

In This Issue

[Message from the President: First Quarter 2015](#)

[ACE 2015 Annual Meeting](#)

[Call for Abstracts](#)

[Associate Directors' Report](#)

[Numerous Annual Meeting Events Tailored to Associate Members and Junior Epidemiologists](#)

[Minority Affairs Committee Update](#)

[Call for Awards Nominations](#)

[Dr. Dale Sandler Receives Prestigious AMA Award](#)

[Translating Epidemiology into Policy](#)

[Epidemic Intelligence Service](#)

[Summer Statistics and Methods Courses](#)

Calendar
[2015 ACE Annual Meeting](#)
 September 26-29, 2015

Message from the President: First Quarter 2015

Melissa Perry

As the American College of Epidemiology begins its 36th year, I am delighted to be the organization's president and grateful for all you do as members. I want to invite each of you to consider how you can further energize our membership by engaging in member recruitment. As part of the largest organization focused on the professional needs of epidemiologists, members form an important network to promote epidemiology as both a discipline and a profession. Members and Fellows have an opportunity to vote and hold leadership positions in College governance.



Associate Members may sit on all College committees and one Associate Member may serve on the ACE Board of Directors. As you think about talking to your epidemiology colleagues and mentees about applying for ACE membership, I encourage you to refer to our Admission Guidance Information for a detailed list of membership benefits and application information:

[Admissions guidelines](#)

Also, as another way of contributing to our ongoing membership campaign, please consider printing and posting these ACE [membership flyers](#) in areas where other epidemiologists frequent, and electronically distributing them to your network of epidemiology colleagues and trainees who are not yet members of ACE.

[Membership flyer](#) (this 2-page version includes an application)

For our mid-career members and our Fellows, you represent models for our field, and I encourage you to explore with the College how Complete Newsletter View Full Newsletter you can invest in our associate members. Your efforts help ensure that associate members advance in their training and

Fellows Corner
Newly Appointed Fellows
Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Otis Brawley
Hazel Dean
Hormuzd Katki
J. Scott Osborne, III

Complete Newsletter
[View Full Newsletter](#)

career aspirations and become both established epidemiologists and full members of the College in the future.

For our Fellows, I encourage you to use your Fellow of the American College of Epidemiology (FACE) credential in the professional information you disseminate about yourself, such as in your email signature, curriculum vitae, and professional biographical information. This credential publicly communicates that a leading professional organization composed of esteemed colleagues and up-and-coming epidemiologists recognizes and honors your history of epidemiologic accomplishments.

Finally, I encourage you to reflect on how epidemiologists can become more engaged in educating the public and Congress about the vital role that epidemiologic research plays in ensuring the public's health. The College has as part of its mission a commitment to ensuring the relevance of epidemiologic research in informing policy. In keeping with this mission, it is incumbent upon us to engage in communicating and in building public awareness about what epidemiologists do, how our research contributes to health promotion and disease prevention, and why it is essential to ensure steady commitments to funding epidemiologic research. I am looking forward to talking to you about this further in my President's address at our upcoming meeting in Atlanta, September 26-29, 2015. You may be interested in exploring a recently released survey by Pew and AAAS on how scientists and the public view science and scientific issues:

<http://www.pewinternet.org/2015/01/29/public-and-scientists-views-on-science-and-society/>.

