

Ageing in Europe

Newsletter of the Research Network on Ageing in Europe
Issue 14/May 2015

Information from the network

Strengthening research on old age and ageing in Europe and providing arenas for communication are central tasks for the Research Network on Ageing in Europe. In this newsletter we have reports on activities organized by the network: a PhD-workshop at the University of Duisburg-Essen and the winners of our first Junior Scholar Grants. More details about this in the sections below.

The next big event we co-organize is the conference of the European Sociological Association in Prague on August 25-28, 2015. When the program and the stream that the network organizes are ready we will provide you with more information on that event.

Another event that we are working on together with the local organizers at the Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main in Germany is the next mid-term conference of the network. The mid-term conference is scheduled for September 14–16, 2016, and it is entitled “Ageing in Europe: Beyond the work-centered life course?”. More information on this will be provided in future newsletters.

Apart from news and information from the network, you can also find some information on new publications, upcoming conferences and other events in this newsletter.

Magnus Nilsson

Beatriz Jiménez Roger and Andrzej Klimczuk receive the Junior Scholar Grants

The Research Network “Ageing in Europe” proudly presents its first junior scholar grants, which go to: Beatriz Jiménez Roger (Spain) and Andrzej Klimczuk (Poland).

The grants are a new initiative from European Sociological Association (ESA), to encourage junior scholars, having no PhD or gotten it since 2010, to engage and participate. The ESA covers 74 grants altogether, amounting to 150€ each. The grant will be used to waive the conference fee and to cover one night in

students' accommodation. Each Research Network was instructed to select two grantees based on excellence while giving preference to applicants from countries undergoing economic recession. These grants benefit us all: these young scholars are able to attend the conference and we all have a chance to hear their first class presentations.

Our Research Network was happy to receive many high quality submissions for the grants. However, we also received applications from

persons not officially affiliated with the Research Network (most often without valid ESA membership and/or Research Network membership), which we unfortunately could not take into account. Whether or not you consider applying for the grant in the future, please note that the 10 Euros for the Research Network membership on top of your ESA membership really can make the difference. More information about memberships in our web page: <http://www.ageing-in-europe.net/membership.html>.

Both our grantees submitted excellent papers and were members in good standing of both the ESA and the Research Network. Klimczuk presents an interesting analysis on silver

economy, creative economy and social economy, to suggest new vistas for creative ageing policy. Jimenez Roger focuses on changing patterns of intergenerational transfer in Spain, with data from The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE). These junior scholar grantees will be celebrated and presented to the public in Prague conference, in the Research Network's business meeting, where everyone interested in the study of ageing is most warmly welcome.

Jenni Spännäri

Reflections on the PhD workshop of the ESA Research Network on Ageing in Europe “Long live the active!? A critical review of active ageing”

March 23 -25, 2015, at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

The Research Network on Ageing in Europe organized a Spring Course for PhD students and early career scientists that was held at the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany. Twenty-five PhD students and postdoctoral researchers from various parts of Europe attended the course and presented their work, and there were lively discussions after each presentation. The presentations and group-discussions were organized around five themes, and for each team a notable senior was invited to present a keynote lecture.

1. Retirement: Prof Dr. Dirk Hofäcker, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany

2. An index for Active aging: Prof Dr Ashgar Zaidi, University of Southampton, The United Kingdom

3. Resilience: Dr. Martijn Huisman, VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands

4. Critical perspectives on active ageing: Prof Dr. Christopher Phillipson, The University of Manchester, the United Kingdom

5. Social Policy & Demographics: Prof. Gerhard Naegele, Dortmund, Germany

Thanks to the wonderful work of Dirk Hofäcker and his team, the inspiring talks of the key note speakers, and the excellent presentations of the students, and according to the positive feedback of the students (extremely valuable, very relevant to my research topic, really excellent programme!) the three days were a great success.

We hope to see many of you back next year in the UK, or in 2017 in Helsinki!

Marja Aartsen and Dirk Hofäcker

Upcoming events and call for papers

Science and fun under the midnight sun at the 23d Nordic congress of Gerontology

June 19-22, 2016 in Tampere, Finland

On behalf of the Nordic Gerontological Federation we invite you to share with your colleagues the most recent findings, ideas and innovations about ageing. Our ageing society urgently needs scientific knowledge to enable longer lives to reach their full potential. Better ageing means a better society for all. The theme of the congress is therefore 'Good ageing – better society'.

