

Age-Friendly University Initiative



Age Friendly University

Supporting Active and Healthy Ageing



The Age-Friendly University Initiative highlights the role that universities can play in responding to the challenges and opportunities associated with the ageing demographic of the 21st century. In 2012, DCU, having established the concept and principles of an Age-Friendly University, joined with ASU and Strathclyde University in Scotland to become the world's first officially designated Age-Friendly Universities (AFU). As AFUs, each university has set a strategic direction to promote an inclusive approach to healthy and active ageing through its research agenda, its enhancement of learning opportunities for people across the generations via innovative curriculum development, and its focus on innovation to address specific issues affecting older adults.

The principal focus of the body of work over the past year has been a restructuring of the AFU Working Group to an AFU Implementation Action Team with a multidisciplinary approach to implementing action and informing policy and research on ageing across the partner universities.

The inaugural international "Age-Friendly University Conference - Engaging Ageing: Universities as engines of active and healthy ageing" is taking place at DCU on November 2nd—3rd 2015. The agenda is based on DCU's Ten Principles of an Age Friendly University and four sub-themes:

- Research and Innovation;
- Education and Outreach;
- Learner and Community Engagement;
- Work and Enterprise.

The conference not only seeks to engage in robust academic discourse on aspects of ageing but engage and actively participate with policy makers, non-governmental organisations and civic society. We are honoured to have Dr. Jane Barratt, General Secretary of the International Federation on Ageing as keynote speaker for the event.

For more information on the Age Friendly University and the conference, please visit: www.dcu.ie/agefriendly



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