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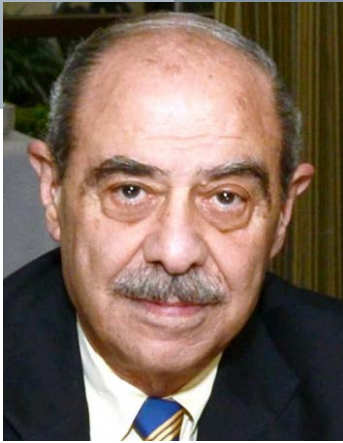
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Emeriti in Action

A review of:

The Capital of Knowledge of Emeriti in Action. Proceedings of the Second International Congress of the European Association of Professors Emeriti. Edited by Natale G. De Santo, Vincenzo Bonavita, Luigi Campanella, Malcolm Phillips, and Dennis V. Cokkinos.

The “emeriti” in the title of the present text are retired professors recognized for their past services to their *alma mater*. The term emeritus originally applied to “veteran soldiers” of the Roman army, came to be applied to retiring ecclesiastical ranking officers, followed by that of retiring academicians, ultimately becoming an adjective applied to anyone retiring from an occupation, such as “Speaker Emerita” title granted to Nancy Pelosi by vote of the US House of Representatives. As applied to academics, the title of emeritus was and remains a varied regional award. Where some institutions grant it to all retiring professors, others bestow it only on those selected for distinguished service, and in a few the title is qualified as granted on behalf of the alumni, in memory of distinguished predecessors, or named after donors to the granting institution. Over time, fiscal constraints and administrative restrictions tied retirement to age limits, which are rather strictly applied in Europe, hence the challenge addressed in this volume.

The “action” in the title refers to European retired professors who got organized to remove constrictive age limits of retirement and provide some uniformity in the granting of the title of “emeritus”. The notion, independently conceived and locally promoted by two emeriti, Natale G. De Santo in Naples and Dennis V. Cokkinos in Athens was formulated at an international conference on “The Human Capital of Age” held in Napoli in September of 2016, followed two weeks later by a founding conference in Athens in October of 2016 that led to the formal establishment of the European Association of Professors Emeriti (EAPE). Over the seven years of its existence, the Association has been fairly active in promoting its cause. Beginning with the issuing of an e-Newsletter in April of 2017, the publishing of a quarterly Bulletin beginning in January of 2020 and of the proceedings of its two congresses held in 2019 in Athens and in 2022 in Napoli.

The present volume represents the Proceedings of the second EAPE conference held in Napoli on April 28-30, 2022. Like that of the first conference it is published by the Society for the Propagation of Useful Books, a venerable organization founded in Athens in 1899 for the propagation of useful knowledge by publishing small books at an affordable price. In the tradition of the past over 400 volumes published by the Society, the present volume represents the wealth of knowledge generated by European emeriti professors since their retirement.

As might be expected, the topics covered are diverse reflecting the varied disciplines of the retirees. As a result, the 63 chapters of the text are organized into 10 sections: The Capital of Knowledge of Emeriti in Action (10 chapters); On Academies (6 chapters); State-of-the-Art Lectures (3 chapters); Nature Protection (7 chapters); What is Aging (5 chapters); Brain and Mental Health (7 chapters); Epidemics, Pandemics, and Syndemics (5 chapters); Contemporary Hot Topics (6 chapters); and History (9 chapters). The coverage provided by each chapter is varied. Several are general reviews, others are personal reflections, some are succinct historical narratives, and a few are summaries of original research by the presenter since retirement.

To cite an example, the “State-of-the-Art Lectures” section includes three presentations. The first, titled “Climate Change and the Challenges of a Rapid Ecological Transition: The Role of Food” is by Riccardo Valentini from the University of Tuscia. It addresses the negative impact on food production of accelerated global warming over the past four decades, which coupled with the increasing demands of an enlarging population presents a serious challenge unless proper measures are instituted. The second presentation, titled “The Covid-19 Syndemic – a New Public Health Concept” is by Patrick Berche from the University of Paris Cité. Syndemic is a relatively new concept introduced in the 1990s of the medical, social, and cultural factors that increase susceptibility to infectious pandemics, such as the recent Covid-19 pandemic, where individuals affected by silent chronic non-infectious pandemics (diabetes, obesity, malnutrition, cancer, cardiovascular disease) were at considerably greater risk; an issue compounded by social disparities that

increases exposure of the poor and disadvantaged population. A problem further compounded by fear, misunderstanding of preventative measures, and regional political issues. Based on lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic that killed 15 million people in 2019 before effective controls were introduced, it is recommended that early and immediate preventative strategies at multiple levels be instituted in future syndemics to avoid repeating the errors of the past. The third lecture, titled “Cardiology in the 21st Century” is by Dennis Cokkinos from the University of Athens. It begins with a review of the principally technological achievements of the second half of the 20th century (cardiac catheterization, coronary arteriography, defibrillators, pacemakers, open heart surgery, cardiac transplantation) that set the stage for the 21st century for moving into precision medicine by the use of artificial intelligence introduced into machines, molecular modifications initiated in therapeutics, and genetics analysis into diagnosis. The result is a brighter future with the new approach of interventional correction well before the need to resorting to invasive surgery that has guided much of the past therapy of end-stage cardiac disease.

Another example of the flavor of this book can be gleaned from the six chapters grouped together as “Contemporary Hot topics”. The first article titled “Vocational Learning the Art of Reflective Curiosity” by Lev Mjelde from Oslo Metropolitan University reflects on the merits of hands-on craft knowledge acquired in workshops as mentored apprentices of a master craftsman. The second article titled “The Right to knowledge of European Citizens” by Luigi Campanella from the Sapienza University discusses the advantage of Open Science practice of presenting and sharing results and data of scientific research, innovation, and progress. The third article titled “Integrity of Science, the Information Industry, and the Myth of Excellence” by Alberto Girlando from the Molecular Materials Group in Parma provides an insightful exposition of the increasing threat of financial benefits and the need to cover the expenses of doing research to the integrity of science as that of “free pursuit of the truth wherever it may lead”. The fourth article titled “The European Union and its Cultural Heritage” by Stella Priovolou from the University of Athens reflects on the threat of material interests and economic threats to the post-WWII utopian vision of a “Europe without Borders”. The fifth article titled “The Relevance of Social and Professional Masks” by Dana Baran from the Gregor T. Popa University of Romania

expresses concern over the vulnerability of the elderly exposed in the recent Covid-19 pandemic as a social and financial burden. The sixth article titled “Maturity and Wisdom of Young People” by Hendrik Ehrlich et al from Hanover argues for the preferential use of the term “age related maturity” for that of wisdom that comes from growing up.

Equally informative is the opening section of the book titled “The Capital Knowledge of Emeriti in Action”. The ten chapters of this section are authored by the principals who conceived and founded the EAPE and are currently involved in promoting it. It presents a first-hand exposition of the ideas, ideals and inspiration that led to the foundation of the Association and its inspirations for the future.

Reading the entire proceedings of this conference provides a rewarding stimulus for reflection on the subjects covered, acquiring new information, and gaining new insight into novel areas one may not be familiar with. Overall, this volume exposes its audience to pertinent knowledge on varied subjects of current interest very much in tune with the original intent of its publisher to make useful knowledge available by the propagation of books at affordable prices.

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS EMERITI



**The Capital of Knowledge of
Emeriti in Action**

**Proceedings
of the Second International Congress**

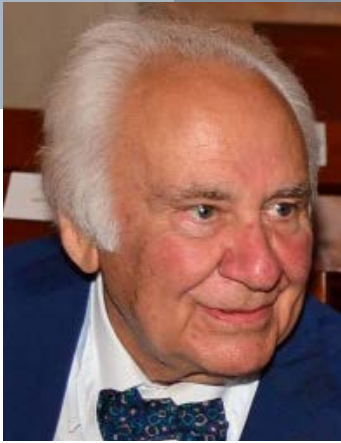
April 28-30, 2022, Naples, Italy

**Edited by
Natale Gaspare De Santo, Vincenzo Bonavita, Luigi Campanella,
Malcolm Phillips, Dennis V. Cokkinos**

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OF USEFUL BOOKS**



ATHENS 2023



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Professors Emeriti and Emeritae: Unexplored Resources to Establish Global and Local Histories of Disciplines: The Need for Big Data

Introduction

In 1963 Derek de Solla Price authored *Little Science Big Science*, a book that met with extraordinary success. Its incipit like a prelude. “Any scientist, looking back at the end of his career, will find that 80 to 90 per cent of the scientific work [in his field] has taken place before his very eyes” (1). Every retired scientist is a walking, living, eye-witnessing historian of most of the science that has moulded his or her discipline” (1). Thus, retired professors are ambulant living libraries concerning the disciplines they have taught.

According to Terence Kinley (2) “Price was an ex-physicist who decided to “turn the tools of science on science itself”, and his findings were memorable. He plotted, for instance, a graph showing the numbers of scientific journals founded since the first two—the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* and the *Journal des Sçavans* were launched in 1665. This showed that science’s exponential growth over the last three centuries has been astonishingly steady. Although the graph does not adjust for the journals that fail, the doubling time since 1700 in the numbers of journals has been around 15 years and, because journals expand in size the doubling time in the numbers of papers has been about 10 years. We scientists are, these days no longer excited by such data because we have grown only too familiar with citation indices, impact factors and other quantitative tools of research harassment. But Price, on whose work those academic punishments are largely based, despised them as “counting nonsense” (2).

Although De Solla Price omitted a specific discussion it is evident that the 10-20% of science inherited from the past no longer had a role in building new knowledge.

What are disciplines?

Disciplines are like fractals; in their peripheral regions exchanges are more active than in their inner zones. Sometimes a new scientific work stimulates the birth of a new discipline or may cause the death of another (3). The new originates in the boundary zones, at intersection points. Probably the new originates in non-delimited areas. In fact, immediately after its birth a discipline is fenced, under the care of those who have founded it and by their epigones. It is a work that is not different from that of dam builders who steal from the sea or from rivers, one piece of soil after another (4).

Discipline is a word stemming from the Latin *Disciplina*. In Roman times *disciplina* was a minor goddess protecting discipline, patron of soldiers living at the empire’s borders who most needed to observe what they were taught about duties. According to Webster’s dictionary a discipline is (i) teaching, learning a subject that is taught (ii) a field of study (iii) training that is moulded from perfection (iv) rules governing conduct or activity and (v) control gained by enforcing obedience.

1. De Solla Price DJ. *Little Science, Big Science*. New York, Columbia University Press, 1963.

2. Kinley T. More is less. *Millennium Essay*. *Nature* 2000; 405: 278.

3. De Santo NG. Io sono uno specialista. In De Santo NG. *Per la Ricerca Clinica*. Naples, Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici 2004, p. 29-79.

4. Le Goff J. *Intervista sulla Storia*. Milan, Mondadori, 1993.

At the beginning of the 13th Century in Europe, teaching was based on the “trivium” (the place where three roads meet) and on “quadrivium” (the place where four roads meet). The former included Grammar, Rhetoric and Dialectic, the latter included Arithmetic, Geometry, Music and Astronomy, the so-called liberal arts as described in the 7th book of Plato’s *Republic*. Completing *trivium* and *quadrivium* was for many centuries a condition *sine qua non* the prerequisite to study Theology, Philosophy and Medicine (4).

For Jack Le Goff “disciplines are often talked about in an abstract way, as if they were ideas wandering around the world and possessing a scientific classification behind which social organization exists. There are leading disciplines, that is to say disciplines that in some way dominate and leave the others in their wake. This has already happened throughout ancient times, in the Middle Ages and the XII and XIII Centuries” (5). However, “behind the division of knowledge there were the leaders of the universities and of the schools who organized the disciplines into subdivision. Now then, since everything changes and nothing stays in still life, it is very important to see how the relationships between the disciplines change and how new ones arise” (5). According to Ziman the birth of disciplines is not linked with the idea of working less, aiming to knowing everything in a single branch. A not-easy task, since disciplines are a set of many specialized concepts that are difficult to handle and need great efforts (5).

We need disciplines to solve practical problems. Universities are the places where disciplines are generated also to satisfy the interior needs of every investigator to proclaim his own originality. This has been ironically stressed by Erwin Chargraff in “The Heraclitean fire. Sketches from a Life Before Nature (1978) as well as in “Dispraise of Reductionism” (1997) and by Umberto Eco in Foucault’s Pendulum (1988).

However, disciplines are not the devil. The devil is in our ignorance in making disciplines ready to generate the complex thought; disciplines that, in association with other disciplines, generate the emergence, that is to say, something different from each individual discipline, something that is impossible to trace back to an earlier discipline.

For Edgar Morin (*Les sept savoirs nécessaires à l'éducation du futur*. Paris, UNESCO, 1999) specialization guides the progress of knowledge but also guides the fragmentation of knowledge that must remain united. The disjunction between disciplines prevents the connections and complexity of the whole human being. “We need to work towards

a reform that unifies specialized knowledge and reunifies the parts into the whole by establishing a relationship between the local and the global and vice versa. There must be a constant and continuous coming and going between these two levels”. For this purpose, he coined the term *reliance* originating from *relier* (bind, arrange tightly, connect) and *alliance*. There is a need “to push the specialization to understand multidimensionality and above all to acquire complex thinking through interdisciplinarity. Although the disciplines are indispensable in the profession to solve general and fundamental problems, we must unify the knowledge that is dispersed in many disciplines. Until we put together the various knowledge according to the method of complex thinking we will be unable to grasp the common texture of things” (Morin E, *La voie: Pour l'avenir de l'humanité*, Paris, Fayard, 2011). Indeed, also for specialists of complexity like Edgar Morin “A discipline is a kind of organizing category since it introduces in the field of knowledge the division as well as specialization and a certain degree of autonomy” (*La Tête bien faite: Penser la réforme, reformer la pensée*. Paris, Seuil, 1999).

Ernest Mayz Vallenilla (1925-2015), Professor of Philosophy at UNESCO in Paris—declared the greatest Latin-American philosopher of the twentieth century—in *Fundamentos de la meta-técnica* (Caracas: Monte Ávila Editores, 1990) warned about the myopic and narrow-minded reductionism and suggested to scientists that they adopt a new attitude “that without negating specialism enriches and renders it dynamic [thus] he will open himself to the universal and at the same time be able to introduce his knowledge in the context of the functional wholeness of a true system”. The end effect will be a “functional specialism that has capacity to connect and to merge and reciprocally fertilize” (3).

From seven to eight thousand disciplines

However, “the number of disciplines has continued to increase over the centuries and in 2012 peaked at 8,000. A great expert in a given discipline is totally ignorant in more than 7999 disciplines” (6).

A quest to change education towards transdisciplinarity received the first attentive answer from the International Commission on Learning, presided by Jacques Delors, that suggested a fourfold modality: “learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and learning to be” (*The Treasure Within. Report to UNESCO of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century*, Paris, UNESCO Publishing, 1967).

5. Ziman J. *Real Science. What it is and what it means*. Cambridge University Press, 2000 (Italian translation *La Vera Scienza*. Bari, Dedalo, 2002).

6. Nicolescu B. *The Need for Transdisciplinarity in Higher Education in a Globalized World In: Nicolescu B and Ertas A (eds). Transdisciplinarity, Theory and Practice*. Taiching, Atlas, Publ. 2013, pp. 17-26.

Building Big Data on history of disciplines a possible goal for professors emeriti and emeritae

Big Data have already attracted emeriti. Professor Panos Vardas, Emeritus at the University of Crete already called the attention of emeriti to “*Big data as a solution to new diagnostic and therapeutic Challenges*” (Arch Hellenic Medicine 2019; 36, S-29: 14) at the first EAPE International Congress. This obviously will render artificial intelligence to indispensably know the whole texture not only the threads. It is self-evident that professors emeriti and emeritae know everything about their disciplines, sometimes they were born within their working reach. They know everything about the timeline of the progress of their science, the places where progress occurred. They personally know the international, national and local leaders and their contributions, including even those who have produced research that did not reach top journals and congresses. They have huge levels of knowledge where science has been generated as well as the consequences generated by their applications. Furthermore, they have had opportunity to meet generations of scientists and to read, discuss and test data generated in study centers other than their own.

Professors emeriti and emeritae have got unsurpassable knowledge of their disciplines and in addition they have the talent, curiosity, creativity and the gift of the time needed for accurate scrutiny and have colleagues with whom they can discuss their thoughts. In addition, they know the many *tesseræ* of the mosaic of their disciplines, their changing shapes, those who created them and their final fall-out. Accepting the idea of writing about their own disciplines will create *Big Data* that will be useful for the historians of the future. Probably the number of contributions will be so large that a single professor will be unable to read and personally analyze such material. Algorithms and artificial intelligence will be needed to make them suitable to be turned into effective history of disciplines and of the men and women who have generated and nurtured them and the places where this occurred. This potential, heretofore, has been left unexplored. The vastness and the accuracy of the memory of the emeriti and emeritae that accompanies their role as modern mentors (7) suggests that the attempt deserves to be made.

Conclusion

Many emeriti(ae)-retired professors-are leaders in the history of their disciplines as testified by many leading clinical and basic journals. One example—

most dear to the authors of this paper—is provided by Nephrology, a discipline that has generated Pediatric Nephrology, Cardio-nephrology, Geriatric Nephrology, Onco-nephrology, Diabetic Nephropathy and the History of Nephrology (International Association for the History of Nephrology, IAHN). The latter Association has been extremely productive. In the years 1994-2020 a total of 424 original papers have been published in peer-reviewed journals, 12 international congresses were organized. An IAHN Bulletin (twice yearly) was started in 2018. Agreements have been signed with ERA-EDTA and renewed over the years. The latter society traditionally hosts history sessions in its annual congress (www.IAHN.org). In addition, papers on history of nephrology continually appear in international nephrological and non-nephrological journals.

The attempt finds good historical reasons in Eric Hobsbawm (1917-2012) who was very concerned about the lack of consideration of the past. “The destruction of the past or rather of the social mechanisms that links one’s contemporary experience to that of the earlier generations, is one of the most characteristic and eerie phenomena of the late twentieth century. Most young men and women at the century’s end grow up in a sort of permanent present lacking any relation to the public past of the times they live in. This makes the historians, whose business is to remember what others forget, more essential at the end of the second millennium than ever before. But for that very reason they must be more than simple chroniclers, remembrancers and compilers though this is the historians’ necessary function. An additional] “transformation” is the snapping of the link between generations, that is to say between the past and the present” (8).

Nephrology is a young discipline, it entered medical parlance in 1961. In the contact zone with technology, dialysis developed (hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, nocturnal hemodialysis, automated peritoneal dialysis, plasmapheresis) and in the contact zone with pharmacology and immunology kidney transplantation and therapy of various nephritides were developed. Indeed, as Professor Gabriel Richet (1916-2014) stated “Nephrology is one of the flowers of medical biology and medical pharmacology, a flower permeated by genetic and molecular biology” (9).



7. Pavlopoulos P. The roots of learning: The mentor’s role. In Cokkinos VD, Agnantis N, Garkdikas K, Soldatos Cr, Eds, *The Capital of Knowledge*, Athens: Society for the Propagation of Useful Books, 2020; XXI-XVV.

8. Hobsbawm E. *Age of Extremes. The Short Twentieth Century 1914-1911*. London: Abacus, 1995; pp 3-15 *passim*.

9. Richet G. Introduction. *Nephrologie d’Hier et d’Aujourd’hui*.1993; 1(1): 5.



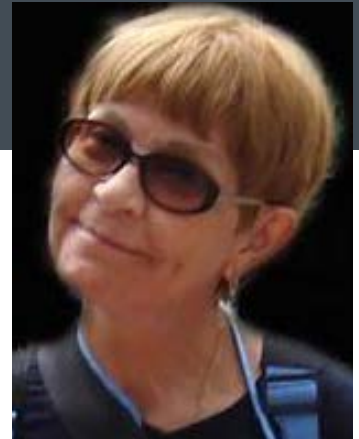
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Retired Faculty Members on University Campuses: A Mentoring Resource

Introduction

Universities make a substantive contribution to the community through knowledge creation, translation, and dissemination. Yet, at the same time, they are faced with challenges, arising to a large degree from a decline in economic resources. Many Canadian universities are being forced to reduce expenditure and, in some cases, to discontinue programs (1,2). One strategy to help with these challenges is the use of retired faculty members as mentors on academic campuses. Mentorship is defined as a two-way relationship in which one individual invests personal knowledge, energy and time to help another develop and improve to become as successful as they can (3). This relationship represents one of the components regarding the role of retired faculty in *Community Engagement around Campus* (see example at end of the page at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/community/home>)

Studies have found that retired faculty members are still interested in developing professionally and, for example, avail themselves of professional development opportunities in teaching (4). Davidovitch and Eckhaus (5) generated a model that expressed faculty members'

perception of work after reaching retirement age. Their finding identified that lecturers who favoured retirement age restrictions, supported retirees participating in research, guidance, and teaching. While Stuckey et al. (6) reported on the benefits of formal mentoring programs for women and under-represented minority faculty members.

The idea of finding new ways to utilize the human capital of faculty emeriti individuals as they live longer and stay healthy is a no-brainer (7,8). These are individuals with enormous experience, often with wisdom and practical knowledge. Baker's commentary (9) on the contribution of retired surgeons to the education of medical students and residents holds truths for professor emeriti. Among its rewards, Baker wrote, involvement in teaching allows retired surgeons to interact with learners at all levels of experience. Retired surgeons can act as valuable educational resources, sharing skills acquired through years of active clinical practice. Many retirees have developed networks at the regional and national levels that allow them to assist residents as they pursue fellowships and career opportunities.

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Re-creating Retirement

There has been increasing attention in recent years to "re-creating retirement" by establishing a range of post-retirement opportunities, including "involvement with both university-based and community-support activity" (10). Although there is limited evidence as to how to incorporate retired faculty members into mentoring roles on university campuses, there are numerous lessons that can be learnt from the relevant literature (11). To illustrate this point, Dollinger, Arkoudis and Marangell (12) using a mixed methods approach, sought both students' and mentors' perceptions of their alumni mentoring program and how their involvement may have impacted their perceptions of the university. The findings identified that alumni mentoring programs provide distinct benefits to both students and alumni and may result in improved university engagement.

Retired faculty members may be motivated to develop the careers of younger colleagues and students as a duty to pass along the benefits of mentorship that they enjoyed throughout their academic lives. Partnerships for education enhancement bring together a set of actors for the common goal of improving the experiences of students and other members of the university community, based on mutually agreed roles and principles. Perhaps more important than exact definitions is the agreement on the key principles in partnership building. Partnerships imply that a balance of power and influence is maintained between the partners and that each partner can retain its core values and identity. Successful partnerships are built on mutual respect and trust, transparency, and mutual benefit. The process of mentoring building is key: roles need to be clarified, boundaries need to be drawn, added value needs to be defined.

A two-pronged question emerges as to i) how retired faculty members can support universities, and ii) how universities can support retired members. It is acknowledged that economic resources are sparse in answering these questions. We are not advocating teaching or other academic contributions "for free", although we do recognize that some contributions, e.g., remaining on a graduate student's dissertation

committee, may continue after retirement without financial compensation. This is a choice made by the retiree.

We offer a number of possible answers to our questions. Retirees have skills that make them a valuable resource for the university and the communities in which they live. Conversations with retiree associations on campus can be held by university administrators to explore mutual support systems. Deans could add the item of retiree associations to their faculty meeting agendas; the richness of a full discussion might identify opportunities that were not known before. Extension programs often seek experienced instructors to teach. This would provide financial compensation to the retiree.

Universities have incorporated community engagement into their strategic planning priorities, thus broadening their orientation from educating the young to engaging and interacting with the wider community. The University of the 3rd age (U3A) is a network of learning groups aimed at encouraging older adults to share their knowledge, skills, and interests in a friendly environment. These groups would integrate well into university-community engagement missions. Many universities reported a link between community engagement strategies and older adult education as a strategy to reach out to the community (13). One specific example is the increasing practice among universities to develop formal mentorship groups. Two examples of this initiative within Canada include the University of Calgary: Scholars Academy Mentorship Program (*link*), and the University of British Columbia, Emeritus College [UBC-EC] program (*link*).

Conclusion

By promoting such possibilities as those described above, the benefits of retired faculty member involvement on university campuses, as mentors, is evident. As universities demonstrate their commitment to address economic resource challenges, these kinds of initiatives depend on a desire for change, emphasis placed, on collegial support for enhanced teaching knowledge and skills, and physical and economic resources.

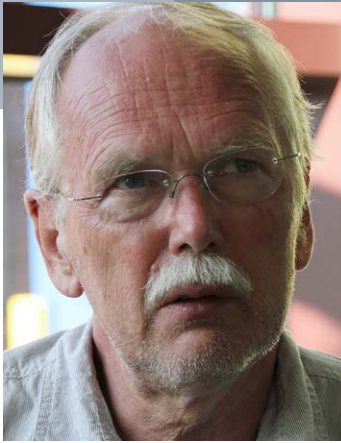


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In Search of True Perceptions about "Young and Old" within the EAPE Committee on Needs and Wants of Young and Old People in Europe

Background

A central hypothesis of perception, theory and engagement within the EAPE Committee on the needs and wants of young and old people in Europe is that there are fundamental similarities between young and old people and between new and old things (1,2,3).

Because of the inherent complexity, there are no independent universal truths in medicine and health services. Truths can only be discerned qualitatively and not quantitatively through sensory perceptions because the senses can only estimate relative quantities. The EAPE committee on needs and wants of young and old people in Europe is based on the broad and long-term experience of retired professors. EAPE committee members know that comparing and evaluating the care systems and safety nets of different European countries is like studying travel guides when planning vacations in Europe. Both provide information on geography, history, demography, economy, technology, and most importantly, the behaviour and culture of other people and nations.

Identifying and interpreting differences in the infrastructure of countries and the variations in processes affecting lifestyles may lead to inspiration and irritation at the same time. This holds especially true for surveys which are lacking solid statistical data banks. Unbalanced intercultural comparisons and reviews may create stereotypes and prejudices, which have substantially contributed to past political crises in European history.

