Australian Governments at their meeting in April. Once finalised, it will be posted on both the AAG and NACA websites. A paper on research priorities is also being led by AAG. Other major issues being addressed by NACA include the long-term financing of residential care, funding and assessments, a planned dementia symposium and workforce strategy.

Policy Network

To date there have been eight members who have put their names forward as willing to contribute to the policy network and a further ten names have been suggested by Divisions as likely to be interested. Not all Divisions have as yet responded with nominations. The initial tasks for the committee are:

- A Position Statement on Elder Abuse
- Response to the Productivity Inquiry into the Health Workforce.
- Comments on the Research Priority paper being prepared for the NACA.

It is anticipated that drafts of the papers will be circulated to those who have expressed interest in the network during March and April.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15

Abuse of Older People

Wesley Conference Centre
Pitt St, Sydney

AAG (NSW) will hold a one-day symposium on *Abuse of Older People* in Sydney on 15 June. It will bring together a range of experts who will outline what the abuse of older people means and how to recognise and respond to it. The Symposium will have a special focus on sexual assault of older people, especially those in residential aged care. Speakers will include:

- Assoc Prof Sue Kurrle – Curran Chair in Health Care of Older People, University of Sydney
- Paul Sadler – CEO, ACSA (NSW & ACT);
- Barbara Squires – Director, Centre on Ageing, The Benevolent Society
- Pam Rutledge – Director, Office for Ageing, DADHC
- Marion Brown – Deputy President, NSW Guardianship Tribunal
- Representatives of NSW Police and the legal fraternity/sorority

Understanding the incidence of sexual assault, learning how to recognise and respond to abuse and how to work appropriately with sexual assault services and the police will make this an invaluable day for anyone working with older people.

Details and the complete program will be available on the NSW Division page of the AAG website: www.aag.asn.au For information call Janet Gilchrist on 02 9767 7158.

National Conference

2006 Australian Association of Gerontology Diversity in Ageing National Conference



22-24 November • Wesley Conference Centre • Pitt St, Sydney

The theme and topic areas

Planning for this year's National Conference is well underway. The major theme of the Conference is Diversity in Ageing. Topic areas that will be covered include:

Cultural diversity:

attitudes to ageing; indigenous ageing; crossing linguistic and ethnic divides; culturally appropriate care; health differences between groups; spiritual needs

Gender diversity:

men's ageing; women's ageing; ageing amongst the gay and lesbian community

Health diversity:

healthy ageing; ageing well; chronic conditions; acute care; residential care; community care; mental health

Social diversity:

social inequality and poverty; economic impact of ageing; globalisation; mature age employment; financial planning; urban/regional planning

Keynote Speakers

The **RM Gibson Lecture** will be given by the RM Gibson Travelling Fellow **Professor Chris Phillipson**. His presentation will be titled *Globalization, ageing and inequality*.

Chris Phillipson has held the post of Professor of Applied Social Studies and Social Gerontology, at the University of Keele since 1988 where he is currently Pro-Vice Chancellor (Learning & Academic Development). Previously, he was Dean of Research (Faculty of Social Sciences). He is immediate past President of the British Society of Gerontology and a member of the Training and Development Board of the Economic and Social Research Council. He has been a visiting professor to universities in Japan and the USA.

Professor Phillipson has a specialist interest in social theory applied to ageing and in social policy issues relating to family life and inequality in old age. Recent publications include *Ageing, Globalization and Inequality* (co-edited) (Baywood, 2006) and *The Futures of Old Age* (co-edited) (Sage, 2006). Other areas of current interest include issues relating to work and retirement and the problems facing older people living in deprived urban communities.

The **David Wallace Address** will be given by Associate Professor Susan Kurrle and the title will be *Treatment or mistreatment: Medication as an agent of abuse of older people*.

Associate Professor Susan Kurrle is a geriatrician in hospital and community practice at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Health Service where she is Director of the Rehabilitation and Aged Care Service. She also holds the Curran Chair in Health Care of Older People in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney. She has had a long interest and involvement in research into elder abuse, and has published in the local and international medical literature on this issue. She has been a professional member of the NSW Guardianship Tribunal since 1992, and also deals with the management of cases of elder abuse in her day to day clinical work.

Publication Options

Accepted abstracts will be published for distribution to conference delegates as well as appearing on the web as a supplement to the Australasian Journal on Ageing. All people submitting an abstract will have the option of also submitting a full paper for peer review that will be published as conference proceedings.

Poster Prize

A poster presentation can be a great way to get your information across to other conference delegates. A prize will be awarded to the most outstanding poster presentation.

A networking opportunity

The AAG National Conference is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old, and meet new colleagues. The program includes a Welcome Reception, Conference Dinner and informal networking that will complement a full and interesting scientific program.

Conference Registration goes on-line

New for 2006 is a secure on-line delegate registration option on the Internet. Full 'Early Registration' information will be available in early April on the conference website: www.aag.asn.au/conference2006.htm. Delegates can either follow the instructions to register and confirm participation completely on-line or they can download the registration form for a more traditional method. Please note on-line registration is only available for credit card payments (VISA, MasterCard or Bankcard). This service is completely secure and will provide prompt delegate confirmation. The 'Early' registration fees are \$550 for AAG Members, \$610 for non-members or \$320 for Concession (Student or Pensioner ID) and are available up to 31 July 2006. These prices represent excellent value for this three-day conference and include all conference materials, lunches and teas for three days, welcome reception and the conference dinner.

