

American College of Epidemiology Strategic Plan

Vision Statement:

The American College of Epidemiology is the professional organization dedicated to continued education and advocacy for epidemiologists in their efforts to promote good science and the public health.

Mission Statement:

The American College of Epidemiology is an organization of epidemiologists that serves the interests of the profession and its members through advocating for issues pertinent to epidemiology, a credential based admission and promotion process, sponsorship of scientific meetings, publications and educational activities, and recognizing outstanding contributions to the field.

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES
I. The College advocates policies and actions that enhance the science and practice of epidemiology.	1. Keep abreast of issues critical to epidemiologists.	1a. Subscribe to Washington Fax and other appropriate information sources. 1b. Develop liaisons to governmental sources of information on emerging legislative and policy issues. 1c. Increase opportunities for member input. 1d. Use membership network to identify key government and congressional contacts.
	2. Decide which issues are relevant to pursue (short term vs. long term) and respond to them.	2a. Policy Committee chair will follow agreed upon procedures for selection, prioritization, development, approval, & dissemination of Policy, Position Statements, or Calls for Action.
	3. Continue to develop mechanisms for advocacy for issues relevant to the ACE mission.	3a. Develop written material regarding ACE policy mission and objectives. 3b. Increase involvement of policy committee members as spokespersons for the College in the work of policy development.
	4. Continue to work with allied organizations to disseminate policies.	4a. Plan relevant program components for joint 2001 meeting of epidemiologic societies. 4b. Share policy statements and alerts with leadership from allied organizations and ask that alerts be distributed. 4c. Maintain and build coalitions with allied organizations.
	5. Improve mechanisms for alerting members on policy issues and solicit input from the membership.	5a. Develop a web site for rapid communication of issues of concern to epidemiologists. 5b. Appoint liaison from ACE Communications Committee to the Policy Committee to ensure rapid and accurate transfer & posting of relevant statements or information. 5c. Continue to expand Newsletter coverage of important policy issues. 5d. Increase use of listserv(s) to communicate with members and other epidemiologists.
	6. Promote the role of ethics in epidemiology.	6a. Disseminate the ESOP guidelines to members, through presentations at meetings and in professional publications. 6b. Develop an educational curriculum for ethics in epidemiology.
	7. Promote racial and ethnic diversity at all levels of the epidemiology profession.	7a. Devise and implement specific action items to put the Statement of Principles on Epidemiology and Minority Populations into practice. 7b. Increase the recruitment of minorities into the College. 7c. Maintain the diversity of the Board. 7d. Increase the number of minorities who plan and participate in the Annual Meeting. 7e. Increase the number of minorities on ACE committees and subcommittees.

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<p>II. The College promotes the professional development of epidemiologists through educational initiatives.</p>	<p>1. Continue to improve the quality and relevance of the Annual Meeting.</p>	<p>1a. Develop and follow a meeting calendar that begins at least 2 years prior to the meeting. 1b. Identify a local chair and an Education Committee member to organize the Planning Committee. 1c. Increase administrative support to the Program Committee. 1d. Appoint liaisons to the Program Committee from the committees on Minority Affairs, Ethics and Standards of Practice, Policy, Publications, and Finance.</p>
	<p>2. Increase the level of outside funding for the Annual Meeting.</p>	<p>2a. Finance Committee should seek conference grant support for each Annual Meeting from appropriate Federal agencies. 2b. Finance Committee should take the lead in identifying foundation and industry support from the Annual Meeting. 2c. Increase the number of paying exhibitors at the Annual Meeting.</p>
	<p>3. Increase attendance at Annual Meeting and increase workshop participation.</p>	<p>3a. Continue to market the Annual Meeting using lists of allied organizations, listservs, tailored (to theme/location) advertising and correspondence. 3b. Continue to widely publicize and distribute the "Call for Abstracts" and continue to offer prizes for superior posters. 3c. Increase opportunities for member participation in the meeting (increase number of posters, create opportunities for oral presentations when appropriate, continue to offer topical roundtables and workshops). 3d. Identify and maintain strategies to increase student/trainee attendance and participation. 3e. Invite organizations or committees to hold meetings in conjunction with the Annual Meeting (e.g. Task Force on Doctoral Education). 3f. Increase coverage of Annual Meeting (both before and after) in the College Newsletter, the Annals of Epidemiology, and other publications (e.g. the EpiMonitor). 3g. Develop a database of nonmembers who attend or participate in the Annual Meeting to use in promoting subsequent meetings.</p>
	<p>4. Continue to enhance the scientific quality of the Journal and its relevance to the Mission of the College.</p>	<p>4a. Increase formal and informal communication between Publications Committee, Publisher, and Editorial Staff of the Annals. 4b. Publications Committee to work with Editorial Board to promote submissions to the Journal and increase its scientific standing. 4c. Identify members of the Publications Committee to serve on the Editorial Board. 4d. Work with the Editor to establish criteria to monitor the quality of the Journal. 4e. Increase use of College pages in the Annals to cover issues of relevance to the College and the profession. 4f. Increase opportunities for publishing papers relevant to the theme of the Annual Meeting, including papers presented at the Annual Meeting.</p>
	<p>5. Continue to work with allied organizations to increase educational opportunities for epidemiologists and consumers of epidemiologic information.</p>	<p>5a. Sponsor and/or co-sponsor workshops outside of the Annual Meeting. 5b. Identify opportunities for working with other organizations to provide workshops on how to interpret and use epidemiologic information. 5c. Host meetings with leadership of allied organizations for the purpose of identifying joint educational opportunities such as the 2001 Congress of Epidemiology.</p>
	<p>6. Create opportunities to exchange ideas about education for epidemiologists.</p>	<p>6a. Doctoral Task Force to analyze and disseminate data on existing doctoral programs. 6b. Develop guidelines for doctoral training on basis of data collected. 6c. Develop opportunities for exchange of ideas about teaching epidemiology (e.g. roundtables or symposia at Annual Meeting). 6d. Work with ACE membership and other professional organizations to define and describe the necessary competencies of epidemiologists. 6e. Develop descriptive materials on epidemiology to be placed on ACE Website.</p>

