



STANFORD  
CENTER ON  
LONGEVITY

# CENTER ON LONGEVITY CORPORATE AFFILIATES PROGRAM

**T**he mission of the Stanford Center on Longevity is to redesign long life. The Center studies the nature and development of the human life span, looking for innovative ways to use science and technology to solve the problems of people over 50 by improving the well-being of people of all ages.

The Center on Longevity Corporate Affiliates program aims to engage with businesses and organizations across the United States and the world. Corporate Affiliate members participate in the work of the Center on Longevity, building relationships with Stanford faculty and engaging in Center programs and activities. Members also support the Center's mission, which facilitates and sustains leading edge research at Stanford.

The Stanford Center on Longevity expedites the transfer of knowledge from academia to the broader society. By bringing together academic experts, business leaders and policy makers, we ensure that the Center's work is relevant, timely and responsive to the urgent realities of population aging.

*In less than one century, life expectancy has increased by an average of 30 years in developed regions of the world. Quite suddenly, there are more people living longer in the world than ever before in human history and they are accounting for an increasingly greater percentage of the world population. Improved longevity is, at once, among the most remarkable achievements in all of human history and one of our greatest challenges. These added years can be a gift or a burden to humanity depending upon how they are used.*



## THE WORK OF THE CENTER

The Stanford Center on Longevity aims to use increased life expectancy to bring about profound advances in the quality of life from early childhood to old age. To inspire change of this scale, the Center works with academic experts, business leaders and policy makers to target important challenges and opportunities for aging societies. By fostering dialogue and collaboration among these typically disconnected worlds, the Center aims to develop workable solutions to urgent issues confronting the world as the population ages.

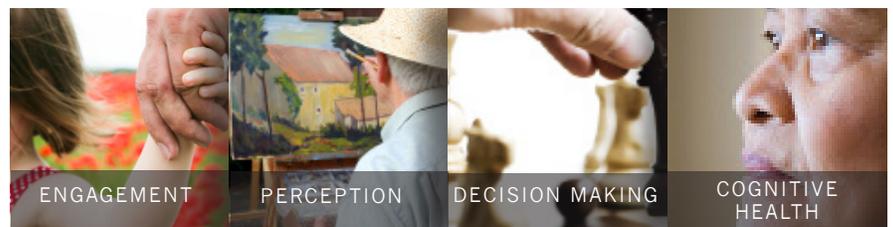
Over 140 Stanford faculty members are research partners of the Center. They come from all seven schools at Stanford – Earth Sciences, Education, Engineering, Graduate School of Business, Humanities and Sciences, Law, and Medicine. Their research spans a remarkable gamut: including behavioral economics and decision-making, age-related changes in cognition, the potential of stem cells, and technologies that reduce cost and improve healthcare delivery.

The Center has three research divisions – Mind, Mobility and Financial Security. Demographic analysis at the global, national and community levels informs our work. The Center’s unique “launch” conferences bring together academic collaborators with business, government and non-profit leaders to find solutions to longevity challenges. The Center’s courses at Stanford foster student awareness and understanding of longevity and life-span issues.

## MIND DIVISION

The mission of the Mind Division is to harness the human capital represented in a growing number of mature and talented older citizens. Absent significant disease, aging is associated with an increase in knowledge and expertise, emotional stability and heightened motivation to engage in meaningful work. At the same

time, the speed and efficiency of new learning typically declines with age, as does sensory functioning affecting hearing and vision. Such changes can hamper the effectiveness with which people engage with work, families and communities.



The Center aims to develop and evaluate infrastructures that channel the strengths of older people into families, workplaces, and communities. This includes improving cutting-edge technologies that compensate for deficits in hearing, vision and balance. We work to understand and improve how older people make important decisions about health care and financial matters. We also pursue efforts to distinguish normal changes in cognition from disease-related changes, so that interventions and policies are targeted appropriately.

## MOBILITY DIVISION

The mission of the Mobility Division is to focus on challenges to physical movement across the life span. The ability of an individual to move his or her body, and to move from place to place, is key to functional independence and quality of life.



The Mobility Division strives to help individuals maintain maximal functional capacity for as long as possible. This includes research into lifestyle choices, such as diet, exercise, and social interaction, all of which can affect an individual's daily physical activity. When functional capacity declines, it may be necessary to intervene with treatments or products to restore function or supplement for deficiencies. When functional capacity cannot be restored, it may be necessary to alter the built environment around the individual to accommodate disability.

## FINANCIAL SECURITY DIVISION

In an age of unprecedented longevity, a focus on lifelong individual financial security has never been more crucial. The Financial Security Division brings a unique interdisciplinary perspective to financial security issues facing our society by rethinking the perceived problems around an aging population, especially retirement planning and the need to work longer.



By understanding the role that research, education and policy can play in solving these issues and looking at the problems from multiple perspectives, we will drive the dialogue forward in order to facilitate a healthier state of long-term financial security for the individual and society.

## ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

There are additional funding opportunities related to the Center on Longevity, beyond the Corporate Affiliates Program. These include support for the following types of initiatives:

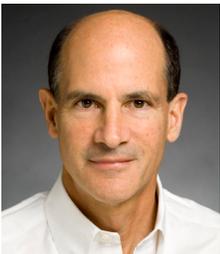
- A Research project on a particular longevity topic (which might include a topic white paper, Launch conference, and faculty seed grant)
- A Postdoctoral Fellow in the longevity field
- A Faculty research grant in a particular research area
- Sending Visiting Scholars to the Center, in accordance with Stanford policies
- Funding the Center's Annual Distinguished Lecture program

## THE FOUNDERS

The Stanford Center on Longevity was founded by two of the world's leading authorities on longevity and aging.



Laura L. Carstensen is the founding director of the Stanford Center on Longevity, and a noted expert on socioemotional selectivity theory - a life-span theory of motivation. She is the Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Professor in Public Policy and Professor of Psychology and a Guggenheim Fellow. For more than twenty years her research has been supported by the National Institute on Aging, and in 2005 she was honored with a MERIT award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).



Thomas Rando MD, PhD, professor of neurology and neurological sciences, is deputy director. His research on aging has demonstrated that it is possible to identify biochemical stimuli that can induce stem cells in old tissues to repair injuries as effectively as in young tissues. This work has broad implications for the fields of regenerative medicine and stem cell transplantation. Rando is also Director of the Paul F. Glenn Laboratories for the Biology of Aging at Stanford University.

The Center's research divisions are headed by senior staff with extensive academic and business experience.

## CONTACT

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**Visit the Center's website at:**

<http://longevity.stanford.edu>

**Read the Center's latest annual report at:**

<http://longevity3.stanford.edu/annual-reports/>

“To the degree that people reach old age **mentally sharp, physically fit, and financially secure**, the problems of individual and societal aging fall away.”

Laura Carstensen  
Founding Director, Stanford Center on Longevity

[longevity.stanford.edu](http://longevity.stanford.edu)

