



RESOLUTION

SSR 2017/2018-003

- I. **Resolution Name:** Support for Age-Friendly University
- II. **Committee Assigned/Sponsoring Committee:** Alumni and Community
- III. **Stated Resolution:**

Be it resolved that the University of Central Oklahoma Staff Senate, along with the Committee on Diversity, recommend that the University of Central Oklahoma join the Age-Friendly University (AFU) Global Network. By joining the AFU Global Network, UCO endorses the 10 AFU principles and agrees to use these principles to inform our efforts to develop more age-friendly programs and practices.

Eleventh Principle:

In addition to the 10 AFU principles, UCO also affirms that our campus community will be a place where the ideas and contributions of people of all ages are welcomed and valued.

- IV. **Definition of Terms:**

Age-Friendly University Global Network – an international, interdisciplinary partnership of higher education institutions who have adopted the 10 AFU principles.

10 AFU principles – See attached handout

- V. **Justification:**

The number of older adults is growing rapidly as individuals worldwide experience increased longevity. Higher education institutions have a unique opportunity to respond to the educational needs of an age-diverse society by developing programs and practices that benefit students and employees of all ages. As a metropolitan university, 16% of our students are over the age of 30.

Benefits:

By endorsing the principles of the AFU Global Network, UCO will be at the forefront of demonstrating an inclusive environment for individuals of all ages, including students, faculty, staff and the members of the OKC Metro community.

There is no cost associated with this request, as UCO already has programs that address the needs of older adults. A few of these programs are tuition discounts, programs offered

by the Center for Active Learning and Living, the Generations Learning Together center, the Wellness Center, and the Emeritus Faculty Association.

Currently there are no Oklahoma institutions or peer institutions who belong to the AFU Global Network.

See attachment for institutions belonging to the AFU Global Network.

VI. Office(s) Contacted: (List all offices/departments contacted for information, and keep record of the conversations in your Senate files.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office/Department</u>	<u>Date Contacted</u>
Committee Members	Committee on Diversity	December 13, 2017
Dr. Melissa Powers	Kinesiology & Health Studies	February 6, 2018
Dr. Charlotte Simmons	Academic Affairs	April 18, 2018

VII. Office(s) Affected: (Be specific, as these offices may receive the resolution, if passed.)

The entire UCO campus.

VIII. Directed to: (List individual(s), office(s), or department(s) that are to receive the resolution, if passed.)

The President's Cabinet
Office of Legal Counsel

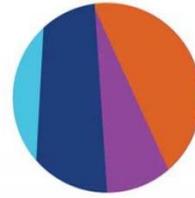
Passed by unanimous consent of the UCO Staff Senate this 5th day of June, 2018.



Liliana Rentería Mendoza, Staff Senate President

Institutions Belonging to the AFU Global Community

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ (USA)
Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT (USA)
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL (USA)
Lasell College, Newton, MA (USA)
The University of Akron, Akron, OH (USA)
University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA (USA)
University of New England, Biddeford, ME (USA)
Dublin City University, Dublin (Ireland)
Leeds Beckett University, Leeds, West Yorkshire (England)
National College of Ireland Docklands University of Galway, Galway (Ireland)
Strathclyde University, Glasgow (Scotland)
University of Canberra, Canberra (Australia)
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg (Canada)
University of Pai Chai, Daejeon (South Korea)



Becoming a Member of the Age-Friendly University (AFU) Global Network – The 10 AFU Principles

The Age-Friendly University (AFU) principles reflect the work of an international, interdisciplinary team convened by Professor Brían MacCraith, President, Dublin City University (DCU) to identify the distinctive contributions institutions of higher education can make in responding to the interests and needs of an aging population. Launched by the Irish Prime Minister, (An Taoiseach) Enda Kenny in 2012 the 10 AFU principles have been adopted by a growing number of institutions in Ireland, the U.K., the U.S., and Canada.