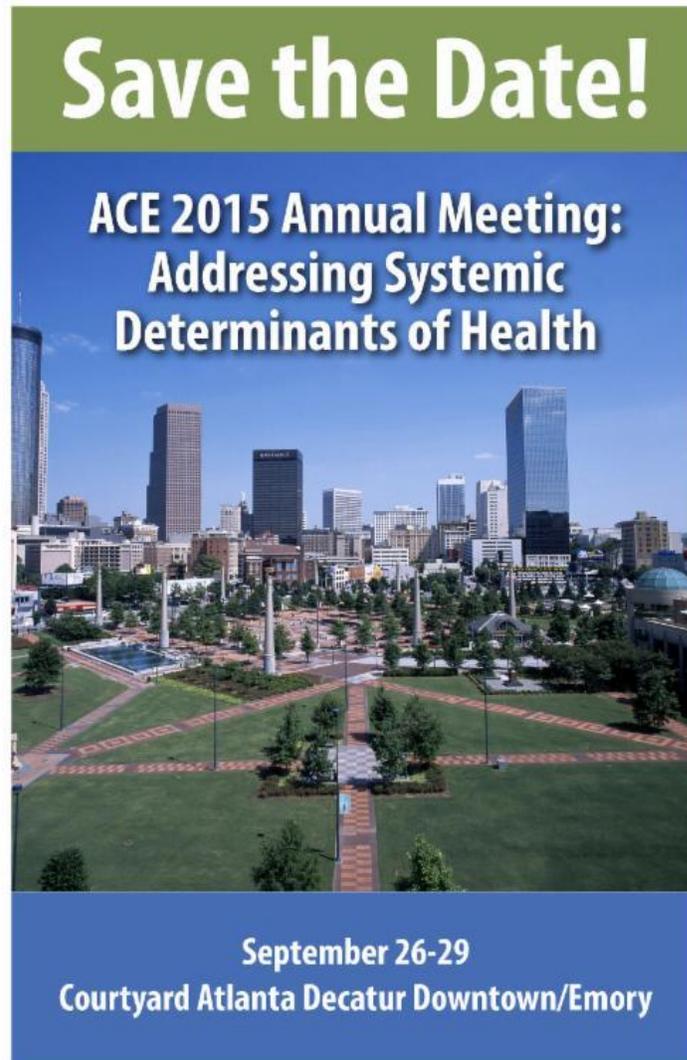
Thank you for your many contributions to the field, and for advancing the positive influence of this important organization!

Melissa J. Perry, ScD, MHS, FACE

President of the American College of Epidemiology
Professor and Chair
Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
Milken Institute School of Public Health
The George Washington University

Top Story

ACE 2015 Annual Meeting Atlanta, Georgia



Save the Date!

**ACE 2015 Annual Meeting:
Addressing Systemic
Determinants of Health**

September 26-29
Courtyard Atlanta Decatur Downtown/Emory

The image is a promotional graphic for the ACE 2015 Annual Meeting. It features a green header with the text 'Save the Date!' in white. Below this is a blue banner with the meeting title 'ACE 2015 Annual Meeting: Addressing Systemic Determinants of Health' in white. The central part of the graphic is a photograph of the Courtyard Atlanta Decatur Downtown/Emory, showing a large green lawn with brick walkways and a city skyline in the background. At the bottom, a blue banner contains the dates 'September 26-29' and the venue name 'Courtyard Atlanta Decatur Downtown/Emory' in white.

The American College of Epidemiology's annual meeting is in Atlanta, Georgia this year. The meeting will be held September 26-29, 2015 at the Courtyard Atlanta Downtown Decatur/Emory. The venue is in the Decatur town square (City of Decatur website: <http://www.visitdecaturgeorgia.com>), a prime location for restaurants, shopping, and rail service (MARTA) from the airport. Parking is convenient and inexpensive. There is also easy rail access to the many universities in the Atlanta area. CDC, the Carter Center, the Martin Luther King, Jr, National Historic Site and other popular attractions are close by so come early or stay late to enjoy all Atlanta has to offer!

The theme of this year's meeting is Addressing Systemic Determinants of Health. Non-communicable diseases are responsible for the majority of deaths, yet the catastrophic outbreak of Ebola virus disease and the spread of Chikungunya and dengue fever in the Americas remind us that communicable diseases remain very much on the public health agenda. What role can epidemiology play in addressing these systemic determinants of health? As we identify and learn more about the complex pathways in any disease process (and its ultimate burden), we must develop and implement new epidemiologic research and approaches that synthesize knowledge and insights from genetics, biology, psychology, anthropology, sociology, economics, political science, environmental sciences, policy sciences, and modeling in order to address systemic determinants of health and disease more fully at local and global levels.

