

## eBulletin

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**August 2011**

**Supporting research to play a vital role in planning for an ageing population across the island of Ireland.**

Our e-bulletin provides up-to-date information on ageing research including seminars, funding opportunities, latest research and innovation. More detailed information is available on our website [www.cardi.ie](http://www.cardi.ie)

**If you have a news story, event or publication relating to ageing please send it to us at [news@cardi.ie](mailto:news@cardi.ie) Follow CARDI on:**

**CARDI Updates****Register now for *Ageing Globally-Ageing Locally***

Just 33 days left for early bird registration for CARDI's international conference, *Ageing Globally-Ageing Locally*, taking place in Croke Park, Dublin, 2 & 3 November, 2011. The event will feature addresses by world authorities on ageing, including Sir Michael Marmot, Prof Anne Martin-Matthews and Prof Alan Walker, and 200 presentations over two days. Representatives from over 40 universities and over 30 NGOs from 16 countries will participate in this conference which will showcase the very latest in research on ageing and consider its consequences for societies worldwide. Further information on registration and the conference programme can be found at [www.cardi.ie/conference2011](http://www.cardi.ie/conference2011). [Register Now!](#)

**Five free conference places at *The Demography of Ageing and Official Statistics* available**

CARDI is delighted to announce that it is offering **five free places** at The International Association of Official Statistics bi-annual conference taking place in Belfast on 17-19 August 2011\*. This conference is a satellite of the [2011 International Statistics Institute conference](#) and is being organised locally by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), in association with CARDI and Queen's University, Belfast. **To avail of a free place please email [info@cardi.ie](mailto:info@cardi.ie) including StatConf in the subject line and your contact details by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August.**

\*Travel and accommodation not included

For further details on the programme, please visit [www.nisra.gov.uk/IAOS2011.html](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/IAOS2011.html).

**CARDI Publications**

**Focus on international models of care**

The latest edition of CARDI's "Focus on" series examines international models of care for older people. It is available on the [CARDI website](#).

## **Forthcoming**

### **The role of telecare in supporting carer's of older people**

### **Global ageing update**

The focus of the CARDI international conference on 2-3 November is on global ageing. With this in mind, a new CARDI paper examines the theme of ageing from a global perspective. It looks at the current evidence on global ageing as well as the areas of policy where challenges and opportunities will arise, focusing on sharing common concerns and national policy and service solutions.

## **CARDI Online**

For all the latest news and publications on ageing research, policy and practice please log onto the CARDI website [www.cardi.ie](http://www.cardi.ie) or follow us on Twitter @CARDItweets

Interested in research on ageing? Why not join CARDI's network on LinkedIn? [Sign up here](#)

Researchers can register at [www.cardi.ie](http://www.cardi.ie) to post details including research and interests, and to post updates on their current research projects. Registered users will have their details added to the CARDI Directory of Researchers.

## **Ageing Research Updates**

### **Grasping for ways to prevent Alzheimer's**

Is there a way to prevent Alzheimer's disease? At the [Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Paris](#), in July, researchers suggested there might be, something that would give hope to millions who worry that one day they may be struggling with dementia. A new study, by researchers at the University of California, estimated how many cases might be attributable to certain behaviours and conditions including: diabetes, smoking, obesity and depression. The authors used a mathematical model to surmise that these behaviours and conditions, all of which can be modified, are responsible for about half of the roughly 34 million cases worldwide. **Read the [full article here](#). For more information about other research [presented at the conference please click here](#)**

### **€7 billion boost for research and innovation: EU FP7**

The Work Programme for 2012 with about €7 billion is the European Commission's biggest ever funding package under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7). Grants will promote research to tackle the biggest societal challenges facing Europe and the world. One of the areas of interest specified is healthy and active ageing. Universities, research organisations and industry will be among more than 16.000 funding recipients. **More information:** <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/home>

## **Dr. Yves Joanette announced as incoming Scientific Director of CIHR's Institute of Aging (CA)**

Dr. Alain Beaudet, President of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), along with CIHR's Governing Council, recently announced [the appointment of Dr. Yves Joanette, as incoming Scientific Director \(SD\) of CIHR's Institute of Aging \(CIHR-IA\)](#). This appointment is effective August 1, 2011. Dr. Joanette is currently a professor at Université de Montréal's Faculty of Medicine and was the Director of the Centre de recherche de l'Institut universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal (CRIUGM) between 1997 and 2009.

## **Report from FUTURAGE Stakeholder Workshop now available**

The final report from the second Stakeholder Workshop, which took place on 18 May 2011 is now available for download from <http://futurage.group.shef.ac.uk/stakeholder-workshop-2.html>. The Workshop attracted almost 70 research funders and policy makers and other key stakeholders to contribute to the development of the Road Map for ageing research. Attendees were presented with the draft major multi-disciplinary research themes and priorities and then asked to comment on themes, the ageing research priorities, and identify other actions to support a successful Road Map for ageing research in Europe.

