KT-EQUAL

Putting Ageing and Disability Research into Practice

2009 – 2013

EPSRC funded

Trevor Cox

Consortium

Occupational Therapy/Rehabilitation
Computing/HCI
Social work/administration
Participative design & change management
Psychology
Acoustics
PE & media
Landscape Architecture
Built Environment

+ Advisory group

Directors / co-directors

Consultation and advocacy

• How can we
  – produce research which is more useful to users?
  – produce commercially successful inclusive products and services?
  – influence policy and practice?
  – make sure that research outcomes are known about and used?
  – foster KT skills in researchers?
  – get more ageing and disability research?

• New and continuation of strategic partnerships
  – professional bodies, third sector organisation, public sector and industry
  – Identify needs & ways of engaging with stakeholders
• Establishing strategic partnerships with funders to lever opportunities for new researchers in ageing and disability
• Engagement with policy makers, policy implementers, public figures, enabling timely response to contemporary drivers for change
Ensuring the continuity of research

- New researchers
- Future research leaders
- Re-engage researchers

Website: www.equal.ac.uk

- Proceedings of activities
- Funding opportunities
- Case studies
  - Successful research e.g. Improved products, services, good practice in the home or workplace
  - Best practice and critical success factors for KT and user engagement
- Advertise training, workshops, and KT opportunities
- Resources – e.g. toolkits to promote research to designers, guide built environment developers etc.

Publicity

- Dissemination of research outputs in publicly accessible and understandable formats
- Aimed also at stakeholders
- News stories
- Programme ideas

Think Tank: communities of interest

- Health and well being
- Independent living
- Self management

Events

- Facilitation of events in the spirit of SPARC Workshops
  - Academic and non-academic communities together
  - Showcase research deliverables
- Exciting plans for different events formats
Some of what we have organised

**Events**
- Technology for people with dementia
- The design of analgesic outside spaces
- Inclusive design in education

**Possible future events**
- Riba accredited RNIB/Cambridge Inclusive Design training event (London, Oct 2009 paid event)
- Boundary between inclusive design & assistive technology or inclusive health (Cambridge Workshop on Universal Access & Assistive Technology)
- Falls Awareness Day - 23rd June 2009. In collaboration with Help the Aged.
- Walk 21 conference in New York in October 2009 –I'DGO TOO walkabout
- CIB World Building Congress 2010 - Building a Better World, Salford Quays. KT-EQUAL session (or day)
- HealthQWest and SPARColl (Scottish Physical Activity Research Collaboration)
- Rehabilitation robotics and assistive technologies (working title), University of Hertfordshire, Autumn
- The retail model for assistive technologies
- Exercise and Healthy Living (Sept)
- Pain in older age: needs, assessment and management
- Ageing & Long term health conditions: Understanding comorbidity

**Exploiting K-T through the existing consortiums**
- SMART
- I'DGO TOO
- i-design
- annual cross-consortia workshop
- cross-consortia working e.g. project bids

**Questions for you**
- What are the major blocks to getting ageing and disability research used (that KT-EQUAL needs to tackle?)
- If KT-EQUAL did only one thing to improve ageing and disability research and KT, what would that be?