Long Life in the 21st Century

We are approaching a watershed moment in human history. By 2030, the number of people over 60 will surpass the number children under 15; and by the time our children reach old age, living to 100 will be commonplace. Mostly, discussions about aging at the individual and societal levels are fraught with concern. True enough, there are major challenges associated with this dramatic and relatively sudden increase in life expectancy. Yet we should not lose sight of the fact that long life presents unprecedented opportunities. Demographic changes will influence virtually all aspects of life - education, families, financial markets and politics. If we apply science and technology to the problems of aging and join forces with policy makers and leaders in business and communities, we can use these added years of life to improve quality of life at all ages.

Date: April 27th
(free and open to the public)

Lecture: 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Reception: 5:00-5:30pm

Location: Sahai Auditorium
1110-A MERF
(reception will be in the MERF Atrium)

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Best known for her socioemotional selectivity theory, a life-span theory of motivation, Dr. Carstensen has published over 125 articles on life-span development. She has chaired two studies for the National Academy of Sciences which resulted in the books--The Aging Mind and When I’m 64. Most recently, she authored A Long Bright Future: An Action Plan for a Lifetime of Happiness, Health, and Financial Security in 2009.