

# News



## President's Letter

By Richard A. Kaslow



It has been an atypically long time since the last ACE News issue. The extraordinary events of 2001 significantly altered the usual schedule of College activities. Congress 2001 was intended to supplant the annual September

meeting. Then repercussions of September 11 events prevented the Board of Directors from convening as planned. Despite these disruptions in our schedule, telephone conferences and subsequent reports on committee activities have attested to the vitality and continuity of our organization.

Without our 2001 annual meeting to mark the formal transition in our leadership, this News is a fitting place to convey our enthusiastic gratitude to Jonathan Samet for his accomplishments on our behalf and for his further guidance as Past-President. Our appreciation is also due to Dale Sandler, who served in that role so tirelessly during previous year, and to the several Board and committee members whose terms were recently completed.

In the weeks since the autumn terror, it has become clear not just to health professionals but to many in high places that broad, sustained effort will be

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## Albuquerque offers many attractions to ACE visitors

Attendees at the September 2002 ACE meeting are probably aware of the many attractions of Albuquerque. For those who want more information on the scenic and cultural opportunities, we have some comments and suggestions.

Albuquerque is a community with a rich history and a diverse collection of ethnic groups, including a strong Native American influence. Many of the available attractions from a cultural and historical perspective are available on [www.albuquerque.com/arts/index.html](http://www.albuquerque.com/arts/index.html) and [www.abq.cvb.org](http://www.abq.cvb.org). Explore these Web sites for the opportunity to visit old parts of the community or to take advantage of outdoor recreation in the area.



*Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. Photo by Ron Behrmann.*

More photos on pages 3-4.

We will have more specific information on activities planned for the weekend of Sept. 28 in the next *News*

# We Aren't 'Muddled' About Bioterrorism

By Richard A. Kaslow

Dr. Sally Satel, in her Dec. 13 editorial-page commentary, "Public Health? Forget It; Cosmic Issues Beckon," characterizes epidemiologists and the American College of Epidemiology (ACE) as "muddled" by "cosmic issues" in the face of immediate threats such as the anthrax introduction and gross deficiencies in public health response mechanisms. This criticism blurs important distinctions.

Government agencies bear primary responsibility for responding to immediate health crises and implementing disease control and prevention programs. In contrast, voluntary professional organiza-

tions like ACE typically advance their fields through such activities as education, recognition, and scholarships and advocacy surrounding a broad range of health issues. With around 900 members and a modest budget, ACE can provide selected information on bioterrorism through its own Web site or through links to others with greater dedicated capacity. However, ACE and its members had already begun to take more appropriate and ultimately more effective approaches by the time of its September 2000 Annual Meeting, when bioterrorism was the keynote topic.

Within days of the recent anthrax episode, ACE leaders began discussing the long-range concerns appropriate to our mission; a working group was charged to examine our members' central role in the production of an expanding force of well-trained professionals. ACE members participated actively in the dialogue at the U.S. Medicine Institute's December forum on Disease Surveillance, Bioterrorism and Homeland Security. Under ACE co-sponsorship, a Spring 2002 assembly of leaders in graduate education in epidemiology will propose new curricular material on bioterrorism.

## Annual Meeting Preliminary Schedule of Events

### Monday, Sept. 23, 2002

#### Registration

#### Opening Session: Keynote Address by Stewart Udall

#### Panel Discussion: What's New with the Old: The Epidemiology of Aging

Tamara Harris and Paul Levine present a panel of speakers to examine modern views of the biology and sociology of aging, a key concept in epidemiology.

#### The Ethics and Standards of Practice: A Luncheon Roundtable Discussion

#### Policy Debate: Epidemiology after 9/11: It Is Time to Rearrange Priorities for Public Health

Organized by Brian Strom, with Carlos Camargo moderating, the debate will focus on whether public health concerns about privacy should be lessened and how public health dollars should be spent. Two debaters argue in favor, two oppose in this always lively exchange of views.

#### Poster Presentation and Reception

#### Business Meeting

#### Banquet; Lilienfeld Prize Address

### Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2002

#### Breakfast tables – Diverse topics

#### Presidential Address

#### Student Prize Paper Presented

#### Panel Discussion: Gender and Health: How Epidemiologists Think About Sex

Marlene Goldman and Maureen Hatch moderate a discussion on the effects of gender on a wide variety of diseases and the challenges posed to epidemiology.

