Announcement of the 3rd Workshop and Special Issue on

*The Economics of Ageing*

“FINANCING LONGEVITY:

**THE ECONOMICS OF PENSIONS, HEALTH INSURANCE,**

**LONG-TERM CARE AND DISABILITY INSURANCE**

as part of the “Next World Program”

*Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA*

*April 26-27, 2017*

*Organized by:*

- David E. Bloom, Harvard School of Public Health, USA
- Jay Bhattacharya, Stanford University, USA
- Karen Eggleston, Stanford University, USA
- Hans Groth, World Demographic & Ageing (WDA) Forum, Switzerland
- Gopi Shah Goda, Stanford University, USA
- John Shoven, Stanford University, USA
- Alfonso Sousa-Poza, University of Hohenheim, Germany
- Wang Feng, Fudan University, China/University of California, Irvine, USA
- Thomas Zeltner, Special Envoy, WHO, Switzerland

**Topic**

The triumph of longevity can pose a challenge to the fiscal integrity of public and private pension systems and other social support programs disproportionately used by older adults. High-income countries offer lessons – frequently cautionary tales – for low- and middle-income countries about how to design social protection programs to be sustainable in the face of population ageing. Technological change and income inequality interact with population ageing to threaten the sustainability and perceived fairness of conventional financing for many social programs. Promoting longer working lives and savings for retirement are obvious policy priorities; but in many cases the fiscal challenges are even more acute for other social programs, such as insurance systems for medical care, long-term care, and disability. Reform of entitlement programs is also often politically difficult, further highlighting how important it is for developing countries to take account of the macroeconomic implications of population ageing when establishing comprehensive social security systems.
The objective of this workshop is to explore the economics of ageing from the perspective of sustainable financing for longer lives. The workshop will bring together researchers to present recent empirical and theoretical research on the economics of ageing with special (yet not exclusive) foci on the following topics:

- Public and private roles in savings and retirement security
- Living and working in an Age of Longevity: Lessons for Finance
- Defined benefit, defined contribution, and innovations in design of pension programs
- Intergenerational and equity implications of different financing mechanisms for pensions and social insurance
- The impact of population aging on health insurance financing
- Economic incentives of long-term care insurance and disability insurance systems
- Precautionary savings and social protection system generosity
- Elderly cognitive function and financial planning
- Evaluation of policies aimed at increasing health and productivity of older adults
- Population ageing and financing economic growth
- Tax policies’ implications for capital deepening and investment in human capital
- The relationship between population age structure and capital market returns
- Evidence on policies designed to address disparities – gender, ethnic/racial, inter-regional, urban/rural – in old-age support
- The political economy of reforming pension systems as well as health, long-term care and disability insurance programs

**Submission for the Workshop**

Interested authors are invited to submit a 1-page abstract by the 30th of September 2016 to Karen Eggleston (<karene@stanford.edu>). The authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by the 15th of October and completed draft papers will be expected by April 1, 2017.

Economy-class travel and accommodation costs for one author of each accepted paper will be covered by the organizers.

Invited authors are expected to submit their paper to the *Journal of the Economics of Ageing* (<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/the-journal-of-the-economics-of-ageing/>). A selection of these papers will (assuming successful completion of the review process) be published in a special issue.

**Submission for the Special Issue**

Authors (also those interested who are not attending the workshop) are invited to submit papers for the special issue in the *Journal of the Economics of Ageing* by the 1st of August 2017. Submissions should be made online at <http://ees.elsevier.com/jeoa/>. Please select article type “SI Financing Longevity”.

**About the Next World Program**

The Next World Program is a joint initiative of Harvard University’s Program on the Global Demography of Aging, the WDA Forum, Stanford University’s Asia Health Policy Program (AHPP, FSI), and Fudan University’s Working Group on Comparative Ageing Societies. These institutions will organize an annual workshop and a special issue in the *Journal of the Economics of Ageing* on an important economic theme related to aging societies.