VENUE

Asia Research Institute, Seminar Room
Tower Block Level 10, 469A Bukit Timah Road, National University of Singapore @ Bukit Timah Campus

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

This conference is organised by Asia Research Institute; with support from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore, and Centre for Family and Population Research, National University of Singapore.

As countries face population aging, long-term care becomes a pivotal concern; with expectations that the demand for the provision of health and supportive services increases with a growing elderly population. It is a near universal that the family plays an intrinsic role in long-term care for the elderly, however, long term care has increasingly been examined with relation to institutionalization. On the one hand formal long term care institutions are criticized to have disruptive effects on kin relations and social networks (Mold et al. 2005), while on the other hand there are contrastive findings highlighting positive effects of institutionalization such as greater independence and a revalued lifestyle in the concept of the “third age” on the part of the elderly (Henrard 1996: 668). Nonetheless, majority of older persons are shown to prefer to live in the community rather than in formal care institutions in later life (Feder, Komisar, and Niefeld 2000; Costa-Font 2009).

This international conference focusing on the care and well-being of elderly in Asia aims to explore issues relating to the ensuring of quality and adequacy of long-term care in the familial context. The preference of aging in place has long been a feature of Asia. Long-term care for the elderly has been bolstered by cultural values such as filial piety which has placed demands on children to provide care towards ageing parents. In some countries, governments have reinforced this care pattern through old-age policies which have reinscribed the family as the primary site of eldercare. However, much less is known about how the state has ensured quality long-term care for the elderly the family.

In the familial context, the organization of care, including care for the elderly, is largely left in the hands of women in the family. Economic and social changes, however, have lent to shifts in the organization of care in the family. In the more affluent countries in Asia, long-term care has increasingly become transferred to paid workers, especially with growing numbers of women joining the labour force. Falling fertility rates in the Asian region would also signal fewer caregivers for the elderly. The quality of long-term care provisions, encompassing a broad range of support services from personal care, healthcare and social services and rehabilitative care, however, is complicated by a range of other factors from eligibility, payment/insurance schemes, and regulatory mechanisms to the individuals’ supportive and palliative care needs.

REGISTRATION

Admission is free, however registration is required. Please write to Sharon at arios@nus.edu.sg to indicate your interest to attend the conference by 22 February.

CONFERENCE CONVENORS

Assoc Prof THANG Leng Leng
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Prof Wei-Jun Jean YEUNG
Asia Research Institute, Centre for Family and Population Research,
and Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore
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## TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2016

**09:15 – 09:30**  **Registration**

**09:30 – 10:00**  **Opening Remarks**  
*WEI-JUN JEAN YEUNG*, National University of Singapore

**10:00 – 11:50**  **Panel 1  Supporting Seniors Through Community Efforts**

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<tr>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>Integrated Service Center for Elders: The New Pathways for Community-Based Elderly Care in Indonesia</td>
<td><em>BENNY BASKARA</em>, Halu Oleo University, Indonesia</td>
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<td>10:20</td>
<td>How Participatory Are They? The Strengths and Challenges of Participation in the Older People Self Help Group Initiative</td>
<td><em>YANG YUNJEONG</em>, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea</td>
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<td>10:40</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Aged Care in Urban China</td>
<td><em>TANG BEIBEI</em>, Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China</td>
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<td>An Ecological Framework for Active Aging in China</td>
<td><em>KO PEI-CHUN</em>, National University of Singapore</td>
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<td>11:20</td>
<td>Questions &amp; Answers</td>
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**11:50 – 13:00**  **Lunch**

**13:00 – 14:30**  **Panel 2  Long-Term Care Needs and Support**

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| 13:00 | Caring For Thai Elderly with Long-Term Care Needs                     | *BUSSARAWAN TEERAWICHITCHAINAN*, Singapore Management University  
*JOHN KNODEL*, University of Michigan, USA  
*WIRAPORN POTHISIRI*, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand |
| 13:20 | Availability of Support and Provision of Care among Older Persons in the Philippines | *JEOFREY ABALOS*, Australian National University                                               |
| 13:40 | Long-Term Care Needs in a Very Poor and Rapidly Aging Context: The Case of Older Persons in Myanmar | *BUSSARAWAN TEERAWICHITCHAINAN*, Singapore Management University  
*JOHN KNODEL*, University of Michigan, USA                                                     |
| 14:00 | Questions & Answers                                                   |                                                                                              |

