



SPER Newsletter (Spring/Summer 2022)

President's Corner

Executive Committee (2021-2022)

President:

Lisa Bodnar

Past-President:

Lauren Wise

President-Elect:

Jaime Slaughter-Acey

Secretary:

Sarah Keim

Treasurer:

Erinn Hade

Members-at-Large:

Audrey Gaskins

Anne Marie Jukic

Claire Margerison

Kristen Rappazzo

**International
Representative:**

Siri Haberg

Student Representative:

Luther-King Fasehun

Administrator:

Sue Bevan

Hello SPER friends and colleagues!

In just a few weeks, we will be gathering in Chicago for our first in-person annual meeting since 2019! We have a **COVID protocol** in place that we think will keep everyone as safe as possible. It includes obtaining a negative test before arriving at the conference (free tests provided), proof of vaccination status, and encouragement to wear a mask:



SPER asks all attendees to obtain a negative SARS-CoV-2 test before arriving at the conference. To facilitate this, SPER has partnered with [eMed](https://epiresearch.org/request/) to provide free testing kits for you to test in advance of the conference and each day of the conference. **To receive this test, you must sign up by May 31, 2022 using this link:**

<https://epiresearch.org/request/>.

The details are as follows:

[eMed](https://epiresearch.org/request/) is a digital CLIA certified laboratory that proctors at-home tests, on-demand 24/7 and provides an encrypted digital CLIA laboratory report to the user, via email, in minutes after use (and as a CLIA laboratory automatically provides public health reporting of results).

eMed will ship you one test to take before traveling to the conference. You should test no more than 24 hours before arriving. We require a negative test result from your eMed kit to check in at the conference. The eMed test includes an official Lab Report which you should provide as proof at check in (printed or readable on a mobile device). Please note that the process of testing may take 30 minutes to obtain your result, so allow adequate time.

To ensure your free test is shipped to your preferred address anywhere in the world in time for the conference, **please complete this form by May 31:**

<https://epiresearch.org/request/>. If you are attending SPER and SER, you only need to complete this form once.

SPER also requires proof of full vaccination status. Please bring your vaccination card and ID to show upon check-in.

SPER encourages all participants to wear a mask in public areas of the conference.

The meeting we have put together will be outstanding, and we are so excited to finally see each other's faces (at least one-third of our faces!).

As always, if you have questions, please reach out anytime.

Lisa Bodnar, SPER President
lbodnar@pitt.edu

2022 SPER Annual Meeting

Monday, June 13 & Tuesday, June 14

Advanced Methods Workshop (Registration required)

The 2022 Advanced Methods Workshop will focus on Time-dependent Exposures and Selective Testing in Pregnancy and will be led by Chelsea Messenger and Louisa Smith on Monday June 13th, noon to 3pm. [Click here](#) for more information and to register!



Annual Meeting Program (Registration required)

We have pulled together an exciting line-up of reproductive, perinatal, and pediatric research presentations for the program on June 13-14th!

Our Annual Meeting program includes:

- Concurrent contributed sessions
 - Pediatric health and well-being
 - Environmental and social exposures and reproductive health
 - Methodological and study design considerations
 - Inequities in perinatal and postnatal health
 - Reproductive history and long-term health outcomes
 - Child development
- Symposia
 - Getting the whole picture: Holistic consideration of environmental, clinical, and social contributions to preterm birth
 - The role of the epigenome in child health: Perspectives from the ECHO (Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes) consortium
 - But is it safe? Applying epidemiology to evaluate COVID-19 vaccine safety during pregnancy
 - Double trouble: considerations for twins in perinatal epidemiologic studies
- A keynote presentation by Rachel Hardeman, PhD (University of Minnesota) on the intersections of reproductive justice and police violence
- Two poster sessions
- SPER Award presentations and plenary presentations
- SPER Business meeting
- Snack breaks!
- [Click here](#) for the Annual Meeting program!

Annual Meeting Registration

[Click here](#) for more information and to register!

Twitter Posters (optional)

Looking for an additional opportunity to engage with the SPER membership about your research?



