

## Researchers in Ageing Explore Sexuality, Social Care, Cultural Diversity and Whether to Stop Working

The work of early career researchers exploring aspects of population ageing featured at the 14<sup>th</sup> National ERA Conference 7-8 December 2015.

With Australia and the Asia Pacific amongst the fastest ageing areas globally, ageing research is vital to understanding key issues which will impact on individuals, families, communities, workplaces, societies and economies.

The 2015 Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) Conference, *Bringing Research to Life*, featured more than 40 presentations across seven sessions:

Residential age care

Pharmacology

Work and social participation

Healthy ageing and physical functioning.

Cultural diversity

Cognitive health and dementia

Housing and care in the community

Presented papers considered:

- the demand for **workers in social care**: in an ageing society who will look after people at home or in residential care? What will attract – and retain – workers? (Victoria Weale, La Trobe University)
- recognising the ongoing **sexual needs of older individuals** (Ashley MacLeod, Australian Catholic University)
- **depression and anxiety in older Chinese Australians**, with Cantonese speakers having lower prevalence than Mandarin speakers (Xiaoping Lin, University of Melbourne)
- 'retirement not on the horizon' for **people who want to keep working** past official retirement age (Alison Herron, Swinburne University)

These are just four of the ageing issues which engaged researchers from many disciplines who met to share their work with policy makers and stakeholders, and to forge networks which can lead to future collaborations. Full program available [here](#)

ERA provides forums for mentoring and discussion, and disseminates information relevant to the ageing research field, is based at Monash University and is supported by the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR). The 2015 conference was hosted by NARI (National Ageing Research Institute).

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