

Ageing in Europe

Newsletter of the Research Network on Ageing in Europe

Issue 03/March 2011

NEWS FROM THE RESEARCH NETWORK

The Research Network on Ageing in Europe is looking forward to an eventful year. On September 7-10, we will organize sessions at the **conference** of the European Sociological Association in Geneva, Switzerland. You can now register for this conference via <http://www.esa10thconference.com/registration.php>.

Moreover, two important changes are taking place within the Research Network. First, you can now formally become a Research Network **member**. The article at the bottom of this page explains how you can do this and which advan-

tages the membership brings you.

Second, we are going to extend the Research Network **Board** to include up to seven members. An article on the following page describes which positions are available and how you can nominate yourself or somebody else for those positions.

If you have any questions about the Research Network or about this newsletter, do not hesitate to contact us via coordinators@ageing-in-europe.org. We are hoping to see many of you in Geneva!

RESEARCH NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

The European Sociological Association (ESA) is currently restructuring, and as part of the ESA, our Research Network (RN) is affected by those efforts. One important change concerns RN membership. Until now, you were a RN member simply by virtue of being interested. Since January, however, the ESA has introduced formal RN membership.

It is easy to become a member. You just have to pay 10 Euros per RN you are interested in when you renew your ESA membership (see <http://www.europeansociology.org/memberform2.htm>). If you renewed your ESA membership before this change occurred, then ask the ESA to send you an invoice for the RN mem-

bership fee only (for the contact details: <http://www.europeansociology.org/>).

Your membership is essential for our RN. We can only keep our status as a RN in the ESA if we have at least 25 official members. Moreover, the ESA will fund RN activities through the membership fees – the more members we have, the more funding we will have for interim conferences and PhD students' workshops. It would therefore be great if many of you could formally become members!

Of course you will also have some advantages from the Research Network membership. The table below gives you an overview of those advantages.

Table: Benefits of the membership

Everybody can	Research Network members can
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Receive and send news via the mailing list- Attend the conferences- Attend the business meetings- Attend the PhD students' workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Vote during business meetings- Stand as candidate for the RN Board- Pay reduced participants' fees at conferences and workshops organized by the Research Network (this does not apply to conferences organized by the ESA)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE RESEARCH NETWORK BOARD

It is time for Research Network Board elections again! The elections will take place during the business meeting of the Research Network at this year's conference of the European Sociological Association (September 7-10, Geneva, Switzerland).

We are still looking for candidates for the next Research Network Board. The term in office is two years and until now, we usually had a board of three people. Due to the restructuring processes within the European Sociological Association, however, we will now try to set up a board consisting of seven persons.

The European Sociological Association has made some recommendations which functions may be included in the board (namely: a chair and a co-chair, a treasurer, a web master, a newsletter editor, a representative of PhD stu-

dents etc.), but leaves the identification of functions up to the Research Networks. This means that we can also come up with new functions that we consider important for our Research Network.

If you would like to candidate for the board or nominate somebody else, please send us an e-mail before the end of July 2011. If you already have an idea which function you would like to candidate for, please mention this in your mail. If you would like to know more about the board before you make a decision, you can, of course, also send us an e-mail. You can reach us via coordinators@ageing-in-europe.org. We will put together some information on all the candidates and send it around before the elections take place.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Events

Conferences

Nurturing kindness and delivering education: The heart of best practice

April 13, 2011, Paisley, UK

During this one-day-conference, speakers will discuss a number of topics such as "quality of life in people with severe dementia", "evidencing person-centred practice", and "nursing knowledge as a response to society needs".

Conference organizer: Faculty of Education, Health, and Social Sciences, University of the West of Scotland

Registration: Now open

For more information see:

<http://www.uws.ac.uk/nurturingkindness>

3rd International SHARE user conference

September 1-2, 2011, Tallinn, Estonia

This user conference of the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) shall provide a forum for 'old' and 'new' users to share their experiences with SHARE and to

discuss ongoing research projects with an interdisciplinary and international audience.