Consider making a Twitter Poster! The process is simple:

- [Use this template](#) (optimized aspect ratio for Twitter) to create three slides that summarize key points from your presentation. credit: Mike Morrison.
- Save the template as an animated GIF. The resulting file will cycle among the three slides as part of a single image. To do this:
 - If you have PowerPoint 365:
 - File → Export → Animated GIF. Save the animated GIF to your computer.
 - If you do not have PowerPoint 365:
 - File → Export → Create a Video. Save the video to your computer.
 - Use a freely available Video to Animated GIF converter (<https://ezgif.com/video-to-gif>) and save the GIF to your computer
- Using your Twitter account, post the animated GIF with the hashtag **#SPER_TwitterPosters2022** on **Monday, June 13**. Don't forget to tag **@SPER_News**, too!

Questions?

[Click here](#) for a short video description of the process and [click here](#) for an outstanding Twitter Poster prepared by Fintan Mooney and colleagues (University of Massachusetts) for the 2020 Annual Meeting!

During the SPER Annual meeting, childcare services and a lactation room will be available.

Childcare

*If you are in need of childcare during the SPER meeting, please contact **Nanny Poppinz** for onsite services:*

<https://www.nannypoppinz.com/agency/pricing-chicago.aspx>

1-312-212-3276

Please note that Individuals interested in using childcare services are responsible for coordinating and paying the agency directly. Please give the company a two-week notice before the service is needed.

Lactation Room

A lactation room will be available throughout the conference. Please inquire about the location at registration.



Thank you!



2022 Annual Meeting Moderators

Brandie DePaoli Taylor
Sandie Ha
Carrie Breton
Ousseny Zerbo
Annette Regan
Julie Petersen
Samantha Parker

Christina Codero
Samrawit Yisahak
Sonia Grandi
Luther-King Fasehun
Helen Chin
Diana Soria
Jihong Liu

Kristen Rappazzo
Qiping Fan
Wendy Nembhard
Yasamean Zamani-Hank
Ugochinyere Vivian Ukah
Ruby Nguyen
Mrudula Naidu

2022 Annual Meeting Program Committee

Farland, Leslie	Rappazzo, Kristen	Yu, Ya-Hui	Paneth, Nigel
Ahrens, Katherine	Ncube, Collette	Oken, Emily	Perng, Wei
Chin, Helen	Yang, Seungmi	Bircan, Emine	Regan, Annette
Jukic, Anne Marie	Cohen, Jacqueline	Buckley, Jessie	Shivakoti, Rupak
Kaufman, Menolly	Grandi, Sonia	Fan, Qiping	Widen, Elizabeth
Mahalingaiah, Shruthi	Hedderson, Monique	Ghassabian, Akhgar	
Papatheodorou, Stefania	Hinkle, Stefanie	Kirby, Russell	
Purdue-Smithe, Alexandra	Mitro, Susanna	Nguyen, Ruby	

