

January 2008

President's Corner

Mary Croughan, Ph.D.

This newsletter provides updated information on the 2008 SPER Annual Meeting.

We are pleased to announce that Michelle Williams, Ph.D., Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine, will provide the keynote address at our upcoming meeting!

We also are pleased to announce the "Advanced Methodology for Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology Workshop" will be held on June 23. More details are provided on the next page of this newsletter. Please look for the announcements regarding the Student Prize Paper and the Heinz Berendes International Travel Award within this newsletter as well.

Finally, please review the SPER website which includes the most up-to-date information on the conference and abstract submission. Information regarding hotel and meeting registration will be added shortly.

Also in this newsletter are requests for nominations for three SPER executive committee positions, as well as a request for nominations for the 2011 Congress on Epidemiology. We hope you will consider applying for one of these positions!

2008 SPER Annual Conference:

June 23-24, 2008: Chicago, Illinois

New Abstract Information:

On-line abstract submissions due Saturday, February 9, 2008, 8pm EST.

SPER Abstraction Submission Guidelines:

- See link for on-line submission at www.sper.org
- Notifications of acceptance will be made via email by April 10th, 2008
- If accepted, poster board size is 46" x 46"

Wanted: 2008-2009 SPER Student Representative

Please send letter of interest and CV to
Mary Croughan, SPER President,
Mary.Croughan@ucsfmedctr.org

SPER Conference: Future Dates & Sites

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

2008 Advanced Methodology for Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology Workshop

The Advanced Methodology for Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology Workshop will be held on June 23, preceding the first session of the SPER Annual Meeting. Students, junior investigators, and senior investigators are invited to attend this three hour session (2–5pm). Preliminary topics include time-to-pregnancy analysis, and methods for modeling fertility.

Pre-registration for students (i.e., those no more than one year since completing doctoral/post-doctoral work) is only \$25 and \$45 for non-students. On-site registration is \$35 for students and \$55 for non-students (cash/check only). 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



Irvin Emanuel, M.D.
MCH Lifetime Achievement Award

Maternal and Child Health Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Irvin Emanuel was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Coalition for Excellence in MCH Epidemiology. Congratulations Dr. Emanuel for a recognized lifetime contribution to excellence in MCH

Nominations are being sought for President (2008-2011), Treasurer (2008-2011) and one Member-at-Large (2008-2012). All terms will begin at the close of the June 2008 annual meeting. Members of SPER may nominate themselves or any other member of SPER.

The **President** will serve as President-Elect (2008-2009), President (2009-2010) and Past President (2010-2011). The main duties of the President-Elect are to help the President develop plans for the annual meeting and to chair the selection of the Student Prize Paper Award; the President designs the program for the annual meeting and is in charge of Executive Committee decision-making; and the Past-President chairs the selection of the Heinz Berendes International Travel Award recipient and provides input as needed.

The **Treasurer** is responsible for: managing the Society's revenue and expenditures; processing payments related to membership and various expenses[0]; and preparing financial reports to the membership and to granting agencies.

The **Member-at-Large** participates in all Executive Committee activities. The unique task assigned to the Member-at-Large elected this cycle is the coordination of abstract reviews for the SPER annual meeting (organize and coordinate the review process and assist with production of the program book). This member will replace Jean Lawrence.

This call for nominations will be posed on the SPER web-site. **Nominations are due February 15, 2008** and should be sent to Suzan Carmichael, scarmichael@marchofdimes.com. The slate of candidates and ballot will be presented to the membership for elections by email in March 2008.

The Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Competition

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the College Board

The Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Competition for original student research is designed to inspire talented high school students to investigate the many behavioral, biological, environmental and social factors that affect health and, based upon this knowledge, to identify ways to improve the health of the public.

The YES Competition awards up to 120 college scholarships each year to high school juniors and seniors who conduct outstanding research projects that apply epidemiological methods of analysis to a health-related issue.