The Nordic congresses traditionally emphasise multidisciplinary perspectives on ageing and the life course.

23NKG is a meeting place for all researchers and professionals, whether they are in social sciences, health research, medicine, nursing, biology, humanities, services research or any other field of scientific enquiry. Our special aim is to create sessions at which experts from different disciplines can meet and learn from each other.

23NKG2016
23RD NORDIC CONGRESS OF
GERONTOLOGY
TAMPERE • FINLAND

Call for symposium proposals is now open until *September 30, 2015*.

Deadline for individual abstracts January 16, 2016.

End of early bird registration *March 15, 2016*

23NKG will be held in Tampere, a lively university city that occupies a beautiful position between two major lakes. It is the perfect location to enjoy the light Midsummer nights.

Visit the website: www.23nkg.fi

The Future of Ageing - An ILC-UK Conference

November 24, 2015, London, United Kingdom

On the 24th November 2015, The International Longevity Centre – UK (ILC-UK), The UK's leading think tank on longevity and demographic change, will hold a 'Future of Ageing' conference. This one day conference will paint a picture of the future of ageing and explore the challenges and opportunities ahead. Through our unique lifecourse focus we will explore the potential impact of ageing not just on today's older population, but also on tomorrow's.

During this conference we will explore:

- The future challenges and opportunities of health and care in an ageing society
- The Future of Retirement Income: Wealthy pensioners or persistent poverty?
- The future of our economy in an ageing society: Adapting our economy to ageing?
- The future of our built environment in an ageing society.
- The future of ageing research

The conference will also see the launch of the 2015 ILC-UK Factpack.

For more information see <http://www.ilcuk.org.uk>, or contact the ILC-UK office on events@ilcuk.org.uk.

**Nutrition Society Irish Section Meeting:
Nutrition at key life stages: new findings, new approaches conference**
June 17-19, 2015, University College Cork, Ireland

Attendees at this conference will learn about current research and new approaches on nutrition at key stages in life; pregnancy, early stages of life, adolescence, adulthood and elderly.

Four main symposias scheduled during the programme will focus on:

- Nutritional issues in adolescence and adulthood
- Nutrition in early life
- Nutritional issues for older adults

- Clinical nutrition: gold standards and practical demonstrations

The conference provides a great opportunity to network with colleagues from basic sciences, clinical sciences, nutrition, dietetics, public health, social care, and who are health professionals.'

Programme:

<http://www.nutritionociety.org/provisional-programme-3>

AGEING AND EMPOWERMENT : Between resources and vulnerabilities
February 10-12, 2016, Lausanne, Switzerland

The 5th International REIACTIS Conference (International Network on Age, Citizenship and Socio-Economic Integration) will focus on the dynamics of vulnerabilities and resources associated with growing older. Co-organized by the Social Work Department of the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland and the Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research "Overcoming Vulnerability: Life Course

Perspectives" (NCCR LIVES, University of Lausanne), this conference intends to explore these dynamics from the perspective that older people can maintain or acquire agency throughout their life trajectories.

Call for contributions & more informations : www.reiactis2016.ch

Deadline for contributions : May 15th 2016

FUNDING & INNOVATION WORKSHOP
June 11, 2015, Brussels, Belgium

You are invited to participate in a free workshop which focuses on: WP4 Generation of joint and collaborative concepts and research activities in the areas of bedding, clothing, hygiene and personal care textiles, therapeutic

and recreational textiles for the elderly population.

Textiles for Ageing Society (TAGS), is a research programme coordinated by the University of Innsbruck, carried out by a consortium

of European institutes, and funded by the European Commission, as part of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).
The fundamental aim of TAGS is to improve or innovate products and/or processes to meet the specific textile needs in the areas of bedding, clothing, hygiene and therapy for a growing sector of the European population. There will be the opportunity to identify funding schemes and network with manufacturers, researchers, healthcare professionals, technology transfer institutions amongst other like-minded professionals with the intention of creating new project proposals in the field of textiles for the elderly. More details about speakers and the agenda will be available soon.

