

# News



## President's Letter

By Richard A. Kaslow



During the past several months the Board has engaged in a variety of activities that we trust will enhance the role of ACE in our professional environment and heighten your sense of connection with our organization.

Among others activities, substantive business has included: 1) the Policy Committee's close focus on and responses to proposed regulations under HIPPA, statement of principles on data sharing, and attention to other concerns likely to affect the practice of our profession profoundly; 2) input into

the jointly sponsored CEPH/ACE program focusing on the future of education in epidemiology at the graduate level; 3) continued exploration of needs and opportunities for a College role in training and service in response to the threat of bioterrorism; and 4) discussions with sponsors of Congress 2001 about replicating the enormous success of that event—decisions about whether and how to proceed with another joint congress are expected relatively soon.

A number of other activities involve changes in "process." After the long, dedicated service by Vic Schoenbach, Carlos Camargo has assumed the Chair

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## Albuquerque Meeting Features Panels on Aging, Gender and Ethnicity

Paul H. Levine

From the opening keynote address on "A Healthy Environment" by Stewart Udall, former Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, to the closing panel discussion on the Epidemiology of Ethnicity, this year's ACE session is packed with an informative and challenging series of sessions that combine new efforts addressing early suggestions from the membership plus the tried and true formula of workshops, morning roundtables and debates.

One of the new features this year will be the Educational Forum organized by students and senior faculty. Steered by Nora Lee, this forum will offer opportunities for meeting participants to contribute to a facilitated roundtable discussion on five key issues:

- 1) Primary Data Collection in Doctoral Training: What is it and is it necessary?
- 2) The Art of Mentoring: Can good mentoring be learned?
- 3) Look Who's Talking: Media savvy epidemiologists?
- 4) Epidemiology in 2010: Are we prepared?, and
- 5) Faculty Position vs. Post-Doctoral Fellowships: Pros and cons. Associate Members and post-doctoral fellows will be providing input to this very useful session.

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## Albuquerque Meeting Features Panels on Aging, Gender and Ethnicity

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The Forum also will include a panel chaired by Jonathan Samet and consisting of two additional epidemiologists and three epidemiology students. Following the facilitators' brief summaries of the main points evolving from their roundtable discussions, the panel members will have the opportunity to comment and provide their perspectives on the issues. The ideas that arise from the Forum could help guide epidemiology education and training programs to better meet student needs. This Forum is one in a series of efforts to increase student involvement in ACE activities which includes the ACE Mentoring Program designed to support students in their professional development (See Spring 2001 newsletter).

The three panels on aging, gender and ethnicity have been developed to review and discuss the many changes in thinking involving these key epidemiologic focuses and will provide important new concepts for discussion. In the Aging panel, organized by NIH's Tamara Harris, topics will include:

1) Why some risk factors that are bad for the young are good for the old, i.e. cholesterol, blood pressure and weight

- 2) Blood sugar and its risk in old age (the apparent failure to pay sufficient attention to Type 2 diabetes, fasting elevated glucose, and the role of hyperglycemia in death)
- 3) Are single outcomes still valid in understanding chronic disease epidemiology? (multiple diseases appear to have similar molecular or genetic mechanisms and this is particularly important in the elderly in whom it is common to have a concurrence of multiple diseases.), and
- 4) Social determinants of aging (a discussion of the role social networks and neighborhood characteristics play in health, particularly in the aged).

Marlene Goldman and Maureen Hatch have enlisted the help of panelists from a variety of fields to consider the role sex and gender play in health and epidemiologic research. They are addressing such important questions as: Why are women more likely than men to develop autoimmune disease? Has the women's health "bubble" burst? When compared to men,

women are three times more likely to develop an autoimmune disease, they die from cardiovascular disease in greater numbers, and have different responses to pharmaceuticals. Is "gender-based" medicine the solution or the problem? Do studies that consider the role of gender contribute to our understanding of disease causation? Have studies on the role of gender and health influenced the way diseases are diagnosed and treated? If so, in what way and what is the next step? If not, why not?