Conference organizer: Mannheim Research Institute for the Economics of Ageing

Deadline for abstract submission: May 1, 2011

For more information see:

<http://www.share-project.org/>

Building an active and caring society: Innovation, participation, community

6-8 July 2011, Warsaw, Poland

This is the 19th European Social Services Conference. It provides learning and networking across a wide range of areas, from children and families to long term care of older people, from integration of migrants to resource management, from mental health to employment.

Conference organizers: European Social Network, Polish Presidency of the EU

Registration: Now open

For more information see:

<http://www.esn-conference.org/>

Working carers and caring workers: Making paid employment and care responsibilities compatible?

June 7, 2011, Jyväskylä, Finland

What are difficulties and solutions concerning the reconciliation of paid work and family care? How do working caregivers experience their life situations? How can one make paid work compatible with care responsibilities? A research project studied these questions and now organizes its final conference to which it welcomes both, the research team and other researchers, policy makers, professionals and students working within this area to discuss these themes and present their research.

Conference organizer: Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of Jyväskylä

Deadline for registration: April 1, 2011

For more information see:

<http://www.jyu.fi/wocawo/finalconference>

Social inequality and mobility in the life-course: Causes and consequences of social stratification

July 7-9, 2011, Mannheim, Germany

The causes and consequences of social inequality have been hot issues among social scientists for several decades. This conference seeks to develop new perspectives in stratification research by linking different aspects of social inequality and connecting disciplines within the social sciences. It invites papers on, for example, "Intergenerational transfer of resources and family transitions", and "Social inequality in old age and retirement".

Conference organizer: Mannheim Centre of European Social Research

Deadline for abstract submission: April 10, 2011

For more information see:

<http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/konf/simlife/>

British Society of Population Studies Annual Conference 2011

September 7-9, 2011, York, UK

This conference includes a session on ageing. The session address ageing populations, ageing and society, future prospects for older adults, individual ageing, the ageing body and methods and methodology for researching ageing. Theory, empirical research and practice in relation to both UK and non-UK popula-

tions using either quantitative or qualitative approaches are welcomed.

Conference organizer: British Society of Population Studies

Abstract submission: Now open

For more information see:

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/annualConference/Home.aspx>

Theorizing age: Challenging the disciplines

October 6-9, 2011, Maastricht, the Netherlands

This conference is the 7th International Symposium on Cultural Gerontology, It aims to discuss the challenges that inter- and multidisciplinary research on aging and later life faces. It therefore generates discipline-challenging dialogues along three paradigm shifts in cross-disciplinary ageing studies: the critical turn, the narrative turn, and the performative turn.

Conference organizer: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Maastricht University

For more information contact:

elena.fronk@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Other events

Seminar "Retirement incomes and planning"

May 6, 2011, London, UK

This is the second seminar of the ESRC funded series: "Rethinking Retirement". It includes presentation by Jay Ginn, Paul Bridgen, Traute Meyer, Sharon Collard, Debora Price, and Tony Chiva.

Seminar organizers: David Lane, Sarah Vickersstaff, and Wendy Loretto

For more information see:

<http://www.rethinkingretirement.org>

Summer school "European perspectives on ageing: Recent thinking in the consequences of ageing for individual and society"

July 4-9, 2011, Padova, Italy

This is the 10th international summer school of the European Master in Gerontology. A diversity of scientific disciplines are involved (e.g., sociology and health care) and students will meet experts and fellow students from Europe and abroad. The summer school is open to master students, PhD students, professionals, policy makers and others interested in ageing processes. The course language is English.

Summer school organizers: European Master in Gerontology and the University of Padova

Registration deadline: June 15, 2011

For more information see:

<http://www.eumag.org/>

Summer school “Family and care policies in changing societies”

September 23-28, 2011, Milan, Italy

This summer school focuses on the analysis of European family and care policies in a comparative perspective. Specific attention will be given to the relationship between social and demographic shifts, family structures and labour market transformations and public poli-

cies adjustment processes. The Summer School is held in conjunction with the Espanet conference “Innovating Welfare. Transformations in Italy and Europe”.

Summer school organizers: Costanzo Ranci and Manuela Naldini

Application deadline: June 30, 2011

For more information see:

www.espanet-italia.net/summerschool2011

Publications

Books

Between remembering and forgetting: The spiritual dimensions of dementia

Edited by: J. Woodward (United Kingdom)

This book brings together contributions from practitioners in the front line of dementia research and care to explore the practical implications for churches and other faith groups, as well as for individual carers.

Published: 2010

Publisher: Mowbray

Global care work: Gender and migration in Nordic societies

Edited by: L. Widding Isaksen (University of Bergen, Norway)

Global Care Work is a unique study of gender and migration. This anthology brings the Nordic example to the international debate on how globalization affects and commercializes women's traditional work. The authors uncover some uncomfortable facts about new ethnic hierarchies, social class and gender discrimination in their countries.

Published: 2010

Publisher: Nordic Academic Press

The individual and the welfare state

Edited by: A. Börsch-Supan, M. Brandt, K. Hank and M. Schröder (Mannheim Institute for the Economics of Ageing, Germany)

Our situation in old age reflects our own decisions as well as many environmental factors, especially interventions by the welfare state. This book combines data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe with an account of European welfare state interventions. It thereby answers the important public

policy questions of our time – how the welfare state affects people's incomes, housing, families, retirement, volunteering and health.

Published: 2011

Publisher: Springer

The innovative capacity of an aging workforce

By K. Frosch (Germany)

In times of sweeping demographic changes, policy makers and business executives wonder whether workforce aging threatens the capacity for innovation. This book investigates, for example, how the age composition of the European workforce affects inventive performance, and to what extent staffing patterns experienced by German firms boost innovative performance

Published: 2011

Publisher: Rainer Hampp Verlag

Gerontology in the era of the third age: Implications and next steps

Edited by D. Carr (University of North Carolina, US) and K. Komp (University of Lethbridge, Canada)

The third age describes the life years after retirement but prior to the onset of disability. It stands for a time in which older individuals can remain actively engaged. This book serves as a comprehensive discussion about how the emergence of the third age has changed the way we think about aging and the life course.

Published: 2011

Publisher: Springer

Other publications

Think piece “Climate change and sustainable public services”

Written by: Simon Evans (University of the West of England, UK)

Ageing populations make public services increasingly important, while environmental, financial and social pressures demand for innovative ways of providing public services. This think piece promotes a research project which highlighted examples of good practice in developing sustainable systems of social care.

Published: 2011

Available on: <http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/record.jsp?type=publication&ID=86>

Report “The European dementia research agenda”

Published by: International Longevity Centre UK

This report finds widespread disparity in the diagnosis, treatment and care of people with dementia across Europe. It argues that research needs to be afforded a greater role in

tackling dementias. While some countries are striving forward such as Germany and France, the report found, many EU countries are trailing behind with no specifically targeted dementia research funding and/or national strategies.

Published: 2011

Available on:

http://ilcuk.org.uk/files/pdf_pdf_165.pdf

Policy brief “Auch Drogenabhängige werden älter...” [Drug addicts also grow old ...]

Written by: I. Eisenbach-Stangl und H. Spirig (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Austria)

This policy brief presents results from an Austrian study on senior drug dependents and care structures. It shows the increasing number of senior drug dependents and their marginalized position in society. It moreover discusses the influence of legal texts on the situation of senior drug dependents.

