



Poncemar Chair of Gerontology

International Award. University of Murcia [Spain].

1. Introduction/Background.

The **School of Health and Social Sciences [Lorca Campus] at the University of Murcia** [Spain] is located in the city of Lorca, 70 Km away from the main Campus of the University of Murcia. The School is based in a friendly campus situated in the urban area of the city of Lorca and is one of the five campuses managed by the University of Murcia in the Region of Murcia [south east Spain].

Fundación Poncemar is a local charity/non-profit organisation dedicated to giving older people the opportunity to live fulfilled lives by providing exceptional care. As a result of this collaboration, the Lorca Campus appreciates the importance of contributing to research on ageing by developing agendas that consider the diverse needs of older adults'.

The **School of Health and Social Sciences [Lorca Campus] of the University of Murcia** offers four different undergraduate programmes:

1. Four-year programme of General Nursing.
2. Four-year programme of Human Nutrition and Dietetics.
3. Four-year programme of Occupational Therapy.
4. Six-year combined programme (3+3) of Physical and Sport Sciences and Human Nutrition and Dietetics in collaboration with the School of Physical and Sport Sciences of the University of Murcia.

The Lorca campus also offers a wide range of vocational studies through **the Integrated Vocational Training Center**, located in the same campus.

In collaboration with the University of Murcia, the Municipality of Lorca and the Regional Government of the Region of Murcia, **Fundación Poncemar** has supported the construction of an **Older Adults Day Care Center** on the Lorca campus and the creation of a **Chair of Gerontology** with a dedicated building, loaned by the municipality of Lorca.

2. Poncemar Chair of Gerontology.

The Poncemar Chair of Gerontology was launched at the University of Murcia [Lorca campus] in 2017. The Poncemar Chair of Gerontology provides opportunities for knowledge exchange with gerontology professionals, as well as the larger lay community, through numerous public events:

- 1) the Chair's annual Symposium for health professionals;

- 2) the Chair's annual Symposium for undergraduate students;
- 3) Seminars on Campus;
- 4) Public research lectures and
- 5) Aging-related workshops.

The Poncemar Chair of Gerontology, in collaboration with the Municipal Corporation of the city of Lorca, is involved in developing **The Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative launched by the World Health Organization [WHO]**: with the primary goal that the city of Lorca becomes an age-friendly city.

Poncemar Chair of Gerontology also provides an opportunity for **undergraduate students** from any programme of the School of Health and Social Sciences, to focus their final year dissertation/project on ageing through a **gerontology award programme**. At the same time, a similar gerontology award programme has been implemented for **vocational students** and for **high school students**.

2. International Award Programme

The School of Health and Social Sciences [Lorca Campus] at the University of Murcia [Spain] is a member of the Age-Friendly University Global Network [AFU].

For that reason, the Poncemar Chair of Gerontology at the University of Murcia [Spain] is keen on expanding and sharing the gerontology award programme with other members of AFU. Since Ireland has played a crucial role in initiating and promoting the Age-Friendly University Global Network, we have decided to start this International Award Programme opportunity to all the Irish universities that are members of AFU.

Participants: Any undergraduate or postgraduate student, from any of the Irish universities of AFU, with an interest in gerontology, age-friendly approaches and intergenerational initiatives.

Evaluators/Referees: We would like your support to evaluate all the participants. Therefore, it would be significant and beneficial to have at least two candidates [researchers, lecturers, readers, professors, technicians, clinicians; university personnel] from every university.

Online session: After evaluating all the participants, the top 6 candidates will be selected. The participants will be invited to present their materials at an online session open to all the universities. A committee will be selected to evaluate the participants' oral presentations for the online session,

Dates:

1. The poster submission will close on **January 31st**
2. Submit the proposals headed **Poster Submission** to
 - (1) : catedragerontologia@poncemar.com or catedragerontologia@um.es
 - And
 - (2) Dublin City University: Christine.okelly@dcu.ie

Stating details as outlined below.

The online session for the top 6 candidates will be on **April 17th**

Awards:

- First Position: 400 euros + certificate.
- Second Position: 300 euros + certificate.
- Third Position: 200 euros + certificate.
- Fourth Position: Certificate.

Fifth Position: Certificate.
Sixth Position: Certificate.

Poncemar Chair of Gerontology Award Guidelines for Poster Presenters.

The Chair will follow the [Stirling Prize Guidelines of the British Society of Gerontology](#)].

- Posters should be submitted as PDFs.
- Posters should be in Landscape format.
- The Poster display must directly address the chosen topic, demonstrating an ability to summarise and critically analyse the material reviewed or examined.
- Give careful consideration to your poster in relation to font size, colour and use of tables and figures

3.1. Organisation/Structure. All Posters must include the following:

- Title.
- Name of the student.
- •Institutional/organisational affiliation
- Year of study.
- •Contact details – email address.
- Introduction and background to the topic (e.g. current debates and dilemmas around the issue, relevance to the larger world)
- •Presentation of theoretical underpinnings, as appropriate.
- •Presentation of study methods.
- •Presentation of findings/results.
- •Summary of key points/implications/discussion for future work.
- References – the absence of references may lead to your Poster being rejected.

3.2. Visibility. Format. Suggested Font Sizes:

- Main title 72 font.
- Names of the author in 48 font.
- Use subheadings in at least 36 font.
- Make points 24 to 28 font.
- Use bullet points to make the reading easier and your main points more visible.
- Use bold, lower case and clear font such as Arial.
- Use of too many different fonts can be distracting.
- Ensure good contrast between the text and the background colour.
- Be sure images have higher resolution for clarity for a variety of readers.
- Use colour computer graphics, photographs etc. and do not forget to label them.
- Use coloured fonts and backgrounds, but contrast text and background well.

3.3. Recommendations:

The main aim is to make the Poster attractive to the audience, and well-chosen colours or images can enhance your Poster:

- The Poster organisation should be easy to follow.
- Each section should have a heading and then supporting text.
- It may incorporate numbers or arrows to indicate the sequence of different Poster components or panels.
- Try different layouts and ask friends or colleagues for critical feedback before submission.
- Consider what you are trying to achieve and who your audience will be.
- The Poster is a visual presentation (and hopefully a conversation starter) and should be visually stimulating.

- Feel free to be innovative and creative.
- The written material should be limited but sufficient, highlighting the main ideas and information without being too complex.
- Be sure your title is meaningful but not too complicated.
- Be concise and try to avoid clutter - keep it simple!
- Make sure the content is correct.
- Don't forget references.
- Images should be sharp or of good quality.
- Be sure to proof-read your Poster in advance of submission.

3.4.Evaluation.

Your Poster presentation will be assessed against the following indicators:

High-Quality Indicators:

- Presentation of Poster is well organised and visually interesting (e.g. graphs/photos, font size, colours).
- Evidence of background reading, including appropriate references.
- Clear presentation of conceptual or policy framework (as appropriate), methodology and empirical data.
- Clear presentation of implications of the study for gerontological knowledge development, policy, practice or education.
- Quality of methods used – were your methods well designed and able to provide reliable results?
- Overall coherence of presentation, using a clear and logical structure.
- Evidence of engaging with the older population or other end users affected by the topic.
- Poster presented in a compliant format.

Low-Quality Indicators:

- Lacking clarity/organisation.
- Lacking background reading or appropriate references.
- Failed to/only partially present conceptual framework, methodology and empirical data.
- Failed to/only partially present the implications of the study.
- Lacking coherence in presentation.
- Lacking evidence of engagement of the older population or other end users affected by the topic.
- Poster not presented in a compliant format.