Message from the American College of Epidemiology President
Pauline Mendola, PhD, MS

After a long, hard winter for most of us, spring and summer are on their way! This is a time of transition and ACE is undergoing a big one! The ACE Executive Committee is very proud to introduce Capitol Hill Management Services (CHMS) as our new association management company. CHMS is a comprehensive, full-service management firm with 42 professional employees. Sara-Becca Smith will be our new Executive Director and Brian Buff is coordinating our transition from First Point.

This has been a tremendous undertaking and I want to take the opportunity to thank all of the people who made this process work, particularly the Executive Committee (Harv Feldman, Russ Kirby, Diana Bensyl and Larry Segers) for the hours of conference calls, reviews and consensus-building. Michael Cook led the way by putting together an RFP for an open competition among the Association of Management Companies members. We received 23 proposals!!

Our first round of reviews was completed by Larry Segars (who also drafted the scoring sheets), Sarah Geiger, Jenny St. Sauver, Jim Gurney, Claudia Kozinetz, and Melissa Bondy. We owe them all a huge thanks – they each scored and ranked 3-4 companies as primary reviewers and another 6-8 as secondary reviewers! Using their rankings and reviews, the Executive Committee chose 9 companies for the second round. In round 2, Christine Branche, Dan Hoffman, Russ Kirby, Jim Torner, Melinda Aldrich, Rachel Widome, Michele Forman, Diana Bensyl, and Harv Feldman each took a company, called 2-3 references and conducted structured interviews focused on overall ACE needs and targeted questions that arose from the proposals. The Executive Committee reviewed the reference checks and selected 5 companies for review and ranking by the Board of Directors. Board members voted and we selected the top 3 for detailed phone interviews with the Executive Committee. After those calls and further discussion, Harv and I called the top 2 companies for final clarifications and negotiations. The final round of discussions led to the selection of Cap Hill because we think they can do a great job for ACE moving forward. All this was accomplished without dedicated administrative support for conference lines and scheduling. A special thanks to Harv’s assistant, Lisbeth Dennis, for setting up a dropbox for the board so that we could share documents without continuing to send huge zipfiles by email. We are excited to begin this new relationship with Capitol Hill. Their references were outstanding, their team approach to meeting our needs was very responsive, and we were impressed with their experience and depth as well as their attention to fiscal responsibility.

As excited as we are about this new opportunity, we also feel the challenges that come with change. We will all miss working with Peter Kralka, who has served ACE for many years as our Executive Director. I have been privileged to work closely with Peter over the past eight years as a board member, annual meeting planner, and as your President. His dedication to ACE has been exemplary and I will personally miss our regular interactions, his gracious support, and deep institutional knowledge.

While the search and transition took a lot of effort this winter, we continued the good work of the College and are making progress on important initiatives. Our March board meeting in College Park, MD was our first with Cap Hill and we addressed key topics including attention to member services, a harassment policy for the College, and our 2018 budget. We are also making great strides in planning for the annual meeting in Cincinnati (September 23-25). Special thanks to Maurizio Macaluso and his planning team! See the preliminary program in this issue of the Newsletter.

Hope to see everyone in Cincinnati!
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
Dr. Christine Branche
by Jan Eberth, Ph.D.

Dr. Christine Branche (BA in Biology, MSPH and PhD in Epidemiology) is the current Principal Associate Director and Director of the Office of Construction Safety and Health of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is in their Washington, DC location.

Christine’s father, also a PhD scientist who worked for the federal government, instilled a love of science in her at an early age. Although she once thought about becoming a physician, a biology course in population genetics as a junior and participating in a community health practicum as a senior during her undergraduate program solidified her interest in getting a PhD in epidemiology, which she later obtained from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

After graduate school, Dr. Branche began working for the Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) at the CDC, leading to a long-term career with the Injury Center. When asked about which programs or policies were enacted during her time at the Injury Center that made the most significant public health impacts, Christine noted that it was Injury Center research showing that 0.08% blood alcohol concentration (BAC) laws reduced alcohol-related traffic deaths that ultimately lead to policies requiring states to enact 0.08% BAC laws to qualify for federal highway funds.

