President's Letter

Faith (Faye) Davis

The final touches are now being put on the workshops, symposiums, panels, posters and receptions for the Congress of Epidemiology in Montreal that will stimulate intellectual discussion/activities and create new professional linkages for so many epidemiologists. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Congress co-chairs, Drs. Leslie Bernstein and Jonine Bernstein for leading an outstandingly complex endeavor and bringing this third congress to successful fruition. I would also like to say thank you to the many members of ACE who have supported this planning effort. I'm sure the meeting will be enriched by an American College of Epidemiology flavor as a result of your efforts. [more]

Top Stories

See You In Montreal!

Nancy Kreiger

It's hard to believe, after a year and more of planning, but the North American Congress of Epidemiology is nearly upon us. Registration numbers are high, the home countries represented by registrants are diverse, and the scientific program is both broad and deep. We have fantastic pre-meeting workshops, an exciting array of symposium topics, and oral spotlight and poster sessions covering both substantive and methodological aspects of the field. Morning roundtable discussions represent such an interesting array of topics, it will be easy to rise early in the morning to attend them - even for West Coasters! [more]
National Salt Reduction Initiative
Heather Limper

From 1970 to 2000, sodium intake increased by 55% in the United States. High blood pressure has become endemic in the U.S. and the "direct and progressive relationship between sodium intake and blood pressure has been well established." Yet, the average American consumes twice the amount of recommended sodium each day. Nearly 80% of this intake can be attributed to packaged and restaurant foods, which are not restricted by federal regulations limiting sodium content. [more]

From the Board of Directors
The Treasurer's Report
Jim Collins

The sound financial position of the College has allowed us to keep our dues low while offering more services to our members. In a typical year, the College brings in approximately what it spends or between $250,000 and $300,000. In 2010 the College had revenue of $285,000 and spent $311,000. Our major sources of revenue were membership's dues (45%), annual meeting and workshops (41%), journal royalties (10%), and our investments (5%). Our major expenses are the annual meeting and the workshops (20%), supporting services (35%) and the journal (26%). [more]

Associate Directors' Report
Alberto Caban-Martinez and Joe Holbrook
Outgoing and Incoming Associate Directors

Greetings! Your associate member leadership team has been busy strengthening some of our ongoing activities as well as working to develop numerous new projects. Our associate member liaisons have done a wonderful job promoting associate member involvement while serving on ACE standing committees, as well as keeping the full associate membership abreast of committee news and opportunities on our regular bi-monthly calls. Please welcome our new Epidemiology Journal Club Director, Heather Limper! Through Heather's coordination in this new venture, an associate member and senior ACE member will co-present a pre-selected influential epidemiology article four times per year via conference call. Please let us know if you are interested in participating as co-presenter.
Committees

Policy Committee Workshop

Translating epidemiologic research into policy: What are we learning across diverse topics in public health?
Ross Brownson

A major area of emphasis for ACE is the intersection of epidemiology and policymaking. Epidemiology underlies sound public health practice, yet the process of translating epidemiologic research into policy, law, and regulation may be complex, uncertain, and daunting. The goal of a recent ACE workshop was to review processes by which epidemiologic evidence is translated into policy and thereby to encourage epidemiologists to systematically evaluate their experiences and improve their practices.

Minority Affairs

Charles Oke, Chair and Judith Samkoff, Vice-Chair

The Committee had monthly meetings with at least 60% of its members.

The proposed 2011 Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) initiated Collaborative Symposium was accepted for the June Congress. The title is "Health Disparities: Obesity among socioeconomically disadvantaged children and adolescents in the US: Implications for health across the life course."

Commentary

I am disappointed to miss the Epidemiology Congress this month due to a scheduling conflict. Please link to the survey in Faye's article to give the Board information about your attendance at the Congress.

Carol Burns, Editor

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