



SPER Winter Newsletter

President's Corner

Executive Committee (2018-2019)

President: Courtney Lynch

Past-President: Olga Basso

President-Elect:
Brian Whitcomb

Secretary: Una Grewal

Treasurer: Neil Perkins

Members-at-Large:

Michael Kramer

Claire Margerison

Sunni Mumford

Nicole Talge

International Representative:

Natasha Nassar

Student Representative:

Stephanie Leonard

Administrator:

Sue Bevan

Dear colleagues,

Happy 2019! It's hard to believe that it's only four months until the Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

Thank you to those of you who joined us at the end of January for our collaborative online debate with SER. I think it's fair to say that it was a lively discussion. We appreciate the great presentations given by Olga Basso and KS Joseph on the application of the fetuses at risk approach to postnatal outcomes. We will be continuing to hold joint events with SER throughout the year. If you have any SPER-SER event ideas that you'd like to share, please contact our new SER liaison, Jessie Buckley, at: jbuck119@jhu.edu.



In response to member feedback, we have provided various opportunities for member involvement in this year's meeting. Together with the Program Committee, I will be working to assemble an exciting agenda based on the 249 abstracts and handful of member-contributed session ideas that we have received.

I am pleased to announce the members of our newly formed committees. I look forward to working with them and am very thankful for their willingness to serve.

Program Committee

- Natasha Nassar, Professor, U of Sydney
- Stephanie Leonard, Postdoc, Stanford
- Sonia Grandi, Student, McGill
- Helen Chin, Postdoc, NIEHS
- Erinn Hade, Assistant Professor, OSU
- Beth Widen, Assistant Professor, U of Texas
- Candice Johnson, Research Scientist, CDC
- Anne Marie Jukic, Principal Investigator, NIEHS
- Leslie Farland, Assistant Professor, U of Arizona
- Pauline Mendola, NICHD, NIH, Past President
- Russell Kirby, USF, Past President
- Mark Klebanoff, Nationwide Children's, Past President

Communications/Outreach Committee

- Claire Margerison, Assistant Professor, MSU
- Nicole Talge, Assistant Professor, MSU
- Emily Barrett, Associate Prof, Rutgers
- Samantha Lain, Postdoc, U of Sydney
- Stephanie Leonard, Postdoc, Stanford

As usual, we will be holding some roundtable breakfast sessions at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday morning. Are you interested in hosting a roundtable session? **If so, [click here](#) to submit your idea by March 15th at 5:00pm ET.** If you'd like to nominate someone else to host a session, you can do that too.

With that, I wish you happy, healthy, and productive spring! I will close by reminding you to **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP and don't forget to book your room at the conference hotel in Minneapolis, MN before it sells out!** As always, should you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, you can reach me at: courtney.lynch@osumc.edu.

All the best,



Courtney Lynch

Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology... in the Spotlight

We are pleased to write about *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology*, a Journal affiliated to SPER, and share a few new initiatives in this issue of SPER's newsletter. At the SPER business meeting in June last year, we discussed the benefits of strengthening ties between PPE and the SPER membership. Being in touch through the Newsletter is one way to do this. The Journal is doing well, but a status quo is not good enough! A first initiative is to produce several special issues on high priority topics in reproductive, perinatal, and pediatric epidemiology. After a call for proposals, we selected the following 4 through a competitive bidding process:

- **Maternal health**, co-edited by KS Joseph and Marian Knight
- **Leveraging innovative technology to enhance research in reproductive and perinatal epidemiology**, co-edited by Lauren Wise and Courtney Lynch
- **Prenatal exposure to acetaminophen and childhood neurodevelopment**, co-edited by Samantha Parker and Martha Werler
- **Predictors, outcomes, and classification methods of periviable births**, co-edited by Sarah Keim and Courtney Lynch

For details regarding these special topics and manuscript preferences, please [click here](#).

In response to comments by our readership, we have extensively revised the author requirements for the journal. This was done to simplify the submission process. Importantly, we have instituted a "flexible submission policy" where authors are free to submit manuscripts that do not strictly adhere to the new guidelines at the initial submission. However, if a manuscript is considered further (i.e., a revision is recommended), we will ask authors to format the manuscript following the Journal's new guidelines.

We are pleased to welcome Courtney Lynch as a new associate editor and Samantha Parker as trainee editor, working with Sarah Keim. We are always looking for trainees interested in perinatal epidemiology and epidemiologic methods. If you are interested, please jot us a note. We have recently re-structured PPE's editorial board (thanks to Jennifer Zeitlin, our deputy editor's efforts!). Please see <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/13653016/homepage/editorialboard.html>

We look forward to writing blurbs about PPE in the forthcoming issues of SPER newsletter and, as always, we welcome any suggestions you may have to make PPE better!

