

IEA NEWSLETTER

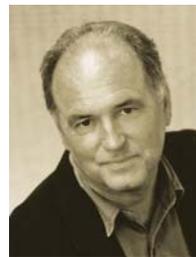
June 2010


 IEA WORLD CONGRESS OF EPIDEMIOLOGY
 Edinburgh, Scotland 7-11 August 2011

Message from the IEA President

Dear IEA members

Since the last IEA newsletter, in June 2009, IEA has held regional meetings in Europe (Warsaw, Poland, August 2009), and the Western Pacific region (Koshigaya, Japan, January 2010). In the second half of 2010 it will hold regional meetings in South East Asia (Colombo, Sri Lanka, May), Europe (Florence, Italy, November) and the Eastern Mediterranean region (Beirut, Lebanon, November), as well as special IEA sessions in other scientific meetings in Africa and North America. In August of next year we will hold the 19th World Congress of Epidemiology in Edinburgh, Scotland. The planning for the meeting is progressing well.



IEA held its first annual International Course in Epidemiological Methods in Jaipur, India, April 2009. As well as the teaching on epidemiological methods, the IJE editors also presented a one-day workshop on writing and publishing in epidemiology. This course is allied to the IEA-sponsored European Educational Programme in Epidemiology, which has been held in Florence for three weeks every June/July for more than 20 years. The new IEA course is intended as a "Florence South" course which will be held annually in low and middle income IEA regions. This year's course was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (April, 2010). It included sixty participants, two-thirds from Saudi Arabia and other GCC countries, and one-third from elsewhere in the world. The participants included approximately equal numbers of males and females, and the participating countries included: Australia, Bahrain, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, India, Kuwait,

Lebanon, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Yemen. It is intended that the 2011 course will be held in Africa.

The other major activity of IEA is the publication of the International Journal of Epidemiology, which continues to go from strength to strength under the editorship of George Davey Smith and Shah Ebrahim. The journal has improved markedly since George and Shah took over as editors, and introduced a number of new features, a fact that is reflected in its improved impact factor (currently 5.8) which places it first among the international epidemiology journals (with the exception of journals that primarily publish reviews), and fifth among all public health journals.

We look forward to further expanding the Association's activities during the rest of 2010 and 2011, and we look forward to welcoming you to Edinburgh just over a year from now.

Neil Pearce, IEA President

In this issue

President's Message	P.1
Secretary's Report	P.2
World Congresses	P.4
Related Publications	P.6
Councilor's Profile	P.7
Regional Councilors	P.7
INCLEN Cooperation	P.10
Rapid Response	P.11
Upcoming IEA Activities	P.12

What's New?

IEA Book Club is offering 20% off on Public Health & Epidemiology titles .. **Read more**

A new discussion forum is now on IEA and European websites ...

Join us

We're on the Web!

Visit us on www.ieaweb.org

You Can reach us at

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Report of the IEA Secretary

In this issue of the Newsletter, the Secretary's Report covers activities carried out during 2009 / first half of 2010 as well as future plans for a better IEA. This also includes current membership status, Council's latest decisions, upcoming activities, plans for boosting IEA membership and other matters which we hope would meet your expectations



New IEA memberships

New memberships during 2009 / 2010 were mainly attributed to the following activities:

- **Joint memberships** with national societies (e.g. Australasian, Saudi, Lebanese, and SER).
- European Regional Scientific Meeting, 26 – 29 August 2009, **Warsaw, Poland**
- Joint Scientific Regional Meeting with Japan Epidemiological Association (JEA), 9 – 10 January 2010, **Koshigaya, Japan**
- 2nd IEA International Course on Epidemiological Methods, 3 - 14 April '10, **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**, which yielded more than 40 new memberships

As a humble contribution to our beloved association, you are kindly requested to invite new professionals to join the IEA. It is our joint responsibility to boost the IEA membership to provide better representation of epidemiologists worldwide

Incentives for 3 year and life-time memberships

Since June 2007, the IEA is offering a free copy of its 50th IEA anniversary book: **"The Development of Modern Epidemiology"** (edited by Walter Holland, Charles du Ve Florey and Jorn Olsen) as an incentive for new 3 year / life time / renewing memberships. **Don't miss this chance, while supplies last !!**

Elmer Villanueva Sponsorship Fund extended beyond 2010

This Fund graciously commenced in 2005 to support seven nominees for 3-year memberships per year for five years. Since then, 23 members from developing countries benefited from this offer. Upon the request of Prof Villanueva, the IEA Council approved extension of the Elmer Villanueva Fund beyond 2010. **The Sponsored membership application form could be downloaded from our website which also includes the nomination criteria**

Joint Membership

Since launching of the joint membership mechanism between IEA and the Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) in 2008, the IEA Council approved the same mechanism for other national associations, e.g.

- Saudi Epidemiological Ass.
- Lebanese Epidemiological Ass.
- Society for Epidemiological Research (of USA), and most recently:
- Iranian Epidemiological Association

The following societies may be joining this mechanism soon:

- Indian Public Health Association
- Japanese Epidemiology Association
- Nigerian Society of Epidemiologists

A joint member pays 30% of applicable membership fees and receives all benefits of the IEA membership, including voting privilege and online access of the IJE (but not the printed version)

Updating IEA database

Since September 2009, the secretariat launched a new database update for specific information (mainly email addresses) of active / inactive members (as far back as 2008) in order to ensure the success of the constitutional ballot by email and upcoming elections of council members.

Update your membership information now through our website: www.ieaweb.org

IEA Website

After launching of the new website in October 2009, the secretariat together with the web developer have been working on further improvement of the website. We have added new functions such as:

IEA Book Club: links the members directly to the OUP web-page for discounted books on Public Health and Epidemiology, for IEA members.

