

# CELEBRATE! YOUR CAREER IN AGING

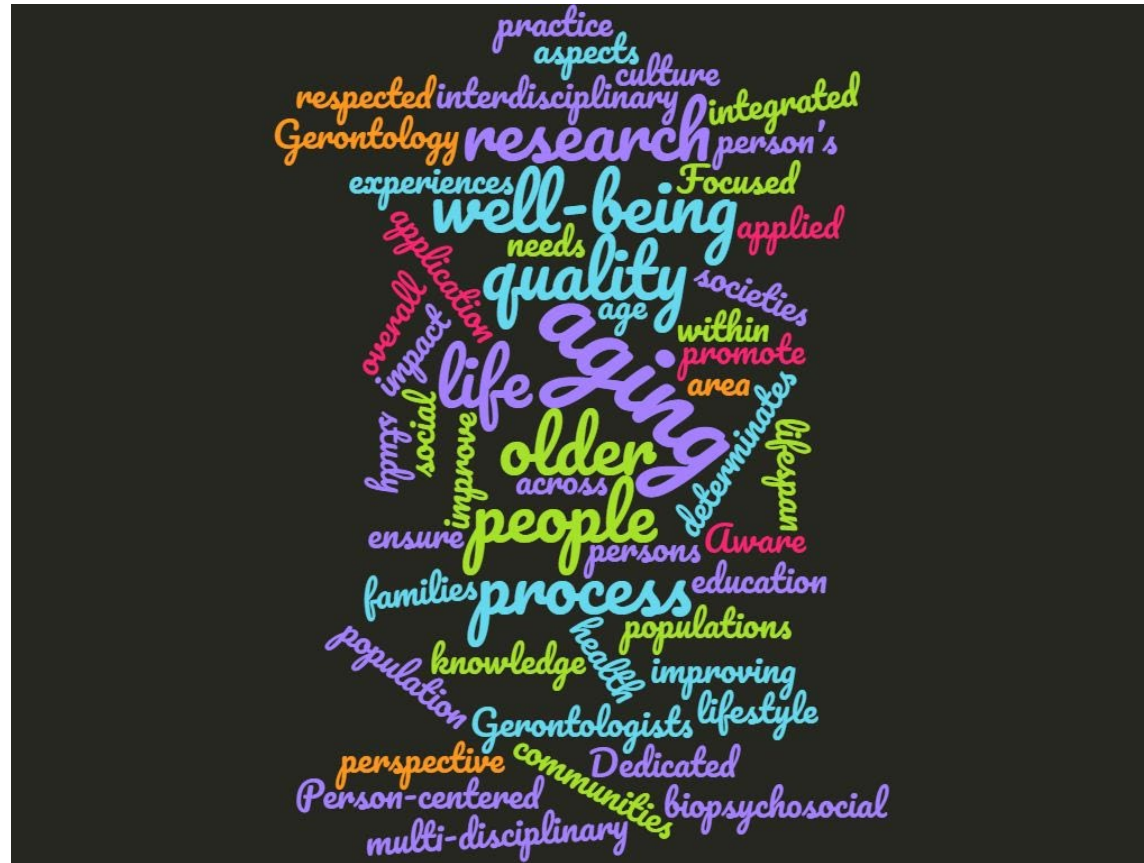
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Facilitator:

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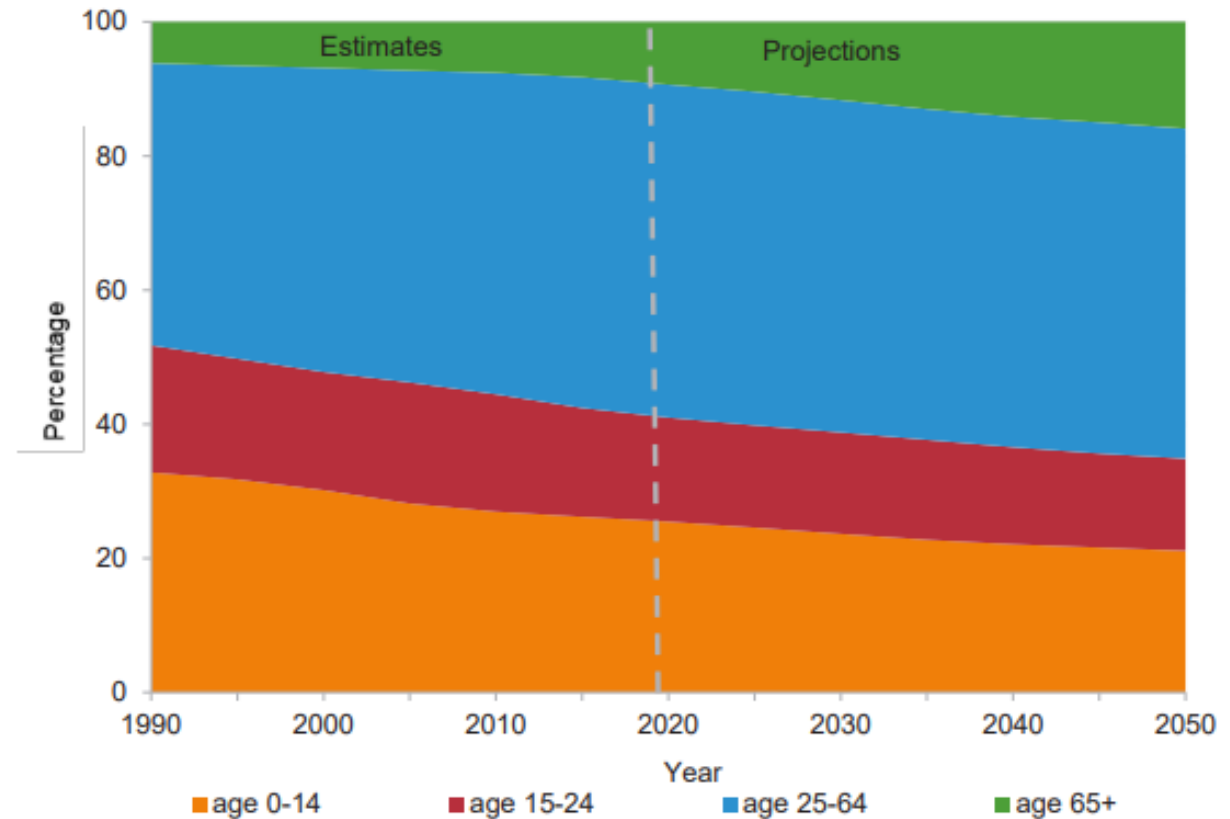
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# Introduction



