

DCU: Age-Friendly University

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Dublin City University (DCU)

- DCU – brief overview
- AFU
 - Why we did it
 - Milestones
 - Principles
 - Structure
 - AFU in action
- AFU Global Network

Dublin City University (DCU)

- Young university - Top 50 in the World's ranking of Young Universities
- Dynamic, research intensive, globally engaged
- University of Enterprise & Technology
- Pioneered opportunities through its Access Programme and Intra Placement
- Academic credit for extra curricular activities

WHY - Age-Friendly University?

- **Demographic**
- **Economic**
- **Technological**
- **Social**
- **Political**

Silver Economy Definition

Silver Economy is defined as...”using technology, and innovation both in the public and private sectors to produce products, services, solutions and systems to improve the quality of life of people aged 50 and over”

European Silver economy is estimated to be worth €3.7 trillion and potentially €5.7 trillion in 2025, contribute 32% of EU Gross Domestic Product and support 38% of EU employment (EU Commission, 2015).

Courtesy of CORK IT - EU Inter-reg Consortium
(Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Slovenia, France, Sweden, Poland)

Milestones

“Universities as engines of active and healthy ageing “

2015 Inaugural Global Conference “Engaging Ageing”

2014 AFU Coordinator appointed

2011 Developed Ten Principles of an Age-Friendly University

2018 2nd Global Conference “Engaging Ageing”

April 2019 49 universities establishing Global Advisory Board

2012 Launched the Age Friendly University Initiative 2012

“New Frontiers of Ageing – Research, Policy & Practice“

2010 Working Group established with stakeholders

- WHO Age Friendly Cities
- National Positive Ageing Strategy
- National Plan for Equity of Access to Higher Education 2019

Age-Friendly Principles

1. Participation
2. Promote personal and career development
3. Recognise Needs
4. Intergenerational learning
5. Widen Access



Age-Friendly Principles

6. Informed Research Agenda

7. Understanding of longevity dividend

8. Enhance access

9. Engage actively

10. Regular dialogue





Expert Advisory Board



Collaborations /Initiatives with Stakeholders

- **Senior Citizens Parliament** accommodated in DCU
- **Student Engagement :**
 - The Fold - NGM Students (Marketing and community based research)
 - Third Age – free computer class, listening project , Operation Conversation, Gingerbread
 - Alone – setting up a befriending group
- **Staff:**
 - Volunteer on Lifelong Learning Programme (2 hours per semester)
 - Established a support programme for staff caring for older parent
 - Positively engage and facilitate learning styles in an intergenerational environment
- **Abháile Project** – retro fitting of local houses
- **Schools award** – Intergenerational engagement
- **DCU 3LA**– regular events

Opportunities for Older People in DCU

- **Academic & Customised Courses**
- **Fitness Programme - Active For Life**
MedEX Programme
- **Dementia Elevator Programme**
- **Free Computer Classes**
- **DCU Ryan Academy – Entrepreneurship/Encore Careers (Ingenuity/Propeller Programme)**
- **Mentoring Programme**



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING
Global Connections



A|G|H|E | ACADEMY FOR GERONTOLOGY
IN HIGHER EDUCATION.®



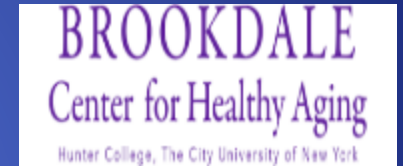
Why Join Us?

- ❑ Developing position and policy statements
- ❑ Exchange – expertise/ideas/staff/students
- ❑ Facilitative Links
- ❑ Collaborative research
- ❑ Capacity building
- ❑ Encouraging and Enhancing understanding
- ❑ Bi-Annual Congress









Thank You!

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Visit : www.dcu.ie/agefriendly