

ACE



American College of Epidemiology



Summer Newsletter

September 2013

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September 21-24, 2013

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Spring 2013

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Jean Brender

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Message from the President: Year in Review

Edward J. Trapido

This year has been a busy time for the American College of Epidemiology. Since my Presidency will end after the Fall meeting, I wanted to highlight some of these.

- A major effort has been made to move all aspects of the College into the current electronic era, with a greater website presence, use of more social media, and a shift from paper to electronic access to the Annals of Epidemiology.
- We have also set up a Presidential Task Force to review and revise the Strategic Plan of ACE, rather than merely updating it. The Task Force is addressing whether the current Plan reflects what is needed for a professional credentialing organization today, and for the future. It will also identify areas of work that are no longer relevant, and what the role of ACE can be in terms of its sister organizations- both epidemiology-focused and related. The Task Force will address the issue of whether our credentialing process should change in response to the changes in epidemiologic training- e.g., at the undergraduate level or through on-line only degree granting institutes. In addition, the Task Force will address whether the ACE website should offer on-line courses or certification, itself. Finally, the Task Force will advise ACE on whether we are giving appropriate balance to epidemiologists working in academia, business, government, and consulting.
- Since the bulk of the work of ACE is performed by the committees, we have instituted a monthly phone call between the Committee Chairs and the ACE Executive Committee. This has resulted in better cross committee coordination, as well as keeping the Board of Directors more current on the work of the college.



- We have personally reached out to several other societies. We now have an arrangement with the International Epidemiology Association to collaborate, and for ACE members to join the IEA for an additional \$25 at the time of the ACE membership renewals (see ‘Partnering Professional Organizations’ below for more information). We are working with the Society of Behavioral Medicine, so that they have representation at our Annual Meeting, and we will have a presence at their annual meeting. Despite our different disciplines, we share many of the same methodologies and instruments. For more information on these organizations’ annual meetings, see <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=201445E&OID=50> (IEA) and <http://www.sbm.org/meetings/2014> (SBM).
- After a considerable amount of effort, all of the societies/organizations involved with the North American Congress of Epidemiology have signed a Memorandum of Understanding about the role of each group in future congresses. The next Congress, which will be in 2016 in Miami, will be called the Epidemiology Congress of the Americas. The Chair of the Steering Committee is Dr. Sandro Galea, representing SER, and I am the co-Chair, representing ACE.
- We have spent time revitalizing all of the committees, appointing Chairs, co-Chairs, and in some cases, entire membership of the committees! This has resulted in major increases in activity among most of the committees, some of which will be evident at the Annual Meeting in Louisville.
- We have an exciting meeting planned for Louisville, with outstanding speakers and sessions, and important workshops. There will also be some exceptional social events, including a host reception on the Belle of Louisville for a cruise on the Ohio River.
- We are also actively planning the 2014 meeting, which will be held in the Washington DC area, in Silver Spring, MD.

Finally, I want to thank all of the ACE members for the opportunity of a lifetime-to be the President of ACE. It has been a true honor to help lead the organization this past year. I am amazed at the work of the committees, the Board and FirstPoint. I certainly look forward to working with the College in other capacities in the future.

Top Stories

ACE 2013 Annual Meeting Louisville, Kentucky

Kris Fennie



The time has finally arrived for this year's annual meeting! An excellent agenda has been developed which includes six diverse workshops, a poster session of nearly 80 epidemiologists, and many events based on current issues within the field. This year's annual meeting will be at The Galt House from September 21-24. Visit [ACE Annual Meeting](#) for everything you need to know about this year's meeting! See you in Louisville!

Communications Committee Update

Jan Eberth

As the 2013 ACE Annual Meeting approaches, the Communications Committee is excited to welcome epidemiologists from around North America to Louisville, KY. This has been a great year for ACE and our committee in particular. Our website and social media presence have been revamped; we have welcomed 5 new committee members (Oscar Gutierrez, Emily Vogtmann, Lynette Phillips, Joseph Holbrook, and Nancy Gallant); and we have highlighted the achievements of 3 extraordinary ACE members on the website (Drs. Victor Cardenas, Donna Arnett, and Betsy Foxman).

This Fall, Dr. Cathy Critchlow will pass the chairmanship of the committee to Dr. Jan Eberth, former Associate Director of ACE and current Vice-Chair. Dr. Eberth is looking for *energetic and creative* ACE members of all levels, Fellows to Associate Members, to join the committee this year. Please take some time to consider this invitation. Dr. Eberth will be available to talk to those who may be interested at this year's Annual Meeting or via email at jmeberth@mailbox.sc.edu.



Over the next few years, the committee plans to finalize the design and maintenance plan for the ACE website, advocate for and participate in archiving the college's history, and work with other ACE committees to ensure that our communication vehicles are used to advance the science and education of epidemiology. *Come join us in making our vision a reality!*

Associate Director's Report

Bertha Hidalgo & Sophia Allen
Outgoing and Incoming Associate Directors



Greetings Associate Members! We have had an amazingly productive and successful year thanks to your commitment, involvement, and interest in the College and our Associate Member committee! My term as Outgoing Associate Director has come to an end, but I am so excited for the groundwork we laid this year, as well as for what is to come once Sophia Allen takes over as Outgoing Associate Director this coming year! Moving forward, we continue to seek ways to improve your experience as Associate Members in the College and look forward to improving your experience even more so this coming year. As always, we encourage you to email us at aceassocmember@gmail.com, with any feedback, suggestions for improvement, personal academic/professional news (e.g. publication, new job, promotions, etc.), job announcements, or even personal news, say about new members in your families (e.g. babies!); we'd love to hear from you!

