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Visit the ACE Website at  
[www.acepidemiology.org](http://www.acepidemiology.org) for  
COVID-19 updates & resources

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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.



## Message from the American College of Epidemiology President, Jan Eberth, MSPH, PhD, FACE

Jan Eberth, MSPH, PhD, FACE  
President, American College of Epidemiology



It's that time of year again. Spring brings with it a sense of renewal and re-birth. It's one of my favorite times of year, minus the pollen allergies of course! This Spring has been particularly exciting for ACE as we embark on developing a new strategic plan, finalize plans for our first hybrid Annual Meeting, and establish the ACE Scholars Program. There's a lot to unpack there, I know!

Our last strategic plan, launched in 2019, helped us transition to a new operations approach and revitalize our membership engagement efforts. While we accomplished many of our goals, we have much left to do! Our Board of Directors and Committee Chairs completed their first brainstorming session to identify the most important priorities to focus on going forward. This exercise was very fruitful and I look forward to sifting through all the notes to identify key themes.

We also have our first hybrid Annual Meeting coming this Fall! Our meeting theme is "Pandemic of misinformation: building trust in epidemiology." Combatting misinformation and offering empathetic, reliable health messaging is more important than ever, as evidenced by the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated population health impacts. The hybrid approach we are offering at this year's Annual Meeting gives us a unique opportunity to highlight more content, including podium presentations and posters. ACE members and non-members alike will have the opportunity to submit abstracts for in-person or virtual only presentation, with up to 6 abstracts chosen for oral presentations. We have some excellent speakers lined up, including Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. We can't wait to have you join us in Scottsdale, Arizona, or virtually in September for this exciting event.

Finally, I have been working to establish a new program to train the next generation of ACE leaders. The ACE Scholars Program will foster the development of early career investigators and practitioners in epidemiology from diverse backgrounds and settings. The program will be open to current Associate Members of the College, as well as Members of the College within the first 5 years since graduation. Scholars will serve 1-year terms and participate in one of ACE's standing committees, implementing a project that aligns with the strategic plan of the College. Scholars will receive a travel subsidy to attend the ACE Annual Meeting and will have the opportunity to publish an article based on their project findings in the *Annals of Epidemiology*. Stay tuned for more information about this program in the coming months.

Sincerely,  
Jan Eberth

## 2022 - 2024 BOARD MEMBERS

We are Kelli Gribben and Tamara Chavez-Lindell, the Associate Board members for 2022-2024. Our goals for the next two years are to encourage ACE membership growth and especially to involve Associate members in the activities of the College for the benefit of all. To that end, we have a couple of requests for all members: 1) make sure that you are following ACE on Twitter @Join\_ACE and engaging with the content; and 2) begin thinking about how ACE membership has benefited you (personally, professionally, educationally, etc.) with an eye toward participating in a social media event later this summer.

We are also looking ahead excitedly to events focused on the needs of Associate members during this fall's Annual Meeting. We hope that many of you will be able to join us in person in Scottsdale or virtually. If you haven't already done so, be sure to mark your calendar! Visit [https://bit.ly/ACE\\_2022](https://bit.ly/ACE_2022) for additional information. We look forward to having a chance to meet you and also to representing you during our tenure.



### KELLI GRIBBEN BIO

Kelli recently graduated with her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Nebraska Medical Center (May 2022). Prior education includes an MPH in Epidemiology from UNMC and a B.S. in biological sciences from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Kelli was fortunate

to work as a CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellow at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in

chronic disease and maternal child health epidemiology. Her research experience spans several chronic disease topics including pulmonary disease, genetics, cancer, and emergency preparedness. She is looking forward to co-leading the Associate Member committee with Tamara, and increasing engagement through attendance at the Annual Meeting, social media outreach, and events and online content tailored to the needs of early-career ACE members.



### TAMARA CHAVEZ BIO

Tamara received her B.A. in History from the University of California, Berkeley, with minors in both Spanish and Literature in English. Following a 3-year tour of Peace Corps service in Ecuador, she completed a Master of Public Health at Tulane University with a concentration in Epidemiology.

