

Formerly *IGSW News* | VOLUME 24 | SPRING 2017 | CADER@bu.edu

Calling Practitioners!

Learn the skills you need to provide services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities with the Center online

- **Individual courses**
- **Certificate programs**
- **Programs for organizations**
- **CEUs**

[Sign up or learn more](#)
[Browse our catalog](#)

The demographic revolution is here...

Seventy percent of baby boomers will use long-term supports and services during their lifetime.

From the Director

In this issue

More on the Journey to Trumpcare Plus Promising Alzheimer's Research and Training

By Bronwyn Keefe



In this issue, more on the journey from Obamacare to potential Trumpcare. **Robert Applebaum** takes us for a ride on the healthcare-reform roller coaster, beginning at the roots of the current debate, and then winding on to an uncertain future.

Alzheimer's disease also continues to be an important focus. This issue provides a look at **promising research** efforts, based in the National Institute on Aging's nationwide network of research centers, with a perspective from leading researcher and clinician **Peter**

Lichtenberg. And, we announce an innovative new collaboration between CADER and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs, with a grant from the Administration for Community Living, to **train homecare staff** to identify and support people with dementia and their families.... [Read more](#)

Boston University photo of Bronwyn Keefe, interim director of CADER

Issues and Views

Buckle up!

The Healthcare Reform Roller Coaster Is (Again) Leaving the Platform

By Robert Applebaum

One year during college, one of my housemates had car trouble, so I offered to help. In those days spark plugs and points were a common culprit, and while I had not ever



In This Issue

[The healthcare reform roller coaster](#)

[Promising Alzheimer's research & training](#)

[Now what? After an Alzheimer's diagnosis](#)

[Prolonged sleep & risk of dementia](#)

Courses in the Pipeline

Watch for

- Legal Issues in Aging and Disability (revised)

Welcome to The Learning Edge!



actually done a tune-up, I had watched an experienced friend perform the task. Well, I quickly found out that taking an engine apart was quite a bit easier than putting the pieces back together. It appears that critics of the Affordable Care Act are now learning this same lesson.

As Congress tries to repeal, replace, repair (or is it revise, reinvigorate, revamp?), we must first look back at the initial legislative debate over healthcare reform, in the early days of the Obama Administration and the One Hundred and Fifteenth Congress.... [Read why these same issues are at the heart of today's stalemate, with the well-being of millions of Americans at stake.](#)

Photo of Robert Applebaum courtesy Scripps Gerontology Center

NIA Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers

A Perspective on the Most Promising Research

By Mary Johnson

Some of the most promising research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias these days is taking place through the National Institute on Aging's Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers program, a network of researchers and clinicians who work together at 31 centers across the country to develop and share new approaches and findings. For a perspective, *The LearningEdge* turned to **Peter Lichtenberg (pictured at right)**, a nationally renowned researcher and clinician who is director of the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University. The university is part of the Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Core Center, the newest in the NIA centers program.



A different scientific perspective is provided by each of the core centers. For example, Lichtenberg said, while most research examines Alzheimer's with a focus on beta-amyloid, the protein that forms the plaques that characterize the disease, the Michigan ADCC will look at other potential causes. "Nothing is really working on the amyloid front," Lichtenberg said. "Some people have many tangles in the brain but never have a day of dementia. Researchers are now realizing that we need to dig deeper and farther. **Beta amyloids are necessary for development of Alzheimer's disease, but they are not sufficient.** This evidence frees us to be open to a broader range of possibilities...." [Read more](#)

Photo of Peter Lichtenberg courtesy Wayne State University

New CADER Course: Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias of Aging

Alzheimer's disease poses one of the greatest challenges to our aging society. In this **self-paced online** course, you'll develop the skills you need as a provider of supports and services to older adults and families facing dementia. The course is based on the principles of person-centered care and incorporates the latest research and best practice in assessment, referral, and intervention. Visit the [CADER website](#) for more information or to [sign up](#) (use code **ENEWS2017** for a 10 percent discount).

'I feel I have so much more to offer my clients and families now. Thank you.'

* [individual courses](#) * [certificate programs](#) * [CEUs](#) * [programs for organizations](#) *

Notable News and Resources

New Alzheimer's resource from NIH

Practical, Reassuring Guidance After a Daunting Diagnosis

Get Your Own LearningEdge!

The LearningEdge from the Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research at Boston University is sent quarterly, free of charge, to readers who have expressed an interest in improving knowledge and skills of the social services workforce for older adults and people with disabilities. If you have received this issue from a friend and wish to be added to our mailing list, click [here](#).

[Past issues](#)



Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research
(formerly IGSW)
Boston University
School of Social Work
264 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215
USA

The LearningEdge is an electronic newsletter published quarterly by the Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research at Boston University.

Editorial and Production Staff: Mary Johnson, editor; Olive Tan, associate editor; Anna Papantonakis, editorial assistant.

Advisory Board: [Sudh Miyake](#), [Leron Bronwyn Keefe](#), [Susan Kryczka](#), [Kathy Kuhn](#), [Anna Papantonakis](#), [Richard Petty](#).

Photos by Marianne Gontarz York unless otherwise credited. Web design by Leslie Chamberlain.

ISSN 2157-5215

Copyright © 2017 Trustees of Boston University. All rights reserved.

Helping a client who has just received a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease is not uncommon for those who provide supports and services to older adults. A [new resource](#) from the Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center, part of the National Institutes of Health, provides an authoritative guide that will be invaluable to those facing this daunting prospect. For each step, current information, resources, and suggestions are included. [Read more](#)



Study Finds Link Between Prolonged Sleeping and Higher Risk of Dementia

Older adults who shift to a new pattern of sleeping longer may be at higher risk of developing dementia, including Alzheimer's, according to a [new study](#) published in the journal *Neurology*. Researchers looking at the connection between duration of sleep and risk of dementia and 'brain aging' found that older adults who were sleeping more than nine hours a night had an increased risk of developing clinical dementia within ten years, compared to those sleeping between six and nine hours, and those sleeping less than six hours... Should older people be discouraged from sleeping late? [Read more](#)

Courses and Certificate Programs

High-Quality Online Training Available for The Aging and Disability Workforce

Expand your skill set and knowledge by earning CEUs or Certificates from Boston University's Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research (CADER). For over 10 years, CADER has worked with individuals and agencies across the country providing high-quality, cost-effective, self-paced online certificate programs and courses. For a list of available programs, and information, [read more](#).

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Past Issues](#) | [In Our Mailbox](#) | [The LearningEdge](#)