Diversity means understanding that each individual or nation is unique and recognizes this individual or national difference. These variations can manifest themselves in the dimensions of mentality, ethnicity, sex, culture, socioeconomic status, religious beliefs,

political beliefs, and medical care. For instance, the medical field of pediatrics is characterized by enormous diversities, variations, and heterogeneities of child healthcare services provided in 53 European countries with more than 200 million children below 18 years of age (4). Obviously, similar diversity holds true for geriatric care.

Therefore, the EAPE committee knows that there is no absolute truth in speech or writing about young and old people. Perceptions of age can be linguistically expressed in terms like young and old people as well as new and old things. However, even then these specific terms are nevertheless not identical with the reality of perceived people and things. This means that in addition to the relative pathways of perception our spoken and written word only come close to the things, but does not contain their absolute truth.

The aim of this article is to describe the role of human senses for studying and explaining the vulnerability of young and old people in today's world, their safety nets and last but not least their needs and desires?

Hypotheses on complexity of truth and perception

Perception by senses is usually understood as the ability of living beings to receive and process external stimuli. Humans have more than the five senses-sight, touch, smell, taste and hearing. Sensory processing and sensory experience depend not only on the strength of the stimuli, but is subject to subjective variability in healthy people and even more so in sick people, depending on many endogenous and exogenous factors, and - above all - on the individual perceptual circuit (Fig.1). The ability to perceive one's own body - proprioception - represents a somato-sensory function and refers not only to tissues such as muscles but also to internal organs e.g., abdominal pain, bladder filling. At the sense of balance of the

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body it becomes clear that the information of stimuli coming from the outside (turning, accelerating) has to be processed by combining it with additionally-registered internal stimuli e.g., muscle tension, in order to perceive the position of the body in space and balance.

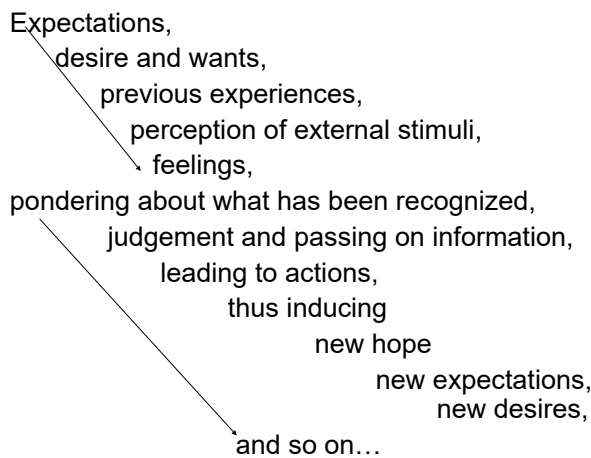


Fig. 1. Chances and risks of perceptual circuits that could lead in committees to endless loops of discussion, as illustrated here in a perpetual cascade of expectations, thought, and action

In summary, external and internal stimuli, after their perception by the receptors in sensory organs, jointly determine further stimulus processing. This in turn is combined with factors that are dependent on experience, attention and mood as well as prejudices and expectations. The processing of meaningful stimuli and experiences represents an essential protective function for humans that are age-dependent. Common sense says that children are generally more sensitive to all stimuli than adults. It seems all the more confusing that the care of premature infants in the 1970s was based on the false assumption that "premature infants" were less sensitive to pain and noise.

On the role of the perception circles within committees

Before every sense perception and observation of something new and - even more - of something known, there is the expectation, the memory and the previous thinking of people in the form of preconceived opinions and feelings up to prejudices (5,6) (Fig.1). Thus, a thinking process already begins before the sensory perception, which strongly influences an unbiased, neutral view. These thought processes can clarify or cloud the subsequent emotional and rational processing. Pit falls for information processing and the resulting conclusions arise from the close and complex connection between internal premises and sensory perceptions. Fallacies arise when logical rules are not followed. Fallacies are deliberately

constructed false conclusions to deceive and confuse consciousness. They are used to justify ideologies and to justify things that are not reasonable. Ideologies are blocking academic freedom (7).

In a circular argument, what is perceived and judged is already partially presupposed by the premises, i.e., projected into the observation and opinion formation. Some prognoses, predictions, prophecies and all horoscopes work according to this circulus-vitiosus principle and may seem logical, but are factually wrong.

Existing knowledge, as well as preconceived opinions and feelings can positively influence the perception only if they do not contain falsehoods, ambiguity and contradictions. Dialectical thinking looks for lies, lack of clarity and contradictions and therefore increases the quality of judgment. This dialectical attitude does not have to be based on a principled doubting, but a sceptical way of seeing and thinking must be inherent. Existing knowledge and preconceived opinions are formed by people linguistically into concepts, which in turn need not be identical with the things and reality and truth that are to be received and processed in the process of perception. Different perceptions of different people are therefore not easy to explain conceptually. Dialectic must again be based on logical thinking and avoid wrong thinking. In scientific thinking this becomes especially clear when scientists equate a coincidental association with a causal correlation.

Emotional conditions such as joy or sadness, peace of mind or hectic stress also strongly influence perceptual processes. Therefore, stoics strive for calmness of mind. So, the stoic asks what he/she can control in him/herself to minimize additional negative effects on perceptions, thinking, and processing.

Conclusions

In summary, the EAPE Committee on the Needs and Wishes of Young and Old People in Europe has worked for two years; 15 articles were published in the EAPE Bulletin. However, the Committee could do even more in the future by analyzing failures in the protection of young and old people, crisis prevention, provision of age-related safety nets, participation of vulnerable people in health care, and promotion of lifelong learning concerning healthy ageing. The spectrum of knowledge within the committee would greatly benefit from more experts presenting different perspectives in a forum that is ready for discourses and consensus. The corresponding results must be made available in all European countries. Public opinion will play a pivotal role in translating theory into practice.



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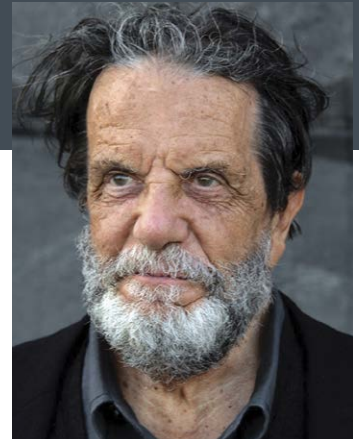
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Old and Young Citizens in the City: Needs and Desires for Cities of Co-existence

Introduction

Unite, connect what modernity has separated: this is the challenge of the contemporary city. On the contrary, distinction and separation are departures of modernity, the intention of technical rationality that post-modernity has replaced with "the atomization of the social in an elastic network of language games based on the absence of rules or on a high flexibility of utterances" (1) The COVID19 pandemic has problematized the acquired notion of proximity by introducing the principle of social distance facilitated by Internet connectivity, which has displaced corporeality from the relationship with space by introducing new constraints and, above all, new forms of control (2) The challenge of the "city of co-existence" is to reposition bodies in space and to give value and meaning to the fragility of women and men, young and old, with different capacities, who find mutual support and recognition in meeting and living together. The task of those concerned with the quality of "living space" is to shape this space, to make possible "virtuous devices" that create new and different possibilities of encounter, aimed at mutual recognition and support, at forms of solidarity and welcome that are the basis for a renewed and developed "civitas".

1. Cities, especially in our context, have ancient roots: the spaces and buildings that make them up have endured even longer than the lives of their individual inhabitants.

Cities have evolved and are expressions of the civilization and culture of different eras they have passed through, constantly changing, usually without an indispensable intergenerational vision. The city was "civitas" before it became "urbs". Since the second half of the last century, cities have been affected by a progressive acceleration and an unprecedented upheaval of their purposes. The mutations were not only mutations of a cultural, relational and technological nature but unprecedented demographic phenomena that have made Italy irrelevant in its dimensions (today it hosts less than eight per thousand of the world's population), and they continue to intensify. Thanks to the constant increase in life expectancy, Italy is among the world leaders, with only a small gap between it and the absolute record of life expectancy. Today, the elderly predominate here and the birth rate is minimal. At the same time, migration phenomena are rising.

The city exists, it can and must change, it must provide answers to changing demands, which are always provisional and changeable. The traffic revolution and the dominance of individual transport have encouraged disintegration in cities and led to the introduction of standards that have long been inadequate and outdated.

Moreover, people are as sensitive to the needs of people with disabilities as they are to the integration of immigrants. There are also issues of safety, reduction of negative emissions, hygiene, waste, etc.

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2. Agamben G., A che punto siamo? Quodlibet, Macerata 2020; Trans. as Where Are We Now? The epidemic as politics, Copyrighted Material 2021.

2. The city is for everyone:

The design of a city must also contribute to reducing inequalities. As "elderly people" we refer to those who are older than three quarters of a century, "young people" as those who have reached the first quarter of a century. These are two groups linked by their age, but also very different from each other, expressing at the same time different needs that must be reconciled. They must not be separated under any circumstances: their coexistence is valuable, even if they have completely independent and different moments.

The logic of the "city of a few minutes" - which has its roots far away, but has been adopted almost everywhere in recent years - leads to a reorganization of what exists, aiming to identify or introduce networks of easily accessible "places of social densification", perhaps supported by small-scale ecological mobility, but in any case connected by wide-ranging collective mobility systems to avoid narrow, self-contained clusters.

Everything should favour exchange and participation at every level; it should be easy to create "urban gardens," perhaps in conjunction with school buildings whose parts (library, gymnasium, sports rooms, canteen, refreshment rooms, auditorium, music rooms, laboratories, etc.) could perhaps be managed separately over time and opened up to citizens simply by placing them side by side although, in reality, it might be difficult to integrate them physically. This is also in line with the logic of the guidelines that were miraculously introduced in Italy ten years ago.

Often, perhaps without meaning to, the "old" tend to isolate themselves. Often, they, perhaps without wanting to, tend to isolate themselves. The "young," on the other hand, tend to cluster together. These opposing needs must also be met in the city to prevent different behaviours coming into conflict with each other, perhaps even acoustically.

At the same time, but on a different scale, the qualities of individual apartments need to be reviewed, not only in terms of energy or structural safety, but also in terms of room amenities, which (as has been shown in the recent pandemic) must not lack at least one real, room-sized outdoor area. There is also a great need for flexibility and technological equipment that is open to relationships with the outside world: in the 20th Century, every home had to have at least a telephone, then a television connection, then the Internet, webinars and increasingly fast networks. Today, teleworking, teleteaching, telemedicine, etc., can make contemporary demands even in an apartment. We need to think about how to redesign the home.

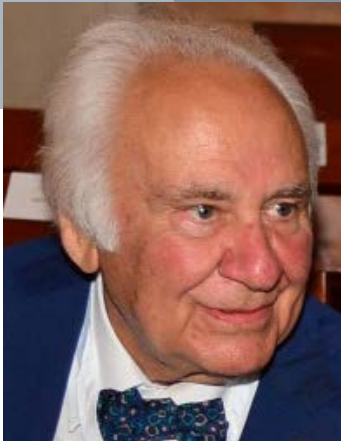
Conclusion

The quality of space affects the behaviour, sociability, spirituality, safety, economy, and well-being of the people who live there. A community that is aware of this should allocate a greater share of its resources to improving the quality of housing redesigns.

Acknowledgements

The authors will discuss this topic at the EAPE celebration of the World Day of Older Persons in Naples at the Palazzo Serra di Cassano on September 30, 2023.





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Working after Retirement Avoids Cognitive Decline

Milena Gabanelli and Francesco Tortora have published, in *Corriere della Sera* of Monday May 15, 2023, a report on working after 65 years of age. They support the idea generated by various scientific sources (mainly OECD Sources) that working after 65 year of age avoids cognitive decline. In addition, working after retirement does not increase juvenile unemployment.

In the 38 OECD countries 15% of retired people continue to work: however, in Italy, Greece, France and Spain the percentage of those who continue to

work is below 5.2%, whereas this number is 19.2% in Sweden, 15,2% in Norway and 10.3% in United Kingdom.

Do workers over 65 years of age lower working possibilities for the younger generation? Not at all. Youth unemployment is lower in countries where over 65's work longer. For example, in Germany juvenile unemployment is 7.6% and over 65 people still at work is 7.4%8 (Table 1).

TABLE 1 Juvenile unemployment and working over 65

COUNTRY	JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT, %	WORKING OVER 65, %
JAPAN	4,6	25,1
GERMANY	5,7	7,4
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	7,5	18,9
FRANCE	17,6	3,4
SWEDEN	22,2	5,1
ITALY	22,4	19,2
SPAIN	29,3	3,1
GREECE	29,7	4,4

Source: Milena Gabanelli and Francesco Tortora. *Those Who work after 65 live more and better. Il Corriere della Sera (Milan), May 15, 2023, p 19, col. 1-5 (modified)*





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Creativity of Aged Composers, Soloists and Conductors

Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944)

The Longevity of a Gentle Intelligence

When in 1913 Cécile Chaminade was awarded the French title of Chevalier of the National Order of the Legion of Honour she became the first composer to obtain this distinction. Many years earlier, the illustrious colleague Charles-Louis-Ambroise Thomas, author of the famous *Mignon*, after listening to an orchestral work by the eighteen-year-old Cécile had said: "This is not a woman who composes, but a composer who happens to be a woman" (1). Behind the pun was the recognition of the intrinsic value of the artist Chaminade, regardless of her gender and all gender prejudices and stereotypes that for several centuries have obscured the authentic value of many women composers.