Non IEA - Epi Events: which includes information on epidemiology-related events carried out by organizations other than IEA, e.g. SER links & announcements; job opportunities; conferences; etc

Important decisions of the latest Executive Council Meeting, Wellington, New Zealand, 25 - 26 March 2010

Ratification of results of the email ballot for proposed changes to the IEA Constitution carried out during December 2009 - February 2010

The great majority of respondents (325 out of 328, 99 %) approved using electronic balloting. This would facilitate greater involvement of IEA members, on a global scale, in the elections process. Such procedure is to be applied for the upcoming 2011 elections, and for all subsequent elections (in addition to mail ballots for members with no / bouncing email addresses)

Nomination Committee for the IEA Council (2011-2014)

"Call for Nominations", will be posted on the IEA website. Deadlines for online election are to be selected by the next Council meeting in Beirut in November 2010, announced soon afterwards.

IEA Sir Richard Doll's Prize 2011

The new procedures for nominations will be posted on the IEA website soon. Review process will start on September 1st, 2010, for the result to be announced early 2011.

Pre-conference workshop, WCE 2011, Edinburgh, Scotland

After the success of the 1st pre-conference workshop during WCE 2008 in Brazil, it was decided to organize a 2nd workshop before WCE 2011. The Organizing Committee will include: Eduardo Franco (Chair), Patricia Buffler, Jorn Olsen, Rodolfo Saracci and Raj Bhopal

Starting a new campaign for boosting IEA membership in collaboration with the Regional Councilors, with special emphasis on young graduate students and mid-career professionals

Soliciting bids from interested venues for hosting WCE 2017. Upcoming council meetings

- Full Council Meeting, 23 - 24 November 2010, Beirut, Lebanon
- Full Council Meeting (Incoming & outgoing), 7 - 11 August 2011, Edinburgh, Scotland

Report of the Secretary (cont'd)

IEA Website (continued)

The Secretariat is currently working on linking an updated membership data-base to the following prospective online web-based functions:

- **New applications** (individual / joint / sponsored)
- **Membership renewal** (exact fees according to the subscriber's requested number of years and membership type)
- Application for **Elmer Villanueva Sponsorship Fund**
- **Update** of member's information
- Application for **hosting an upcoming World Congress of Epidemiology**: to enable bidders to present their proposals online
- Application for **Sir Richard Doll Triennial Prize**: to enable nominees to apply online and enable forms to be directly sent to the Committee Chair, accordingly

Such services should be available by the end of 2010

Upcoming World Congresses

19th World Congress of Epidemiology, Edinburgh, Scotland, 2011

The IEA Council is closely working with the local WCE 2011 Organizing Committee, chaired by Prof Raj Bhopal, looking forward to yet another memorable event after we last met at Porto Alegre, Brazil during September 2008.

20th World Congress of Epidemiology, Anchorage, Alaska, 2014

The IEA Council is closely working with the local WCE 2014 Organizing Committee, chaired by Dr Betty Monsour, which has already started planning for the event. She is attending SER annual meeting in Seattle, June 2010, to start campaigning for the WCE, and looking into possibilities for having the WCE a joint meeting with North American societies.

21st World Congress of Epidemiology, 2017

The Secretariat is currently soliciting bids from different countries in order to present their proposals to IEA members during the first **Business Meeting planned during the Edinburgh WCE 2011**. The venue which obtains the highest vote will be invited to host

WCE 2017. More information about rules and regulations for hosting WCEs could be accessed at the online IEA Handbook, at our website: www.IEAweb.org. We are happy to address any of your questions in this regard at: IEAsecretariat@link.net or ahmed.mandil@yahoo.com

Message to Colleagues - IEA Members

As you well know, the Secretariat deals with the following functions:

- **Membership-related functions:** new applications, renewals, updates, related correspondence / responding to queries
- **IEA-business meetings:** preparing agendas / minutes; presenting / voting on bids for hosting WCEs
- **IEA-Executive Council functions:** coordinating meetings, preparing agendas / minutes, follow up on resolutions
- **IEA-Council functions:** coordinating meetings, preparing agendas / minutes, follow up on resolutions
- **Cooperation with WCE organizers:** e.g. 2011 / 2014 and assisting WCE prospective bidders for 2017
- **IEA Annual Newsletters**
- **IEA Website** development, updates and modern online functions
- **IEA Council elections:** for executive and regional councilors, in addition to coordination with ex-officio members, including the IJE editors as well as liaison officers with WHO and INCLIN

For any of the above functions, please tell us how to do better. Your kind comments, suggestions and proposals are highly welcomed for better functioning of the IEA Secretariat

Ahmed Mandil
IEA Secretary

BENEFITS OF IEA MEMBERSHIP

- **Enjoying** membership of the oldest and only truly international professional organization of epidemiologists
- **Interacting** with more than 1500 professionals from some 100 countries who work on a broad range of substantive and methodological areas in epidemiology and public health
- **Networking** with colleagues, regionally and internationally
- **Receiving** free copies of the: International Journal of Epidemiology (IJE) which is published 6 times per year; and the annual IEA Newsletter
- **Enjoying** reduced registration fees at IEA global and regional meetings and activities
- **Contributing** to how epidemiology will evolve through the IEA's ongoing discussions on practice boundaries, peer review, professional conduct and ethics
- **Assisting** fellow epidemiologists from developing countries via a portion of membership fee (if requested)
- **Providing** opportunities for graduate students to develop projects focusing on health inequalities of under-privileged remote populations
- **Becoming** part of an international data-base of epidemiologists, which appears on the Association's website



19th IEA World Congress of Epidemiology Edinburgh, Scotland, 7 - 11 August 2011

Dear IEA members,

Opening for registration, accommodation and abstract submission !

