

## Workshop

# Sociability, Language and the Elderly

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018, 09:00-12:30  
University of Lausanne, Anthropole Building, Room 2102

**Hosted by the Department of Language and Information Sciences**

Organizers: Gilles Merminod, Pascal Singy and Orest Weber

The workshop is dedicated to the issue of sociability among elderly people, and focuses on the elders' communication networks.

In Europe, ageing is a major demographic fact. It commits contemporary society to finding sustainable and equitable solutions to support the increase of elderly people with caring needs. Faced with this situation, public authorities promote *ageing in place* policies, partly for economic reasons. In this context, a better understanding of elders' modes of sociability and, in particular, of their communication networks could contribute to the "better being" of a vulnerable – and often silenced – population, and could prevent its isolation.

Drawing on anthropology, ethnography and sociolinguistics, the aim of the workshop is to explore and discuss the varied methods currently used in qualitative research to study the elders' communication practices and to identify their relational needs.

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