

## Aging Research Working Group

Approximately 11% of the world population is 60 years or older (United Nations, 2010), and more than 6% of these older adults have dementia (World Health Organization, 2012). As the proportion of older adults increases to 22% by 2050, so too will the personal, social, and economic costs related to their care. These burdens can be reduced by promoting physical, cognitive, and mental health in older adults and via early identification of and treatment for individuals at risk for dementia—goals that motivate much of the aging research currently conducted at UCR.

The Aging Research Working Group aims to advance interdisciplinary aging research at UCR by host a year-long series of monthly presentations by experts in (1) structures that are needed to grow successful initiatives (e.g., developing research and administrative cores, strategic planning, participant databases) and (2) areas of research that can address the specific needs of the diverse older adults in the Riverside area (e.g., independent living, caregiving, stress). Core group members include faculty from Psychology, Biomedical Sciences, and Physics and Astronomy.

### **Faculty Coordinators**

Ilana Bennett – Psychology, co-Director of the UCR Aging Initiative

Marcus Kaul – Biomedical Sciences, co-Director of the UCR Aging Initiative