

Australia establishes International Longevity Centre and web presence

CEPAR is one of 11 organisations in the successful consortium which won the International Longevity Centre bid to establish an Australian centre.

The new Centre has a new website www.ilc-alliance.org/index.php/members/details/ilc-australia the first point of contact for information about its aims, priority areas and activities.

A key player in the establishment of the Australian Centre was Professor Julie Byles, a CEPAR Associate Investigator, and Acting Head of International Longevity Centre Australia (ILC-A). “This is a great opportunity to join a global alliance of centres whose mission is to help societies address longevity and population ageing in positive and productive ways,” she said.

CEPAR Chief Investigator Hal Kendig was also heavily involved in the bid. “International collaboration offers an opportunity to for Australian researchers to share our knowledge, and learn from other countries,” he said.

“This consortium represents a range of interests including ageing peak bodies, aged care providers, academics, and policy advisors. This gives the group great advantage in driving evidence based change.”

ILC-A aims to support a better experience of ageing at a societal level, including better services, better community structures and better government policies. It will foster long-term, independent policy analysis, research, advocacy and knowledge translation activities to support communities as the population lives longer.

The ILC-A will concentrate its efforts on the social effects of longevity, with a focus on health and well-being, work force participation, intergenerational issues, and aged care, among other topics.

The ILC-A will act as a forum for knowledge transfer and debate, and as a bridge between evidence, policy and practice on societal ageing issues. It will have an international focus, bringing new ideas into Australia, extending and sharing databases, and sharing innovation arising from Australia to a wider audience.

The 11 member organisations behind ILC–Australia include: Australian Association of Gerontology, Benetas, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research, COTA Australia, La Trobe University, Monash University, National Ageing Research Institute, University of Adelaide, University of Melbourne, and the University of Newcastle.