**14:30 – 15:00**  **Afternoon Tea**
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<td><strong>Chairperson</strong>: Kim Hye-Won, Erin, National University of Singapore</td>
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<td>Sandwiched Between Dual Burdens of Care? Elderly Grandparents as Providers and Receivers of Care in East Asia</td>
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<td>TAN POH LIN, National University of Singapore</td>
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<td>15:20</td>
<td>Intergenerational Intimate Relationship among Noncoresidence Family Members</td>
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<td>TRAN THI MINH THI, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences</td>
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<td>LUONG VAN CHUONG, Saint Paul Hospital, Vietnam</td>
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<td>15:40</td>
<td>The Global Movement of Care Workers and the Social Impacts of the ‘Integrated Community Care Model’ for the Aging Society in Japan</td>
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<td>IKUKO TOMOMATSU, Independent Policy Consultant</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td>Who Cares for the Caregivers?: Contextualizing Care, Aspirations, and Filial Piety among Caregivers of Dependent Elderly in Low-Income Households in Singapore</td>
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<td>SUEN JOHAN, University of Cambridge, UK</td>
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<td>THANG LENG LENG, National University of Singapore</td>
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<td>Questions &amp; Answers</td>
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WEDNESDAY, 2 MARCH 2016

09:30 – 11:00 PANEL 4 Policy

CHAIRPERSON FENG QIUSHI, National University of Singapore

09:30 Long Term Care Policy and Program Development in China: Meeting the Needs of Older Adults and Their Family
WU BEI, Duke University, USA

09:50 Long-Term Care Policy – Singapore’s Experience
CHIN CHEE WEI, WINSTON, National University Health System, Singapore

10:10 Caring For Elder Persons in the Familial Context in Viet Nam
VU NGOC BINH, Institute for Population, Family and Children Studies (IPFCS), Vietnam

10:30 Questions & Answers

11:00 – 11:10 BREAK

11:10 – 12:30 DISCUSSION

12:30 – 13:00 CLOSING REMARKS
THANG LENG LENG, National University of Singapore

13:00 END OF CONFERENCE
The responsibility for elderly care in Indonesia mostly lies in the hand of the family. The family members who usually bear for this responsibility are the children of the elders. However, in recent years, the responsibility for caring the elders seems to be extended into community. This paper wants to describe the role of the Integrated Service Center for Elders (posyandu lansia) as the formal institution in paving the pathways for community-based elderly care in Indonesia.

The case for this research is based on the observation in one of Integrated Service Centers for Elders located in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The service provided by this center include providing health care service for elders, providing basic needs such as nutritious food materials and clothes, and giving financial aid for the elders who are considered unable to obtain proper basic needs and financial support. All of those services are given free. Formally, this center is managed under the umbrella of a foundation, which enable them to seek for and to receive donation, either from the state or private parties.

The present of the Integrated Service Center for Elders is mostly inspired by the existence of the Integrated Service Center for early childhood, particularly under five years (posyandu balita), which was initiated at the period of New Order regime in 1980’s. Both of them is founded based on the same idea, which is the consideration that both early childhood and old age is considered as crucial and susceptible age, which need more attention, care, and service. The main difference between two centers is that the Integrated Service Center for Elders is founded purely by the initiative of the community, while the Integrated Service Center for early childhood is founded as state-initiated center since the New Order era.

Benny BASKARA is currently working as lecturer in Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Cultural Science, Halu Oleo University, a provincial state university in Kendari, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia. He received his Bachelor degree in Philosophy from Faculty of Philosophy, Gadjah Mada University in 2004, and Master degree from Paramadina University, majoring in Islamic Philosophy, in 2007. He just recently received his PhD degree in 2014 from Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS), an international PhD program operated by a consortium of three universities: Gadjah Mada University (UGM), Sunan Kalijaga Islamic University (UIN Suka), and Duta Wacana Christian University (UKDW), located in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
How Participatory Are They? The Strengths and Challenges of Participation in the Older People Self Help Group Initiative

Yang Yunjeong
Graduate School of International and Area Studies,
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea
yunyang@hufs.ac.kr

South Korea is one of the most rapidly ageing societies in the world and can make substantial influences certainly in Asia which it shares cultural values such as filial piety and the family (particularly women) serving as the main care-provider.

The Older People Self Help Group initiative aims at helping older people ageing in their community as active participants, not as dependents, contributing to community development as well, at least according to the claims of the Korean HelpAge (KHA). The main objective of this study is to examine the nature of participation of older people in this initiative. Interviews with KHA project managers as well as older people involved in the initiative and observations of their activities in chosen communities will be carried out. Attention will be paid to and discussions will involve the respective roles and contributions of other actors such as the state, non-profit (both domestic and international), and the community and its constituencies of other age brackets in ensuring adequacy and quality of long term care and ageing in the community.

The study will contribute to advancing social gerontology, discussing identity and power dynamics of people ageing in the community, and also to providing practical lessons (both successful and non-successful) to other ageing societies, which seek alternative approaches (to mostly state-provided institutions) of long term care and ageing independently in the community.

Neighbourhood Aged Care in Urban China

Tang Beibei
Department of China Studies,
Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
beibei.tang@xjtlu.edu.cn

This article focuses on the growing crisis in aged care in contemporary China and the local programs being put in place to deal with it. China’s long tradition of family-based aged care through intergenerational support has been seriously eroded as a consequence of marketization, urbanization, rural-to-urban migration, and the urban one-child policy. In response, China has begun building and expanding new institutions for funding and delivering aged care (State Council 2011). Due to continuing preference for home-based aged care, residential community services have become the backbone of the new aged care system. But this important shift has not yet been adequately examined, especially from a sociological perspective.

