

**ACE 2026 Annual Meeting
ALOFT Hotel
Buffalo, NY**

September 14-17, 2026

MEETING AGENDA

Monday, September 14, 2026

Workshops

7:15 am – 5:00 pm	Registration
8am – 12pm	Implementation Science 101 Target Audience: Description: This introductory workshop provides a practical overview of implementation science and its role in bridging the gap between evidence and practice. Participants will be introduced to key implementation science concepts, common frameworks, implementation outcomes, study designs, and strategies for integrating implementation science into research and practice. Through real-world examples and interactive discussion, attendees will gain foundational knowledge and practical tools to begin applying implementation science principles in their own work. Co-conveners: Gloria Aidoo-Frimpong, PhD (University at Buffalo) and Katia Noyes, PhD (University at Buffalo) <i>Room: 1914</i>
8am-12pm	Beyond the Lecture: A Hands-On Workshop on Teaching Epidemiologic Reasoning Co-conveners: Yvonne Michael, ScD (Drexel Dornsife) and Melissa Kaufman, EdD, Associate Dean for Education (Drexel Dornsife). Target Audience: Anyone who teaches epidemiologic methods — undergraduate and graduate faculty, doctoral seminar leaders, preceptors, and practitioners who train staff in health departments, agencies, or consulting settings. No pedagogy background required. Description: Epidemiology training is built around methods, but the capacities graduates most need — reasoning under uncertainty, arguing and revising in public, translating across disciplines — are rarely taught deliberately. They can be, without adding curricular time, by changing the form of methods instruction rather than its content. Participants spend the first hour as learners, working through three activities on selection bias. We then take them apart to identify the design principles, strategies, and outcomes. In the second half, participants design their own activity and exchange structured feedback. Everyone leaves with a drafted activity and a plan to use it. <i>Room: Fuhrmann Room</i>
12:30 – 4:00 pm	Equity & Inclusion Committee Workshop Title: "Advancing Black Men's Health Research: From Racial Differences to Equity-Focused Action" Speaker: Roland Thorpe, PhD (Johns Hopkins University)

	Target Audience: Epidemiologists, public health researchers and practitioners, clinicians, community-engaged scholars, and students interested in structural drivers of health, Black men's health, health equity, and translating evidence into action. Description: This workshop will examine how to move beyond documenting racial differences to identify and address the social and structural drivers of health inequities. The workshop will feature lessons from the Black Men's Health Project, methodological considerations, the presentation of a systematic literature review on social injustice and health inequities, and strategies for making epidemiology resilient and action oriented. <i>Room: Furhmann Room</i>
12:30 - 4:00 pm	Associate Director / Program Leader Workshop Title: Speaker: Peter Shields, MD (Ohio State University) Target Audience: Chairs, Deans, and Leaders of Programs of Epidemiology (CDLPE) in Academic, Government, and Private Institutions Description: This leadership session will bring together academic leaders, senior government officials, and private sector program leaders to align epidemiologic training with workforce needs. Participants will discuss cross-sector collaborations, curriculum standards, infrastructure funding, and strategic workforce pipelines. <i>Room: 1914</i>
4:15 - 5:45 pm	Welcome Reception & Networking Professional Development Committee Mentoring <i>Location: Forbes Theater</i>
Tuesday, September 15, 2026	
7:15 am - 6:00 pm	Registration <i>Location: Upper Lobby / Tactic</i>
7:00 – 11:00 am	Poster Set-Up <i>Location: Forbes Theater</i>
7:00 - 8:15 am	Breakfast Attendee, Associate Member & ACE Scholars Breakfast with the ACE Board of Directors <i>Please Look for Specific Table Signs</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
8:30 – 9:15 am	ACE Annual Meeting Opening Call to Order President Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, FACE (5 min) Welcome by Annual Meeting Committee Co-chairs (10 min) Pauline Mendola, PhD, MS, FACE & Matthew Bonner, PhD, MPH, FACE Presidential Address Bertha Hidalgo Announcement of Future Annual Meeting Dates & Venues <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>