Camara Jones and Carol Hogue have organized the third panel, entitled "Ethnicity and Epidemiology: Casting Race in a New Light." In many epidemiologic studies in the United States during the past century, measures of race have been associated with a wide variety of health conditions. However, race remains largely unexamined with respect to health status. Current studies are attempting to tease out the relative contributions of race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status in a variety of areas, such as cancer. Speakers will tackle questions such as the following:



*Luminarias, Old Town Albuquerque. Photo by Ron Behrmann.*

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Paul H. Levine

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Peter Kralka

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## Albuquerque Meeting Features Panels on Aging, Gender and Ethnicity

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- When, why and how should we separate race and ethnicity in epidemiologic studies?
- How should the measures of ethnicity accommodate multi-race designation, ancestry, language and acculturation?
- What aspects of race and ethnicity must be measured in which kinds of studies?
- How does racism become incorporated into the body to affect health?
- What social and cultural aspects of specific ethnic groups should be explored as resilient factors?
- What does genetics have to do with race or ethnicity? (race-based phenotype vs. important genetic markers with varying polymorphisms among phenotypically distinguished groups vs. no phenotype/genotype associations)

Other important events include the Lilienfeld Award, named after the late Abraham Lilienfeld and featuring past awardees since 1985, winners of the 2001 award, and the Student Prize Paper winner which conveys travel support to the

meeting. The popular breakfast roundtables will include Policy Implications of Health Disparities Research, Vaccination Against Cervical Cancer, and Publish or Perish: Tips for Successful Submissions, Roles and Responsibilities of Epidemiologists, and more. Another important feature will be the Policy Debate on "Epidemiology after 9/11: It is Time to Rearrange Priorities."

Meeting registration begins 7:30 am, Sunday, September 22, in the Alvarado Ballroom Foyer of the Sheraton Old Town Hotel. While the actual meeting starts 8:30 am, Monday, Sunday features the Preconference Workshops including a repeat of the very popular Toronto Workshop on Molecular Genetics for Epidemiologists from the Basics to More Advanced Topics. The reception for the ACE meeting is Sunday evening at 7 pm.

Registration includes the reception and all sessions but does not include the Preconference Workshops or the luncheon roundtables on Education in Epidemiology, Occupational Epidemiology (Monday) and Ethics/Standards of Practice in Epidemiology (Tuesday).

## We Need Your Input!

- The 2003 Annual Meeting will be held September 7-9, at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Chicago, IL, and we are currently gathering ideas for a theme of this conference.
- We would also like to have suggestions for sites and people to support the 2004 Meeting.

Please direct your ideas and suggestions via e-mail to Peter Kralka at [pkalka@olsonmgmt.com](mailto:pkalka@olsonmgmt.com) with the subject line: Future ACE Conferences Input.



*Albuquerque Cityscape. Photo by [www.marblestreetstudio.com](http://www.marblestreetstudio.com).*

# Registration Form

## American College of Epidemiology Annual Scientific Sessions

September 22-24, 2002 • Sheraton Old Town Hotel • Albuquerque, NM

Pre-registration closes on September 3, 2002. Registrations received after September 3 will be processed at on-site rates. Refunds will be issued for cancellations received in writing by September 13, 2002.

Please print or type the following information. It will be used to print your name badge and mail your confirmation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
first middle last degree  
Institution \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Workshop Registration

#### Preconference Workshops 1-5 — September 22

Five workshops will be held on Sunday, September 22. Enrollment is limited. Please indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices. You will be assigned your highest priority available.

**Workshop 1** - Molecular Genetics for Epidemiologists: From the Basics (a.m.) to More Advanced Topics (p.m.); Jack A. Taylor, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

\_\_\_ Full day  
\_\_\_ Half day (a.m.)  
\_\_\_ Half day (p.m.)

**Workshop 2** - Epidemiology of Pharmaceuticals and Other Medical Products: A Workshop on Current Methods and Data Resources; Judith Jones and Suellen Curkendall, The Degge Group, Ltd. and TBA, Food and Drug Administration

**Workshop 3** - Multilevel Analysis in Public Health: Concepts and Applications; Ana Diez Roux, Columbia University School of Public Health, and Ron Harrist, University of Texas

**Workshop 4** - Gene Environment Studies; TBA (half day)

**Workshop 5** - (FREE OF CHARGE) Community-Based Participatory Research with Native Americans and Latino Communities: Epidemiologists in the Community; Felicia Hodge, University of California, San Francisco Center for American Indian Research Studies, and Nina Wallerstein, University of New Mexico

#### Full Day Workshops: 1, 2, 3

Member ..... \$165 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Member ..... \$210 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Student\* ..... \$110 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Half Day Workshop: 1 (a.m. or p.m.) or 4

Member ..... \$105 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Member ..... \$165 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Student\* ..... \$ 85 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(A \$50 surcharge will be assessed for on site preconference workshop registration.)

#### Monday Lunch Education Forums — September 23

(must pre-register — includes lunch)

\_\_\_ Education in Epidemiology  
\_\_\_ Issues in Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology  
..... \$19 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Tuesday Lunch Roundtable Discussion — September 24

(must pre-register — includes lunch)

\_\_\_ Ethics and Standards of Practice  
..... \$19 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### General Registration

Registration includes all sessions (except preconference workshops and lunch roundtable workshops), breaks, roundtable breakfast, banquet, and poster reception.

|                  | Before 9/3  | After 9/3 and On-site |          |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Member .....     | \$250 ..... | \$300 .....           | \$ _____ |
| Non-Member ..... | \$340 ..... | \$380 .....           | \$ _____ |
| Student* .....   | \$120 ..... | \$150 .....           | \$ _____ |

\*Proof of student status is required

Registrations received after 9/13 will be processed on site.

### Banquet

Do you plan to attend the banquet dinner on Monday, September 23?

Yes  No

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Special Services

Please check here if you require special accommodations to fully participate. Attach a written description.

### Payment Information

Check or credit card information must be received with registration form. Please either fax OR mail registration form. Do not fax AND mail registration form! Thank you.

Check (US currency, payable to American College of Epidemiology)  
 MasterCard  Visa  American Express

Authorized Card Holder (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please Mail or Fax This Form with Payment to:

American College of Epidemiology  
1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27607

Phone: (919) 787-5181  
Fax: (919) 787-4916

**Questions?** Please call us at (919) 787-5181 or email us at [info@acepidemiology.org](mailto:info@acepidemiology.org)

**For Membership Information** — Please visit ACE Web site at [www.acepidemiology.org](http://www.acepidemiology.org)

# Policy Committee

By Brian Strom, Chair

The Policy Committee has been extremely busy over the last few months. For the Policy Debate to be held at the Albuquerque meeting, the following will be the resolution discussed: "In this new era of large-scale international terrorism, with the potential for immediate genocide through use of nuclear weapons or other instruments of mass destruction, traditional public health concerns about privacy need to be lessened for us to achieve optimal public health. Likewise, the allocation of healthcare dollars to bioterrorism preparedness and response is urgently needed even if this requires diversion of current public health dollars into this new arena."

In addition, the following summarizes the active issues that we have been dealing with. They are divided in Policy Statements, and Position Statements.

In terms of Policy Statements, the Committee has been active in developing a new Policy on Policies, in order to clarify and differentiate the processes for issues

which can be dealt with deliberately, vs. those which need rapid action. This discussion was precipitated by a recent issue where ACE was criticized in the Wall Street Journal for not jumping in with an opinion. In addition, the Committee has been working on a Policy regarding Data Sharing in Epidemiology. Both of these draft policies are mounted on the ACE web page, and members are invited to comment and provide suggestions.

