



IEA Newsletter – June 2007

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What's new?

- Sir Richard Doll's Prize in Epidemiology
- New IEA short courses
- IEA New book: "Development of Modern Epidemiology"
- Incentive for 3 year and life time memberships
- IEA Website: new look & future prospects

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jorn Olsen

Dear IEA members

Thank you for being a member of the IEA. We need your support to help improving working conditions for epidemiologists worldwide.

The most important IEA activities were in 2006, as in the past, to publish the Journal (IJE) and to plan regional and world wide meetings. The IJE continues to thrive due to our competent editors and authors who are willing to send their best papers to the Journal. Regional Councilors have the task of organizing regional meetings and to encourage the development of epidemiology in their region. Remember to make a note in you calendar on the upcoming IEA events, especially the WCE in Brazil planned from 20 – 24 September 2008, website: www.epi2008.com

A new IEA book written to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the IEA has just been published by OUP. The book is called 'The Development of Modern Epidemiology' and a large number of prominent, senior epidemiologists worldwide have told their story on why they entered epidemiology and which problems they faced in the time period when modern epidemiology emerged (in the mid of the 20th century). We are grateful to Walter Holland who took the main lead in collecting and editing the information and I am sure you will find the book of interest. I am very pleased that we in time got many of the 'fathers' and 'mothers' of modern epidemiology to tell their story and you will find a lot of useful and thought provoking information never presented before in writing.

Epidemiology needs a stronger voice to advocate our interest in having access to research funds and reasonable working conditions. It is of crucial importance that ethical appraisals of our protocols are done in a timely and fair way. CIOMS is working on a set of guidelines for ethics committees that address epidemiologic research and they drafted their first text without much input from epidemiologists. We hope that the input IEA members and others have provided will lead to a text that will make it possible to do good epidemiologic research in the future. Much is at stake in this process and Rodolfo Saracci has spent much time in trying to take epidemiologic interests into consideration. The second version of the text is much better than the first but more work is probably needed. Please read the text yourself (www.cioms.ch) and send your comments to cioms@who.int.

In line with this we need to have a broader IEA documents on Good Epidemiology Practice. A new and completely revised version of the European documents has been written and is posted for comments on our website www.IEAweb.org. We welcome any comments you may have to this text which we hope we can make an official IEA document this year.

On the same website you may also find IEA comments to contemporary topics of interest for epidemiologists. Please visit the Rapid Response Committee section.

IEA accepts having responsibilities for improving the quality of epidemiologic work worldwide. We do this by publishing books and the IJE, by having educational sections as part of our meetings and working on setting up short courses on epidemiologic methods in developing countries. In Europe, the IEA is co-sponsoring the EEPE (European Educational Program in Epidemiology). This year's summer course starts June 25 through July 13, 2007. Please check the website: www.eepe.org



Secretary's Report

In order to be as influential as possible we need to have as many members as possible. Please help us in recruiting new members. All epidemiologists with an interest in global health should become a member and others are welcome as well. As an incentive to be a new member we offer a free copy of the book (the Development of Modern Epidemiology) for 3 year memberships. Membership forms can be downloaded from the IEA website.

All the best wishes for 2007

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY **Ahmed Mandil**

This report covers: duties and responsibilities of the secretariat; call for suggestions for improvement of its performance; membership issues; website development and upcoming WCEs (2008, 2011, and 2014).

Duties and responsibilities of the IEA Secretariat

The IEA Secretariat coordinates / executes the following activities:

- a) With respect to **membership**: handling new membership, trouble shooting (membership status, receiving IJE, etc.), and updating information (coordinates, contact information, change of address)
- b) **Bids for WCE**: call for bids, providing information for potential bidders, fine – tuning of bids, preparation for business meetings presentations (during WCE), follow-up on business meetings / Council decisions
- c) **Elections**: postal ballot for Regional Councilors, election of Executive Committee during WCE
- d) Production of the **IEA Newsletter** (on annual basis)
- e) **Council support**: preparation for Council meetings (full and executive council), addressing / responding to issues and requests

Improvement of Performance: Members are cordially invited to suggest means and ways for development and modernization of the functions of the IEA secretariat, especially with regards to: IEA website; application for / processing of new / renewing membership; and the IEA newsletter (e.g. e-version).

Membership

Membership Status

As mentioned in the IEA President's message above, professionals working in the field of epidemiology are strongly invited to join IEA and actively participate in its different activities.

Renewals Procedures

IEA Secretariat is currently coordinating with Oxford University Press (OUP) to allow for online renewal of membership, hopefully by the end of 2007, providing IEA members a simpler renewal system through internet.

The possibility of more functions and services by the IEA website, as requested by the council, including online subscription and renewal with a credit card security system is currently studied.