## **Leading research organisations announce top-tier, open access journal for biomedical and life sciences**

The [Howard Hughes Medical Institute](#), the [Max Planck Society](#) and the [Wellcome Trust](#) are supporting a new, top-tier, open access journal for biomedical and life sciences research. The new journal aims to attract and define the very best research publications from across these fields. All research published in the journal will make highly significant contributions that will extend the boundaries of scientific knowledge. **View the video:** [Supporting open access journal](#)

## **Ageing Policy Updates**

### **New website launched to promote rights of older people: Global Alliance**

A new website has been launched to promote the rights of older people and to push for a UN convention on these rights. [The Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People](#) is a civil society movement born out of the need to strengthen the rights and voice of older people globally. Steering group members include: [International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse \(INPEA\)](#); [International Longevity Centre \(ILC\) Global Alliance](#); [International Federation on Ageing \(IFA\)](#); [Age UK](#) and [HelpAge International](#). **More information:** <http://www.rightsalliance.org/>

### **Too Old to be Equal?**

The ROI Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, recently published her report, "Too Old to be Equal? - An Investigation into the Illegal Refusal of Mobility Allowance to People over 66 Years of Age". The report follows her investigation of a complaint against the Department of Health. The Ombudsman found that: the Mobility Allowance Scheme discriminates on the ground of age as it includes an upper age limit, which is in breach of the Equal Status Act, 2000; the upper age limit in the Scheme has been illegal since the commencement of the Equal Status Act in 2000 and the actions of the Department do not suggest any urgency in seeking to bring the scheme into compliance with the Equal Status Act. This is despite having had the defects in the scheme brought to its attention by a number of bodies, including the Equality Authority. The Department has accepted the Ombudsman's

findings and recommendations which include completing a review of the Scheme within the next six months. **More information:** <http://www.ombudsman.gov.ie/en/>

### **UK Minister launches new toolkit to improve dementia services**

A new toolkit and templates aimed at improving commissioning dementia services have been launched by the UK's Care Services [Minister Paul Burstow](#). The pack has been developed in consultation with a range of health and social care experts, including people with dementia and their carer's. This pack would assist local and health authority commissioners to shape their dementia services tailored to the needs of their local communities. [Read the full article here](#)

### **Commission presents £1.7bn long-term care plan to UK government**

The [Commission on Funding of Care and Support](#) presented its findings to the UK government in its report Fairer Care Funding, published on 4th July 2011. The independent commission, set up last July and led by Andrew Dilnot, was asked to recommend a fair and sustainable funding system for adult social care in England. The [findings are available here](#). **More information:** <http://www.dilnotcommission.dh.gov.uk/>

## **Research and Policy Publications**

### **OECD Pension Markets in Focus 2011**

Having weathered the financial crisis, pension fund asset levels in most countries continued to show strong growth throughout 2010, returning almost to pre-crisis levels, according to [a new OECD report](#). Both economic and financial indicators showed signs of further recovery. However, the outlook for future economic growth in developed economies remains uncertain and sluggish. **More information:** [2011 edition of Pension Markets in Focus](#)

### **European Report on Prevention of Elder Maltreatment (World Health Organization)**

Maltreatment of older people is pervasive throughout the European Region according to the [World Health Organisation's Report on Prevention of Mistreatment Towards the Elderly](#). It is estimated that more than 4 million elderly people experience maltreatment in any given year and 2,500 of them will die each year as a result. This report presents an array of biological, social, cultural, economic and environmental factors which increase the risk of being a victim (or perpetrator) of elder maltreatment, and goes on to list the corrective / protective factors that could help prevent it. **To read the full report please [click here](#)**

### **The Value of Knowing: Public Perceptions about Alzheimer's and testing**

A recent survey commissioned by [Alzheimer Europe](#) examined public perception and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and aimed to identify the views of the general public on the value of diagnosis. The survey of 2,678 people was designed and analysed by the Harvard School of Public Health and Alzheimer Europe. Countries surveyed were the USA, Germany, France, Spain and Poland. **Full details of the survey results are available on the AE website at:** <http://www.alzheimer-europe.org/EN/Research>

### **Nursing home residents at increased risk of falling after med changes**

Nursing home residents taking certain antidepressant medications are at an increased risk of falling in the days following the start of a new prescription or a dose increase of their current drug, according to a new study by the Institute for [Aging Research of Hebrew SeniorLife](#), an affiliate of Harvard Medical School. Published online in the *Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences*, the study found that nursing home residents have a fivefold increased risk of falling within two days of a new prescription for or an increased dose of a non-SSRI (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor) antidepressant such as bupropion or venlafaxine. The findings suggest that nursing home staff should closely monitor these residents following a prescription change to prevent potential falls. **Read the [full article here](#)**