Important Dates

- Call for Abstracts: Available NOW
- Early Registration plus on-line registration: Available April
- Closing Date for Abstract Submission: 22 May 2006
- Conference Program: June/July 2006
- Deadline for Early Registration: 31 July 2006

Further Information

East Coast Conferences, Conference Managers
PO Box 848, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
Email: aag@eastcoastconferences.com.au
Tel: 1300 368 783
Fax: 02 6650 9700
www.aag.asn.au/conference2006.htm

Who's Who

Marianne Cummins



Marianne is the President of the AAG ACT Division. She is currently Clinical Nurse Consultant - Commissioning the Sub Acute Rehabilitation Ward, Calvary Hospital, ACT Health. Marianne has had a long career working as a nurse consultant in Gerontology/Psychogeriatrics in NSW and the ACT, working for more than 20 years at each of Lidcombe and Concord Hospitals as well as periods in the Port Macquarie and Newcastle areas. She spent three years as Nurse Consultant (Psychogeriatrics/Gerontology) in the Department of Veterans' Affairs Exceptional Case Unit, and has only recently returned to the ACT. A registered nurse since 1975 she also has a Bachelor of Health Science (Nursing) 1995 Charles Sturt University and an extensive set of post qualification training.

Marianne has had extensive experience in teaching and care delivery across different settings, particularly with challenging behaviours, delirium, dementia and depression. She has more than 13 published papers on aspects of clinical nursing care including wound management and challenging behaviours and has presented many times at seminars and workshops.

Working with veterans has allowed her to travel widely as Consultant Nurse with veterans to battle sites including Singapore, Papua New Guinea, Borneo, the "Hellfire Pass" (Thai-Burma Railway), the Western Front and Gallipoli. She has also co-facilitated one of the pilot programs as part of the Rural and Remote Telephone Support Groups for Carers of People with Dementia Project with Alzheimer's Australia NSW.

Pamela Johnson



Pamela is the President of the AAG Victoria Division. Pamela qualified as a Registered Nurse, Division One at the Royal Melbourne Hospital in Victoria. After working in an administrative nursing role in the acute sector for many years, Pamela transferred her affection to the aged care sector where her employment included positions of Director of Nursing or C.E.O in both the private and government sectors.

Pamela has participated in building, commissioning and gaining accreditation in facilities, as well as completing a Graduate Diploma in Health Administration, Masters Degrees in Gerontology as well as in

Conflict Resolution. She is a Fellow and a Distinguished Service member of the AAG. She has particular interests in advocacy for older people with dementia and has enjoyed some years as a volunteer part-time community guardian with the Office of the Public Advocate in Victoria. This position has developed an interest in conflict resolution.

Pamela is currently participating in an NHMRC funded research on pain in older people with dementia which is being conducted by the National Ageing Research Institute and, as a student of the La Trobe University, aims to complete a PhD.

Sharon Andrews



Sharon is the recently appointed Tasmanian representative on the Student Section. She is a registered nurse, with a background in palliative care and aged care nursing. She has recently undertaken positions as a clinical nurse educator with involvement in the aged care re-entry pilot program and palliative approach workshops in aged care. Sharon has a particular interest in staff development for aged care nurses and the promotion of evidence-based practice. Sharon has worked as a research assistant/project manager at the University of Tasmania, where she was involved in the "Building Connections in Aged Care" Project – which focused on undergraduate student nurse experiences when undertaking clinical placement in aged care.

Sharon is also been the chairperson of the Tasmanian Aged Care Special Interest group and has a passion for promoting a positive profile of aged care nurses. Sharon is enrolled in a PhD in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Tasmania. Her research is focused on developing nursing practice around a palliative approach for people with dementia in a residential special care unit. She is employing an action research approach to ensure that the research is relevant to the needs of aged care nurses and people with dementia and their families. Other research interests include critical theory and interpretative methods such as phenomenology.

Student Space

“When I was a student”

An interview with Professor Tony Broe

Professor Tony Broe has had a distinguished academic career. Starting in 1956 with a BA in history, anthropology and geography, he then studied medicine and graduated with his MB BS in 1962. All this study was at the University of Sydney. He completed training in General Medicine in 1966. Professor Broe studied overseas on Fellowships from the Public Service Board, WHO Public Health and the Australian Association of Neurology. This involved studies in Geriatric Medicine at the University of Glasgow and Neurology at the Mayo Clinic in the USA. He achieved his FRACP in 1973.



Prof Tony Broe on Sydney Harbour

Professor Broe received an AM for services to Geriatric Medicine in 1987 and is currently Scientific Director of the Ageing Research Centre at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Professor of Geriatric Medicine at The University of New South Wales and a Senior Research Scientist at the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute.

What was it like when you were a student?