**Secretary's Report
(continued)**

Sponsorship

a) Elmer Villanueva Sponsorship Fund

After the Council approval during its Bangkok meeting, 2004, regarding the generous offer

and establishment of the **"Elmer V Villanueva Sponsorship Fund"** offering to support a total of seven nominees (one from each of the 7 IEA regions or any variation thereof for three-year membership per year for five years), six new members were granted full IEA sponsored membership for 3 years (2006 – 2008) as follows:

- **4 nominations** by regional councilors from: Cuba, Laos, Malaysia and India
- **2 awardees** during the IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, Bangkok, Thailand, 2005 for: Best Paper Presentation from less technically developed countries, from: Kuwait and China

b) IEA Sponsored Members

During the IEA Council Meeting, 2004, it was agreed that two professionals from each region are to be sponsored for IEA Membership for 3 years. Accordingly, IEA has granted 4 members from developing countries full sponsored membership for 3 years, namely: one each from Iraq (2004 – 06) and Romania (2004 – 06) (became an IEA EEF Bursary awardee (07 – 09), and two from India (2005 – 07) & (2006 – 08)

c) Other Sponsorships

Dr John Last is sponsoring 1 member for 2 years (2007 – 2008), while Dr Shah Ebrahim has also sponsored 2 students for one year (2007).

IEA Website

a) IEA Webmaster

Upon request of the IEA Council, Prof. Charles du Ve Florey has kindly accepted to continue serving as the IEA webmaster through September 2008.

b) IEA Regional Websites

In February 2007, all regional councilors were requested to arrange for building a regional website for each region respectively similar to that of the European Federation, according to the European website prototype. Both the IEA Secretariat and the IEA Webmaster are involved in assisting Regional Councilors to make this a reality.

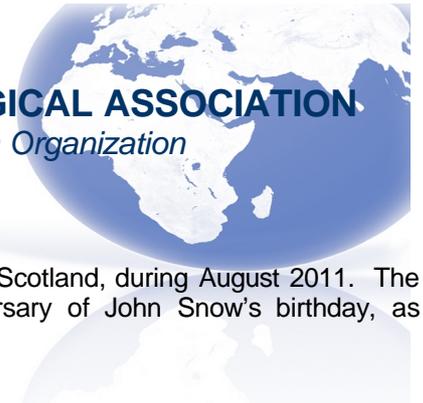
c) New Look

Our Website has a new look now, after the webmaster has worked on its development, in conjunction with the Council. We are currently working on plans to further improve its functions, especially with regards to online application for membership, renewal, updating information, and outcomes / products of IEA scientific meetings.

IEA World Congress of Epidemiology (WCE)

a) WCE 2008: Porto Alegre, Brazil

Three IEA Executive Committee members (Olsen, Pearce, and Mandil) held a meeting in Porto Alegre on April 12 -13, 2007, with the local organizing and scientific committees of the upcoming WCE planned to be held during the period 20 – 24 September, 2008, in Brazil. The scientific programme, potential speakers, logistics, venue and budget (with proposed IEA contribution) were discussed. *More details on WCE 2008 are provided below in the Latin America & Caribbean Regional Councilor's report.*



**IEA Membership's
Benefits**

**Regional
Councilors'
Statements**

b) WCE 2011: Edinburgh, Scotland

The WCE in 2011 is planned to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, during August 2011. The WCE 2011 will be commemorating the 200th anniversary of John Snow's birthday, as suggested by some IEA members.

c) Requests to host WCE 2014

During 2006 / 2007, the Secretariat has received 4 requests for information to host the WCE 2014. They came from: Turkey (EUR), Germany (EUR), Hong Kong (SEA), and Australia (WP). Other bids are welcomed. For further information, please contact the Secretary at: ieasecretariat@link.net

IEA members are invited to kindly submit their suggestions for improving the Secretariat's performance to e-mail address: IEAsecretariat@link.net, and encourage new professionals from their respective constituencies to join IEA.

BENEFITS OF IEA MEMBERSHIP

- **Enjoy** membership of the oldest and only truly international professional organization of epidemiologists
- **Interact** with an eclectic mix of over 1000 professionals from more than 100 countries who work on a broad range of substantive and methodological areas in epidemiology and public health
- **Network** with colleagues, regionally and internationally
- **Receive** free copies of the International Journal of Epidemiology (IJE), published 6 times per year
- **Enjoy** reduced registration fees at IEA global and regional meetings and activities
- **Receive** a free copy of the IEA Newsletter annually
- **Access** a platform for international health research studies with the assistance of your region's IEA Councilor to identify institutional partners in other regions (North America, Latin America, Africa, Eastern Mediterranean, Southeast Asia, Western Pacific, and Europe)
- **Provide** opportunities for graduate students to develop projects focusing on health inequalities of under-privileged remote populations
- **Contribute** to how epidemiology will evolve through the IEA's ongoing discussions on practice boundaries, peer review, professional conduct and ethics
- **Assist** fellow epidemiologists from developing countries via a portion of your membership fee
- **Become** part of an international data-base of epidemiologists, which appears on the Association's website

