

UK Age Research Forum Newsletter

Fifth edition

Dec 2008

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UKARF Working Groups

Priorities analysis

The questionnaires have now been completed. The next stages are to look in to the priorities identified in more detail, and look into collaborations and resources. A summary of priority areas and a few further questions will be circulated to Members shortly. This group has been renamed the "Priorities analysis" group to better reflect its work.

Dementia

Next meeting: 26th Jan

The Dementia group submitted UKARF responses to the Nuffield Council Consultation on the Bioethics of Dementia and the National Dementia Strategy. An advisory group was also set up to assist in planning for the Dementia Research Summit, due to be held by the Department of Health. Future work of the group will be discussed at the next meeting.

Showcase Day

It has been agreed the showcase day subgroup will continue work as the 'external relations working group'.

Members are welcome to join any of the above working groups. Please contact Serena:

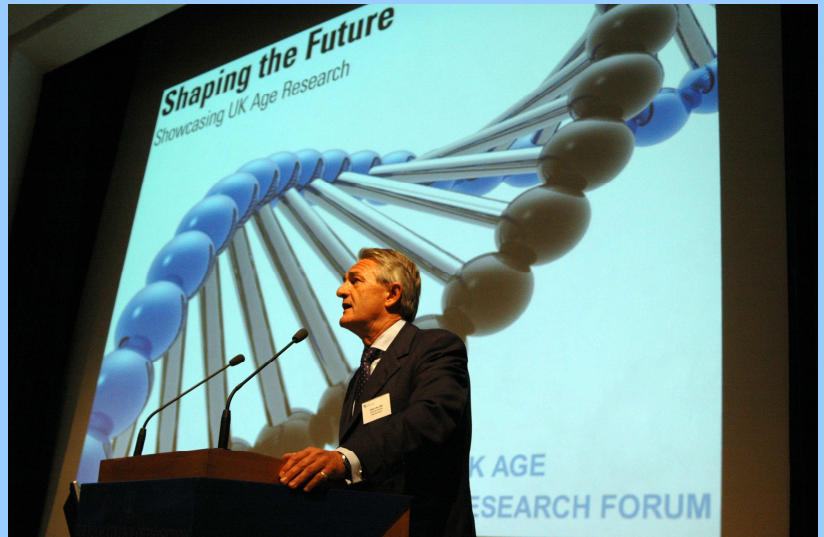
Serena.Carville@ukarf.org.uk

UKARF News

Showcasing Age Research: Co-ordinating for the future

Thank you all for your input and support for the UKARF Showcase day held on 2nd October 2008 at the Royal College of Physicians, Regent's Park, London.

This day was a great success and we hope to hold similar events in the future.



Presentations and photographs from the day can be viewed at: www.ukarf.org.uk/15.html

Expert Seminar Dinner

This event was followed by an expert seminar dinner hosted by Lord Sutherland of Houndwood and Sir Leszek Borysiewicz (MRC Chief Executive). This was attended by key figures in the field including the Government Chief Scientist, Professor John Beddington. The aim was to form closer engagements with more senior people in age research and related fields – it also served as an opportunity to broaden our scope. We have had huge enthusiasm back from those that attended.

Members' News:

Stroke Matters –The Stroke Association Launch New Publication

Stroke Matters, The Stroke Association quarterly e-publication for professionals in health and social care was launched at the UK Stroke Forum in December 2008. The publication promises to deliver interesting and accurate news on stroke issues, carefully selected by an expert multidisciplinary editorial board comprising leading stroke specialists. **Stroke Matters** will cover: stroke policy and practice; the latest stroke research and updates on the Stroke Research Network, upcoming conferences and news from The Stroke Association.

To subscribe for free, please email your details to strokematters@stroke.org.uk



Workshop on The Social and Economic Challenges of Ageing Societies: China and the UK

On behalf of the ESRC and RCUK (China) the New Dynamics of Ageing Research Programme organised a highly successful workshop in Beijing, in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The main aim of this first RCUK event in China was to explore the potential for joint research between the 20 or so senior social scientists representing the two countries. Over the course of two days there were paired presentations on the key research topics with regard to ageing societies followed by comparative

discussions and exchanges concerning definitions, methods and data.

This workshop will be followed by a second one in London, in the spring 2009, which will involve a wider range of UK scientists and, also, policy makers.

The full workshop proceedings is now available on the NDA website:

www.newdynamics.group.shef.ac.uk

Joint Initiative with the Canadian Institute on Ageing (CIA)

Following a successful pilot, in which the CIA issued a call for Canadian researchers to join NDA Collaborative Research Project teams, it is hoped to roll out this initiative to the whole of the NDA Programme. A novel aspect of this collaboration is that the Canadian applications are peer reviewed by the NDA Commissioning Panel.

NOTICE OF CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR LIFELONG HEALTH AND WELLBEING



Lifelong Health and Wellbeing (LLHW) is a major cross-council initiative supporting multi-disciplinary research addressing factors across the life course that influence healthy ageing and wellbeing in later life. The Research Councils in partnership with the UK Health Departments invite applications for Phase 2 of LLHW.

Funding Partners:

Research Councils:

- *Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)*
- *Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)*
- *Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)*
- *Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)*
- *Medical Research Council (MRC)*

UK Health Departments:

- *Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government Health Directorates*
- *Department of Health/National Institute for Health Research*
- *Research and Development Office for Health and Personal Social Services in Northern Ireland*
- *Wales Office of Research and Development for Health and Social Care, Welsh Assembly Government*

Research priority areas

The call invites high quality, multi-disciplinary applications in the following priority areas:

- Mental capital, mental health and wellbeing
- Markers for the ageing process
- Interactions between determinants of healthy ageing
- Interventions that promote healthy ageing and independence in later life

Available funds and types of awards

Funds will be available through two modes of support:

LLHW Collaborative Grants - *to support high quality innovative research by multi-disciplinary teams of researchers in strategic partnership with users and stakeholders. Funds of up to £7 millions (80% FEC) will be available over a 5 year period. It is anticipated that 3 to 6 Collaborative awards will be made in this call.*

Collaborative Development Networks – *to establish multi-disciplinary partnerships focused on developing a research strategy within the priority areas highlighted in the call. Applicants can request up to £50k (100% FEC) for a maximum period of 10 months. It is anticipated that approximately 10 Networks will be supported in this call.*

Workshop

A workshop to facilitate multi-disciplinary cross-sector collaboration for potential Network applicants will be held on **12 December 2008** in central London. Workshop places will be limited and registration prior to the event will be essential.

Deadlines for applications

LLHW Collaborative Grants

4pm, 12 February 2009

Collaborative Development Networks

4pm, 14 January 2009

MRC is administering and managing the call on behalf of the LLHW funding partners.

For more information <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/ApplyingforaGrant/CallsForProposals/LLHW/>

The next UKARF Newsletter will be due out in March 2009

**Please send any items you would like to appear to the Programme Manager:
Serena.Carville@ukarf.org.uk**

**For further information about UKARF, please visit the website:
www.ukarf.org.uk**