

## **ILC USA, Annual Activities Report**

The ILC, USA's key activities over the past year spanned the following prioritized areas of focus, such as:

- Recruiting its top leadership
- Embedding healthy aging perspectives and training into the Mailman School Core Curriculum for Masters in Public Health students
- Initiating advocacy at international and national level amongst world leaders and media
- Working on research and training grants to support buiding exchanges of policy and research experience between ILC, USA and South Asia and also to collaborate with the Columbia Global Centers Network.

### **Advocacy**

Dean Fried attended the World Economic Forum in Davos again this year participating in talks and discussions on a range of topics, including aging issues. She continues to serve on the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Ageing and the Social Protection Task Force

Close working relationship fostered between the ILC, USA at Mailman School and the Age-Friendly New York City Commission, a coalition of public and private sector leaders from a wide range of industries, organizations and institutions in New York City who are dedicated to making the city a better place for older adults. The Commission is charged with providing innovative leadership to engage all sectors throughout New York City to make changes that will encourage healthy and active aging for every New Yorker. Dr. Fried is Chair of the Age-friendly Schools, Colleges and Universities work group, which aims to connect older New Yorkers to educational and cultural opportunities at NYC-area colleges and universities. Mailman school faculty are involved in intervention based research and policies that are closely allied with the mission of the Age-friendly New York Commission and MPH students and alumni are closely involved with field practica and internships associated with the Commission.

### **Policy and training**

In December 2012, the International Longevity Center located at the Mailman School of Public Health once again hosted the Age Boom Academy with Columbia University's Journalism School. The theme, "The Politics of Aging," was designed to connect reporters and editors covering health care reform, Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security with experts in the field who are appraising the effects of the November election.

Our most ambitious engagement was with the School wide Core inaugurated at the Mailman School with training for all MPH students entering public health school where a module on Lifecourse perspectives was planned and taught, in the future several more efforts to expand interdisciplinary teaching offerings relating to aging across the University, including those aimed at undergraduate students, are planned.

Seminars and workshops, journal clubs that aim to attract experts, faculty members and student led research that has not been perceived as being strictly in the area of 'aging' but lies in proximate areas. The objective is to encourage them to add new perspectives and research questions based on population aging to their work and also to meet and interact with aging experts: Talks were organized such as by Professor Mark Clarfield's, co-director of the collaborative Ben-Gurion University-Columbia University Medical School for International Health who spoke to faculty and students across Departments on "Squaring of the curve: Will our children in their old age be healthier than we will be in our later years?"

### **Select Publications**

An article co-authored by Dr. Rowe and Dean Fried, "Differences In Life Expectancy Due To Race And Educational Differences Are Widening, And Many May Not Catch Up," was ranked number seven in a listing of the journal *Health Affairs'* top 10 most-read articles in 2012.

### **Awards**

Dean Linda Fried was the recipient of the 2012 Metlife Foundation Silver Scholar Award from the Alliance for Aging Research, as well as the Ipsen Foundation 2012 Longevity Prize.

Jack Rowe, MD, has been recognized by the *Harvard Business Review* as among the top 100 CEOs in the world. This recognition resulted from a ranking of approximately 2,000 CEOs worldwide by the highly-regarded publication. Not only was Dr. Rowe listed as #40, but the listing also placed him first in the world in the health care services and finance arena!

Jack Rowe was also nominated to the IAGG Presidency at the upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> Congress in 2017 and will be formally declared future President elect at this meeting.

### **Grants and research collaborations**

Grant from Pfizer Foundation to organize exploratory fora of international and national level stakeholders and academics to discuss common and unique challenges between developed and developing countries, with a focus on South Asia;

and efforts to seek support to build research and advocacy networks through the Columbia Global Centers in Beijing, Bombay and Rio.

A Pfizer Foundation supported Healthy Aging Forum was held in March, 2013 bringing together University faculty, Foundation and NGO leaders from Rockefeller, New York Global Cities Project, from the International Federation on Aging, and from UN agencies to discuss studies. Projects such as on global cities by Michael Guzman and Ruth Finklestein were presented and approaches to develop policy tools and advocacy based on a case based approach for countries such as India and China were explored. The heterogeneities within these countries and the need for a regional perspective and to build South based networks was recommended.