We are moving forward with our plans for the 19th World Congress of Epidemiology which comes to Edinburgh, Scotland, 7th-11th August 2011. Registration and abstract submission, and booking of accommodation opens June 1st and we welcome abstracts on all areas of epidemiology, but in particular relating to the conference themes of:

- Global Problems
- Cutting Edge Methodology
- Chronic Diseases
- Neglected Conditions
- Epidemiology and Policy

August is a lively and colourful time in Edinburgh. The Congress is in the week prior to the International (Arts and Cultural) Festival and during the accompanying Fringe Festival. You and your family / friends may wish to prolong your stay to enjoy the festival. However as a result of these events, accommodation is in very high demand and delegates are advised to book early.

For further information on the conference and venue, and to register, submit abstracts and book accommodation, please visit our website (www.epidemiology2011.com).

The organisers look forward to welcoming you to Edinburgh next year !

Professor Gary J Macfarlane,
University of Aberdeen
Chair, Marketing Sub-committee

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR IEA COUNCIL (2011-2014)

The IEA Nomination Committee composed of: Jorn Olsen (Chair), Haroutune Armenian, Ruth Bonita and Rodolfo Saracci, is searching for candidates for the **Executive Officer** positions of President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer of the International Epidemiology Association. Please propose names you feel are suitable candidates. We are also looking for at least two nominations of IEA members from each region for the seven positions of **Regional Councilor**. If you are interested in becoming a councilor for your region, please email Jorn Olsen, Chair, IEA Nomination Committee, at: jo@ucla.edu with a brief curriculum vitae and a short statement of what you would like to be able to achieve, if elected. The whole citation should be approximately 300 words.

EYE ON:

The International Journal of Epidemiology Online

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Free Online Access....

IEA regular full members receive **free online** (as well as print) access to the *International Journal of Epidemiology* (<http://www.oxfordjournals.org/page/3586/1>) as part of their membership.

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IJE in the News – Read papers recently published in the journal which have generated global media coverage

[http://www.oxfordjournals.org/
page/3586/4](http://www.oxfordjournals.org/page/3586/4)

We hope you enjoy your free online access to the *International Journal of Epidemiology*.

20th IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, Anchorage, Alaska, 2014

Dear IEA Members,

Anchorage, Alaska, the Last Frontier of the USA, will be your host for IEA's World Congress of Epidemiology (WCE 2014). We invite you to join us during October 2014 and celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the WCE / ISM.

The Congress theme will be ***Global Epidemiology in a Changing Environment: The Circumpolar Perspective***. There is not a more beautiful and culturally rich area in the USA than Alaska for the location of this meeting; nor one where the challenges to the assessment, planning, and delivery of health care are more serious. The University of Alaska Anchorage is the health science campus of the University of Alaska system. We are the hub for epidemiological, biomedical, and public health practice and research in the state. We work collaboratively with our State and Federal Colleagues and we are all working enthusiastically to prepare for this World Congress of Epidemiology event.

Alaska offers many unique opportunities for participants of the WCE. Fjords and glaciers are just a short distance from Anchorage and provide not only beautiful scenery but also dramatic testimony to the effects of global warming. Our population is ethnically diverse with 20 percent Alaska Native, nearly 10 percent Asian and Pacific Islander and about 5 percent Black. The growth of immigrant populations is reflected in our public school system, where more than 90 languages are spoken.

We are a vibrant, welcoming community and we invite you to mark your calendars and plan to join us in 2014. Various planning committees are being formed now so if you are interested in Chairing a committee, working on a committee, or organizing a workshop or other event, please contact Dr. Betty Monsour at Betty.Monsour@uaa.alaska.edu at your earliest convenience.

Very sincerely yours,

Betty Buchan Monsour, PhD, DFTCB
Chair, Executive Committee of WCE 2014
Assistant Professor of Public Health
University of Alaska Anchorage



Did you know.....

IEA Book Club is offering 20% off all Public Health and Epidemiology titles published by Oxford University Press..... **Join us** and benefit from this great offer.

Featured Titles:

- A Dictionary of Epidemiology: Miquel Porta (editor)
- Teaching Epidemiology: Jorn Olsen, Rodolfo Saracci, Dimitrios Trichopoulos (editors)
- Worst Case Bioethics: George J. Annas (editor)
- Oxford Handbook of Applied Bayesian Analysis: Anthony O'Hagan & Mike West (editors)
- And more.....

For more information, check our website: www.ieaweb.org

Recent Epidemiology & Public Health Related Publications

New and Bestselling Titles 2009 / 2010

Teaching Epidemiology 3rd Edition

by *Jorn Olsen, Rodolfo Saracci, Dimitrios Trichopoulos*

A guide for teachers in epidemiology, public health and clinical medicine.

This expanded and updated version is now on the market. It is a guide for teachers in epidemiologic method courses as well as teachers in courses on specific diseases or on specific exposures.



Some of the chapters address designs or use of specific instruments to collect data or make exposure assessments.

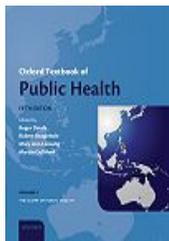
Many of the chapters are new and all are updated. Each chapter provides key references on the topic the teacher should be aware of, the objectives of the course and its content. The book also provides a section on teaching methods and how to assess achievements made by the students. A tentative syllabus for the course is given in most of the chapters.

