

MEDIA RELEASE

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Annual Report 2012

Delivering its second annual report this week, the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR) recorded a strong performance in its second year.

Centre Director, Professor John Piggott welcomed the result, saying CEPAR personnel had clearly demonstrated their commitment to the Centre's goals.

"Our research initiatives in 2012 have tackled some big and unresolved questions, ranging from longevity risk management to cognitive decline. In all, we report on sixty-four projects and eighty-nine journal publications, an encouraging result," Professor Piggott said.

"The work undertaken by CEPAR in 2012 indicates that we are building strong momentum for the coming year.

"In 2012 we made good progress with building linkages with our partners and we will take the lessons from those positive experiences into 2013. We are finding innovative ways to engage fruitfully with industry and government to improve research impact.

"Another focus for 2013 is to coordinate our multi-disciplinary expertise to generate a unified perspective on major issues.

"CEPAR's cross-disciplinary capacity provides us an opportunity to use this diverse skills set to deliver transformative research," Professor Piggott said.

The Report features a full breakdown on the research projects undertaken by CEPAR from the Actuarial Science, Psychology, Economics, Sociology and Epidemiology disciplines across four research programs.

1: System-wide economic, social and policy issues. Topics include retirement incomes, longevity risk and its management. Economy-wide modeling on the macro implications of alternative pension policies, aged care policy, social attitudes towards ageing and the impact these attitudes have on behaviour – the conflict between work and care, for example.

2: Decision making by individuals, households and firms. Topics include the interdependence between human capital and health investment, life course decisions, the retirement decision, financial decision making around pension investments, firm behaviour regarding longevity risk management products, and the hedging strategies they adopt to manage their exposure to longevity risk.

3: Integrating public and private provision of products and services. Topics include late life morbidity compression for more effective delivery of aged care in a coordinated way and the relationship between increasing longevity and the expected duration of morbidity.

4: Ageing well and productively. Topics include productivity and wellbeing in later life, chronic disease, obesity, health-adverse lifestyles, and their relationships with socioeconomic status and the impact mature labour market participation has on life expectancy.

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