STATEMENTS FROM REGIONAL COUNCILORS

**Latin America & Caribbean
Mauricio Barreto**

Achievements in 2006

Latin American and Caribbean epidemiologists have a great task organizing the XVIII World Congress of Epidemiology (WCE). In August 2005, during the XVII WCE in Bangkok, the bid presented by Latin America representatives to host the Congress in the Region was approved by over 70% of the IEA General Assembly votes. The venue will be Porto Alegre, Brazil during the period 20-24 September 2008. It will be organized jointly with the VII



**Regional
Councilors'
Statements
(continued)**

Brazilian Epidemiology Meeting (BEM). The joint WCE/BEM Organizing and Scientific Committees have been working since September 2005. A plan of work was designed and is now in development. The Web-page of the Congress (www.epi2008.com) is now open. It is the first WCE to happen in our continent, and is expected to be a historical event in the development of the Epidemiology in Latin America and Caribbean. Another important development has been the establishment of the Latin American and Caribbean Epidemiology Network (EPILAC). The EPILAC secretariat is composed of: IEA Regional Councilor – Mauricio Barreto, INCLEN Regional Representative – Antonio Cunha, ISEE Regional Representative – Nelson Gouveia, and Sug-regional Representatives: Mexico: Jacobo Finkelman, Caribbean – Daniel Millord, Cuba; Central America – Maria Carmen Greco, Panama; Andean Region- Guillermo Llanos, Colombia; South Cone – Paulina Pino, Chile; and Brazil – Maria do Carmo Leal and Maria Regina Fernandes Oliveira. The Secretariat has been working on the development of the by-laws and the Web-site (Beta test), which is formally launched during May 2007. Funds for the Web site development have been granted by the Ministry of Health, Brazil, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation and the Brazilian Association of Collective Health.

Plan of Action for 2007

- To continue the organization of the XVIII WCE
- To continue the organization of EPILAC – the Latin America Epidemiology Network

Membership Status

Efforts have been intensified to increase IEA membership. So far we have been successful in Brazil, but with the organization of EPILAC and the next WCE it is expected that membership increases in the entire Region.

Europe

Hans-Werner Hense

Achievements in 2006

The former Chair of the Board of IEA/EEF and IEA Europe Councilor, Anne-Marie Nybo Andersen resigned from the Board (and IEA Council) due to unforeseen personal reasons. The Board expressed its special gratefulness to Anne-Marie who had managed to breathe new life into EEF and to get a number of initiatives off the ground during the fairly short period of her chairmanship. Her resignation was therefore deeply regretted by all national representatives, as well as the IEA Council.

After a transitional period and with several changes in the composition of its national representatives the new European board is now functional. For details see www.IEAweb.org/Europe.htm.

We are particularly happy that the recently established EYE group (European Young Epidemiologists) seems to be flourishing under the leadership of Ana Azevedo from Porto (also Vice-chair, IEA / EEF) and Mirjam Knol from Utrecht. This group was highly prevalent and productive during our European Congress of Epidemiology in Utrecht and they seem to enjoy themselves – and epidemiology. We are truly lucky to have them in the EEF.

Plan of Action for 2007

This brings me to the most important activity of the IEA/EEF – traditionally as well as intellectually: the European Congress of Epidemiology 2007 which will be hosted by the UK Society of Social Medicine in Cork (Ireland). We can look forward to a meeting that promises to be all that you may possibly search for in epidemiology: it will be attractive, inspiring, challenging and controversial.



**Regional
Councilors'
Statements
(continued)**

The board approved a new political concept which tries to establish IEA/EEF as a non-governmental organization which is accredited with the European Union and IEA Council. This was confirmed and reinforced Utrecht. To further strengthen the role of the EEF for epidemiologic research and public health in Europe, IEA/EEF is presently in the process of creating a network called CORESE. The principle was developed in the Dutch Epidemiological Society by Prof. JW Coebergh and several of the EEF societies have agreed to financially support a trial phase of an expanded European network.

Finally, IEA/EEF is actively supporting training and education facilities for the young (and less young but equally eager) students of epidemiology. IEA/EEF provides a notice board and a regular newsletter as a forum for the announcement of these activities.

