



INTERNATIONAL GENETIC EPIDEMIOLOGY SOCIETY

Newsletter – November 2020 Pre-Election Edition

Contents

[Letter from the President](#)

[Treasurer's Corner](#)

[Editor's Corner](#)

[2021 Membership Drive](#)

[IGES Virtual Journal Club](#)

[2021 IGES Elections: Candidates](#)

[IGES 2021: Plan to attend!](#)

[News from IGES Committees](#)

[Listing of IGES Officials](#)

Letter from the President Peter Kraft

Dear IGES members,

This has been a difficult and disruptive year, but it gives me comfort, hope and some pride to see our IGES community adapt and continue to do science, to meet, to share ideas and to support one another. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, we organized and came together for our most well-attended Annual



Meeting ever (536 unique logins and up to 427 concurrent attendees); we launched a virtual peer mentoring program; we will launch our much-anticipated online course “Genetic Epidemiology Methods for Medicine and Public Health;” we will launch an online journal club; and so much more. Thank you all for your engagement with and work on behalf of our community!

I particularly want to congratulate Dr. Mariza de Andrade on her receipt of the IGES Leadership Award and thank her for nine years of service as IGES Treasurer. Huge thanks as well to Past President Celia Greenwood, whose resilience and leadership made this year's meeting possible.

Thanks to our outgoing committee chairs: Dr. Ching-Ti Liu (Program Committee) and Drs. Stephanie Santorico and Todd Edwards (Education Committee). Dr. Liu deserves special thanks for pulling together the program through two venue changes, and Drs. Santorico and Edwards deserve special thanks for developing the online course—and bringing it to completion even after social distancing rules closed recording studios for a time.

I am happy to welcome Drs. Sarah Buxbaum and Wei Xu as new chairs of the Education Committee, Dr. Julia Bailey as our new society Treasurer, and Dr. Heike Bickeböllner as our incoming President.

We have an excellent slate of candidates for President-Elect and Board. Please take the opportunity to shape your Society by voting or by volunteering to join the Communications, Education, ELSI or Young Investigators [Committees](#)—and don't forget to renew your membership for 2021!

We are proceeding with planning an in-person meeting at the [Esterel Resort](#) in the Laurentides outside of Montreal in October 16-18, although we will continue to monitor the pandemic and travel restrictions closely. Please reach out to me, Heike and the Program Committee if you have ideas for session themes, and reach out to the education committee chairs [here](#) if you have ideas for educational workshops.

I hope to see many of you in person soon!

Peter Kraft

2020 IGES President

Treasurer's Corner
Julia Bailey



I am pleased as Treasurer to share with IGES members that we remain in good financial standing, and that we will continue to be vigilant in our negotiations and management of resources to maintain this good standing.

I would like to remind IGES members that the 2021 IGES membership is open – please go to <https://www.geneticepi.org/membership-fees-2021> for details. Please encourage your colleagues and collaborators to join as well. Membership allows us to plan things like annual meetings.

Don't forget that IGES continues to offer additional categories of registration for students and members from low- or lower-middle- income countries. As a reminder, IGES is a charitable and educational organization, and any contribution other than membership and meeting registration fee is tax-deductible. This can be done along with your membership renewal process.

Your continuous support of IGES is appreciated!

Julia Bailey

Treasurer

Editor's Corner, Genetic Epidemiology
Sanjay Shete

Dear IGES members, as an official journal for our society, Genetic Epidemiology invites you to submit your work in the fields of statistical, epidemiological and population genetics. Genetic Epidemiology is interested in both the methodological and applied papers. Examples include applied genetic epidemiology papers (e.g. meta-analyses of GWAS, Secondary analyses of GWAS data), gene and environment interactions, risk prediction models, DNA methylation and RNA seq data analysis. Other novel work is welcome!

- The October 2020 issue can be found here:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/10982272/2020/44/7>

Editor's pick papers are:

- Daniel J. Schaid, Jason P. Sinnwell, Nicholas B. Larson & Jun Chen, Penalized variance components for association of multiple genes with traits
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/gepi.22340>
- Haoran Xue, Chong Wu & Wei Pan Leveraging existing GWAS summary data of genetically correlated and uncorrelated traits to improve power for a new GWAS
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/gepi.22333>
- Top-cited Genetic Epidemiology articles can be found here:

[https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1098-2272.GEPI-top-cited](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)1098-2272.GEPI-top-cited)

Benefits of Publishing in Genetic Epidemiology: There is no publishing cost for authors (e.g. page charges, black-white figures). In addition, every year, journal selects few papers for "open access" (unrestricted online access) publishing at no cost to the authors.

Please register on Wiley online library to **receive email alerts for new content** and saved searches. The website for registration is <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/user-registration>

AUTHOR SERVICES: Wiley has an updated list of services it offers our authors. For more information, please visit <http://authorservices.wiley.com>

We now offer Kudos (<https://www.growkudos.com/>), a social media service that provides authors with a free set of tools to explain and share their published work for greater usage and impact. Authors also receive access to a publication dashboard where they can view downloads, citations, and altmetrics for their articles.

This is your journal: make it reflect your work by submitting your papers to Genetic Epidemiology!

Thanks, and I look forward to your active participation in the journal.

Sanjay Shete
Editor-in-Chief
sshete@mdanderson.org

IGES 2021 Membership Drive

Dear IGES members,

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2021! Registration/renewal is now open. The early-bird membership fee is available until January 31, 2021. Use the discount code **2020earlybird**.

Please observe the fact that membership registration and annual meeting registration have been separate since 2014. Therefore you are NOT automatically registered as an IGES member just with meeting attendance. A separate registration for IGES Society membership is necessary:

<https://www.geneticepi.org>

Rates for 2021 IGES membership:

- Regular member **US\$130**, if paid by January 31, 2021 (early-bird)
- Regular member **US\$155** if paid on or after February 1, 2021
- Student and Post-Doctoral* member with online access to Journal **US\$68**, rate continues all year but please aim to pay by January 31, 2021
- Student and Post-Doctoral* member **without** online access to Journal **US\$25**, rate continues all year but please aim to pay by January 31, 2021
- Low- or lower-middle- income country* member with online access to Journal **US\$68**; without online access to Journal **US\$25**.

* For eligibility see IGES website

Benefits of IGES membership:

- Receive complimentary on-line access to **Genetic Epidemiology** (the official IGES journal)
- Post announcements and job adverts on the IGES website at **no cost**
- Attend annual IGES scientific meetings at **reduced cost**
- Interact with **scientific peers** worldwide
- Learn about the **latest methodological developments, software, and research findings** in genetic epidemiology
- Help the society **promote** the field of **genetic epidemiology** internationally
- Continuous regular membership of IGES for 5 years or more makes you eligible for the title of "**Fellow Member of IGES**". See <https://www.geneticepi.org/iges-fellow-members>

Your IGES dues help to support...

- **Travel expenses** to the annual IGES meeting for worthy students in financial need
- **Continuing education** and outreach to the scientific community about the discipline, analytical methods, and software used in genetic epidemiology through workshops and classes
- Subsidies for **student subscriptions** to the journal *Genetic Epidemiology*

IGES Virtual Journal Club

Join us for the **IGES Virtual Journal Club** on Thursday December 10 at 12:00pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)! Peter Kraft will discuss "[The Analysis of Variance and the Analysis of Causes](#)" (Am J Hum Genet 1974 24:400-411), R.C. Lewontin's hot take on the utility of heritability estimates and how to study gene-environment interactions. ("In view of the terrible mischief that has been done by confusing the spatiotemporally local analysis of variance with the global analysis of causes, I suggest that we stop the endless search for better methods of estimating useless quantities. There are plenty of real problems."). You can register for the meeting [here](#).

<p style="text-align: center;">IGES 2021 Elections List of candidates - Please vote!</p>
--

All current IGES members are eligible to vote in the upcoming election of members to the Board of Directors. You will receive your ballot paper electronically and separately from this newsletter. This newsletter contains the biosketches of all candidates.

Candidate for the position of President-Elect to serve as President in 2022:

- **David Balding**

Candidates to serve as members on the Board of Directors (you will be requested to select only 2 candidates):

- **Emmanuelle Bouzigon**

- **Ching-Ti Liu**

- **Maggie Wang**

- **Eleanor Wheeler**

[The ballot paper for these elections will be sent out by SurveyMonkey. Note that all members may opt-out of emails from IGES sent via sources such as MemberClicks, Cvent and SurveyMonkey. However, please note that by opting out, you will no longer receive ANY mail at all from IGES, including important election announcements and ballot links, as well as the newsletters and our annual meeting announcements].

2021 IGES Elections
Candidate for IGES President – David Balding



David Balding is Professor of Statistical Genomics at the University of Melbourne and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science. He is lead editor of the Handbook of Statistical Genomics, of which the 4th edition appeared in 2019 with new co-editors Ida Moltke and John Marioni. In 2020, David became Editor for the new Methods Section of PLOS Genetics, a not-for-profit, open access journal.

Equipped with a B Math (Newcastle, Australia) and a PhD in Applied Probability (Oxford, UK), David held academic posts in and around London, initially in Mathematics but transitioning through Applied Statistics and Epidemiology/Public Health to Genetics. After 30 years in the UK, he returned to Australia in 2014 where he directs Melbourne Integrative Genomics (MIG), a

research unit jointly hosted by the School of BioSciences and the School of Mathematics and Statistics. His work in forensic genetics has led to him giving expert evidence in many court cases, mostly about interpretation of DNA profile evidence which is the topic of his monograph “Weight-of-Evidence for Forensic DNA Profiles”. His recent genetic epidemiology research has been in collaboration with former postdoc and now Professor Doug Speed, on modelling the distribution of heritability across the genome, to improve predictions and other inferences. David has also written on how the concept of kinship has changed and been misunderstood in the genome era, as well as many other topics in population genetics and computational statistics.

I can’t remember when I joined IGES but it was early in my career, and many years ago. I remember fun IGES meetings in Los Angeles, Garmisch, Park City, York, Hawaii, Heidelberg, Cambridge and Houston. A highlight was the Hawaii meeting, where I was invited to debate with Nan Laird about whether family studies were still needed. I spoke out against families, thus guaranteeing that I will never be elected to public office. In 2017 and 2018, I served on the IGES Board that helped to organise meetings in two cities, neither of which happened as planned but our Society survived and was strengthened by the experience.

My wonderful partner Zach is a writer, pianist, and academic in Theatre, so in non-covid times I attend almost as much bad fringe theatre as I do genetic epi talks.

Five selected publications:

1. Speed D, Holmes J, DJB (2020) Evaluating and improving heritability models using summary statistics. *Nature Genetics* doi: 10.1038/s41588-020-0600-y IGES Communications Committee highlight April 2020
2. Holmes J, Speed D, DJB (2019) Summary statistic analyses can mistake confounding bias for heritability, *Genetic Epidemiology* 43: 930-40. doi: 10.1002/gepi.22259.
3. Astle W, DJB (2009) Population structure and cryptic relatedness in genetic association studies, *Statistical Science*, 24(4), 451-471.
4. Hoggart C, Clark T, De Iorio M, Whittaker J, DJB (2008) Genome-Wide Significance for Dense SNP and Resequencing Data, *Genetic Epidemiology*, 32(2): 179-185.
5. DJB (2006) A tutorial on statistical methods for population association studies, *Nature Review Genetics* 7: 781-791. doi: 10.1038/nrg1916

Keywords: population, DNA profile, heritability, coalescent, kinship.

2021 IGES Elections
Candidates for Board of Directors – Emmanuelle Bouzigon



Emmanuelle Bouzigon is a senior researcher in Genomic Epidemiology of Multifactorial Diseases at the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM). She has both a medical and scientific training. She earned a MD of Public Health from University of Bordeaux and completed a PhD in Genetic Epidemiology at Paris-Sud University. As a post-doctoral fellow, she joined the Statistical Genetic Unit at King's College London and then obtained a permanent position at INSERM in 2007.

Her research focus is on the genomics of asthma and allergic diseases and on the characterization of the environmental and life-style factors modulating the effects of genomic factors. She develops novel analysis strategies for large-scale epidemio-genetic studies to address complex mechanisms such as imprinting, gene-gene and gene-environment interactions. Her current research aims at integrating genetic variation, molecular phenotypes

(DNA methylation profiles, gene expression, metabolomics), disease phenotypes and environmental factors together with biological knowledge. She has been co-leading the genetic working group of the Epidemiological study on the *Genetics* and Environment of Asthma (*EGEA*) for many years and has coordinated large-scale genome-wide studies within European consortiums.

Emmanuelle has been an active member of IGES since her PhD. She served on the IGES Program Committee from 2015-2017. She is currently part of the Board of Directors of the French Federation of Human Genetics (FFGH) and is the Treasurer of the French Society of Human Genetics (SFGH).

In her spare time, Emmanuelle enjoys travelling to sunny destinations, swimming and reading.

Five selected publications:

Sugier PE, Sarnowski C, Granell R, Laprise C, Ege M, Margaritte-Jeannin P, Dizier MH, Minelli C, Moffatt M, Lathrop M, Cookson WOC, Henderson AJ, von Mutius E, Kogevinas M, Demenais F, Bouzigon E. Genome-wide interaction study of early-life environmental tobacco smoke exposure on time-to-asthma onset in childhood. ***Clin Exp Allergy*** 2019; 49(10):1342-1351.

Sugier PE, Brossard M, Sarnowski C, Vaysse A, Morin A, Pain L, Margaritte-Jeannin P, Dizier M-H, Cookson W.O.C.M., Lathrop M, Moffatt MF, Laprise C, Demenais F, Bouzigon E. A novel role for cilia function in atopy: *ADGRV1* and *DNAH5* interactions. ***J Allergy Clin Immunol*** 2018; 141:1659-67

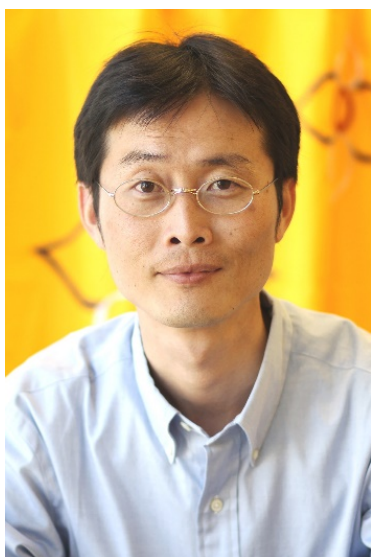
Liu Y, Brossard M, Roqueiro D, Margaritte-Jeannin P, Sarnowski C, Bouzigon E, Demenais F. SigMod: an exact and efficient method to identify a strongly interconnected disease-associated module in a gene network. *Bioinformatics* 2017; 33(10):1536-1544

Sarnowski C, Laprise C, Malerba G, Moffatt MF, Dizier M-H, Morin A, Vincent QB, Rohde K, Esparza-Gordillo J, Margaritte-Jeannin P, Liang L, Lee Y-A, Bousquet J, Siroux V, Pignatti PF, Cookson WO, Lathrop M, Pastinen T, Demenais F, Bouzigon E. DNA methylation within MTNR1A mediates paternally transmitted genetic variant effect on asthma-plus-rhinitis. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2016; 138:748-55

Bouzigon E, Corda E, Aschard H, Dizier MH, Boland A, Bousquet J, Chateigner N, Gormand F, Just J, Le Moual N, Scheinmann P, Siroux V, Vervloet D, Zelenika D, Pin I, Kauffmann F, Lathrop M, Demenais F. Effect of 17q21 variants and smoking exposure in early-onset asthma. *N Engl J Med* 2008; 359:1985-94.

Keywords: Enthusiastic, inclusive, collaborative, asthma/allergy

2021 IGES Elections
Candidates for Board of Directors – