

ICADI

International Conference on Aging,
Disability and Independence

Hilton St. Petersburg, Florida USA
February 20-23, 2008



Graduate Student Scholarships Available for the International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence (ICADI)

What do these scholarships cover?

Twenty scholarships of \$650 each will be awarded to cover the conference registration fee (\$395) and travel / lodging / meals (\$255) to support graduate students in non-professional degree programs who submit and present a paper, poster or technology demonstration at ICADI.

Who may apply?

Graduate students must be enrolled in a post-professional graduate degree program (entry level professional students are excluded) with a strong research component (such as Ph.D. programs in engineering, computer science, rehabilitation science, gerontology, public health, social sciences). We will award 15 scholarships to students from around the world (this is an International Conference). Five scholarships are reserved for students from the University of Florida.

A professional degree is an MD, entry-level OT, PT, Speech, nursing, pharmacy (etc) where the graduate will advance into a clinical role. A non-professional degree is a Ph.D. - where the emphasis of the degree program is on preparation for research, and a dissertation is required. Some MS degree programs would also qualify if they are not professional (MD, etc.), have a strong research component, and require a research-based thesis. We make this distinction because we wish to provide the opportunity for graduate students engaged in research related to ICADI tracks to present their work at this International Conference. This has importance for them (presenting a paper or poster or technology demonstration) that goes beyond simply attending sessions. Most entry level professional students would not be involved in research.

What is the focus of ICADI (go to www.icadi.phhp.ufl.edu for more detail)

Maintaining independence as we age is the major focus of ICADI. As we age, if faced with chronic health conditions or life-long or late-onset disabilities, independence can be compromised. We can maintain independence by using assistive technology, by modifying our homes and workplaces, and by using products that follow the principles of universal design. Mobility is another important component of independence, relating to walking and wheeling, and to driving and use of other forms of transportation. Prevention of injury is also essential in maintaining independence into our later years. Each of these areas is addressed in the eight ICADI tracks, considering the perspective of older persons themselves, and of the businesses that develop and market related products.

The Fourth International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence, will bring together researchers, practitioners, business leaders and people involved in aging policy to focus on these issues. As we prepare our next cadre of leaders, we are encouraging graduate student participation in ICADI.

ICADI has 8 tracks, and papers must address one of these tracks:

Assistive Devices

This track will address assistive technology to promote independence. Presenters will share the most current technologies, research related to technologies and policy issues in their presentations on assistive devices, vision devices, hearing devices, environmental aids, cognitive devices and environmental accommodations.

Housing and Livable Communities

Sessions will address strategies to support personal independence as people age in the built environment, focusing on universal design, housing, and community infrastructure. This year we have added the concept of livable communities which includes issues such as sites, landscapes, streetscapes, buildings and furnishings and products related to their use. The session also addresses development of new products and environments and improvements to existing homes and communities. Session topics may include research, methods to measure effectiveness, tools for design, best practices and policy analysis.

Injury Prevention

Sessions will address falls, fire safety, poisons, pedestrian safety and other issues related to ensuring a safe environment within the home and community.

Robotics

Sessions will address the latest advances in robotics that can now, or will in the future serve many of the personal assistance needs of older persons with disabilities.

Smart Homes

Sessions will address computer applications, wireless technology, information technology, pervasive computing, wearable computers, sensors, and home-monitoring, smart-home, Smartphone and telehealth applications.

Telehealth

Sessions will address the use of telecommunications technology to enhance clinical services, patient monitoring, and the exchange of health information and education to support independent living and improve access to remote healthcare and rehabilitation services.

Transportation

Sessions will address issues and approaches to enhance the safe mobility of seniors. This includes identifying approaches to: 1) enhance driving (testing and driver remediation) to enable people to safely drive as late in life as possible; and 2) provide acceptable alternatives to driving. The session includes a focus on the role of low and high technology in enabling mobility later in life.

Work and Aging

Sessions will address approaches to support continued employment into later years for older persons who choose to continue working. Approaches include adaptations to work stations and work places, flexible work schedules, and telecommuting.

What is the application process?

1. Go to www.icadi.phhp.ufl.edu
2. Follow the links for submissions and complete this process by September 15.
3. **IMPORTANT:** Email Elena Casson ecasson@phhp.ufl.edu with the following information by September 15th so your scholarship submission can be distinguished from other submissions:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Your college or university
 - c. The degree you are completing
 - d. The stage of your studies (pre-qualifying exam, dissertation stage)
 - e. Part time or Full time student status
 - f. The title of your paper
 - g. Brief (one paragraph) statement on your career goals
4. Have your primary academic mentor mail a letter of reference, also verifying your academic standing, to Elena Casson, University of Florida, Box 100164, Gainesville, FL 32610. The letter must be postmarked by September 15, 2007.
5. A review panel will select the most outstanding submissions, independent of ICADI track.
6. You will be notified by September 30th of your scholarship award status.
7. Save receipts for your travel related expenses, submit them to ICADI after the conference, and you will be reimbursed up to \$255 for lodging, transportation and meals. More specific information on this reimbursement process will be sent to you.

Who is sponsoring these scholarships:

Three units of the University of Florida, College of Public Health and Health Professions have provided a total of \$16,250 to make this scholarship opportunity possible:

**National Older Drivers Research and Training Center
Center for Telehealth and Health Care Communications
Department of Occupational Therapy**

UF | College of Public Health
& Health Professions
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA