



Interinstitutional Program of the University of North Carolina

UNC Institute on Aging Partners

The Institute has built strong partnerships with local, statewide, national, and global entities to enhance the well-being of older adults through research, policy and practice. One of the Institute's key roles is to build linkages and cross over traditional boundaries to bring organizations together for a common cause.

The following text includes brief descriptions of our core focus areas and associated partners.

Center for Aging and Diversity

The Center for Aging and Diversity addresses, through research and training, health disparities in later life; provides a forum in which to discuss and examine ethnic, racial and cultural variation in life course processes; and disseminates research findings to the academic and lay community on the health of older diverse populations. Partners include:

- North Carolina Central University
- Shaw University
- Duke University
- GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
- Eastern NC Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association

Education Initiatives

The Institute on Aging advances aging education and training throughout the state and is particularly interested in encouraging interdisciplinary and cross-institutional initiatives and promoting faculty expertise in aging.

Interdisciplinary Certificate in Aging

On the Chapel Hill campus, the Institute on Aging helped to create and substantially supports an interdisciplinary graduate level Certificate in Aging. More than 125 students representing 12 different academic departments and continuing studies have or are currently participating in the certificate program. Our primary partner off-campus partner is the Robert and Pearl Seymour Senior Center.

North Carolina College Aging Network (NCCAN)

The North Carolina College Aging Network (NCCAN) is a new initiative of the UNC Institute on Aging. The aim of the network is to provide a resource for connection, collaboration and mutual support among faculty of small and/or independent colleges in North Carolina who are interested in aging and gerontology. In addition to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, members of the network include:

- Barton College
- Campbell University
- Davidson College
- Elon University
- Gardner-Webb University

- High Point University
- Johnson C. Smith University
- Mars Hill College
- Meredith College
- North Carolina Wesleyan College
- St. Andrews Presbyterian College
- Wake Forest University
- Warren Wilson College

North Carolina Gerontology Consortium

The Consortium consists of UNC system campuses, community colleges, and sister private institutions of higher education in the state who agree to formally share resources through distance education formats to enhance the gerontological and geriatric education and training of the workforce serving older adults. In addition to UNC-CH, members include:

- Appalachian State University
- East Carolina University
- NC State University
- UNC-Asheville
- UNC-Charlotte
- UNC-Greensboro
- UNC-Pembroke
- UNC-Wilmington
- Western Carolina University
- Winston-Salem State University

Healthy Aging Initiatives

The UNC Institute on Aging participates in several initiatives to address healthy aging issues, both statewide and nationally. Primary Healthy Aging initiatives and partners are listed.

Healthy Aging Research Network

The Healthy Aging Research Network (HAN) is funded by the CDC and assists with the development of a research and dissemination agenda related to the public health aspects of healthy aging. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is one of nine universities participating in the HAN; Mary Altpeter, IOA Senior Research Scientist, is Principal Investigator. Other campus partners include:

- Texas A&M
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Colorado
- University of Illinois, Chicago
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of South Carolina
- University of Washington
- West Virginia University

NC Healthy Aging Coalition

Formed in 2005, the North Carolina Healthy Aging Coalition (NCHAC) is a multi-disciplinary, multi-network group comprised of key leaders from over **25 organizations** from across the

state with an interest in health promotion and/or aging. The IOA coordinates the Healthy Aging Coalition.

NC Falls Prevention Coalition

Formed in 2008, the North Carolina Falls Prevention Coalition is a multi-disciplinary, multi-network group comprised of key leaders from over **30 organizations** from across the state with an interest in reducing the number of falls, falls-related injuries, and seriousness of injuries resulting from falls for North Carolinians. The Institute on Aging, the NC Division of Public Health, the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services, and the NC Division of Public Health form the Executive Steering Committee of the Coalition; the IOA coordinates the work of the Coalition.

NC Roadmap for Healthy Aging

The Institute on Aging, the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services, and the NC Division of Public Health have constructed the NC Roadmap for Healthy Aging as a guide to provide direction and concrete strategies for programming in health promotion, disease prevention, and chronic disease self-management. The 170 page tool is designed for community and healthcare providers interested in implementing health promotion programs to best meet the needs of older adults in their community.

Partnership with the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services and the NC Division of Public Health

The Institute on Aging, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services, and NC Division of Public Health are formalizing our close working relationship by developing a three-way Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The MOA is expected to be finalized by the end of 2008.

The Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Section of the NC Division of Public Health has formally recognized the three-way partnership on the front page of its website:

<http://www.ncpublichealth.com/chronicdiseaseandinjury/index.htm> and in its Integration Blueprint: http://www.ncpublichealth.com/pdf/misc/cdi_integration_blueprint_2007-2012.pdf.

The NC Division of Aging and Adult Services also referred to the partnership in several of its objectives (Healthy Aging, Community and Aging, Economic Security, Safety and Security, Social and Cultural Opportunity) listed in the 2007-2011 State Aging Services Plan:

http://www.ncdhhs.gov/aging/stplan/NC_Aging_Services_Plan_2007.pdf

IOA Information Services

The UNC Institute on Aging Information Center is a central source of aging-related information in North Carolina. The Information Center's resources are available to researchers, health professionals, government officials, and others across the state. The Center maintains a specialized library of resources and provides assistance to those seeking information about aging. Reference and bibliographical services include personal consultation with researchers, literature searches, and tailored alerts to new publications in major research areas of the Institute. The Information Center distributes several monthly newsletters to keep researchers informed and connected. Primary partners include:

- Southern Gerontological Society
- NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
- Carework Network
- National Council on Aging

