



# SPER Spring 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,

It's hard to believe that the Annual Meeting is just about one week away! We have some very exciting things planned for this year's meeting. I'd like to thank the Program Committee for all of their hard work in helping me to develop the program. Prior to the meeting, we will begin with the Methods Workshop that will address translating causality into practice, which will be led by Jonathan Snowden. It promises to be a great session!



The meeting will officially kick off mid-afternoon Monday with out of the box keynote addresses given by Lisa Bodnar and Matthew Fox. They will be talking about the use of social media to expand your reach online. I'm certain that they'll be both informative and entertaining. Following the keynote addresses, in an effort to increase scientific content at the meeting, we will be hosting concurrent sessions that will address pediatric research and environmental influences on perinatal and childhood outcomes. Both sessions look great and I'm certain that members will struggle in deciding which one to attend.

Tuesday morning, we will be starting things early with the opportunity for attendees to join one of three breakfast roundtable sessions. The options will be: environmental influences on reproduction, hosted by Pauline Mendola; meet the editors, with Cande Ananth and Mark Klebanoff; and career and funding advice with Sarah Keim, Lauren Wise, and yours truly. We will then have a full day of sessions on Tuesday along with an exciting symposium addressing the power of data linkage in reproductive and perinatal epidemiology. Our Communications Committee also has some fun activities plan for attendees.

In related news, I'm excited to announce that our NIH conference grant renewal received a fundable score (i.e., 10). The funds from this grant provide general meeting support as well as funding for some of our awards. So, we are thrilled that it looks like we will continue to receive those funds for the next five years.

It has been my pleasure to serve as President for SPER this past year. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Minneapolis! Safe travels.

All the best,

Courtney Lynch

## Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology... in the Spotlight

Cande V. Ananth

Editor-in-Chief  
Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology

A few recent developments with Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology...

*New associate editor.* We are delighted to welcome Peter Andersen from Monash Institute of Cognitive and Clinical Neurosciences, Monash University, Victoria, Australia, as our new associate editor. Peter has joined (on 1 May 2019) the team of associate editors Courtney Lynch and Sarah Keim, and the deputy editor Jennifer Zeitlin. Peter Anderson will assist us with submissions in childhood outcomes.

*Flexible submission policy.* As previously communicated, the Journal has instituted a flexible submission policy for manuscript. Authors can submit papers to the Journal “as is” without having to modify them to suit the Journal’s formatting guidelines.

*Special issues.* The Journal is inviting submissions for the following planned “special issue” supplements (we have extended the submission deadline to 15 August 2019 for all 3 issues)

- *Leveraging Innovative Technology to Enhance Research in Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology.* Guest Editors: Lauren Wise and Courtney Lynch
- *Predictors, Outcomes, and Classification Methods of Periviable Births.* Guest Editors: Sarah Keim and Courtney Lynch.
- *Prenatal Exposure to Acetaminophen and Childhood Neurodevelopment.* Guest Editors: Samantha Parker and Martha Werler

We are delighted to note that we have received an interesting collection of geographically diverse papers for the “maternal health” special issue. KS Joseph and Marian Knight are working hard to coordinate the submissions, and we hope to publish this issue toward the end of this year.

Finally, we are looking to recruit “trainee editors” for PPE in the areas of pediatric and child health (1 position to work with Sarah Keim), perinatal or reproductive epidemiology (2 positions to work with Courtney Lynch and Jennifer Zeitlin), and methods (1 position to work with Cande Ananth). These are 1-2 year unpaid positions to learn the ropes of academic publishing and gearing up to be an editor someday. We welcome nominations (self-nominations are encouraged too). Please submit a CV with a brief statement (no more than a page) of why this position interests you by 15 July 2019.

# 2019 SPER Annual Meeting

June 17-18, 2019  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

## Registration Information

There is still time to register for the Advanced Methods Workshop and the Annual Meeting! Payment can be made by check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express. Please note that anyone selected to present a talk or a poster at the annual meeting is required to become a member of SPER. [Click here](#) to register!

## Accommodations and Transportation

### Hotels

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis (conference hotel) is nearly full, with some dates completely sold out. However, special-rate accommodations are still available at other nearby hotels!

[Click here](#) for more information.

### Transportation

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis is located 14 miles from the MSP airport. Transportation options include:

- *Taxi:* one-way fare ~ \$40 USD.
- *Light Rail Service:* Take the Blue Line from MSP to the Nicolet Mall station (Nicolet & 5<sup>th</sup> St), which is located 7 blocks north of the conference hotel. One-way fares are either \$2.00 (non-rush hour) or \$2.50 (M-F: 6-9 am; 3-6:30 pm).

## Advanced Methods Workshop: Monday, June 17, 12:00-3:00 pm

Join us 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.** [Click here](#) to learn more.

## Annual Meeting: Monday, June 17, 3:00 pm

We are excited to launch several new initiatives as part of this year’s annual meeting. These include:

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

**The Annual Meeting will begin following the conclusion of the Advanced Methods workshop at 3:00 pm on Monday, June 17.** [Click here](#) for a preview of the conference program!

## Keynote Address

We will kick off the Annual Meeting with our Keynote Speakers, **Lisa Bodnar, Ph.D.** (University of Pittsburgh) and **Matthew Fox, D.Sc.** (Boston University), who will discuss social media use as a tool for extending your impact as an epidemiologist.



Photo credit: Andrey Krav (iStock 824673610)

### Roundtables – Tuesday, June 18, 7:00-7:45 am

We are looking forward to hosting three Roundtable discussions at the Annual Meeting. Our topics and facilitators this year include:

- “Environmental Threats to Human Reproduction,” a discussion moderated by **Pauline Mendola, Ph.D.** (*Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development*)
- “Meet the Editors,” a conversation led by **Cande Ananth, Ph.D.** (Columbia University; *Paediatric & Perinatal Epidemiology* Editor-in-Chief) and Editor **Mark Klebanoff, M.D** (The Ohio State University; *American Journal of Epidemiology* Associate Editor)
- “Career Development and Finding Funding,” a discussion aimed at trainees & early career investigators moderated by **Suzan Carmichael, Ph.D.** (Stanford University), **Sarah Keim, Ph.D.** (The Ohio State University), **Courtney Lynch, Ph.D.** (The Ohio State University), and **Lauren Wise, Sc.D.** (Boston University).

These forums provide an excellent opportunity for informal discussion and getting to know fellow SPER colleagues. All registered conference attendees are welcome to attend!

### 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!



### Election Results – SPER Executive Committee

Thanks to all members who offered their service to SPER and ran for election! Our newly elected officers for 2019 are:

#### President-Elect

Lauren Wise, Sc.D.  
Professor  
Dept. of Epidemiology  
Boston University School of Public Health

#### Secretary

Sarah Keim, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Center for Biobehavioral Health  
The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital  
The Ohio State University

#### Member at Large

Anne Marie Jukic, Ph.D.  
Tenure Track Investigator  
Epidemiology Branch  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

#### Student Representative

Krista Wollny, RN, MN  
Ph.D. Student, Epidemiology  
Community Health Sciences  
University of Calgary

## Thank you for reviewing abstracts!

Thank you to everyone who reviewed abstracts for the 2017 SPER Annual Meeting. We appreciate the time and attention you took in conducting your reviews.

Margaret Adgent	Kelly Ferguson	Michael Kramer	Megan Romano
Kayla Anderson	Alexa Freedman	Danelle Lobdell	Danielle Schoenaker
Sylvia Badon	Erika Fuchs	Claire Margerison	Shawnita Sealy-Jefferson
Olga Basso	Elena Fuentes-Afflick	Leny Mathew	Carrie Shapiro-Mendoza
Erin Bell	Audrey Gaskins	Pauline Mendola	Gary Shaw
Marit Bovbjerg	Akhgar Ghassabian	Lynne Messer	Kelly Strutz
Miraides Brown	Tamala Gondwe	Dawn Misra	Alexandra Sundermann
Jessie Buckley	Sonia Grandi	Anna Modest	Kira Taylor
Catherine Bulka	Catherine Haggerty	Sunni Mumford	Sarah Tinker
Carolyn Cesta	Quaker Harmon	Natasha Nassar	Anjel Vahratian
Helen Chin	Penelope Howards	Collette Ncube	Catherine Vladutiu
Jacqueline Cohen	Marni Jacobs	Carrie Nobles	Elizabeth Ball-Wieler
Modupe Coker	Candice Johnson	Chinenye Nwoke	Brian Whitcomb
Christina Cordero	Anne Marie Jukic	Samantha Parker	Andrew Williams
Kyley Cox	Sarah Keim	Wei Perng	Edwina Yeung
Carolyn Cramoy	Jane Khoury	Julie Petersen	Yeyi Zhu
Valery Danilack	Keewan Kim	Cassandra Pickens	
Carolyn Drews-Botsch	Russell Kirby	Deborah Randall	
Galit Dunietz	Mark Klebanoff	Annette Regan	

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

Explore the SPER jobs & fellowships bank! It currently has 13 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!



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