J.L. FOZARD & W. BOOT (Conveners, United States). Celebrating the many contributions of Dr. Neil Charness, ISG's Newest Grandmaster. Gerontechnology 2018;17(Suppl):201s; https://doi.org/10.4017/gt.2018.17.s.196.00
Participants J. L. FOZARD (USA), W. BOOT (USA), G. GUTMAN (CANADA), Y-L HSU (TAIWAN). **Issue** Neil Charness's career in cognitive aging and gerontechnology spans four decades, and in this time he has made significant contributions in the areas of the intersection between aging and cognition, expertise, human-computer interaction, technology design, training, and transportation safety. Within this timespan he has published 88 journal articles, 7 books, 56 book chapters, and 19 proceedings papers. As evidence of the impact of this work, these publications have been cited close to 16,000 times, and he has published over 50 papers that have been cited over 50 times each (h-index 52). Among other major contributions, he was a founding member the Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement (CREATE), a long-standing National Institute on Aging funded center dedicated to ensuring that the benefits of technology can be realized by older adults. He also founded and directs at Florida State University the Institute for Successful Longevity, an institute devoted to interdisciplinary re-search on healthy physical and cognitive aging that can discover the causes of age-related cognitive decline and translate those discoveries into practices and interventions that slow or halt it. Further, he has been active as Associate Director of the U.S. Department of Transportation funded University Transportation Center, the Center for Accessibility and Safety for an Aging Population (ASAP). His recent work has explored older adults' attitudes toward advanced driver-assistance systems. His research has made significant contributions to theory, but has also contributed to practice and policy in important ways. Work funded by Florida Department of Transportation for a decade informed roadway changes and education campaigns to help ensure the safety and mobility of aging road users. His work with AARP's Global Council on Brain Health provided guidance to older adults and policymakers regarding the relationship between cognitively simulating activities and cognitive decline. In addition to these contributions, he has provided training and inspiration to countless undergraduate students, graduate students, and junior investigators. He has been a passionate advocate for considering and including older adults in the design process. **Content** This session will celebrate the impact of Neil Charness and his contributions to various areas of cognitive aging and gerontechnology. **Structure** The session will follow a roundtable format in which each participant will recount just a subset of the many significant contributions of Dr. Charness in a specific domain of research and encourage discussion. **Conclusion** From his early work on the intersection of expertise and aging, to his more recent work on methods to counter age-related cognitive decline and social isolation through technology, Dr. Charness has throughout his career been at the forefront of the science of aging. He has made exceptional contributions to the fields of cognitive aging and gerontechnology (among other fields) over the past four decades, with these contributions advancing theory and practice, and contributing in meaningful ways to older adults' safety, well-being, and quality of life. His advocacy for older adults, and teaching and mentorship of students and young investigators will have a lasting positive impact on the world. He is well-deserving of the title grandmaster of gerontechnology.

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