

President's Corner
Mary Croughan, PhD

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Chicago next month! The meeting presentations and posters look wonderful, and we have built in plenty of time for catching up with old friends.

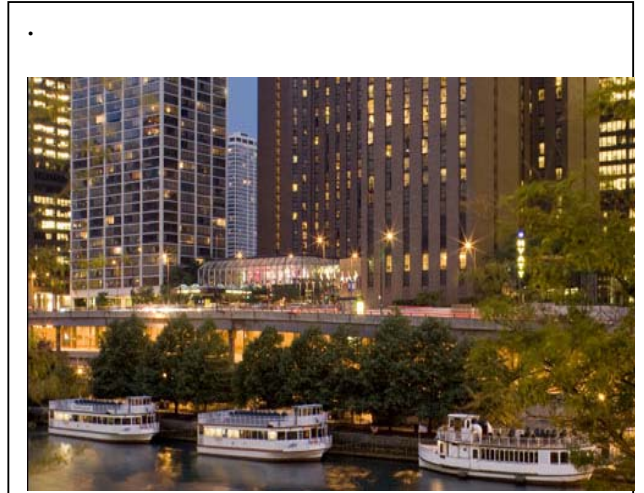
I am particularly happy to have Dr. Michelle Williams presenting our keynote address, "The Global Challenge of Gender-Based Violence: Physical and Mental Health Consequences of Violence against Women". Michelle is well known for her international work on women's health and she is a compelling speaker.

Our Student Prize Paper winner, Nicole Jones from Michigan State University, will be presenting her paper titled "Maternal and neonatal gene polymorphisms, their interactions and associations with preterm birth". We had several stellar submissions this year for the student prize paper – a sign that our next generation of epidemiologists is well prepared!

This year's workshop on Advanced Methods in Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology will be worthwhile for everyone to attend. I would like to thank our presenters, Sunni Mumford (our Student Representative to SPER), and Dr. Enrique Schisterman for organizing this wonderful workshop.

I hope that all of you will be able to attend our SPER business meeting. The meeting will be held immediately after the scientific presentations conclude on June 24. We have several important issues to discuss, including potentially limiting the number of abstracts to be submitted by individual authors, an increase in membership dues, and potential bylaw changes. Please attend the meeting so we can hear your views. I promise to make the meeting enjoyable!

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Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and their support of SPER this year. I would like to thank my dear colleagues on the Executive Committee who have done an amazing job of supporting this organization and keeping everything running smoothly. We had wonderful support for the meeting from our abstract reviewers, the University of Utah, and others. I offer you all my heartfelt appreciation!

Again, I look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

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SPER ANNUAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

LOCATION

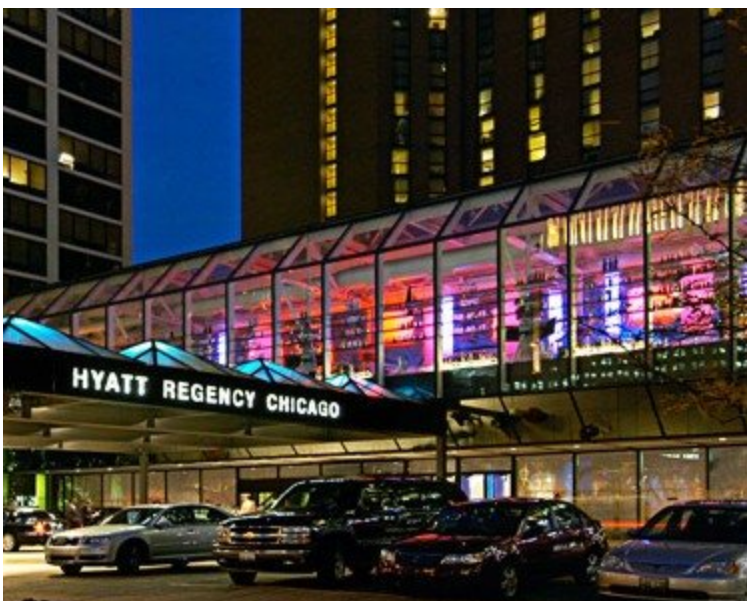
SPER will hold the 21st annual meeting on June 23-24, 2008, in Chicago, Illinois. The meeting will include a poster session and opening reception on the evening of the 23rd and a full day of plenary sessions with a second poster session on the 24th. Registration will be held June 23rd from 4:00-6:00p.m. and June 24th from 7:00-11:00 a.m.

The Advanced Methodology for Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology Workshop also is being held on June 23 from 2:00-5:00 p.m., proceeding the first session of the SPER Annual Meeting. More information is provided in this newsletter.

The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Chicago on the Riverwalk which is ideally located one block off The Magnificent Mile and near Millennium Park, Lake Michigan, and the Chicago River. The Hyatt Regency also is within walking distance to many of Chicago's finest restaurants, attractions, theaters, shopping, and nightspots.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Hyatt Regency Hotel is offering special room rates for SPER conference attendees of \$189 for single or \$214 double occupancy. For alternative hotel accommodations, *A Room With A View* (1-800-780-4343), is a service which will provide additional hotel information within walking distance of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.