ISBN: 978-0-19-923947-4

Oxford Textbook of Public Health, 5th Edition

by *Roger Detels, Robert Beaglehole, Mary Ann Lansang, Martin Gulliford*

This fifth edition of the ever-popular Oxford Textbook of Public Health has been thoroughly updated, and remains the ultimate resource on public health and epidemiology. The contributors are drawn from across the world, offering perspectives from vastly different health systems, with ranging public health needs and priorities.



Substantial new material has been included on the impact of private support of public health; globalization; disease and infection; gene environment interactions; obesity and physical inactivity; urbanization; minorities and indigenous populations; health needs assessment; clinical epidemiology, and the practice of public health.

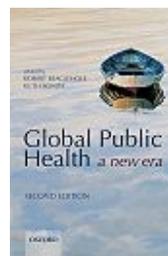
The book retains its approach of dividing the subject into three topics: the scope of public health; looking at the development of the discipline, determinants of health and disease, public health policies and law and ethics. Secondly, the methods of public health including the main science behind the discipline—epidemiology, and finally, the theory is put into practice by examining specific public health and options for prevention and control.

ISBN: 978-0-19-921870-7

Global Public Health - A New Era, 2nd Edition

by *Robert Beaglehole and Ruth Bonita*

It is a comprehensive and updated account of the international state of public health, including an agenda for improving the practice of the discipline across the world. It addresses three major issues, presented in distinct sections: the changing global context for public health; the state of public health theory and practice in both developed and developing countries; and strategies for strengthening the practice of public health in the 21st century.

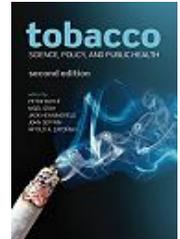


ISBN: 978-0-19-923662-6

Tobacco: Science, Policy & Public Health, 2nd Edition

by *Peter Boyle, Nigel Gray, Jack Henningfield, John Seffrin, Witold Zatonski*

This revised edition comprehensively covers the science and policy issues relevant to one of the major public health disasters of modern times. It pulls together the aetiology and burden of the myriad of tobacco-related diseases with the successes and failures of tobacco control policies

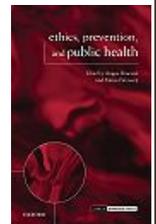


ISBN: 978-0-19-956665-5

Ethics, Prevention & Public Health

by *Angus Dawson, Marcel Verweij*

In twelve original papers notable ethicists explore various issues raised by public health practice - an area that has received scant attention in published literature. They use the resources of ethical theory to illuminate important theoretical and practical topics, including the nature of public health and notions of community.

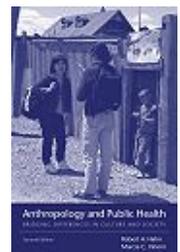


ISBN: 978-0-19-957053-9

Anthropology & Public Health 2nd Edition

by *Robert Hahn, Marcia Inhorn*

Bridging differences in culture and society. Through twenty-four compelling case studies from around the world, this volume provides a powerful argument for the imperative of anthropological perspectives, methods, information, and collaboration in the understanding and practice of public health.



ISBN: 978-0-19-537464-3

Statements from Regional Councilors

Newton Kumwenda

Africa

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Achievements

The African region lags behind all other regions on IEA membership registration and participation in IEA activities despite its potential. Our efforts to recruit African professionals to join the IEA continue but face a number of challenges. Of the current small number of registered members more than 50% are in South Africa where the Public Health Associations (PHASA) is very active. The drive to recruit members in the past year has been dependent on person-to-person contact, regional meetings and conferences to share information about joining IEA and its benefits.

A joint IEA session and the Public Health Association of South Africa was during PHASA annual conference held November 29- December 3, 2009. The IEA provided funding for the session and also contributed funds toward the organization the PHASA annual conference. The special IEA session titled "Epidemiology of HIV and emerging infections in Sub-Sahara Africa" was held on the second day of the conference. There were five presentations by delegates directly supported through IEA funding to the annual conference.

The IEA session was jointly chaired by Prof Jinabhai, former regional IEA councilor from South Africa, and the current Regional councilor. The sponsored delegates came from 3 different African coun-

tries Malawi, Uganda and Nigeria. Professor Salim Abdool Karim, Pro-Vice Chancellor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a former IEA regional councilor, also presented during the session. The following were the presentations during the session: Salim Abdool Karim PhD: presented on the evolving HIV epidemic and response in South Africa. Fred Wabwire-Mangen PhD: The Changing Epidemiology of HIV and Source of New Infections in Uganda. Abimbola Aman-Oloniyio The Epidemiology of HIV in Lagos State in Nigeria, Lukwago Luswa : Ebola Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Outbreak in Uganda by Minyanga Nkhoma MBBS: Identifying HIV Acute Infections (AHI) at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, Blantyre, Malawi

Although the timing of the sessions was not optimal, the session was well attended and more than 70 people attended including Prof L. Rispel, the PHASA president. The PHASA was well attended by various health professionals from the region and provided a good opportunity to provide information about IEA membership. The IEA newsletter and application forms were distributed to interested individuals during the session. A complimentary copy of "The Development of Modern Epidemiology" book was issued to

those who completed membership application forms and paid their subscription. We are still following up with some individuals who were interested to join but were not able to pay their subscription during the conference.

We would like to acknowledge the great support with thanks to IEA governing council during this period.