#### Epidemiology and Industry Forum

#### Education Forum

#### Panel Discussion: Casting Race in a

#### New Light: The Epidemiology of Ethnicity

Camara Jones and Carol Hogue are organizing a panel to explore how race and ethnicity work to affect health risks and how epidemiologists can best study this multifaceted risk predictor.

#### Adjournment

#### ACE National Office

1500 Sunday Drive  
Suite 102  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
Tel: (919) 787-5181  
Fax: (919) 787-4916

#### ACE Web Site:

[www.aceepidemiology.org](http://www.aceepidemiology.org)

#### Newsletter Editor:

Paul H. Levine

#### Managing Editor:

Maura McLaughlin

# *Albuquerque offers many attractions to ACE visitors*

*Eagle Dancers on Corn Mountain.  
Photo by Ron Behrmann.*



*New Mexico Museum of Natural History.  
Photo by Dick Kent.*

*Plaza, Old Town Albuquerque.  
Photo by Ron Behrmann.*



## Albuquerque offers many attractions to ACE visitors

**Petroglyph National Monument.** Photo courtesy of Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau.



**Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway.**  
Photo by Jay Blackwood.

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### President's Letter

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needed to rectify the deficiencies in the public health infrastructure. We also know that in times of health emergency, epidemiology and its practitioners are critical to an appropriate multifaceted control program. As for the proper collective role of ACE, training and service by members of our profession will drive investigation of outbreaks (real and imagined), surveillance, risk assessment, health policy, and public education. A number of ACE members will come to have leading and supporting responsibilities for responding to bioterrorism. A particular challenge for the College is to assist members in contributing their epidemiologic expertise. As an initial step,

a small working group has been charged with considering a variety of ways to bring ACE professional resources effectively to bear in the wider effort, and discussions with groups involved in training and deploying epidemiologists have begun. In December the College was well represented at a US Medicine Forum in Washington on surveillance, with an emphasis on bioterrorism and related activities. Shortly thereafter, the Board worked to craft my reply to an article in the Wall Street Journal specifically criticizing ACE for failing to offer anthrax information on our Web site. That reply is reprinted in this issue.

All of us on the Board welcome your thoughts about the potential ACE role in the epidemiology of bioterrorism at the same time we remain fully receptive to your input on other matters of mutual interest. One of those common interests is the stimulating program for next September's Albuquerque meeting detailed elsewhere in this issue. Continue your support of the College, not only with a decision to attend the meeting but also through participation in our other activities.



## American College of Epidemiology

# *Abraham Lilienfeld Award — Call for Nominations*

The American College of Epidemiology invites nominations for the Abraham Lilienfeld Award.

The College's most prestigious award is given in honor of Abraham Lilienfeld, outstanding teacher, scholar, and founder of the American College of Epidemiology. Fellows and members of the College are invited to nominate appropriate candidates for this honor.

Please submit a letter stating the special qualifications and contributions of the candidate to excellence in epidemiology. A copy of the candidate's curriculum vitae must also be enclosed. **The deadline for receipt of nominations is March 31, 2002.**

The award will be conferred at the 2002 Annual Meeting to be held September 22-24, 2002 in Albuquerque, NM. The Lilienfeld Awardee will have an opportunity to address Fellows and Members of the College during the Annual Meeting program. Lilienfeld Awardees are also recognized as lifetime Honorary Fellows of the College. Please send your nominations to:

**Clark W. Heath, Jr., M.D., Chair, Awards Committee, American College of Epidemiology, 1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102, Raleigh, NC 27607; Ph: 919-787-5181; Fax: 919-787-4916**



## American College of Epidemiology

# *Student Prize — Call for Papers*

The American College of Epidemiology invites submissions for the 2002 Student Prize. This prize recognizes an outstanding scientific contribution by a student of epidemiology.

Students undertaking doctoral training in epidemiology are invited to submit a paper, as are students with a doctoral degree in a field relevant to epidemiology who are undertaking formal training in epidemiology of at least one year's duration equivalent to a Master of Science degree. To be eligible, students must be in training or have completed training no earlier than July 1, 2001.

The submitted paper should contain the findings of original research conducted by the student during training and should be suitable for publication. The style should follow the format of the *Annals of Epidemiology*. Papers submitted may be sole-authored, or, if co-authored, the student should be the lead author and the student's advisor must provide a letter documenting the roles of the student and co-authors.

The Student Prize will consist of:

- Financial assistance to attend the Annual Meeting of the American College of Epidemiology.
- Presentation of the paper at the meeting.
- Expedient review of the paper for publication in the *Annals of Epidemiology*.
- A special recognition award from the College.