Deadline to register and upload 2007-08 YES project:
February 4th 2008, 5 p.m. Eastern Time

For more information please see the YES Website:
<http://www.collegeboard.com/yes/fs/atc.html>
<<http://www.collegeboard.com/yes/fs/atc.html>>

Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Program
The College Board
11911 Freedom Drive, Suite 300
Reston VA 20190
Tel: (800) 626-9795, ext. 5849
Fax: (703) 707-5599
Email:
yes@collegeboard.org <<mailto:yes@collegeboard.org>>

2011 Congress on Epidemiology Montreal Quebec Canada January 21-24th, 2011 Call for Program Chair Nominations

Each participating society has the opportunity to nominate someone to serve as the program chair for this meeting. Interested?

Think big! The chair will be someone with a joint vision that represents the field as a whole.

Nominations are due to SPER executive committee by March 1, 2008.

Contact Marcia Feldkamp for details at:
marcia.feldkamp@hsc.utah.edu

Heinz Berendes International Travel Award:

The Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER) requests papers for the 2008 Heinz Berendes International Travel Award. The paper should represent work in reproductive, perinatal, or pediatric epidemiology, and research that concerns populations in developing countries is encouraged. To be eligible for this award, the applicant must not currently reside in the United States or Canada as a student, exchange scholar, or permanent resident. The winner will present the selected paper at the 2008 meeting in Chicago.

An award of \$250 plus expenses for travel, 2 days' lodging, and SPER meeting registration will be given to the author of the paper selected by the International Travel Award Committee. The paper must be unpublished at the time of submission. Authors do not have to be SPER members to apply for the award.

Applicants should also submit the abstract of their paper in order to be considered for oral podium presentation, following the standard SPER abstract submission guidelines (available at our web site www.sper.org) and the March 7, 2008 submission deadline. If not accepted as a podium presentation, the winning paper will be automatically accepted for poster presentation. Abstracts of all accepted papers will be available on the web and printed in the book of abstracts distributed at the meeting.

Submit the manuscript only electronically. It should be prepared according to the "Instructions to Authors" printed in the journal *Pædiatric and Perinatal Epidemiology* (available online at <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/ppe/>).

Please include a cover letter that provides the name and address of your academic affiliation or research establishment, and your country of residence in the previous six months.

Papers must be received electronically by March 7, 2008 .
Please send papers to:

SPER Past President:

Anna Maria Siega-Riz, Ph.D., R.D.
Departments of Epidemiology and Nutrition,
123 West Franklin Street, Carolina Population Center CB#8120,
Chapel Hill, NC 27516,
Email: am_siegariz@unc.edu

STUDENT PRIZE PAPER AWARD

SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC AND PERINATAL EPIDEMIOLOGIC RESEARCH 21th ANNUAL MEETING

June 23-24, 2008

Chicago, Illinois

The Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER) requests papers for the Annual Student Prize Paper Award. This competition is open to graduate and medical students, postdoctoral fellows, medical residents, research trainees, and clinical fellows interested in reproductive, perinatal, and pediatric epidemiology. The winner of the award will present the selected paper at the 2008 meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

An award of \$250 plus expenses for travel, two days' lodging, and SPER registration will be given to the author of the selected paper. The paper should represent work in reproductive, perinatal, or pediatric epidemiology conducted as a student or trainee during the two years prior to the 2008 meeting. The paper must be written by the student/trainee and must be unpublished at the time of the meeting. The author may submit the paper simultaneously to the Abraham Lilienfeld Student Prize Paper competition of the Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER); however, if the paper is selected for that award, it will not be eligible for the SPER award. Authors do not have to be members of SPER to apply.

Students are also encouraged to submit their papers as abstracts, following the standard abstract submission guidelines (available at our web site <www.sper.org>) by the February 9, 2008 deadline.

TO APPLY FOR THIS AWARD, PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:

- Manuscript: email an electronic copy of the paper, which must be prepared according to the "Instructions to Authors" printed in the journal *Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology*
- Include the following information on the first page: your name, email address, telephone number, address, current position, a statement indicating when the work was completed, the name of your Department Chair (or Division Chief, etc.), and the name of the person under whose supervision the work was done
- Letter: Email an electronic copy of a letter from the person under whose supervision the work was done, indicating your specific contribution

EMAILED PAPERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 7, 2008. SEND PAPERS AND SUPERVISOR LETTER TO:

SPER President-Elect: Pauline Mendola, Ph.D.
Phone: 301-458-4432
Email: pim9@cdc.gov

Applicants will be notified of the selection committee's decision by April 7th.