It was great. I started Arts in 1954 and enjoyed uni so much I applied for a scholarship to Medicine and so I spent 9 years as a full time undergraduate student. I married in 4th year Medicine and we started a small tribe of children so I had to take a paid NSW Health Department Cadetship, which gave me a salary for my last 3 years of Medicine; although I then had to spend 5 years working for the Department of Health at Lidcombe Hospital and Home as a Cadet. After 5 years at Lidcombe, I then got Fellowships for postgraduate studies in Europe and USA.

When did you realise that you wanted to work with the aged and ageing?

Lidcombe was an amazing institution with 2000 “Home” beds full of derelict and/or chronically ill older men. There was a small hospital of 100 beds attached, which was staffed by conscripted cadets with Honours degrees and a bunch of unusual staff specialists. I took to it like a duck to water and decided to become a geriatrician, because I realised I liked old people and the more eccentric they were the more I liked them. I then became a neurologist because most of the patients I saw had brain disorders of one sort or another that I couldn’t work out. I had to go to the UK to do my research in geriatric medicine because there was no training in Australia. I finished my neurology in the USA.

How did your educational training help you to find work in the field of gerontology?

At Lidcombe Hospital in the 1960s we largely trained ourselves – but for one year

we trained with one of Australia’s pioneers in gerontology – Dr Sidney Sax – who was an emigrant from apartheid in South Africa and an inspirational teacher. He also helped us to get our Public Service Board Fellowships to study Gerontology overseas. During 1965 to 1969, when I was at Lidcombe, the AAG was founded and we participated in the first meetings. We founded the Australian Society of Geriatric Medicine in 1976.

Why would you recommend a degree in gerontology to future students?

During this century Gerontology will be at the cutting edge of social, biological and cognitive/behavioural sciences as we gradually work out how to adapt to a society in which ageing is the norm. Population growth is not expected of us and relentless economic growth is not seen as the answer to everything (i.e. after our present leaders retire or – an unlikely event – they become born-again “liberals”). Australia’s population will stabilize at 30 million and, if we are not too late to save it, the planet’s population will hit 9 billion (still gross). Hopefully we can all start to age gracefully this century – or disgracefully if we want to. This will even include the people of the Third World, if we work out that selfishness is no answer to the world’s ills.

What is one of your favourite quotes or sayings?

From John Kenneth Galbraith: “The modern conservative is engaged in one of man’s oldest exercises in moral philosophy: that is, the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness”.

Thank you for your time Prof Tony Broe

Interview conducted by Taylor Dong

RM GIBSON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUND

Call for 2006 Applications

\$15,000 is available for the award of up to three grants to members of the AAG for medical research.

Research can include any investigative project undertaken by a person practising in the field of gerontology. Research projects must be related directly to issues or disorders associated with ageing. Projects must be innovative. There is no age limit for applicants but grants are intended for beginning researchers. Applicants must be able to supply evidence that appropriate supervision will be available.

The fund supports research projects by contributing to salaries, equipment and materials, computing charges and other essential expenses. Grants are in the form of a single amount and will not be repeated for the same project. Grants may contribute to a larger project.

Grant awardees will be expected to present the results of their research project at an AAG National Conference. A free registration will be provided and additional support for travel may be granted for this purpose.

The RM Gibson Scientific Research Committee will make the final decision regarding the award of grants.

Application forms are available from:

Australian Association of Gerontology
PO Box 91
Belconnen ACT 2616
Phone: (02) 6253 2011
Fax: (02) 6253 0377
Email: aag@associationoffices.com.au

Or can be downloaded from the web www.aag.asn.au

CLOSING DATE 30 JUNE 2006

ERA 2006

The Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) Conference has been held in Brisbane annually for the past four years. This year it will be held in Sydney on November 21, the day before the AAG National Conference. ERA 2006 is being organised by the College of Health Sciences at The University of Sydney in association with the Australasian Centre on Ageing at The University of Queensland. The overall format and style of the conference will be in keeping with previous years. The details of the conference are being developed at the moment and should be available by the end of April at www2.chs.usyd.edu.au/era2006

Student Space

The Australian Sociological Association 2005 Conference

There appears to be an exponential growth in the interest of ageing and aged care issues both nationally and internationally in recent years. The issues revolving around ageing populations has led to the emergence of a number of conferences, workshops, symposia and colloquia addressing ageing and aged care issues; the corollary of which has been an increase in dialogue between policy makers and academic researchers about building the evidence base to inform policy and support an ageing population.

The impending ageing of the population and the ensuing social, economic and political consequences will have a profound and multifarious impact on Australian society. Consequently, there is a need to continue to promote the ageing research agenda and encourage emerging researchers to engage with ageing research across a spectrum of disciplines.

For my own part, I recently had the opportunity to present a paper from my (yet to be completed but almost there) PhD thesis at The Australian Sociological Association

(TASA) National Conference in Hobart in December 2005. This was my first time on the big stage in front of my peers presenting, and while the inevitable nausea associated with nerves left me feeling as if I had eaten cement for breakfast, the experience was uplifting and gave me new found confidence in my subject with the positive feedback I received.

Most importantly, however, this was an opportunity to generate interest in social gerontology amongst academics who had not given much thought to how their own studies either directly or indirectly relate to ageing and aged care issues. The paper I presented was on how men negotiate masculinities over the life course as a consequence of changes associated with their health and ageing bodies. The audience was predominantly gender theorists who had given little thought to issues of older people. Thus I was able to introduce them to the world of social gerontology.