Cécile Louise Stéphanie Chaminade was born in Paris on August 8, 1857. She learned her first musical rudiments from her mother, pianist and singer. At just over 10 years old Cécile wrote small, delightful pieces for her cats, dogs and dolls, thrilling Georges Bizet who called her "my little Mozart" and made her take the entrance exam to the Paris Conservatoire with excellent results. But Cécile's father did not want this little genius to cross the doors of the most important musical institution in France, so the prodigy girl fell back on private study with some of the best teachers of the Conservatory itself: piano with Félix Le Couppey, violin with Marie Gabriel Augustin Savard and Martin Pierre Marsick and composition, among others, with Benjamin Godard, a musician of true class who gave her an infallible sense of elegance.

In 1878 Cécile held a public concert promoted by Le Couppey: the program, consisting entirely of her compositions, laid the foundations for her long, successful international career as a composer/performer. Her extensive catalogue of works contains over 200 pieces for piano, including studies, caprices, waltzes and many delightful characteristic pieces. But there is no shortage of orchestral pieces, including the much performed **Concertino for flute and orchestra in D major Op. 107**, composed for a competition of

the Paris Conservatoire, and also a comic opera, **La Sévillane Op. 19** (1882), and the symphonic ballet **Callirhoë Op. 37** of 1888 characterized by a refined and luminous orchestration.

In Chamonades pianism creates a profound, late-romantic sensibility, it never sacrifices a clear, crystalline sense of form. Her melodic style is always fascinating and in balance with a harmonic refinement never vague or heavy, always transparent and precise,

according to the long tradition of French *clarté*, and at the same time always full of feeling without ever falling into the sentimental. Just to give some examples, the **6 Études de concert Op. 35** (1887) are gems that combine lucidity and robust technique with fantastic élan (the beautiful Study No. 2, *Automne*, reaches the heights of a Schumannian melancholy, No. 5, *Impromptu*, trans-figures the intimacy of chanson into pure pianism); the **Air de ballet Pierrette op. 41** (1889) is a perfect musical cameo; the **Arabesque No. 1 Op. 61** (1892) is brilliant and sensual at the same time; the intimate and elegant **Romanze sans paroles op. 76** (1894) are suspended between Mendelssohnian



Cécile Chaminade

smoothness, Grieg-like nostalgia and Fauré-like nuances: hence the swaying melan-choly of **Souvenance ('Remembrance') Op. 76 No. 1** or the moving harmonies of **Méditation Op.76 No.6** (2).

Over the years Cécile found the right accents also for the dramas of the twentieth century, as in **Au Pays dévasté** ('In the devastated country') **Op. 155** (1919), a meditation on the destruction of the First World War with profound resonances of Brahmsian intensity. Also the early **Piano Trio No. 1 in G minor Op. 11** (1881) was composed in the spirit of Brahms - "with an already firm and confident hand", according to the critics of the time - and even more the impassioned **Piano Trio No. 2 in A minor Op. 34** (1886). This work is characterized by a powerful and

2. Chaminade C. *Piano Music*; M. Viner piano; Piano Classics - Brilliant Classics

- Vol 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2b_PTymdRk&t=2s

- Vol 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZpPTUpdc&t=2211s> (accessed March 1, 2022)

1. Elson A. *Woman's Work in Music*; Boston: L.C. Page & Company; 1908, p. 176.

resolute impulse and bold and exciting chromatisms which reveal a seriousness of inspiration far from that salon spirit so often superficially attributed to this brilliant woman: the deep singing of the *Lento* and the electrifying momentum of the final *Allegro energico* are among the most beautiful things of French chamber music of the second half of the 19th century (3).

Thanks to her very fine melodic sense – the one that made her say “I am essentially of the Romantic school, as all my work shows” (4) – Chaminade was also (with Gabriel Fauré) a great stylist of the ‘chanson’, that elegant cross between Lied and song, classic and light, so typically French and which has extended its influence to very popular artists of the twentieth century such as Charles Trénet, George Brassens, Yves Montand.

She wrote dozens of chansons, a mix of finesse and skill: the secret of the success, even commercial, of her music and the warm reception, in Europe (in 1892 in England she met a great admirer, none other than Queen Victoria!) and in America. Her 1908 tour of twelve cities in the United States was a triumph. Here she visited over 100 clubs named after her (5): there was no American house with a piano in which there was not at least one favorite piece of Cécile!

Among the chansons we find the charm worthy of Bizet of *Avril s’éveille* (‘April wakes up’) (1896), on a text by Robert Myriel, and *Chanson triste* (1898) with the melody expanding on the transcoloring arpeggios of the piano; the autumn reverie of *L’Allée d’émauraude et d’or* (‘The Golden and Emerald Way’) (1900) is again on a text by Myriel; *Chanson de neige* (‘Snow Song’) (1905) combines by means of very sweet melodic oscillations an impalpable winter vision with an ineffable feeling of abandonment.

Chaminade was able to juggle orchestral forms with ease and flair, as shown by the *Konzertstück in C sharp minor for piano and orchestra Op. 40* (1888): here the exciting attack – like a symphonic poem – with a large and penetrating phrase of horns and English horn on the tremolo of the strings introduces a sparkling rhapsody of themes that mix clear Wagnerian and Lisztian echoes with the most typical French style.

The qualities of immediate communication that

gave Chaminade success were the same ones that made the most intransigent critics turn up their noses, especially when, in the transition between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, modernism and the musical avant-garde were setting aside tonal structures and traditional classical forms.

But beyond the historical situation, everything suggests that the long oblivion of this artist, whose value is finally beginning to be rediscovered, has also been aggravated by the persistent prejudices (even among scholars) about women’s musical creativity

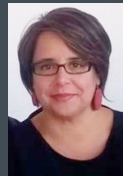
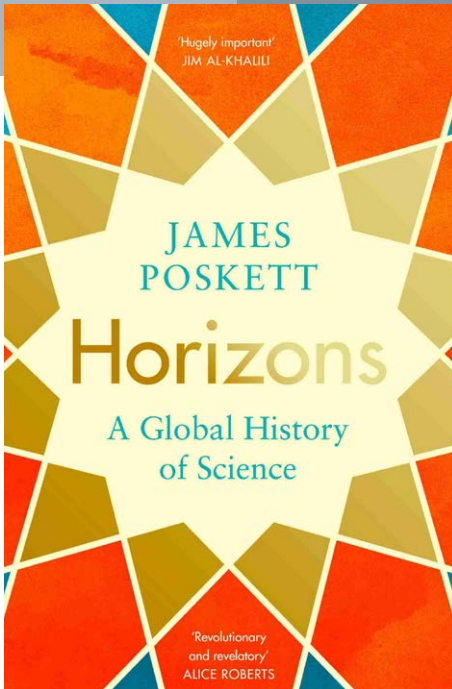
Cécile Chaminade died in Monte Carlo on April 13, 1944 (aged 87). Despite the dramatic historical changes, the biases and the consequent gradual creative silence of the last years of her life, she had a creative path that lasted about 60 years: an exemplary itinerary for sincerity and quality to which, if being a woman added something, that something was undoubtedly a rare combination of penetrating intelligence and gentle sensitivity.



Cécile Chaminade as sketched by Marguerite Marty in St. Louis, November 1908



3. Chaminade C. *Piano Trio in a minor op. 34 III Allegro energico*; ATOS Trio: A. von Hehn *violin*, S. Heinemeyer *cello*, T. Hoppe *piano*; recorded live at Heimathafen Berlin, February 22, 2013 - www.youtube.com/watch?v=tqa6PS6uCQY (accessed March 1, 2022)
4. Citron M. *Cécile Chaminade: A Bio-Bibliography*; Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press; 1988. p. 21.
5. Judd T. *Cécile Chaminade - French composer and pianist in Mit vocal performance*, April 4, 2007 <https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.208.3808&rep=rep1&type=pdf.%20p.%203> (accessed March 1, 2022)



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James Poskett

Horizons: A Global History of Science

Penguin, UK, 2022, EAN: 9780241394090



James Poskett

James Poskett, Associate Professor in History of Science at the University of Warwick, has written *Horizons: A Global History of Science* which, in the last few months, has met with great success (1-5), having been translated worldwide (Figures 1-5). The book has been defined “revolutionary and revelatory”, “a history of science not focusing solely on Europe”, “a book discrediting the idea of isolated European geniuses”, “The kind of history we need”.

Indeed, It is a vibrant retelling of history breaking with the notion that modern science was invented in Europe. “In this book I want to tell a very different story about the origins of modern science. Science was not a product of a unique European culture. Rather,

modern science, has always depended upon bringing together people and ideas from different cultures around the world. Copernicus is a good example of this” (p.1).

The book, enriched by illustrations and plates, is divided into four parts: (i) Scientific Revolution, c.1460-1700; (ii) Empire and Enlightenment, c.1650-1700; (iii) Capitalism and Conflict, c.1790-1914, and (iv) Ideology and Aftermath, c. 1914-2000. The epilogue is dedicated to *The Future of Science*. The main goal of the book is to demonstrate that “the history of scientific revolution is a story which incorporates the entire world” (p.14). We will comment extensively on part one and leave to the reader the privilege to discover the remaining parts, being aware of the unique method used in dissecting the origins of modern science as a global product, its contributors and their discoveries and inventions.

Astronomy in the New Spain

The book starts in the Palace of Emperor Montezuma II in the city of Tenochtitlan, the Aztec capital, “an engineering marvel... that could only be reached by crossing one of the three causeways, each stretching several miles cross the water”. The city was described by Bernal Diaz del Castillo in *The True history of the*

1. Poskett J. *Horizons: A Global History of Science*. London: Wiking, 2022.
2. Poskett J. *Orizzonti. Una storia globale della scienza*. Torino: Einaudi, 2022.
3. Poskett J. *.Copernic et Newton n'étaient pas seuls.Ce que la science moderne doit aux sociétés non européennes*. Paris. Seuil, 2022.
4. Poskett J. *Neue Horizonte. Eine globale Geschichte der Wissenschaft*. München: Piper, 2022.
5. Poskett J. *Horizontes: Una historia global de la ciencias*. Barcelona. Editorial critica, 2022.

Conquest of New Spain (1566). As del Castillo says, the city was kept by Spaniards “of all these wonders that I then beheld... today is all overthrown and lost, nothing left standing” (p. 13). On its ashes Mexico City was built.

Amerigo Vespucci

Amerigo Vespucci noted “Pliny did not touch upon a thousandth part of the species of parrots and other birds and animals which were found in America (p.17).

José de Acosta

We meet immediately José de Acosta, a Jesuit who studied at the University of Alcalá, a missionary in the New World in 1571 who, in 1590, described “everything he had seen from the volcanoes of Peru to the parrots of Mexico in the *Natural and Moral History of the Indies* (1590) (p.17). He demonstrated that Aristotle was wrong in describing the possibility of living in temperate zones since he did not meet suffocating heat approaching the equator.

He also found that there were “a thousand kinds of birds and fowl and forest animals that have been never known in name or shape nor is there any memory in the Latins and Greeks” (p.18).

Bernardino de Sahagún

The reader encounters Bernardino de Sahagún, a fellow at the university of Salamanca, who in 1529 arrived in the New Spain and held the position of Professor of Latin at the Royal College of Santa Cruz in Tlatelolco near Mexico City, where he died at age 90, having learned local languages and culture and after having given a great contribution to the *General History of the Things of the New Spain* (1578) in 12 books and over 2000 illustrations. The book, known as the *Florentine Codex*, covered geography, medicine, anthropology, plants, animals, agriculture and religion. It was enriched with the illustrations of 39 mammals, 120 birds and 600 plants arranged according to the Aztec taxonomy in 4 groups (edible, decorative, economic and medicinal). There one learns of the “hummingbird” identified for the state of torpor during hibernation.

The Codex was bought by Ferdinando de' Medici and put on display at the Uffizi Gallery in Florence and used as a commercial catalogue. Indeed, Europeans learned of the unknown plants and started exhibiting them in their botanical gardens using them as sources of medicines.

Francisco Hernández

Another interesting traveller was Francisco Hernández. He arrived in Mexico City in 1571 and identified “over 3000 plants previously unknown to Europeans”. Hernandez described the properties of “Zacanelhuatl”, a kind of root, that, when crushed and mixed with water by Indigenous doctors, could help to

cure kidney stones” (p.25). Hernandez enrolled local artists to depict everything he saw and in 1577 he returned to Spain with sixteen hand-written volumes along with paintings (deposited at Escorial), that in 1628 became *Treasury of Medical matters of New Spain* (p.26).

Martín de la Cruz

The reader is now ready to meet the Mexican born, Indian doctor, Martín de la Cruz who taught at the Royal College of Tlatelolco and presented, in 1552, the manuscript of *The little book of the Medicinal Herbs of the Indians*, where plants are described in Nahuatl as in the *Florentine Codex* but classified according to Dioscorides from *capite ad calcem* (head to feet),” that represents a fusion of European and Aztec knowledge” (p.27). Cruz's book was consulted by Carolus Clusius (1526-1609) for his *History of Rare Plants* (Naples, 1601) and by Pietro Mattioli in Padua. By the end of the sixteenth century New World plants could be found in gardens across Europe.