## Why do Careers in the Field of Aging Matter?

Figure 2.  
Global population by broad age groups, 1990-2050 (percentage)



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019). *World Population Prospects 2019*.

# What is the Field of Aging?

The field of aging is a broad and diverse landscape of practice where ever-expanding knowledge about aging is applied in the service of supporting older adults and the people who care for them, as well as addressing the challenges and opportunities of population aging at the societal (and global) level.

# Where are jobs in the Field of Aging?

- Federal, state, and local governmental agencies
- Manufacturers and businesses
- Entrepreneurial ventures
- Community-based supports and services
- Residential facilities
- Nursing care facilities
- Not for profit organizations
- Academic, educational, and research settings
- Other areas?

# Careers in Aging Working **DIRECTLY** with Older People

- **Developing** and running programs
- **Planning and facilitating** activities
- **Advocating** with and on behalf of older individuals
- **Providing** case and care management services
- **Providing** direct care

# Careers in Aging Working **INDIRECTLY** with Older People

- **Conducting** needs assessments
- **Planning and administering** programs and services
- **Teaching** courses about aging
- **Advocating** for policy change
- **Designing** products
- **Advising** businesses and other entities
- **Researching** aging issues

# What is Gerontology?

- Multi-disciplinary area of study, research, and applied practice.
- Dedicated to improving overall well-being, quality of life, and the aging experiences of older people.
- Focused on the needs of older people and the older population from an integrated biopsychosocial perspective.
- Person-centered to ensure that all aspects of an older person's culture and lifestyle are respected.
- Aware of how the social determinates of health across the lifespan impact the aging process.



# Educational Pathways in Gerontology

- **Community & Technical Colleges**
  - Associate of Art/Science (occupational and/or transfer degrees)
  - Career Pathway & Continuing Education Certificates
- **Four-Year Colleges and Universities**
  - Bachelor of Art/Science (majors and/or minors)
  - Undergraduate Certificates
- **University Graduate Schools**
  - Master of Art/Science
  - Doctorate (PhD)
  - Graduate Certificates

To search for current Gerontology programs, go to: <https://www.aghedirectory.org/>

# Professional Organizations (not a complete list!)

- [American Society on Aging \(ASA\)](#)
- [Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education \(AGHE\)](#)
- [Gerontological Society of America \(GSA\)](#)
- [National Association of Area Agencies on Aging \(NAAAA\)](#)
- [National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities \(NASUAD\)](#)
- [National Council on Aging \(NCOA\)](#)
- [National Institute on Aging \(NIA\)](#)
- [US Administration on Aging \(AoA\)](#)
- [United Nations \(UN\)](#)
- [International Federation on Aging \(IFA\)](#)

# Developing & Managing Your Career(s) in Aging

- **Identify** your areas of interest and core values
- **Seek** out volunteering, field placement, and internship opportunities
- **Participate** in gerontology and aging-related coursework and continuing education workshops
- **Join** professional organizations and student groups
- **Familiarize** yourself with local, state, and national organizations, agencies and programs
- **Track** job listings in gerontology and across the field of aging
- **Establish** a mentoring relationship
- **NETWORK!!!**

# Panel Presentation & Discussion

- ❖ Ann McQueen, PhD
- ❖ Gerald (Jerry) Cohen, JD, MPA
- ❖ Natalia Kasperovich, MS