

**Advancing Age  
Inclusivity  
and  
Intergenerational  
Exchange in  
Higher Education:  
*Some Whys,  
What Fors &  
How Tos***

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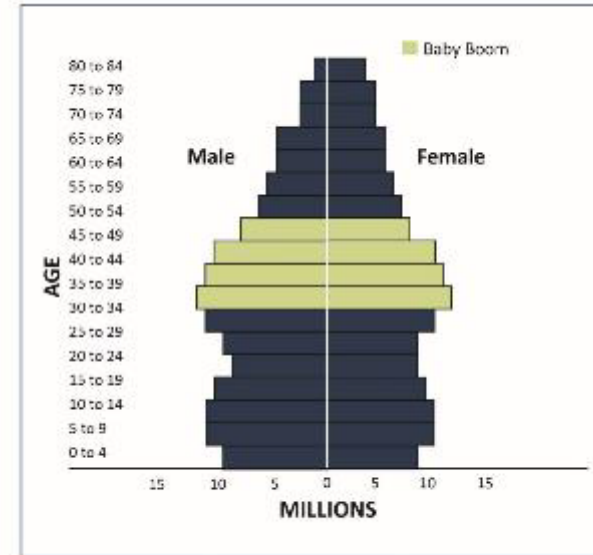
- **Whys** - Why Should Age Inclusivity Matter in Higher Education?
- **What Fors** - What's the Value of Intergenerational Exchange?
- **How Tos** - How Can We Create Effective Intergenerational Exchange?
- **What's Next?**
- **Your Questions?**

Question

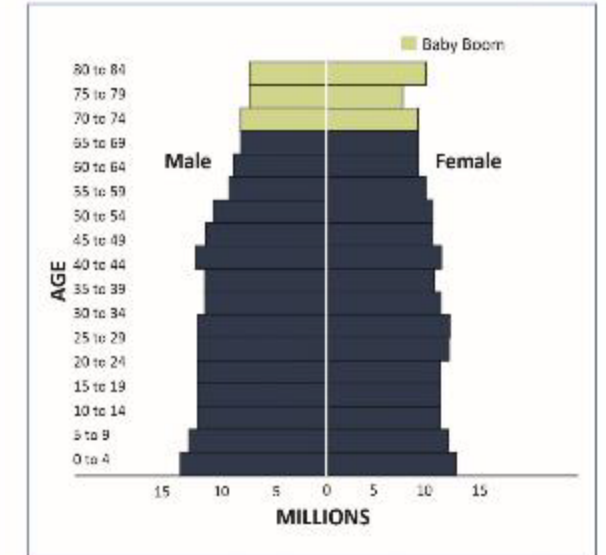
**Why Should Age Inclusivity  
Matter in Higher Education?**

# The Historic Juncture

Changing age demographics are reshaping societies and challenging communities and institutions to respond to aging populations through new approaches to programs, practices services, partnerships, and more.



1960



2040

# Age-(un)friendly Higher Education

## “Gaps and Opportunities”

### Younger Learners

- Aging education
- Personal support
- Professional guidance
- Intergenerational contact

### Older Learners

- Extended work lives
- Lifelong learning
- Encore engagement

### Campus – Community

- Enrollment, revenue, reputation, impact
- Faculty, staff
- Community partners
- Age-segregation, ageism
- Research, innovation

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# A Pathway to Productive Aging

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# A Higher Education Initiative to Advance Age Inclusivity

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Age-friendly  
University  
Global Network

