

A CARDI-SPARC Workshop

***Recent Developments in
Housing, Health and
Technology for Older People:
Policy and Practice***

C|A|R|D|I

Centre for Ageing Research and Development in Ireland



Welcome

Dr Roger O'Sullivan, CARDI

Professor Peter Lansley, SPARC



SPARC - a community led initiative

- 2005 – 2008
- Challenges status-quo in ageing research
- Getting researchers closer to end users
 - Workshops
 - For all-comers
 - Advocacy
 - Pump-priming awards
- EPSRC & BBSRC
 - modest funding



Planned Workshops - from June 2008

- Technologies for Health, Rehabilitation and Self Management of Long Term Conditions (Bath) – June
- Frailty (Brighton) - July
- Cell Senescence (Oxford) - July
- Growing Old in Wales (Swansea) - July
- BA Festival of Science (Liverpool) - September
- Inclusive Design (Glasgow) - November
- Showcase Scotland - ?



Advocacy

- Making the case that:
 - older people are important
 - ageing research can and is making a difference
- Lobbying
- Developing a good track record
 - Some MPs do listen!
 - Two questions in Parliament on, Ageing Research and Older Workers
 - Ministers do listen (but Civil Servants don't!)



- » Royal Patronage
- » HRH The Princess Royal participated in *Ageing Research and Occupational Therapy: building partnerships, creating opportunities*



Capacity building pump-priming awards

- Small awards scheme for newcomers to ageing research
- 185 proposals total value £5.7m were considered in Summer 2005 & Spring 2006
- **34 were funded at total value £1.25m**
 - for superior scientific excellence and capacity building!



From furniture design to stem cells

- Projects

- Furniture design, Smart homes, Adaptations to the home
- Better recovery from hip fracture
- Design of the workplace for older people
- Better packaging
- Safer more friendly streets
- Computers that are easier to use
- Assisting local government with transport planning
- Keeping your car and driving safely
- Regaining speech after stroke
- Understanding automated telephone messages
- Ageing eyes, Stepping safely, Following moving objects
- Activity, Exercise, Nutrition in later life
- Oxidative stress, Ageing cells, Stem cells, Lots of biology!



The 34 award holders



Today

- A unique experience
 - Lectures
 - Briefings
 - Lots of Networking
 - academics, practitioners, older people
- Designed to bring together
 - everyone
 - CARDI and SPARC



Thanks!

- Today's Presenters
- The Chairs
- Our Generous Host and Partner
- You, the Participants

www.sparc.ac.uk



The ultimate aim

