

The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology

Departmental Seminar

***Why Go Intergenerational?
The Added Value Argument.***

Date: March 3, 2014 (Monday)

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Venue: Social Sciences Chamber, 11/F, The Jockey Club Tower,
Centennial Campus, HKU

Speaker: Professor Matthew S. Kaplan, Ph.D.
Professor, Intergenerational Programs and Aging
The Pennsylvania State University

This session will highlight several examples of evidence-based intergenerational programs that offer new solutions to old problems. For example, FRIDGE, an intergenerational nutrition education program developed at Penn State, is a viable strategy for reducing children's consumption of sugary drinks and fatty and fried foods. The program was found to be effective in increasing participating children's and adult's knowledge about food and nutrition, enhancing family communication about food, and improving family teamwork aimed at achieving healthy eating goals. This session will also highlight intergenerational strategies that have been found to be useful in the areas of community development, environmental education, second language learning, and farm succession planning.

Short Biography: Matt Kaplan is Professor of Intergenerational Programs and Aging in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education (at Penn State University). In this position, he conducts research, develops curricular resources, and provides statewide leadership in the development and evaluation of intergenerational programs. Dr. Kaplan's work focuses on intergenerational programs and practices from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. He has published several books including one for teachers and community educators, entitled "Side-by-Side: Exploring Your Neighborhood through Intergenerational Activities," and two that explore the international dimension of intergenerational work: "The Role of Intergenerational Programs for Supporting Children, Youth and Elders in Japan" and "Linking Lifetimes: A Global View of Intergenerational Exchange" (with Henkin and Kusano). He also teaches an online course on intergenerational programs and practices which introduces students from departments across the university to the intergenerational studies field. He has a Ph.D. in Environmental Psychology from the City University of New York Graduate Center.