

International Conference on Aging in the Americas

Conference Program

Chicago, Illinois • September 23–25, 2026

Wednesday, September 23

Time	Program
5:00 – 8:00 PM	Welcome Reception & Dinner

Thursday, September 24

Time	Program
8:30 – 9:00	Opening Remarks Dean Lisa Mason University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Dean Carlos Crespo University of Illinois-Chicago Frank Bandiera National Institute on Aging Jacqueline Angel University of Texas-Austin Flavia Andrade University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Emma Aguila University of Southern California
9:00 – 9:30	Overview & Reflections Kyriakos Markides University of Texas-Galveston
9:30 – 9:45	Break
9:45 – 10:25	Keynote Hiram Beltrán-Sánchez — Keynote speaker University of California-Los Angeles
10:25 – 11:45	Session 1 — Socioeconomic Disparities & Migration Jennifer Van Hook Penn-State University “Aging into Precarity Among Latino Immigrants” Adriana Reyes Cornell University “Obligation or Capacity? Race, Informal Financial Transfers, and Wealth in Later Life” Patricia Morton Wayne State University “Childhood Socioeconomic Status and Later-Life Systemic Inflammation: Exploring the Moderating Role of Education for Black, White, and Hispanic Americans” Ben Shaw — Discussant University of Illinois Chicago
11:45 – 1:15 PM	Lunch
1:15 – 2:30	Session 2 — Families, Communities & Caregiving Sunshine Rote University of Louisville “Beyond the Household: Strengthening Support Networks for Mexican American Dementia Caregivers” Iveris Martínez California State University “Preparing to Care: Providing Services for Latinos with Dementia and Their Families”

Time	Program
	Zhiyong Lin University of Texas at San Antonio <i>"Closing the Care Gap: Social Isolation, Dementia, and Unmet Care Needs in Later Life"</i> Nekehia Quashie — Discussant University of Rhode Island
2:30 – 2:35	Break
2:35 – 3:50	Poster Session Adriana Reyes — Chair Cornell University Terrence Hill — Chair University of Texas at San Antonio
3:50 – 4:00	Break
4:00 – 5:00	Mentoring Session Phil Cantu University of Texas at Austin David Camacho University of Illinois-Chicago
5:00 – 5:10	Break
5:10 – 5:50	Mentored Publications Session Rogelio Sáenz University of Texas- San Antonio Christian Vasquez University of Texas-Arlington
6:30 PM	Dinner

Friday, September 25

Time	Program
8:30 – 9:20	Session 3 — Emerging Scholar Lightning Session Barbara Mendez Campos Boston University <i>"When Medical Bills Cost More Than Money: Latino Dementia Caregivers in California"</i> Fernando Hernandez-Lepé Urban Institute <i>"Post-Caregiving Labor Market Outcomes Among Hispanic and Immigrant Former Caregivers in the U.S."</i> Mayra Sánchez González Johns Hopkins University <i>"Sustaining Older Adults' Wellbeing: An Intervention's Promising Benefits and the Challenge of Uptake"</i> Nicholas Bishop — Moderator University of Arizona
9:20 – 9:35	Break
9:35 – 10:50	Session 4 — Caregiving Interventions Maggie Ramirez University of Washington <i>"Using A.I. to Support Latino Family Caregivers Managing Behavioral Symptoms of Dementia"</i> Kylie Meyer Case Western Reserve University <i>"CONFIDENCE: An Intervention to Manage Financial Strain Among Latino Family Caregivers to Persons Living with Dementia"</i> Jacqueline Torres University of California San Francisco

Time	Program
	<i>“Transforming a Birth Cohort Study to Evaluate Understudied Social and Environmental Determinants of Midlife Cognitive and Reproductive Aging: the CHAMACOS Maternal Cognition Study”</i> Liliana Gómez Flores Ramos Rush University & Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública México <i>“ESMaestras / Mexican Teachers Cohort Ancillary Study of Aging and Cognition”</i> Brian Downer — Moderator The University of Texas at Austin
10:50 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:15 PM	Session 5 — Panel on Interventions & Technology Elizabeth Munoz The University of Texas at Austin <i>“Psychosocial and Environmental Contexts of Cognitive Health in U.S. Latinos: Advancing Real-World Approaches to Successful Aging”</i> Wendy Rogers University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <i>“Harnessing the Potential of Technology to Enhance Social Engagement for Older Adults”</i> Jennifer Salinas University of Texas at El Paso <i>“50k4Life: A Lifestyle Intervention to Promote Walking Among Mexican Americans in El Paso, Texas”</i> Seoyoun Kim — Moderator University of Michigan
12:15 – 12:30 PM	Closing Remarks
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch - Boxes

Organizers: **Flavia Andrade** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Jacqueline Angel The University of Texas at Austin

Emma Aguila University of Southern California

David Camacho University of Illinois-Chicago

External reviewer: **Kristine J Ajrouch** University of Michigan

Rapporteur: **Nicholas Bishop** University of Arizona