Once Dr. Branche began working for NIOSH in 2007, she played a fundamental role in the development of the National Campaign to Prevent Falls in Construction and OSHA’s Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction (‘Stand-Down’) Program. As the leading cause of fatalities among constructions workers, Stand-Down grew out of a multi-stakeholder partnership among NIOSH, the US Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training and others.

Academic and industry partners can work with NIOSH in several ways including applying for extramural grant funding, helping set research priorities (e.g., National Occupational Research Agenda/ NORA), using NIOSH data, and participating in research and workplace safety training opportunities. One of their current, cutting-edge research programs involves nanotechnology safety. Working with many federal, academia, labor, and nongovernmental organizations, NIOSH has co-sponsored several key workshops and conferences on nanomaterial safety and identified critical research gaps. Additionally, a NIOSH team is available to conduct on-site assessments of nanomaterial exposures and mitigation plans.

Christine joined ACE in 1999 and was elevated to Fellow in 2006 after being encouraged to apply by former ACE President, Lorann Stallones.

As a testament to her commitment to the field of epidemiology, Dr. Branche immediately became involved in the inner workings of the college, as a member of the Admissions Committee. She was later elected to the ACE Board of Directors, and is now the Chair of the Membership Committee (2015-Present). The ACE Membership Committee is engaged in developing new strategies for member recruitment and retention, including a recent change that allows trainees to apply for Associate Membership as a group rather than individuals. Furthermore, the ACE Membership Committee provides outreach to organizations that employ epidemiologists to encourage membership and annual meeting attendance.

Dr. Branche has provided invaluable service to both the profession of epidemiology and the population at large through her dedicated career as an epidemiologist, and as an active ACE Fellow.

Annals of Epidemiology Update
by Cory Woodyatt, Managing Editor

Annals of Epidemiology is a peer reviewed, international journal devoted to epidemiologic research and methodological development. The journal emphasizes the application of epidemiologic methods to issues that affect the distribution and determinants of human illness in diverse contexts. Its primary focus is on chronic and acute conditions of diverse etiologies and of major importance to clinical medicine, public health, and health care delivery.

Annals of Epidemiology (Annals) is excited to be in its 28th year of service. As part of a new year and new leadership, Editor-in-Chief Patrick Sullivan and the editorial team have been meeting regularly to develop new and innovative ideas to advance the journal. The editorial team is looking forward to deepening the partnership with the American College of Epidemiology (ACE) and its members in 2018.

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACE MEMBERS INCLUDE:

• serving as peer reviewers
• providing manuscript editorials and commentaries
• applying for Editorial Board membership
• providing ideas for symposia and special issues

The Annals editorial team is also committed to advancing the interests and work of ACE members through review articles, editorials, commentaries, letters to the editor, and book reviews. The editorial team asks for ACE members to consider submitting at least one of their best publications this year to the journal.

For more information about the submission process, peer review opportunities, or how to submit suggestions for special issues, please contact Managing Editor, Cory Woodyatt, at annals.of.epidemiology@emory.edu.
Career Mentoring Committee Update

by Carol Burns, MPH, PhD, Fellow ACE, Chair

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

The Career Mentoring committee has been energized this year to find innovative ways to help ACE members connect and help each other. For example, our committee is partnering with the Editorial Committee to develop a program on peer review mentoring. Led by John Acquavella, who is an associate editor for the Annals, the Committee provides written advice about what an editor needs and expects from peer reviewers. The supervisor (or mentor) will advise their protégé on the components of a good peer review. Both will review a manuscript for the Annals of Epidemiology, with discussion about the manuscript. We look forward to seeing how this program develops!

In the meantime, I found this online course from Nature publishing, which provides good information about the peer review process.

We continue to be your resource to find a mentor among the ACE Fellows.

