

Older Workers and Information Technology: A Global Aging Challenge.

Information technology is widely thought to be a field for young people, yet the age distribution of IT workers suggests that there are some older workers as well. Stereotypes about older workers view them as unable or unmotivated to adapt to new technologies, yet there are impending labor shortages in IT due in part to the decline in size of the labor force entry cohorts. One solution in North America has been to rely on guest workers from developing countries. Another solution is to encourage the retention of IT workers as they age. The speakers, all from the Workforce Aging in the New Economy (WANE) research project, will address the aging IT workforce in the global and US contexts; the implications for career, including gender concerns; the WANE research project that explores these issues in four world regions; and the implications for education in information science.