# THE AFU PILLARS



**Teaching and Learning**

**Lifelong Learning**

**Research and Innovation**

**Intergenerational Learning**

**Encore Careers and Enterprise**

**Civic Engagement**



# The Age-Friendly University (AFU) Initiative

## The 10 AFU Principles

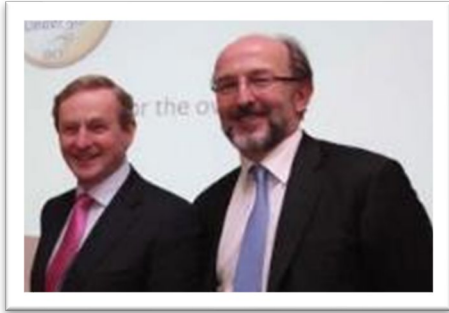


1. To encourage the participation of older adults in all the **core activities** of the university, including educational and research programs.
2. To promote personal and career development in the second half of life and to support those who wish to pursue **second careers**.
3. To recognize the **range of educational needs** of older adults (from those who were early school-leavers through to those who wish to pursue Master's or PhD qualifications).
4. To promote **intergenerational learning** to facilitate the reciprocal sharing of expertise between learners of all ages.
5. To widen access to **online educational opportunities** for older adults to ensure a diversity of routes to participation.
6. To ensure that the university's **research agenda** is informed by the needs of an aging society and to promote public discourse on how higher education can better respond to the varied interests and needs of older adults.
7. To increase the understanding of students of the **longevity dividend** and the increasing complexity and richness that aging brings to our society.
8. To enhance access for older adults to the university's range of **health and wellness** programs and its **arts and cultural activities**.
9. To engage actively with the university's own **retired community**.
10. To ensure regular **dialogue** with organizations representing the interests of the aging population.



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# The AFU Approach



**Wide Lens**

**Grassroots**

**Diverse**

# Growth of the Global AFU Network

- Arizona State University (USA)
- Athlone Institute of Technology (Ireland)
- California State University, San Bernardino (USA)
- California State University, Long Beach (USA)
- Central Connecticut State University (USA)
- Concordia University Chicago (USA)
- Daejeon Seniors Centre (South Korea)
- Drexel (USA)
- Dublin City University (Ireland)
- Dominican University (USA)
- Eastern Michigan University (USA)
- Eckerd College (USA)
- Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (USA)
- Fielding Graduate University (USA)
- Florida State University (USA)
- Hunter College (USA)
- Ithaca College (USA)
- Lasell University (USA)
- Leeds Beckett University (England)
- Maastricht University (The Netherlands)
- Niagara College (Canada)
- University of North Georgia (USA)
- University in Maribor (Slovenia)
- University of Miami (USA)
- University of Minnesota (USA)
- San Diego State University (USA)
- University of Vermont (USA)
- Un of CO Anschutz Medical Campus (USA)
- McMaster University (Canada)
- Michigan State University (USA)
- National College of Ireland (Ireland)
- National University of Ireland Galway
- Northeastern Illinois University (USA)
- Northern Kentucky University (USA)
- Portland State University (USA)
- Purdue University (USA)
- Royal College of Physicians (Ireland)
- Ryerson University (Canada)
- Stockton University (USA)
- Strathclyde University Glasgow (Scotland)
- Trent University (Canada)
- Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)
- Ulster University (Ireland)
- University of Akron (USA)
- University of Bratislava (Slovak Republic)
- University of California Los Angeles (USA)
- University of Maryland Baltimore (USA)
- University of Maryland Baltimore County (USA)
- University of Calgary (Canada)
- University of Queensland (Australia)
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (USA)
- Munster Technological University (Ireland)
- St. Cloud State University (USA)
- Florida Atlantic University (USA)
- University College Dublin (Ireland)
- University of Hartford (USA)
- University of Manitoba (Canada)
- University of Massachusetts 5 campuses Boston, Amherst, Lowell, Dartmouth, Worcester(USA)
- University of Montana (USA)
- University of New England (USA)
- University of Pai Chai (South Korea)
- University of Rhode Island (USA)
- University of Sherbrooke (Canada)
- University of Southern California (USA)
- University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse (USA)
- University of the Pacific (USA)
- Washington University at St. Louis (USA)
- Western Kentucky University (USA)
- Western Oregon University (USA)
- West Valley College (USA)
- William James College (USA)
- Palo Alto University (USA)
- Quinnipiac University (USA)
- University of the Pacific (USA)
- University of Nebraska Omaha (USA)
- Colorado State University (USA)
- UTexas Austin (USA)
- University of Maine (USA)

Congratulations!