The Committee mentoring guidelines are posted on the ACE website. With career development it’s always important to identify your growth areas. For example, are you interested in becoming a better instructor or do you need help on writing grants? Are you trying to get your first appointment or to attain tenure? If you can define your short-term goals, we’ll help you find the right mentor. It’s never too early (or late) to make an individual development plan. There are many online resources, such as one from the US Office of Personnel Management.

Our committee meets monthly to bring these and other ideas to fruition. We are working on using the ACE website to facilitate one-on-one matching, drafting an article on mentoring, and sponsoring the Speed Networking activity at the Annual Meeting. We welcome your ideas and participation. Please send me an email if you are interested cjburns.bec@gmail.com.

ACE Associate Membership Awarded for Most Relevant Policy Paper at NYCEF

At the 2018 New York City Epidemiology Forum (NYCEF) held February 16, ACE awarded a one-year Associate Membership to a student whose epidemiology research poster was deemed to have the most significant policy relevance. This year, the winner was Samantha Schneider from Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine for her poster entitled, “Effectiveness of a Linkage to Mental Health Care Program after Hurricane Sandy.”

NYCEF is an annual one-day conference that provides a forum for regular contact and exchanges between epidemiologists working in academic and other institutions in the New York City Metropolitan Area, with a special focus on junior researchers, including junior faculty, post-docs, fellows, and doctoral students. NYCEF fosters increased awareness about research conducted in other institutions in New York City and surrounding areas, and provide opportunities for researchers to present their work, with the overall goals of promoting bilateral or multi-site collaborative projects and enhancing career opportunities for junior investigators. ACE has supported poster awards for the past two years.

ACE News & Updates

We have a new office & staff! Located in Albany, New York we are pleased to have a new national office and team of staff members working for our members. The new office operation began in April 2018 and we have been moving full steam ahead since.

We also have a new website at acepidemiology.org. We are still updating portions of the website, but if you have ideas or suggestions, please let us know at info@acepidemiology.org. The new website is hosted by MemberClicks, an association management software. If you see a webpage or an email with acoe.memberclicks.net – Don’t fret! It is legitimate & from the ACE office.

**NEED TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?**

Log into acepidemiology.org with your email as your username and click on “My Profile.” You will see a button at the top of the page prompting you to renew. Need more assistance? Give us a call at 518.240.1210
Steve Jacobsen, MD, PhD, Awards Committee, Chair

The Deadline for nominations for all awards described below has been extended to June 11.

The American College of Epidemiology invites nominations for three Awards as described below. Awardees will be announced at the annual meeting in September in Cincinnati. For all awards, please send nomination letters and the candidate’s curriculum vitae as PDF files attached to an email to:

Steve Jacobsen, MD, PhD, Awards Committee Chair
American College of Epidemiology
steven.j.jacobsen@kp.org

The Abraham Lilienfeld Award

Award Description
The College’s most prestigious award is given in honor of Abraham Lilienfeld, a founder of the American College of Epidemiology and a renowned teacher and scholar. The Lilienfeld Award is conferred each year at the Annual Meeting. The Lilienfeld Award recipient is invited to address Fellows and Members of the College during the Annual Meeting Award Luncheon. Lilienfeld Awardees are recognized as lifetime Honorary Fellows of the College and receive an honorarium. In addition, the costs of attending the Annual Meeting (transportation and accommodation) will be reimbursed and registration expenses will be waived.

Eligibility Criteria
An eligible nominee should be a senior leader who has made extraordinary contributions to the field of epidemiology over the course of her/his career, through both teaching or mentoring and research or scholarship. Self-nominations are not accepted.

Nomination Procedure
• Nominations must be made by an active ACE member (Associate, Member, Fellow, Honorary Fellow, or Emeritus)
• Nominations consist of a letter highlighting the nominee’s achievements and/or contributions pertinent to the award, and a current curriculum vitae.
• The nominator may include up to two supporting letters.
• Self-nominations are not accepted.

Outstanding Contributions to Epidemiology Award

Award Description
This award recognizes an active epidemiologist for outstanding contributions to the field in one of three areas: 1) methods development; 2) etiologic research; or 3) applied epidemiology. The award is conferred each year at the Annual Meeting and the recipient is invited to deliver a platform talk to the College during the regular program. The Award includes an honorarium. In addition, the costs of attending the Annual Meeting (transportation and accommodation) will be reimbursed, and registration expenses will be waived.