Disappointingly, of the 200 plus papers presented at TASA, only a handful were



Tony Coles at the TASA Conference

related to ageing. Of the 16 themes areas, not one was related to ageing or social gerontology. So this is a call to all those sociologists and social gerontologists out there – let's bring ageing to the fore of sociology by presenting papers on ageing issues at the next TASA Conference in December 2006. It's time to get more sociologists excited about ageing!

Tony Coles

PhD Candidate
University of Tasmania

A Post Card from Germany

Following the ERA and AAG conferences at the beginning of November 2005, I had the opportunity to travel to Germany to undertake training in the technique of Transcranial Sonography (TCS). This unique opportunity was funded by the Alzheimer's Australia Research Travelling Scholarship. I was based at the Neurology Ward at the CRONA Klinikum in the quaint little city of Tübingen, about an hour by train from Stuttgart. During my training period, I was very fortunate to be under the supervision of experts in TCS in respect to Parkinson's disease (PD) and related disorders.

Being in a hospital environment enabled me to learn and practice the relatively new and exciting technique of TCS on many different individuals from the Neurology Wards – both diseased and non-diseased. They were quite willing to help an "ausländer" learn and practice as much as he could on their brains. I shall be using TCS to study whether older people with gait slowing exhibit the same increased echogenicity (signal intensity) as those with PD.

Following my ten days in Germany, I attended an International Neuroscience Conference in



Stephen Duma practising his transcranial sonography

Al Ain, United Arab Emirates. It was great to be able to experience a different non-western culture. The conference itself was of a world class standard, focusing on genetics based research. However, in line with my own current field of research, there were several presentations of clinical studies.

Overall, it was a fantastic experience, which resulted in my being able to further open my eyes to the world of neuroscience, as well

as to learn a technique which I am using for my PhD to determine the underlying causes of gait slowing, and their relation to late-onset Parkinson's disease.

Stephen Duma

PhD Student
Prince of Wales Medical Research
Institute, University of NSW

Have you been somewhere interesting?... Send a postcard to the AAG National

Gerontology News

Cochrane Library National License Renewed

Australians will continue to enjoy free access to the Cochrane Library following NICS' renewal of the national license for a further two-years. The Cochrane Library is an online database that synthesises scientific research drawn from around the world. It is renowned as the best single source of reliable evidence on the effects of health care. The National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) has produced a User Guide, for help in navigating the Library see www.nicssl.com.au.

First EPOC Cochrane Review Group for Australia

An Effective Practice And Organisation of Care (EPOC) Cochrane Review Group satellite in Australia has recently been established, thanks to funding by the Australian Government. The EPOC satellite, the first in Australia, will be based at NICS. The focus of EPOC is on reviews of organisational interventions designed to improve health care delivery and health care systems, such as multidisciplinary teams, specialist outreach, changes in medical recording systems and case management. By focusing on interventions that are particularly relevant to Australia, the new EPOC satellite aims to aid evidence-based policy-making and improve health care practice and delivery in Australia. The satellite will also provide support to the 15 EPOC reviewers and contributors currently in Australia, as well as train more EPOC reviewers. For more information contact pr@nicssl.com.au

Resources and news from NICS

The *Where's The Evidence?* website is an informative site that provides health professionals with a range of useful resources, dedicated to supporting clinicians in finding evidence that is relevant and current.

Identifying Barriers to Evidence Uptake is a new guide, for health professionals who want to increase evidence uptake in specific clinical areas. This practical, how-to, guide aims to provide health care professionals with basic information about techniques from focus groups and case studies to direct observation and Delphi technique. To download a copy of the resource, go to the NICS website www.nicssl.com.au

NICS will soon be contacting health organisations to request copies of any Clinical Practice Guidelines they have produced, sponsored or endorsed in order

to produce a list of all current Australian Clinical Practice Guidelines and identify those that can be easily accessed on the web.

The NICS *Using Evidence: Using Guidelines Symposium*, to be held in Melbourne, October 19 & 20, 2006 will bring together overseas and local experts who've successfully implemented guidelines. Experts, include Dr Brian Mittman (Veterans Affairs, USA), a founding editor of the new electronic journal, *Implementation Science*.

National physical activity recommendations for older Australians Project

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing has commissioned the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) to develop a discussion paper and recommendations for physical activity for older Australians. The project commenced in mid-November 2005, and will be completed by early May 2006. The scope includes community and residential care settings. Information about the project will be accessible through the NARI home page (<http://www.nari.unimelb.edu.au/>), follow the link to the "National physical activity recommendations for older Australians". If you have any inquiries email Sue Hunt at s.hunt@nari.unimelb.edu.au

National Seniors and COTAs end merger

The merger of National Seniors Association and Councils on the Ageing in the Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory, Queensland and South Australia, will now not proceed. Troubled from the outset, the merger was always going to be difficult and in 2004 only four of the eight independent state and territory COTAs joined the merger. Despite a very positive beginning and some high profile events and launches, in the final phase of the merger some major insurmountable differences emerged. These focused on governance, management principles, and philosophy. The partnership is no longer functioning as intended and the individual members are once again acting and speaking as separate entities.