Plan of Action (2010 – 2011)

- To formalize contact persons in the following countries Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana , Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya and Cameroon
- To organize a meeting of a few of the contact individuals by taking advantage of other fora (regional meetings and conferences) to establish a national Epidemiological association.
- To support efforts in Nigeria to set up a National Epidemiological Association and promote participation in the IEA 2011 World Congress in Scotland.
- To participate in preparation for IEA Regional Epidemiology short course

Membership Status

Available data indicates that current total membership in the region is still quite small. We took advantage of the IAS in Cape Town in South Africa (July 2009), the Public Health Association Annual conference in Durban (Nov 2009) and African AIDS Vaccine

IEA PROFILE

NEWTON KUMWENDA, MD, MPH, PhD

I am currently representing the African Region in IEA as Regional Councilor. Briefly, I graduated from the University of Malawi in 1982 & started my career in the Ministry of Health in Malawi in 1983. I worked in the Disease Control Programs section of the Preventive Health Services. After my training at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in 1988, I continued my work in the Malawi Ministry of Health (MOH) - Disease Control Programs, including: malaria, schistosomiasis, trypanosomiasis, Filariasis, etc., based at the Community Health Science Unit (CHSU) of the MOH.

In 1992, I obtained my MPH followed by PhD in Epidemiology from the Bloomberg School of Public Health (BSPH), Johns Hopkins University in 1996. Soon after, I joined faculty at the BSPH with a joint appointment in the Department of Community Health at the College of Medicine, University of Malawi. In fact, I am the Director of the HIV / AIDS collaborative research project between the two institutions. Most of my work has been mainly in the field of infectious disease epidemiology, especially HIV / AIDS. Our collaborative research project conducts clinical trials in areas of: prevention of mother to child HIV transmission, microbicides, anti-retroviral drugs, HIV vaccines & other prevention approaches. Currently, our major research funding is with the NIH, CDC & IPM. We also participate in collaborative research with The HPTN, AACTG, MTN, & the IMPAACT.

I have been a member of the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) for the Global Fund in Malawi since 2005, & serve on several HIV Technical Working Groups in Malawi. I am currently Director of the Southern Africa Consortium for Research Excellence (SACORE), one of the several consortia funded by the Wellcome Trust. My main interest is to work with other epidemiologists to promote teaching & practice of Epidemiology.



Statements from Regional Councilors (cont'd)

Newton Kumwenda **Africa (cont'd)**

Program in Kampala. Individual willing to coordinate IEA membership efforts have been identified in several countries, South Africa, Cameroon, Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania, Nigeria, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Kenya.

During the PHASA annual conference and immediately after more than 30 people expressed their interest to join IEA. So far 7 people submitted applications as new members and have paid their subscription.

These included South Africa (3), Malawi (2), Cameroon (1) and Uganda (1). A number of individuals are keen to join but fail to pay membership fees due to foreign exchange difficulties. We continue to make efforts to find ways of enabling interested individuals to join

Suggestions – Proposals

Organize an IEA meeting with a few identified potential contacts from selected countries in the region preferably taking advantage of one of the conferences. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss networking, National EAs, mechanism of IEA membership fee payments and active participation in the IEA activities

Ali Al-Zahrani **Eastern Mediterranean** **alisaz@Kfshrc.edu.sa**

Second International Course on **Epidemiological Principles & Methods**

The course was held on 3-14 April 2010, the main organizers were the International Epidemiological Association and Research

Chair for Epidemiology, Public health & Environment at College of Medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in collaboration with King



Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre and the Saudi Epidemiological Association.

The course was facilitated by 5 international speakers and 7 local instructors from renowned public health and hygiene schools and research centers of 5 different countries, namely: New Zealand, United Kingdom, Italy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Egypt. The course had multinational participation of 60 participants from 15 different countries including: Australia, Bahrain, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, India, Kuwait, Lebanon, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Eighteen participants were sponsored, fully or partially, by the Saudi Ministry of Health - Field Epidemiology Training Program (6),

Executive Board of the Health Ministers' Gulf Cooperation Council States (5), King Saud University (5) and the Saudi Epidemiology Association (2).

8th IEA-EMR Scientific Meeting

The Lebanese Epidemiological Association (LEA) and IEA/EMR are holding the 8th IEA-EMR Scientific Meeting from 25 to 27 November 2010 in Beirut, Lebanon. The overall theme selected for the Meeting is

“Globalization and Public Health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region”. The thematic sessions will

include topics such as social determinants of health; disparities in access to health care; occupational and environmental health; communicable diseases in addition to non-communicable diseases such as musculoskeletal disorders, mental health, drug addiction, dependence, cancer and cardio-vascular diseases.

In addition, three pre-conference workshops are planned, namely: Genetic Epidemiology (moderated by Dr. Muin Khoury, CDC); Emerging Diseases (moderated by Dr. Rima Khabbaz, CDC and Dr Hassan El-Bushra, WHO/EMRO) and Analysis of missing data (to be confirmed).

Membership Status

More than 40 new applicants have joined the IEA joint membership scheme, the majority of whom (34) from the Saudi Epidemiological Association, the rest from the Lebanese Epidemiological Association. Recently the Iranian Epidemiological Association (IrEA) has joined such joint membership scheme, which is expected to increase the number of EMR members in the near future.

Robert West **Europe**

councillor@iea-europe.org

European Epidemiological **Federation**

The IEA European region incorporates a federation of epidemiological societies in 15 European countries

(Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom) with one



representative from each on the board; board meetings were held in Aug 2009 and April 2010. One new application to join has been received from Croatia.

Regional meeting

The European Congress of Epidemiology 2009 was hosted by the Polish Epidemiological Society at the University of Warsaw, 26-29 August. (programme, abstracts and statistics published in Euro J Epidemiol 2009, 24, suppl 1)

Website

IEA EEF has set up its own website with webmaster Charles Florey (original designer and former webmaster of IEA website). This website is linked to both the IEA site and all websites of EEF member societies. It has also established a discussion board, which is open to all IEA members. Many thanks to Charles Florey.