9:15 – 10:15 am	Opening Keynote Michelle Williams, PhD (Stanford University) <i>Title:</i> <i>Moderator: Melissa Bondy (Stanford University)</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
10:15 – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 – 11:30 am	Plenary Session #1 Title: AI in Publishing Panelists: Patrick Sullivan, DVM, PhD (Emory University, Editor in Chief for Annals of Epidemiology), Enrique Schisterman-(UPenn, Editor in Chief for AJE) & Hailey Banack <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
11:00 am – 6:00 pm	Poster Exhibition <i>Location: Forbes Theater</i>
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Plenary Session #2 Title: Global measles outbreaks Speaker from Mexico Annette's speaker? Mauricio Rodriguez (checking on 2 nd hotel night) Moderator: Diana Bensyl, PhD (CDC) <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
12:30 – 1:00 pm	Lunch Boxed Lunch <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Keynote Dr. Peter Hotez, MD, PhD (Baylor College of Medicine) Title: "Are we prepared for the next pandemic" <i>Moderator: Melissa Bondy (Stanford University)</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Best Abstract Presentations Moderators: Annette Regan, Alberto Paniz-Mondolfi <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
3:00 – 3:15 pm	Break
3:30 – 4:45 pm	Business Meeting • President's College Update - Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, FACE • Committee Chairs reports • Election Results - Annette Adams, PhD, <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>

4:45 – 6:00 pm	Meet the Poster Presenters & Poster Judging All Poster Presenters need to be present during this period. <i>Location: Forbes Theater</i>
6:00 - 9:00 pm	Dinner on your own Associate Members – social (ACE will have restaurants avail for you to choose from, if desired) Fellows – social (ACE will have restaurants avail for you to choose from, if desired)
Wednesday, September 16, 2026	
7:00 am - 5:30 pm	Registration Open
7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast Open to all Chairs of Epidemiology Breakfast (table reserved) <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
8:00 – 9:00 am	Plenary Session Title: “Communicating science in a fragmented society” Speaker: Janet Yang, PhD (University at Buffalo) <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
9:00 – 10:15 am	Keynote-Endowed Lecture Title: Speaker: Montrece Ransom, JD, MPH, PCC, BCC (National Network of Public Health Institutes) <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
10:15-10:30 am	Break
10:30 - 11:30 am	EpiVisionaries Keynote Speaker: James McDonald, MD, MPH (New York State Commissioner of Public Health) Title: <i>Replacing Vicious Cycles with Virtuous Cycles</i> Moderator: Pauline Mendola <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
11:30 – 12:30 pm	Working Lunch - Breakout from Dr. McDonald keynote – grp discussion Grab and go <i>Moderator: David Huang, PhD (CDC)</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Keynote Nancy Kreiger, PhD (Harvard University) Title: Defying erasure: embodied truths will endure – an ecosocial health equity perspective <i>Moderator: Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, FACE</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>

1:30 – 1:45 pm	Break
1:45- 2:45 pm	Panel Session Title: Decentralized Justice, Centralized Evidence: Challenges in Applying Epidemiology in U.S. Courts 1. Amanda Hunt, JD, Partner (Complex Public Health Litigation), Keller Postman, Houston, TX 2. Vinh Le, JD, Associate (Complex Public Health Litigation), Keller Rohrbach, Seattle, WA 3. Qin Rao, MD, MS, Expert Witness/Medical Doctor/Epidemiologist, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY <i>Moderator: William Lee, JD,MS (Kershaw Talley Barlow, P.C.)</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
2:45 – 3:45 pm	Ethics & Policy Committee Panel Session Title: AI and Epidemiology for Learning Health Systems Ross Koppel (University of Pennsylvania) John Holmes (University of Pennsylvania) Steve Waring <i>Moderator: William Lee, JD, MS (Kershaw Talley Barlow, P.C.)</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
3:45 – 4:45 pm	Disappearing data Title: Where has all the data gone? Lara Akinbami, (CDC) NHANES Kristen Rappazzo, Rappazzo Analytics & Consulting, LLC Affiliation: UNC - Chapel Hill <i>Moderator:</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
5:00 – 6:30 pm	Epidemiology Foundation Reception Dinner is included <i>Location: Patrick's Rooftop</i>
Thursday, September 17, 2026	
7:00 – 11:00 am	Registration Open
7:00-8:00am	Breakfast <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
8:00 – 9:00 am	Keynote Lilienfeld Award <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>

9:00 - 10:15 am	ACE Scholars Presentations <i>Moderator: Jan Eberth</i> <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
10:15 – 10:25 pm	Break
10:30 am– 12:00 pm	Awards Ceremony • Annals of Epidemiology Best Paper Award • Annals of Epidemiology Early Career Best Paper Award
	• Student Paper Prize • Outstanding Contributions • Outstanding mentorship award • Early Career Epidemiologist Award • Distinguished Service Award Moderators: Narjes <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>
12:00 pm	Conclusion of ACE Annual Meeting Passing of the gavel – Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, FACE Closing - President Elect, Eyal Oren, PhD <i>Location: Grand Aeries</i>