In terms of Position Statements, the Committee has been very active regarding the issue of the changing HIPAA regulations. We have signed onto the initial letter sent by the American Association of Medical Colleges, requesting changes in the original draft HIPAA regulations. The regulations were substantially changed, and improved, but we filed a letter as well requesting further change. Copies of this correspondence are on the ACE web page.

Second, NIH has established a series of Boundary Panels, to re-evaluate which grant applications will be reviewed by

which study sections. The Policy Committee has submitted a series of letters in response to the process itself, and in response to these Boundary Panel draft reports, in order to make sure that the current three EDC (Epidemiology Disease Control) NIH study Sections continue to exist, and that Epidemiology applications continue to get reviewed by them. Copies of this correspondence are on the ACE web page.

Third, NIH is in the process of developing a new policy requiring data sharing. The Committee is in the process of drafting a Position Statement in response to the draft NIH policy, consistent with the new ACE Policy Statement on Data Sharing.

Other issues we have been dealing with are also listed on the ACE web page.

We welcome the membership's input on these or other issues, or on issues we should be dealing with.

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## President's Letter

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of the Communications Committee. It has been restructured to make increasing use of our Web site as "the face of ACE"—for communication between Board and committee components as well as with the membership and the outside world. Among other new features of our site is a section listing the participants, links and contacts in the loose federation of epidemiologically oriented societies, whose representatives have begun interacting periodically by telephone under the able leadership of Betsy Foxman. Another important section of the site is devoted to the Policy Committee advocacy positions that have reached final stages or await comments from the membership. Future issues of this newsletter will be posted on the Web site, and we hope to use the site for membership renewal, abstract submissions, issue-specific dialogue, and

links to other relevant sites. Finally, we are using the College management service e-mail ([info@acepidemiology.org](mailto:info@acepidemiology.org)) site to solicit suggestions for 1) a theme for the 2003 Annual Meeting in Chicago and 2) for the city where you would like to see the 2004 Meeting held.

Besides the Web site, the Board has been focused on streamlining submissions and deliberations on policy issues, codifying procedures for recruitment and appointment of committee members, and integrating the growing number of new Associate Members into the College and the profession (e.g., through mentorship). This and other initiatives will be addressed by the Membership Committee, to be chaired by Pauline Mendola. She succeeds Aaron Blair after his years of committed leadership in developing new membership.

We are also indebted to Doug Weed for his contributions as Chair of the Ethics and Standards of Practice Committee and look forward to the extension of its work under Robert McKeown.

Finally, our thoughtfully planned Annual Meeting in Albuquerque will offer stimulating perspective from Stuart Udall, plenary sessions, workshops, roundtables, a graduate education forum and a poster program. The importance of your attendance in assuring the continued vitality and growth of the College cannot be overemphasized. On behalf of the Board and many other hard-working members, I urge you to make the Annual Meeting a significant part of your professional life.



# ***Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting***

**Palm Desert, California • June 19-21, 2002**

## **Keynote Speaker**

This year's keynote address will be by Ward Cates, Jr., M.D., M.P.H. President, Family Health Institute, Family Health International. Dr. Cates' talk is entitled "Epidemiology and Global Sexual Health: Prevention Opportunities at the Population-Level."

## **Symposia**

Symposia provide the opportunity to hear the experts express their views. Nine symposia are lined up, including:

- Epidemiologic Methods and the Law – Sander Greenland
- Longitudinal Cohort Study of Environmental Effects on Child Health and Development – Matthew Longnecker
- DNA Repair Pathways in Cancer Epidemiology – Jonine Bernstein
- The Contribution of Epidemiology to our Understanding of Cervical Cancer Etiology and Prevention – Eduardo Franco
- Epidemiology of Neurodevelopmental Disorders – Coleen Boyle
- Preventive Care in the US: Misdirected Resources, Unnecessary Deaths – Thomas Vogt
- Epidemiologists on the Front Lines: Responding to Bioterrorism, Today and Tomorrow – Mark Oberle
- Proving the Null in Epidemiology – Charles Poole
- Genetic and Environmental Risk Factors for Alzheimer's Disease – Richard Mayeux