Published: 2011

Available on: http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=1853

Book Tip

Ageing and Intergenerational Relations: Family Reciprocity from a Global Perspective

Edited by Miza Izuvara
Policy Press, 2010

This book spurs us to explore what is happening to family structures and relations as tectonic plates of economic and social influence shift on a global scale. Family structures may be growing longer and more slender, but how are expectations and behaviour shifting and adapting? While Phillipson outlines central foci in a masterly opening chapter, before Katz and Lowenstein interrogate theoretical instruments for exploring intergenerationality, other contributors focus on families operating between borders – like the Caribbean families Joseph describes, struggling to maintain the meanings of land and home in two different national settings – or compare family behaviour in contrasting situations, like the three-generation families interviewed by Izuvara in Tokyo and Shanghai. Oduaran and Oduaran highlight the effects of ‘missing generations’ caused by Aids in Sub-Saharan Africa, while Engelmajer and

Izuvara speculate that, in Thailand, ancient religious and cultural beliefs about relations between daughters and their parents affect what at first sight seem highly contemporary migration movements. In the US, Ganong and Coleman explore interactions between familial norms and step-parenthood in older age; they show how expectations and commitments stretch and adapt in response to new circumstances. In the constant interaction between agency and socioeconomic change, intergenerational compassion and support do not necessarily dwindle, but may be forced into unexpected channels. As the contributors to this volume show, there is exciting work to be done in uniting macro- and micro-level analyses, and connecting them with questions of social policy and the future of the welfare state.

This book tip was written by Ricca Edmondson, PhD, senior lecturer at the National University of Ireland, Galway.



Do you want to write a book tip for the next newsletter? Then contact Kathrin Komp kathrin.komp@uleth.ca.

Other announcements

Call for papers “First Yearbook of Aging Studies 2011”

Editors: U. Kribernegg, R. Maierhofer and H. Mörtl (University of Graz, Austria)

The first yearbook of aging studies will explore the topic “The ages of life: Living and aging in conflict?” The chapters in this yearbook will conceive the relationship between living and aging as a productive antagonism, which focuses on the interplay between continuity and change as a marker of life course identity.

Deadline for applications: April 30, 2011

For the complete text of the call, contact:

heidrun.moertl@uni-graz.at

Website: ILC Global Alliance

The International Longevity Centre UK has been recognised as being responsible from now on for the development and maintenance of the ILC Global Alliance website. The International Longevity Centre Global Alliance (ILC Global Alliance) is a multinational consortium consisting of member organizations. The mission of the ILC Global Alliance is to help societies to address longevity and population ageing in positive and productive ways, typically using a life course approach, highlighting older people's productivity and contributions to family and society as a whole. The ILC Alliance currently includes centres in the United States of America, Japan, the United Kingdom, France, the Dominican Republic, India, South Africa, Argentina, The Netherlands, Israel, Singapore and Czech Republic.

See: <http://www.ilc-alliance.org>

LinkedIn group “Anthropology & Ageing”

Ageing is still too often seen as a biological or medical process only. It is then studied as a process with great political and economical importance that is primarily in need of elabo-

rate quantifications. Anthropologists know how ageing and older persons are cultural phenomena too and how important it is to investigate the cultural and social contexts. Also, because of our particular research methods we are aware of the great variety amongst older persons and the wealth of knowledge to be gained when talking and listening to older persons directly and carefully. The ‘Anthropology & Ageing’ group on LinkedIn has been created to provide an opportunity for all those working and thinking on older persons to share their ideas, projects and insights. It would be great if we could use this group to think of ways to share our anthropological views with a broader audience in academics and policy.

See: <http://www.linkedin.com>

SHARE ERIC: A European Infrastructure for Research on Ageing

The European Commission announced that the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) will become the first ever European Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) and thus enjoy a completely new European legal status. The SHARE ERIC will be officially inaugurated at the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science in The Hague this spring. "This is not only a huge success for SHARE, but also a breakthrough for sustainable pan-European social science research. ERIC is made for long term research infrastructures and strengthens the European Innovation Union" says Prof. Axel Börsch-Supan, the coordinator.

For more information see:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?refer-ence=IP/11/323&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

and

<http://www.share-project.org>

This newsletter was put together by the Research Network on Ageing in Europe (European Sociological Association). More information on the Research Network is available on <http://www.ageing-in-europe.org>. The Research Network is not responsible for the content of the websites referred to.