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY



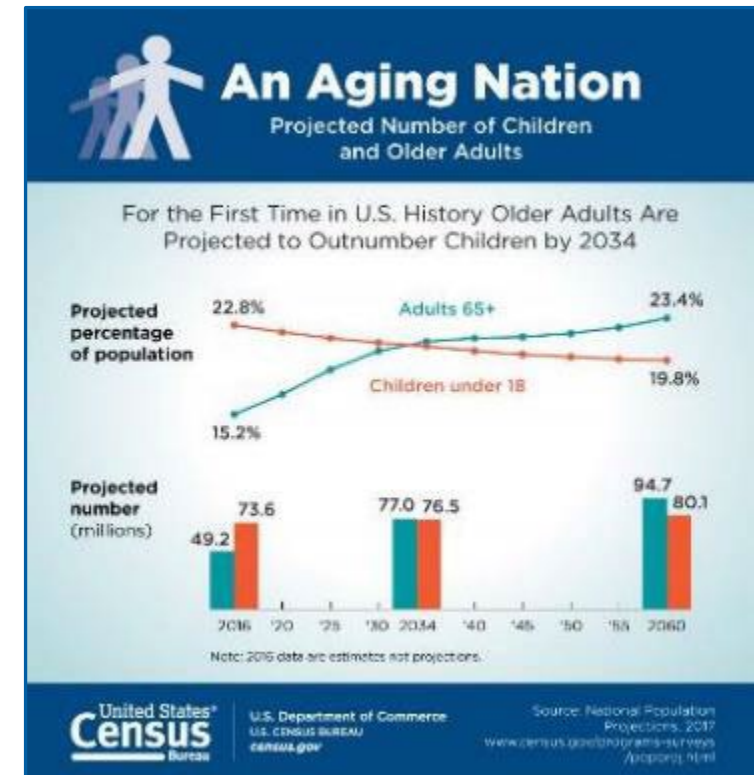
Question

**What's the Value of  
Intergenerational Exchange?**

# What Fors?

## Intergenerational Exchange in Higher Education

- Populations are getting older and more age-diverse
- Learning is a lifelong process and a goal for many people
- Higher education is a learning destination for many generations
- Communities benefit from intergenerational exchange and support
- Career opportunities are enhanced



## What Fors?

# Intergenerational Exchange in Higher Education

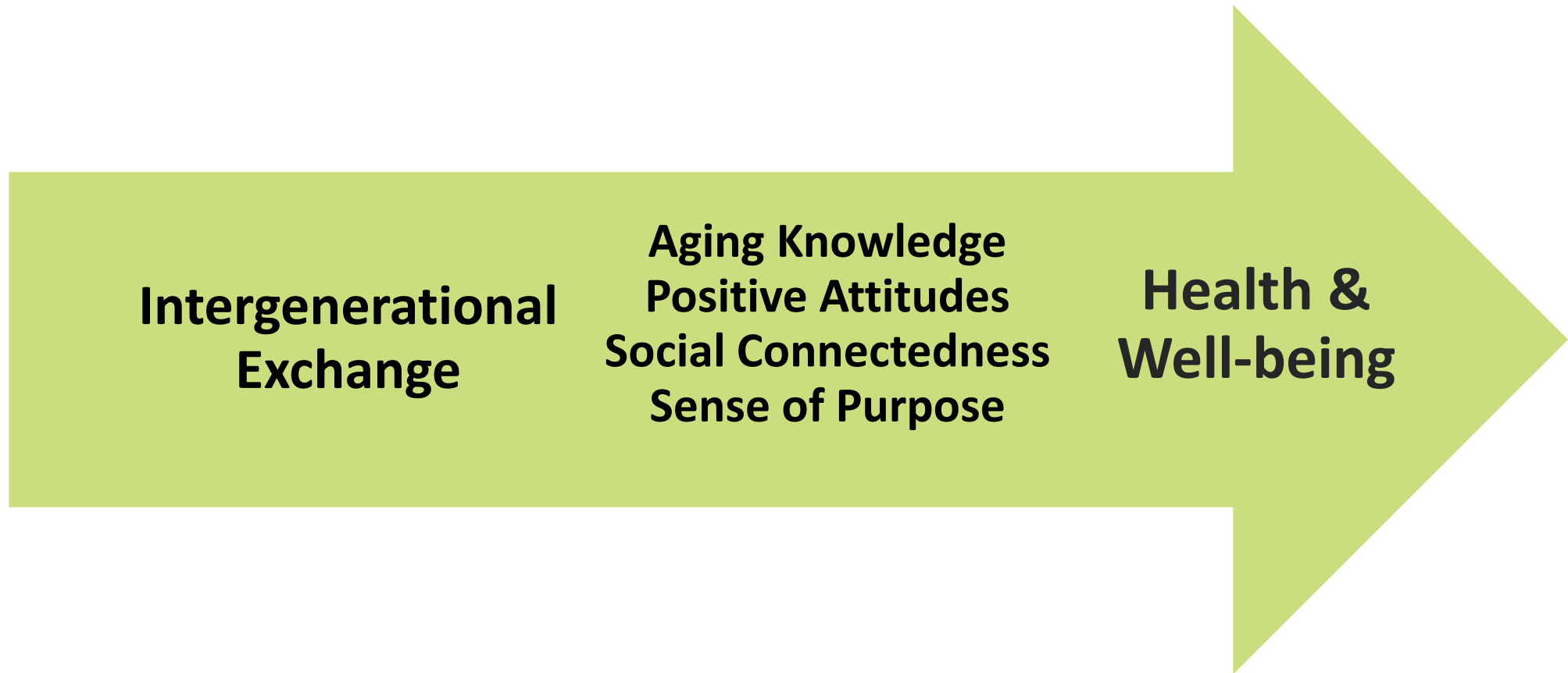
- It supports learning *about* and *between* groups with diverse identities, experiences, and knowledge
- It prompts students to self-explore their own developmental identities
- It expands awareness of social, psychological, temporal, and other correlates of lifespan development
- It creates opportunities for collaboration and fostering solidarity across age groups



