

ILC South Africa Activities Report, 2020/2021

Current and recent projects

South Africa continues to battle effects of COVID-19: successive lockdowns have impacted face-to-face research and most research populations lack online facilities. Operations of non-governmental organisations, which offer links to communities, have also been impacted. Nonetheless, research projects conducted included the following:

1. Ethics approval was obtained from the University of Cape Town's (UCT) Human Ethics Research Committee to conduct a study adapted from ILC Netherlands on "The lived experiences of older persons during the COVID-19 pandemic in Cape Town, South Africa". The project has been delayed due to unpredictability of COVID-19 lockdowns.

2. The Ageing and Generational Dynamics in Africa (AGeNDA) programme at the North-West University (NWU) is partnering with the Gauteng Provincial Government on two projects:

Developing a Care Economy Strategy for Gauteng Province. The province's development agenda is aimed at education and skills enhancement and decent work and business opportunities for its large young population, particularly women. The project aims to develop a long-term care economy as a potential key source for future job growth through job and enterprise creation. The Department of Economic Development has partnered with Optentia / TRADE at NWU to develop an evidence-based strategy for this purpose, with Jaco Hoffman as part of the core team.

Housing for Older Persons in Gauteng. Gauteng's Office of the Premier has commissioned Optentia (NWU) to provide evidence on older persons' housing needs across the city region. A desktop study will assess the needs and devise options to address accommodation challenges. Jaco Hoffman is the Principal Investigator.

3. Rural Communities for Ageing Wellbeing: Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa (Comunidades Rurales para el Bienestar del Envejecimiento: América Latina y África Subsahariana). The project (RuComm-4-AgeWell / RuComm-para-Envejer Bien), aimed at ensuring communities in these countries foster older persons' capabilities, will generate a baseline understanding of rural contexts and wellbeing outcomes for older residents. These geographic territories face challenges of climate change, poverty and lack of critical infrastructure; the rural communities are home to some of the most disadvantaged and marginalised people. The project aims to reduce older people's invisibility in the global south. The core team comprises Nereide Curreri (Stirling University, UK), Jose Parodi (Universidad de San Martín de Porres, Lima, Peru), Jaco Hoffman (NWU), Norah Keating (University of Alberta, Canada / NWU), Andrew Banda (NWU / University of Zambia) and Anjonet Jordaan (NWU).
4. Rayne Stroebel and Jaco Hoffman are participating in a project on The Eden Alternative™, which Promotes organisational culture change for enhanced aged care practices and adopts a case study approach.
5. Jaco Hoffman with Isabella Aboderin and HelpAge Africa are reviewing and revising the African Union Policy Framework and Plan of Action on Ageing.

Webinar presentations, facilitation

1. The ILC Global Alliance webinar, 18 June 2020: 'A caring world - responding to the impact of the Coronavirus on long-term care.' Sebastiana Kalula presented on "The case in South Africa."
2. The ILC Global Alliance Gender and Ageing Committee webinar, June 2, 2021: 'Why gender matters – Exploring the impact of gender on health and wellbeing in an ageing world.' Sebastiana Kalula presented on "Gender-based violence and ageing in South Africa."
3. A NWU webinar, facilitated by Jaco Hoffman, 9 March 2021: "The COVID-19 pandemic: From global crisis to a better world." Lecture given by world-renowned researcher, Prof Ian Goldin, University of Oxford, UK.
4. Jaco Hoffman facilitated two virtual book launches hosted by NWU:
 - *Does Community Development work?* – by Peter Westoby and Lucius Boteson, 20 April 2021.
 - *Reflecting on presence in Nursing: A guide for practice and research* – Edited by Emmerentia du Plessis, 8 October 2021.
5. Isabella Aboderin and Jaco Hoffman facilitated the Virtual Advocacy and Validation Workshop on the Review of the AU Policy Framework and Plan of Action on Ageing, 27-28 July 2021.
6. Jaco Hoffman participated in the IAGG / United Nations' International Day of Older Persons 2021 (UNIDOP) webinar on "Digital equity for all ages". The title of his presentation was "Leapfrog Technology: Locating Older (South) Africans at the ICT Interface towards digital inclusion for all."
7. Sebastiana Kalula was part of the organising committee of the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU), Aging, Longevity and Health (ALH) virtual graduate student conference.
8. Jaco Hoffman, Sebastiana Kalula and Isabella Aboderin participated in the International Alliance of Research Universities' (IARU) virtual graduate student conference on "Ageing, longevity and health (ALH)" at UCT, 30 September – 2 October 2020. Jaco Hoffman gave a keynote address titled "Ageing in the youngest populations on the globe: A pan-African agenda for research on ageing."

Publications

Tamara Alhambra-Borrás, Tarryn A. Blouws, Alejandro Gil-Salmerón, Estrella Durá-Ferrandis & **Sebastiana Z. Kalula** (2021) Older people's dialogue about loneliness and social support: A cross-cultural qualitative study conducted in Spain and South Africa. *International Journal of Social Psychology*, Published online: 06 Aug 2021. DOI: 10.1080/02134748.2021.1940702

Mendham AE, Lundin-Olsson L, Goedecke JH, Micklesfield LK, Christensen DL, Gallagher IJ, Myburgh KH, Odunitan-Wayas FA, Lambert EV, **Kalula S**, Hunter AM, Brooks NE. Sarcopenic obesity in Africa: A call for diagnostic methods and appropriate interventions. *Front Nutr*. 2021 Apr 16;8:661170. doi: 10.3389/fnut.2021.661170. PMID: 33937309; PMCID: PMC8085278.

Cherbuin N, Iijima K, **Kalula S**, Malhotra R, Rasmussen LJ, Chan A, Lafortune L, Harper S, Zheng X, Lindeman D, Walsh E, Hussain R, Burns R, Kristiansen M, Sugawara I, Son B, Tanaka T, Buckner S, **Hoffman J**, **Combrinck M**. Societal need for interdisciplinary ageing research: An International Alliance of Research Universities "Ageing, Longevity and Health" Stream (IARU-ALH) Position Statement. *Biomed Hub*. 2021 Feb 25;6(1):42-47. doi: 10.1159/000513513. PMID: 33791316; PMCID: PMC7991603.

Mendham AE, Goedecke JH, Micklesfield LK, Brooks NE, Faber M, Christensen DL, Gallagher IJ, Lundin-Olsson L, Myburgh KH, Odunitan-Wayas FA, Lambert EV, **Kalula S**, Hunter AM. Understanding factors associated with sarcopenic obesity in older African women from a low-income setting: a

cross-sectional analysis. *BMC Geriatr.* 2021 Apr 14;21(1):247. doi: 10.1186/s12877-021-02132-x. PMID: 33853546; PMCID: PMC8048063.

Tarryn Young, Anel Schoonees, Anthony Lachman, **Sebastiana Kalula**, Smart Mabweazara, Ezekiel Musa, Naomi Levitt, 2020. Taking stock of the evidence: COVID-19 and diabetes, hypertension, asthma, occupational lung diseases, coronary heart disease, heart failure and stroke. South Africa. <https://www.cebhc.co.za/files/2020/08/BHPSA-COVID-NCD-report-16-07.pdf>

Leon Geffen, Gabrielle Kelly, Simone Steyn, **Sebastiana Kalula**. Situational analysis of NCDs (Non-Communicable Diseases) and COVID-19 in older persons in South Africa. August 2020. <https://www.sifar.org.za/sites/default/files/field/file/BHPSA%20COVID%20age%2002-10.pdf>

Roos, V. & **Hoffman, J.** (Eds.). (2022). Age-inclusive ICT innovation for service delivery in South Africa. A developing country perspective. Springer. (In press)

Baart, A. & **Hoffman, J.** (2021). Long-term care futures in South Africa, a different voice. In: Emmerentia du Plessis (Ed.). *Reflecting on presence in Nursing. A guide for nursing practice and research*. Springer.

Baart, A & **Hoffman, J.** (2021). Caring in times of Covid-19: A reflection on the normality of fragility. *Social Sciences & Humanities Open – Special Covid-19 issue*. (In review)

Hoffman, J. & Roos, V. (2021) Post-colonial perspectives on rural ageing in (South) Africa: Gendered vulnerabilities and intergenerational ambiguities of older African women. In: Skinner, M., Winterton, R., & Walsh, K. (Eds.). *Rural Gerontology: Towards critical perspectives on rural ageing*. Routledge.

Padvalkava, K. & **Hoffman, J.** (2021). Sustainable Development Goals and Population Aging. In: Gu, D. & Dupre, M.E. (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Aging*. Springer.

Vosman, F., Baart, A. & **Hoffman, J.** (Eds.). (2020). *Ethics of care*. Peeters, Leuven.

Kaplan, M., Sanchez, M., Tang, L., & **Hoffman, J.** (Eds.). (2020). *Intergenerational contact zones: Foundations and applications*. Routledge.

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