2011 Congress of Epidemiology Update

Jonine Bernstein and Leslie Bernstein have been selected by the **Epidemiology Leadership Society** to co-chair the Congress. Planning will begin in earnest shortly.

Mark your calendar:

June 21-24, 2011
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

**2008 SPER/SER-SC/ASA Statistics in
Epidemiology
Workshop on Advanced Methods in
Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology**

The Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research, the Society for Epidemiological Research—Student Caucus, and the ASA Statistics in Epidemiology Section are jointly hosting the Advanced Methodology for Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology Workshop to be held on June 23, proceeding the first session of the SPER Annual Meeting. Students, junior investigators, and senior investigators are invited to attend this three hour session (2-5 pm). This workshop is intended to provide students and established scientists with information about the current thinking in methods for reproductive, perinatal and pediatric epidemiology.

This year's workshop will include presentations by:

David Dunson and Rich MacLehose on Bayesian Applications in Time to Pregnancy

Jay Kaufman and Lizzi Torrone on Hierarchical Modeling of Birth Outcome Data

K.S. Joseph on Causal and Non-causal Models in Perinatal Epidemiology

The third presentation by K.S. Joseph will include an open discussion component. Reading materials will be made available on the SPER web site prior to the session.

Pre-registration for students is only \$25 and \$45 for non-students. On-site registration is \$35 for students and \$55 for non-students. Be sure to register for this session when you register for the annual meeting. For more information about the 2008 workshop, please contact Sunni Mumford at smumford@unc.edu. For information about the SPER Annual Meeting visit our webpage at: http://www.sper.org/Annual_Meeting.htm.

***SPER 2008 REGISTRATION
INFORMATION***

The registration fees include attendance at all sessions, meeting materials, continental breakfast, box lunch, and refreshment breaks. Registration may be completed by mail, fax, or via the Internet at: <http://www.sper.org>.

The new registration fees are: early member \$235, late member \$275, early non-member \$260, late non-member \$295, new member: \$385, late new member 425, early student \$35, late student \$75.

The early registration deadline is May 23, 2007. A confirmation letter will be sent upon receipt of the completed registration form. Payment can be made by check, MasterCard, Visa, or American Express. Payment must be received prior to admittance to the meeting.

Direct access to the online registration form is available at: <http://www.epiresearch.org/sper/regform.php>

**IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION
INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Jacqueline Brakey
P.O. Box 990
Clearfield, UT 84089
Phone: (801) 525-0231
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E-mail: meeting@epiresearch.org

**SPER Conference:
Future Dates & Sites**

SPER 2009: Anaheim, CA
SPER 2010: Seattle, WA
SPER 2011: Montreal, QC

**AS ALWAYS, WE'D LIKE TO EXTEND
OUR MANY, MANY THANKS TO
ALL OF OUR 2008 MEETING
ABSTRACT REVIEWERS:**

Adams, Melissa
Basir, Mir A.
Bish, Connie
Bodnar, Lisa M.
Callaghan, William
Chasan-Taber, Lisa
Collins, James W.
Colvin, Lyn
Da Silva, Antonio A. Moura
Daivdson, Leslie
Desrosiers, Tania
Edwards, Nicole
Ghosh, Rakesh
Gilboa, Suzanne
Goldman, Marlene
Haggerty, Catherine L.
Harder, Thomas
Hediger, Mary L.
Hoffman, Caroline
Howards, Penelope P.
Huber, Larissa
Hutchinson, Katherine
Ismaila, Olorunkemi
Kasehagen, Lauren
Katarzyna, A
Kieltyka, Lyn
Kirby, Russell S.
Klebanoff, Mark A.
Lawrence, Jean M
Lee, Li-Ching
Little, Julian
Lynch, Courtney
Meinzen-Derr, Jareen
Mendola, Pauline
Nelson, Deborah
Nommsen-Rivers, Laurie
Parker, Jennifer
Pastore, Lisa M.
Rudra, Carole B.
Schieve, Laura
Shapiro-Mendoza, Carrie
Siega-Riz, Anna Maria
Simonsen, Sara Ellis
Stanford, Joseph
Strickland, Daniel
Vahratian, Anjel
Wactawski-Wende, Jean

**ANNOUNCING THE NEWLY ELECTED
INCOMING SPER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEMBERS:**

President Elect 2008-2009:

Russell S. Kirby

Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Maternal and Child Health,
School of Public Health, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Treasurer 2008-2011:

Danelle T. Lobdell

Environmental Health Scientist, U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency

Member at large 2008-2012:

Penny Howards

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of
Public Health, Emory University



SPER Student Prize Winner

This year's submissions for the student prize were outstanding. We'd like to acknowledge this year's student prize winner who will give a platform talk at the annual conference in June:

Nicole Jones from Michigan State University for her paper "Maternal and neonatal gene polymorphisms, their interactions and associations with preterm birth".