**Sánchez, M. & Kaplan, M. (2014). Intergenerational learning in higher education: Making the case for multi-generational classrooms. *Educational Gerontology*, 40(7), 473-485.**

# A Pathway to Productive Aging

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Question

**How Can We Create Effective  
Intergenerational Exchange?**

# How Tos?

## Creating Intergenerational Exchange

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- Offer meaningful roles
- Convey equal group status
- Facilitate interaction
- Promote cooperation
- Build friendship and empathy
- Create something novel
- Provide training
- Attend to time and space
- Show institutional support

**Jarrott, S. E., Scrivano, R. M., Park, C., & Mendoza, A. (2021). The state of evidence-based practices in intergenerational programming: A scoping review. *Research on Aging*, 43, 283-293**



**And now for some  
EXAMPLES**

# LASELL UNIVERSITY

## An AFU Intergenerational Campus

### LASELL UNIVERSITY

- Founded in 1851, Newton, MA, USA
- 1600 undergraduate students pursuing liberal arts majors and graduate students in professional studies

### LASELL VILLAGE

- CCRC/UBRC established in 2000
- 250 residents complete a personalized learning plan of 450+ hours per year as condition of residency
- Average age ~ 86, range ~ 65 to 101 years





# AFU Intergenerational Exchange

## TALK of AGES

*A Common Ground  
Approach*

Intergenerational Classes

Intergenerational Events

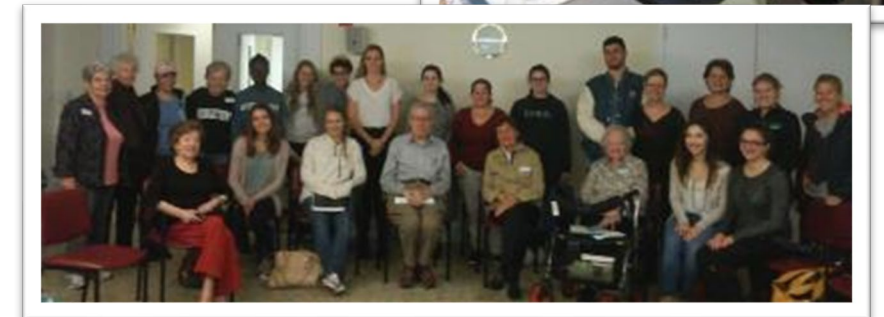
Intergenerational Modules



Montepare, J. M., & Farah, K. S. (2018). Talk of Ages: Using intergenerational classroom modules to engage older and younger learners across the curriculum. *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, 39(3), 385-394.