European Young Epidemiologists **(EYE)**

This group, an 'international corresponding club' (principally by email), while presently informal emulates the formation of the IEA itself.

Membership continues at approximately 250 with one representative on EEF board. As the group establishes, discussions are beginning over a more formal relationship and possibly 'trainee' membership of IEA.

CORESE

This initiative, originating from Netherlands, registered IEA EEF as a 'non governmental organisation' (NGO) with the European Union. Over the trial period of two years, three reports were received covering some activities in Brussels and Strasbourg deemed to be of relevance to epidemiology. However, the six subscribing (national) societies decided against continuing beyond the initial two years.

Education for / training of **epidemiologists in Europe**

A questionnaire has been developed and copies sent to representatives of national societies in attempt to collate information on postgraduate education in epidemiology (or with a significant component of epidemiology, masters and doctoral degrees) and training programmes to help young epidemiologists advance their careers. The number of short intensive summer courses in epidemiology in Europe grows.

Statements from Regional Councilors (cont'd)

Robert West Europe (cont'd)

Regional meeting – planned

The **European Congress of Epidemiology 2010 is to be in Florence 6-9 November.**

We are grateful to the Italian Epidemiological Association for taking this on at relatively short notice and look forward to a good conference at a popular location.

International conference – planned

The XIX Congress of Epidemiology is to be in Edinburgh 7-11 August 2011

Nancy Krieger North America

nkrieger@hsph.harvard.edu

Achievements

I have been serving on the scientific steering committee as the IEA representative for the upcoming **2011 North American Congress of Epidemiology**. Specific accomplishments include:



- Ensuring that the name of the Congress remained as is, rather than be called either the “International Congress of Epidemiology” (which would have been confused with our long-established “World Congress of Epidemiology”) or “Epidemiology Congress of the Americas,” since only North American epidemiology organizations are the sponsors and (other than the IEA), co-sponsors, and there is no meaningful involvement of any Latin American epidemiology organizations.
- Developing and submitting a proposal for an IEA symposium at the Congress, titled “Epidemiology for health equity in a global, dynamic, and unequal world: perspectives of the International Epidemiological Association,” which will include as participants Neil Pearce (current IEA president), Cesar Victora (IEA president elect), Maria-Inês Schmidt (IEA Latin American and Caribbean Councilor), and George Davey Smith and Shah Ebbrahim (editors of *Int J Epidemiol*), with myself serving as chair of the session.
- Ensuring that information about the IEA’s World Congress of Epidemiology will be included: (a) as a link on the Congress webpage and (b) with the publicity materials to be handed out in the bag given to each Congress participant
- In response to a request from the Congress that we find volunteers to help with the many committees needed to plan the Congress, I wrote an email that the IEA Secretariat distributed to all N. American IEA members and which: (a) led to 6 N.

American IEA members volunteering to help out within less than a week of the email being sent, and (b) was enthusiastically shared by the Congress co-chairs as an example of what the other Congress co-sponsors could send to their members.

I have been serving on the scientific steering committee for the IEA’s upcoming World Congress of Epidemiology, and have submitted suggestions for a wide variety of sessions along with names of suggested speakers.

I organized an exploratory workshop at Harvard University (held in October 2009) on investigating societal determinants of health inequities between & within countries and which was attended by the IEA Councilor for Latin America & the Caribbean, Maria Ines Schmidt (along with a number of colleagues from other Latin American countries, and also Canada and the US). One objective of this workshop was to inform our organizing of a subsequent joint IEA regional combining the Latin American and North American IEA regions, which all attending thought was a wonderful idea.

I have facilitated contact between the Alaska organizers of the 2014 IEA World Congress of Epidemiology and the Society of Epidemiologic Research (the largest US epidemiological organization) and they are now in conversation about whether these meetings can potentially be combined – and the Alaska organizers have also agreed to go to the SER meeting in June 2010 to represent the IEA and discuss possible collaboration further.

Plan of action (2010–2011)

- I will continue to serve as the IEA representative on the scientific steering committee for the North American Congress of Epidemiology and in addition to doing whatever tasks are required, I will ensure maximum coordination of publicity & efforts between this Congress and the IEA’s World Congress of Epidemiology.
- I will continue to serve as the IEA North American Councilor on the scientific steering committee for the IEA’s upcoming World Congress of Epidemiology.

- I will work with Maria-Inês Schmidt, IEA Councilor for Latin America & Caribbean, to co-organize, for spring 2011, a joint Latin American-North American IEA regional meeting

Membership Status

- I facilitated contact between the IEA President and the SER President for them to negotiate terms of joint membership, which presumably will help increase the number of N. American IEA members.
- I have begun the process of engaging the N. American IEA members to serve, as IEA members, in the various committees for the 2011 N. American Epidemiology Congress. In doing so, I have tapped into a reservoir of good will among these members and, as part of working with them on the N. American Epi Congress, will work with them to help recruit new members to the IEA.

Vinod Srivastava South East Asia vinods51@hotmail.com

Achievements WHO-SEA Regional Epidemiology Conference

A WHO-SEA Regional conference on epidemiology was held on 08-10 March 2010 at New Delhi. The IEA was one of the co-sponsors of this conference.



The conference was attended by over 300 delegates from all over SE Asia as well as from other parts of the world. The plenary sessions were held on issues of i) Evidence-based public health, ii) Social epidemiology, iii) Epidemiological assessments, iv) Epidemiological applications for development and management of public health programs, v) Epidemiological capacity building approaches and vi) information technology applications for epidemiology. The scientific symposia on the theme *Epidemiology in Action (best practices)* were held on 3 tracks viz. i) Communicable Diseases ii) NCD and EOH and iii) Maternal and Child health.