**North America
Patricia Buffler**

Achievements in 2006

IEA North America co-sponsored and organized one of the symposia during the 2nd North American Congress of Epidemiology, Seattle, WA, USA, 21 - 24 June 2006. The IEA symposium, titled "Assessing Ethnicity in Populations: Appropriate Measurement and Its Implications", focused on estimates of race/ethnicity in epidemiologic studies using self-reports versus genetic ancestry informative markers and the possible importance of this to address potential confounding by population stratification in genetic association studies. It was organized by Melinda Aldrich (University of California, Berkeley, doctoral student) and Patricia Buffler. Symposium speakers included Dr. Sholom Wacholder (National Cancer Institute), Dr. Hua Tang (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center), Dr. Elad Ziv (University of California San Francisco), and Dr. Esteban Burchard (University of California San Francisco).

Dr Wacholder presented on: "Population stratification in genetic association studies: Bias, Type I error and Type II error", Dr Tang on: "Genetic admixture and estimation of individual ancestry", Dr Ziv on: "Use of genetic ancestry in epidemiological studies using empiric data", while Dr Burchard presented on: "Importance of race/ethnicity and genetics in biomedical research and clinical practice: Lessons learned from the Genetics of Asthma in Latino Americans (GALA) study".

International Travel Awards were presented to 8 presenters who are: Dr Faiza Ahmed (from Pakistan) who presented on: "Breast Cancer Risk Factor Knowledge and Associated Factors Among Nurses in Teaching Hospitals of Karachi, Pakistan", Dr Mostafa Arafa (from Egypt) who presented on: "Association of Maternal Work with Adverse Perinatal Outcome", Dr Maria-Graciela Hollm-Delgado (from Peru) who presented on: "Effects of Giardia Intestinalis on Weight Gain in Peruvian Children", Dr Jian Liu (from Canada) who presented on: "Non-High-Density-Lipoprotein (Nhdl) and Its Risk Predictive Value in Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)", Dr Jerson Munoz Mendoza (from Peru) who presented on: "Suicidal Ideation and Family Cohesion in Pre-College Students, Lima-Peru 2005", Dr Gul Nowshad (from Pakistan) who presented on: "Burden and Correlates of Under-Nutrition Among Married Women in Rural Pakistan". Dr Genesis May Samonte (from Philippines) who presented on: "A Septicemia-Predominant Outbreak of Meisseria Meningitides Sero-group A in the Philippines (2004-2005)" and Dr Jarnail Singh Thakur (from India) who presented on: "An Epidemiological Study of Cancer Reported from Villages of Punjab, India"



**Regional
Councilors'
Statements
(continued)**

Plan of Action for 2007

IEA North American representatives are planning to participate in the following meetings:

- **Society for Epidemiologic Research – 2007 Annual Meeting**
40th Annual SER Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts
June 19(eve) - 22, 2007 (Boston Park Plaza Hotel)
website: <http://www.epiresearch.org/>
- **American College of Epidemiology – 25th Annual Meeting**
"Positioning Epidemiology for a Changing Environment: The Next 25 Years"
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, September 15-18, 2007 (Marriot Harbor Beach Resort)
website: <http://acepidemiology2.org/default.asp>

The American College of Epidemiology invites submissions for the **2007 Student Prize**. This prize recognizes an outstanding scientific contribution by a student of epidemiology. Students who are eligible for Associate Member status are invited to submit a paper. To be eligible, students must be in training or have completed training no earlier than July 1, 2006.

IEA has proposed two round table discussions on:

1. IEA Good Epidemiology Practice guidelines
2. Impact of Mandatory and/or Universal Immunization for HPV on the Epidemiology of Cervical Cancer

- **International Society for Environmental Epidemiology – Nineteenth Conference**
Mexico City, Mexico, September 5 - 9, 2007
Theme: Translating Environmental Epidemiology into Action: Interventions for a Healthy Future - **website: <http://www.isee2007mx.org>** - *Early Bird Registration is June 15, 2007*
- **Society for Epidemiologic Research – 2008 Annual Meeting**
41st Annual SER Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, June 24-27, 2008

The North America Region is planning a 2-day pre-meeting workshop on New Developments in Epidemiologic Research Design and Analysis for the 2008 meeting of the Society for Epidemiologic Research. The workshop will include discussion of the newer statistical approaches for data analysis as well as other issues of interest. For additional information or suggestions regarding the workshop, please contact Jorn Olson, University of California Los Angeles (jo@ucla.edu), Eduardo Franco, McGill University (Eduardo.franco@mcgill.ca) or Patricia Buffler, University of California Berkeley (pab@berkeley.edu).