**The deadline for receipt of submissions is May 31, 2002.** Six copies of the paper and advisor's letter, if appropriate, and a cover letter indicating address for correspondence (please include postal and e-mail addresses as well as telephone and fax numbers) should be sent to:

**Clark W. Heath, Jr., M.D., Chair, Awards Committee, American College of Epidemiology, 1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102, Raleigh, NC 27607; Ph: 919-787-5181; Fax: 919-787-4916**



## *Call for Abstracts*

Annual Meeting of the American College of Epidemiology

# *Age, Sex, and Race: Towards a New Understanding for Epidemiology*

Albuquerque, NM  
September 22-24, 2002

The American College of Epidemiology invites the submission of abstracts for consideration for poster presentations. Poster presentations provide an opportunity for participants in the ACE annual meeting to share their work with interested colleagues in an informal, relaxed setting. Poster sessions are prominently scheduled during the meeting. Poster sessions will include poster discussion groups and oral presentations by some authors. Prizes will be awarded for the best student-prepared poster.

Your abstract will be published in the program and in *The Annals of Epidemiology*, the official journal of the American College of Epidemiology. Abstracts may be reformatted for journal publication so that all abstracts appear in uniform type. By following the instructions, you will guarantee that your abstract will appear as you intended. Instruction on submitting abstracts can be found at ACE's web site at <http://www.acepidemiology.org/meetings/2002albuquerque/abstractform.doc>

Abstracts should be prepared according to the instructions provided. Please submit your abstracts to [mmclaughlin@olsonmgmt.com](mailto:mmclaughlin@olsonmgmt.com)

**FAX AND MAIL submissions will NOT be accepted.**

### Keywords

Aging	Diabetes	Infection	Other	Social
Behavioral	Emerging Infections	Injury	Pediatrics	Substance Abuse
Biomarkers	Environment	Methods	Pharmacoepidemiology	Women's health
Birth Defects	Ethics	Molecular	Pregnancy	
Cancer	Genetics	Neuroepidemiology	Psychiatric	
Cardiovascular/Stroke	Health Services	Nutrition	Public Health Practice	
Clinical	HIV/AIDS	Occupational	Reproductive	

For additional information about the meeting or abstract submission, contact the ACE at 919/787-5181 or e-mail the college at [mmclaughlin@olsonmgmt.com](mailto:mmclaughlin@olsonmgmt.com). Information about the College and the 2002 Annual Meeting may be found at our web site: [www.acepidemiology.org](http://www.acepidemiology.org). Please consider attending one of the continuing education workshops on Sunday.

**Abstracts must be received via e-mail by April 1, 2002**



***Join Us!***

**Annual Meeting of the American College of Epidemiology**

***Age, Sex, and Race:  
Towards a New Understanding for Epidemiology***

**Albuquerque, NM • Sheraton Old Town Hotel  
September 22-24, 2002**

**Sunday, September 22**

Workshops –

- Collaborations to Reduce Health Disparities
- Molecular Genetics
- Pharmacoepidemiology
- Also under development is a Bioterrorism Workshop

**Monday September 23**

- Keynote address by Stewart Udall, former Congressman and Interior Secretary, and Environmental Leader.
- Scientific Posters – This open session includes posters on all epidemiologic topics, with prizes for exceptional presentations.
- Symposium I – What's New With the Old: The Epidemiology of Aging. A panel of speakers examines how modern views of the biology and sociology of Age and Aging affect this concept in epidemiology.

- Policy Debate – Epidemiology after 9/11: It Is Time to Rearrange Priorities for Public Health. This two-on-two debate will focus on whether public health concerns about privacy should be lessened and how public health dollars should be spent.

**Tuesday September 24**

- Symposium II – Gender and Health: How Epidemiologists Think About Health. Panelists will consider the role gender plays in health and epidemiological research.
- Symposium III – Casting Race in a New Light: The Epidemiology of Ethnicity. Panelists will highlight the biologic and social constructs of race and ethnicity, often entangled with social class.
- Forum for Epidemiology and Industry
- Forum for Education: Students and Faculty Views

And much, much more.....

**For Preliminary Program, go to our Web site: [www.acepidemiology.org](http://www.acepidemiology.org)**

**Abstracts Due April 1, 2002**

## 2001-2002 ACE Board of Directors

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Richard A. Kaslow, MD  
E-mail: rkaslow@uab.edu

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## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY



1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102, Raleigh, NC 27607  
Phone: (919) 787-5181; Fax: (919) 787-4916  
[www.acepidemiology.org](http://www.acepidemiology.org)

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