Eligibility Criteria
The eligibility criteria for each award area are described below:
• Methods Development: An award for Outstanding Contribution in Methods Development recognizes one epidemiologist for exemplary work in theoretical or applied research methodology that has demonstrably advanced the practice of epidemiology. Eligible nominees should have a strong record of peer-reviewed publications on methods in epidemiology or related disciplines (e.g., statistics, social sciences, etc.).
• Etiologic Research: An award for Outstanding Contribution in Etiologic Research recognizes one epidemiologist for research that has led to advances in the general understanding of the etiology of a specific health condition or group of conditions of public health significance. Eligible nominees should have a strong record of peer-reviewed publications on etiologic research in epidemiology or related disciplines (e.g., clinical, basic science, etc.).
• Applied Epidemiology: An award for Outstanding Contribution in Applied Epidemiology recognizes one active epidemiologist for contributions that resulted in translating epidemiologic evidence to clinical, public health, or health policy applications. A strong record of peer-reviewed publications is not required to describe the impact of this translational work, but evidence of the meritorious contributions of the nominee should be documented. Documentation should be accessible or provided to the committee for review and may include unpublished reports or gray literature as well as traditional publications.

Nomination Procedure
Active ACE members (Associate, Member, Fellow, Honorary Fellow or Emeritus) are invited to nominate eligible candidates for this award. Nominations should include:
• A statement of the Award category: Methods Development, Etiologic Research, or Applied Epidemiology
• A narrative description of the particular contribution or collection of contributions prompting the nomination. For example, a single high-impact publication could be sufficient for a nomination, as could a collection of work. Regardless, this description should document how the contribution has influenced the field of epidemiology and/or related fields as well as any direct population health impact.
• Examples of work (e.g., papers, reports, etc.) do not need to be attached to the nomination letter, but a select list of relevant examples that can be accessed by the committee would be helpful.
• Self-nominations are not accepted.
**AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW BEING INVITED CONTINUED**

### Annual Student Paper Prize

**Award Description**

Individuals are invited to submit samples of their unpublished, original research, completed during graduate epidemiology training, for consideration for the Student Paper prize. In addition to a cover letter from the applicant, the application package must include a letter from the student’s advisor detailing the roles of the applicant and any co-authors in designing and carrying out the research under consideration. The research should be described in a standard scientific paper, formatted according to Annals of Epidemiology guidelines (http://www.annalsofepidemiology.org/). The award consists of financial support for attending the Annual Meeting (cost of travel and accommodations will be reimbursed, and meeting registration will be waived), the opportunity to present the paper during the Meeting, and expedited review of the paper for possible publication in the Annals of Epidemiology.

**Eligibility Criteria**

- The first author of the submitted paper must be eligible for ACE Associate Member status and enrolled in a master’s or doctoral epidemiology training program, or have completed training no later than January of the calendar year of the annual meeting.
- Work must have been completed during the student’s training program, contain original research, and be suitable for publication.

### Special Meeting Award

**Award Description**

Critical and Sensitive Windows for Health Across the Lifespan

The 2018 American College of Epidemiology annual meeting theme is Applying Epidemiology Across the Lifespan to Improve Health Care, Inform Health Policy and Enhance Population Health. This year’s Special Meeting Award recognizes the importance of early influences on lifelong health and disease. The College is seeking nominations for the 2018 Special Meeting Award to recognize an individual who has worked at the intersection of study design, exposure science, and epidemiology. Individuals nominated for this award should demonstrate impactful and sustained research in this field evidenced by publications and influence on guidelines or policy.

The recipient of this year’s Special Meeting Award will have investigated exposures during critical and sensitive windows of human reproduction and development that may induce a cascade of changes with lifelong implications for health. Research questions will have focused on identifying acute, intermittent, or chronic exposures that may alter health states across the lifespan. Specialties may include genetic, environmental, molecular, reproductive, perinatal, or pediatric epidemiology. Quantitative methodologists involved in life course methods for analyzing complex hierarchical data structures and time-varying exposures may also be nominated.