Statements from Regional Councilors (cont'd)

Vinod Srivastava South East Asia (cont'd)

As an outcome of this conference, it was decided to take up certain new initiatives, training courses, meetings, policy changes etc. in epidemiology in the region. It also stepped up to prepare a time bound road map to strengthen epidemiology in the region.

Membership

In view of the size of population of the SEA region, the membership of IEA in the region is lowest and limited to few countries. Attempts have been made to increase this membership of IEA. In SE Asian Countries, the teaching and training of epidemiology is being imparted by specialists of public health, community medicine and bio-statistics. In order to sensitize there people, the work has been started from India. Meetings have been held with the Indian Public Health Association, Indian Association of Preventive & Social Medicine and Indian Society for Medical Statistics. A large number of members have been encouraged to join IEA and attend its regional meets. The organization of Regional Conference in a country like Sri Lanka in 2010, where we don't have any IEA member, is likely to increase the membership and promote the activities of IEA in that country.

Plan of Action (2010 - 2011) Hosting of Regional Scientific Meeting at Colombo, Sri Lanka

The 10th SEA- Regional Scientific Meeting is organized at **Colombo, Sri Lanka; the pearl of the Indian Ocean, on 23-26 May 2010**. The meeting is being held in Cinnamon Grand Hotel. The meeting is being organized by Dr. Janaki Vidanapathirana, Consultant, Community Physician, National STD, AIDS Control Programme, Sri Lanka under the Chairmanship of Prof Rajitha Wickramasinghe, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, and University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. As there is no epidemiological association in Sri Lanka, the College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka is the organizer of the meet. The theme of the meet is "Epidemiological Methods in Evidence Based Healthcare".

There will be three main plenary lecturers by eminent speakers on the topics viz. i) Meeting the challenges of emerging health problems in South East Asia ii) Vision for the region in achieving Millennium Development Goals iii) Translation of evidence

into practice. The scientific paper presentations will be on four main tracks viz. a) Health Promotion, b) Reducing Morbidity and Mortality, c) Clinical and Field Epidemiology, and d) Injury Epidemiology & Rehabilitation

Epid. Capacity Building

In order to build the capacity of young faculty members and researchers in SE Region in the field of nutrition, a **training course on Nutritional Epidemiology will be organized in March 2011** in collaboration with the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, India a premiere institute in the field of nutrition in the South East Asia along with National Institute of Health & Family Welfare and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. A proposal to this effect has been submitted IEA Headquarter. There will be no course fee for it but the participants have to bear their travel and local boarding cost (subsidized). About 30 participants will be taken up for this course.

Suggestions

In order to increase the participation of the countries of the region which are unrepresented, there is a need for hand holding and increase the number of memberships. As a Regional Councilor, I may visit countries like Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, etc where there is no presence of IEA to promote its activities and also use every available opportunity in the region to promote IEA. IEA should also sponsor more memberships to such countries.

Yosikazu Nakamura Western Pacific nakamuyk@jichi.ac.jp

Achievements

1. Dr. Nakamura attended the Council meeting held in Edinburgh on August 20th and 21st, 2009.

2. **Western-Pacific Regional Meeting was held in Koshigaya, Japan on January 9 -10, 2010, jointly with the 20th Annual**



Scientific Meeting of the Japan Epidemiological Association, organized and chaired by Dr. Yoshihiko Miura, Professor of Saitama Prefectural University. The outline of the meeting is described below;

- Special Lecture 1: "Epidemiology in a Changing World." by Dr. Neil Pearce, President of the IEA
- Special Lecture 2: "The 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic: how Japan has responded do far and the lessons learned" by Dr. Shigeru Omi, Regional Director Emeritus, WHO Regional Office for Western Pacific.
- Special Lecture 3: "Epidemiology of chronic non-communicable diseases in China" by Dr. Siyan Zhan, Peking University.
- 7th Japan-Korea Joint Seminar on Epidemiology: "Usage of national statistics in epidemiological researches." This is a joint seminar being held by the Japan Epidemiological Association and the Korean Society of Epidemiology.
- Symposium: "Epidemiological evidence for disease control and community health promotion" by Drs. Takashi Arao, Suzumu Sawada, Mi Kyung Kim, Tuohong Zhang, and Tadao Gotoh.
- Sixty-seven oral presentations and 264 poster ones.
- Five hundred and seventy two participants including about 100 foreign guest

3. Translation of "A dictionary of Epidemiology, 5th edition" into Japanese by the Japan Epidemiological Association. It is going to be published on April 2010.

Plan of Action (2010 - 2011)

The most important plan of the Western Pacific Region is the **invitation of the World Congress of Epidemiology to Japan in 2017**. This plan is currently being developed by a group of Japanese epidemiologists with a strong support provided by the Japan Epidemiological Association. The bid will be submitted to the business meeting of IEA at the time of the next World Congress of Epidemiology to be held in Edinburgh in 2011.

Membership Status

Joint membership of the IEA and (1) Japan Epidemiological Association, and (2) Korean Society of Epidemiology, is now being discussed.

