

## RE-IMAGINING LONG-TERM RESIDENTIAL CARE

an international  
study of promising  
practices

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*A “society that treats its most vulnerable members with compassion is a more just and caring society for all”*

**- World Health Organization**

### 1. What's new

#### i. Announcements

**Joel Lexchin** was interviewed by CBC Thunder Bay and by the Toronto Star in November 2013, responding to a Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) study on the use of antipsychotic drugs in the elderly. His participation in the project and his contribution to *Troubling Care* was noted.

The December 2013 issue of *Concerned Friends* carried an article on *Troubling Care* – “New book examines fractures in health care”.

**Marta Szebehely** has received funding for the research program Individualized care and universal welfare: Dilemmas in an era of marketization. The aim of the research is to investigate the challenges and possibilities of individualised eldercare services in relation to the universal ambitions of the Swedish welfare model, in the context of marketisation and increasing ethnic diversity and income inequality. **Pat Armstrong** and **Liz Lloyd** are among the co-investigators on the project.

**Frode Jacobsen** has received funding of approximately \$33, 900 CAD for the upcoming spring 2014 [conference](#) in Bergen.

**Pat Armstrong** will participate in a “Meeting of Canadian Researchers on Elder Care” in 2014. The meeting is the result of a successful application by Carole Estabrooks, University of Alberta, to CIHR's Planning Grants competition to convene a meeting bringing together Canadian researchers

and decision-makers working in the residential long-term care and supportive/assisted living part of the continuing care system. Pat co-leads the Social Policy Group with Dr. Janice Keefe from the Nova Scotia Centre on Aging.

We welcome new co-investigator **Hildegard Theobald** to the team. Dr. Theobald is a professor of Organisational Gerontology at the University of Vechta in Germany. She will participate in the upcoming German site visit, and will attend the conference in Bergen.

Congratulations to Carleton PhD student **Krystal Kehoe MacLeod** who won a Graduate Research and Innovative Thinking (GRIT) Award to present a paper at the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Integrated Care in Brussels, April 2-4, 2014.

Congratulations to **Amy Twomey** who successfully defended her PhD dissertation, *Pursuing Different Paths in Long-Term Care: Manitoba, Ontario and the Politics of Commercialization*, on March 21, 2014 (Canadian Studies, Trent University). Co-investigators **Jim Struthers**, **Sally Chivers** and **Hugh Armstrong** were on Amy's committee.



Amy and committee

## ii. Resources

Featured Resources:

***Shaping social situations: A hidden aspect of care work in nursing homes***, an article by Mia Vabo, our Norwegian partner on the Healthy Ageing in Residential Places (HARP) project. The article draws on ethnographic field work and interviews conducted in two Norwegian nursing homes to describe and conceptualize how care workers deal with the social situations they encounter as part of their work.

***From bad to worse: Residential care in Alberta***, a report published by Parkland Institute. This report documents significant problems with residential elder care in Alberta. It makes clear how the provincial government's policies of privatizing and offloading have negatively affected the well-being of Albertans. Tamara Daly, Margaret McGregor, and Pat Armstrong served as project advisors on this report and are mentioned in the acknowledgements.

Other recent additions to the bibliography include:

- Age-Friendly Communities in Ontario: Multi-Level Governance, Coordination Challenges and Policy Implications
- The Alberta Health Services Patient/Care-Based Funding Model for Long Term Care
- British Columbia Ombudsman Report: The Best of Care: Getting It Right for Seniors in British Columbia (Part and Part 2 which includes Volume 1 and 2)
- Caring for money: Communicative and strategic action in anchillary
- Coming of age: The municipal role in caring for Ontario's seniors
- Contemporary challenges to caring labour and time-honoured transformative tools: Workplace bullying and theatre of the oppressed
- The Decision to Contract Out: Understanding the Full Economic and Social Impacts
- Family caregiving: What are the consequences?
- Home Pages: Domesticity and Duplicity in Images of Architecture for Ageing