In her subsequent 15 years as an epidemiologist with the Tennessee Department of Health, she coordinated tuberculosis research, conducted reportable disease surveillance, investigated outbreaks, and delivered food safety education programming across the southeast with the TN Food Safety Center of Excellence. Since 2016 she has also served as adjunct faculty in the University of Tennessee's Department of Public Health, where she has taught Intro to Public Health, Epidemiology, and Global Health courses. She is currently a 4th year doctoral student in Comparative and Experimental Medicine at the University of Tennessee's College of Veterinary Medicine. Her dissertation research explores the sociodemographic predictors of public healthcare utilization in South Africa.

**PANDEMIC OF MISINFORMATION:  
BUILDING TRUST IN EPIDEMIOLOGY**



**ACE** | AMERICAN  
COLLEGE OF  
EPIDEMIOLOGY

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

**ACE 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2022**



THE SCOTT RESORT & SPA, SCOTTSDALE, AZ

## GET READY FOR A METHODS BOOK CLUB!

**DR. TEKEDA FERGUSON, CHAIR OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DR. KATHY ZHAO, ASSOCIATE MEMBER & EDUCATION COMMITTEE LIAISON**



The Education Committee is partnering up with the Associate Member Committee to introduce a quarterly webinar/seminar series which we are calling a Methods Book Club. A chapter of an epidemiology text book will be highlighted and topic discussions will be led by an Associate Member and book/chapter author(s), along with a senior member from ACE. There will be opportunities for questions to be answered regarding concepts and examples presented in the reviewed chapter. Dr. Tekeda Ferguson, Chair of the Education Committee, along with Kathy Zhao, Associate Member & Education Committee Liaison, are excited to bring this new initiative to our membership. The book club's meetings will be open to all ACE members. The first Book Club will occur in July of 2022. Tekeda and Kathy hope it will be received with enthusiasm and that it will increase the interest of membership at the Associate level.



## UPDATE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

**SARAH GEIGER, PHD, FAHA, MACE (CHAIR), EDWIN VAN WIJNGAARDEN, PHD, FACE (VICE CHAIR), AND JOEL BEGAY, MPH (MANAGER)**

Hello, ACE colleagues! It is good to be alive and to be sharing our news with you again!

The ACE Membership Committee is keeping busy as usual. I want to thank all of you who have attended our monthly ACE seminar, "ACE in Action"! Turnout has been great and we're happy to report that many non-ACE members have attended as well. Please remember that this series is open to ALL—members and non-members alike—so please share the information widely. The intent of these meetings is to learn about some of the day to day work (whether epidemiology research or practice), as well as their experience with ACE itself. Please look for ACE in Action information in your inbox and on the ACE website.

**If you are interested in presenting in this series, please contact David Shonberg at [dshonb2@uic.edu](mailto:dshonb2@uic.edu).** ANY membership type is encouraged to volunteer!

One other thing I'd like to put on your radar is our job fair at the Annual Meeting in September! Have an epi or epi-related job opening at your institution? If you're already registered for the Annual Meeting, you can advertise the job for free! Please indicate your interest when you register, or email me at [smurphy7@illinois.edu](mailto:smurphy7@illinois.edu)!

Without further delay, we bring you the next in our ACE newsletter profiles, Dr. Eyal Oren!

Eyal Oren is a Professor, and infectious disease and social epidemiologist at the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, San Diego State University (SDSU). He is also the Director of the School of Public Health. He has particular expertise in respiratory health, and has led numerous projects in COVID-19, TB, flu, tobacco exposure and asthma. He has also worked at the interface of infectious etiologies and chronic disease outcomes, particularly cancers. He has extensive experience in epidemiological and clinical research, working on the effective adoption of interventions in the community as well as in developing evidence-based strategies and practices from secondary data analyses and novel data sources.

His research group focuses on community-engaged approaches to addressing population health disparities, with a focus on respiratory health as well as infectious etiologies of disease. The group works on multidisciplinary, collaborative projects that are innovative and emphasize new tools and technologies. Methodologically, the focus is on the intersection between social, environmental and spatial epidemiologic methods, and their application to both health difference and disparities.

Dr. Oren is a Fellow of the American College of Epidemiology and also very involved in other professional

organizations, including ASPPH and the American Thoracic Society. He has published 115+ peer-reviewed publications and book chapters and holds an undergraduate degree in Neurobiology and Behavior from Cornell University and PhD and MS degrees in Epidemiology from the University of Washington.

Thanks, Dr. Oren, for taking the time to answer the following questions.