Cande V. Ananth
Editor in Chief

**Save the Date: 2019 SPER Annual Meeting
June 17-18, 2019
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Registration Information

Advanced Methods Workshop:

Register now for the 2019 SPER Advanced Methods Workshop, “Translating Causality into Practice: Causal Questions and Analysis in Applied Epidemiology,” led by Jonathan M. Snowden and Kelly M. Reavis of Oregon Health & Science University-Portland State University School of Public Health. **This hands-on workshop will immediately precede the SPER Annual Meeting, from 12:00-3:00 pm on Monday, June 17.** To learn more about the Advanced Methods Workshop, please [click here](#).



Photo credit: Andrey Krav (iStock 824673610)

Annual Meeting:

In response to member feedback, this year’s annual meeting features several exciting changes including:

- an extended program,
- concurrent contributed sessions (member-initiated),
- a symposium (member-initiated),
- a methods debate (member-initiated)

Registration fees for the Annual Meeting include admission to all sessions (plenary and poster), continental breakfast & box lunch, and refreshment breaks. **The annual meeting will begin following the conclusion of the Advanced Methods workshop at 3:00 pm on Monday, June 17.**

[Click here](#) to register for the methods workshop and the annual meeting! The deadline for early registration is **Monday, May 13**. Please join us!

Accommodations

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, the venue for our 2019 Annual Meeting. [Click here](#) to book your special-rate accommodations!

Fun Run 5K

Experience the beauty of the “Land of 10,000 lakes” by participating in our annual Fun Run! This SPER and SER-sponsored event will take place on the morning of Wednesday, June 19. If you are interested in registering for this event, please [click here](#). Hope to see you there!



2019 Award Nominations

Student Prize Paper Award (due Mon, March 4)

SPER requests manuscript submissions for consideration 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 SPER Annual Meeting. An award of \$500 plus expenses for travel, two days lodging, and SPER Annual Meeting registration will be given to the author of the selected paper.

[Click here](#) for information on eligibility, how to submit applications, and how the applications will be evaluated.

Mentoring Award (due Mon, March 4)

The SPER Mentoring Award recognizes the importance of dedicated and skilled mentors in the development of reproductive, pediatric, and perinatal epidemiologists at all levels. The nominees will be evaluated based on proficiency in mentoring skills, dedication to mentoring, and attention to advisee development technically, professionally, and personally in the field. Nominees should demonstrate effective people skills, motivate and inspire their mentees to excel, and should serve as a role model, teaching and demonstrating high standards of performance and integrity. A \$500 prize is awarded.

[Click here](#) for information on eligibility, how to submit applications, and how the applications will be evaluated.

Rising Star Award (due Mon, March 4)

This award is to recognize early to mid-career investigators whose achievements and potential set them on a trajectory to become research leaders in the field of reproductive, perinatal, and pediatric epidemiology. Overall research contributors thus far, including publications, presentations, and influence on the field will be considered. An additional important consideration is the candidate's likely future role, as their career continues to evolve. SPER registration will be covered for the winner and a \$500 prize is awarded.

[Click here](#) for information on eligibility, how to submit applications, and how the applications will be evaluated.

Student/Trainee Poster Awards (Annual Meeting)

We are pleased to announce that the 5th Annual Student/Trainee Poster Awards will take place the 2019 Annual Meeting. Anyone who was a student or trainee when he or she completed the presented work is eligible (i.e., undergraduates, graduate or medical students; postdoctoral fellows; medical residents; research trainees; or clinical fellows). There will be 1 winner and 1 honorable mention per poster session.

Poster Judges Needed!

Get to know the next generation of pediatric and perinatal epidemiologists by volunteering to serve as a poster judge at the upcoming annual meeting! Your involvement would entail visiting up to five presentations during one of the two scheduled poster sessions. If you are able to help, please contact Stephanie Leonard at stephanie.leonard@stanford.edu. Thank you!

Call for Executive Committee Nominations

Nominations are now being sought for **President** (2019-2022), **Secretary** (2019-2022), one **Member-at-Large** (2019-2023), and **SPER Student Representative** (2019-2020). All terms will begin at the close of the June 2019 Annual Meeting. [Click here](#) for a description of each position.

Members of SPER are encouraged to nominate themselves or any other member of SPER to run for these positions, and help our Society achieve continued success through this opportunity for professional service.

Nominations are due by March 1, 2019 and should be sent to Sunni Mumford at mumfords@mail.nih.gov or submitted online [here](#). Electronic voting will take place in April 2019.

Membership Renewal Time

Don't forget to renew your SPER membership for 2019! Benefits include discounted registration rates for the annual meeting; access to the online jobs and fellowships board; participation in the electronic mailing list; subscription to *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology* – and more! If you would like to join SPER (or know a classmate or colleague who does), please [click here](#) to complete the membership application on the SPER website.

Looking for a job or fellowship? Recruiting for a position?

Explore the SPER jobs & fellowships bank! It currently has 8 listings, which include advertisements for postdoctoral fellowships and professorships. Check back regularly for timely access to these opportunities!

If you are looking to hire an epidemiologist with expertise in perinatal and/or pediatric health and would like to advertise your position on the SPER website, please [click here](#) to submit your contribution.

Follow SPER on Social Media!

Stay up-to-date on all SPER-related news!



@PPEpi_Society



Search: SPER