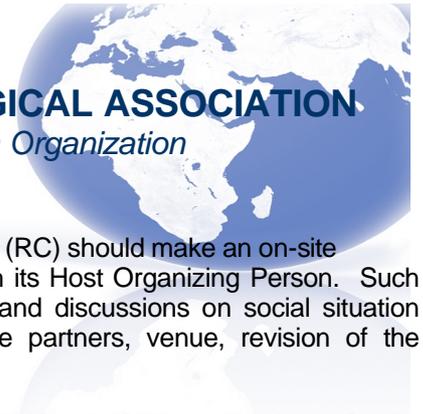
Membership Status

Membership recruitment continues. 21 new members in the North American Region (4 life-time members).

**South East Asia
Babu L. Verma**

Plan of Action for 2007

Possibility of a Regional Scientific Meeting: Since beginning of my present term as Regional Councilor, I have been trying to get a host for a Regional Scientific Meeting (RSM) from a country other than India. Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal were all considered. The proposal arranged for this purpose from Bangladesh in 2006 to host a RSM in December 2007 or January 2008, was reviewed by the IEA Council in August 2006. The



**Regional
Councilors'
Statements
(continued)**

Council's view however, was that the Regional Councilor (RC) should make an on-site assessment of the proposal by holding discussions with its Host Organizing Person. Such visit took place during the period 8 – 11 May, 2007, and discussions on social situation following the recent instability, meeting days, possible partners, venue, revision of the proposal and draft agreement took place.

This included meetings with senior representatives of WHO, UNICEF, International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research, Institute of Child and Mother Health, Center for Women and Child health, and National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine, all based in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

IEA/ INCLIN Collaboration: As we know, the INCLIN HQ Office is presently in India with Professor Narendra K. Arora as its Global Executive Director. We have been in good liaison for past few years. During my visit to New Delhi in January this year, I had a brief informal meeting with Professor N K Arora and availed this opportunity to discuss with him further possibilities of IEA / INCLIN collaboration – particularly in SEA Region. He was of the view that the above collaboration is possible in at least two areas: holding joint scientific meetings and running the proposed IEA International Epidemiology Course (IEC).

Membership Status

As I have already emphasized repeatedly, the regional membership of IEA is not presently satisfactory in SEA – as till August last year, 6 out of 11 countries of the Region, viz. DPR Korea, Srilanka, Maldives, Myanmar, Bhutan and Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, did not have any member of IEA. Almost similar situation prevails even today. During the past year, I have written to several of my colleagues in India, Srilanka and also elsewhere for opting IEA membership. I have also asked some of the continuing IEA members whose subscriptions expired/are due to expire in near future, for renewal of the same. Some of these professionals will, I hope, soon opt IEA membership and similarly, continuing members will renew the same for at least 3 years. As I have now received IEA Membership Data-Base for SEA Region, I soon intend to issue afresh appeal to all the concerned in IEA in this regard.

The 25th Annual Silver Jubilee Conference of the Indian Society for Medical Statistics (ISMS) is scheduled to be held at Manipal (Karnataka) on 29 November –2 December 2007. This is going to be a big national gathering of biostatisticians, epidemiologists and of professionals from other disciplines. I have planned to arrange a *Special IEA Desk* during this Conference to promote IEA membership as part of IEA's international efforts for the purpose and so also, its visibility. Similar desks are planned to be made available in IEA RSMs, as well as Regional INCLIN meetings.

**Western Pacific
Yosikazu Nakamura**

The Regional Scientific Meeting was planned. The Meeting will be held jointly with the Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA).

Date: August 27-29, 2007

Place: Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

Chairperson: Dr Neil Pearce, Director, Centre for Public Health Research, Nassey University Wellington Campus (for IEA) and Dr Leigh Blizzard (for AEA)

Detailed information is on the web site: <http://www.cdesign.com.au/aea2007/>



EPIDEMIOLOGY RELATED PUBLICATIONS

The Development of Modern Epidemiology (editors: Holland, Olsen, du Ve Florey)

The establishment in 1956 of the International Epidemiological Association (IEA) by John Pemberton and Harold Willard was a landmark in the internationalization of epidemiology. It created a group of individuals who were passionate about its development. They wanted to 'spread the gospel'. This book is intended to illustrate how the subject has developed in the past 50 years by providing personal stories from prominent leaders of the discipline and members of IEA. The majority of the authors illustrate their commitment to the improvement of not only knowledge but also the social conditions and health of the population. Each of the contributors describes how and why they came to the subject. The major drivers in almost all instances were the example of their mentors, the recognition that there was a need to have a wider perspective than the treatment of individual patients if one wished to influence health, a social conscience, and, of course, luck, opportunity, and being in the right place at the right time.

Pemberton and Willard's contributions cannot be overestimated. Their original intention of a club to promote the dissemination of knowledge and improve the teaching of the subject has been achieved. Their contributions illustrate how the existence of the IEA helped create the necessary conditions for establishment of the academic discipline in most regions and countries, and how the knowledge, methods, and philosophy have been disseminated.

