# North American Network in Aging Studies

## Newsletter

**May 2026**

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## *About the Newsletter*

Items are listed by due date (if applicable) and by category. We welcome updates relevant to the age studies world, including calls for papers, journal articles, recently published books, Twitter feeds, blogs, job postings, and others. We also invite brief (450 words or less) thought pieces on issues or ideas about aging and age studies. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the prior month. Please visit our website for more information or to submit an item for the newsletter. Thanks to all who contributed news items for this issue of the NANAS Newslette

# *Podcasts & Links*

**"How 'Age Tech' Might Help You Grow Old at Home" (New York Times)**

This recent New York Times article on the rise of "age tech," new digital tools (from smart pill dispensers to companion robots) are presented as expanding possibilities for aging in place while supporting overextended caregivers.

At the same time, the article highlights critical ethical concerns raised by **NANAS member Clara Berridge**, who cautions that these technologies can introduce new forms of surveillance and intrusion into older adults' lives. Berridge underscores the importance of consent, transparency, and ongoing dialogue, noting that well-intentioned monitoring may undermine autonomy or lead to feelings of infantilization, calling for more robust ethical frameworks, including "technology directives," to ensure that innovations in care align with older adults' preferences and dignity.

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Learn more about Trent's Masters Degree in Interdisciplinary Aging Studies by watching this short video, created by students Brooke Ambury, Benjamin Darkwa, and Mikayla Smith as a component of their course in Professional Practice In Knowledge Mobilization, taught by Dr. Elizabeth Russell. Dr. Sally Chivers teaches another core course in the program, Foundations in Interdisciplinary Aging Studies, that combines theoretical and thematic studies of Aging Studies with Knowledge Mobilization assignments. For details about the interdisciplinary degree that welcomes students across humanities, social science, health, and policy fields please check out https://www.trentu.ca/aging/ma-interdisciplinary-aging-studies

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# *Articles & Books*

Ågren, A., Cedersund, E., & Swane, C. (2026). **Framing Older Adults' Loneliness in Danish News Media: Between Societal Responsibility and Individual Burden.** The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbag063

Chen, Y., Song, Z., & Fang, H. (2026). **One Size Doesn't Fit All: Navigating Gendered Ageism in Older Women's Entry into Entrepreneurship.** Journal of Business Ethics, 1-26. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10551-026-06284-x

Con Wright, G. (2026). **Older women reclaiming agency in the films My Favourite Cake and Fate.** Journal of Women & Aging, https://doi.org/10.1080/08952841.2026.2655451

Dai, J., Bartlett, J. C., & Moffatt, K. (2026). **Public Libraries Enrich Community-Based Dementia Care: A Canadian Case Study.** Public Library Quarterly, 1-20. https://doi.org/10.1080/01616846.2026.2661550

Donatus Ezulike, J. C., Lu, S., & Ekoh, P. C. (2026). **"Our culture doesn't welcome seeing caring for older people as a burden": Understanding older adults' experiences of coping with unpaid caregiving in Nigeria.** The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbag056

Iacub, R., Simpson, P., & Hafford-Letchfield, T. (Eds.). (2026). **Ageing, Sex and Disability.** Bristol, UK: Policy Press. https://doi.org/10.51952/9781447375999

Lei, S., Zhao, M., Zhou, J., & Yang, X. (2026). **Rethinking the X-minute city for older adults: Temporal thresholds, hierarchical needs and age-specific walking accessibility.** Journal of Transport Geography, 134, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2026.104656

Millman, S. (2026). **Imitate Annie Ernaux: Teaching Students to Rethink Aging with a Stylistic Exercise.** Age, Culture, Humanities: An Interdisciplinary Journal, 10. https://doi.org/10.7146/ageculturehumanities.v10i.165041

Noveria, M., Listyaningsih, U., Pitoyo, A. J., & Anaf, A. (2026). **Why retired older adults return to their place of origin: a qualitative study in the Yogyakarta Special Region, Indonesia.** Journal of Population Research, 43(2), 9. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12546-026-09417-1

Oh, J. (2026). **Beyond independence and with care: reimagining older adults' digital agency with a granfluencer.** International Journal of Ageing and Later Life. https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8782-5459

Schrage-Früh, M., O'Neill, M., & Hanrahan, K. (2026). **Restorying Ageing: Amplifying Older Women's Voices Through Creative Life Writing.** Life Writing, 1-14. https://doi.org/10.1080/14484528.2026.2659095

Sjögren, H., Niemistö, C., & Hearn, J. (2026). **Governing through absence: the analysis and wider implications of Finnish policy discourses on ageing and care in neo-liberal times.** Ageing & Society, 46, https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X26100555

Walsh, K., & Carroll, B. (2026). **Agency and insecurities in (re)making a sense of home amidst later life homelessness: towards a conceptual framing.** Gerontologist, 66(5). https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnag013

Wang, Z., Xiao, F., Hwajin, S., & Han, D. (2026). **The Paradox of Productive Aging: Social Work Practice Between Inclusion and Inequality in South Korea.** Journal of Gerontological Social Work, 1-25. https://doi.org/10.1080/01634372.2026.2650571

Williamson, L. E., Horne, D., Mikelyte, R., Grey, E. B., Collins, P., Poyner, C., Farnood, A. & Oh, T. M. (2026). **Palliative care conversations with people with dementia who live alone: untapped dimensions from a lived experience.** Frontiers in Dementia, 5. https://doi.org/10.3389/frdem.2026.1791608

