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CENTRE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the September newsletter. Much activity over the past month has focused, one way or another, on mature labour force participation.

Last month saw the release of the first of a planned series of briefing papers, which received media attention. CEPAR also intensified its

PLENTY OF PLUSES IN A LONGER WORKING LIFE

John Piggott opinion piece in the Australian Financial Review

As one of Australia's foremost experts in superannuation, John Piggott believes that the Australian Government should lift the access age for tax-free superannuation in line with the increases in the pension access age.

While acknowledging the political difficulty of such a reform, John argues that the failure to do so will cost Australia dearly in the future.

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NEW CEPAR RESEARCH BRIEF ON MATURE-AGE LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

CEPAR has produced its first research brief on older workers. This 17-page document provides a comprehensive analysis of Australia's mature-age workforce, including trends, barriers, demand, and unmet potential.

engagement with policy makers and key players in the the population ageing debate, including the Age Discrimination Commissioner, Susan Ryan.

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MORE CEPAR NEWS

CEPAR Chief

Investigator, Professor Michael Keane, has been elected as a fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia. This prestigious award recognises Mike's outstanding contribution to research in health insurance, aged care and superannuation.

Professor Keane is a leading international expert in the fields of econometrics and applied microeconomics. He

"A five percentage point increase to participation rates of 50-69 year olds is projected to be worth 2.4% of GDP in 2050."

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CEPAR ROUNDTABLE WITH THE AGE DISCRIMINATION COMMISSIONER



The Age Discrimination Commissioner, Susan Ryan, and CEPAR researchers came together in a roundtable recently to discuss current issues and research priorities that could inform the population ageing policy debate.

Both Commissioner Ryan and CEPAR Director, John Piggott, agreed there were many similarities between the work of the two organisations. The dialogue covered a wide range of topics, including mature labour force participation and the barriers to working longer, the age pension and superannuation, age discrimination in aged care, discrimination implications of cognitive decline, the co-ordination of driver licence provisions for older people, and the impacts of exclusion on older men.

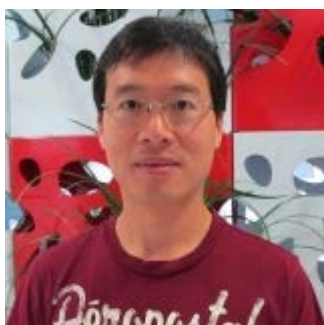
has an outstanding record in methodological innovations in statistics, particularly in the area of choice modelling.

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"The ageing demographic is a top issue for the 21st century, in Australia and globally. New, quality research is needed to inform good policy. CEPAR's work will establish Australia's leading position in this crucial area," Commissioner Ryan said.

Plans are underway to collaborate on a range of issues, including financial competence, older workers and retirement products.

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NEW STAFF MEMBER

CEPAR's research on Labour Economics, Applied Microeconomics and Computational Economics will be strengthened by our newest staff member, Xiaodong Fan. Xiaodong recently completed a PhD in Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on "Dynamic Models of Labour Supply and Retirement".

He has just relocated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to our UNSW office.



RESEARCHER PROFILE

Professor Julie Byles is the Director of the Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing at the University of Newcastle and a CEPAR Associate Investigator. Her research areas include preventative health and the role of health services, healthy ageing as well as treatments to maintain quality of life in older people.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

19-20 November 2012, Brisbane

[Emerging Researchers in Ageing Conference](#)

4 December 2012, Canberra

Policy Dialogue on Aged Care Policy Reform. Hosted by CEPAR and the Crawford School at ANU. Details to come.

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FEATURED RESEARCH

CEPAR falls prevention study published in the British Medical Journal.

A study of 300 people over 70 years of age found that doing simple exercises can reduce the likelihood of falls by almost a third. CEPAR Associate Investigator, Lindy Clemson, led the study.

The LiFE (Lifestyle Integrated Functional Exercise) plan is a tailored programme of balance and strength activities, taught in the home. It is an alternative to traditional exercise to consider for fall prevention.

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AGED CARE REFORM

Read Professor Hal Kendig's analysis of the Australian Government's aged care reform package.

His opinion piece features in the September edition of Health Matters, the quarterly magazine produced by the Victorian Health Association.

The current edition focuses on the future needs of Australia's health system.

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