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<p>III. The College recognizes excellence in Epidemiology.</p>	<p>1. Increase awareness among the membership about opportunity for promotion to Fellowship.</p>	<p>1a. Inform members about membership and promotion policies and procedures through periodic correspondence, articles in the Newsletter, and information on the Website.</p>
	<p>2. Recognize distinguished epidemiologists by conferring Fellowship, by presenting an annual Lilienfeld Award, and conferring Honorary Fellowship.</p>	<p>2a. Develop an improved strategy for identifying potential recipients of the Lilienfeld Award. 2b. Endow the Lilienfeld Award. 2c. Review and improve as needed procedures for nominating Honorary Fellows. 2d. Publicly recognize Award recipients and Honorary Fellows.</p>
	<p>3. Recognize distinguished service to the College.</p>	<p>3a. Periodically present an award at the Annual Meeting for distinguished service to the College.</p>
	<p>4. Increase student award applicant pool.</p>	<p>4a. Increase publicity about student awards. 4b. Include Associate Members in direct mailings about student awards. 4c. Include all student award submissions (except awardee) in the poster presentations. 4d. Present award for best student poster presentation.</p>
<p>IV. The College develops and maintains an active membership base of both Fellows and Members representative of all aspects of epidemiology.</p>	<p>1. Increase membership annually.</p>	<p>1a. Develop marketing plan each year for recruitment and retention of members. 1b. Involve Board Members and Committee Chairs in the recruitment of new members. 1c. Get lists of graduating classes in epidemiology each year and invite graduates to become members. 1d. Market membership along with the Annual Meeting. Include membership application and description in meeting materials. 1e. Market ACE membership at meetings of allied organizations (e.g. SER, Congress of Epidemiology 2001). 1f. Publicize advantages of membership. 1g. Continue to promote "Member-get-a-member" campaign. 1h. Market membership to nonmembers who have attended or participated in ACE Annual Meetings.</p>
	<p>2. Increase involvement of members and Fellows in the activities of the College.</p>	<p>2a. Invite new members to identify and join committees of interest. 2b. Solicit committee participation with annual dues notice. 2c. Use Website, Newsletter, and the Annals to publicize activities of committees and solicit members.</p>
	<p>3. Promote involvement of Associate Members in the College.</p>	<p>3a. Include Associate Members as ex-officio members on committees. 3b. Include focused workshops and roundtables in the Annual Meeting that bring together Associate Members and address specific needs of doctoral students and recent graduates (e.g. workshops on grantsmanship, reviewing journal articles, making presentations).</p>
	<p>4. Encourage interactions between Fellows, Members, and Associate Members.</p>	<p>4a. Continue to hold roundtables hosted by Fellows in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. 4b. Explore development of a mentoring program.</p>