This article examines community-level practices for aged care in urban China, by exploring the interactions between the local state, non-profit organizations, business partners and civil groups within neighbourhoods, and how their services get coordinated with the local government programs for aged care. Based on ethnographic research in three types of urban residential communities (middle-class gated communities, traditional residential compounds and urban villages) in the cities of Guangzhou and Shenyang, this article examines different modes of community-level aged care in urban neighbourhoods. The findings illustrate state-dominant, collaborative and civil group-led practices that are provided to support the elderly of different socioeconomic backgrounds. The article argues that a few important factors, including senior residents’ socioeconomic status, local governance dynamics, growth of local civil groups and influences of non-state actors, altogether contribute to various modes of neighbourhood aged care in China. The findings shed light on China’s evolving state-society interface at the local level and the possible emergence of localized civil society.

TANG Beibei is a Lecturer of China Studies at Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU). Before joining XJTLU, she studied and worked in China, UK and Australia. She obtained her PhD in Sociology from The Australian National University (ANU). From 2011 to 2015, she was working as a postdoctoral fellow at ANU. Since 2006, she has undertaken extensive ethnographic research across different localities in China, with particular focuses on local governance and social inequality and welfare in urban China. Since 2014, she has been working on a project of community-level solutions for aged care in urban China. She has published her research in high-impact journals such as The China Quarterly, The China Journal and Journal of Contemporary China.
An Ecological Framework for Active Aging in China

Ko Pei-Chun
Asia Research Institute, and Centre for Family and Population Research,
National University of Singapore
arikp@nus.edu.sg

The study investigates the effects of community factors on the engagement in productive activities (working, caring for grandchildren, volunteering, informal help and care provision) by older Chinese. Demographic aging in China is an on-going process. Changing household structures and rapid economic developments highlight the importance of studying older adults’ social integration. Literature on active aging has addressed how engagement by older people in productive activities in family and communities can help the integration process as they establish new social roles and find belonging when transitioning at the onset of retirement or experiencing the empty nest. Nevertheless, research on explaining factors of active aging in China is still lacking, especially in terms of the relationship between communities and activity engagement. Based on an ecological approach which emphasizes that community environments shape opportunities for individuals to engage in social activities, this study derives indicators from three dimensions of community environments – institutional environment (measured by the years a community office has existed and varieties of community facilities), social-demographic environment (percentage of residents who completed senior high school) and economic-related environment (urban or rural communities and inland or coastal communities) – to examine whether and the extent community factors explain engagement in productive activities among older adults.

The first wave of the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS) is used. It covered 28 Chinese provinces and surveyed a sample of 17,587 non-institutionalized Chinese (45+) in about 10,250 households in 150 counties/districts. The response rate was about 80.5%. Furthermore, the unique community survey collected information about basic demographics, community facilities for older people, history of policies (e.g. the year of implementation for the family planning policy), etc. from 450 villages/resident committees by requiring the information from the person who was in charge of the selected community. Therefore, we are able to link information concerning individual characteristics to the community of residence.

The study will enhance knowledge factors that shape supporting and incentive opportunity structures for older adults to participate socially. The Chinese government has initiated the community-building project to give communities the resources to be more socially inclusive of residents. The findings will provide policy implications for promoting active aging in China.

KO Pei-Chun is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI) and Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR) at National University of Singapore. She received her PhD degree from University of Cologne in 2015. Her research interests include intergenerational relationships, grandparenting, social integration of older adults, social networks, and cross-country comparisons. During the appointment at ARI & CFPR, she conducts research related to social determinants of productive aging as well as the impacts of productive aging on health among older adults in East Asia.
Caring For Thai Elderly with Long-Term Care Needs

Bussarawan Teerawichitchainan  
School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University  
bteerawichit@smu.edu.sg

John Knodel  
Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, USA  
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Wiraporn Pothisiri  
College of Population Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand  
wiraporn.p@chula.ac.th