What this means in practice is that there are now a number of additional consumer voices at the national level. National Seniors continues as in the past with David Deans as Chief Executive Officer. National Seniors is a national organization based in Brisbane but with branches in all states. They will still publish their newsletter *50 and over*. There are Council of the Ageing

(COTA) organisations in each state and territory, which are established as separate organisations but which work closely together. Currently there are two broad groupings within the COTA network. The COTA Partnership comprises COTAs from South Australia, Northern Territory, ACT and Queensland, who were the four that initially joined in the merger. The COTA over 50s Alliance, comprising the state COTAs from New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, and Tasmania, launched a new nationally based grouping in October 2005. It is anticipated that the COTAs (whether in the partnership or alliance) will continue having a strong policy focus at both a state and national level.

Other consumer voices at the national level include the Association of Independent Retirees, which publishes a quarterly journal *Independent Retiree* and the Australian Pensioners' and Superannuants' Federation, which had its origins in 1933 and publishes a bimonthly newspaper *Action Network*. Other organisations with substantial older membership include the Older Women's Network (Australia), RSL, Alzheimer's Australia, Over Fifties Focus, Country Women's Association, Carers Association of Australia and the Arthritis Foundation of Australia,

Australasian Journal on Ageing

The editors note in the most recent AJA has outlined some important changes in editorial policy which are intended to assist in the journal achieving a listing on the prestigious internet data base Medline. Maximum article length is now 3000 word and two article categories "Opinion pieces" and "Case studies" will no longer be accepted.



NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIP

The Australian Association of Gerontology is fortunate in gaining the support of the Board of Directors of ECH Inc of South Australia in the production of this publication. The Association is most appreciative of this support.

International News

Prestigious award for Kaarin Anstey

The Gerontological Society of America has chosen Dr Kaarin Anstey, from the Australian National University and a past President of the ACT Division of the AAG, as the 2005 recipient of the Margaret M. Baltes Early Career Award in Behavioral and Social Gerontology. This distinguished honour, given annually to a person from any discipline in the social sciences, recognises outstanding early career contributions in behavioural and social gerontology. Only individuals who have received their doctorate within the last ten years are eligible. The winner traditionally presents a lecture at the Annual Scientific Meeting the following year.

Kaarin is currently a Fellow at the ANU and Director of its Ageing Research Unit. Her research interests include cognitive ageing, mood and depression, psychometrics, the measurement of change, and behavioural consequences of illnesses, functional limitations or loss. She is listed in the ISI Essential Sciences Indicators as one of the top one percent of most-cited researchers in the social sciences over the past decade. She has also been acknowledged by a range of international awards for early-career researchers. These include the Chinoin Young Investigator Award from the International Association of Gerontology, the Medal of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, the Australian Psychological Society Early Career Award, the Organon Award of the Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research, and Elsie Harwood Award for Best Honours Thesis in the Field of Ageing.

Congratulations to Kaarin from all your colleagues in the AAG!



Dr Kaarin Anstey with Prof Terry Fulmer, GSA President

IAG becomes IAGG

By decision of the Council, the International Association of Gerontology has evolved to become the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG).

Any member of a Gerontology or Geriatrics society affiliated to IAGG is automatically an IAGG member. All AAG members are therefore also members of the IAGG.

Review of the Madrid Action Plan

In 2002, the Second World Assembly on Ageing (WAA) in Madrid adopted unanimously a *Political Declaration and an International Strategic Plan of Action on Ageing*. Both of those documents include clear objectives and actions to be taken to ensure the rights of older persons and to protect older persons from "neglect, abuse and violence" in all situations addressed by the United Nations (UN). Non-government organisations contributed substantially to the development of the plan (through the Valencia Forum auspiced by the International Association of Gerontology. (<http://www.valenciaforum.com/vfr.html>).

In February 2006, the UN Economics and Social Council decided to start the first global cycle of review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action in 2007 and to conclude it in 2008. This review will require states that have not done so to establish their national mechanisms for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action at the national level and to identify actions they have taken since the Second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002.

It is anticipated that the national review will be the responsibility of the national government. However it is anticipated that organisations like the AAG will have the opportunity to contribute to and comment upon the review over the next 18 months. The Action Plan and related documents are available at <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/waa/>

Students Active on international scene

Gerontology students have been showing leadership in developing links with colleagues in other countries. The inaugural meeting of the International Council of the Gerontology Student Organizations (ICGSO) was held during IAGG 18th World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2005.

Currently there are 17 IAGG member societies that have student sections and that make up the ICGSO.

The intention has always been that ICGSO include one representative from each IAGG member organization that has a student section and a representative from the International Students' Network on Ageing and Health (ISNAH) and one from the Student Section of the International Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA). The purpose of ICGSO is to unite gerontology and geriatric students worldwide. Benefits of such a union include increased interest in international gerontology and an awareness of ageing in countries outside of your own, increased student attendance at world and regional congresses and boundless networking.

