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Special Issue on Ageless Computing, Design and Service

As the world population ages, increasing strain is put on existing elderly care and healthcare infrastructure and resources. Home-based active independent living is urgently needed to address the problems global aging in which many elderly people tend to lead an isolated lifestyle.

As their physical and cognitive abilities decline, the elderly may need constant assistance and support through intelligent systems with a focus on satisfying their social and emotional needs. It would be profoundly impactful for computer scientists to carry out regular in-depth discussions on how to use computing technologies and services to help the elderly stay at home in good health for longer periods of time before having to be transferred to professional care.

With such a vision, we organized this special issue in IJIT to act as a forum for the endeavor to advance the state of the art of ageless computing so as to better serve our aging world. This special issue is made up of two vision papers and two technical papers. *Towards an Ageless Computing Ecosystem* talks about the overall vision of redeploying information technologies to co-create an ageless computing ecosystem together with various stakeholders and transform the lifestyle of future elderly generations; *Building Ageless Urban Communities* is a more focused discussion of the challenges and opportunities facing Chinese urban planners in the context of an aging world; *Design and Implementation of an Adaptive Hypermedia Model based on the Thinking Style* presented a novel learning instructional method assisted by computing technology which can potentially be applied to promoting lifelong learning among the elderly populations; and last but not least, *Approaches for Refactoring to Frameworks* offered a general approach for enhancing the reusability of software components which can be useful for building ageless computing products and services.

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