The Associate Member Committee remains active, meeting every other month! We encourage you to join our calls and increase your participation within our committee and the College! Many thanks to those who participated in our bi-monthly calls this year; you helped shape many important decisions for our committee. With the change in leadership comes the opportunity to participate in leadership roles. Please also let us know if you are interested in a leadership position!

Finally, please do contact us (Bertha and Sophia) with any questions, ideas, or input for Associate Members (aceassocmember@gmail.com), and remember to "Like" our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/joinACE, for updates and announcements. Our next Associate Member general meeting will be on Monday, October 14, 2012 (8:30 pm-9:30 EST). See you in Louisville, KY for the ACE Annual Meeting! Look forward to meeting you!

Partnering Professional Organizations

ACE is pleased to announce a partnership with the [International Epidemiological Association](#) (IEA)! ACE members may join IEA at a discounted joint membership rate. IEA works on a broad range of substantive and methodological areas in epidemiology and public health. The privileges available to joint members include all benefits of a fully-paid regular membership with the exception of receiving the *International Journal of Epidemiology* in electronic form rather than print.



Joint memberships for ACE members are \$25 USD. Join online at www.ieaweb.org.

A Perspective: From the Chair of the Nominating Committee

Faith Davis



I would like to thank the nominating committee members (Sandy Sulsky and Olivia Carter-Pokras) for their support in completing this important work for the college this year. It was a pleasure to chair this committee and to directly experience the willingness of ACE members to step up and serve the organization.

I have noticed an emerging consideration for future leadership of the college. With the introduction of conflict of interest policies (that require preapproval of substantial leadership involvement by employers in a professional society such as ours), some members are finding it more difficult to take on leadership roles. Without employer support the work of the college may need to be completed entirely on a voluntary basis during personal time.

This shifting landscape has implications for future nominating committees. We now need to leave extra lead time to allow potential nominees time for their internal organizational approval process to occur well in advance of the elections. This also has implications for the work of committees - most of which have meetings conducted during business hours. I value the intersection of government, industry and academia that my ACE affiliation brings and these changes have implications for changing the balance of participation by epidemiologists particularly in the government and private sectors. The more proactive we are addressing these emerging issues the broader will be the representation of the members on committees, ensuring that leadership reflects its membership.

Congratulations to our [newly elected leadership](#).

Fellows Corner

Newly appointed Fellows - Spring 2013

Charlotte Clark

Patricia O'Campo

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CDC Shares Public Health Articles on CDC Stacks

CDC Stacks, available at <http://stacks.cdc.gov> is a free digital library of scientific publications produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including peer reviewed articles, and CDC guidelines and recommendations. Users can search the full text of all documents, browse entries by public health subject, and explore the curated collections of over 11,000 publications. CDC Stacks is updated weekly.



We encourage you to visit CDC Stacks and share the link with your members. Click here for more information on CDC Stacks.

Did you know that CDC Stacks is an online digital repository of CDC supported publications?

CDC Stacks is a free, digital repository of publications produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) based on scientific research. This online library can be found at <http://stacks.cdc.gov>. CDC Stacks is composed of curated collections of full-text peer reviewed articles, guidelines and recommendations, and many more documents on a broad range of public health topics. The documents are retained indefinitely and are available for public health professionals, researchers, as well as the general public.

Open Access to Public Health Information Protects more People from Disease and Injury

More people in the population can be protected from disease and injury when CDC research is openly shared with the public, public health professionals, health care providers, educators, policy makers, businesses, and private sector organizations. CDC Stacks offers free access to a variety of CDC resources, which allows the scientific community to be more collaborative. Additionally, CDC Stacks provides health decision makers with resources to make sound decisions to address specific issues of public health importance. By offering easy access to this information, CDC can maximize the effect of public health science in supporting a healthier population.

Fully-featured Repository with Search and Suggested Links

CDC Stacks provides the ability to search the full text of all documents, browse journal articles by public health subject, and explore the curated collections of nearly 10,000 articles and documents on relevant topics.

Collections of articles include:

- *The Library which includes CDC publications from all areas of public health.*
- *Guidelines and Recommendations which is a resource for current and previous evidence-based clinical and public health guidelines.*
- *CDC Open Access contains CDC-authored articles that were published in open access journals.*
- *Reproductive Health Surveys contains information from developing countries since 1973.*
- *Influenza Surveillance Reports contains reports on influenza, pneumonia and respiratory disease, primarily in the Americas from 1957 through 1981.*
- *MMWR: The First 30 Years contains Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports dating back to 1952.*

Additional collections and ongoing additions to existing collections are planned for the future.

Current and Historical Public Health Information

The Stacks provides a versatile, comprehensive, historical, and interdisciplinary search experience. Additionally, CDC Stacks offers a previously unavailable historical perspective. First, it provides access to the first 30 volumes of the MMWR. It also supplies links to retired and superseded guidelines on documents and pages providing current CDC Guidelines and Recommendations. Furthermore, CDC Stacks documents provide links to additional documents across Stacks on similar topics, and also to external publishers and related sites within the CDC website.

Benefits of Electronic Access

Electronic access increases availability of public health and scientific information to the public. Much of this information was previously available only in hard copy on site at the CDC library. Articles stored and shared through CDC Stacks will increase collaborations among research scientists, helping CDC to further its mission to save lives and protect the health of citizens of the U.S. and of international populations.

You can explore the articles in CDC stacks at <http://stacks.cdc.gov>. Check back often for new articles.

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