



National Institute of  
Health and Science on Aging  
Italy



University of British Columbia  
Canada



Lund University  
Sweden

# INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ON AGEING

# ISSA

Ancona (Italy)  
10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> September 2012

- *Population ageing is unprecedented, without parallel in human history — and the twenty-first century will witness even more rapid ageing than did the century just past.*
- *Population ageing is pervasive, a global phenomenon affecting every man, woman and child — but countries are at very different stages of the process, and the pace of change differs greatly. Countries that started the process later will have less time to adjust.*
- *Population ageing has profound implications for many facets of human life.*

WHO, Report on World Population Ageing 1950-2050

## GOAL & FOCUS

The International Summer School on Ageing (ISSA) aims at building capacity by offering graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in ageing research the opportunity to enhance their chances of starting a career in their field, and to network with emerging researchers and academic mentors from different countries. Its design reflects multifaceted perspectives of the ageing process and has a strong interdisciplinary and international focus. It is organised in seven learning modules that consider both relevant content and methodological issues in the field of ageing research. The first summer school will have a specific focus on longitudinal studies.

## AIMS

The ISSA aims at offering PhD students and post-doctoral fellows involved in ageing research, and those doing post-graduate training that includes a focus in this field, an advanced training programme that crosses disciplines, sectors, institutions and geography, by addressing main research priorities and methodologies in the following areas:

- Fundamental research
- Biomedical research
- Psychological research
- Population and socio-economic research
- Clinical and geriatric research
- Health, social and long-term care research
- Technological and environmental research

Participants are given the opportunity to:

1. Gain an understanding of processes critical to carry out high quality scientific research as well as professional work in the field of ageing, through plenary and practical sessions;
2. Examine multidisciplinary collaboration, grant preparation, peer review, communication, knowledge transfer, professionalism and ethics in the context of research on ageing;
3. Network with other emerging researchers in ageing and with leading academic mentors from across the world.

This is achieved through a joint scientific collaboration among the National Institute of Health and Science on Aging - INRCA (Italy), the University of British Columbia (Canada) and the Lund University (Sweden).

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The ISSA addresses PhD students and post-docs, professionals in post-doc graduate clinical training that includes a programme of research in ageing. Candidates to the Summer School should have already some experience in gerontological research. Candidates' scientific background can be in the following disciplines: 1) biomedicine; 2) psychology; 3) sociology; 4) economics; 5) demographics; 6) medicine/geriatrics; 7) technology and environment (e.g. architecture, engineering, geography etc.).

Up to **20 students or post-docs** will be accepted for the programme, with their interests covering one or more of the main background areas above. The programme organisers will aim for a well-balanced mix of students and mentors to strengthen the interdisciplinary focus of the Summer School.

## ORGANISATION OF SINGLE MODULES

Each module is structured as follows:

- **First part** (2 hours): lessons + question and discussion time
- 30-minute **break**
- **Second part** (1.5 hours): working groups + exercises

## PROGRAMME

*Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> September*

- Arrival and welcome

*Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> September*

- **MODULE 1:** Introduction to ageing research and presentation of participants
- **MODULE 2:** Mentoring session: "discussing your own research"

*Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September:*

- **MODULE 3:** Study design and qualitative research methods
- **MODULE 4:** Study design and quantitative research methods

*Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> September:*

- **MODULE 5:** Potentials and pitfalls of longitudinal studies in ageing research
- Free afternoon and social event

*Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> September:*

- **MODULE 6:** Writing a research article: principles and techniques (including exercises)
- **MODULE 7:** Applying for research funding: principles and techniques (including a "mock" peer-review exercise)

*Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> September:*

- **MODULE 8:** Knowledge translation and ethical issues
- Closing plenary

## LOCATION

The first edition of the ISSA will be hosted by [INRCA](#) in one of its premises in Ancona, city located in the Marche Region, Italy (for further information about the area: <http://en.turismo.marche.it>).

# COORDINATION

## INRCA Coordinators

Dr. Fabrizia Lattanzio (INRCA, Scientific Director) and Dr. Giovanni Lamura (INRCA)

## Mentors

- Prof. Kenneth Abrahamson  
Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research, Sweden
- Prof. Antonio Cherubini  
National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (INRCA), Italy
- Prof. Doorly Deeg  
VU University Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Prof. Carol Jagger  
Newcastle University, United Kingdom
- Prof. Anne Martin-Matthews  
University of British Columbia, Canada
- Prof. Eline Slagboom  
Leiden University, Netherlands
- Prof. Torbjörn Svensson  
Lund University, Sweden

Education | Workplace Research

Medicine | Geriatrics | Clinical Studies

Epidemiology

Epidemiology

Socio-economics

Biogerontology

Socio-psychology | Environmental Studies

## Support and logistics

Scientific support: Francesco Barbabella ([f.barbabella@inrca.it](mailto:f.barbabella@inrca.it)); Carlos Chiatti ([c.chiatti@inrca.it](mailto:c.chiatti@inrca.it)); Mirko Di Rosa ([m.dirosa@inrca.it](mailto:m.dirosa@inrca.it))

Logistics: Laura Cassetta ([l.cassetta@inrca.it](mailto:l.cassetta@inrca.it))

# DEADLINES

**15<sup>th</sup> April:** Deadline for submitting applications

**30<sup>th</sup> April:** Communication to applicants of selection outcomes

**31<sup>st</sup> May:** Deadline for registration

**10-14 September:** ISSA

# TUITION FEES

Participants are asked to pay a 200€ registration fee. The ISSA will cover the following costs:

- *Travel:* lowest price economy return airline ticket or bus transportation from the applicant's home town or academic institution to the ISSA 2012 location, including ground transfers. Local participants who prefer to drive will be reimbursed for mileage provided the cost does not exceed that of lowest economy airfare or bus transportation.
- *Accommodation:* it will be arranged and paid for by the organisers of the ISSA 2012 for five nights (Sunday, September 10, through Friday, September 14).
- *Meals:* three meals per day will be provided for the full duration of the Programme.

Participants will be responsible for any additional meals/transportation/hotel and incidental expenses.

# FUNDING & ENDORSEMENTS

The first edition of ISSA is funded by the Italian National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (INRCA). Endorsement has been granted by the Institute of Aging of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR); it has been also asked to the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics – European Region (IAGG-ER), the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society (EUGMS), the European Research Area and Canada (ERA-CAN), the Italian Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics (SIGG) and the Italian Longevity Network.

# HOW TO APPLY

Applicants will have to use the [application form downloadable here](#).

The filled in applications will have to be sent by **April 15<sup>th</sup>** to the ISSA secretariat at: [issa@inrca.it](mailto:issa@inrca.it).

An application review committee will select a limited number of students, based on eligibility criteria, research interests, range of disciplinary backgrounds and national and institutional distribution. All applicants will be notified of the committee's decisions by **April 30<sup>th</sup>**.

*For further information please contact:*

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**ISSA 2012**

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*Endorsed by*

