Advancing inclusion, equality and quality of life for older persons should be a top priority in the 21st century. We are in the midst of a demographic revolution. The dramatic aging of our population is not only an issue locally, but nationally and globally as well. Not only are there increasing numbers of older adults in our society, individuals are living longer than ever. But does this increase in life expectancy mean older adults are living active and healthy lives?

Individuals with early acquired disabilities, including persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (DD/ID), are increasingly living longer and reaching older adulthood, but better health services and supports are needed. The road ahead provides both challenges and opportunities for change. An inclusive society can be achieved with improved services and supports, as well as the creation of age-friendly communities that support persons of all ages and abilities.

In this topic area, we have two streams of inquiry. We are seeking proposals on issues facing older adults with
chronic illness and disabilities. In particular, proposals should address the role of the community programs and supports in maximizing quality of life. Second, we are also seeking proposals that examine issues, challenges, and successes in addressing the needs of individuals aging with an early acquired disability.

This topic area will integrate research, policy, promising practices, and training to promote independence and dignity in older adults as well as identify trends, challenges and solutions to meeting the needs of an aging population with disabilities.

Proposals for consideration will include:

- Presentations of current research and evaluation findings, promising programs and practices, strategies, and supports that help adults maximize health and independence later in life. Topics include but are not limited to:
  - Maximize quality of life and independent living;
  - Create age-friendly communities for all ages and abilities;
  - Support employment and recognize the value and contributions of older workers;
• Discuss workforce development needs to care for an aging population;
• Prevent injuries (e.g., falls) or unnecessary institutionalization;
• Manage chronic illnesses;
• Promote healthy aging;
• Research, promising practices, and policy issues facing persons aging with DD/ID;
• Advocacy and self-advocacy trends in mobilizing forces between the aging and the disability movement;
• Initiatives for older persons with disabilities to continue to participate in social and cultural aspects of society;
• International perspectives in aging and disability;
• Future trends in aging and disability.

We welcome all proposals. Please see presentation formats on our webpage at: http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions/presenters/formats/

Please read criteria for each format and ensure that you have the appropriate number of presenters for your chosen format.

You may submit proposals online at:
http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions, or send your proposals via email to prcall@hawaii.edu.

If you have questions or need further information, please contact the Chair, Christy Nishita at cnishita@hawaii.edu.

For general information on the call for proposals or the conference, please contact Charmaine Crockett at cccrocke@hawaii.edu, (808) 956-7539.

For registration questions please contact the Registration Desk at prreg@hawaii.edu,
Phone: (808) 956-8816, Fax: (808) 956-4437.