Program on Aging Workforce Issues

The Program on the Aging Workforce includes a number of research projects dealing with the aging of the workforce, older workers, and the changing transition to retirement. Key partners include:

- WANE Project
 - Florida State University
 - Penn State University
 - Georgia State University
 - Wake Forest University
 - University of Western Ontario (Canada)
 - Swinburne University (Australia)
 - Cambridge University (UK)

- Research Development, Workforce Aging Area
 - Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
 - North Carolina Department of Commerce, Workforce Development Board
 - North Carolina Division on Aging and Adult Services
 - GlaxoSmithKline
 - Duke Energy
 - SAS Institute

Forum on North Carolina's Aging Workforce

The Forum on North Carolina's Aging Workforce was a collaborative effort involving a number of partners in the public and private sectors, listed below. The goals of the Forum included alerting the public and private sectors about the impending shortage of workers due to the aging workforce; to present information about the need for and the value of older workers; to inform employers of the need for flexible work arrangements; to address the challenges facing workers and employers; to encourage the development of leadership to address these issues; and to identify policy changes and appropriate legislative actions.

- Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
- North Carolina Department of Commerce, Workforce Development Board
- North Carolina Division on Aging and Adult Services
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Duke Energy
- SAS Institute
- AARP North Carolina
- North Carolina Senior Citizens Association (NCSCA)
- North Carolina Health Care Facilities Association (NCHCFA)
- North Carolina Coalition on Aging
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
- North Carolina Association of Long Term Care Facilities (NCALTCF)

Programs on Communities and Aging

The Institute on Aging is developing a program focus area on communities and aging that recognizes and researches aging issues in a community context. Our research partners include:

- Virginia Tech
- University of Kentucky

- West Virginia University
- East Carolina University
- The Cedars of Chapel Hill

North Carolina Collaboration on Lifelong Learning & Engagement

The mission of the North Carolina Collaboration on Lifelong Learning and Engagement (NCCoLLE) is to foster the development of planning, policies and activities among partner organizations that will support lifelong learning and civic engagement among older adults. In particular, the Collaboration is exploring ways in which the state's public libraries can develop new resources, services and approaches to working with older adults. Key partners include:

- NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
- State Library of North Carolina
- School of Information and Library Sciences at UNC-Chapel Hill
- Several community public libraries

Program on Workforce Issues for Frontline Health and Healthcare Workers

The Program on Workforce Issues for Frontline Health and Healthcare Workers includes a number of research projects dealing with caregiver issues, the long term care labor force, and training.

The WIN A STEP UP program is a partnership of the NC Department of Health and Human Services and the UNC Institute on Aging. WIN A STEP UP has served over **60 nursing homes in NC** by providing continuing education to direct care workers and supervisors.

The UNC Evaluation of the Jobs to Careers Program is a collaboration between the UNC Institute on Aging and the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. Jobs to Careers is a national initiative of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in collaboration with the Hitachi Foundation. Jobs for the Future, as a nonprofit research, consulting, and advocacy organization, administers the program and works closely with the UNC evaluation team. Jobs to Careers seeks to establish systems that train, develop, reward, and advance current frontline health and health care workers to improve the quality of care and ensure the quality of services provided to patients and communities in **17 grantee partnerships** across the country.

Workforce Issues in Library and Information Technology

The Program on Workforce Issues in Library and Information Technology includes a number of projects dealing with the aging of the library workforce, older adults as library and information users, and civic engagement and lifelong learning in the older population.

WILIS is a partnership of f the UNC School of Information and Library Science and the UNC Institute on Aging. WILIS has also partnered with all six LIS programs in NC including Appalachian State University Library Science Program, Central Carolina Community College Library and Information Technology Program, East Carolina University Department of Library Science and Instructional Technology, North Carolina Central University School of Library and Information Sciences, UNC Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science and UNC Greensboro Department of Library and Information Studies. WILIS 2 will be working with up to 33 LIS programs nationwide.

Major Annual Events

Aging Exchange

The Aging Exchange is an annual research day on the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus, sponsored by the UNC Institute on Aging in collaboration with the following:

- Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research Center of Aging and Health
- Demography and Economics of Aging Research Program of the Carolina Population Center
- Interdisciplinary Center for Aging Research: Uniting Scientists (ICARUS)
- Program on Aging, Disability and Long Term Care
- Carol Woods Retirement Community
- College of Arts and Sciences
- Schools of Information and Library Science, Dentistry, Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Social Work

NC Conference on Aging

The annual North Carolina Conference on Aging is a collaborative effort to develop a professional conference to provide educational and networking opportunities for anyone interested in long-term care, vital aging, family issues, work and retirement, leadership, and professional development. Key partners in coordinating the event include:

- AARP
- NC Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- NC Association on Aging
- NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
- NC Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

International Linkages

The Institute on Aging has either ongoing relationships or partnerships on specific projects with a number of international agencies.

- Veterans Affairs Canada (IOA director chairs its Gerontological Council and serves on a second advisory council; contractual research on Canadian Forces Veterans)
- Social Development Canada (Contractual Research, and Involvement in Policy Research Initiative)
- North American Commission for Labor Cooperation (Invited Lecture)
- Asia-Pacific Economic Council (APEC) (Invited Lecture)
- University of Bremen (Germany) (Conference Co-sponsorship and publication)
- University of Dortmund (Germany) (WANE research project)
- Cambridge University (UK) (WANE research project)
- Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (WANE research project)
- Swinburne University (Australia) (WANE research project)
- University of Western Ontario (Canada) WANE research project)
- University of Calgary (Canada) (WANE research project)