Astronomy at Samarkand

Ulugh Beg and Ali Qushij

The story moves now to Samarkand where Ulugh Beg, the grandson of Tamerlane, directed the Astronomical Observatory, established, in 1420 on the basis of that in Maragheh in Northern Persia, to study the sun and the movements of stars. The Observatory was in direct line with the “House of Wisdom” where science was practiced and where many current words-alchemy, algebra and algorithm were established between the 9th and the 14th Centuries (the Islamic golden age). Beg used to work on a Medieval Arabic Catalogue known as *Book of the Fixed Stars*. Scholars from all over Asia came to study there with the “king of astronomers”.

The real star at the observatory was Ali Qushij, born in 1403 in the house of a royal falconer. At a very young age he studied the relationship between the lunar cycle and the tides. He was instrumental in writing *The Tables of the Sultan* (1437) in which the solar year was fixed at 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes and 15 seconds--within 25 seconds of the value known today. These tables guided the daily activities of Islamic citizens. The Tables moved to Egypt, to Delhi and Istanbul, and standardized religious practice. However, fanaticism prevailed for questions of power and on 27 October 1449 Ulugh Beg was murdered by his son; astronomy ended in Samarkand.

The Almagest and its Translations

The second chapter entitled “Heaven and Earth” is a long trip from Ptolemy's *Almagest* (150 AD) to *On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres* by Nicolaus Copernicus (1617). Ptolemy put the Earth at the centre of the celestial spheres evolving in a perfect uniform motion. We learn more about Ulugh Beg (born

in 1394), founder and director of the Observatory of Samarkand (presently in Uzbekistan) an astronomical observatory. “In the years 1420-1447) a program of meticulous observation, measuring and predicting the movements of stars using the great ‘Fakhri Sextant’ which was over 40 metres tall and the most accurate scientific instrument in the world at that time “(p.48). The activity of the observatory was in keeping with the Muslim tradition as attested by “The House of Wisdom “for scientists, erected in ninth-century Baghdad by the Abbasid Caliph” (p.48). At Samarkand the leading scientist was Ali Qushij, He was the key astronomer for compiling *The Tables of the Sultan* (above), written in Persian. This reported the “coordinates of 1,108 stars as well as the orbit of the five known planets (Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn).

Ptolemy’s *Almagest* was translated by Muslim scholars into Arabic. They understood that Ptolemy had had problems in combining his observations with Aristotle’s philosophy. In fact, in 1028 Ibn Al-Haytham wrote a critical book on the data of Ptolemy that was entitled *Doubts on Ptolemy*, contrasting the use of artifacts like “equant and eccentric” to reach the ideal of uniform circular motion that indeed did not exist. Additional criticism of Ptolemy was penned by Nasir al-Din al-Tusi (born in 1201), leading astronomer at Magargheh) who in *Memoir on Astronomy* (1261) offered a solution: “He invented a geometric tool known as “Tusi couple”. It was a combination of two circles: a smaller one rotating around the circumference of a larger one that was exactly twice the size. Al-Tusi realized that this movement almost perfectly modelled the characteristic ‘wobble’ of the planets, without the need for the epicycle or equant invented by Ptolemy. The Tusi couple also suggested that Aristotle’s distinction between linear and circular motion made no sense. If one takes a point on the smaller circle and follow it, it seems to oscillate up and down along a straight line. Al-Tusi therefore showed that it was possible to generate linear motion – that is movement in a straight line- simply by combining rotating circles. Later we will see, that the Tusi couple had a profound influence on the development of new astronomical ideas in Europe.” (p.55)

Gerard of Cremona, George of Trebizond, Regiomontanus, Georg von Peurbach, and Bessarion

Now is time to meet Gerard of Cremona, an Italian living in the Kingdom of Castile who translated Ptolemy into Latin (1175). “He did so by piecing together the text from Arabic manuscripts collected in Muslim Spain” (p.55). He used the same title *Almagest*. In 1456 George of Trebizond, a Byzantine born in Crete, completed a new Latin translation of the *Almagest* based on Greek manuscripts.

Now we meet Johannes of Königsberg known as Regiomontanus. He had initially studied at Leipzig but had moved to Vienna where he became a friend

of Georg von Peurbach- a typical Renaissance man who became his mentor. Together they started a reassessment of astronomical science under the patronage of Basilios Bessarion a Greek who had left Istanbul after the Ottoman conquest. He had read the *Almagest* translation of Johannes of Trebizond and found so many errors that he asked Peurbach and Regiomontanus for a new Latin translation. This was completed in 1469 and published as *Epitome of the Almagest*. Therein Regiomontanus assembled Greek, Arabic and Latin texts. He also incorporated, in the *Epitome*, the “eccentric” of Al-Qushji. “Al-Qushji argued that the motion of all planets could be modeled simply by imagining that the centre of their orbits was at a point other than the Earth, thus avoiding the use of the epicycles of Ptolemy, a real innovation in astronomy”.

Nicolaus Copernicus

Nicolaus Copernicus, a genius born in Poland in 1473, was a student at the University of Bologna in 1497. Among his teachers there was Domenico Maria Novara, in turn a fellow of Regiomontanus, who thought that “it was possible to detect a shift of the Earth’s axis”. Novara also introduced Copernicus to Regiomontanus’ *Epitome of the Almagest*, and to the possibility that the centre of all orbits of planets was somewhere other than the Earth. Copernicus, who even bought a copy of the *Epitome*, made the final jump and identified the Sun as the centre of the orbits. Copernicus was still convinced of circular motion, but soon he went back to the “Couple of Tusi” and incorporated it into *On the revolutions of Heavenly Spheres*. “This mathematical tool, invented in thirteenth-century Persia, now found its way into the most important work in the history of European astronomy. Without it. Copernicus would not have been able to place the Sun at the centre of the universe” (p 61-62). Copernicus did this by combining “ideas found in Arabic, Persian, Latin and Byzantine Greek sources”. (p. 61-63). Copernicus also relied on “*The Alfonsine Tables*, a collection of earlier Islamic tables compiled at the request of Alfonso X of Castile in the 1250s. These are a prime example of a cultural exchange in action: a group of Jewish mathematicians collated a series of Arabic tables, before translating them into Spanish and Latin. Finally, Copernicus suggested that all these problems could be solved if the Sun was recognised as the centre of the Universe (p. 61-63, *passim*)

The Astronomical Observatories of Istanbul and Timbuktu

The Astronomical Observatory of Istanbul was built in 1577. It was promoted by Taqui al-Din (born in Damascus in 1526) who settled in Istanbul in 1571. The observatory used a 40 metres-tall Sextant equipped with a 25 metre deep well to observe the start of the day by blocking the sunlight. Taqui al-Din developed the idea of a clockwork universe-an idea

that Descartes elaborated further in Europe. He had great interest in mechanical clocks and in spheres (mechanical models of spheres).

Al-Din attracted to Istanbul David Ben-Sushan, an Italian Jew, who had left Europe because of antisemitism and worked in Salonika where a community of 20,000 Jews lived in peace. Al-Din and Ben-Sushan observed a comet which appeared in 1577 and reported it to Sultan Murad III explaining that it was a good sign for the prosperity and growth of the Ottoman Empire.

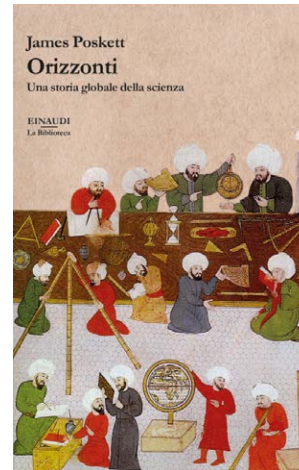
The next step is in Timbuktu, presently in Mali and a cross point of commerce and astronomers in a country where all stars had received a name. Then on to Nigeria where a team of astronomers, The Society of the Rising Moon, had the duty to trace the motion of the Sun, Moon and Stars. They used astronomy for agricultural purposes and for religious festivities. One of the books used to teach astronomy was authored by Muhammad Ibn Muhammad and entitled *Treatise on the magical use of the Letters of Alphabet*, that is a treatise on magic squares.

Astronomy in Beijing, Jaipur and Delhi

The section “Astronomy in Beijing” is a careful history of Matteo Ricci of the Jesuits in China and on his association with Xu Guagqi, a high-ranking bureaucrat of the Imperial system. This was a fertile collaboration. Xu even authored a book entitled *Similarities and Differences of Measurement* (1608), comparing Chinese and European mathematical methods. The collaboration with Jesuits produced the most appreciated *Astronomical treatise of the Chongzhen Reign* (1645).

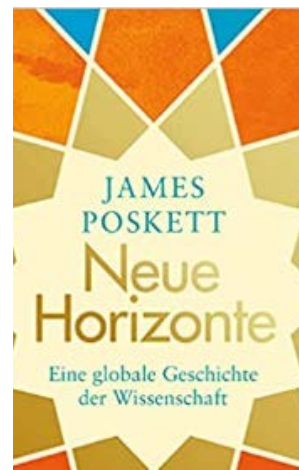
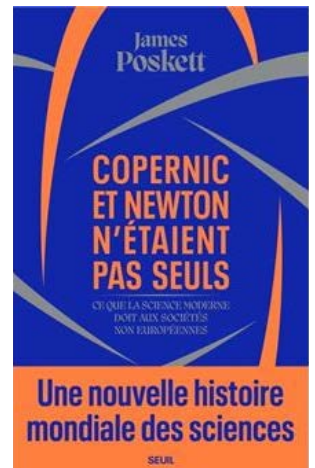
The journey to the observatory of Benares, to five additional astronomical observatories known as the Janta Mantar (built in the years 1721-1737), and to those in Delhi and Jaipur reveals that all were built following Islamic models. One also learns about the astronomer Aryabatha who in the 5th century had explained, in opposition to Ptolemy, that night and day is caused by the rotation of the Earth. It is also an occasion to illustrate *The Tables of Muhammad Shah* (1732), which include a complete catalogue of all stars. *The Tables* incorporated material from *The Tables of the Sultan* prepared 300 years before and already mentioned. The most impressive parts are those related to exchanges of scientists and books that promoted science, a product of world collaboration in four empires (Ottoman, Songhay, Ming and Mugal).

made us more wealthy and more cosmopolitan. A false promise”. Inequality grows and a resurgence of nationalism will cause a cold war again. Science is not, and has never been, a uniquely European endeavor”. Modern science is a product of many people and cultures. There are no reasons to hypothesize changes in this trend. In fact, new work in artificial intelligence is being made in various continents. The same occurs in machine learning, space missions and in climate modelling.



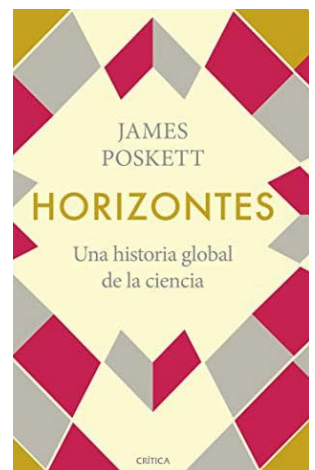
Poskett J.
Orizzonti. Una storia globale della scienza.
Torino: Einaudi, 2022

Poskett J.
Copernic et Newton n'étaient pas seuls. Ce que la science moderne doit aux sociétés non européennes.
Paris: Seuil, 2022



Poskett J.
Neue Horizonte. Eine globale Geschichte der Wissenschaft.
München: Piper, 2022

Poskett J.
Horizontes: Una historia global de la ciencias.
Barcelona: Editorial crítica, 2022



Epilogue: The Future of Science

James Poskett provides a history of modern science in terms of global history, a model that should be used in the future. However, there might be difficulties in achieving this goal because of the interplay between globalization and nationalism. “Globalisation has not





Georghe Andrei Dan

Prof. Gheorghe-Andrei Dan New Editor-in-Chief for the EAPE Bulletin

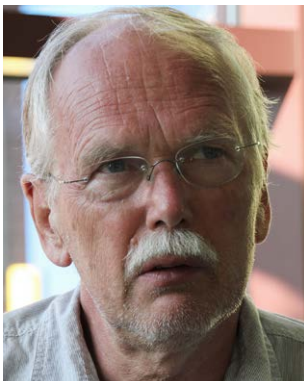
Professor **Georghe Andrei Dan**, Emeritus Professor of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila" Bucharest, has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of the *Bulletin of the European Association of Professors Emeriti*. His work will start on July 1, 2023.

Contributions to the Bulletin shall be emailed to: andrei.dan@gadan.ro in the usual format.

Report of the Committee on Meeting the Needs and Wants of Young and Old People in Europe

by **Jochen Ehrich**, Children's Hospital, Hanover Medical School, Germany

Email: ehrich.jochen@mh-hannover.de



Jochen Ehrich

Aims of the Committee

All activities of the Committee aim at empowering young and old people in Europe. Both age groups belong to the vulnerable parts of society because their safety nets are diminishing. The **root-cause-effect-long** term model is used to analyse European diversity of participation, protection, prevention, provision and promotion of well-being of families, senior citizens, women and youth. The life cycle model is used to analyse those living conditions that the generations of young and old people have in common.

