INNOVATIONS IN OLDER ADULT LEARNING:
THEORY, RESEARCH POLICY

Fifth Conference of ESREA’s
Network on the Education and Learning of Older Adults
22-24 October 2014
University of Malta Valletta Campus
in collaboration with the

Gerontology Unit
Faculty for Social Wellbeing
University of Malta

International Institute on Ageing
United Nations-Malta
INIA

Wednesday, 22 October, 2014

13:00 Registration

13.30 Official Opening

Hon. Justyne Caruana
Parliamentary Secretary for Rights of Persons with Disability & Active Ageing

Dr. Maureen Cole
Dean, Faculty for Social Wellbeing, University of Malta

Radical ageing in neo-liberal times: Transformative late-life learning in action. Prof. Carmel Borg, University of Malta

Discussant - Prof. Alexandra Withnall, University of Warick

14.30 Refreshments

15.00 Keynote paper
Older adults learning in different ‘social learning’ spaces
Prof. Sabina Jelenc Krašovec, University of Ljubljana

Discussant - Dr. Ann-Kristin Boström, Jönköping University

16.00 Keynote paper
The politics of older adult education
Dr. Marvin Formosa, Gerontology Unit, Faculty for Social Wellbeing, University of Malta

Discussant - Prof. Antonio Fragoso, University of Algarve

17.00 End of session
Thursday, 23 October 2014

08:30  Registration

09:00  Keynote paper
Learning for living with finitude: Spirituality and self-knowledge in old age
Prof. Malcolm Johnson, University of Bath
Discussant - Joanna Walker, University of Southampton

09:45  Supporting older adult learning: Policies and principles
Prof. John Field, University of Stirling
Discussant - Prof. Emeritus Keith Percy, Lancaster University

10:30  Refreshments

11:00  Parallel Session 1: Intergenerational learning
Chair: Rosette Farrugia Bonello (Malta)

Between domestication and liberation: Older adults as participants and co-investigators in a non-formal educational cultural circle - Maria Brown (Malta)

Interweaving intergenerational and peer-to-peer learning for better older adult educational outcomes: from theory to practice - Barbara Baschiera (Italy)

Transfer of Knowledge about intergenerational learning between five European Countries - Ann-Kristin Boström (Sweden)

Educational Pathways between intergenerational dialogue and active citizenship - Rosita Deluigi (Italy)

What learning strategies do adults set up in the period of old age to adapt to changes into their everyday life? - Laurence Bonnafous (France)

Parallel Session 2: Cultural vehicles for older adult learning
Chair: Keith Percy (UK)

Interpretation as an innovative learning tool for senior audiences at Heritage Sites - George Cassar / Marie Avellino (Malta)

Lifelong education as a part of realization of healthy and active aging policy in Russia - Elena Golubeva (Russian Federation)

Life-long learning and dementia: Increasing learning opportunities through cultural visits - Cynthia Formosa (Malta)

Study on education programmes for senior citizens in South Korea - Mi Hee Ryu / Byung Jun Yi (Korea)

An Analysis on Culture & Arts Education for senior citizens in metropolitan city in South Korea: A case study - Lee, Yu-Ree / Yi, Byung-Jun / Park, Eung-Hee (South Korea)

13:00  Lunch Break
Parallel Session 3: Active ageing, active learning (I)
Chair: Elena Luppi (Italy)

Active Ageing through Work and Ageing - Cecilia Bjursell (Sweden)
Transition from paid work to retirement - Sandra Generoso / Antonio Fragroso (Portugal)
Learning opportunities for older adults attending community day centres: An action research study - Roberta Chetcuti-Galea (Malta)
Challenges and Competencies in Later Life: Educational Requirements of Voluntary Work and Caring at Home - Jens Friebe / Carolin Knauber (Germany)
Awareness and support to adults as lifelong education - Elizabeth Micallef (Malta)

Parallel Session 4: Gender and spiritual issues
Chair: Irena Zemaitaityte (Lithuania)