# Intergenerational Classes

- Generations in America
- Social Movements
- Ceramics
- Lyric Poetry
- Wealth and Poverty
- Police and Society
- Environmental Justice
- The Lure of the Occult
- Living and Learning with Dementia
- World Percussion
- Death Penalty
- Whose Wellness?
- Global History of Childhood
- Juvenile Delinquency & Gangs
- Figure Drawing
- Marine Biology
- Chemistry of Fashion
- The Dinosaurs
- Studio Drawing



# Intergenerational Events

- Talk of Ages Speakers
- Symposia and Forums
- Service Projects
- Collaborative Art Exhibits
- Talent & Music Shows



# Intergenerational Modules

- Anthropology - *World Beat Rhythm*
- Psychology of Gender – *Growing Up Transgender*
- Social Psychology - *Neshoba: The Price of Freedom*
- English Composition – *Popular Culture and the Media Mirror*
- American Folk Music- *Carrying It On: Children's Songs*
- Intercultural Communication – *Travel and Cultural Stereotypes*
- Sensation and Perception – *Seeing Illusions*
- First Year Seminar - *Explorations in Creativity*
- Apparel Product Development - *Fashion Trends*
- Creative Writing – *ASL Poetry*
- Forensics - *Cybercrime*
- History of Women in the US - *The Girls of Atomic City*
- Mass Media - *Fake News or Age-Old Propaganda*
- Modern Technology – *3D Printing*
- Performing Arts – *Puppetry*



Montepare, J. M., & Farah, K. S. (2018). Talk of Ages: Using intergenerational classroom modules to engage older and younger learners across the curriculum. *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, 39(3), 385-394.

# CSI:Lasell

The Scene: Body found by sister 10:00 am. Forensic team arrives 11:30 am.



Peter: Neighborhood Gardener

Jean: Victim's Nosey Neighbor

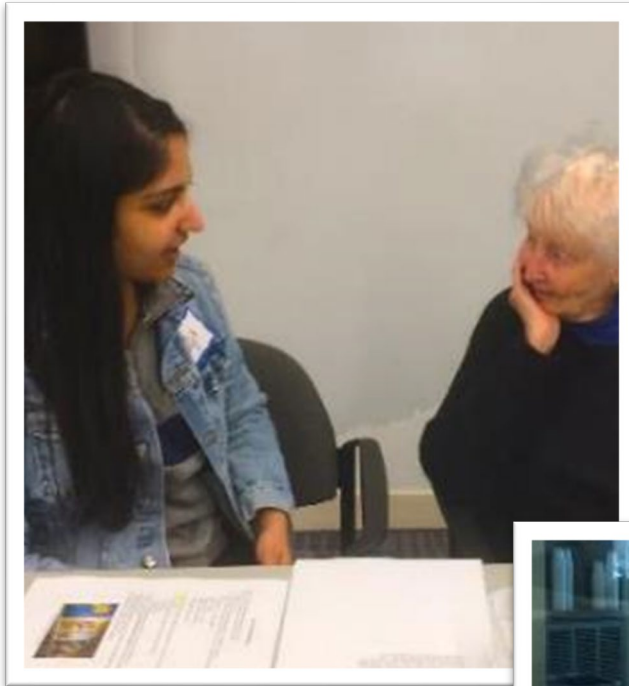
Annabelle Murdle: Victim's Sister

## CJ205 Forensic Science



# Reciprocal Learning

## Talk of Ages Campus Conversations



# Career Panel



LASSELL UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## with Lasell Village

February 10th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
Lasell Village Dining Room  
Questions? Email [SGA@lasell.edu](mailto:SGA@lasell.edu)



*A New*  
**Intergenerational  
Venture**

## Talk of Ages Community Leadership Fellows (TACLF) Program

### *The Talk of Ages Club*



The first intergenerational club at Lasell with a mission “to form intergenerational relationships while promoting positive ideals for community members of all ages.”



# What's Next?

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## POSITIVE EXPERIENCES

- Socio-emotional outcomes
- Educational outcomes

## PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Planning and preparation
- Incentives, support, recognition

## BIGGER QUESTIONS

- Evidence-based practices
- Information and resource sharing



# Ways to Learn More

[Higher Education and Aging: The Age-Friendly Movement - Building a Case of Age-Inclusivity](#)

(2019) Gerontological Society of America, sponsored by AARP

[Tools for Advancing Age Inclusivity in Higher Education](#) (2020) Gerontological Society of America,

sponsored by AARP

GSA Newsletter Advancing Age Inclusivity in Higher Education **Subscribe:** [ageinclusive@geron.org](mailto:ageinclusive@geron.org)

[Special Issue on Age-Friendly Universities \(AFU\): Principles, Practices, and Opportunities.](#)

Gerontology & Geriatrics Education, 2019, Volume 40, Issue 2

**Visit:** [DCU Age-Friendly University](#) and GSA's [Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education](#)