Statements from Regional Councilors (cont'd)

Babu L. Verma
IEA/INCLN Liaison
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As we know, two scientific events, one - International, entitled, 19th World Congress of Epidemiology (WCE) at Edinburgh (Scotland), 7-11 August 2011 and the other - Regional, entitled, 10th South East Asia Regional Scientific Meeting at Colombo (Srilanka), 23-26 May 2010, are being organized by the IEA. Early last year, I had approached INCLN for its active involvement in the scientific programs of these two IEA events. Later in 2009, we - I, Dr Ravindra Mohan Pandey - IEA Liaison in the INCLN Board and Dr Narendra K. Arora - Global INCLN Executive Director, discussed the nature of INCLN involvement in these IEA events through a *tele-conference*. Based on the consensus reached amongst us, INCLN role in the above programs was thereafter given a shape and now, proposals, as given below, have been brought forth by the INCLN for both the IEA events.



INCLN Sessions in 10th SEA Regional Scientific Meeting, Colombo, Srilanka, 23 - 26 May 2010

INCLN will sponsor a Plenary Lecture and a Symposium in this Regional event. Dr. Solomon Kumbi Hawas, Addis Ababa University, Medical Faculty, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, will deliver a Plenary Lecture on the topic "Governance of Public Health System in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs)".

INCLN will also organize a Symposium in the above Meeting on topic, "Translation of Research into Policy and Program: The INCLN Experience". The speakers of this Session will be:

- From NCD Research to Policy and Program: Experience from Pakistan by Tazeen Zafar, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan.
- IndiaCLEN Experience of Taking Research upto Policy and Program Level by A.K. Niswade, President, IndiaCLEN, Government Medical College, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India.
- A Model for Creating Human Capacity for Research and Translation of Research Findings by R.M. Pandey, Department of Bio-statistics, AIIMS, New Delhi, India.
- Challenges in Translating NCD Findings into Policy and Programs, by Shah Ebrahim, Editor, International Journal of Epidemiology; Professor of Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London (UK) and

Director, South Asia Network for Chronic Diseases, Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi (India).

INCLN's Proposal for Participating in 19th IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, Edinburgh (Scotland), 7-11 August 2011

INCLN's proposal is to organize two plenary lectures, one symposium and one workshop during this global IEA event. The plenary lectures are proposed as follows:

- **Governance of Public Health System in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMIC)** by Narendra K. Arora, Executive Director, INCLN Trust International, New Delhi, India.
- **Neuro Development Disabilities in Children: Methodological Issues in Resource Constraint Settings** by M K C Nair, Professor of Pediatrics, & Director, Child Development Centre Medical College, Kerala, India.

Further, Symposium and Workshop, proposed to be organized by INCLN in the above global Meeting, are given below:

Symposium **Translating Evidence into Policy in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMIC): Challenges and Opportunities.**

Co-ordinators of this Symposium are: Dr. R M Pandey, Prof & Head, Department of Biostatistics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India, and Dr. Amr Abbas Helmy Hassan, Associate Professor of Tropical Medicine and Director, Tropical & Infectious Disease Research and Training Centre, Suez Canal University, Ismailia, Egypt.

Workshop **Qualitative Research Methods for Informing Policy and Decision Makers: Methodological Issues:**

Co-ordinators of the Workshop are: Dr. Mark Nickter, Health Social Science Advisor, INCLN Regents Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, School of Public Health, University of Arizona, USA, and Dr. Sanjay Chaturvedi, Professor & Head, Dept. of Community Medicine, University College of Medical Sciences & GTB Hospital, Dilshad Garden, New Delhi, India.

Once the Host Organizing Committee of the 19th IEA WCE, agree to our Symposium and the Workshop proposals, names of the speakers and titles of their presentations, will be brought forth by the INCLN. Further, proposed INCLN scientific component, as above, is presently with 19th WCE Organizers for their decision. Once we hear it, we will move forward to give it a final shape.

From the IEA Rapid Response Committee

Many decisions are made by non-epidemiologists that have profound effect on our abilities to do epidemiologic research. The IEA has the responsibility to enter this debate, at least when



cross-country and global issues are at stake. We do this in our 'Rapid Response Committee' and the editors of the IJE express their opinions in the Journal.

Epidemiology is further a rapidly changing discipline, where many of our concepts are constantly being debated and modified. We know that not all epidemiologists in the world follow this debate but many could benefit from knowing about it. The 'Rapid Response' comments on the website offer this opportunity. We further welcome contributions from the readers to this site.

We will also use the site to provide information related to the IEA itself and to the decisions made by the IEA.

We welcome new and old readers to take a look and hopefully share your views from time to time with your colleagues.

Your will find us at www.ieaweb.org click "Rapid Response".

Jorn Olsen
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2nd IEA International Course on Epidemiological Methods, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 3 - 14 April 2010 (group photo)

IEA Events (2010-2014)

South East Asia

10th SEA Regional Scientific Meeting, 23 - 26 May 2010, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Europe

European International Programme in Epidemiology, 21 June - 9 July 2010, Florence, Italy

Europe

EURO-EPI 2010, 6 - 9 November 2010, Florence, Italy

Eastern Mediterranean

8th EMR Regional Scientific Meeting, 25 - 27 November, 2010, Beirut, Lebanon

North America

Co-sponsoring the 3rd North American Congress of Epidemiology, 21 - 24 June, 2011, Montreal, Québec, Canada

Global

19th IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, 7 - 11 August 2011, Edinburgh, Scotland

Global

20th IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, August 2014, Anchorage, Alaska, USA

LAST WORD

Dear Newsletter Readers Worldwide,

This issue of the Newsletter has a new look and modified contents. It is distributed both electronically through our IEA website / mass email and as a printed insert with IJE. Please tell us how we are doing, by writing to email address: IEAsecretariat@link.net, with cc: ah-med.mandil@yahoo.com.

Your feedback will definitely assist us to prepare / deliver a better Newsletter, and make your reading / browsing through it a pleasurable experience.

Thanks for giving us your time and attention

IEA Newsletter
JUNE 2010

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