### **The last taboo: A guide to dementia, sexuality, intimacy and sexual behaviour in care homes**

The [International Longevity Centre - UK](#) recently launched a new paper dealing with dementia and sexuality. 'The last taboo: A guide to dementia, sexuality, intimacy and sexual behaviour in care homes', provides care home workers and managers with information and practical advice on this complex, controversial and sensitive issue. **The full paper is available: [The Last Taboo](#)**

### **UCLA research offers new insights into older peoples' sleep**

A new study of the brain's master circadian clock reveals that a key pattern of rhythmic neural activity begins to decline by middle age. The research may have implications for older people who have difficulty sleeping and adjusting to time changes. **[Read more on the research.](#)**

### **Perceptions of Older Workers: Positive and Negative (US)**

As a growing number of older adults find themselves looking for work, it is important to understand how older adults are viewed in the workplace. Despite the illegality of age discrimination in employment, ideas about aging and about older adults persist in influencing how older workers are perceived. A recent meta-analysis (Bal et al 2011) looks at the last few decades of research on the perception of older workers, and suggests that the perceptions of older workers include both positive and negative assumptions. **More information: [Bal AC, Reiss AEB, Rudolph CW and Baltes BB \(2011\). "Examining Positive and Negative Perceptions of Older Workers: A Meta-Analysis."](#)**

For more research, policy and practice publications please visit: [www.cardi.ie/directory](http://www.cardi.ie/directory)

## **Events and Seminars**

### **Irish Gerontology Society Conference**

The 59th annual Irish Gerontology Society Conference will take place in the Aviva Stadium on the 9th & 10th September 2011 with Trinity College Dublin as 'virtual hosts'. To attend the conference you must register online - [click here](#).

### **Building a Picture of Ageing in Persons with Intellectual Disability: Future Directions for Ageing Well**

**The Intellectual Disability Supplement to the Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (IDS-TILDA)** will launch its first major report on the lives of people with intellectual disability aged 40 years and over in Ireland as part the study's 2nd International Research Conference to be held in Trinity College Dublin, 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2011. The report will draw on findings from in-depth interviews with over 700

people with intellectual disability from across Ireland, providing the first comprehensive picture of people's lives across a range of key areas including: health, social, psychological, economic and environmental circumstances. For registration and more details go to: [http://nursing-midwifery.tcd.ie/events-conferences/ids\\_tilda\\_2011\\_conference/index.php](http://nursing-midwifery.tcd.ie/events-conferences/ids_tilda_2011_conference/index.php)

### **Technology and Ageing**

The [Centre for Affective Solutions for Ambient Living Awareness \(CASALA\)](#), at the [Dundalk Institute of Technology](#) is hosting a Technology & Ageing Workshop with Laurie Orlov on 15 September. Orlov is the founder of Aging in Place Technology Watch, a market research firm based in the U.S. that provides thought leadership, analysis, and guidance about technologies and related services that delight and empower older people, promoting the independence, autonomy and connectivity to age-in-the-place of their choice. **For more information on the workshop please visit:** [www.casala.ie](http://www.casala.ie)

### **UN Second Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on Ageing**

The second meeting of the UN's Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on Ageing will take place 1 – 4 August in New York. This is a unique opportunity for UN member states to discuss how older people's rights can be strengthened and for the voices of older people to be heard and listened to in this important discourse.

[Further information about the Open-ended Working Group is available here](#)

### **Ageing and neurodegeneration**

An international conference on "Ageing and neurodegeneration" will take place in Bergisch Gladbach in Germany on 1-4 September. The conference is co-organised by DZNE, the German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases and the Max Planck Institute for Biology of Ageing. Further details can be found at [www.conference-ageing-neurodegeneration.de](http://www.conference-ageing-neurodegeneration.de).

### **Changing Images of Ageing – International Perspectives for a Future-Oriented Policy**

The German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, will be hosting an international conference entitled "Changing Images of Ageing – International Perspectives for a Future-Oriented Policy on Senior Citizens and Generations" in Berlin on 12 December 2011. The conference addresses decision makers in the field of politics, administration and civil society who are active in the policy fields relating to senior citizens and generation issues, national and international stakeholders who report on ageing issues and also other experts with an interest in the field. More information: [www.dza.de](http://www.dza.de)

For more events go to: [www.cardi.ie/events](http://www.cardi.ie/events)

## **Funding, Awards, Tenders, Training Opportunities**

### **Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke: Call for Applications for Scientific Research Grants**

Northern Ireland Chest, Heart & Stroke (NICHHS) is inviting proposals for funding of research grants which will commence after 1 August 2012. Funding is available for research projects on stroke and on respiratory illnesses to the total value of **£175,000**. Up to **£175,000** is available for research in this year's priority area of cardiac illness. To download an application form, guidance notes and other information, please visit our website [www.nichs.org.uk](http://www.nichs.org.uk) or contact Caoimhe Devlin, Research Assistant by email: [cdevlin@nichs.org.uk](mailto:cdevlin@nichs.org.uk) or by phone: on (028) 9026 6714 / (028) 9032 0184.