It is remarkable how over the years epidemiology has become a respected subject in medicine, rather than simply a fringe discipline. The chapters on individual diseases illustrate how epidemiological findings have contributed to the knowledge on specific diseases but also how such knowledge has enabled major advances in preventing some diseases from occurring and eliminating others.

The book has been organized to illustrate a number of themes. The first section sets the scene, and gives an historical account of concepts and ideas and portrays the current importance of the subject to the World Health Organization (WHO) and to global health issues.

The second section illustrates the advances and contributions to epidemiological knowledge in a number of specific disease areas, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis. This is not intended to be comprehensive but illustrates in a few conditions how epidemiology has progressed and how it has developed in its concepts and contributed to the developments in health improvement and health policy in both communicable and non-communicable disease.

Section three illustrates the application of epidemiology in cognate domains public health, health services research, occupation and environment, social epidemiology and nutrition.

Section four is largely concerned with methodological developments. There have been enormous strides in the statistical methods used in epidemiology. To some extent, concerns about experimental design or the choice of population to study, observer variability, response rates and methods of measurement in the testing of specific hypotheses have been replaced by intricate, sophisticated statistical methods, made possible by computers, particularly small PCs.

Section five looks at the development of the subject and the concerns of individual countries or regions. Each shows the concerns and changes that have occurred. In some instances accounts of specific health hazards and their investigation and control are given.



**Epidemiology
Related
Publications
(continued)**

**Call for
Nominations**

The accounts of developments in individual disease areas, countries, and methods provide a fascinating picture and how much we have developed. Obviously there are differences, but the underlying themes amongst those who have contributed have been their social concerns, their intellectual curiosity, and their intentions to improve health.

This book illustrates the enormous contributions epidemiology has made in the past 50 or more years, both in methods as well as applications to health improvements. The IEA can be proud to have fostered this activity and provides an excellent foundation for the future advancement of the discipline.

The book is published by Oxford University Press, and could be purchased online at: www.oupjournals.org

Basic Epidemiology (editors: Bonita, Beaglehole, Kjellstrom)

Basic epidemiology was originally written with a view to strengthening education, training and research in the field of public health. Since its first publication in 1993, *Basic Epidemiology* has been translated into 25 languages. Now in its second edition in English, this textbook provides an updated introduction to the basic principles and methods of epidemiology. It is intended for a wide audience, and to be used as training material for professionals in the health and environment fields. The purpose of this book is to explain the principles of disease causation with particular emphasis on modifiable environmental factors, including environmentally-determined behaviors; encourage the application of epidemiology to the prevention of disease and the promotion of health, prepare members of the health-related professions for the need for health services to address all aspects of the health of populations, to ensure that health resources are used to the best possible effect; and encourage good clinical practice by introducing the concepts of clinical epidemiology. Copies of *Basic Epidemiology* may be ordered from WHO Press, World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, or purchased online at www.who.int/bookorders.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR IEA COUNCIL (2008 – 2011)

The IEA Nominations Committee 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 as indicated below. 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 Chitr Sitthi-amorn, Chair, IEA Nominations Committee, at: Chitr.S@chula.ac.th 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. For more information, please visit: http://www.dundee.ac.uk/iea/nomination_committee1.htm



INTERNATIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
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**International
Journal of
Epidemiology (IJE)**

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY (IJE)

**George Davey Smith
Shah Ebrahim
Co-Editors**

We have co-edited the IJE since January 2000 and since 2001, the content of the IJE has been our responsibility. Editing this journal has allowed us to innovate and create more than a repository for epidemiological findings. We are an international journal and one of our aims is to promote the publication of findings from developing countries. However, many of the manuscripts we receive make us wonder why the work was done in the first place – it really is very hard to make something of interest to an international readership from routine cancer statistics or mortality records.

Over the last 7 years many things have changed about the journal. Perhaps most importantly, the amount of material that we commission from scientists has increased dramatically. The submission of unsolicited manuscripts reporting scientific findings has increased year on year, and unfortunately perhaps, and to ensure that what we publish is interesting, our rejection rates are now high with only 1 in 7 papers making it into the journal.

The innovations that we have made include: historical reprints of papers that are less well known than they deserve to be; point-counterpoints where aim to get informed debate about topical issues in epidemiology; the Cochrane column which highlights Cochrane systematic reviews of relevance to public health; cohort profiles detailing in a systematic way each of world's major cohort studies; photo essays; and, themed issues.

Also of some interest to us is the increase in impact factor for IJE from 1.892 when we took over to 4.045 in 2005, increasing our placing to 6 out of 99 journals in the field, from 13th in 2002. We believe that this reflects our continued efforts to innovate as we have done considerably better than other journals in the field.