The Award includes an honorarium, travel expenses and waiver of meeting registration. Self nominations are not accepted.

**Nomination Procedure**

- Active ACE members (Associate, Member, Fellow, Honorary Fellow or Emeritus) are invited to nominate eligible candidates for this award. Nominations should include:
  - A letter highlighting the achievements and/or contributions of the nominee pertinent to the award.
  - The nominee’s current curriculum vitae.
- Two supporting letters as provided by the nominator.

The deadline for receipt of nominations for all awards has been extended to June 11, 2018.

Only complete packages will be considered.

### American College of Epidemiology Research & Education Foundation

If you wish to make a donation to the foundation, you can click on the “Donate” link on the foundation’s website, go directly to [http://myaceref.org/donate-to-aceref](http://myaceref.org/donate-to-aceref) or send a check to:

American College of Epidemiology Research & Education Foundation
230 Washington Avenue Extension Suite 101
Albany, NY 12203

We look forward to the future activities and support of ACE’s new foundation!
Abstracts Invited for Annual Meeting
by Maurizio Macaluso, MD, DrPH, FACE

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION SITE WILL OPEN ON ACE WEBSITE ON MARCH 15, 2018. DEADLINE IS MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018.**

**Important Dates**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 15, 2018</td>
<td>Abstract submission site opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21, 2018, 5:00 pm EST</td>
<td>Deadline for “Regular” abstract submission</td>
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<td>End May 2018</td>
<td>Abstract Notifications for Poster Presentations sent out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early June 2018</td>
<td>Abstract Notifications for Oral Presentations sent out</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 19, 2018</td>
<td>Last day to RSVP conference attendance (required for publication in special issue of Annals of Epidemiology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1, 2018, 5:00 pm EST</td>
<td>Deadline for “Late-Breaker” abstract submission</td>
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<td>Mid-August 2018</td>
<td>“Late-Breaker” Abstract Notifications sent out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early September 2018</td>
<td>Online conference registration ends</td>
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<td>September 24-25, 2018</td>
<td>ACE Annual Meeting in Cincinnati, OH</td>
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GENERAL ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

- ACE Membership is not required to submit an abstract.
- Submitted abstracts will be considered for poster or oral presentation. Abstracts not selected for oral presentation are still eligible for poster presentation.
- All presented abstracts will be published in a special issue of the Annals of Epidemiology.

New for 2018! Selected authors will be invited to submit a full manuscript for expedited peer review and publication in the Annals of Epidemiology.

- Abstracts on topics in any area of epidemiology are eligible, not just those related to the meeting’s theme.
- Only TWO abstract submissions per author as a FIRST AUTHOR are permitted. However, one can submit more than one abstract as a co-author.
- Only original abstracts will be accepted. Abstracts previously accepted and published by other societies are not eligible for submission. Abstract content must be previously unpublished material. Results from a manuscript that has been submitted for publication and is currently under review are acceptable.
- Authors cannot submit abstracts for a paper that has been accepted and/or is ‘in press’ by the submission deadline. Authors can submit an abstract for a paper that has been submitted to a journal, but is not yet accepted by May 1, 2018.
- Submitters whose abstracts have been accepted will be expected to attend the meeting and present their posters. An RSVP to attend the conference must be received by June 19, 2018, 11:59 pm EST in order for the abstract to be included in the program.

Introducing our new Executive Director
Sara-Becca Smith

Sara-Becca is a Senior Association Manager at Capitol Hill Management Services, where she has served several national and international professional associations, including the Computer Science Teachers Association, the Sports, Cardiovascular, and Wellness Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the North American Drama Therapy Association. She has an MBA with a certificate in Management and Leadership from Union Graduate College and looks forward to meeting members and working with ACE. Sara-Becca can be reached at sb.smith@acepidemiology.org.

