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 **GET YOUR ACE
MERCH HERE!**



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The American College of Epidemiology was incorporated in 1979 to develop criteria for professional recognition of epidemiologists and to address their professional concerns.

ACE serves the interests of its members through sponsorship of scientific meetings, publications, and educational activities, recognizing outstanding contributions to the field and advocating for issues pertinent to epidemiology.



ACE | AMERICAN
COLLEGE OF
EPIDEMIOLOGY

Message from the American College of Epidemiology President, Bertha A. Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, FACE



Dear ACE Community,

As we move through the summer, I continue to be energized by the incredible engagement and commitment of our members. Whether through committee work, thoughtful conversations, volunteerism, or simply reaching out with ideas, you continue to demonstrate what makes the American College of Epidemiology such a strong professional home.

As you know, planning for our 2026 Annual Meeting in Buffalo is well underway, and I am excited about the outstanding scientific program and professional development opportunities taking shape. In addition to outstanding plenary sessions and scientific presentations, we're expanding opportunities for networking, mentorship, and career development across all stages of our profession. If you haven't already, I encourage you to register early and reserve your room at the meeting hotel; we look forward to seeing many of you in Buffalo!

Over the past several months, we've also been focused on strengthening how ACE communicates with our members and with the broader public. Through conversations with members and leadership, we've begun exploring new approaches to social media and digital engagement that will help showcase the important work of epidemiologists while creating more opportunities for members to connect and contribute. These discussions have reinforced how much talent and creativity exists within our membership, and I appreciate everyone who has shared ideas and offered to help.

One of my favorite parts of serving as President has been recognizing the extraordinary accomplishments of our colleagues. Our annual awards provide an opportunity to celebrate excellence across epidemiology, and I encourage you to nominate deserving peers whose work has advanced science, education, mentoring, and public health practice. Taking a few moments to recognize a colleague is one of the most meaningful ways we can strengthen our profession.

Thank you for your continued engagement with ACE. Your participation – whether by attending meetings, serving on committees, mentoring colleagues, submitting award nominations, or simply sharing your perspectives – helps shape the future of our College. I look forward to continuing our work together and seeing many of you in Buffalo this September.

With appreciation,

Bertha

Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, FACE
President, American College of Epidemiology

ACE ASSOCIATE MEMBER COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee Leadership



Latasha Allen, MSPH MEDM
Epidemiologist/ DrPH Candidate
(Chair), Indiana University



Regina Nechi, PhD Candidate
(Vice-Chair)
College of Pharmacy
Ohio State University

The Associate Member Committee is pleased to welcome two new committee volunteers:

Luis A. Cortez - Committee Secretary, American College of Epidemiology Associate Member Committee

Akeem Bakare - Activities Sub-Committee Chair, American College of Epidemiology Associate Member Committee

We are excited to have Luis and Akeem join the committee and look forward to their contributions in supporting our associate member community.

Join us during the ACE Annual Meeting for the Attendee, Associate Member & ACE Scholars Breakfast with the ACE Board of Directors on **Tuesday, September 15, from 7:00-8:15 a.m.** Please look for the designated Associate Member table signs; we look forward to connecting with you there. Save the date for the Associate Members Social Activity on the same date, **September 15th, from 6pm - 9pm.**

Our next Associate Member Committee Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time.** We encourage all associate members to attend, stay engaged with committee activities, and learn about upcoming opportunities to get involved.

UPDATES FROM THE EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE



Sophia I. Allen, PhD.
(Chair)

The ACE Equity & Inclusion Committee (EIC) continues to advance its mission of fostering a profession where epidemiologists from all backgrounds can contribute, collaborate, and thrive while promoting research that advances equity and improves population health. We appreciate the continued engagement and support of ACE members as we work together to strengthen these efforts across the College.

One of our major initiatives this year is the ACE Scholars Program. Our scholars have made excellent progress on the project, "Epi for Equity: Translating the NIMHD Research Framework into Practice." We look forward to sharing the project outcomes at the ACE Annual Meeting.

Planning is also well underway for the Equity & Inclusion Committee Workshop at the 2026 ACE Annual Meeting in Buffalo, New York. We are excited about the discussions that will provide practical strategies for incorporating equity-focused approaches into epidemiologic research, education, and practice. We hope you will join us for what promises to be an engaging and interactive session.

The EIC has also begun collaborating with ACE's Professional Development Committee on an exciting new initiative to support the professional growth and development of ACE members. While details are still being finalized, we are enthusiastic about this partnership and look forward to sharing more information in the coming months. Stay tuned!

