

A conference web site has been set up at www.ssm2009.org.uk and registration will open in mid-June. We anticipate this will be a hugely popular conference, but places will be limited to 300. Early bird registration closes on 31st July, after which prices will increase by about 15%, so please register early! **We look forward to welcoming you to Newcastle!**

Professor Martin White, Institute of Health & Society, Newcastle University.

SSM One day meeting: Intervention Generated Inequalities

Socio-economic inequalities in health are widely observed. Contemporary health strategies share the twin aims of improving overall health and reducing socio-economic inequalities in health. Although common sense may suggest that these aims should be achievable in tandem, an intervention that improves the health of a population overall may also increase socio-economic inequalities in health. There is growing evidence that such 'intervention-generated inequalities' (IGIs) can occur at all stages of the planning and delivery of health interventions but, as yet, there is little agreement on what causes them and what can and should be done about them.

The widespread nature and implications of such IGI makes them of importance to a variety of policy makers, practitioners and researchers. Representatives of all these groups will be brought together in this one-day meeting to share experience, develop theory and build consensus concerning next steps in research, policy and practice in this area. Each of four sessions will focus on a different theme within this topic area, together tracing a 'story' of IGIs from observation to prevention. Speakers include Mark Petticrew, Kate Pickett and Sarah Wild.

The meeting will take place immediately before the ASM at Newcastle University. Further details can be found at www.ssm2009.org.uk.

UPDATE: SSM Membership Survey

Thanks to all of you that completed the recent membership survey. The survey is now closed. A total of 440 members took part in the survey and we are in the process of collating and analysing the responses. Detailed results will be available later in the year.

All those that completed the survey were eligible to be entered in to a prize draw. We'd like to announce that the winner of a £50 book token was **Dr Jane Morrell**. Congratulations to Jane.

SSM One-day Meetings

Part of the membership survey concerned one-day meetings and asked for suggestions of topics for future meetings. The responses covered a wide range of topics, but the most popular are listed below:

Genetic epidemiology; *Life course epidemiology*; Health inequalities; *New methods in epidemiology and biostatistics*; Mixed methods research; *Evaluation of complex interventions and policies*; Methods of evidence synthesis and systematic reviews including of qualitative and 'mixed' methods research; *Different approaches to modelling (e.g. scenario modelling)*; Alcohol and public health; *Obesity and public health*; Climate change and public health; *Global recession and public health*; Global and international public health issues, institutions and responses; *Practice of research (e.g. data protection, ethics, research governance, dissemination, knowledge transfer)*; Mental health research

The committee are keen for as many of these as possible to be taken forward as one-day meetings and are looking for volunteers to take on some of the organisation. Should you be interested in running a one-day meeting please contact Amy Downing (socsocmed@leeds.ac.uk) for further information on what is involved.

SSM Website Changes

In February the SSM website was upgraded with two new facilities. The first is a search option which will search for text on pages and pdf files such as those for the Newsletters. The second, and probably more useful to members, is an RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feed. This option delivers brief statements to your computer on every new entry on the website without you having to open the website and work out what has been added since your previous visit. A page has been added to the site explaining what an RSS feed is for those who don't already know. Give it a try and stay in touch with SSM activity. For epidemiologists, there is a similar feed from the IEA-EEF site (<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/iea/EuroRSSFeed.htm>) with information about courses, meetings and jobs in Europe.

Charles Florey, Webmaster

SSM Committee Nominations

Nominations are sought for new committee members. Three positions are available and the nomination form is included within this copy of the newsletter. Please think about joining the Committee or nominating a colleague (with permission of course). The Committee is a friendly and enthusiastic organisation and positions are open to all, no matter what their career stage. The deadline for nominations is Friday 10th July.

For further details or queries please contact Amy Downing. Email: socsocmed@leeds.ac.uk

Electronic communication: REMINDER

We'd like to move towards more electronic communication with our members. To achieve this **we need your current email address**, and more importantly we need you to let us know if this changes. At the moment we have a valid email address for 85% of the membership but it's a constant battle. Please help by keeping us up to date (you can do this by going to the website www.socsocmed.org.uk and updating your details online or contacting socsocmed@gmail.com).

You will have noticed that some information is already circulated by email (such as the call for abstracts) but we'd like to increase this - although we promise not to bombard you with emails! We aim to maintain a healthy balance between minimising the number of emails sent out (and also reducing the printing of paper communications) and alerting you to relevant, up to date information. Of course, you can ask to be removed from the list at any time by contacting the Honorary Secretary (socsocmed@leeds.ac.uk).

Important dates for your diary

Future SSM Annual Scientific Meetings

The dates for the next two ASMs have now been finalised. Please make a note of them in your diary.

Belfast: Mon 6th – Weds 8th September 2010
Warwick: Weds 14th – Fri 16th September 2011

Are you interested in hosting the ASM in 2012 or another year?

Please ask the Honorary Secretary for more information about what is involved (socsocmed@leeds.ac.uk).

Future IEA Meetings

2009 European Regional Meeting:
Warsaw, Poland – 26-29th August 2009
<http://www.euroepi2009.org/>

19th World Congress of Epidemiology:
Edinburgh, Scotland – 7-11th August 2011
For more information contact Professor Raj
Bhopal (raj.bhopal@ed.ac.uk)

2009 Catherine Peckham Lecture

Monday 15th June 2009
MRC Centre of Epidemiology for Child Health,
UCL Institute of Child Health, London

The 2009 lecture will be delivered by:

Professor Cesar Victora
Universidade Federal de Pelotas, Brasil

“Coming of age in the time of globalization: birth cohorts in low and middle income countries”

The lecture will be followed by a symposium including lectures by Carol Dezateux, David Leon, Tim Cole, Chris Power and Catherine Law.

All welcome

To attend lecture (and the symposium afterwards) please email peckham@ich.ucl.ac.uk giving your name and contact details

EUPHA Scientific Committee

Would you like to represent SSM on the EUPHA Scientific Committee? The role includes the scoring and selection of abstracts for presentation at the annual meeting. We thank Ellen Nolte for fulfilling this role over the past few years. Anyone interested should contact Aileen Clarke for more information (aileen.clarke@warwick.ac.uk).

European Journal of Public Health: Free online access

As a SSM member you are also a member of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA). This used to entitle SSM members to free copies of the printed version of the European Journal of Public Health, which were distributed with the Newsletter. However, the Journal is now primarily an electronic journal, so as part of your EUPHA membership you are now entitled to **FREE ONLINE ACCESS** to the full text of the European Journal of Public Health. In order to gain access to the journal please register as outlined below.

Activating your Online Access

To activate your personal online access to EJPH, you will need to register an account. To do this, you will need a subscriber number sent to you in a letter from Oxford University Press, the journal's publisher. If you do not have or do not know your subscriber number, please contact EJPHqueries@oxfordjournals.org in the first instance.

Note from the Editor

Please continue to submit news items, announcements, meetings, reports – anything that you think that would be interesting to the wider membership. We are particularly keen to increase the number of items relating to **Health Services Research** as well as **Public Health research that exists outside the practice of Epidemiology**.

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