Your Ideas to Improve the Content and/or Style of the ACE Newsletter are welcome at any time.

Please forward your suggestions to either Emily Vogtmann Chair of ACE Communications Committee at emily.vogtmann@nih.gov or Greg Bond ACE Newsletter Editor at gregory.g.bond@gmail.com.
Applying Epidemiology Across the Lifespan to Improve Health Care, Inform Health Policy and Enhance Population Health

Life course epidemiology has been defined as “the study of long term effects on later health or disease risk of physical or social exposures during gestation, childhood, adolescence, young adulthood and later adult life.” This broad theoretical framework encompasses the well-known ‘fetal origins of adult disease’ hypothesis, but also recognizes that exposures, periods of susceptibility and modifiable causal pathways along the lifespan offer opportunities for effective interventions in the community (to remove or mitigate exposures) and in the health care system (to improve treatment effectiveness and prevent downstream adverse health outcomes). This work requires a large concerted effort that must connect epidemiologic research with the basic sciences and with clinical and translational research. The deployment of strategies that will result in better population health also needs to be supported by policies that influence how we manage the environment, how we provide health care and how we promote healthy consumer behavior and provide market incentives for positive change. The goal of this ACE meeting is to highlight priority areas across the lifespan where epidemiology can advance population health using translational approaches and discuss experiences that can serve as models for intervention.

PROGRAM SUMMARY – PROVISIONAL
(subject to change, see www.acepidemiology.org for updates)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

• ACE MAC Workshop: The role of equity in shaping precision public health

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

• Concurrent Education Workshops
• Workshop 1: Joint Modelling of Longitudinal and Survival Data: Tools to Evaluate Exposures and Predict Outcome Across the Lifespan;
• Workshop 2: QGIS Basics;
• Workshop 3: Principles of Data Management in Clinical and Epidemiologic Research;
• Workshop 4: Quality Improvement Methods and Statistical Process Control;
• Workshop 5: Reproducible Research in R: Geoinformatics, Epidemiology, and Publicly Available Health and GIS Data
• Speed Networking (registration required)
• Welcome Reception and Job Fair
• ACE Board of Directors Dinner (by invitation only)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

• Associate Member breakfast with ACE President Pauline Mendola, PhD, FACE
• Keynote Presentation: Adverse Childhood Experiences and their impact on health through the lifespan. Vincent Felitti, M.D., University of California - San Diego
• Student Prize Paper
• Plenary Session: The Role of Epidemiology in Precision Public Health
• Luncheon Roundtables sponsored by the Policy Committee, Ethics Committee, Mentoring Committee, Associate Members Committee, the Annals of Epidemiology, Healthy People 2030.
• Dept. of Epidemiology Chairs Luncheon (by invitation only)
• Concurrent Sessions 1: (a) Biosocial Determinants of Obesity and Its Consequences Across the Lifecourse, “(b)”Applications of Infectious Disease Epidemiology from the Micro to the Macro”
• Plenary Session: The epidemiology of addiction and the opioid use epidemic
• Poster Viewing
• ACE Business Meeting
• Host Reception, Location: Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

• Breakfast Roundtables with the Keynote Speaker, the Abraham Lilienfeld Award winner, the Endowed Lecturer and the ACE President-elect
• ACE Presidential Address
• Endowed Lecture
• Concurrent Sessions 2: (a) “Epidemiology for the Learning Health System,” (b) “Potpourri: Oral presentation of the best abstracts”
• Plenary Session: Environmental Health
• Awards Luncheon
• Concurrent Sessions 3: (a) “Dynamic Prediction Methods to Advance Precision Epidemiology,” (b) “Health Transitions into Adulthood (Growing up with chronic diseases of the childhood)”
• Annals of Epidemiology Board meeting

SEE YOU IN CINCINNATI!
2018 American College of Epidemiology Annual Meeting

Applying Epidemiology Across the Lifespan to Improve Health Care, Inform Health Policy and Enhance Population Health

September 24-25, 2018 • Cincinnati, OH

Please visit the ACE website for more detailed information:

www.aceepidemiology.org