The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) endorses the AFU principles and invites its members and affiliates to call upon their institutions to endorse the principles and become part of the pioneering global network of age-friendly institutions of higher education.

What are the 10 AFU principles?

1. To encourage the participation of older adults in all the **core activities** of the university, including educational and research programs.
2. To promote personal and career development in the second half of life and to support those who wish to pursue **second careers**.
3. To recognize the **range of educational needs** of older adults (from those who were early school-leavers through to those who wish to pursue Master's or PhD qualifications).
4. To promote **intergenerational learning** to facilitate the reciprocal sharing of expertise between learners of all ages.
5. To widen access to **online educational opportunities** for older adults to ensure a diversity of routes to participation.
6. To ensure that the university's **research agenda** is informed by the needs of an ageing society and to promote public discourse on how higher education can better respond to the varied interests and needs of older adults.
7. To increase the understanding of students of the **longevity dividend** and the increasing complexity and richness that aging brings to our society.
8. To enhance access for older adults to the university's range of **health and wellness** programs and its **arts and cultural activities**.
9. To engage actively with the university's own **retired community**.
10. To ensure regular **dialogue** with organizations representing the interests of the aging population.

Why should my institution endorse the AFU principles?

Across communities in the U.S., the number of older adults is growing annually at unprecedented rates and significantly more individuals are experiencing increased longevity. Response to the educational needs and interests of this emerging age population calls for new opportunities and innovative practices of teaching, research, and community engagement that colleges and universities in communities are poised to offer.

The AFU principles give your institution a valuable guiding framework for distinguishing and evaluating how it can shape age-friendly programs and practices, as well as identify gaps and opportunities for growth.

Joining the AFU AGHE network of global partners offers your institution the opportunity to learn about emerging age-friendly efforts and to contribute to an educational movement of social, personal, and economic benefit to students of all ages and institutions of higher education alike.

How does my institution go about endorsing the AFU principles?

Complete the following steps to join the AFU network of global partners working to build more age-friendly institutions of higher education.

1. Meet with colleagues from your department (and interested others from affiliated aging programs or centers) to review the AFU principles and map how they inform opportunities and gaps at your institution. Seek faculty endorsement of the principles at the department, program, and/or institutional level.
2. Arrange a meeting with the appropriate member of your administration (e.g., dean, provost, president) who would approve your institutional endorsement. Some institutions may also wish to discuss the initiative with a faculty assembly, a governance group, or curriculum committee.
3. Send confirmation of your endorsement to Christine O'Kelly (Age-Friendly University Network Coordinator, Dublin City University): christine.okelly@dcu.ie (website: www.dcu.ie/agefriendly). Include in your confirmation notice, the AFU contact at your institution, a link to your institutional website, and a copy of your institutional logo to be used on the AFU webpages. Copy M. Angela Baker (Director, AGHE): abaker@aghe.org.
4. Work with your communications office to develop a press release announcing your institution's endorsement of the AFU principles. DCU and AGHE are happy to provide comments for your notice. See AGHE's press release at: https://www.aghe.org/images/aghe/documents/agefriendly_pressrelease.pdf.

Some FAQ's

Is there a cost? Currently there is no cost to join.

Does my institution need to fulfill all AFU principles? While it is hoped that institutions will strive to address all of the 10 AFU principles to some degree, variation is expected given factors that distinguish institutions and their programs.

Who are some of the other AFU institutions? Arizona State Univ., Lasell College (U.S.), Univ. of Manitoba (Canada), Univ. of Galway (Ireland), Strathclyde Univ. Glasgow, Leeds Beckett Univ. (U.K.), Univ. of Canberra (Australia).

WELCOME TO THE AFU NETWORK! Your first step in endorsing and using the AFU principles to inform your efforts to develop more age-friendly programs and practices is the most important one. We look forward to the next steps with AFU AGHE global partners in building more age-friendly institutions of higher education.