The EIC welcomes opportunities to collaborate with other ACE committees on initiatives that advance equity, inclusion, and excellence in epidemiology. We meet virtually on the second Friday of each month from 3:00–4:00 PM Eastern, and all ACE members are welcome to attend. If your committee is interested in partnering with the EIC, or if you would like to participate in one of our monthly meetings, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at lexaccrd@gmail.com.

We look forward to connecting with many of you in Buffalo this September and wish everyone a productive and enjoyable summer.

ACE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Membership Committee extends its sincere appreciation to the outgoing Chair and Vice Chair, **Dr. Angela Malek** and **Mr. Joel Begay**, for their outstanding leadership and service. Angela served as Chair from November 2024-August 2026 and Joel served as Vice Chair from September 2022-August 2026. Through their dedication, the Committee strengthened its operations, advanced member engagement efforts, and helped position the Committee for continued success.

As Angela and Joel conclude their terms, we are pleased to welcome **Dr. Sara Tartof** and **Dr. Monika Pogorzelska-Maziarz** as the Membership Committee's new Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, for a 2-year term (September 2026-August 2028). Throughout the summer, Angela and Joel will work closely with Sara and Monika to support a smooth leadership transition and ensure continuity of the Membership Committee's ongoing initiatives.

We look forward to Sara and Monika's leadership as the Membership Committee continues its efforts to recruit, retain, engage, and serve ACE members. Please join us in thanking Joel and Angela for their contributions and welcoming Sara and Monika to their new roles!



Angela Malek, PhD, MPH
Outgoing Chair



Joel Begay, MPH
Outgoing Vice Chair



Sara Tartof, PhD, MPH
Incoming Chair



Monika Pogorzelska-Maziarz, PhD
Incoming Vice Chair

WHAT MAKES THE ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE TICK

I am a director in AbbVie's Global Epidemiology team, where I lead PASS, PMR, and PMC studies supporting regulatory requirements for approved oncology therapies. My work focuses on treatments for lung cancer, ovarian cancer, and hematologic malignancies, contributing evidence that helps advance the safe and effective use of important medicines. Throughout my career, I have worked across pharma, biotech, a health data start-up, and consulting, gaining a broad perspective on how epidemiology can be applied in exciting ways to solve complex problems across the healthcare landscape.

Epidemiology is a field with wide-ranging impact, and I am passionate about its ability to inform decisions in many areas of health science. I value the opportunity to translate data into meaningful insights for the benefit of patients.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my three kids and exploring the outdoors together. Our family loves camping, backpacking, and e-foiling. A recent adventure was a first-time visit to Havasupai, which was truly one of the most incredible places I have ever experienced with incredible waterfalls and beautiful desert landscape."

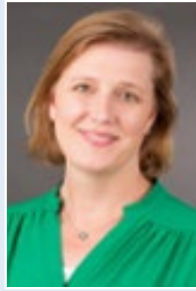
Best,

Nelson Pace, PhD, SM
Director of Epidemiology





Sandy Sulsky, PhD,
MPH (Past Chair)



Tamara Chavez-
Lindell, PhD, MPH,
MACE (Chair)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND NEEDS

The ACE Professional Development Committee was created to support the professional growth of epidemiologists at all career stages and in all sectors and to develop a range of dynamic career-oriented programming tailored to member needs. To accomplish this most effectively, we need to hear from you to identify your unique needs with respect to shaping your career.

Recent years have seen profound changes in the practice of science and in science careers. Some obvious reasons for these changes include increases in funding pressure in all sectors, both academic and non-academic; and continued and rising mistrust of science by those who influence funding decisions, as well as by members of the public. These factors have resulted in departments being consolidated and projects being cut or reduced in scope and may leave epidemiologists (and our colleagues in other branches of science) wondering whether it is time to make a career pivot, revising their focus or even changing sectors. Some may have made this determination already but be uncertain about which direction or next steps to take.

Two ACE committees, Professional Development and Equity and Inclusion, are joining forces to help ACE members think through their career trajectories and the attendant decision-making processes. We are considering several different approaches to offering this support:

- Offering opportunities to interact directly with other ACE members and fellows for 1:1 discussion
- Conducting a series of guided interviews with ACE members and fellows discussing their career pathways and providing thoughts on decision points and decision-making; these will be recorded and archived for members to access
- Hosting interactive panel discussions that will be webcast for broad access
- Developing written materials to be published in the Annals of Epidemiology that will help members identify whether they might be at a career inflection point

To help guide our prioritization of these support projects, please answer this one question: **"If an online session were planned at a time compatible with your schedule, would you participate in a facilitated discussion on how to identify turning points and decisions related to your career?"**

Please access the [link](#) to register your yes/no response by August 14th.

We will post updates about any session(s) we may develop in response to the indicated needs.

REGISTER FOR THE 2026 ACE ANNUAL MEETING!



**Register for the
2026 ACE
Annual Conference**

