



Professor Daniel Lai

Professor and Associate Dean (Research & Partnerships)
Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary

Biography

Daniel Lai, PhD, RSW, is Professor and Associate Dean (Research & Partnerships) of the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary. For years, Dr. Lai's teaching and research focus on relationship between culture, health, and well being of aging immigrants and culturally diverse populations, family caregiving issues, and social policy issues related to population aging. Daniel held the Alberta Heritage Health Scholar Award between July 2003 and 2009. He has been very successful in receiving research funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Daniel publishes extensively, with over 80 peer-reviewed journal papers and book chapters, and over 300 conference papers and invited presentations. He was the Social Policy and Practice Section Editor for the Canadian Journal on Aging between August 2003 and July 2007. Between 2004 and 2008, he served on the Institute Advisory Board of Institute of Aging, Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

His research expertise is well recognized in different parts of the world, as indicated through his association with different research organizations. For example, he is an Invited Senior Researcher of the Jiangsu Gerontology Association, Honorary Research Fellow at the Sau Po Centre on Ageing of The University of Hong Kong, and Research Affiliate of the Prairie Metropolis Centre.

As a Registered Social Worker in Alberta, Daniel is highly involved in policy development and community services, striving to integrate research, practice, and policy. He was a member of the Demographic Planning Commission in Alberta and involved in the development of the Population Aging Framework of the Government of Alberta. At the community level, Daniel had also served on many non-profit boards, including AMSSA (Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Services Agencies of BC), Canadian Mental Health Association in Calgary, and United Way of Calgary and Area. Currently, he sits a board member of the Alzheimer Society of Calgary, Canadian Association of Gerontology, and Calgary Family Services.