#### AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY ONLINE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

**SPRING 2024** 

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Message from the President
Exciting News for Epidemiology Enthusiasts!3
Updated Committee Organization 3
Meet the 2023-20244 ACE Scholars!
T-Shirt Design Contest5
New Executive Director6
Call for Nominations 6



#### ACE OFFICE

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The American College of Epidemiology was incorporated in 1979 to develop criteria for professional recognition of epidemiologists and to address their professional concerns.

ACE serves the interests of its members through sponsorship of scientific meetings, publications, and educational activities, recognizing outstanding contributions to the field and advocating for issues pertinent to epidemiology.



## Message from the American College of Epidemiology President,

Melinda C. Aldrich, MPH, PhD

#### **Dear ACE Members & Supporters:**

This is our first ACE newsletter of 2024, and it seems



appropriate that it is being released in Spring—a time of renewal, new energy, and growth. Our Board of Directors, Committees, Executive Director, and ACE Office team are working together on exciting developments to ensure organizational strength and excellence in the ways we can serve the College broadly. As President, I have focused on improving our infrastructure and updating our resources for the Board of Directors and Committees, which are the "lifeblood" of our association. The work they do is vitally important to the College, its growth, and our future. In this issue, you will see updates from a few of our committees. We also highlight two of our outstanding ACE Scholars, who bring new energy to our professional society. Check out their bios in our newsletter!

#### I would like to share with you some of our early achievements in 2024:

- We launched the One Health Epidemiology Video Series, thanks to the hard work of the Career Mentoring Committee. This series, available to you and the general public through the ACE website, introduces viewers to One Health experts who describe their career paths and share examples of current work and projects they have worked on. Thousands have now learned about the One Health approach to epidemiology. If you have not seen the series, I encourage you to take a look: <u>https://www.acepidemiology.org/one-healthepidemiology-video-series</u>
- We kicked off a Volunteer Drive that has brought in over 30 new member-volunteers in service to the College—bringing fresh insights to the work of our ACE committees. We thank everyone who stepped forward. If you would like to serve in some capacity, please contact our ACE Office and they will help get you connected.
- Have you seen our weekly e-News? Starting in early January, we have been sharing the latest news about the College and what we offer. We hope this will continue to inform you about all our exciting new developments and ways to get involved.
- The ACE Board of Directors voted to cease conducting business on X (formerly known as Twitter). We launched a new social media presence on LinkedIn—and I encourage you to actively follow us there. Please connect and share your latest news and achievements with us. We also continue to build our presence on Facebook.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

I want to call your attention to a few calls for action and deadlines that are tied to the 2024 Annual Meeting, being held September 8-11, 2024, in Columbus, Ohio. ACE is only as strong as our members' involvement. Please consider submitting to present at our upcoming 2024 Annual Meeting or nominating a worthy colleague for an award or nomination to serve the College. We need our colleagues to be recognized and ask you to find some time to respond.

- Our Call for Abstracts deadline is today, May 31, 2024. Learn More Here!
- Our Call for Award Nominations deadline is July 15, 2024. Click Here for Nomination Form
- Our Call for Nominations for Board Service is July 15, 2024. <u>Click Here for Board Nomination Form</u>

Please see the update for our Annual Meeting on page 3. We anticipate an exciting meeting and an opportunity to reconnect in-person. We hope to see you in Columbus!

Finally, I ask you to extend a warm welcome to our new Executive Director Katie Hertel, who has been onboarding with us for the past month and learning much in a short period of time. Katie brings enthusiasm and experience to ACE. We look forward to her leadership.Please see page 6.

As you think about the year ahead, I encourage you to explore how ACE membership can support your professional growth and interests. Thank you for your participation in the College!

## YOUR ANNUAL MEETING PORTAL



PAGE 3



## EXCITING NEWS FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS!

#### Dear Colleagues:

As the Chair of the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE), I personally invite you to join us for an exciting meeting at The Ohio State University, Columbus. With a timely and exciting conference theme, "Integrating Epidemiology and Artificial Intelligence to Advance Public Health", this conference will bring together epidemiologists, medical professionals, public health experts, and students from across the United States and the world

## Whether you're a seasoned expert or just starting out in the field, the ACE Conference is the perfect platform to:

**Engage** with pioneering research and innovative practices.

**Connect** with leaders and peers from around the globe.

**Boost** your career and expand your professional network. Don't miss out on the chance to be part of the conversations that will define the next steps in leveraging AI to advance public health. Go to the Annual Meeting Portal. <u>Link Here, too!</u>



## Thank You!

Macarius Donneyong, MPH, Ph.D Associate Professor at The Ohio State University



Mark Your Calendars: September 8-11, 2024



**Location:** The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH – The Blackwell Inn & Pfahl Conference Center



For More Details: about abstract submission and registration, please visit: 2024 Annual ACE Conference Portal Late Breaker Deadline

June 30, 2024

## **UPDATED COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION**

The ACE Board of Directors entertained and approved a motion at its Spring 2024 meeting to merge two pairs of committees with complementary areas of oversight in order to improve operational efficiency. Effective immediately, the Ethics and Policy Committees have merged to form a new as-yetunnamed committee which will continue to guide professional practice and develop policy positions and statements on behalf of the membership. The new committee will also be the home for ACE's representatives to the International Network for Epidemiology in Policy (INEP). Likewise, the Career Mentoring and Education Committees have joined forces to form an additional new committee, now known as the Professional Development Committee. The latter committee will continue to implement programs to provide educational and mentorship opportunities to all College members.

