

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose.
(See the [AAIDD Interest Networks Leadership Manual](#) for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

Interest Network:	Gerontology
Lead Contact Person(s): Laura M. Robinson, Chair	
Next Scheduled Election & Leadership Position(s) that will be Open for Nomination: Nominations for open positions were solicited between April-June, 2026. No positions were contested, so no elections were held. Open position of Board Member at Large remains and will be filled on a rolling basis based on interest. Vice Chair: Jessica Hoyle Secretary: Alisa Sheth Member at Large: Valerie Perkoski Member at Large: OPEN	
2025-2026 Report For the year that just ended (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used. The board held meetings in August 2025, October 2025, April 2026, and June 2026. The meeting in October 2025 was open to all interested network members and served to connect people interested in working on conference abstracts or other scholarly projects. The June 2026 meeting was also open to all interested members and held in person at the AAIDD Annual Conference. The Interest Network continues to use a LinkedIn page to provide updates on meetings, events, and other relevant announcements. They also sent out periodic emails to the membership to advertise upcoming events. The board made a call for proposals to organize a panel for the 2026 annual conference, but did not receive any interest this year. We sent out a curated list of aging-related conference presentations to our membership. Interest Network funds were used to award one Merit Award to a SECP gerontology-related conference and connected with the recipient at the conference. We also continued with our "Aging Rocks" pins to advertise the interest network at the Annual Conference. In June 2026, the interest network helped organize a webinar with Dr. Romane Couvrette at the University of Montreal entitled "Palliative Care Trajectories for Adults with Intellectual Disability"	
2026-2027 Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies For the coming year (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds. 1. Board meetings will continue to be held once every two months.	

Due July 31, 2026

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2. The board will put out a call for aging-related presentations for the annual meeting and organize a panel based on the response.
3. The network will organize at least one webinar to occur before June 30, 2027.
4. Funds will be utilized to award conference scholarships and/or memberships. Special consideration will be given to conference proposals that address diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.
5. The group plans to review the “Aging Position Statement” on the AAIDD website. The last update was July 2019. <https://www.aaidd.org/news-policy/policy/position-statements-2/aging>
Recommendations will be emailed to Maggie Nygren to share with the Board.