2022 Abstract Reviewers

Penelope Howards	Emily Oken	Angela Lupattelli	Jennifer Jairam	Annette Regan	Stefania Papatheodorou
Danelle Lobdell	Amy Padula	Sabrina Luke	Anne Marie Jukic	Emine Bircan	Ixel Hernandez-Castro
Izzuddin Aris	Sarah Haight	Kaitlyn Stanhope	Jacqueline Cohen	Anna Booman	Menolly Kaufman
Rana Chehab	Tracy Bastain	Edwina Yeung	Danielle Stevens	Seungmi Yang	Jingyuan Xiao Xiao
Mark Klebanoff	Stephanie Leonard	Pengfei Guo	Cande Ananth	Sarah Keim	Ruby Barnard-Mayers
GINNA DOSS	Helen Chin	Mrudula Naidu	Kristen Upson	Olga Basso	Carolyn Drews-Botsch
Nicole Talge	Colleen Reynolds	Anna Pollack	Candice Johnson	Carolyn Cramoy	Susanna Mitro
Sonia Grandi	Jessie Buckley	Bethany Rand	Elizabeth Kamai	Audrey Gaskins	Kimberly McKee
Elizabeth Widen	Katherine Ahrens	Anita Subramanian	Tona Pitt	Yu Zhang	Vanessa Short
Ronee Wilson	Kristen Rappazzo	Jennifer Dunne	Carolyn Cesta	Andrew Williams	Florence Martin
Sheree Boulet	Sunni Mumford	Zohra Lassi	Vida Rebello	Katie Tastad	Diana Soria-Contreras
Eric Rubenstein	Abidemi Okechukwu	Catherine Vladutiu	Courtney Walker	Anjel Vahratian	Dongqing Wang
Lisa Bodnar	Safiya Soullane	Sharonda Lovett	Valery Danilack	Rupak Shivakoti	Stephani Kim
Kelly Strutz	Eugene Wong	Janet Aucoin	Hannah R. Murphy	Asma Ahmed	Gentiane Perrault Sullivan
Katherine Pohlman	Melissa Amyx	Sylvia Badon	Lisa Rokoff	Christine Langton	Alexandra Purdue-Smithe
Kyle Campbell	Lina Dimitrov	Tim Ciesielski	Joanna Merckx	Stefanie Hinkle	Myriam Carol Afeiche Zehil
Nedghie Adrien	Joanna Marroquin	Monique Hedderson	Giehae Choi	Andres Cardenas	Estifanos Baye
Sara Stephens	Kyera Actkins	Fasil Tekola-Ayele	Katherine Grantz	Collette Ncube	Ugochinyere Vivian Ukah
Natalie Rosenquist	Marni Jacobs				

Committee News

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee has been focused on maintaining and improving the efficiency of the several initiatives launched in the past year, including our live tweets, member spotlights, and our general social media management strategies. We have recently developed an online form for individuals to request their work be highlighted ([Highlight request form](#)). We are currently planning our activities for the annual meeting, and would like to direct the membership to our recommendations for social media engagement, available on the SPER website (<https://sper.org/about-sper-2/social-media-recommendations/>). If you are interested in joining our vibrant group, please click here to contact us: <https://sper.org/committees/>. Many thanks to the Communications Committee members for their hard work in coordinating our activities this past year, and to Nicole Talge for her efforts as Interim Chair of the committee.

Communications Committee Membership (2021-2022)

Nicole Talge (Interim Chair)	Katherine Bowers	Sunni Mumford	Danielle Stevens
Kristen Rappazzo (Incoming Chair)	Dominique Heinke	Maria Politis	Krista Wollny
Theresa Chapple-McGruder (Previous Chair)			

Digital Engagement Committee (DEC)

ICYMI, the recording has been posted on the SPER website for the May 10th webinar, “The imperative for including pregnant women in vaccine trials: successes, challenges, and future avenues for vaccine trials in Africa.”

The DEC is looking for volunteers to help organize webinars for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023. If you’d like to volunteer for the DEC, please go to <https://sper.org/committees/join-our-committee-digital-engagement/> We look forward to seeing you at a seminar in the Fall!”

Outreach Committee

The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to promote awareness and accessibility of the Society to help grow the membership. The Committee has responsibility for overseeing initiatives aimed at recruitment of new members and retention of existing members and expanding the Society’s reach. We held several meetings in the first half of 2022 to brainstorm ideas on how to reach a larger audience, how to recruit a more diverse membership base, and how to enhance the retention of existing members. Our group has come up with several exciting ideas that we hope to roll out later this year including: offering 3-year and 5-year renewal options for SPER members and initiating more direct outreach to researchers working in areas that are under-represented at the SPER annual meeting, attendees of the SPER webinars, and researchers who present on RPPE-related topics at SER but do not attend SPER. As a relatively newer committee, we are looking for more people to join our group, particularly those from diverse backgrounds. Please click here to contact us: <https://sper.org/committees/>.