The new committees are in the process of selecting names, and identifying committee leadership, organization, goals, and meeting schedules. In the interim, Jennifer Salerno will serve as Chair of the new Ethics & Policy Committee, while Sandra Sulsky will be Chair of the new Professional Development Committee. Once the formative steps have been completed, the ACE Office Team will update the website and circulate an announcement to ACE members and supporters. Be on the lookout for more information soon!

## MEET THE 2023-2024 ACE SCHOLARS!

The ACE Scholars Program welcomed its inaugural class of enthusiastic and focused young scholars in the Fall of 2023. We want to welcome them to the American College of Epidemiology and highlight some of their varied projects in each newsletter.



## KATELYN McCREEDY

#### Bio / Background

Epidemiology student and researcher applying causal, spatial, and policy analysis methods to studying harm reduction as an approach to the overdose crisis.

#### Current role and academic institution/ employment

PhD Student, Northeastern University

#### ACE Scholars Project Title / Description

A scoping review of ethical considerations for the use of prescription drug monitoring program data to contribute a detailed use case to the ACE Ethics Guidelines' addendum on the use of big data in epidemiology.

## What inspires you about the future of epidemiology?

The ability to use epidemiology and statistics to investigate pressing, unanswered public health questions has always felt like an adventure to me. It is such an exciting time to practice epidemiology as new features and automation to explore are added to our data analysis and visualization software like R, GIS, and PowerBI every day. Especially as these tools allow us to increasingly apply mixed methods approaches that highlight insights from people in the communities we serve and research!



## PADDINGTON MUNDAGOWA

#### **Bio / Background**

I am a public health researcher passionate about the field of epidemiology. I enjoy my tasks as a disease detective!

#### Current role and academic institution/ employment

Graduate Research Assistant, University of South Carolina

#### ACE Scholars Project Title / Description

A landscape analysis of professional societies' mentoring programs to inform the ACE Career Mentoring program.

## What inspires you about the future of epidemiology?

I envision a future with equitable access to health information, services, and facilities regardless of socioeconomic background, race, nationality, religion, political affiliation, or gender.

# T-Shirt Design Contest

conducted by our Associate Member Committee



ACE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

T-SHIRT DESIGN

## Tell us what ACE means to you!

Create an original design embodying the spirit, vision, and impact of ACE.

Seeking submissions in 2 categories:

- \* Meeting the challenges of an interconnected world
- \* Building the future of epidemiology

All members eligible to enter. Email original designs to office@acepidemiology.org

SHOW US YOUR

**& DEMONSTRATE** 

The winning designs will be printed in a limited run and made available for purchase at the ACE Annual Meeting.

Winning designers receive:

- \* T-shirt with their design
- \* Gift card
- \* Bragging rights!

## Email designs to: office@acepidemiology.org

## ACE WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ACE President Melinda Aldrich is very pleased to announce, in conjunction with the College's association management partner, Capitol Hill Management Services, that Kathryn (Katie) Hertel has been appointed to serve as our new Executive Director. Katie will also serve in the same role for the Epidemiology Foundation. Katie began her duties in mid-March. She can reached at the ACE Office e-mail: office@acepidemiology.org or (518) 240-1210.

#### **Meet Katie**



Kathryn (Katie) Hertel is an Association Manager at Capitol Hill Management Services. She has served as the Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of ABC Boards, and the Board Administrator of North Carolina Underground Damage Prevention Review Board, and the Chapter Executive of the Financial Planning Association of the Triangle.

Prior to joining CHMS, Katie lived

in Leicester, England and worked for the National Health Service as a Faculty Support Administrator. She ensured that medical doctors-in-training were meeting the educational requirements of their medical school programs. She organized training classes for medical faculty and students and spearheaded the Leadership Management Program to teach future doctors to lead with integrity and provide optimal service to their patients. She also took advantage of this posting to tour dozens of British castles and visit 20 other countries. Katie also served as Strategic Initiatives Manager for the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department. She planned large public events at Dorothea Dix Park, ranging from 1,000-20,000 attendees. In addition, she served as project manager for the creation of the department's threeyear business plan, and has extensive experience in public budgeting, strategic planning and data analysis.

Katie grew up in Wisconsin. She holds a Bachelor degree from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and a Master of Public Administration from Northern Illinois University. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, travel, and fostering cats to prepare them for adoption.

**From the President:** "We are excited to be working with Katie as ACE moves forward in 2024. She will bring new energy and fresh insight to the Board, our committees, our programs and activities," said President Aldrich. "At this time, we also want to thank Meagan Bowker for her years of service and support to ACE. We wish her all the best with her new daughter and in all her future endeavors."

**From the New Executive Director:** "I am looking forward to working with the entire ACE community and serving the members. I am currently working with the ACE Office Team and leaders to learn about operations and the needs of the College and the Epidemiology Foundation. I hit the ground running and have been meeting everyone through e-mails, phone calls and Zooms. I really look forward to being together with all of you in-person at the ACE Annual Meeting in Columbus this coming September," stated Katie Hertel.

Welcome Aboard Katie!

#### ANNUAL CALL TO THE MEMBERSHIP FOR NOMINATIONS OF WORTHY AND DESERVING COLLEAGUES TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR:

The ACE Annual Awards & Honors

To be presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting New This Year! Outstanding Mentorship Award

&

#### Seeking Nominations for Service on the ACE Board of Directors

We are seeking President-Elect, Secretary & 4 Directors (2 – Fellows, 1– Member and 1 – Associate)

We ask you to think about your fellow members who might be deserving of an honor from the College and/or colleagues who could bring their talents and energy in service to the College on the Board of Directors.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT AWARD NOMINATIONS

CLICK HERE TO MAKE A BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION

The deadline for all nominations is July 15, 2024. Make a nomination TODAY!