International Conference on Population Ageing and Health: Modelling Our Future

Canberra, Australia, 8-12 December 2003

Call for Papers and Expressions of Interest

We invite you to submit a short abstract (up to 200 words) for a paper to be given at the above conference. The primary focus of the conference is microsimulation models and their applications, but those using other modelling approaches to examine these issues are also very welcome.

8-9 December: The first two days of the conference are expected to be devoted to applied analyses of the implications of population ageing and health, with papers invited in the following general areas:

Economic Resources: Papers in this stream are expected to span such topics as retirement incomes, wealth, pension plans and provision, superannuation, adequacy, social security, regional differences, housing, simulation of social policy changes, receipt of social services, impact of social and economic policy changes

Health and Aged Care: Papers in this stream are expected to span such topics as the health needs of ageing populations (both current and projected future), health care costs, health human resources, nursing home needs, formal and informal care, health status, changing lifespans, morbidity trends, spatial distribution of services or need, pharmaceuticals, health financing including taxation

Intergenerational and Fiscal Issues: Papers in this stream are expected to span such topics as the impact of population ageing on governments' budgetary positions, GDP, likely future tax burdens and possible taxation policy changes, can ageing pensioners pay higher taxes or contribute more to their living costs, who will provide informal care, taxation issues and health, inheritance and the spatial impacts of these issues

Changing Lifestyles and their Economic Implications: Papers in this stream are expected to span such topics as the likely impact of population ageing on tourism, migration, housing demand, consumption, labour force trends, education and lifelong learning, consumer demand for different products and services

Data Issues: This stream will cover data needs with an emphasis on privacy issues and access to data, including administrative vs survey data, statistical matching and imputation, use of longitudinal data, and legal, technical and policy issues faced by national statistical offices in releasing confidentialised unit record files for microsimulation models.

11-12 December: The final two days of the conference are intended primarily for modellers to share experiences and techniques and discuss common issues of interest.

11 December: Symposium on Modelling and Data Issues: This day is designed to provide a forum for modellers to discuss actual microsimulation models used in different countries. The program is expected to feature 5-6 presentations by different countries, followed by discussion on similar modelling and data experiences of other countries.

12 December: Technical Workshops The last day is expected to be devoted to more technical discussions and comparisons of the various microsimulation and other models used to analyse issues associated with population ageing and health. We plan to concentrate on practical aspects of modelling in a number of workshops in the following streams:

- dynamic microsimulation models
- static microsimulation models
- spatial microsimulation models
- health human resource forecasting models
- other modelling approaches (e.g. hypothetical lifetime, cell-based group, actuarial, demographic, macro-micro, behavioural).

Those wanting to actively participate in the technical workshops will be asked in early 2003 to prepare a short description of their model (we will supply template), its key components, what it has been used for, and references to further publications or website addresses for those wishing more detail on the model or its applications. Such participants will be expected to give a 10 minute overview of the key features of their model at the beginning of the relevant technical session. In their emails indicating likely participation in this technical day, potential participants are also asked to identify three key issues that they would particularly like to see discussed in their stream of the technical modelling day (e.g. calibration, labour force modelling, human resource modelling, validation, wealth). We will then attempt to make sure that discussion focusses on the issues of most concern to the greatest number of participants.

Social activities: There will be a conference dinner on 8 December.   10 December will be a social day with various activities planned around Canberra for participants.

For those wishing to present papers at the first two days of the conference or at the Symposium, please submit a title and short abstract to conference@natsem.canberra.edu.au **by 31 October 2002**. For those wishing to participate in the technical workshops please submit the name of your model and a short (one paragraph) description of the model, to conference@natsem.canberra.edu.au by **31 October 2002**. Please indicate which of the five technical streams you think your model would be most appropriate for, and nominate the three issues that you would like to see discussed in that stream. For both the conference, symposium and workshops we expect to advise which papers and models have been selected by 31 December 2002.

Those who would potentially like to attend the conference but do not want to give a paper are asked to also email conference@natsem.canberra.edu.au to notify us of their interest. We will then keep you informed with any updates. A limited number of places are available at the conference, so early registration of interest is advisable.

We will provide guidance on accommodation options etc at a later stage. At this stage, we are just asking for early expressions of interest. There will be a conference attendance fee, expected to be less than A$900. There will also be a separate fee for attendance at the symposium and workshops on 11-12 December.

We expect to publish selected papers in a refereed form after the conference.