Zhu, Y., Wang, H., & Cao, Q. (2026). **Deconstructing Successful Aging: A Social Constructionist Critique and an Alternative Framework for Meaning-Making in Later Life.** Journal of Constructivist Psychology, 1-26. https://doi.org/10.1080/10720537.2026.2664053

# *Calls for Papers*

### ***Humanities*** **Special Issue on "Literature and Health in the 21st Century"**

Submissions are now invited for a special issue of *Humanities* titled "**Literature and Health in the 21st Century.**" This issue focuses on the European region and welcomes research exploring contemporary challenges in health, well-being, and healthcare as they are represented in the literature. Contributions addressing themes of age and aging are especially encouraged. Publication-fee waivers are available. Full details and submission guidelines can be found here

**Submission deadline: 31 May 2026**

Anita Wohlmann (wohlmann@sdu.dk)

Anders Juhl Rasmussen (ajr@hum.ku.dk)

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### **Aging Studies Collection (Lived Places Publishing)**

Submissions are invited for the *Aging Studies* collection at **Lived Places Publishing**, a series dedicated to showcasing the diversity of aging experiences across contexts and communities. The collection seeks titles that foreground lived experience, with particular attention to how place shapes aging and to the work of professionals, practitioners, and advocates who support positive aging. Contributors from a wide range of disciplines are encouraged to submit proposals.

For more information about the collection and submission guidelines, please visit: https://livedplacespublishing.com/aging-studies

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### ***Age, Culture, Humanities:*** **Books Available for Review**

Age scholars and NANAS and ENAS members are invited to revisit the ***Age, Culture, Humanities*** journal website to explore its latest articles, as well as its mission, scope, and recent developments: https://tidsskrift.dk/ageculturehumanities/about

In addition to the ***open call for submissions*** that engage critically with age and aging across the humanities and related fields, ACH also maintains a regularly updated **list of books available for review**, offering opportunities to contribute to ongoing scholarly conversations.

For those interested, the current list of books available for review can be found here: https://tidsskrift.dk/ageculturehumanities/libraryFiles/downloadPublic/285

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# *Events*

The **Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Aging and Care** at the **University of Graz** invites everyone to join the **CIRAC Health Humanities Lecture Series**
*All talks are accessible online!*






5th Meeting of the Study Group **'Rejecting Futures: Practices of Resistance or Failure',**
Delmenhorst, 6-8 May 2026

## "Rejecting the future: Affect and mental health"

**Invited speakers:**
Leila Dawney (U Exeter)
Stefan Ecks (U Edinburgh)
Marcos Freire de Andrade Neves (Freie U Berlin)
Stephen Katz (Trent U)
Anne Lovell (INSERM Paris)
John Marlovits (San José State U)
Ayo Wahlberg (U Copenhagen)

**Organizers:**
Annette Leibing (Université de Montréal & HWK-fellow)
Mark Schweda (Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg)

**Venue:**
Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg
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Lehmkuhlenbusch 4
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***Workshop*: Dementia and Care: Thinking Beyond Personhood?**

# DEMENTIA AND CARE:
# THINKING BEYOND PERSONHOOD?

**Organized by Annette Leibing,[1] Fernando Vidal,[2] and Federico Zilio[3]**

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[3] Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology, University of Padua, Italy. federico.zilio@unipd.it

## 19 June 2026 – Online

A workshop organized in the framework of the project Human-Robot Interaction with older adults suffering from dementia: Sociocultural and gender differences and ethical and professional implications in the use of companion robots (MyRobot). Coordinated by Blanca Deusdad and Fernando Vidal. Supported by grant PID2023-147169NB-I00 of the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. In cooperation with the Medical Anthropology Research Center (MARC-DAFITS-URV).

https://bit.ly/dementia-and-care

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| **9:00-9:15** | **Welcome, Introduction** |
| **9:15-10:00** | Federico Zilio: **Which Person? Philosophical Paradigms of Personhood in Dementia Care** |
| **10:00-10:45** | Annette Leibing: **Against Personhood in Dementia Care: Alienation as a Shift of Attention** |
| **10:45-11:00** | **BREAK** |
| **11:00-11:45** | Nik Brown & Daniel Robins: **Queering Care and Reimagining Personhood: A Possible Posthumanist Sociology of Healthcare Robots in Dementia Care Settings** |
| **11:45-12:30** | Martin Chevallier: **Infusing an animal robot with personhood? Caregivers' contribution to bonding with a demanding creature** |
| **12:30-13:30** | **BREAK** |
| **13:30-14:15** | Blanca Deusdad, Marija Djurdjevic, F. Vidal: **Preliminary findings from the ethnographic study *MyRobot*** |
| **14:15-15:00** | Mariam Nofiss: **Autonomy and Authenticity in Persons with Alzheimer's Disease: A Relational Caring Approach** |
| **15:00-15:15** | **BREAK** |
| **15:15-16:00** | Matthew Wolf-Meyer **Neurological Process versus Neurological Capacity: Two Problems for a Disability-Based Affective Bioethics** |
| **16:00** | **Discussion** |

**Organized by:**

**MyRobot**
Research Project PID2023-147169NB-I00. Funded by MICIU/AEI /10.13039/ 501100011033 and FEDER, EU.

**With the collaboration of:**