Sir Michael Marmot, MBBS, MPH, PhD, FRCP, FFPHM, FMedSci, Chair of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health, will be the keynote speaker. He has been at the forefront of research into health inequalities for the past 30 years. In 2000, Sir Marmot was knighted by Her Majesty The Queen for services to Epidemiology and understanding health inequalities.

This will be an exciting and interesting meeting in a great location. Please plan to join us!

Call for Abstracts

The ACE invites the submission of abstracts for consideration for poster presentations at our Annual Meeting, which will be held at **the Courtyard Atlanta Decatur Downtown/Emory September 26-29, 2015.**

Poster presentations provide an opportunity for participants to share their work with interested colleagues in an informal, relaxed setting. Authors do not need to be a Member or Fellow of ACE to submit an abstract.

Several abstracts will also be selected for oral presentations during the meeting. This year's meeting theme is **"Addressing Systemic Determinants of Health."** We will focus on the role that epidemiology can play in identifying and addressing the interconnected determinants of health and disease that act at varying levels of an ecosocial framework. New epidemiologic research must learn how to synthesize knowledge and insights from genetics, biology, psychology, anthropology, sociology, economics, political science, environmental sciences, policy sciences, and modeling in order to address systemic determinants of health

and disease more fully at local and global levels. Abstracts addressing the meeting theme are particularly encouraged; however, submissions from other areas of epidemiology are also welcome. Accepted abstracts will be published in the program and the Annals of Epidemiology. The deadline for abstract submission is May 4, 2015. For more information please visit: www.acepidemiology.org.

Abstracts should be prepared according to the instructions provided. Abstracts must be received online by May 4, 2015. Please submit your abstracts online at <http://ees.elsevier.com/ace/>.

FAX AND MAIL submissions will NOT be accepted. Notification regarding the status (accepted or rejected) of all abstracts will be sent to the presenting author by mid-July 2015.

For additional information about the meeting or abstract submission, contact the ACE at 919/861-5573 or email the College at info@acepidemiology.org. Information about the College and the 2015 Annual Meeting may be found at our web site: www.acepidemiology.org.

Associate Directors' Report

Shervin Assari and Jennifer Gander



Hi Associate Members!

We are writing you as the Outgoing (Shervin) and Incoming (Jennifer) Associate Directors of the American College of Epidemiology. Jennifer will serve as the Outgoing Director for one year beginning in September 2015. Lee Karlsson is the Associate Member (AM) Secretary, and Matthew Smeltzer, Emily Vogtmann, Alireza Yazdi, Phani Veeranki, and Sophia Allen are our

liaisons to other ACE Committees. Sophia is conducting the Annual Survey, and Lee is working closely with us to draft the AM strategic plan. Jennifer and Shervin are currently working with the Program Committee to meet the AMs needs related to the annual meeting.



Our main function is to enhance the quality, as well as the quantity, of your engagement with the AM Committee and the College as a whole. Our job is to facilitate your participation in any ACE activities you are interested in. Currently ACE is redesigning its mentoring programs to provide better guidance in your career. We are

currently recruiting for the National Epidemiology Club Coordinator, as well as additional liaisons to other ACE Committees. So, if you are interested in becoming active in any ACE Committee, please contact us via aceassocmember@gmail.com.

Our General Membership and Leadership calls are the first Monday of alternating months. Upon becoming engaged as an AM leader, you will be invited to attend our AM leadership calls. Otherwise, we are inviting you to attend our General AM calls. Please feel free to send us an email with any questions you may have. Based on our recent survey, we are aware of your major expectations and needs as AMs with the three major themes being: "networking opportunities", "training programs", and "job opening listings". We are always interested in hearing more from you.