### **Social research services: Northern Ireland**

The Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, Northern Ireland has issued a call for tenders for social research services. The general themes under which proposals will be considered include the following: addressing gaps in research and information; establishing baselines; statistical indicators; researching causes and dynamics; neighbourhood focus; identifying and addressing social exclusion; researching community capacity; improving implementation; identifying best practice; assessing policy impact. Projects may focus on one or more of these themes but in terms of offering research grants the intention is to establish a broad programme of work that covers as wide a range as possible. **More information:** <http://ted.europa.eu/>

### **Economic & Social Research Council: Centres and Large Grants Call**

The [ESRC](#) has announced the first call for outline proposals for its Centres and Large Grant Competition 2011-12. This competition is for experienced researchers requiring longer term or extended support for research groups, inter-institutional research networks, linked-project programmes, medium-to-large surveys, other infrastructure or methodological developments, or any related larger scale projects. The Competition is for applications ranging from £2 million to £5 million. **More information:** <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/funding-opportunities>

### **EU FP7 Funding Announcements**

#### **FP7: People Funding Call**

This funding aims to improve the mobility of experienced researchers, especially encouraging mobility between the public and private sectors, to strengthen the career prospects of researchers and to integrate researchers into a research career after a mobility experience. The European Union contribution will be 40 per cent of the fellowship costs for eligible researchers, with a maximum of €10 million to a single applicant entity for one call. **More information:**

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7\\_calls](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls)

#### **FP7: Science in Society Funding Call**

As part of the EU's [Seventh Framework Programme](#), funding opportunities in the field of [Science in Society](#) aim to "stimulate, with a view to building an open, effective and democratic European knowledge-based society, the harmonious integration of scientific and technological endeavour, and associated research policies in the European social web, by encouraging pan-European reflection and debate on science and technology and their relationship with the whole spectrum of society and culture". One of the specific challenges this call wishes to address is **healthy and active ageing**. **Full call details are available at:**

[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/wp/capacities/sis/s-wp-201201\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/wp/capacities/sis/s-wp-201201_en.pdf)

#### **FP7: Health and Innovation 1**

Proposals may address: biotechnology, generic tools and medical technologies for human health; translating research for human health; optimising the delivery of healthcare to European citizens; other actions across the health theme. The total indicative budget for this call is €546 million. **More information:** [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7\\_calls](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls)

#### **Dunhill Medical Trust Grants**

The aim is to encourage and support high-quality research with focus on improving the health and wellbeing of older people. Grants are worth between £10,000 and £500,000 for a period of up to three years for project grants and up to five years for programme grants. UK applicants only. **More information:** <http://www.dunhillmedical.org.uk>

### **Chronic pain in older adults: National Institute on Aging**

The [National Institute on Aging](#) invites applications its leveraging existing data or longitudinal studies to evaluate safety and effectiveness of pharmacological management of chronic pain in older adults (R03) grants. This funding opportunity announcement solicits projects that aim to leverage existing data or longitudinal studies in order to evaluate the safety and/or effectiveness of pharmacological management for chronic pain in older adults. Applications may be submitted by **domestic or foreign for-profit and non-profit organisations and public or private institutions.** **More information:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-12-006.html>

**Please feel free to circulate the information within your organisation as appropriate. If you do not wish to receive this E-bulletin email [info@cardi.ie](mailto:info@cardi.ie) and your details will be removed from our mailing list.**

#### **CARDI Staff Team**

If you want to explore how to be involved in progressing ageing research or want to find out more about our work please contact our team.

#### **CARDI staff are:**

[Roger O'Sullivan](#)

**Director**

[Elaine Cartmill](#)

**Administrative and Finance Officer**

[Paul Mc Gill](#)

**Strategic Research Officer**

[Nicola Donnelly](#)

**Communications Officer – New Media**

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**Policy Officer – Research Translation**

#### **CARDI Steering Group**

CARDI has been developed by leaders from the ageing field across Ireland (North and South).

#### ***Our Steering Group Members are:***

**Professor Davis Coakley**

Co-Chair of CARDI

**Professor Robert Stout**

Co-Chair of CARDI

**Owen Metcalfe**

Institute of Public Health

**Dr Denis O'Mahony**

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