The meeting will be held at:
Thursday 11th June 2015
09:00-16:00
Venue: European Commission
Covent Garden Building (COV2)
Place Rogier 16
1210 Brussels
The workshop will be held in English.
If you would like to attend please contact ann.blaylock@uibk.ac.at
**Please advise if you have any special dietary requirements.*
TAGS Project:
<http://www.textilesforageingsociety.eu>
Funding Source:
"The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement No. 290494"

Horizons for Comparative and Integrative Research on Ageing and Health October 7-8, 2015, Stockholm, Sweden,

The conference is funded by the Swedish Research council and organized by the three Swedish national centres of excellence for ageing research (CASE, ARC, AgeCap). The programme is based on the idea that we gain new knowledge from research by applying comparative and integrative perspectives on ageing and health. The ambition is to nurture a broad scientific discussion on ageing and health between senior and junior researchers from various disciplines and different countries across Europe.

In addition, a Post Conference Workshop will be held on October 9, 2015 for PhD students. It is arranged by the Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH), and PhD students are invited to a thematic workshop on theories of ageing. The workshop will include presentations and discussions led by senior scientists

and PhD students affiliated to the specific SWEAH Curriculum.

There is no registration fee for the conference, but delegates are responsible for the costs of their own travel and accommodations.

For more information and registration go to the conference homepage
www.delegia.com/ageingandhealth

For questions concerning the conference structure and content, please contact the Scientific programme coordinator, Dr. Cecilia Winberg, cecilia.winberg@med.lu.se

For practical matters such as registration please contact:
Email: info@reachem.se
Phone: +46 8-410 30 150
Opening hours: 08:00-17:00 (Closed for lunch: 12:00-13:00) CET.

Other events of interest

International Training Programme on Ageing

September 22 – 24, 2015, Dublin, Ireland

The Centre for Ageing Research and Development in Ireland, in association with The Irish Network for Research in Dementia and Neurodegeneration (INRDND), The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Alzheimer's Society Northern Ireland and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Aging will host a three day International Training Programme on Ageing on 22, 23, 24

September in Trinity College Dublin. It will focus on the theme of dementia and memory impairment. This training event is aimed at PhD, postdoctoral researchers and early career researchers. For more information on the programme (including confirmed speakers) and application procedures see <http://www.cardi.ie/ageing2015>. The closing date for applications is Monday 29 June 2015.

High-level event on addressing the challenge of elder abuse in Europe

June 15-16, 2015, Brussels, Belgium



The Council of Europe - European Commission
- AGE Platform Europe – ENNHRI

Invite you to a joint two-day event to mark the 10th World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Addressing the challenge of elder abuse in Europe Policies and practices in implementing international and EU level instruments.

On the occasion of the 10th World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (15 June 2015), this two day event will take stock of European and international action to tackle elder abuse and better protect and promote the rights of older people.

The event will focus on several aspects of abuse that are particularly challenging, including adequate support to older victims and financial abuse. It will showcase what a rights-based approach to these issues means in practice and how the European and international framework can support and guide policymakers and practitioners.

It will build on the outcomes of the seminar organized jointly by the Council of Europe, the European Commission and AGE Platform Europe in 2014, which brought together experts from the legal and social spheres to discuss how to address the rights of older people in care settings.

The first day will consider how human rights standards can be implemented when services are provided by private actors and informal caregivers. It will target all relevant actors in the field of elder abuse (national authorities, NGOs, academics, EU policy makers, international institutions, media, etc.)

On the second day, the event will aim to exchange experiences at local, regional and national level on tackling elder abuse and build links with EU and international instruments and their implementation. It will aim to provide guidelines to develop effective policies to tackle elder abuse.

Venues in Brussels

15 June: Council of Europe office

16 June: Committee of the Regions

Additional information and registration:

- Important information: due to the limited number of seats, the first day event is accessible upon invitation only.
- Draft programs will be published on that page very soon

- To register for the 16th June event, go to http://www.age-platform.eu/CRM25/index.php?option=com_civcrm&task=civcrm/event/info&reset=1&id=98&&Itemid=125 by 10th June.