In addition, we'd like to provide an honorable mention for two other outstanding student prize submissions:

Sarah A. Keim, "Association between maternal body mass index and daughters' age at menarche"

Kristen M. Rankin, "Using average population attributable fractions to provide a new perspective on overweight in white and African-American adolescents"

Thanks again to all the students who submitted papers!
See you all in Chicago!

Preliminary Program
Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research
21th Annual Meeting
Chicago, Illinois
June 23rd-24th, 2008

Monday June 23rd, 2007

- 2:00-5:00 PM Advanced Methods Workshop
- 4:00-6:00 PM Registration
- 5:00-6:30 PM SPER Executive Committee Meeting
- 6:30-8:00 PM Welcome Reception and Poster Session A

Tuesday June 24th, 2007

- 8:00-8:15 AM Welcome Remarks
Mary Croughan, President
- 8:15-9:15 AM Plenary Session I: Focus on Fertility and Fecundity

Moderator: *Courtney Lynch*
- 8:15-8:30 AM **How might early pregnancy loss increase fecundability in the next cycle? Effects of early loss on hormone levels and sexual intercourse. *Jukic***
- 8:30-8:45 AM **Modeling heterogeneity of fecundity and outcomes of Fertility treatment. *Stanford***
- 9:00-9:15 AM **Semen quality in fertile men in relation to psychosocial Issues. *Gollenberg***
- 9:15-9:35 AM Student Prize Presentation
Moderator: **Pauline Mendola**

Nicole Jones
Maternal and neonatal gene polymorphisms, their interactions and associations with preterm birth
- 9:35-10:00 AM Morning Break

10:00-11:45 AM	Plenary Session II: Current Research in Pregnancy Outcomes: Moderator: <i>Deborah Nelson</i>
10:00-10:15 AM	Activation of the fibrinolytic cascade early in pregnancy among women with spontaneous preterm birth. <i>Catov</i>
10:15-10:30 AM	Oxidative stress relevant gene polymorphisms and the risk of preeclampsia- a systematic review and meta analysis. <i>Haurong</i>
10:30-10:45 AM	Vasculopathic risk factors for spontaneous preterm birth. <i>Kramer</i>
10:45-11:00 AM	Why are Arab-Americans at lower risk for preterm birth than whites? <i>El-Sayed</i>
11:00-11:15 AM	Determinants of placental weight standardized for gestational age & infant gender. <i>McNamara</i>
11:15-11:30 AM	Prediction of stillbirth using intrauterine versus customized birth weight standards. <i>Hutcheon</i>
11:30-11:45 AM	Decline in birth asphyxia in Canada: fact or artifact. <i>Dzakpasu</i>
11:45 AM-1:15 PM	Lunch and Poster Session B
1:15-2:00 PM	Keynote: Michelle Williams, PhD The Global Challenge of Gender-Based Violence: Physical and Mental Health Consequences of Violence against Women
2:00-3:15 PM	Plenary Session III: Perinatal Outcomes Moderator: <i>Jean Lawrence</i>
2:00-2:15 PM	Partner abuse and adverse outcomes of pregnancy: a cohort study. <i>O'Campo</i>
2:15-2:30 PM	Why has birth weight started to fall? <i>Zhang</i>
2:30-2:45 PM	Perinatal outcomes in term pregnancies: Do they vary by week of gestation in different racial/ethnic groups?
2:45-3:00 PM	Maternal Acetaminophen Use in Pregnancy and the Risk of Selected Birth Defects: Findings from the National Birth Defects Prevention Study. <i>Feldkamp</i>
3:00-3:15 PM	Folate pathway genes and the risk of conotruncal heart malformations. <i>Lupo</i>
3:15-3:45 PM	Afternoon Break

3:45-4:15	Continuation: Plenary Session III: Perinatal Outcomes Moderator: <i>Jean Lawrence</i>
3:45-4:00 PM	Does Periconceptional Use of Vitamin Supplements Containing Folic Acid Attenuate the Risk for Diabetes-Associated Birth Defects? <i>Gilboa</i>
4:00-4:15 PM	Does living on versus off reserve make a difference in First Nations birth outcomes? <i>Heaman</i>
4:15-4:45 PM	Plenary Session IV: Cognitive and Physical Childhood Function Moderator: <i>Julie Daniels</i>
4:15-4:30 PM	Does Uncomplicated Germinal Matrix or Intraventricular Hemorrhage lower cognitive function in premature infants? <i>Siddiqi</i>
4:30-4:45 PM	Why are some infants born at 23-28 weeks gestation free of neurodevelopmental disability at 3 years of age? <i>Sauve</i>
4:45-5:00 PM	Family stress and glycemc control in youth with diabetes (DM). <i>Sobotka</i>
5:00-5:15 PM	Closing Remarks Mary Croughan, President
5:15-6:30 PM	Business Meeting