Publications

In 2021 and 2022, thirteen articles and one abstract by EAPE members and guest authors were published by us in the EAPE Bulletin. In addition, Jochen Ehrich and others published six articles and one abstract on academic freedom, scientific discourse and diplomacy in the Bulletin. These topics are closely related to the Committee's future promotional efforts in reaching out to policy makers and the media.

Last but not least, an Editorial was written for an *Appeal to Establish the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in All European*

Countries by Natale Gaspare De Santo, Jochen Ehrich, Luigi Santini, Giancarlo Bracale, Paolo Ciambelli and Vincenzo Bonavita which appeared as an editorial in the first issue this year (*Bull Eur Assoc Profs Emer* 2023; 4(1): 1-28)

1. Jochen Ehrich. *Meeting the Wants and Needs of Children and Old-olds: The impact of Complex System Thinking on Resilience, Prevention and Therapy*
2. Natale G. De Santo. *From the Needs and Wants of Children and Old-Olds to Technology.*

3. Jochen Ehrich, Judith Hall. *Needs and Wants of Pediatricians and their Patients in the Old and New Worlds: Questions and Answers from across the Atlantic.*
4. Judith Hall. *Comments on the Article "As few Pediatricians as Possible and as many Pediatricians as Necessary".*
5. Jochen Ehrich. *Peculiarities of Child Healthcare Services in Europe: Answers to Six Questions.*
6. Jochen Ehrich. *There is a Need for Young and Old People to Read Books Together.*
7. Jochen Ehrich. *Challenges of Child Healthcare Systems. European Questions to a North American Pediatrician and short Answers from Europe.*
8. Judith Hall. *Challenges of the Healthcare Service System in North America.*
9. Jochen Ehrich, Natale G. De Santo. *Ways of Analyzing Long-Term Effects of early Life Experiences on Healthy Ageing.*
10. Gerd Burchard, Jochen Ehrich. *World Travel by Old People: Healthy Leisure or Risky Lifestyle.*
11. Natale G. De Santo, Joze Gricar, Jochen Ehrich. *An Appeal for the Establishment of Ministries for Seniors in all Countries of the European Union.*
12. Jochen Ehrich. *Loneliness of Young People and Solitude of Old People.*
13. Jochen Ehrich. *Too Small-a-Role of Children in Philosophy and too Little Influence of Philosophy on Pediatrics: The Child as Philosopher and the Philosopher as Therapist.*
14. Hendrik Ehrich, Mara Ehrich, Eric Schiffer, Jochen Ehrich. *Maturity and Wisdom of Young People.*

Additional Publications on Needs and Wants of Young and Old People in Different European Countries

1. Jochen Ehrich, Francois Corrad, Natale G. De Santo. *Starting the Debate on Academic Freedom in Paediatric Healthcare Service Systems in 2021 in Europe.*
2. Velibor Tasic. *Academic Freedom in North Macedonia from the Perspective of a Paediatrician.*
3. Andreas, Abigail, Anna and Daniel Prohaska. *The Prohaskas' Statement on Academic and Artistic Freedom.*
4. Armido Rubino. *Limitations and Delimitations of Academic Freedom in Pediatric Healthcare Systems.*
5. Jochen Ehrich. *The Dilemma of Scientific Discourses in the Public Sphere.*
6. Jochen Ehrich. *The Role of Science Diplomacy in Wartime.*

7. Jochen Ehrich. *Did the Legal Protection of Academic Freedom in European University Hospitals leave much to be desired at the Turn of the Millennium?*

List of nominated/proposed members of the Committee

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Although the number of active members is small, it is a very positive sign that all members seem to agree with the activities so far.

Budget

None

Future research activities of the committee

Diversity, heterogeneity, variety, and inequality mean understanding that each person or nation is unique and recognizing our individual or national differences. These may include dimensions of ethnicity, culture, socioeconomic status, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. These differences should be explored in a safe, positive, and supportive environment. It is about understanding one another and moving beyond simple tolerance to embrace and celebrate the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual or nation (modified from <http://Gladstone.uoregon.edu>).

Pediatrics and geriatrics are also characterized by the variety, diversity, and heterogeneity of primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare provided in 46 different European countries (Katz et al. 2002, Ehrich et al. 2005).

In the field of medicine, Lynn Payer (1989) found several distinctive features when examining standard medical procedures in France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States. The major differences in medicine practiced in these countries are based on national character ("national ulcers?") rather than scientific knowledge.

Many people of different nationalities tend to assume that any deviation from what they perceive as the medical norm happens only because other countries lack the knowledge, resources, organization, or will to do what "we" do." This view assumes that everyone is working toward the same medical goals, with some countries being more successful than others. But even assuming unlimited financial resources, national goals may not be the same because of differences in priorities. Larger countries have many regional differences within their country; in particular, there are many distinct differences between northern and southern and eastern and western parts of a country such as Germany (Hall and Hall 1989).

When it comes to problem-solving strategies, one should be aware of the inevitable cultural differences that may affect the outcome (Hall and Hall, 1989):

One extreme of the Spectrum of National Axioms	The other extreme of the Spectrum
Be prepared for the worst-case scenario	Hope for the best
A problem is a problem by itself	Problems have a social and situative context
Solutions must be 100% perfect	Solutions do not have to be perfect but have to satisfy people
Central motto: The cause of the problem must be identified before it can be solved	Central motto: solve the problem and do not lose your time by trying to understand the cause of the problem

Diversity should be an important component leading towards a common goal and not an end in itself. My concept of diversity encompasses the will to compete for the best on the basis of fair play, acceptance and respect concerning the life conditions of families, senior citizen, women and children and adolescents. Diversity of European safety nets for young and old people will be studied by surveys containing mini-questionnaires. I have performed more than 25 European surveys on children's health which will considerably facilitate the planned activities. Sociologists and geriatricians are very welcome to join the Committee.

Natale de Santo will report in his own report on the *Appeal to Establish the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in All European Countries*, on the planned online collection of signatures and last but not least the petition to the European Union.

Diversity is the source of contradictions, tensions and conflicts which are inevitable, and if they are not suppressed and rationalised, they will become a productive part of our normal and academic life.

I am well aware of the fact that all social processes inevitably contain a competitive element of 'for and against'. Very rarely there is a right and a wrong when discussing social processes because these processes are complex systems. We should always remember that there are no experts in the field of politics, finance, philosophy or medicine who are either able to predict socioeconomic developments or who can offer easy solutions to national or international crises.

When the experts are asked to discuss a particular social problem in the media or during round tables, they all tend to take the stand that their own arguments are the best for the good of society and patients. Some experts play down their achievements (understatement) whereas others put their views on a pedestal (overstatement). Sometimes I asked myself what is the driving force behind the endless antagonistic discussions which purportedly aim at the best for the young and old people. For example, paediatricians have reached a high standard of communication and co-operation, however, there is room for consensus.

In the field of politics there is rarely good and bad, more often we are faced with solutions that are better or worse.

Last but not least, there is no immobile stability in the field of social welfare states but always a steady change which means that decisions taken once are not valid for ever. Those people who do not realise this fact will in effect block the necessary changes in their democratic system.

In my opinion, all members of EAPE believe in doors and bridges and not in walls. They also believe in the future because many of them are continuously accompanied by the youth of today reflecting the values and virtues of growth, development, caring and learning.

Today it is not so much our role to tear the walls down, but to prevent people living in different European countries from building new ones.



World Day of Older Persons EAPE Events for October 1, 2023



International Committee

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 Halima Resic, Sarajevo, halima.resic@hotmail.com
 Luigi Santini, Naples, chirurgiasantini@icloud.com

The European Association of Professors Emeriti will be actively involved in the organisation of the World Day of Older Persons that UNO has made relevant by outlining the goals of the decade of Creative Age that have been endorsed by the European Union. Emeriti and Emeritae celebrate the day being aware that as university professors they were able to achieve the highest roles in education and science thus shaping the life of their countries. Thus, our active participation in the event is also a tribute and a responsibility towards the majority of the aged population who could not attend university.

All events will be in presence. Programs will include talks on: i. The needs of children and old-olds, ii. Meeting the needs of children and old-old iii. The needs of emeriti, iv. Equality of men and women, v. An Appeal to establish a Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in all European Countries.

Venues of Events

Athens, Catania, Košice, Naples, Salerno, Sarajevo and Vancouver.

- The Athens Meeting of Professors Emeriti for the Old Persons Day** will take place at Louros Foundation and will be chaired by Christos Bartsocas and Athanasios Diamandopoulos.
- The event in Catania** is chaired by Mauro Guarino and Guido Bellinghieri and will take place in the Aula Magna of the Rectorate Building. The

event is entitled ***Aging is not a disease - New engine for solidarity between generations.***

- The event in Košice** is chaired by Oliver Rácz and Katka Derzsiova and will take place on October 2, in the Loffler Museum. The event is entitled ***Passing the baton from "fathers" to "children" in medical science.***
- The event in Naples** is organized through the joint efforts of Natale G. De Santo, Giancarlo Bracale and Luigi Santini and Vincenzo Bonavita on behalf of EAPE and of Massimiliano Marotta President of Italian Institute for Philosophical Studies. The event, entitled ***Appeal for a Ministry of Family, Elderly, Women and Youth in Every Country of the European Union,*** will take place at Palazzo Serra di Cassano.
- The event in Salerno** will take place at the University of Salerno under the care of Paolo Ciambelli.
- The event in Sarajevo** is entitled: ***Healthy Aging*** and will be Chaired by Halima Resic, Asim Kurjak and Radio Izet on behalf of EAPE, the International Academy of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Olympic Committee of Bosnia Herzegovina.
- The event in Vancouver** will be organized by the Emeritus College at the University of British Columbia.

EVENT no1 - SARAJEVO

Symposium on Healthy Aging

Organized by:

International Academy of Sciences and Arts in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- Sarajevo, September 30, 2023.

Venue

National Olympic Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Alipašina bb, OC Zetra, 71000 Sarajevo.

Partners of the Symposium

Universitas Studiorum Sarajevo.

European Association of Professors Emeriti.

Olympic Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Organizing Committee:

Academic Asim Kurjak, president

Prof. dr Mirza Dautbašić, prorector NIR, member

Academic Halima Resić, vice president

Academic Žarko Papić, member

Academic Almir Badnjević, member

Academic Žarko Primorac, member

Prof. Dr. Milanko Mučibabić, member

Mr. Marijan Kvesić, member

Lecturers and Topics

- **Academic Asim Kurjak**

How to age healthily in this dynamic time.

- **Academic Halima Resić**

Physical activity of patients with chronic kidney disease – NEPHROAEROBICS.

- **Prof. dr Arzija Pašalić**

Nutritionism in third life age .

- **Academic Osman Sinanović**

Neuropsychology of Aging.

- **Prof. dr Zoran Milošević**

The effects of programmed strength training on biomarkers of health status and quality of life of women of the third life age.

- **Academic Izet Rađo**

Transformation processes in the third life age.

Panel Discussion:

Tomislav Cvitanušić, MA

Prof. dr Milanko Mučibabić Sejfo Šehović

*Moderator Lana Grgić, MA

The Mission of the Symposium "Healthy Aging"

Halima Resić

The intention of organizing the Symposium "Healthy Aging" in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), which marks the International Day of Older Persons, was motivated by the fact that, according to official data from the Agency for Statistics of BiH, there are over 500,000 elderly people living in the country (1).

Given that the total number of inhabitants in BiH is slightly higher than 3.5 million, the number of elderly people inevitably indicates the real need to deal with this issue, and special attention should be paid to improving the quality of life of the elderly. Sarajevo and BiH therefore want to join the European network of cities that celebrate the International Day of Older Persons, and through high-quality lectures and activities contribute to raising the awareness of the population about this important topic.

The International Academy of Sciences and Arts of BiH brought together important institutions and partner organizations in marking the International Day of Older Persons: European Association of Professors Emeritus, University of Sarajevo and National Olympic Committee of BiH (NOC BiH).

The participation of renowned lecturers, eminent experts, as well as people of the third age who achieve outstanding results in their fields, will serve as a special example and motive to promote, in addition to the theoretical aspect, real life missions, achievements and works that testify that age is not a limitation for success in various activities. The panel discussion will additionally stimulate the exchange of knowledge, experiences and ideas that are easily applicable and ultimately lead to the improvement of the quality of life of people of the third age.

With the aim of improving investments in prevention, contents, activities and health care of people of the third age, we will inform the wider social community, especially decision makers, through media promotion of the Symposium.

If we look at the global context, the population aged 65 and over is growing faster than all other age groups. According to the United Nations (UN) World Population Prospects: Revision 2019, by 2050, one in six people in the world will be over 65 (16%), compared to one in 11 in 2019 (9%). By 2050, one in four people living in Europe and North America could be 65 or older (2), which means that no country will be spared from facing this phenomenon.