Representing the AAG Student Section, Taylor Dong is Inaugural National Representative to the Asia/Oceania Region and the IAGG student networks. Helen Feist is the Deputy National Representative. The Australian Student Section has made a significant contribution to the IAGG website at <http://www.iagg.com.br/webforms/iaggHistorico.aspx>

Statement to the Commission on Human Rights

Ageing and the rights of older persons was the focus of a statement to the 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva in February 2006. This statement was endorsed by non-governmental organisations, which have consultative status with the UN Economics and Social Council. This included the International Association of Gerontology (now IAGG).

The statement called for the Commission on Human Rights (and its successor organization) to:

- mention explicitly the Rights of Older persons as an item or sub-item
- appoint a special Rapporteur or similar function dealing specifically with the Rights of Older Persons, and
- mainstream ageing in all relevant issues of the future Human Rights Council.

The statement identifies some areas of increasing impact on older people worldwide such as the HIV/AIDS pandemic where older people, especially older women, care for orphaned grandchildren; the migration of younger generations from developing countries leaving behind older people with no social and economic support; and the exponential technological development increasing the generational divide. These are in addition to the impact of other human rights situations such as conflict, disability or poverty, on older people. Issues of particular relevance were identified as including gender equality, the right to dignity, and access to health services.

The statement concludes by noting "missing is the recognition that older person have Rights, but also need to be empowered to carry out their important role and contribution to cohesion and peace in society and nations worldwide".

IAGG Oceania Region

Ruth Inall, Executive Secretary of the IAGG Oceania Region, is off to Beijing in April for the first planning meeting for the Congress in Beijing in October 2007. She advises that pre and post Congress tours are planned, one along the Great Silk Road and the other along the Yangtze River. More information about the Congress will be included in future editions of this Newsletter.

State Activities

VIC

The Victorian Division's first Forum for 2006 focused on health care for older Indigenous people. We had two speakers who provided metropolitan and rural program examples. Fay Carter, CEO of the Aboriginal Community Elder Services (ACES), situated in Melbourne, spoke about the service's establishment and development. She highlighted that traditionally family and clan cared for elders as they became dependent. However, community dispersion had diminished capacity for this support. The last few decades have seen the growth of self-determining and self-managing services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Established in January 1992, ACES cares for around 40 people who do not fit readily into the 'chronologically age based' mainstream care system. The ACES currently provides a range of integrated coordinated programs to address increasing dependency and is designed to enable seamless care. Whilst in recent times there has been an improvement in cultural awareness within mainstream care services, ACES continues to develop programs directly tailored to the Indigenous community's needs. Fay discussed the problem of delayed access to health care, with people only visiting the doctor when a health problem reaches a serious or critical stage. To offset this problem, ACES are currently planning for an aged health clinic to promote a preventative approach to care.

Maureen Arch spoke about her involvement in the South Australia Nganampa Health Council Aged and Disability Care Program with the Pitjantjatjara and Yankunyatjara people. She joined the community in 1995 as an aged care consultant, to contribute to the establishment of an aged care program within the existing health services. After much community consultation (there are around 3000 people in 6 major communities), they began two programs. The first was a 16 bed respite program, employing 50% of the staff from the local community. This service means that people can be supported near family and friends, rather than having to be miles away in Alice Springs or Port Augusta. The second program was a HACC funded community services program, providing food, transport, laundry, personal care and heating support. This is operated by both local staff and health professionals. The services are still going strong to this day. There is currently a training scheme in operation to train more aged health workers from the local community. The Aged and Disability Care Program is the second largest employer of Anangu people in this rural area (the first being the Health Council clinic program!).

Jane Sims
Newsletter Rep

QLD

The Queensland Division Committee is busy preparing our program for 2006. A planned a hypothetical on 15 March on the issue of people with disability (particularly intellectual disability) who are ageing was cancelled because it conflicted with a similar event in Brisbane. The committee apologises for this cancellation.

A joint seminar in conjunction with Geriact and the Australian Society of Geriatric Medicine (ASGM) will be held mid year (date to be finalised). This will focus on abuse of older people especially financial abuse and the abuse of older people's rights. Two or three scenarios where there has been conflict/problems will be presented with a panel to comment on ways that the issues should have been managed. Once the date of this seminar is confirmed we will be underway for 2006. Plans are also underway for other seminars, including our AGM, to be held later on in the year.

Dorothy Edelbrock
Newsletter Rep

ACT

An ACT member, Helen Palethorpe, was awarded an OAM in the New Year's Honours List for service to the community through the design and facilitation of fitness programs, particularly for older adults.

She gave an inspiring presentation on her work to the ACT AGM in 2005, which included a video of her ideas in action. Helen believes that "The health and financial benefits of regular physical activity for individuals and the community at large cannot be overstated. To achieve changes in physical activity behaviour of older people we all have to work at changing the culture of physical activity (or lack thereof) in the community. My aim and approach to achieving this is to provide programs for people over 60 in every neighbourhood, to provide variety, to build confidence and social support networks for this behaviour to occur". Helen says she has been working towards that goal through the support of the YMCA of Canberra for over 20 years and has now established 80 classes a week in 24 locations, with hopefully more to come.

Jill Miller
Newsletter Rep

NSW

2006 is shaping as a busy year for the NSW Division, with the National Conference coming to Sydney in November. The Conference Planning Committee is hard at work, with the Scientific Program and the Local Organising Sub-committees in full swing. The new National Conference secretariat, East Coast Conferences is keeping us on our toes, using critical path planning to encourage the sub-committees to keep to a timely schedule. Sydney is the most expensive city in Australia, so a key challenge facing the committee is to keep the costs as low as possible, especially for our members.