**1. Please describe how you joined ACE:  
what attracted you to the college?**

I knew of other ACE members who served as my role models as a budding epidemiologist. These members were engaged in both research and policy work, and I saw the applied research focus of ACE as a real strength. I also appreciated the diversity of backgrounds and employers in which members were participating.

**2. What has been the best experience you had as a Fellow/Member/Associate Member of the College?**

I have really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know members through social and networking events. The social at Cal Tech in Pasadena (3 years ago) really stood out for me in terms of a perfect mix of ambience, delicious food and lots of opportunities to meet others.

**3. What keeps you engaged in ACE?**

I love the ongoing opportunities to learn through workshops and interactions with colleagues!

I've enjoyed being part of various groups, first as a member of the Publications Committee, then leading the Education Committee and now serving on the Board.

**4. What career advantages do you see coming from continued membership in the College?**

I enjoy learning what other members are up to as well as both reading and contributing to the Annals of Epidemiology. ACE also allows me to stay abreast of latest developments and exciting news among my colleagues.

**5. What are your expectations of what ACE can do for you?**

Understanding new and diverse aspects of epidemiologic research, forging new collaborations for grants and papers, and continuing my professional growth as an epidemiologist. I also like to find ways to contribute to the organization based on my own background and experiences.

**6. Is there anything else you'd like to share with us about your ACE experience?**

I encourage others to get involved with a great group of colleagues!

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Membership Committee, please reach out to me at [smurphy7@illinois.edu](mailto:smurphy7@illinois.edu). I'll leave you with one of my favorite

## THANK YOU TO THE 2021 ACE ANNUAL MEETING ABSTRACT REVIEWERS AND EDITORS!

Patrick Akande	Victoria Crabb	Farzana Kapadia	Christopher Rennix
Reza Alaghebandan	Kevin Craten	Jean Lawrence	Kristi Reynolds
Gemiliano Aligui	Zewditu Demissie	Toby Levin	Masood Ali Shaikh
Duke Appiah	Tekeda Ferguson	Angela Malek	Ninet Sinaii
Janet Arrowsmith	Gary Gackstetter	Naoyo Mori	Jasmine Sweeting
Obafemi Babalola	Semi Gbadamosi	Zuber Mulla	Priyanka Vakkalanka
Chighaf Bakour	German Gonzalez	Tabatha Offutt-Powell	Anupama Vasudevan
Noel C. Barengo	Wayway Hlaing	Ayodeji Ojo	Liang Wang
Jeanine Buchanich	Maria-Graciela Hollm-Delgado	Denise Oleske	Edwina Yeung
Rosemary Caron	Steven Jacobsen	Babatunde Oloyede	Heather Young
Shyam Chirraoori	Marty Kanarek	Monika Pogorzelska-Maziarz	Sifang Kathy Zhao
Krista Christensen	Tzu-Cheng Kao	Kendra Ratnapradipa	

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ACE PEER REVIEW TRAINING PROGRAM CLASS OF 2021

Semiu Gbadamosi

Victoria Crabb

Jasmine Sweeting

Priyaka Vakkalanka

## JOB POSTINGS

**THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE CENTER** is recruiting a new Co-Director. The PNW EPC is an established leader in evidence synthesis. This senior faculty position would be housed in the Department of Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology at Oregon Health & Science University. The ideal candidate would have demonstrated experience conducting methodologically sound systematic reviews, leading research teams, and developing proposals for grants and contracts. The position would work closely with the EPC Director and Program Manager to lead endeavors that advance systematic review methodology and continue to advance our center as a national and international leader in comparative effectiveness research that guides evidence-based practice. This position is an opportunity to work in a collegial, multidisciplinary setting on a diverse range of interesting projects that impact health policy and the quality of healthcare and network with leaders in the area of evidence synthesis.

The full position description and application instructions can be found [here](#). Position requisition number: 2022-15278. For questions, please feel free to reach out to Tosha Zaback at [zabackt@ohsu.edu](mailto:zabackt@ohsu.edu).

**THE SHELBY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (SCHD)** is excited to announce that it is seeking to hire an epidemiologist for its Cure Violence Program. Interested candidates should visit the Shelby County, Tennessee website and click on "Job Postings" for further details. This is a full-time position, complete with a competitive salary and full benefits. We expect to fill this position in the immediate future so it would behoove interested applicants to submit their applications immediately. Thank you for your attention.

James B. Bolen, Ph.D.

Manager, Cure Violence

Shelby County Health Department

901.222.9603