All ‘No’s’ - Obstacles among older rural men to be active in the community - Tina Tambaim (Estonia)
Religious Fraternities for older men learning: A Maltese case study - Rosette Farrugia-Bonello (Malta)
Spiritual learning in later life: Exploratory studies - Joanna Walker (UK)
Solo Women in later life: Learning, education needs and experiences - Trish Hafford-Letchfield / Nicky Lambert (UK)
Empowering Community Dwelling Women - Olive Bryanton (Canada)

16:00 Refreshments

16:30 Parallel Session 5: Association for Education & Ageing
Chair: Cecilia Bjursell (Sweden)

Building on European experience: the For Age Project and the construction of knowledge of later-life learning - Keith Percy / Jonathan Hughes / Anne Jamieson (UK)
Careering towards retirement? To what extent can guidance interventions later life learning? - Jane Watts (UK)
Memory, Wellbeing and Learning in Later Life: a discussion of knowledge and assumptions in three European projects - Jonathan Hughes / Keith Percy / Anne Jamieson (UK)
Quality improvement through the paradigm of learning: Outcomes of an evaluation of learning partnerships in residential care settings - Trish Hafford-Letchfield / Peter Lavender (UK)
Parallel Session 6: *Teaching and learning methods*

**Chair:** Damian Spiteri (Malta)

**Who teaches the older adults? Experiences of people working with seniors at U3A in Wroclaw** - Malgorzara Malec Rawinski / Bogna Bartosz (Poland)

**Applying critical geragogy to foreign language education: Learner re-training in the classroom** - Ramirez Gomez Danya (Japan)

**Active Learning Methods in Education of older people: REALIZE and INNOMEC Projects Experience** - Irena Zemaitaityte (Lithuania)

**Epistemological approaches in older adult education: an attempt at a Categorisation and Identification of suitable variables** - Dominique Kern (France)

**Education of older adults-Some theoretical considerations** - Veloso Emeraldina (Portugal)

**Evening Social Event: Tour and Dinner**

Mdina, the old capital city of Malta, is the Island’s most picturesque city. The tour starts with a walk through the narrow streets of this small medieval city, which allows the visitors to take in the highly ornate facades of the palazzi belonging to the most important Maltese noble families. The oldest palazzo, Palazzo Santa Sofia, dates back to the 15th century. Dominating the city is the imposing Cathedral built by the famous Maltese architect Lorenzo Gafa. The dome of this sacred building was Gafa’s masterpiece and is now considered as one of the symbols of the city.

The walk leads to the bastions, one of the highest points in the area, from where visitors can admire a panoramic view of the Island. Overlooking the whole area, it is easy to understand why the medieval soldiers used this part of the city as a look-out post in order to intervene should there be attacks in the surrounding areas.

The walk is followed by dinner in one of Mdina’s exquisite restaurants.
Friday, 24 October 2014

08.30 Registration

09.00 Parallel Session 7: Active ageing, active learning (II)
Chair: Veloso Emeraldina (Portugal)

The teaching of English as a foreign language to older learners - Jacqueline Mary Curmi (Malta)

Informal adult learning for older people in care settings - Natalie Briffa Farrugia (Malta)

What do the elderly learn from students on placement at the local ‘day centres’ A critical overview - Damian Spiteri (Malta)

Learning to be resilient: an intergenerational project to cope with the consequences of an earthquake - Elena Luppi (Italy)

Parallel Session 8: Informal and non-directed learning
Chair: Malgorzara Malec Rawinski (Poland)

Informal learning resourcing daily life of older adults - Helena Koskinen (Finland)

Education as a means to positive self-development for older people - Walter Erich Prager (Austria)

Digital literacy in later life - Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha (Germany)

Meanings of elder learning and successful Ageing by a group of senior adults in Hong Kong - Tam Siu Ling Maureen (Hong Kong)

Imagining the future: The digital senior - Alexandra Withnall (UK)

10.30 Refreshments

11.00 Learning in later life: Perspectives from Aotearoa / New Zealand
Prof. Brian Findsen, University of Waikato

Discussant - Prof. Trish Hafford-Letchfield, Middlesex University

11.45 Men learning in later life
Prof. Barry Golding, Federation University

Discussant - Prof. Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha, University of Tübingen

12.30 Closing session
Prof. Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha, University of Tübingen - Chair, ELOA