For more information, please contact Maude Luherne maude.luherne@age-platform.eu and Nena Georgantzi nena.georgantzi@age-platform.eu

Current and Future Trends in European Research on Ageing: 4th MICRA PhD Conference

May 14, 2015, Manchester, United Kingdom

This conference is open to all PhD students with an interest in research within the field of ageing from any discipline (sociology, nursing, economics, engineering, psychology, medicine, life sciences, computer science, arts, languages etc) and any institution. The conference will provide an opportunity for doctoral researchers to hear presentations on the future of research into ageing in Europe and to discuss their own work with fellow students and academics. A poster competition will also be a feature of the day.

Speakers will include:

- Professor Carol Jagger (University of Newcastle)
- Professor Chris Phillipson (University of Manchester)
- Professor Dominique Verté (VUB Brussels, Belgium)

- Dr Neil Pendleton (University of Manchester)

The conference is organized in association with Age UK and The Social and Behavioural Science section of the International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology-European Region.

Please register online for this free event <http://www.micra.manchester.ac.uk/events/micra-phd-conference-2015/>

Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing (MICRA) at the University of Manchester

<http://www.micra.manchester.ac.uk/micra@manchester.ac.uk>

Tel: 0161 275 1298

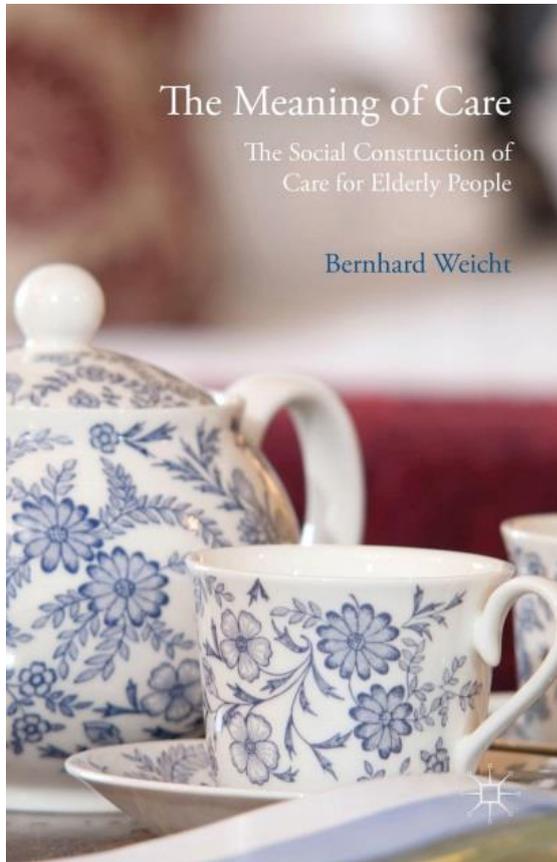
Twitter @MICRA_Ageing

New Publications of Interest

The Meaning of Care: The Social Construction of Care for Elderly People

By Bernhard Weicht

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan



The Meaning of Care provides a multi-layered analysis and discussion of how we understand and construct care in everyday life; the meanings it has for ourselves, our families, our relationships, our identities, and our sense and understanding of society and what is right and proper. Bernhard Weicht investigates the meaning of care in society through a vast range of social science literature and two empirical case studies, carried out in Austria and the UK, using a critical discourse analysis approach to identify and discuss the moral construction of care and the way in which people understand and make sense of their experiences, histories and emotions.

Thematically led-chapters on relationships, geographies of care, community, dependency, and care markets explore several aspects of the meaning of care in detail. This work makes an original contribution to the discussion of the nature of care ethics and its political potential.

Ageing, Insight and Wisdom: Meaning and Practice across the Life Course

By Ricca Edmondson

Policy Press

This book focuses on older people as makers of meaning and insight, highlighting the evolving values, priorities and ways of communicating that make later life fascinating. It explores what creating 'meaning' in later life really implies, for older people themselves, for how to conceptualise older people and for relationships between generations.

The book offers a language for discussing major types of lifecourse meaning, not least those concerning ethical and temporal aspects of the ways people interpret their lifecourses, the ways older people form part of social and symbolic landscapes, and the types of wisdom they can offer.