Thailand is experiencing more acute population aging than most developing Asian countries. Its population aged 60 and older is anticipated to grow from 10% in 2000 to 38% by 2050. Meanwhile, the oldest-old population that is most likely to require long-term care (LTC) is estimated to increase tenfold during the first half of the 21st century. Family has remained a linchpin of support for Thai elders with LTC needs. Given population aging and other demographic trends such as smaller family size and migration of adult children, policy makers are concerned how such socio-demographic changes may have implications for familial support for older persons with LTC needs and in turn, the wellbeing of the elderly. The Thai government has thus far played a limited role in addressing LTC. While Thailand’s recent National Plan for Older Persons recognizes the importance of LTC management, empirical evidence to support such policy planning remains lacking. This study provides a situation analysis of recent LTC needs among older persons in Thailand based on nationally representative surveys. Specifically, we examine prevalence of self-care disability (i.e., elderly with difficulty in activities of daily living) and how such disability varies by socio-demographic characteristics of older persons. Moreover, we assess patterns of caregiving, whether care needs are met, and who primarily takes care of older Thais with LTC needs. We are particularly interested in whether older persons with ADL disability take care of him/herself, or whether they have family members (spouse, children, other relatives) or others (friends, paid carers) as the main caregiver. Furthermore, we plan to examine how types of familial and non-familial caregivers and the quality of caregiving (measured by caregiving knowledge) are associated with the wellbeing of older persons with self-care disability. Our analysis is based primarily on the 2014 Survey of Older Persons in Thailand (SOPT), which is the fifth in a series of Thai government surveys of older persons. The sample consists of 34,173 persons aged 60 and over, of which, 2,020 report having self-care disability. We plan to draw on the earlier SOPT surveys to assess LTC trends and changes over time.
Bussarawan TEERAWICHITCHAINAN is Associate Professor of Sociology at the School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University. She is also affiliated with the Changing Family in Asia Cluster, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Her research interests include social demography, the life course and aging, population health, inequality, and sociology of family. She conducts research on these topics in the context of Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam, Thailand, and Myanmar. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Washington. She was a past fellowship recipient of Fulbright, the Social Science Research Council, RAND, and the Population Council.

John KNODEL is Research Professor Emeritus at the Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, USA, and international affiliate of the College of Population Studies at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. He obtained his PhD in sociology from Princeton University where he specialized in demography. His earlier work focused on European historical demography. During the last four decades he has conducted collaborative research on a wide range of social demographic topics in Southeast Asia, especially in Thailand but also in Cambodia and Vietnam and most recently in Myanmar. This included extensive studies of the fertility transition in Thailand, sexual behavior in relation to the Thai AIDS epidemic, family change in Vietnam, and the impact of the AIDS epidemic on older persons in their role as parents of HIV infected adults in Thailand and Cambodia including how the advent of widespread use of ART has altered the situation. More recently he has examined the impact of rural to urban migration of adult children on older age parents in both Thailand and Cambodia and the future of family support to older persons in Thailand. His current research involves broad assessments of the situation of older persons in Thailand and Myanmar and comparative studies involving Vietnam as well on several more focused issues related to ageing including the contribution of older persons to family and community.

Wiraporn POTHISIRI is Assistant Professor at College of Population Studies (CPS), Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. She received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Economics from Chulalongkorn University in 1998 and 2001. She also received a Master’s degree in Demography from University of California at Berkeley in 2003, and a PhD in Demography and Population Studies from London School of Economics and Political Science in 2010. Her main research interests are aging, fertility, fertility forecasting, abortion and other reproductive health related issues. Her recent research at CPS focuses on living arrangement and its association with older persons’ psychological well-being, the translation of the National Plan on Older Persons into practice, and the development of community capacity in response to needs of older population. She is also working with IIASA on population and climate change issues.
Availability of Support and Provision of Care among Older Persons in the Philippines

Jeofrey Abalos
Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute (ADSRI),
Australian National University

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This paper aims to examine the availability of support and provision of care among older persons in the Philippines. Specifically, the paper will first describe the living arrangement of the Filipino elderly and map out the location and proximity of their children in order to assess the potential pool of caregivers available to them. It will then examine who actually provides care to the Filipino elderly when their health deteriorates. Two indicators of caregiving will be used in this study. The first indicator is a general question that asks who usually takes care of the elderly whenever they get sick. The second indicator comprises of a series of questions that asks who primarily provides assistance to the Filipino elderly when they need help in performing activities of daily living, such as eating, dressing and bathing, among other things. Factors associated with these indicators of support and caregiving; and the implications of these on the well-being of the Filipino elderly will also be explored in this study. Data for this research will be drawn from the 2007 Philippine Study on Aging, a nationally representative of Filipinos age 60 years old and over. Analysis will be stratified by sex and urban-rural status in order to assess whether the personal care and healthcare needs of the Filipino elderly differ across these key demographic variables.

Jeofrey B. ABALOS is a PhD Student in Demography at the Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute (ADSRI) in Australian National University. His PhD thesis is on the influence of family support on the changing health status of the Filipino elderly.
Long-Term Care Needs in a Very Poor and Rapidly Aging Context: The Case of Older Persons in Myanmar

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Myanmar is one of the poorest and least healthy countries in Asia. Its health system is severely underfunded. The share of payments for health services that is out-of-pocket in Myanmar is among the world’s highest (81% of the total healthcare expenditure). Family is thus the mainstay of financial and instrumental support for those in poor health conditions, especially elderly with long-term care needs (i.e., those unable to independently perform activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living). While Myanmar’s ongoing political and structural reforms initiated since 2010 are accompanied by strong economic growth and increased public spending on health, the country is currently facing significant socio-demographic shifts, including rapid population aging and increased internal and international migration. These factors likely challenge the traditional form of family caregiving for frail older persons. There are also mounting concerns regarding health disparities among different segments of Myanmar’s population, including among older persons.

This study aims to provide empirical evidence for a better understanding of long-term care needs among Myanmar elderly from different socioeconomic statuses and the roles that their families play in long-term caregiving. Our analysis is based on the 2012 Myanmar Aging Survey, the country’s first nationally representative survey of 4,080 persons aged 60 and older. First, we examine prevalence and differentials in long-term care needs of Myanmar elderly. We also investigate the patterns of primary and secondary caregivers of elderly with long-term care needs in terms of their relation to the recipient. Furthermore, our analysis determines the prevalence and correlates of unmet need for personal assistance with ADLs and IADLs. Moreover, we address the extent to which types of caregivers and whether long-term care needs are met are associated with old-age psychological wellbeing. In the analysis, we pay particular attention to socioeconomic differences (e.g., poor versus non-poor) in long-term care needs, caregiving patterns, and met needs for care.
Bussarawan TEERAWICHITCHAINAN is Associate Professor of Sociology at the School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University. She is also affiliated with the Changing Family in Asia Cluster, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Her research interests include social demography, the life course and aging, population health, inequality, and sociology of family. She conducts research on these topics in the context of Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam, Thailand, and Myanmar. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Washington. She was a past fellowship recipient of Fulbright, the Social Science Research Council, RAND, and the Population Council.

John KNODEL is Research Professor Emeritus at the Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, USA, and international affiliate of the College of Population Studies at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. He obtained his PhD in sociology from Princeton University where he specialized in demography. His earlier work focused on European historical demography. During the last four decades he has conducted collaborative research on a wide range of social demographic topics in Southeast Asia, especially in Thailand but also in Cambodia and Vietnam and most recently in Myanmar. This included extensive studies of the fertility transition in Thailand, sexual behavior in relation to the Thai AIDS epidemic, family change in Vietnam, and the impact of the AIDS epidemic on older persons in their role as parents of HIV infected adults in Thailand and Cambodia including how the advent of widespread use of ART has altered the situation. More recently he has examined the impact of rural to urban migration of adult children on older age parents in both Thailand and Cambodia and the future of family support to older persons in Thailand. His current research involves broad assessments of the situation of older persons in Thailand and Myanmar and comparative studies involving Vietnam as well on several more focused issues related to ageing including the contribution of older persons to family and community.
Sandwiched Between Dual Burdens of Care? Elderly Grandparents as Providers and Receivers of Care in East Asia

Tan Poh Lin
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Elderly individuals are at risk of falling family support, due to smaller family sizes, rising female labour participation and value shifts among younger generations. Even though state-provided long-term formal care options are increasingly available, a significant proportion of the elderly still prefer family members as their primary source of support (Chie and Norton 2008).

A rich literature has examined how child characteristics (gender, marital status and education) and parental needs (health, widowhood and employment) influence co-residence, caregiving and assistance. However, less is known about the extent to which maternal and paternal grandparents provide child care assistance and aid, or whether their own care needs compete with the time and care demands of their grandchildren.

Using the East Asian Social Survey, which provides information on co-residence, face-to-face contact and household assistance between elderly parents and adult children, this paper examines the prevalence of sandwich generations in four East Asian states (China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan). I explore various definitions of sandwich generations (co-residence vs. frequent face-to-face contact and care provision), and show the results for married adult children aged 25-34, 35-44 and 45-54.

I examine three hypotheses. First, I hypothesize that net transfers of care from married adult children to elderly parents are low at younger ages due to better elderly health and grandparental help with childcare, but that net transfers increase with age, competing with needs of adolescent grandchildren. Second, I hypothesize that sandwiched adults tend to provide more care to elderly parents on the paternal side, due to East Asian filial norms, but receive more help from elderly parents on the maternal side, due to disproportionate childcare burdens on women. Third, I hypothesize that married adult children with unhealthy parents, especially on the maternal side, adapt by having fewer children, due to less help and increased care burdens.

TAN Poh Lin studies the formation of new generations in Singapore and other Asian societies, both in terms of “quantity” (fertility) and “quality” (child education and development). Her research examines policy in the context of private decision making with regard to family formation, human capital investment and caring for elderly dependents. Currently, she is working on research which examines the impact of parental care obligations on fertility choices in Asian “sandwich” generations. Poh Lin joined the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore in 2015. She received her BA from Princeton University in 2008 and her PhD from Duke University in 2015. Prior to receiving her PhD, she served as a Population Policy Officer at the National Population Secretariat (now National Population and Talent Division) at the Prime Minister’s Office in Singapore.
Intergenerational Intimate Relationship among Noncoresidence Family Members

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After nearly three decades of Renovation, besides remarkable achievements, Vietnam is now facing challenges such as increasing inequality and social stratification, fast demographic structural changes, namely population aging, yet not having a sufficient social security system. The State has enforced policies related to the social security system in order to better match with the market economy and socialism orientation, such as labor market policies, social insurance, health insurance, social safety net, which include policies for the elderly care. Meanwhile, family is significant for the the well-being of the elderly and is directly influenced by their marital status, living arrangement and conditions, and cultural and spiritual activities.

This paper aims to review the current elderly care provision and typologies in Vietnam using the care diamond model, which include the government/state, family, market, and community to provide the overall picture of care in the context of rapid modernization and urbanization. The paper first explores the structural changes in Vietnamese society, and reviews natures of the elderly in the forces of migration, structural changes in the family and gender roles. Second, the paper clarifies the development of elderly care policies and makes a snapshot on the care issues among the state, market, the family, and community in Vietnamese society at the present. Accordingly, the elderly care can be seen as a non-paid care, gender differential in care with emphasis on women roles, and cultural influences in the family ties under the interventions of state policies, increasing market involvement, while maintaining community solidarity.

TRAN THI Minh Thi is Vice Director at the Institute for Family and Gender Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. He received his PhD of Sociology, from the Department of Sociology, Kyoto University, Japan in 2012, and Master of Sociology from Department of Sociology, University of Washington, United States in 2006.

LUONG Van Chuong is a Medical Doctor at Saint Paul Hospital, Hanoi, Vietnam, and Director of Health Care Clinics. He received his Master Degree of Medicine, Hanoi Medical University in 2010, and became a Medical Doctor at Hanoi Medical University, Viet Nam in 1999.
The Global Movement of Care Workers and the Social Impacts of the ‘Integrated Community Care Model’ for the Aging Society in Japan

Ikuko Tomomatsu
Independent Policy Consultant
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In this presentation, the current issues and the future of care workers who move from other Asian countries to Japan will be discussed.

The aging population in Japan is increasing at the highest rate in the world due to developments in healthcare and medical technology. In contrast, Japan’s general population is decreasing because of the low birth-rate. It is expected that 2025 will be a turning point in terms of healthcare and social welfare planning, since more than 30 percent of the population will be 65 or older. This generation requires more medical care than any other generation, and the budget will be impacted accordingly.

As a result, there are two major issues:
How can we cover the cost of social welfare?
How can we best support the aging generation?

In order to solve these problems, the Japanese government has proposed the ‘Integrated Community Care System’. This system includes the provision of: (1) medical services, (2) care services, and (3) everyday life support, including preventive medicine.

In most places in Japan, this type of system has not been established. Until recently, most families tended to care for elderly people. Now, the number of elderly people who live alone or do not have any family members to care for them is increasing, and these people need more support.

One problem with this model is the lack of care workers in Japan. As a solution, the Japanese government has implemented policies to accept care professionals from other countries such as the Philippines and Indonesia. Thus, we Japanese are faced with the task of understanding the complexities of this situation and how it affects the provision of care.

By presenting what has happened and what will likely happen, the issues concerning the international exchange of care workers will be addressed.

Ikuko TOMOMATSU is an independent policy consultant in the field of medicine, welfare and healthcare. Ikuko has held leadership positions in order to support healthcare projects in numerous community and industry organizations. She has also experienced teaching experiences in universities in Japan and the UK and has presented around the world about medical big data, healthcare, social science research methods and the Japanese medical policy and healthcare planning. She connects experts to the finest healthcare and wellness professionals in terms of policy planning, social science research and business between Japan and other countries.
Who Cares for the Caregivers?:
Contextualizing Care, Aspirations, and Filial Piety among Caregivers of Dependent Elderly in Low-Income Households in Singapore

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This paper primarily seeks to establish a qualitative account of the mosaic of support and contextual challenges faced by primary caregivers of dependent elderly who reside in low income households in Singapore. Through an analysis of in-depth interview data featuring 20 male and female caregivers of Chinese and Malay ethnicities, this study will shed light on their coping strategies, obstacles, aspirations, and post-care concerns within the thematic domains of their residential environment, socio-familial circumstances, experiences with social welfare institutions, and personal value systems. The findings will provide a rich and nuanced understanding of the complex decision-making processes faced by caregivers as they negotiate emotional and economic resources on a daily, short- and long-term basis; in addition to their personal concerns and aspirations for health, family, and employment. Ultimately, caregiving strategies and arrangements are guided by not only the accessibility and feasibility of options, but also evaluated based on individual schemas of interpretation and meaning. Such schemas are shaped by socio-cultural values, and the caregivers’, ethnicity, gender, as well as lived experiences through important turning points in their life course. It will be argued that the notion of filial piety, which is strongly internalized by our respondents, may cause negative psychological consequences for low income caregivers as they tend to forego life goals and opportunities for personal development in order to assume almost total responsibility in care despite having a meagre amount of resources. Furthermore, the prevalence of fractured relationships with their own children and siblings have made it problematic for them to pass through means-testing procedures to obtain government assistance. Finally, a more contextualized and aspirational-based approach will be suggested for the formulation of relevant policies and programmes along with the identification of possible areas for intervention and further assistance.

Suen Johan is a PhD Candidate (Sociology) at the University of Cambridge, UK. For his doctoral dissertation, he will be focusing on the intersections between poverty, employment, and ageing in Singapore. Other related research interests include gender, ethnicity, and informal economic structures in urban spaces. His research is currently sponsored by the Cambridge Trust, Yayasan Mendaki, Lembaga Biasiswa Kenangan Maulud (LBKM), and Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (MUIS).

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Long-term Care Policy and Program Development in China: Meeting the Needs of Older Adults and Their Family

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As the increase of aging population, long-term care is undergoing significant development in China. This presentation includes findings from several recent systematic reviews of long-term care policy development, informal caregiver intervention studies, and workforce characteristics and care development in nursing homes. The impact of the policy development on elder care services abilities, institutionalization of the elderly, and unmet needs of long-term care were assessed by reviewing published policy papers and using the Chinese Longitudinal Healthy Longevity Survey. Based on the systematic review of published studies on caregiving interventions and nursing home workforces, these reviews clearly point out the need to build workforce capacity and support both formal and informal caregivers. The findings suggest that more caregiver interventions are needed to examine a broad range of caregiver and older adults’ health outcomes, their impact on health care, and society. It is also important to further develop innovative and person-centered interventions to address the needs of frail older adults and their families. Further, there is a need for development of programs that tailor for nursing home workforce and care needs of residents with widely varying levels in physical and cognitive function. This presentation also provides policy recommendations to help strengthen Chinese long-term care system development. Those suggestions included government’s role in designing, developing, and establishing strategies and policies, integration of long-term care with the acute health care system, and workforce training.

WU Bei is Professor and Director for International Research at the School of Nursing and a member of the Global Health Institute. She is also a Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development. Dr Wu's areas of research expertise include aging and global health. Dr Wu received her MS and PhD in gerontology from the University of Massachusetts, Boston. She is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). She is an internationally known expert on China’s long-term care policy and system development. She has worked closely with several schools of public health and schools of nursing in China on educational and research initiatives, such as conducting joint research projects, providing lectures, making presentations, and organizing professional conferences/training workshops. As the Principal Investigator, Dr Wu has led many National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funded projects on aging and health related issues including long-term care, dementia, caregiving, oral health, and health services utilization. She is also the Methods Core Director for the recently NIH-funded center on Adaptive Leadership in Symptom Science.
Long-Term Care Policy – Singapore’s Experience

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Singapore, like many developed countries, is facing the challenge of a rapidly ageing population and the increasing need to provide long-term care (LTC) services for elderly in the community. The Singapore Government’s philosophy on care for the elderly is that the family should be the first line of support, and has relied on voluntary welfare organizations (VWOs) or charities for the bulk of LTC service provision. For LTC financing, it has emphasized the principles of co-payment and targeting of state support to the low-income through means-tested government subsidies. It has also instituted ElderShield, a national severe disability insurance scheme. This paper discusses some of the challenges facing LTC policy in Singapore, particularly the presence of perverse financial incentives for hospitalization, the pitfalls of over-reliance on VWOs, and the challenges facing informal family caregivers. It discusses the role of private LTC insurance in LTC financing, bearing in mind demand- and supply-side failures that have plagued the private LTC insurance market. It suggests the need for more standardized needs assessment and portable LTC benefits, with reference to the Japanese Long-Term Care Insurance programme, and also discusses the need to provide more support to informal family caregivers.
Caring For Elder Persons in the Familial Context in Viet Nam

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There are four main national trends of family formation and family structure in Viet Nam. More specifically, families are (1) facing changes in structure leading towards "smaller size households, delayed marriage and childbearing, increases in divorce rates and single parenthood"; (2) undergoing demographic transformation characterized by "aging"; (3) affected by a rise in migration; and (4) trying to cope with the effects of globalization.

How about the life of older persons? Who are they? How are they treated in the familial context?

The paper consists of six parts. Parts I to IV focus on the social and economic well-being of the ageing population, documenting the demographics of older age, reviewing the economic situation of older persons, exploring health-related issues, and examining societal perceptions and the social integration of older persons. In each of these areas, the diversity of situations characterizing older persons in the familial context and across the society will be taken into account, and an effort has been made to capture the evolving reality and perceptions of old age as well as older persons’ own views.

Part V of the report provides an overview of national laws, policies and practices in Viet Nam as they pertain to older persons in the familial context, incorporating several illustrative examples of how international human rights mechanisms have applied relevant norms to critical human rights issues affecting older persons in Viet Nam. Part VI offers some concluding remarks.