The mission of the Symposium is to make the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons a tradition, to involve the competent state and other institutions, and to create a network of institutional cooperation that will be the basis for establishing program activities that treat the mentioned age.

We believe that it is extremely important to monitor social changes that imply the functionality of communities, and to keep up with activities that contribute to and directly affect the treatment of the "problem" of modern society, which often neglects certain social categories. In addition to the target group, it is extremely important to educate and inform the generations to come, because knowledge is the best prevention for the inevitable challenges that all people of the third age of life face, as well as those on the way to it.

1. BiH Statistics Agency, BiH in numbers 2020, (Sarajevo, 2021), 72

2. World Population Prospects – Population Division – United Nations: https://population.un.org/wpp/?_gl=1*z5ztbl*ga*MTkONzAwNDk2My4xNjg0MTY1NTM4*_ga

EVENT no2 - NAPLES

Protecting Creativity in Aging - An Appeal for a Ministry for Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in All European Countries

Organized by:

European Association of Professors Emeriti
Italian Institute for Philosophical Studies.

Venue

Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici
Palazzo Serra di Cassano, Via Monte di Dio 14
Saturday, September 30, 9.15 AM – 1.15 PM.

Organizing Committee:

Dr. Massimiliano Marotta
Prof. Emeritus Vincenzo Bonavita
Prof. Emeritus Giancarlo Bracale
Prof. Emeritus Natale Gaspare De Santo
Prof. Emeritus Luigi Santini

Lecturers and Topics

SESSION 1

- **Massimiliano Marotta**, President Italian Institute for Philosophical Studies, Naples
Protecting creativity in aging, 10 min.
- **Concetta Giancola**, President Committee for Equal Opportunities, University Federico II
Equal Opportunities at University Federico II, 10 min.
- **Marianna Pignata**, President Committee for Equal Opportunities, University Luigi Vanvitelli
Equal opportunities at the University Luigi Vanvitelli, 10min.
- **Luigi Santini**, Professor Emeritus University Luigi Vanvitelli, Naples
Comments to the presentation of Professors Tina Giancola and Marianna Pignata, 10min.
- **Don Antonio Maione**, Streetwise priest
Achieving happiness is our mission, 10min.
- **Natale Gaspare De Santo¹, Jochen Ehrich², Luigi Santini¹, Giancarlo Bracale³, Paolo Ciambelli⁴ and Vincenzo Bonavita³**, ¹Emeritus University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, ²Emeritus University of Hannover Medical School, ³Emeritus University Federico II Naples, ⁴Emeritus University of Salerno
An Appeal to Establish A Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in All European Countries, 10min.
- **Vincenzo Bonavita**, Emeritus Professor University Federico II Naples, President and Physician in Chief Hermitage Capodimonte, Naples
Alzheimer's disease: what we can do now and will do two decades hence, 12min.

20 min Discussion with Floor

SESSION 2

- **Patrizia Bottaro**, Vice President of "Civilizzare l'Urbano", Naples
Old and young citizens in the city: needs and desires for cities of coexistence, 10 min.
- **Massimo Pica Ciamarra**, editor-in-chief of "Le Carré Bleu", feuille internationale d'architecture, Naples
Young and old citizens in the city: needs and desires for cities of coexistence, 10 min.
- **Raffaele Cananzi**, former State Lawyer and State Secretary of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Comments to the presentations of Professor Bottaro and Pica Ciamarra, 10min.
- **Giancarlo Bracale**, President Circolo Canottieri Napoli
The continuous intergenerational exchanges between generations at a nautical club of international reputation.
- **Marco Rossi** Comunità di Sant'Egidio, Naples
Being poor and old in Naples.
- **Aldo Bova**, President Forum of the Social and Health Associations, Rome
Support work after retirement: a fulfilling activity, increasing self-esteem and generating happiness, 10min.

25 min Discussion with Floor 5 min for Moderator

The mission of Protecting Creativity in Aging An Appeal for a Ministry for Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in All European Countries

Natale Gaspare De Santo

Emeriti(ae) belong to the highest centile of the cultural enterprise in every country. In fact, *emeriti(ae)* have directly and indirectly participated to the progression of 80-90% of their disciplines, the most relevant part. What was achieved before them is not needed for furthering the disciplines. In addition, they have met the expectations of various generations of the students and fellows that has made *emeriti(ae)* suitable for a productive intergenerational discourse. Thus, the presence of *Emeriti(ae)* at the World Day of Older Persons is an obligation, it is indispensable. They are those who have had the possibility to acquire wisdom and now they have the obligation to meet the needs of those who did not have the possibility to acquire wisdom.

We propose that in all European Countries a Ministry for Senior Citizens, Women and Youth should be created in order to meet the needs of the fragile components of our societies. Our appeal, based on the study of the structure of European governments, shows that only in one country such a ministry exists and that even the ministry for equal opportunities has been activated in few countries. We think that discussion of equal opportunities is mandatory, since at the start in a scientific enterprise there are more

women than men, but at the end of the career women achieving the highest positions are a minority, thirty per cent or less. This occurs in every field of the work market, even in private settings.

We support the idea —nurtured also by studies during the Covid-19 pandemic— that new ideas have to be applied in building cities suitable for the life of young and old i.e. cities of optimal coexistence.

Neurologists care for a huge percentage of older persons (some say that the neurologist is the most important physician for seniors): those undergoing stroke, those with Parkinson's disease and those with Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer is a priority nowadays since it causes a progressive decay of cognitive functions starting with memory. A look at what may happen in the next two decades (a suitable time for scientific ideas be transferred from scientific journals to patients) seems appropriate. We also have to face in our society the charlatans who diffuse fake news on a disease that imposes significant stress on patients and on their families.

University is a place where exchanges between generations are the rule. Luckily enough there are many other places where fertile exchanges occur. The life of sport clubs is based on the aged living giants who have conquered Olympic-World-European-National championships and the younger generations who prepare themselves to be ready to walk the same path. Seniors embody the spirit of sacrifice and the moral attitudes needed for competition at the highest level.

We continue to face the problem of what old age is and why in our days, seniors are less seniors. Is really aging linked to disease in the affirmative at what extent. How can we promote and achieve healthy aging? UNO, European Union, WHO are working in harmony this goal.

We cannot neglect that in many countries people do not age because of unsafe living condition, but also in our brave modern world, even in the richest countries there is a consistent number of persons who are old and poor and ask to those who have the wisdom to use this power to grant them a minimal acceptable quality of life. Professor Orazio Ciancio—a member of EAPE, President of Italian Academy of Forest Sciences, chairman and speaker at the Second EAPE Congress— warns that “New ideas assert themselves in “Tempi forestali” (forest times), sometimes very long”.

EVENT no3 - KOŠICE

Symposium on

Passing the Baton from "Father" to "Children" in Medicine

Under the auspices of Prof. Daniel Pella, MD, PhD, Rector of P.J. Šafárik University Košice

Organized by:

European Association of Professors Emeriti
Košice Medical Association
Slovak Medical Association

Partners

Medical Faculty, Safarik University, Košice, Slovakia
Slovak Medical Chamber, Regional Unit, Košice
Louis Pasteur University Hospital, Košice

Event site, Date and Time:

Löffler Museum, Košice, Alžbetina 20
October 2, 2023, 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Organizing Committee:

Oliver Rácz
Katarína Derzsiová,
Mária Zámbořiová
Noémi Ráczová

Lecturers and Topics

- Oliver Rácz, Katarína Derzsiová

Introduction and mission of WDOP.

- Katarína Derzsiová

Why children need older people in their life and how children can support the elderly?

- Josef Bartek, Eva Grmanová

The use of older people's potential in the labour market.

- Anton Fabian

Seniors' spirituality in the process of value transmission.

- Peter Takáč

Possible application of robot-assisted rehabilitation of geronts.

- Mária Zámbořiová

Ageism as a social determinant of health.

- Mária Sovářiová Soósová, Valéria Parová, Renáta Suchanová, Lucia Hazuchová

The association of leisure time activities with mental health in seniors.

- Oliver Rácz

The path from Albert Szent-Györgyi. Bruno Straub and Rudolf Korec for a boy from Kosice to the fantastic world of medical research and science.

The mission of the Symposium "2023 World Day of Older Persons" in Košice

Oliver Rácz and Katka Derzsiová

The number of people over 65 has been increasing, while the number of children has been stagnating or declining. In the last population census in 2021, the number of children under 14 was 866,550 and the number of seniors was 932,000 (out of a total population of 5.45 million), i.e., 100 children/107 seniors (1). This ratio will deteriorate further in the future.

For this year's World Day of Older Persons (WDOP), we have chosen an unconventional name: Passing the Baton from "Fathers" to "Children", which draws attention to the importance of the relationship between young people and the elderly. This alerts and motivates us to pay more attention to the needs of seniors and improve their quality of life, "Surviving is not enough".

The tradition of celebrating WDOP is a very important event. This day we can reflect on what we have been able to do for seniors to make them happier, more content, and not feel marginalised. During the discussions, we can learn from the seniors about their problems, needs, but also about their suggestions that could make their lives easier, keep them active with the possibility to participate in public life. Meeting the needs of the elderly is not an easy task, it depends on each of us, but also on the local and national governments and institutions that are responsible for ensuring their decent standard of living. Our main task is therefore to submit to the above institutions the suggestions we receive directly from seniors, their social organisations and the EAPE. In addition, the mission of our symposium is to give respect to the seniors, to clarify their needs through lectures by erudite experts from whom they will learn about the possibilities of their care in old age and also about the possibilities of continuing their life activities, depending on their physical and mental condition.

Another of our missions is to reach out to young people so that they understand the mutual need of the young and the old, which would have a positive impact on both. This is evidenced by the statement of Alcmaeon of Croton: "human beings die because they cannot connect the beginning with the end"; understand: childhood with old age. The old alongside the young would be happier and the young more experienced, because the elderly are a library of wisdom and experience. Today's seniors at an advanced age are more active in society and contribute intellectually to it. WDOP greatly values and respects the intelligence of our elders and the role they play in our society.

We will use the WDOP as an opportunity to inform seniors that the effort to create a Ministry for Family,

Seniors, Women, and Young People is becoming a priority for all European countries. Professor Natale De Santo, former President of EAPE, has also endorsed this effort. Together with his co-authors, he has prepared an Appeal for the Establish of a Single Ministry under which seniors, women and young people would be jointly protected. The specific mission is to protect the most vulnerable groups of the population, children and the elderly (2). The Appeal was sent to many European countries. We will send it to the competent Slovak local and national institutions.

EVENT no4 - CATANIA

Symposium on ***Aging is not a disease - New engine for solidarity between generations***

**Under the auspices of Prof. Francesco Priolo,
Rector of the University of Catania**

Organized by:

European Association of Professors Emeriti
Archbishop of Catania
Prefect of Catania
Aido (Italian Association of Organ Donors)
Catania Medical Association
Ordine Equestre del Santo Sepolcro di Gerusalemme
Order of the Holy Sepulchre

Venue, Date and Time:

Aula Magna University of Catania
Piazza Università, Catania
October 13, 2023, 9:30 – 12:30 a.m.

Organizing Committee:

Prof. Mauro Guarino
Dr. Maria Novara
Prof. Guido Bellinghieri

Lecturers and Topics

- **Professor Mauro Guarino**
Introduction and mission of WDOP.
- **Dr. Maria Novara**
*Combining care with taking care of the elderly:
mainly human relationships with young people.*
- **Prof. Domenico Maugeri** (Psychiatrist)
Recovery possible through possible activities.
- **His Excellency Luigi Renna**, Archbishop of Catania
Seniors in the process of value transmission.
- **Prof. Guido Bellinghieri**, President Italian Branch of EAPE
The frail old man.
- **Prof. Domenico Maugeri** (Geriatrist)
Physical activity and mental health of the elderly.

2. De Santo NG, Ehrlich J, Santini L, Bracale G, Ciambelli P, Bonavita V. An Appeal to Establish a Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in All European Countries. *Bull Eur Assoc Profs Emer* 2023; 4(1): 1-28

1. Population and Housing Census. 2021 <https://www.scitanie.sk>

The mission of the Symposium
Aging is not a disease - New engine for
solidarity between generations

2023 World Day of Older Persons in Catania

Mauro Guarino, Maria Novara and Guido Bellinghieri

Starting from the axiom that aging is not a disease, the aim is to provide effective benefits to the elderly subject, providing interventions aimed at promoting self-sufficiency and quality of life. Taking care of the person as a whole involves a reflection: "the life that has the greatest possible human meaning". The art of taking care therefore requires the ability to know how to dose "high tech" and "high touch" a lot of technology and a lot of humanity to always maintain and promote the Quality of Life.

In European countries for the aging of the population by 2030 a significant increase is expected due to changes in the low birth rate, increase in life expectancy (i.e. live longer and better) and the aging of generations and the so-called baby boom, defined today as older workers or retirees. What policies to implement in Europe today? In the first instance, seek the rights of citizens, in the field of health, economic security, housing and in general in all social life.

The WHO in 2002 defines "active aging" as a "process of optimizing health, participation and safety opportunities to improve the quality of life of people who age". Numerous international studies testify to the positive link!