Our annual Rural Conference will have been held by the time you read this. The Hunter Chapter and our regional colleagues from the Newcastle, New England and Southern Cross Universities have put together a great program. The theme of Positive Ageing has brought together a wide range of presentations to showcase the strength of ageing research and innovation in the region. The venue being Tamworth, the home of country music and the site for the annual challenge for the title of world's longest line of bootscooters, we couldn't resist scheduling some bootscooting time. Is there a world record for the number of bootscooting gerontologists?

Barbara Squires is leading a small group to plan a one-day seminar on 15 June to mark the International Day for Prevention of Elder Abuse. This very topical subject has long been a major interest for Barbara and she and her team have put together a great program. Topics to be covered include mandatory reporting, recognising abuse, the roles of government agencies, sexual assault, working with vulnerable adults and many other aspects of this complex and challenging subject. You will find details on page 3 and on the NSW Division webpage.

Felicity Barr
Newsletter Rep



Laurie Buys opening the AAG NSW Division Conference

State Activities

WA

A capacity audience recently filled the Brian Vivian Lecture Theatre at Royal Perth Hospital for an AAG WA Seminar. Associate Professor Nicola Lautenschlager spoke of behavioural and psychological symptoms in dementia and Dr Sean Maher on delirium. Planning has begun to feature similar seminars with possibly a regional meeting during 2006.

The WA Division offered two prizes for students in Gerontological related courses. These have been won by Christian LaFrentz of Edith Cowan University and Jillian Locke of Notre Dame University. Julie Borninkhof, a member of the AAG WA Committee is the WA Representative on the National AAG Student Committee. Julie is Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) Candidate at the School of Health Sciences, Murdoch University. Her thesis title is "Improving the psychological well-being of professional aged care workers: a program of mindful self-care and development". Julie's primary goals as State Representative are to both increase student membership, and raise awareness of gerontological issues, whilst enhancing communication networks between students, workers and researchers in the field of gerontology. Julie can be contacted by email at j.borninkhof@bigpond.com and is keen to hear from other students.

Several AAG WA Members have been seen and heard at lectures presented by other organisations. Interest was shown in a presentation by the Gay and Lesbian Group in WA at which Justice Kirby spoke. The results of a wide ranging study on discrimination in residential aged care centres was presented. AAG was also represented at a seminar presented by the Australian Association of Social Workers on Advanced Health Care Directives where Dr Scott Blackwell gave a progress report on the proposed WA legislation.

The West Australian Newspaper recently reported on Prof Leon Flicker's study on prevention of falls in the elderly. Leon's study, which involved other researchers and has been published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, looked at the effect of vitamin D supplementation in 625 residents of 149 Australian nursing homes and hostels. Leon said he believed there was a strong argument for giving vitamin D supplements to the elderly, particularly those in aged care homes.

This writer would like to express his appreciation to his colleagues and the National body for his Recognition Award for Distinguished Service. Thanks a lot, folks.

Ron Okely
Newsletter Rep

SA/NT

The Clown Doctors' presentation at the Division's Christmas drinks was not only entertaining but also explored this professional and well developed technique for using humour and a totally patient-centred approach to allow patients and families to express feelings, relieve tension and pain, as a diversion from traumatic experiences, and to have fun. The session provoked enthusiasm and discussion about the application of this technique, mostly used with children, to hospice and aged care.

Following a refreshing summer recess, the Division will now launch into 2006 with a seminar on 1 March titled "SA's Plan for Older People: How the 3 tiers of government will partner to address the barriers and deliver solutions". The whole year's seminar program is mapped out and has been distributed to members.

Building on several previous events, the Division used presenters from its Committee to hold successful seminars in Mt Gambier and Whyalla late last year. With rural networks established over the last few years, the Division is now offering assistance in providing speakers and programs on a range of gerontology and geriatric medicine topics for regional forums. It is planned that interest from different regional areas will be regularly monitored, and specialty topics of Division members who may be willing to present will be reviewed to increase opportunities to provide or support sessions to all areas of the state.

A meeting of those interested in Indigenous Ageing was held at the office of the Council of Aboriginal Elders of SA, North Adelaide on 16 March 2006. This was a very positive meeting with the main focus on planning for presentations at the Sydney 2006 AAG Conference and for a substantial input into the 2007 AAG National Conference to be held in Adelaide.

Cathy Lock
Newsletter Rep



Jenny Davison (participant) and Dr Robert Penhall (AAG presenter) at the Whyalla Dementia seminar

APPLY NOW for the AAG (SA/NT) Research Awards

The AAG (SA/NT) is offering two Research Awards in 2006. The purpose of these Awards is to recognise the achievements of researchers in this region.

The winner(s) of the 2006 Awards will receive a certificate of achievement, a \$500 cash prize and a one year subscription to AAG.

Guidelines, criteria and application forms are available on the SA/NT Division page of the AAG website www.aag.asn.au

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON 12 MAY 2006

TAS

Due to an interstate move by our student representative, Katrina Cubit, our new student representative is Sharon Andrews. Sharon, like Katrina, is a Registered Nurse undertaking her PhD through the University of Tasmania.