- The influence of aquariums on weight in individuals with dementia
- Living longer, living well: Highlights and key recommendations
- Metaphors in Patient's Narrative: Picturing Good Care
- Nursing home characteristics associated with resident transfers to emergency departments
- Sociology of Health & Illness Special Issue: Body work in health and social care: critical themes, new agendas
- Study: Caregivers in Canada, 2012
- Time, race, gender and care: Communicative and Strategic Action in Ancillary Care  
Commentary on Carol Levine's "Caring for Money"
- Transforming Nursing Home Culture: Evidence for Practice and Policy (Supplement)
- Understanding and assessing the impact of nursing home approach to care and physical design on residents and their families: A synthesis of the literature
- Why not now? A bold, five-year strategy for innovating Ontario's system of care for older adults

[Sign in to bibliography](#)

### iii. 2013-14 Seminar Series

The 2013-14 seminar series focused on ethnographies of the nursing home over time. A complete list of the related texts is available in the "2013-14 seminar series" folder in "Documents" on [O3](#).

Winter term sessions included discussions of:

*Private Lives in Public Places: A Research-based Critique of Residential Life in Local Authority Old People's Homes* (Dianne Willocoks, Sheila Peace, and Leonie Kellaheer), and *Re-evaluating Residential Care* (Sheila Peace, Leonie Kellaheer, and Dianne Willocoks), presented by **Megan Davies** on January 10.

*Making Gray Gold: Narratives of Nursing Home Care* (Timothy Diamond), presented by **Tamara Daly**, and *The Caregiving Dilemma: Work in an American Nursing Home* (Nancy Foner) presented by **Albert Banerjee** on February 28.

*Nobody's Home: Candid Reflections of a Nursing Home Aide* (Thomas Edward Gass), presented by **Martha MacDonald**, and *Residential Care Transformed: Revisiting 'The Last Refuge'* (Julia Johnson, Sheena Rolph and Randall Smith), presented by **Hugh Armstrong** on April 4.

### iv. Updates on Site Visits

Team members travelled to Texas in early December for the project's third research site visit, and the first international one. Thirteen team members in addition to Pat Armstrong participated, including ten co-investigators, two PhD students and a post-doctoral fellow. Over 50 pre-interviews and interviews were conducted at three facilities. At the primary facility, a non-profit, the research team observed from 7am to midnight in three shifts on both a secure and an open floor. New to the Texas site visits was a one-day "flash" ethnography, piloted at a for-profit facility. We thank



Team dinner meeting in Texas

the long-term care facilities for welcoming the research team, and co-investigator **Pauline Vaillancourt Rosenau** and PhD student **Isabelle Kusters** for their on-the-ground assistance with the visits.

Planning continues for the spring 2014 site visits beginning at the end of April:

- UK and Germany: Visits begin with a dinner meeting on Monday, April 28.
- Norway: Visits will take place in both Bergen and Oslo immediately before the May 14-16 conference/team meeting in Bergen, beginning with a dinner meeting on Tuesday, May 6.
- Sweden: The site visits in Sweden follow the conference/team meeting, and begin with a dinner meeting on Sunday, May 18.

#### v. 2014 Conference and Annual Team Meeting

The 2014 annual team meeting is being hosted by the project's Norwegian team members and takes place from Wednesday, May 14 to Friday, May 16 in Bergen, Norway at the Grand Terminus hotel. The team meeting will be preceded by a [conference](#) - *Re-directing the gaze: an international quest for promising practices in long-term residential care*. Both the conference and team meeting agendas are posted on [O3](#).

## 2. Presentations and Publications

### i. Presentations

**Susan Bradley** spoke on the project's book, *'Troubling Care': Critical Perspectives on Research and Practices*, at Carleton University's community event, Author Meets Readers, on October 24, 2013 in Ottawa. Panel participants included Melissa Donskov, Director of the Bruyère Centre for Learning, Research and Innovation in Long-Term Care, and Cal Martell, Chair of the Board of Directors of The Council on Aging of Ottawa, a project partner.