Shervin Assari and Jennifer Gander
Outgoing and Incoming Associate Directors
Chair and Vice-Chair, Associate Members Committee

Numerous Annual Meeting Events Tailored to Associate Members and Junior Epidemiologists

Shervin Assari

With special thanks to the Annual Meeting's Program Committee, Associate Members are involved in planning multiple activities at the ACE Annual Meeting:

- Round table discussion with current ACE President and President-Elect
- Round table discussion with Sir Michael Marmot and other prestigious speakers and awardees
- Poster Tours guided by ACE Members and fellow ACE Associate Members
- Social event with ACE Associate Members Leadership
- Workshops (topics under development)
- Speed-mentoring with ACE Fellows

We are also announcing availability of financial support for Associate Members who will attend the Annual Meeting. The two pathways are:

- 1) Free registration for contributing volunteer hours, and
- 2) Travel awards for poster presenters

Please contact us via aceassocmember@gmail.com for more information about the above activities.

Minority Affairs Committee Update

Bertha Hidalgo

Greetings!

It gives me great pleasure to update you on the activities of the Minority Affairs committee (MAC). I am an assistant professor in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. As many of you know, I became chair of the MAC this past September and since have worked to keep the activity of the MAC going. Our membership is strong and continues to grow. We have recently elected Dr. Julie Smith-Gagen, Assistant Professor from the University of Nevada, Reno as Vice Chair of the MAC and Sophia Allen (ABD) as the liaison to the Associate Member Committee.



We are in the process of completing the MAC workshop planning; please reserve **Saturday, September 26th, 2015** for this event! It will take place from 12-5pm the day before the official start of the ACE meeting. The Save the Date flyer has been distributed to Schools of Public Health and other programs.

Please contact me if you are interested in helping with the planning or if you would like to join our monthly calls, which take place the second Friday of every month from 2-3pm CST. I am very excited to work with existing and potential members of the MAC and look forward to all that we will contribute to the College and the field of epidemiology this coming year. See you at the meeting this September!

Best,
Bertha Hidalgo

Call for Awards Nominations

The American College of Epidemiology invites nominations for the following 2015 ACE Awards:

- [Abraham Lilienfeld Award](#)
- [2015 Special Award for Outstanding Contributions Through Systemic Epidemiologic Approaches to Improving Health](#)
- [Outstanding Contributions to Epidemiology Award](#)
- [Best Student Prize Paper Award](#)

The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 2015 awards is April 30, 2015.

These Awards will be presented at the [2015 ACE Annual Scientific Sessions](#) in Atlanta, GA, September 26-29. For more information, please visit: www.acepidemiology.org.

Dr. Dale Sandler Receives Prestigious AMA Award



Past President of ACE (1999) and current NIEHS Epidemiology Branch Head, Dr. Dale Sandler, was recently awarded the Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service, a top honor named for the founding father of the American Medical Association. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Sandler!

Translating Epidemiology into Policy

Olivia Carter-Pokras

A major area of emphasis for the American College of Epidemiology is the intersection of epidemiology and policymaking. Although the development of policies and regulations in public health relies on epidemiologic evidence, the methods for evaluating and incorporating such evidence into policymaking are not well established. Ad hoc, time consuming, and occasionally vexing, the process of synthesizing epidemiologic and other evidence into a rational basis for policy may lend itself to crosscutting lessons learned. Policy decisions themselves must remain a matter of case-by-case consideration, but ACE can help discern the successful elements of a more general framework. To better understand the intersection of epidemiology and policy, the ACE Policy Committee hosted three workshops in 2009, 2011, and 2013 at Washington University in St. Louis. The invited panelists included experts from diverse disciplines with extensive policy experience. The three workshops have resulted in a total of eleven (11) case studies and two overview articles published in the *Annals of Epidemiology*. The three latest case studies published in 2014:



Aldrich MC, Hidalgo B, Widome R, Briss P, Brownson RC, Teutsch SM. The role of epidemiology in evidence-based policy making: a case study of tobacco use in youth. *Ann Epidemiol*. 2014 Apr 28. pii: S1047-2797(14)00149-5. doi: 10.1016/j.annepidem.2014.03.005. [Epub ahead of print]

Swanson JW, McGinty EE, Fazel S, Mays VM. Mental illness and reduction of gun violence and suicide: bringing epidemiologic research to policy. *Ann Epidemiol*. 2014 Apr 29. pii: S1047-2797(14)00147-1. doi: 10.1016/j.annepidem.2014.03.004.