Due to scheduling difficulties, our two nursing Honors students will now be presenting their theses in May at an AAG session in Launceston. This year there is a number of nursing honors students undertaking their projects in aged care, which highlight the growing awareness of the sector as a researchable area. We look forward to hearing from them as they complete their projects.

"Talking Aged Care" is a group of northern Tasmanian aged care providers who meet on a quarterly basis to promote scholarly activities within the sector. The AAG has been promoted at their most recent session, held this week, by distribution of membership brochures, education guides and display of our banner.

Deb Visser
Newsletter Rep

Christina LaFrentz of Edith Cowan University and Jillian Locke of Notre Dame University have won the Western Australian Gerontology Award

Diary Dates 2006

MAY

**May 3-5
SYDNEY**

ACSA 1st National Community Care Conference
Email: events@agedservices.asn.au

**May 8-10
HOBART**

National Aged Care Informatics Conference
Web: www.hisa.org.au/102016.php

**May 25-26
ADELAIDE**

Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency
Better Practice 2006
Tel: 1800 288 025
Web: www.agedcare.org.au

**May 30-June 2
COPENHAGEN**

8th Global Conference of the International Federation on Ageing
Global Ageing - The North-South Challenge
Web: www.global-ageing.dk

JUNE

June 15

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
Web: www.inpea.net

**June 15
SYDNEY**

AAG NSW Division seminar
Abuse of older People
Tel: 02 9767 7158
Email: janetg@med.usyd.edu.au



**June 29-30
SYDNEY**

Hammond Care Group's 6th Biennial Dementia Conference
Enriching the Lives of People with Dementia
Email: mandrew@dementia.com.au

**June 30
GLENELG, SA**

AAG SA/NT Division
Ageing - A Changing Paradigm - in whose hand?
Tel: 08 8201 7559
Email: melinda.andrews@flinders.edu.au



COPY DEADLINE

Copy for the July 2006 issue of the AAG National is due on **1 June 2006**.

Please email to
aag@associationoffices.com.au
Direct any enquiries to
Hannah Trewartha
Tel: 02 6253 2011 Fax: 02 6253 0377

JULY

**July 15-20
MADRID**

10th International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
Web: www.alz.org

**July 16-21
SYDNEY**

The 4th International Conference on Memory
Celebrating Memory Research
Web: www.psy.unsw.edu.au/Groups/ICOM4

**July 20-21
SYDNEY**

14th Australian Colloquium of Superannuation Researchers
Choice in Retirement Funding
Web: www2.fce.unsw.edu.au/nps/servlet/portalservice?GL_

AUGUST

**August 10-13
JAKARTA**

Collegium Internationale Gerontologiae (CIGP) Congress 2006
From Traditional through Bio-Molecular towards Nano-Technology Medication
Web: www.cigp.org

SEPTEMBER

**September 4-6
CHRISTCHURCH, NZ**

Australian Society for Geriatric Medicine
2006 Annual Scientific Meeting
Email: emma@conferenceaction.com.au
Web: www.asgm.org.au

**September 13-16
ALBURY, NSW**

National Rural Health Alliance
Building Bridges - Crossing Borders
Web: www.ruralhealth.org.au/conferences/sarra2006/home.htm

**September 17-20
GOLD COAST**

ACSA 19th National Conference and Trade Exhibition
Email: events@acqi.org.au

**September 26-29
NARRABUNDAH, ACT**

3rd National Conference: Ageing, Disability and Spirituality
Addressing the challenge of disability in our later life
Email: caps@csu.edu.au
Web: www.centreforageing.org.au

OCTOBER

**October 6-8
MELBOURNE**

3rd International Conference on Healthy Ageing & Longevity
Email: info@logevity-international.com
Web: www.logevity-international.com

**October 12-14
BERLIN**

22nd Conference of Alzheimer's Disease International
Dementia a Challenge for the 21st Century
Web: www.alzheimer2006.de/default.html

**October 19-20
MELBOURNE**

National Institute of Clinical Studies
Using Evidence, Using Guidelines
Tel: 03 8866 0400

**October 23-26
BRISBANE**

24th Annual Congress & Federal Educational Forum
Aged Care: A World of Change
Tel: 07 3725 5588
Web: www.agedcareassociation.com.au

NOVEMBER

**November 4-5
GEELONG**

1st Biannual APS Psychology & Ageing Interest Group Conference
Informing Psychological Interventions
Tel: 0413 118 792
Web: www.psychology.org.au/units/interest_groups/ageing/8.7.5_16.asp

**November 21
SYDNEY**

Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) Conference
Tel: 02 9767 7812
Email: era2006@chs.usyd.edu.au
Web: www.chs.usyd.edu.au/era2006

**November 22-24
SYDNEY**

Australian Association of Gerontology
39th National Conference
Diversity in Ageing
Tel: 1300 368 783
Email: aag@eastcoastconferences.com.au
Web: www.aag.asn.au/conference2006.htm



DECEMBER

**December 5-8
ADELAIDE**

The 13th National Conference of the Australian Population Association
Population, Policy & Australia's Destiny
Web: www.austpop.org