

## **ILC-China 2020-2021 Annual Report**

### **Research activities and Reports:**

#### **The Internet Usage of Middle-aged and Older People Survey**

The Internet Usage of Middle-aged and Older People Survey collects data about the participation in online communities of Chinese middle-aged and older people aged 50 and above. A total of 1,113 valid samples were collected covering 27 provinces and cities in mainland China. The research report, released in October of 2021, analyzed the current profile of middle-aged and older people's online lives in China, the impact of online communities on middle-aged and older people's lives, and the problems they face in their online community lives.

#### **Research of the Impacts of COVID-19 on Health Services for the Elderly**

Affected by the epidemic situation, the elderly is faced with difficulties in medical medicine, hindered development of care services, and lack access to health information, social isolation and inadequate preparation of epidemic prevention materials. The research summarizes the responses and effective experiences of the Chinese government, enterprises and social organizations in providing health services for the elderly during the COVID-19 epidemic. The enlightenments and recommendations for the development of health services for the elderly are then distilled from these experiences. The findings were published as an academic paper *Impacts and enlightenments of COVID-19 on health services for the elderly*.

#### **China Longitudinal Ageing Social Survey (CLASS)**

The China Longitudinal Ageing Social Survey (CLASS) collects data about basic characteristics, health conditions and economic status of Chinese older people aged 60 and above. Since its launch in 2014, CLASS has completed three wave surveys covering 28 provinces in mainland China (excluded residents of Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, Hainan, Sinkiang, and Tibet), collecting over 34,000 information records, and has now become one of the four major sources of data for research on ageing in China. In October of 2020, it launched Wave 4 survey, which has been completed in

18 of the 28 provinces. Surveys in the other 10 provinces are currently underway.

### **Research of Social Participation Patterns and Its Influence on Social Adaptation of Chinese Older Adults**

The research explores patterns of older adults' social engagement by latent class analysis. Based on their participation in personal life domain (i.e. learning and communication, personal recreation, working, and volunteering) and family life domain (i.e. caring for parents, caring for grandchildren, and caring for children) , four patterns are discovered, including Personal-Family Balanced Activity, Personal-Centered Activity, Family-Centered Activity, and Low Activity. Low Activity are associated with the lowest social adaptation, followed by Family-Centered Activity, while Personal-Centered and Personal-Family Activity achieved the best and showed no statistical difference. The findings were published as an academic paper *Social Participation Patterns and Its Influence on Social Adaptation of Chinese Older Adults*.

### **Academic Conferences:**

#### **Seminar on Gerontology Education of China**

The Seminar on Gerontology Education of China (SGEC), as the brand conference of Institute of Gerontology of Renmin University of China has been continuously and successfully held over the past 17 years.

The 16th SGEC was held in September of 2020, the theme was "Improving the gerontology education and social governance of ageing society in moderately prosperous society in all respects". For those guests who could not attend the conference due to the epidemic, a live webcast was provided and over 13,000 people viewed online. The 17th SGEC was held in May of 2021, the theme was "Implementing the National Strategy of Actively Coping with Population Ageing --Opportunities and Challenges for Gerontology Development". The conference has attracted hundreds of participants, including professionals, managers, servicers and students in the field of ageing

During these conferences, senior gerontology experts reviewed the development of the discipline regarding such aspects as multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary

development, textbook development, talent training and international exchanges, etc. and shared their forecast.

### **Graduates' Forum on Gerontology in China**

Since 2014, SGEC launched the "Graduates' Forum on Gerontology in China", which created an effective communication platform for young students in gerontology and related disciplines and played a positive role in promoting the development of gerontology discipline and fostering the younger generation of researchers. From 2020 to 2021, we continuously held the 7th, 8th Graduates' Forum on Gerontology in China. More than 150 postgraduate and Ph.D. students from 30 universities and research institutes at home and abroad submitted their papers. The research themes covered active aging and elderly participation, elderly security and economy, elderly health and care services, rural elderly care, elderly mental health and well-being, family and social support to elderly, etc.

### **Forum on Aging Sociology in China**

Since 2014, our school has been hosting the Sociology of Aging Forum on the sidelines of the Annual Meeting of the Chinese Sociological Association. As part of the Annual Meeting of the Chinese Sociological Association, the Forum on Ageing Sociology has been held for eight consecutive years. The 7th SGEC was held in September of 2020, the theme was "Social governance of ageing society in moderately prosperous society in all respects". The 8th SGEC was held in July of 2021, the theme was "Social Modernization and National Strategies for Coping with Ageing".

### **Forum on Digitally Inclusive Society for Elderly**

In October of 2021, the forum was held on the theme of "Helping the Elderly Cross the Digital Divide and Building a Digitally Inclusive Society" to address the current issue of digital isolation of the elderly. Experts from leading universities in China, and representatives from online companies, e-commerce companies and short video social software companies were invited to discuss how to help the elderly cross the digital divide in the digital era.

## **Training and Education activities:**

### **Public education on population aging**

In November of 2019, Professor Du Peng was invited by the National Open University to record a series of public lectures on the theme of population ageing, which were broadcast on the National Open University online platform.

In November of 2020, Professor Du Peng was interviewed by CCTV News Channel's News 1+1 program. The interview focuses on how to help older people cross the digital divide in the digital era.

In August of 2021, Professor Du Peng was invited to participate in the Beijing Social Science Popularization Week and gave a lecture entitled "Goals and Actions of the National Strategy for Actively Coping with Population Aging" through the Internet.

### **Construction of information sharing platform**

The WeChat Official Account "Gerontology Teaching and Research", which formerly named as "Gerontology of China", was set up by our team in 2014, and aims at strengthening subject construction and enhancing the cultivating and communication of the advanced talents. During 2019-2021, we published more than 40 articles on the platform, including announcing meeting notices held at home and abroad in time, tracking subject frontier, summarizing academic achievements and promoting academic communication activities.