OUP's strategy of free online access for 57 of the world's poorest countries and in a further 64 countries giving greatly reduced rates is also helping us to reach more readers.

If you have views about the IJE or ideas about how it may be improved, please let us know.



IEA's Calendar of Events

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING IEA ACTIVITIES (2007 / 2008)

Region	Meetings	Contact Information
WPR	Joint Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) & the International Epidemiological Association (IEA) Western Pacific Region, Tasmania, Australia, 27 – 29 August 2007	Dr Leigh Blizzard (AEA) leigh.blizzard@utas.edu.au Dr Neil Pearce (IEA) n.e.pearce@massey.ac.nz www.cdesign.com.au/aea2007
EUR	IEA/Society for Social Medicine European Conference, Cork, Ireland, 12 - 14 September, 2007	Dr Robert West (Ireland) westrr@cardiff.ac.uk Dr Hans-Werner Hense (IEA) hense@uni-muenster.de www.ucc.ie/academic/pubh/ssmiea/
	European Educational Programme in Epidemiology -Social Epidemiology & Statistical Design and Analysis of Genetic Epidemiology Studies Florence, Italy, 25 June - 13 July 2007	Dr Rodolfo Saracci (Course Coordinator) saracci@hotmail.com www.eepe.org/
EMR	7th IEA / EMR Regional Scientific Meeting, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 27-28 November 2007	Dr Ali Al-Zahrani (Saudi Arabia) alisaz@kfshrc.edu.sa Dr Yasmin A. Altwaijri (Saudi Arabia) YasminT@kfshrc.edu.sa Dr Hassan El Bushra (IEA) elbushrah@emro.who.int www.kfshrc.edu.sa/aape/7thScientificEpidemiologyInfo.html
SEAR	9th SEA / IEA Regional Scientific Meeting on Epidemiology, Dhaka, Bangladesh , 15 - 18 January 2008 (to be confirmed)	Dr AKM Fazlur Rahman (Bangladesh) fazlur@citechco.net Dr Babu Verma (IEA) blvmedstat@yahoo.com
Global	18 th IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 20-24 September, 2008	Dr Maria Ines Schmidt (Brazil) mschmidt@adufrgs.ufrgs.br Dr Mauricio Barreto (IEA) mauricio@ufba.br www.epi2008.com

WPR=Western Pacific; EUR= Europe; EMR= Eastern Mediterranean; SEAR: South-East Asia



**Non-IEA's
Calendar of Events**

OTHER NON – IEA EPIDEMIOLOGY ACTIVITIES

Events	Website
Courses	
Short Courses Programme 2006/07 Department of Social Medicine, University of Bristol, United Kingdom	www.epi.bris.ac.uk/shortc/shortc.htm
2007 Edition of Summer School in Modern Methods in Biostatistics and Epidemiology - Cison Di Valmarino, Treviso, Italy, 11 - 23 June, 2007	www.bioepi.org
Cardiovascular Epidemiology and Epidemiology Modelling, Dublin, Ireland, first course 25 - 27 June 2007, (Free to European participants inc. travel and accommodation)	www.medicine.tcd.ie/pharmacology_therapeutics/marie_curie_training_programme/courses.php
22nd International Epidemiology Summer School Münster, Germany, 2 - 7 July, 2007	epi.klinikum.uni-muenster.de/ download/Programm_2007.pdf
18th International Summer School of Epidemiology Institute of Epidemiology, Ulm University, Germany, 23 - 27 July, 2007	www.uni-ulm.de/epidemiologie
Summer School 2007 - Advanced Level Epidemiology Program at the University of Heidelberg July 23 - July 27, 2007, (Language: English)	www.dkfz.de/en/klinepi/Summerschool/SummerSchool.html
Erasmus Summer Programme Rotterdam, the Netherlands, August 13 - 31, 2007 (3 wks with 33 Courses in Quantitative Medical Research)	www.erasmussummerprogramme.nl/
Epidemiology & Control of Infectious Diseases Introduction to Mathematical Models of Global & Emerging infections, Imperial College, London, 3 - 14 September 2007	www3.imperial.ac.uk/cpd/courses/subject/medical/epidemiology
Händel School of Modern Epidemiology Modern Concepts of Pharmacoepidemiology Halle, Saale, Germany, 2-5 October, 2007.	www.medizin.uni-halle.de/klinepi/
Modern Methods in Epidemiology and Biostatistics Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Roma, Italia, November - December, 2007	www.rm.unicatt.it/igiene/epidemiology
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health 25th Annual Graduate Summer Institute of Epidemiology and Biostatistics-Baltimore, USA, June 18 - July 6, 2007	www.jhsph.edu/summerEpi
Meetings	
Metabolic Syndrome: fatty livers and arteries Royal College of Physicians, London, UK, 7 June 2007	www.rcplondon.ac.uk/event/details.aspx?e=672
Nordic meeting in Epidemiology and Register-based Health Research, Gothenburg, Sweden, 18 -19 June, 2007	www.nordreg2007.se/
HELENA–IDEFICS–ProCHILDREN Joint Symposium - Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, 19 June 2007	www.prevnut.ki.se/registration/

For more information, please visit our website: www.ieaweb.org



What's New

WHAT'S NEW?

