

# Professors Emeriti Network

[Professors Emeriti Network](#). We walk what we talk.

## **eCollaboration of Retired (Emeriti) Professors Contributing to Silver Economy Development**

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The Silver Economy: What are we to do?

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eCollaboration is based on the intensive use of information technology (access to e-journals, programs for online meetings, artificial intelligence - AI tools). It is especially important for retired professors for two reasons. One, it eliminates geographical, organizational, institutional, and professional boundaries that are an obstacle to collaboration. Two, it allows them to retain/establish contact with colleagues all over the world, which would otherwise not be possible due to the difficulty and cost of travel, which was less of a problem during their full-time academic roles.

The Silver Economy is focused on addressing the needs and opportunities of the seniors in longevity society of which seniors 55+ are a major component. The retired (emeriti) professors can contribute a lot to the development of the Silver Economy since they provide a combination of experience, mentorship, strategic insights, and a lifelong commitment to research and education. By involving them, society can better address the needs of an aging population while tapping into their rich intellectual and social capital.

Retired professors often possess decades of experience and deep expertise in their respective fields. Their knowledge can be harnessed to innovate in areas related to the Silver Economy, such as healthcare, retirement planning, age-friendly technology, and gerontology. They come from various academic backgrounds (medicine, social sciences, economics, management, engineering, etc.), which allows for a comprehensive approach to addressing the challenges and opportunities of an aging society.

Retired professors can mentor younger researchers, guiding them in studying aging populations, longevity, and senior-centric technologies. This mentorship can accelerate advancements in the field, ensuring new ideas are grounded in research and practical wisdom. They often remain passionate about their research areas. Collaborating with institutions and organizations focused on the Silver Economy allows them to continue contributing to cutting-edge research without the administrative burdens of full-time academic roles.

The Silver Economy relies on effective policy frameworks, such as pension reform, healthcare systems, and eldercare services. Retired professors, especially those with experience in public policy, economics, and sociology, can provide valuable insights into governments and organizations on how to shape policies that benefit older adults and the economy at large. Their seasoned perspectives are valuable for advising businesses, governments, NGOs, and international organizations on best practices for developing age-friendly products, services, and systems.

Retired professors in information systems, engineering, design, or computer science can contribute to developing technologies that improve the lives of older adults. Examples include assistive devices, telemedicine, and smart home technologies that promote independent living. Retired professors in medicine and biology can lead research into geriatric care, chronic disease management, and innovations like precision medicine tailored to the aging population.

Retired professors can serve as bridges between generations, encouraging intergenerational knowledge transfer. They can help younger people understand the value of experience and perspective, which is crucial in a society with a growing elderly population. Involved in educational initiatives, retired professors can contribute to programs that encourage lifelong learning among seniors. This not only keeps seniors engaged but also helps them remain active contributors to the economy.

Retired professors often provide ethical perspectives that are crucial in the development of products and services targeting older adults. For instance, they can ensure that innovations in AI or biotechnology for seniors are developed with dignity, privacy, and equity in mind. They can advocate for inclusive practices that ensure older adults, regardless of socioeconomic status, have access to the benefits of the Silver Economy, such as quality healthcare and digital literacy programs.

Many retired professors have built strong networks over their careers. These connections can be instrumental in bringing together stakeholders from academia, industry, government, and civil society to create synergies in the development of the Silver Economy. They can still contribute to public discourse through writing, lecturing, and consulting. As respected thought leaders, their insights can raise awareness about aging-related issues and influence the direction of the Silver Economy development.

We want to encourage retired professors to:

- Participation in networks/associations for the exchange of good practices.
- Linking websites.
- Opening and using access to free online education.
- Using access to information technology of the age-friendly university.
- Continuous training in the use of information technology.
- Involvement in actions related to the development of the Silver Economy in the local environment.
- Connecting with actions to develop the Silver Economy in a cross-border and global environment.

#### Links

[Gerontological Society of America – GSA Enrich](#) is your gateway to a library of engaging learning resources!

[Letter to Professors Emeriti About Email Accounts Upon Retirement](#). 20/05/2024.

[Using Digital Technologies for Active Aging](#) .10/02/2024.

[Interlinking Silver Economy Websites](#). November 16, 2022.

[Developing the Silver Economy and Related Government Resources for Seniors. A Position Paper](#). September 19, 2022.

[Minister of Seniors Appointment. Position Paper](#). April 21, 2021.