Post-doctoral fellow **Ruth Lowndes** presented *The Meaning of "Dining": The Social Organization of Food in Long-term Care* (authored with **Tamara Daly and Pat Armstrong**) at the Third International Conference on Food Studies in Austin, Texas on Oct 15-16, 2013. She also presented "Mapping invisible care: How are nursing homes dining spaces sites of informal care?" (authored with **Tamara Daly, Pat Armstrong**, et al.) at the 19th Qualitative Health Research (QHR) Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, October 27-29, 2013.

**Tamara Daly and Donna Baines** attended The Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand (AIRAANZ) Conference in Melbourne, Australia, February 5-7, 2014. Two papers were presented: "Liminality in Ontario's long-term care homes: Private companions in the space 'betwixt and between' formal/informal regulation and care work" (**Tamara Daly, Pat Armstrong and Ruth Lowndes**) and "The state of non-profit care work: convergence under austerity" (**Tamara Daly and Donna Baines**).



Enjoying the AIRAANZ conference: Donna Baines, Tamara Daly

**Monique Lanoix** was an invited speaker at a CIHR Ethics Lunch and Learn event in Ottawa on March 6, 2014. She included long-term care in her talk on *Just Aging - ancillary care as a citizenship right*.

The paper on *Comparing Job Autonomy of Nursing Home Assistive Personnel in 6 Countries* was recently accepted for presentation at the International Political Science Association (IPSA) 23rd World Congress in Montreal, July 19-24, 2014. **Pauline Vaillancourt Rosenau** took the lead on developing the paper with faculty and student team members.

## ii. Publications

“It’s a Scandal! Comparing the causes and consequences of nursing home media scandals in five countries” authored by **Albert Banerjee, Charlene Harrington, Frode Jacobsen, Liz Lloyd** and **Marta Szebehely** has been published in the *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*. The journal highlights the paper for press and media coverage.

View the video abstract by **Albert Banerjee** detailing the aims and findings of the study [here](#).

*The Meaning of "Dining": The Social Organization of Food in Long-term Care*, presented at the Third International Conference on Food Studies was accepted for publication in *Food Studies Interdisciplinary Journal*. It will be available as an open access paper.

Send information on presentations and recently published, accepted, or under review submissions to Wendy at [wwinters@yorku.ca](mailto:wwinters@yorku.ca). Please remember to **acknowledge the project and our funder** in published papers!

## 3. Funding opportunities

### Horizon 2020 – The EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation

Horizon 2020 is the largest ever EU Research and Innovation program, with nearly €80 billion in funding available over seven years (2014 to 2020). A challenge-based approach brings together resources and knowledge across different fields, technologies and disciplines, including social sciences and the humanities. During the first two years of Horizon 2020 (Work Programme for 2014/15), the EU will invest €1 200 million in the Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing Challenge for calls related to Health. More information can be found [here](#).

## 4. Calls for papers

### i. The Third International Conference on Evidence-based Policy in Long-term Care: “Where Next for Long-Term Care Reform”

The International Conference on Evidence-based Policy in Long-term Care has issued a call for abstracts for their third annual conference, August 31 to September 3 in London, UK.

The conference offers an opportunity to debate policy issues related to the organization, delivery, funding and regulation of long-term care services. Abstracts are due **April 28**. Additional information is available [here](#).

See [reimagineLTC \(O3\)](#) for these and other funding opportunities and calls for papers.

**ii. Annual National Initiative for Care of the Elderly Knowledge Exchange: “Rethink Aging Now”**

The National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE) is sponsoring a student poster competition at the Annual NICE Knowledge Exchange 2014 on May 21 in Toronto. All students are invited to present their graduate studies and/or research in aging to the competition. Abstracts are due before **April 30**. Successful applicants will be notified to present their poster to the audience during a 'poster viewing' session. Full information is available [here](#).

**iii. 23<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Conference on Global Health**

The Canadian Society for International Health has issued a call for abstracts for the 23rd Canadian Conference on Global Health, to be held in Ottawa, November 2-4, 2014. Abstracts for oral, poster, video, workshop or symposia are welcome. Submissions should be directly related to the conference theme - Partnerships for Global Health and are due **May 30**. Information is available [here](#).

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*Watch for our next Newsletter (#9) in late summer 2014*