Outreach Committee Membership (2021-2022)

Audrey Gaskins (Chair)	Danielle Stevens	Sheree Boulet	Samantha Lain
Angela Malek	Jeffrey Korte	Andrew Williams	Catherine Vladutiu
Zohra Lassi			

Student & Postdocs Committee

. The Students and Post-Docs Committee organized one inter-disciplinary Careers and Networking webinar, two journal clubs with the Students/Postdoc Committee of -SER, and held five open meetings with our membership. We are also excited for the upcoming SPER Annual Meeting, including the Advanced Methods Workshop. Visit the SPER website for details and to register, please. We are also looking forward to future initiatives, including a mentorship program and a career development series. As we start a new year, we encourage trainees to reach out with any suggestions on how we can provide more value for them as a member of SPER. Thank you for your participation in our events. We look forward to seeing everyone else soon!

Student & Postdoc Working Group Membership (2021-2022)

Luther-King Fasehun (Chair)	Ruth Geller	Kelly O’Shea	Ugochinyere Vivian Ukah
Asma Ahmed	Michelle Klawans	Patrick Seitzinger	Krista Wollny
Chad Coleman	Zohra Lassi	Sara Stephens	Joannie Bewa
Danielle Stevens	Hannah Murphy	Menolly Kaufman	Mrudula Naidu
Michelle Dimitris	Abidemi Okechukwu	Sarah Twardowski	Qiping Fan
Courtney Walker	Sharonda Lovett	Shyfuddin Ahmed	

Equity Advisory Board

The Equity Advisory Board is organizing a Welcoming Peers initiative for the SPER 2022 Annual Meeting. The purpose of this initiative is to link new attendees and new SPER members with folks who have been part of SPER

for a while. The Welcoming Peers will personally welcome new meeting attendees, answer questions about the meeting, facilitate networking with scholars doing similar work, and attend newer members' talks and posters. The Committee has also put together a short presentation on how SPER presenters can incorporate issues of health equity into their research and presentation, and we welcome questions from presenters about how to do this.

Outreach Committee Membership (2021-2022)

Claire Margerison (Chair)	Irene Headen	Michelle Dimitris	Ugochinyere Vivian Ukah
Dawn Misra	Stephanie Leonard	Galit Levi Dunietz	

Election and Award Results

Executive Committee

Thanks to all members who offered their service to SPER and ran for election! Our newly elected officers for 2020 are:

President-Elect

Penny Howards, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Epidemiology
Rollins School of Public Health
Emory University

Member at Large – Equity Advisory Board

Bola Grace, PhD, MBA
Institute for Women’s Health
Faculty of Population Health Sciences
University College London

Secretary

Helen Chin, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Global and Community Health
George Mason University

Student Representative

Menolly Kaufman, MPH
Epidemiology PhD candidate
Oregon Health & Science University –
Portland State University School of Public Health

2022 SPER Awards

Congratulations to the winners of the 2022 SPER awards!

Heinz Berendes Award

Lola Loussert
Université de Paris, Centre for Research in
Epidemiology and Statistics
*Paper: Risk of severe postpartum hemorrhage
according to the sum of birthweights in twin
pregnancies*

Student Prize Paper

Peiyuan Huang
University of Bristol, Bristol Medical School, MRC
Integrative Epidemiology Unit
*Paper: Causal effects of maternal coffee consumption on
perinatal health: a systematic Mendelian
randomization study based on four European cohorts*

Rising Star Award

Izzuddin Aris, PhD
Harvard University

Mentoring Award

Shawnita Sealy-Jefferson
Ohio State University

Travel Award to Promote Equity

Estifanos Baye
Brigham and Women’s Hospital

Travel Award to Promote Equity

Safyer McKenzie-Sampson
University of California, San Francisco

Follow SPER on Social Media!

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



@SPER_News



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Give to SPER

Fund the future and support our mission to foster pediatric and perinatal epidemiologic research!

Donated funds may be used to support our annual meeting, student travel awards and memberships, and expanded programming throughout the year.

SPER is a Non-Profit 501©3 organization, so your donations may be tax deductible.

[Click here](#) to donate!