

UPDATES
HARMONIZATION OF CROSS-NATIONAL STUDIES OF
AGING TO THE HRS (U24AG037866)
“HRS AROUND-THE-WORLD” (ATW) NETWORK

Trinity College, Dublin

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David Weir

JAMES P. SMITH

HRS DATA MONITORING COMMITTEE CHAIR 1991-2020

PI OF THIS HARMONIZATION NETWORK, 2016-2022



SOME ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

- Award was based at RLA, with Jim Smith as PI there
- It is in transition to Michigan, with David Weir as PI, retaining RLA as contractor for website and other dissemination, meeting planning, other support
- Minki Chatterji is NIA program official
- Overall goals are still the same:
 - to support you the data creators in enhancing quality and comparability and promoting use of the data
- 3 activities: in-person meetings, virtual meetings, pilots

HRS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK IN-PERSON MEETINGS BY DATE AND LOCATION

Year	Half	Location	Year	Half	Location
2011	1-6		2018	1-6	
2011	7-12	China	2018	7-12	England
2012	1-6		2019	1-6	Ireland
2012	7-12		2019	7-12	S Africa
2013	1-6		2020	1-6	
2013	7-12	India	2020	7-12	
2014	1-6		2021	1-6	
2014	7-12		2021	7-12	
2015	1-6	US	2022	1-6	
2015	7-12		2022	7-12	
2016	1-6		2023	1-6	
2016	7-12		2023	7-12	Ireland
2017	1-6		2024	1-6	
2017	7-12	US	2024	7-12	

GOALS FOR IN-PERSON MEETINGS OF ATW NETWORK

- Build a sense of community among PIs → be inclusive
- Experience other countries → rotate locations
- Maintain contact → regular intervals
 - Roughly 18 months between meetings allows 3 per 5-year award period
- This meeting is exceptional in that we came back to Ireland and focused on older established studies because we wanted it to be a memorial to Jim

NEXT IN-PERSON MEETING OF ATW NETWORK

- Rebeca Wong will host next meeting in **Mexico** sometime in **2025**
- She had agreed with Jim to host a meeting in 2021 that was canceled due to COVID
- Hope to focus on new studies esp in LMICs
 - There are prospective studies in Africa, Central/South America, Lebanon, Nepal, and elsewhere
- Rebeca is chairing a NAS meeting next month on aging in LMICs:
“Developing an Agenda for Population Aging and Social Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries”
September 7-8 (virtual registration link available from RLA)

ATW NETWORK VIRTUAL MEETINGS

- In-person meetings do not allow for in-depth discussion of topics, or studies, or harmonization strategies
- Overall goals of the network require more interaction
- HCAP network has been successful with topic-focused Zoom meetings
- We will aim to have several (3-6 per year)
- We'll solicit suggestions at end of meeting but send me ideas anytime

PILOTS AND SUPPLEMENTS

- We intend to rebudget the award to provide a limited budget for pilot work
- Pilots can be analysis projects aimed at evaluating and enhancing harmonization of specific topics for specific studies
- Basing award at Michigan also allows human subjects work
- First pilot to Egypt to demonstrate feasibility of an HRS-like study
- Larger projects are possible but by no means guaranteed through administrative supplements to the award. Please let me know as these take a lot of work and are reviewed by NIA staff.

GOALS FOR THIS MEETING

- To get reacquainted and catch up on developments across this large and growing network
- Time is limited, so brief presentations, broad overviews
- Please stick to time out of respect for each other
- Things we want to hear more about are good topics for zoom meetings to follow
- Feel free to give RLA extra slides or papers to distribute to the group