As Viet Nam is continuing its doi moi (renovation) process from 1986 and speeding up on the road to deeper regional and international integration in light of the global and national dynamics, caring for older persons - adequately resourced and effectively practiced would be an integral component of the human rights and equality infrastructure needed to ensure the well-being of all citizens of the country along other nations.

The paper is based on recent research and empirical data from various sources available to research institutions, government agencies, the United Nations and other development partners. It should be noted, however, that while extensive data and analysis are available on population ageing, data and information relating specifically to the lives and situations of older persons in the familial context relatively scarce and are seldom included in ageing-related publications.
VU NGOC Binh has been a leading human rights expert in Viet Nam for several decades now. He has published and lectured extensively on human rights, focusing on marginalized groups of populations, especially children, older persons, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, women, etc in his country and at international forums. He has also provided training on human rights and rights-based approach to programming to parliamentarians in their legislative and oversight processes, government officials, policy makers, journalists, researchers, community leaders, prosecutors, judges, NGOs, university students, bilateral donors, and UN agencies for application in their daily operation. From a human rights and gender perspective, Vu Ngoc has provided substantive advisory and technical inputs to the National Assembly and government ministries in Viet Nam on development or amendment of related laws such as the Law on Older Persons, the Law on Marriage and Family, the Civil Code, the Law on Protection, Care and Education of Children, the Law on Gender Equality, the Labour Code, the Law on Prevention and Control of Domestic Violence, the Law on Social Assurance, etc and their guidelines for implementation. Vu Ngoc was a senior researcher for many years in government research institutions, United Nations agencies, and international NGOs in Viet Nam as a research manager since then until 2011. At present, he is Senior Adviser in the Institute for Population, Family and Children Studies (IPFCS) which is a national research institution in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. He has participated as a guest speaker/lecturer in the Master Programme on Human Rights Law (LLM) in Ha Noi National University School of Law, focusing issues related to children, older persons, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, women, etc.
About the Chairpersons and Organisers

Corinne GHOH is an Associate Professor (Practice) of Social Work in the National University of Singapore. She holds concurrent appointments as Co-Director of the Next Age Institute at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Director of the Centre for Social Development Asia at the Department of Social Work. She is also an Associate Director with the Social Service Research Centre. Prior to joining the National University of Singapore in July 2012, Corinne held several key appointments at the previous Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports, Singapore. She was the Director of Social Welfare, responsible for the administration of statutory functions under various legislations pertaining to the protection and welfare of vulnerable children and individuals and the Director of Rehabilitation, Protection and Residential Services Division in charge of administration and delivery of social services for vulnerable families, children and youths. Over the last 25 years of her experience in the social work field, she has been greatly involved in policy planning and development as well as in direct practice in areas pertaining to family and child welfare, child protection, family and elder protection and juvenile delinquency.

FENG Qiushi is Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore. He received his PhD degree at Duke University in 2009, and then worked as a Post-Doc Research Associate at the Duke University Medical Center from 2009 to 2011. His fields include aging and health, demography, and economic sociology. His research applies both qualitative and quantitative methods, and he teaches social research methods in the department. He published at Journal of American Geriatrics Society, Journal of Gerontology: Social Science, Journal of Public Health, Journal of Aging and Health, Stroke, Arthritis Care & Research, and International Journal of Market Research. He is currently working on a project of comparing successful aging in Singapore, Shanghai and Seoul, and a project of forecasting household structure and eldercare cost in China and India for the next forty years.

KIM Hye-Won, Erin is an Assistant Professor in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Before joining the NUS faculty in 2012, she earned her master’s and doctoral degrees in Public Policy from Duke University, USA. Kim’s research examines the relationships among social policy, individual and family behaviors, and people’s well-being, particularly in the context of population aging. Her current projects focus on quantitative analysis of old-age pensions, intergenerational support, low fertility, and subjective well-being in Korea, Singapore, and Thailand.

THANG Leng Leng is socio-cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor at National University of Singapore (NUS). Her areas of research include aging, intergenerational programs and relationships, family and gender, with special focus on Japan and Singapore. She is currently Head of Department of Japanese Studies, and Deputy Director of Centre of Family and Population Research at NUS. She is co-editor in chief of Journal of Intergenerational Relationships (Taylor and Francis, USA).

YAP Mui Teng is a Principal Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore where she heads the Demography and Family cluster.

YEUNG Wei-Jun, Jean is a Professor at the Department of Sociology and the Cluster Leader in the Changing Family in Asia research cluster in Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore (NUS). She chairs the Family, Children, and Youth Research Cluster in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in NUS. Professor Yeung is on the editorial boards of Demography, Journal of Marriage and Family, and Journal of Family Issues, and has served on numerous scientific review committees. Professor Yeung’s current research includes various family demographic issues in Asia and in America. Her recent publications include edited special issues on Asian Fatherhood, Transitioning to Adulthood in Asia, and Shifting Boundaries of Care in Asia and a forthcoming volume on Economic Stress and Families in Asia.