SIR RICHARD DOLL'S PRIZE IN EPIDEMIOLOGY: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The International Epidemiological Association is pleased to announce the establishment of the Sir Richard Doll Prize in Epidemiology. This prize will be awarded in principle on a triennial basis.

The prize will be awarded to an epidemiologist of the highest scientific standard in an active part of his/her career. The recipient will be honoured for scientific achievements that have advanced our understanding of the determinants of a disease of importance for health in populations through a body of research that may involve a series of studies, rather than a single publication.

The prize will be presented at the triennial IEA World Congress of Epidemiology (WCE) together with £ 20,000 and a plaque produced by the IEA. The prize winner will be given the opportunity to address the participants of the Congress in a 30 minute plenary session on a topic of his / her own choice. Travel and accommodation will be paid by the IEA.

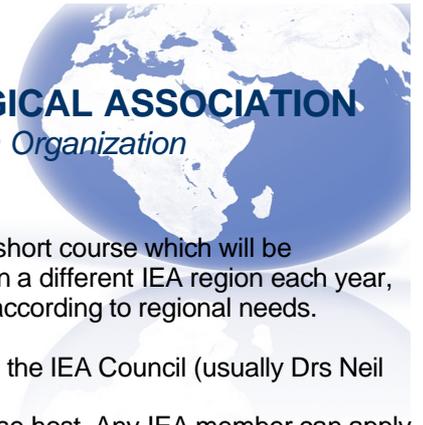
Nominations and selection

All IEA members have the right to propose candidates for the prize not later than 8 months prior to the WCE. IEA Members who intend to propose a candidate should contact the IEA secretariat to obtain a nomination form that should be forwarded with the accompanying documentation to the current President of the IEA. The committee will need a brief motivation and a CV for the candidate. The nomination should be kept confidential.

The prize winner will be selected by a committee of all active past presidents of the IEA, the Editor(s) of the International Journal of Epidemiology and the current President and President-elect. If none of the candidates have support from more than two thirds (2/3) of the committee members, the prize will not be given out. The current President will be chair of the committee and will present the prize winner at the WCE.

New IEA short courses (Neil Pearce, IEA President-elect)

Discussions with IEA members, particularly at the recent World Congress of Epidemiology in Bangkok, August 2007, have identified a particularly need for short courses in epidemiologic methods, particularly in lower and middle-income countries. Many IEA members, and potential members, have completed an introductory course in epidemiology, and may have considerable practical experience, but may have few opportunities to undertake a course at intermediate or advanced level. IEA has had a long association with the very successful European Educational Programme in Epidemiology (EEPE) which is held in Florence each year (<http://www.eepe.org/>), but no comparable courses exist in the South hemisphere.



**What's New
(continued)**

It is therefore proposed that the IEA should start its own short course which will be complementary to the Florence course, and will be held in a different IEA region each year, with the specific level and content of the course varying according to regional needs.

Last Word

The Course Directors will be one or more nominees from the IEA Council (usually Drs Neil

Pearce and Rodolfo Saracci) together with the local course host. Any IEA member can apply to host a course. This is not restricted to Regional Councillors, though Regional Councillors will be kept informed as to any courses being hosted in their region. The level of the course (introductory or intermediate) will depend on the local needs of the region.

Incentives for 3 year and life time memberships

The IEA is offering a FREE copy of the new book: 'The Development of Modern Epidemiology', when accepted for either 3-year or life-time memberships. Don't miss this limited-time opportunity. For more information, please contact the IEA Secretariat at: IEAsecretariat@link.net

IEA Website: new look & future prospects

Our Website has a new look now, after the webmaster has worked on its development, in conjunction with the Council. We are currently working on plans to further improve its functions, especially with regards to online application for membership, renewal, updating information, and outcomes / products of IEA Scientific meetings.

LAST WORD

We trust that this new edition of IEA Newsletter has given you a good insight into the latest developments of our association. Should you have any questions regarding the newsletter / membership information / renewals or have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us or let us know! You can reach us by writing the Secretariat at IEAsecretariat@link.net or visiting our website: www.ieaweb.org



INTERNATIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
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IEA COUNCIL LIST (2005 – 2008)

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