AGE-WELL COLLABORATION

The Gilbrea Centre and AGE-WELL is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Igor Gontcharov. Igor is the post-doctoral fellow on the project entitled “Understanding and Enacting Knowledge Mobilization (KMb) in Large Teams and Across AGE-WELL: An Interactive Action-Oriented Project.”

This research project – under the direction of AGE-WELL CC1 K-MOB co-leads Dr. Amanda Grenier and Dr. Karen Kobayashi (University of Victoria) – is designed to gain a better understanding of how interdisciplinary researchers understand KMb, how they envision KMb within their disciplines and projects, and the actions and supports they deem necessary to successfully engage in KMb. AGE-WELL website: http://agewell-nce.ca/

We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Gontcharov to the team!

E-NEWS

This is an electronic newsletter published quarterly and available by subscription or on the Gilbrea website. If you would like to subscribe, send an e-mail to gilbrea@mcmaster.ca. If your e-mail address is changing, please let us know.

GILBREA NEWS

Dr. Amanda Grenier (Director, Gilbrea Centre) was appointed Full Professor commencing July 1, 2017. Amanda is part of the Faculty of Social Science, Department of Health, Aging & Society at McMaster University.

Congratulations to Rachel Weldrick who has been awarded the 2017 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship! Rachel is a PhD Candidate in Social Gerontology at McMaster University.

Rachel’s work will investigate how urban dwelling older women experience social isolation. Her research will emphasize the voices and experiences of these older women, and bring a new understanding and awareness to the growing problem of social isolation among seniors in urban communities. This proposed study will be supervised by Dr. Amanda Grenier (Gilbrea Chair in Aging & Mental Health) at McMaster University.

IN THIS ISSUE

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MEMBER PARTICIPATION

Ryan, E., Strengthening Connections through Faith Communities. Hamilton Aging-In-Community Website Project. Hamilton, Canada.

Given the high number of seniors who attend places of worship in Hamilton-Wentworth, Grace Lutheran Church will work in collaboration with the Aging Together group to develop an interactive website. This website will provide tools and resources to faith-community leaders and their care committees so that they can assist their socially isolated seniors, especially those with low income.

McMaster launches new institute focused on Indigenous Research

The McMaster Indigenous Research Institute (MIRI) builds on and enhances the University’s existing relationships with community networks. The overarching priority is research excellence for all Indigenous-related projects across campus where scholars will focus on issues of health, environment, gender, language and culture, peace studies and conflict resolution.

Gilbrea Centre member Chelsea Gabel, is the Acting Director of the Institute. Her work explores relationships between Indigenous elders and youth, relationships which have been fractured by the devastating effects of colonization and the residential school system. Her research is working towards revitalizing those connections through the use of digital technology.

To read the full McMaster Daily News article on MIRI visit: http://dailynews.mcmaster.ca/article/mcmaster-launches-new-institute-focused-on-indigenous-research/

MEMBER RESEARCH

Grace Martin and Thipiga Sivayoganathan, students supervised by Associate Member Anju Joshi, will be joining the Gilbrea Centre this summer while they work on their research projects.

Using guided interview questions these projects examine the relationships between resiliency and social participation among older adults residing in Hamilton. Their research aims to gather a more comprehensive picture of the direction of this relationship.

The results of this study could have important implications for the aging community in Hamilton by shedding light on the mechanisms of social engagement and resilience that are pertinent to the current healthy aging model.

For more information, see https://gilbrea.mcmaster.ca/research

MEMBER PUBLICATIONS


On Friday, the 19th of May – after living a life marked by great ambition, intellectual curiosity and abiding altruism – Karl Kinanen, a beloved member of the McMaster community, passed away.

Karl retired from the School of Social Work and Gerontology in 1992. The Gerontology Program (now within the Department of Health, Aging & Society) was administered by the Office of Gerontological Studies (now Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging).

Karl initiated the focus on Aging Studies at McMaster in 1979 through an innovative and popular interdisciplinary Gerontology course, listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences. He introduced the involvement of senior class assistants; still a valued component of current Gerontology courses. He organized the Office on Aging to promote research and teaching collaborations across the university with Ronald Bayne (Geriatric Medicine) in the early ‘80s. Karl’s teaching and administrative work led to the establishment of the Gerontology undergraduate degree program and development of its many courses along with interdisciplinary connections throughout the university and across local community and social services for older adults. He also initiated the successful Summer Institutes on Gerontology which contributed to the training of health and social service professionals in the Hamilton/Burlington/Toronto/Niagara area for over 25 years.

Karl, who was born in Finland, immigrated to Canada as a young social worker and came to McMaster through his success in Community Social Work. A model for resilient aging, Karl excelled in Cross-Country Skiing winning races at the Masters level, nationally and internationally, well into his 70s.

KARL KINNANEN LECTURE

Watch for details on the 2018 Karl Kinnanen lecture which will be held in the Spring.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) 2017
July 23-27, San Fransisco,CA
https://www.iagg2017.org/

Geriatrics Gerontology & Palliative Nursing
September 4-5, 2017 Edinburgh,Scotland
http://geriatrics-gerontology.conferenceseries.com/

Read the latest blog posts from the International Network for Critical Gerontology by visiting http://criticalgerontology.com/

- Guardianship of the Infantilized Elder: A Pipeline to the Institution Industrial Complex?
- Japan’s Ageing Prison Population
- How the Creative Industries Can Positively Impact Ageing and Old Age
- Sexuality and Dementia
Interdisciplinary Opportunities in Rural Aging Research

Dr. Mark Skinner (Trent University) and Dr. Rachel Herron (Brandon University) are leading a new national study of the potential of arts-based interventions to improve social inclusion of older people in rural Canada. The four-year project is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Applications open till position filled. Details can be found here.

Symbiosis Co-Housing Pilot Program for Seniors in Hamilton

Symbiosis matches grad students (masters and PhD) looking for lower cost housing with older adults (age 55+) who can offer a clean, furnished bedroom in their home or apartment. Students agree to help the senior around the house with some basic tasks such as groceries, yard work, etc. Application deadline is Sept, 14, 2017. Details can be found here.

Geriatrics/Gerontology Research & Training: Call for Proposals

The Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO/ERO) Foundation is announcing a funding opportunity for research projects that focus on enhancing the quality of life of aging adults. This competition is open to qualified grantees based in Ontario and British Columbia. Details can be found here.

Participants needed: How Older Adults Overcome Challenges

This study intends to explore how low-income older adults overcome challenging situations and what they perceive to be the personal, social and environmental factors that influence their ability to be resilient. Details can be found here.
STUDENT MEMBERS

The Gilbrea Centre student group welcomes students with an interest in social studies of aging. Learn more about the Centre and its current student members by visiting http://gilbrea.mcmaster.ca/people.

For anyone interested in becoming a member, please contact gilbrea@mcmaster.ca.

BECOME A MEMBER

Interested in learning more about becoming an Associate member of the Gilbrea Centre? Please e-mail gilbrea@mcmaster.ca.

CONNECT WITH US

Connect with us to learn more about upcoming events, opportunities, and more!

Help us profile your research, student opportunities, and new publications! Send them to gilbrea@mcmaster.ca

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Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging
Gilbrea Student

TheGilbreaCentre

Gilbrea Centre

CONTACT US

Please note our new address:

Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging
L.R. Wilson Hall, Room 2026
McMaster University
1280 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario, L8S 4K1

T: (905) 525 9140 ext. 24449
F: 905 525 4198
E: gilbrea@mcmaster.ca
W: http://gilbrea.mcmaster.ca/

IN THE NEWS

- TVO.org interviewed Micheal Veall (Economics) about the potential impacts of the rising proportion of seniors.

- The Hamilton Spectator reported on the Creation of the McMaster Indigenous Research Institute, with coverage that featured interviews with the Institute’s director Chelsea Gabel (Health, Aging & Society).

- Maureen Markle-Reid (Health Sciences) was featured in the McMaster Daily News as one of the 22 women who hold Canada Research Chairs at McMaster.

- Meridith Griffin (Health, Aging & Society) was interviewed by The Hamilton Spectator about the benefits of starting a new activity as an adult.

BECOME A MEMBER

Interested in learning more about becoming an Associate member of the Gilbrea Centre? Please e-mail gilbrea@mcmaster.ca.

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