The European Union in 2012 had proclaimed, already this year as "Active aging" and Solidarity between generations. Making choices in Healthcare can also revitalize the concept of Solidarity and give it a new meaning. Young people in society and in its adult and elderly components are perceived as generational continuity, and these, the elderly, are perceived by young people as a resource.

In this framework, solidarity and cooperation between generations represents a transversal element, which underlies the actions and awareness-raising activities on the subject. At the psycho-social level, the message that must pass is this exchange.

In Europe, for the promotion and implementation of activities, each Member State makes use of a coordination body at national level. For Italy, coordination is carried out by the Department for Family Policies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, which brings together the administrations concerned and the other actors involved in the planning of national activities. But how to promote healthy, active ageing? What strategies should be developed to reduce the impact of typical aging pathologies?

At the level of the individual, it is a question of directing, during all phases of life, the development of a critical awareness of behavior harmful to health, which involves the citizen in the process of prevention

and control of his or her state of health. The use of available prevention programs (screenings) and active participation in family and community life.

For the frail elderly, on the other hand, the need for targeted interventions carried out by increasingly competent operators, in structures and with methods, is increasingly evident, who know how to combine CARE and TAKE CARE, hard interventions, mainly technical and pharmacological, soft interventions mainly relational and human.

In this perspective, Medicine, and in particular Geriatrics, no longer assumes the role of a "separate" science, attentive only to specific needs and to intervene to repair often ineluctable faults, but of a science for man, which is binds deeply to the roots of his needs.

EVENT no5 - ATHENS

The Athens Meeting of Professors Emeriti for the Old Persons Day

Sunday 01.10.2023

Under the auspices of:

- Panhellenic Society for Geriatric and Gerontology
- Hellenic Society for Geriatric Oncology
- The Louros Foundation for the History of Medicine
- Hellenic Society for the Dissemination of the Hippocratic Spirit
- Hippocratic Foundation of Kos
- Society of the Friends of the Museum for Hellenic Medicine
- The Deltos Journal for the History of Medicine

Venue

Louros Foundation for the History of Medicine, 5 Semitelou Str., 11528-Athens, Greece.

- **18.00** **Registration**
- **18.30** **Welcome addresses**
- **18.45** **Professor Gerasimos Metaxas,**
"Negative factors leading to the deterioration of the Grandparents/Grandchildren relations".
- **19.05** **Discussion**
- **19.15** **Professor Athanasios Diamandopoulos**
"The strong support by Grandparents to the Grandchildren in Greece on happy and sad days".
- **19.35** **Discussion**
- **19.45** **Break**
- **20.00** **Dr. Panagiotis Ziropiannis**
"Ancient Greek and Byzantine writers on Old Age".
- **20.20** **Discussion**
- **20.30** **Professor Christos Bartsocas**
"Grandparents and Grandchildren in Modern Greek Art".
- **20.50** **Discussion/Conclusions**

The mission of the Symposium The Athens Meeting of Professors Emeriti for the Old Persons Day

Grandparents and Grandchildren in Modern Greek Art

Christos S. Bartsocas

Modern Greek art, particularly of the XIX and the XX centuries, offers several examples of the Grandparent/Grandchild relationship. Happiness on the faces of both is remarkable. In fact, smiling children provide evidence of security and admiration towards the wisdom and security of the Grandparent, usually the Grandmother. Actually, Grandparents are most permissive and spoiling persons, trying to satisfy every need of their Grandchild.

Grandparents, as older persons, seem to need the warmth and kindness offered by children. Grandchildren seem to show a special kind of respect and affection towards their Grandparents, which differs by far with the parent/child relationship. These feelings attracted the attention of artists, who decided to show their manifestations mostly in scenes within the family environment. It is obvious that the Grandparent/Grandchild warm and strong relationship reflects an important need of both: For the Grandparent, it gives meaning in the late years of their lives and for the Grandchildren a boost for growth and continuity through the coming years, according to the family traditions, memories and endeavors.

Gerocomeia (Old peoples' Homes), providing quality nursing care for the elderly in the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantium, 325-1453 AD)

Gregory Tsoucalas

A distinctive culture emerged in the Eastern Roman Empire, bringing together a mixture of Christian, classical and eastern traditions concerning social care. The Church promoted the foundation of a plethora of caring and philanthropic institutions orientated towards the needs of the elderly. Innumerable hospices (Xenodocheia), Xenones (hospitals) and asylums (Gerocomeia) then appeared usually along monasteries. The holistic approach inside Gerocomeia, where nursing care and palliation existed alongside with medical care and psychological support, resulted to their huge proliferation in the Empire, forcing Emperor Nicephorus Phocas to publish a Novella forbidding the creation of new monasteries. This law was later revoked by Emperor Basil II with a golden seal decree, to forever seal that the experience gained inside Gerocomeia was destined to be the base of health care for the elderly even in modern geriatrics in the Western world.

Two different ways old people can inspire the younger generation

Athanasios Diamandopoulos

In this short comment in the Meeting of Emeriti at the Louros Foundation on the 1st October 2023 for the celebrations of the World Old Age Day I will present some interesting “news” from two original extracts half a century apart. The first is a Ministerial directive on 30th October 1974 by the late Nikolaos Louros when he was serving as Minister of Education under the C. Karamanlis government just four months after the overthrow of the junta. In the chaos that succeeded the change of regime Louros found proper to introduce a law for establishing a Senate at the Athens University incorporating all the Professors Emeriti. In it, he described in miniature details their role in a scale that the EAPE wouldn't dare to imagine. The document was traced by me on the 07/May/ this year when trying to classify his vast archives. The second extract comes from the Patras' news site “The Best” of the 24/May/2023. In it, mr. Georgios Katsipodos is presented, a half educated retired tradesman while speaking about his voluntary work. For the last six years he spends hours and hours painting on the outer walls of the city's nursery and elementary schools' pictures taken from a seventy years old children's reader. He tried to pass to the kids the spirit of innocence of that remote era, in the midst of the rapidly increasing child violence. His work became viral and already he was asked to paint – for free – more than fifty schools. They call him “the grandfather of the children”. I do not know what is more beneficial to the society. The Louros' grand scheme or the humble manual worker's handicraft.

The negative factors that have contributed to the degradation of the grandparents - grandchildren relationship.

Gerasimos M. Metaxas

1. The three-year mandatory confinement, due to Covid-19 (and its mutations), and the prolonged isolation of grandparents from their grandchildren has brought about significant changes to their inter-relation.
2. The grandparent role is to convey the memories of the past, to relay them to the present and thus aid to bridge the inevitable generation gap.
3. The rapid advances in technology have rendered traditional communicational ways obsolete, as the reckless use of mobile phones, tablets etc. tends to replace lullabies and traditional fairy-tale narration.

EVENT no6 - SALERNO

The event in Salerno will be organized by EAPE Councillor Paolo Ciambelli at the University of Salerno. The program is in progress.

EVENT no7 - VANCOUVER

UBC Emeritus College Council has approved a project to celebrate Oct 1 2023 World Day of Older Persons.

A “Celebrating Aging” Special Supplement of the UBC Emeritus College Newsletter

This initiative would be completely in keeping with the content currently included in the *College Newsletter*. It has been the strong opinion of many of our Emeriti that the College needs to showcase stories from its members, including stories of transitioning into retirement.

The College co-sponsors with UBC Human Resources biannual faculty retirement workshops, each of which includes presentations from several Emeriti about their activities since retiring. These stories could serve as a basis for the publication.

Professor Emerita Dianne Newell and the College’s Communications group will proceed to identify relevant content for “Celebrating Aging” that will showcase a sampling of stories from a broad range of Emeriti. This supplement, to be published on or about Monday October 2, will be shared with the European Association of Professors Emeriti.

Publication of Proceedings of the 2023 EAPE Events for the World Day of Older Persons

The proceedings of the 2023 EAPE events for the World Day of Older Persons will be published in the News Section of the *Bull Eur Assoc Profs Emer 2023*; 4 (4). For each event a report of 1200-1500 words coauthored by all speakers, should be made available by the end of October. Not a detailed description of each talk but a synopsis where EAPE expectations and views on the meaning of this special event shall be made available.

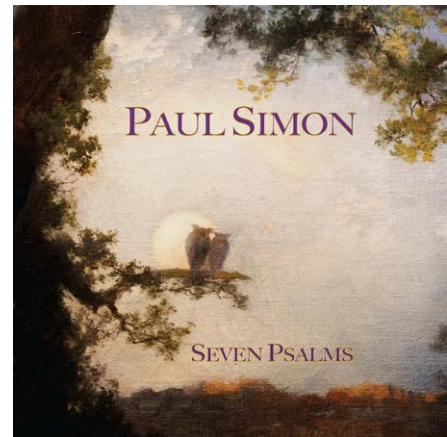
Paul Simon’s last Solo Studio Album *Seven Psalms*

by **Natale Gaspare De Santo**, Emeritus Professor, University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, Naples, Italy

Email: natalegaspare.desanto@unicampania.it



Paul Simon



The album - a 33-min suite in seven movements, has been inspired by the *Book of Psalms*. All tracks (*The Lord, Love Is Like a Braid, My Professional Opinion, Your Forgiveness, Trail of Volcanoes, The Sacred Harp and Wait*) have been written by Simon who in October will be 82. He is assisted by the UK vocal ensemble The VOCES8 and in *The Sacred Harp and Wait* by his wife Edie Brickell. A work of art celebrating the creativity of the aging artist.

Seven Psalms, the last solo studio album of Paul Simon, a 7-part piece, was released on May 19, and was immediately welcomed by critics as “his testament” and compared to David Bowie’s *Blackstar*.



INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The *Bull Eur Assoc Profs Emer* is the bimonthly cultural Journal of the European Association of Professors Emeriti (www.Europemeriti.org) that supports the vocation of Professors Emeriti for teaching and Research. It is structured in two main section *Original manuscripts* that undergo peer review and the *section on News* that covers the life of the association and is under the care of the Editorial board.

The Bulletin adopts the Vancouver style. Authors are invited to visit the website of the Association and read the last issue. Manuscripts shall be in good English in Word, font 12, with good illustrations and shall be emailed to the editor in Chief, Natale Gaspare De Santo MD.

• Email: nataleg.desanto@unicampania.it

Original manuscripts (Word file) around 900-1100 words shall include affiliation(s), email and phone numbers of the authors, as well as 5 keywords from the manuscript. Preferably titles should not exceed the length of 50 characters (spaces included). A portrait of the 1st author is required. 1 Figure and 1 Table (emailed on separate sheets) and a maximum of 6 references and a minimum of 3 are allowed. References must be numbered and ordered sequentially as they appear in the text. When cited in the text, reference numbers are to be in round brackets.

Manuscripts related to news about emeriti and their associations shall be limited to a maximum of 500 words, and up to 3 references; no portrait of the author is required, but 1 Figure or 1 Table can be added.

All manuscripts undergo editing.

At the end of the article number references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. For articles with more than 6 authors, list the first 3 authors before using "et al."; For articles with 6 authors, or fewer, list all authors.

JOURNALS

1. *Journal article published electronically ahead of print*: Authors may add to a reference, the DOI ("digital object identifier") number unique to the publication for articles in press. It should be included immediately after the citation in the References.

Bergholdt HKM, Nordestgaard BG, Ellervik C. Milk intake is not associated with low risk of diabetes or overweight-obesity: a Mendelian randomization study in 97,811 Danish individuals. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2015 Jul 8 (Epub ahead of print; DOI: [doi:10.3945/ajcn.114.105049](https://doi.org/10.3945/ajcn.114.105049)).

2. *Standard journal article*. List all authors when 6 or fewer; when 6 or more, list only the first 3 and add "et al." Abbreviate journal titles according to *Index Medicus* style, which is used in MEDLINE citations.

De Santo NG, Altucci P, Heidland A et al. The role of emeriti and retired professors in medicine. *Q J Med* 2014;107: 407-410

3. Committee on Infectious Diseases, American Academy of Pediatrics. Measles: reassessment of the current immunization policy. *Pediatrics* 1989; 84:1110-1113.

BOOKS and other MONOGRAPHS

1. Personal authors

Antier JJ. Jean Guitton. Milan, Paoline, 2002

2. Committee report or corporate author

World Health Organisation. Good Health Adds Life to Years. Geneva, WHO, 2012.

3. Chapter in book

De Santo NG. The priority: broadening the boundaries of paediatrics and turning basic science into cures. In Erich J, Corrad F, De Santo NG, ed. This I think should have priority in child health care services. Joachim Barke, Hannover 2018:69-71.

4. Agency publication

Committee on Infectious Diseases, Report of the Committee on Infectious Disease, 22nd Edn. American Academy of Pediatrics. Elk Grove Village, 19991; 319-320.

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Plato. Laws. <http://data.perseus.org/itations/um:cts:greek-Lit:tlq034,perseus-eng1:3.666> (accessed May 14, 2020).

2. Online journal article

De Santo NG. The Impact of Covid-19 on Education and Science Florence in the XIV century -after plague, famine, death and depopulation- generated Renaissance Scholars such as Filippo Brunelleschi, Giovambattista Alberti and Leonardo An Achievable goal for our Universities. *Bull Eur Assoc Prof Emer* 2020; 1(2): 19-20. (accessed 14 May, 2020)

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