An Age Friendly City – How far has London come?

By Anthea Tinker and Jay Ginn (2015)
King's College London.

- What promotes older people's wellbeing and social inclusion in the capital city?
- How well does the Greater London Authority deliver on its plans to meet older Londoners' needs?



The report uses published research, alongside older Londoners' views, to assess progress made and some gaps in delivery. Lessons for London from around the world are outlined.

We explore reasons for the affordability crisis in housing; how to address this and ensure attractive, adaptable, safe, warm and secure housing options, including specialist housing.

Some progress has been made towards helping older people to participate fully in London's social and cultural life but we recommend that more attention is paid to: Neighbourhoods designed to facilitate walking

outdoors and interacting; stable and cohesive communities; cleaner air, quieter roads, less traffic at slower speeds; open libraries and community centres; sufficient clean public toilets; a more accessible Underground system; more comfortable bus shelters with seats; less inter-borough inequality in housing quality, health and income; sufficient health services that are better integrated with social care that is adequate; more opportunities for employment and voluntary work; better information generally and help with internet access; more involvement of older Londoners in local planning.

The report finds that progress is hampered by national austerity policies, especially cuts in Local Authorities' funding, and by London's rapid population growth. It highlights older Londoners' contribution to the life of the city through employment, voluntary work and informal caring, calling for an end to age discrimination and greater recognition of older people as an asset to society.

For more information see:

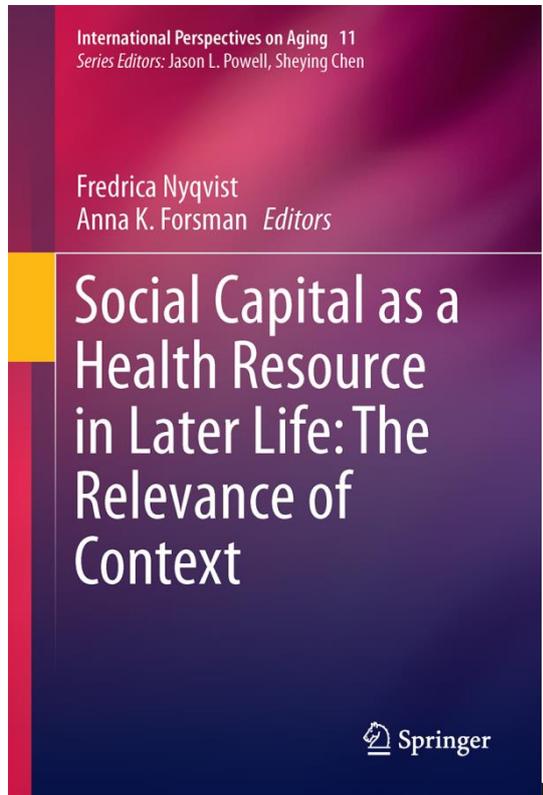
http://www.kcl.ac.uk/newsevents/news/news-records/2015/March/How-far-has-London-come-as-An-Age-Friendly-City.aspx?utm_source=homepage&utm_medium=hero&utm_campaign=london-age-friendly-city

Author contact: j.ginn2@gmail.com

Social Capital as a Health Resource in Later Life: The Relevance of Context

Editors: F. Nyqvist, A.K. Forsman

Series: International Perspectives on Aging, Vol. 11



Examines the social aspects of healthy ageing for older individuals

living in America, Europe, Asia, and Africa in various contexts

- Features more than 15 papers written by expert researchers that offer a multi-disciplinary approach to the subject
- Offers implications and recommendations for research and practice

This book examines the social aspects of healthy ageing for older individuals. It features more than 15 papers that explore the relevance of the social environment for health on

the micro, meso, and macro level. Overall, the book applies a comprehensive contextual approach that includes discussion of how family and friends, neighborhoods, nations, and welfare regimes influence health.

The book first explores the issue on the individual level. It looks at the importance of social capital for health among older people, examines types of social networks and health among older Americans, as well as discusses dynamic social capital and mental health in late life.

