States, 2. College of Public Health, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, United States, 3. Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, Ohio, United States, 4. University of California, San Diego, San Diego, California, United States, 5. Kaiser Permanente Northern California Division of Research, Oakland, California, United States, 6. College of Medicine, Salaman Al Rajhi University, Bukairyah, Al Qasim, Saudi Arabia, 7. Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, United States

We examined the factors associated with physical activity following cancer treatment among older breast cancer survivors from the WHI LILAC study. The majority of participants (n=3,710, mean age=78.8±5.9) were white (86%), and had in situ/localized breast cancer (79%). Women who received radiation therapy, were overweight/normal weight, had fewer reported cancer-related symptoms, no lymphedema, higher self-rated health, higher physical functioning, no pain, no depressive symptoms, and higher social support had significantly greater participation and duration of physical activity (all p<0.05). Women aged <75 who received radiation had longer duration of total minutes of physical activity (β=19.7, p<0.05), while women aged 75-85 who received radiation had shorter duration of total minutes of physical activity (β=-3.2, p<0.05). These results indicate that multiple health and social factors are associated with physical activity in this cohort. Interventions to facilitate physical activity among this group should consider body weight, symptom burden, comorbidity status, and social support.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE’S CANCER AND AGING PRIORITIES
Jennifer Guida, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, United States

Modern improvements in cancer detection and treatment coupled with the implementation of population-based cancer prevention and control strategies have contributed to a sustained decline in overall cancer mortality rates. Although this trend is promising, challenges at the nexus of cancer and aging are, in turn, becoming more prominent. Older adults (age 65 years and older) are the largest growing segment of the U.S. population, and aging into older adulthood is disproportionately associated with the incidence of common cancers. Many survivors of childhood cancer will live for decades after cancer treatment and mature into older age. Strategic investments in aging research will contribute to population health by preserving or improving healthspan and ensuring equitable access to – and benefit from – advances in cancer prevention, control, and population science. This presentation will describe ongoing cancer and aging efforts at the National Cancer Institute, including programmatic priorities and current funding opportunities.

Session 3135 (Symposium)

THE NEW FACES AND NEW PLACES OF GERONTOLOGICAL SCIENCE
Chair: Felipe Sierra

The field of geroscience is rapidly evolving, as well as expanding worldwide. The Program will highlight new approaches and players in the field. Notably, geroscience was initiated as an effort to improve recognition of the role played by basic aging biology in our efforts to improve the health of older adults. Substantial recognition by multiple players of that role of basic aging biology have resulted in significant interest on the part of clinicians and translational biology practitioners. The program will highlight examples of hand-picked efforts in industry and academia, both in the US and in Europe, and will bring into the same stage researchers interested in the various facets of geroscience, from basic biology, translation, clinical and, ultimately, industry viewpoints.

INSPIRE: A NEW EFFORT ON GERONTOLOGICAL SCIENCE IN TOULOUSE, FRANCE
Felipe Sierra,1 and Bruno Vellas,2 1. CHU Toulouse, France, Toulouse, Midi-Pyrenees, France, 2. CHU Toulouse: Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Toulouse, Gérontopôle de Toulouse, Institut du Vieillissement, Midi-Pyrenees, France

The Inspire project of the Toulouse Hospital System is a comprehensive approach to health care in older adults, focused on maintenance of health and physical function. At the core of the project are human, mouse and killifish cohorts, which in the case of humans, is comprised of 1,000 subjects of ages 20 and above, which are followed for a total of 10 years, both via visits to the clinic, and electronic follow-up via the ICOPE app. At recruitment they are stratified as robust, pre-frail or frail according to Fried’s criteria, and then followed for loss of Intrinsic Capacities, as defined by WHO. A parallel cohort of Swiss mice with enhanced (exercise) and decreased (high fat diet) health will be used to measure concordant parameters. The project is generating a significant biorepository that is being used to pursue research in several areas where Toulouse has a significant research strength.

THE RISE AND THE DEATH OF SENESCENT CELLS: FROM MECHANISMS TO INTERVENTIONS
Marco Demaria, Medical Faculty, Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands

Aging is at the root of age-related diseases and therapies targeting basic age-associated mechanisms have the potential to extend healthy lifespan. A common feature of older organisms is the accumulation of senescent cells – cells that have irreversibly lost the capacity to undergo replication. Senescent cells are characterized by an irreversible cell cycle arrest and by the Senescence-Associated Secretory Phenotype (SASP), which include many tissue remodeling and pro-inflammatory factors. Senescent cells are intermittently present during embryogenesis and in young organisms. On the contrary senescent cells accumulate and persist in aging tissues. Significantly, these persistent senescent cells can drive low-grade chronic inflammation, and their genetic or pharmacological elimination is sufficient to delay a number of diseases and to improve healthspan. Here, I will discuss the mechanisms by which senescent cells can promote tissue aging and dysfunction and the potential of targeting senescent cells to delay human aging.