## **Registration Information**

### **Register By May 20:**

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Member .....             | \$250.00 |
| Non-Member .....         | \$300.00 |
| Student .....            | \$150.00 |
| Student Non-Member ..... | \$170.00 |

### **Register After May 20:**

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Member .....             | \$300.00 |
| Non-Member .....         | \$350.00 |
| Student .....            | \$170.00 |
| Student Non-Member ..... | \$190.00 |

See our Web site at <http://www.epiresearch.org/> for a preliminary program of the meeting.

Phone: (801) 587-2980  
 Fax: (801) 587-1002  
 E-mail: [conferences@guesthouse.utah.edu](mailto:conferences@guesthouse.utah.edu)

Address: 110 South Fort Douglas Blvd.  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84113-5036



(Coronado State Monument by Dick Kent,  
Source: Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau)

## Age, Sex, and Race: Towards a New Understanding for Epidemiology

American College of Epidemiology

Annual Scientific Sessions

September 22-24, 2002

Sheraton Old Town Hotel

Albuquerque, New Mexico

### Keynote address given by Stewart Udall: *A Healthy Environment*

(Former Congressman, Secretary of the Interior and Environmental Leader)

#### WORKSHOPS, September 22

- ✿ **Molecular Genetics For Epidemiologists: From The Basics To More Advanced Topics**, Jack Taylor
- ✿ **Epidemiology of Pharmaceuticals and Other Medical Products: A Workshop on Current Methods and Data Resources**, Judith Jones and Suellen Curkendall
- ✿ **Multilevel Analysis in Public Health: Concepts and Applications**, Ana Diez Roux and Ron Harrist
- ✿ **Gene Environment Studies**, TBA
- ✿ **Community-Based Participatory Research With Native Americans And Latino Communities: Epidemiologists in The Community**, Felicia Hodge and Nina Wallerstein

#### SYMPOSIA, September 23-24

- ✿ ***What's New With The Old: Panel Discussion on the Epidemiology of Aging***  
Moderated by Paul Levine. Featuring Lenore Launer, Beatriz Rodriguez, Tamara Harris and George Kaplan
- ✿ ***Gender and Health: When Epidemiologists Think About Sex***  
Moderated by Maureen Hatch. Featuring Marlene Goldman, Michael Lockshin, Roberta Ness and Ellen Silbergeld
- ✿ ***Ethnicity and Epidemiology: Casting Race in a New Light***  
Moderated by Carol Hogue. Featuring Camara Jones, Sylvia Guendelman and Charles Rotimi

#### ADDITIONAL SESSIONS

- ✿ **Forums –**
  - ◆ ***Education in Epidemiology*** – moderators - Jonathan Samet and Nora Lee
  - ◆ ***Issues in Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology*** – moderator - John Acquavella
- ✿ **Debate – *Epidemiology after 9/11: It is Time to Rearrange Priorities for Public Health***, Moderated by Carlos Camargo and co-organized with Brian Strom, debaters to be announced
- ✿ ***Ethics and Standards of Practice: A Luncheon Roundtable Discussion***, Robert McKeown and Fellows of the College
- ✿ **Breakfast Roundtables**, including *Policy Implications of Health Disparities Research; Publish or Perish; Viruses and Cancer; and Bioterrorism, Public Opinion and Epidemiology*
- ✿ **Reception by Host Committee – *Epidemiology in New Mexico and Environs***, Cosette Wheeler, Kathy Baumgartner and Rick Baumgartner
- ✿ **Evening Banquet and Lilienfeld Award address**
- ✿ **Scientific Poster Session**, with prizes and a reception

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