Message from the founding members

Back in 1990 our aim was to reframe the way media and public discourse addressed older people and ageing, to promote the positive aspects of ageing and longevity and support societies across the world to adapt to ageing populations.

Our dream was to build an ILC Global Alliance which promoted the positive contribution older people make in society and the benefits of people living longer, healthier lives.

30 years on, we have grown to 16 member organisations across the world, each with their own priorities based on the needs in their particular country, but all sharing a positive view of longevity and doing research and promoting policy positions which strengthen attitudes and practice in each of their countries.

There is still much work to be done to end age discrimination and to promote the opportunities of longevity, but we are on the right track.

Our hope for the future is that the ILC Global Alliance continues this important work and grows over the years to maximise the spread of the positive attitudes they share to the benefit of people of all ages across the world.
Message from the Co-Presidents

As the next generation of ILCs inheriting the ILC Global Alliance legacy, we are inspired to follow the footsteps of the founders and aspire to do even more to promote productive longevity and the wellbeing of older people in an inclusive society for all ages.

Moving into the future, we aim to work towards transforming how the world experiences ageing and growing the longevity dividend. Through collaborative and comparative research as well as effective advocacy at national and international levels, we will build upon the ILC GA legacy, so we too can pass to our next generation the essence of what the founders passed to us in making the world a better place for all generations.

Dr. Rosy Pereyra M.D.

Dr. Mary Ann Tsao, M.D.
Five ILC Global Alliance achievements


Published the ILC GA “Global Aging Report” in 2007, the first compilation of issues surrounding ageing in different countries.

The steady, progressive extension of its global presence, relevance, influence and focal areas, as a huge and dynamic resource with multiple platforms, in large part through expanded and diversified membership representing both the Global North and the Global South.

Involvement in high level political forum with the Human Rights Council and the World Health Organization (WHO).
More than the sum of our parts...

Championed older human rights, elder abuse and ageism prevention by working with and supporting the Argentinian Governmental Delegation on the Inter American Convention for the Rights of Older Persons and actively participating at Intergovernmental Regional Meetings.

Published a monograph in 2019, based on the WHO Strategy on Healthy Ageing and the Integrated Care for Older People: Permanento Training Programme.

Increased the international presence of ILC Canada at key international organisations, running highly successful side events at the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, chairing the National Advocacy Working Group at the Global Alliance on the Rights of Older Persons (GAROP) and acting as civil society representative at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe’s “Mainstreaming Ageing” Taskforce.

Conducted a study on the financial security of older women in selected countries in Southeast Asia and produced a hardcopy and e-book on the situation of older women in these countries and recommendations to support them in old age.

Wrote and promoted the Code of Rights of Older Dominicans, which was later enshrined in law.

Represented the ILC Global Alliance at the United Nations, the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older Persons (GAROP).

Influenced policy and practice in the UK and across the world, convincing G20 Health Ministers to promote a life course approach to the prevention of ill health, working with local and central government and pioneering major initiatives with big and small businesses to help them adapt to an ageing society.

Established ILC Canada as a leader in human rights issues for older people in Canada, including leading national write-in campaigns on human rights, working with the research community to get evidence-based human rights policy and utilising social and regular media for activism and giving speeches/webinars on human rights and older people.

Developed a mobile literacy training programme for senior citizens, reaching 1500 senior citizens across Maharashtra.

Established a partnership between the University of Cape Town and North West University’s Optentia Research Focus Area to operate ILC South Africa at two sites and expand and diversify ILC SA’s thrusts and programmes.

Successfully developed a health prevention tool for computers, tablets and smartphones, which provides key prevention measures according to age, sex and identified risk factors for diseases for which prevention has shown a benefit.

Trained over 200 journalists in the annual Robert N. Butler-Jack Rosenthal Age Boom Academy since 2000 on topics ranging from global ageing to the interplay of work, retirement, and health.

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Published ‘Older age at retirement is associated with decreased risk of dementia’, a research project on the effect of age at retirement and the risk of dementia.

Hosted the Robert N Butler Memorial Lecture in 2019 featuring the work of Professor Tony Broe and his team from the Aboriginal Health and Ageing Program at Neuroscience Research Australia.

Advocated for the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Manpower to adopt a matched savings scheme to help Singaporeans, especially lower income and caregivers, to build up their savings.

Engaged senior citizens to impart morals and values to children of underprivileged schools through non-formal means of education, reaching more than 3000 school children in Maharashtra.


Received accreditation of a PhD study programme in Longevity Studies in 2016, with the first graduates now completing the programme, also supported by the INDUCT international programme.

Developed and participated in a consolidated research project on long-term care in South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa, in collaboration with the African Union, the WHO and the African Population Health Research Centre among others.

Developed a free, (online and offline) 8-week course training older adults in the first phases of start-up development, which has now been adapted in four different countries.

Become a reference for national media in relation to longevity - as has been amply demonstrated since the onset of the new coronavirus pandemic of which, tragically, Brazil has become the epicentre in the developing world.

Leading the “Health of an Ageing Society” certificate in the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health Masters of Public Health programme, training the next generation of public health scientists and policy makers in how to harness the third demographic dividend.

Enhanced national collaboration across institutions concerning older people as a consortium of researchers and representatives.

Held a 3-day international workshop and conference on “The Future of Gerontology Education” in cooperation with two Israeli universities, with 1500 participants and 11 distinguished gerontologists from around the world in attendance.

Brought together senior policy and decisionmakers at hundreds of events across the world to highlight the importance of longevity from G20 meetings to 10 Downing Street to the World Health Assembly.
Developed a successful decentralised strategy, establishing regional centres in five cities and appointing focal points in critical thematic areas - such as race, gender, age-friendly approaches, primary health care and lifelong learning.

Providing guidance on how to provide and evaluate person-centred care through a pilot project supported by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport.

Produced an ongoing series of international comparative studies on productive aging since 2013.

Published more than 50 research articles on various topics relating to ageing over the last year, with many more still in progress.

Worked with 14 NGOs and grass roots organisations across the Dominican Republic to empower older adults and become a recognised referent on older citizens by the Government.

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