THE GROWING GLOBAL HEALTHY LONGEVITY ECOSYSTEM
Thomas Seoh, Kitalys Institute, Charlottesville, Virginia, United States

The geroscience field has started to grow exponentially in recent decades. This in turn has led to a rapidly emerging global ecosystem of players and nodes that has radiated out
into fields from clinical investigation to medical practice to capital markets and startup activity to consumer-facing goods and services, regulations, laws and policies and the general wellness-conscious public. These are still early days, and there is uncertainty and a lack of awareness about the shape and activities of this rapidly growing and evolving community. This presentation will attempt a high-level survey of the current landscape in the hope of promoting awareness and collaborations among diverse, multiple initiatives that can accelerate the field.

TRANSLATIONAL GEROSCIENCE: HUMAN MODELS OF HEALTHY AGING AND LONGEVITY
Sofiya Milman, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, New York, United States

While insulin like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) is a well-established modulator of aging and longevity in model organisms, its role in humans is less well understood. Previous ambiguities in part have been attributed to cohort characteristics and unawareness of interactions between age and IGF-1. Centenarians have emerged as an ideal model of healthy aging because they delay the onset of age-related diseases and often remain disease free for the duration of their lifespan. In cohorts of centenarians and generally healthy older adults, we demonstrated that reduced IGF-1 is associated with extended lifespan and health-span. Additionally, we confirmed that IGF-1 interacts with age to modify risk in a manner consistent with antagonistic pleiotropy: younger individuals with high IGF-1 are protected from dementia, vascular disease, diabetes, cancer, and osteoporosis, while older individuals do not exhibit IGF-1-associated protection from disease. These findings offer evidence for IGF-1 modulating health-span and lifespan in humans.

Session 3140 (Symposium)

POLICY SERIES: THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT, THE AGING NETWORK, AND THE PANDEMIC
Chair: Brian Lindberg

This session provides insights into how the pandemic challenged the capabilities and ingenuity of the Older Americans Act (OAA) programs and the aging network and what it means for in-home and community aging services now and in the future. Speakers will include key aging network stakeholders, who will discuss the overnight evolution of programs serving often isolated older adults.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT MEALS PROGRAMS: RESPONDING TO THE PANDEMIC
Katie Jantzi, Meals on Wheels America, Arlington, Virginia, United States

This session provides insights into how the pandemic challenged the capabilities and ingenuity of the Older Americans Act (OAA) programs and the aging network. Speakers will include key aging network stakeholders, who will discuss the overnight evolution of programs serving often isolated older adults.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT SUPPORTS AND SERVICES: ADAPTING TO THE PANDEMIC
Amy Gotwals, USAging, Washington, District of Columbia, United States

This session provides insights into how the pandemic challenged the capabilities and ingenuity of the Older Americans Act (OAA) programs and the aging network. Speakers will include key aging network stakeholders, who will discuss the overnight evolution of programs serving often isolated older adults.

Session 3145 (Symposium)

THE TIES THAT BIND: HOW ONLINE AND OFFLINE INTERACTIONS AFFECT SOCIAL SUPPORT AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OLDER ADULTS
Chair: Shelia Cotten

Though a digital divide still exists, older adults are increasingly using a range of information and communication technologies (ICTs) — smartphones, apps, tablets, and computers — to communicate and engage with social ties. This symposium focuses on modalities of interaction — whether online or offline — that older adults use to interact with social ties. The research projects detailed examine the frequency of different interaction modalities, as well as impacts of these interaction modalities on older adults’ perceptions of social support and quality of life. Kadylyak and colleagues focus on social robots and how older adults may engage with this evolving technology to improve social engagement and aging in place. Kim and Fingerman investigate whether daily social media use is associated with same-day negative or positive mood in later life. Xie and colleagues examine older adults’ patterns of both online and offline social interaction during COVID-19, and how older adults perceive these interactions. Schuster and Cotten, using a national sample of individuals aged 65 and older, examine whether social media use may be related to a range of quality of life indicators. Each of these studies provides additional insights into the ways through which older adults interact and communicate with social ties, and potential impacts of the different ways through which they interact, which may provide insights into groups seeking to increase social engagement among older adults in general and during times when social isolation may be exacerbated due to societal stressors, such as pandemics.

OLDER ADULTS’ ONLINE AND OFFLINE SOCIAL INTERACTIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
Bo Xie,1 Kristina Shiroma,2 Atami De Main,3 and Nathan Davis,1 1. The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, United States, 2. The University of Texas at Austin, The University of Texas at Austin, Texas, United States, 3. School of Nursing, the university of texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, United States

During the COVID-19 pandemic, much of our social interaction has transitioned from in-person to online. This study examined older adults’ social interaction during COVID-19, online and offline. Participants were recruited from community-dwelling older adults in Central Texas. Data collection took place via the telephone during June-August 2020 (N = 200; age range: 65-92 years; Mean: 73.6; SD: 6.33). Participants used a variety of communication modes, including phone or texting (used by 99% of the participants); email (44%); in person (35%); video chat (31%); social media (24%); and postal mail (4%). Most participants (77%) used more than one communication mode.