Thorpe LE, Assari S, Deppen S, Glied S, Lurie N, Mauer MP, Mays VM, Trapido E. The role of epidemiology in disaster response policy development. *Ann Epidemiol*. 2014 Jul 3. pii: S1047-2797(14)00318-4. doi: 10.1016/j.annepidem.2014.05.016. [Epub ahead of print]

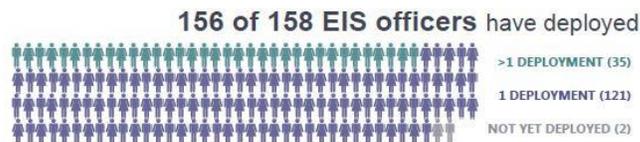
The Policy Committee has created teaching slides that go along with each case study. In using the case studies and/or slidesets, please credit the American College of Epidemiology and the *Annals of Epidemiology*."

Epidemic Intelligence Service

The Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) is a unique 2-year post-graduate training program of service and on-the-job learning for health professionals interested in the practice of applied epidemiology. EIS provides applied, competency-based training through both classroom and on-the-job experience. The program is modeled after a traditional medical residency program where much of the education occurs through hands-on assignments and mentoring.

EIS officers are on the public health frontlines, conducting epidemiologic investigations, research, and public health surveillance both nationally and internationally. During the EIS assignment, officers provide service to CDC and our public health partners. EIS officers work in health departments throughout the U.S. or at CDC.

Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) and the Ebola Response



to **17 countries, 8 states, D.C.,** and the **CDC Emergency Operations Center**



Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services
Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development

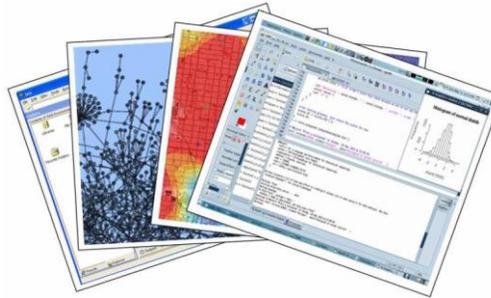
January 2015



EIS officers also respond to urgent or emergent public health problems. Each year, officers support more than 100 field investigations in the United States and around the world. For CDC's Ebola response, EIS officers have put in many hours to help stop the Ebola epidemic in West Africa.

The EIS application will open on May 15, 2015 for the 2016 EIS Class. The application will close August 17, 2015. For more information, visit: www.cdc.gov/eis.

Summer Statistics and Methods Courses



Interested in picking up some new analytic skills this summer? Here is a tremendous compendium of statistics and methods courses held across the United States and Canada over the summer of 2015.

ACE would like to thank Dr. Alan Reifman of Texas Tech University for compiling this course list and his willingness to have it included in this newsletter. See Dr. Reifman's blog for similar compilations of [courses](#) to be held around the globe.

Location	Deadline	Sessions	Topics
Arizona State University	3/24	5/26	Longitudinal SEM
Arizona State University	3/31	6/1	Big Data
Michigan State University	4/2	6/9	Methods/racial-ethnic diversity
University of Cincinnati	4/9	6/15	Non-linear methods
Curran-Bauer Analytics (Chapel Hill, NC)		6/1	Multilevel models
		6/8	Structural Equation Modeling
		6/15	Latent curve
Johns Hopkins Summer Institute on Mental Health Research		6/8	Statistics, epidemiology, psychometrics, and mental health topics
Latent Variable Methods Workshop (Providence, RI)		7/29	Longitudinal data analysis
AAPOR Convention Workshops		5/14	Variety of survey and sampling topics

Click [here](#) for the full list of courses.

ACE News is published by the American College of Epidemiology
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For e-mail or other address changes, contact ACE at info@acepidemiology.org
Visit the ACE website at www.acepidemiology.org