Next, the book looks at the issue through a neighborhood and societal context, which takes into account day-to-day interaction in the immediate environment as well as the social, health, and economic policies in place in different regions in the world, including America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

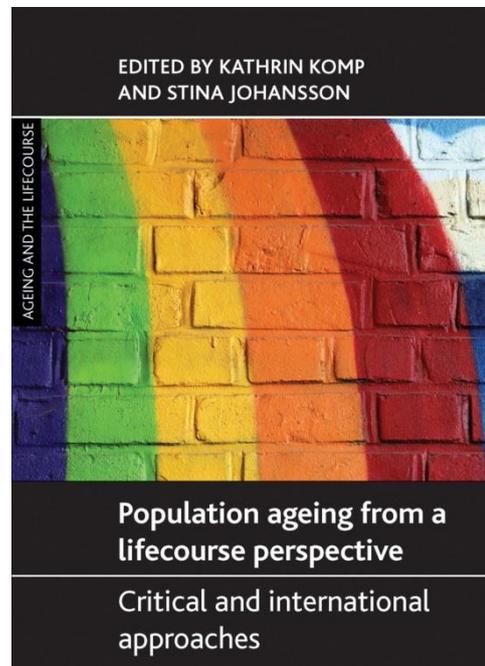
From there, the book goes on to offer implications and recommendations for research and practice, including the management of related concepts of research on well-being and health. It also offers a psychosocial approach to promoting social capital and mental health among older adults.

This book provides health professionals as well as researchers and students in gerontology, sociology, social policy, psychology, and social work with vital insights into the social factors that increase healthy life years and promote well-being.

Population ageing from a lifecourse perspective Critical and international approaches

Editors: Kathrin Komp, Stina Johansson
Policy Press, Bristol

Populations around the globe are ageing rapidly. This demographic shift affects families, market structures and social provisions. This timely volume, part of the Ageing and the Lifecourse series, argues that the lifecourse perspective helps us understand the causes and effects of population ageing. The lifecourse perspective suggests that individuals' experiences at an early age can influence their decisions and behaviour at a later age. This much-needed volume combines insights from different disciplines and real-life experiences to describe the theories and practices behind this idea. It therefore caters to the needs of scholars, practitioners and policy makers in a range of areas including sociology and political science.



Information

Active Ageing Index: A Legacy of the European Year 2012 for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations

A key positive aspect of population ageing is that the new generations of older populations are a resource to the societies they live in. Being healthier as a group, we have the potential in our old age to contribute towards not just our own well-being but also help sustain a rising economic and social prosperity for our nations. There are also higher aspirations among the new generations of older people, for example for independent living with the help of better and more comprehensive pensions, health and social care provisions as well as age-friendly communities. These new paradigms of active and healthy ageing motivate the work of the Active Ageing Index project.

The Active Ageing Index (AAI) has been developed for the EU countries during 2012, the European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations. The work was initiated at the European Centre, and its second phase is currently undertaken at the Centre for Research on Ageing, University of Southampton. The European Commission with the support of the UNECE funds the AAI project, whose work benefitted from the advice of the AAI international Expert Group, comprising academics, statisticians and representatives of national governments and international organisations.

This Policy Brief summarises the results of the latest 2014 AAI for the 28 EU countries. The in-depth analysis of the constituent parts of

the AAI (its 22 indicators in four domains) helps to explore what forms of active ageing potentials of older people have yet to be realised in different countries. With results now available for three data points, the AAI has started to facilitate the benchmarking of country performances, to encourage countries to look at policies and programmes that other countries have adopted and learn from those experiences.

Looking at the trends between the 2010 AAI (year: 2008) and the 2014 AAI (year: 2012), an increase of 2 points is recorded on average in the EU28. This improvement is quite remarkable given the economic crisis and fiscal austerity measures observed during this period. Overall, it is safe to assume that some progress has been made with regard to active ageing over this period, and further progress can be expected once economic and budgetary conditions have returned to normal. It is unclear though how much of the progress observed is attributable to policy changes, how much is the result of past policy choices and how much is simply the result of data inconsistencies. Further in-depth analysis is required to draw further policy insights from these results.

Downloadable:

http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=2489

For further information, please contact:

Asghar.Zaidi@soton.ac.uk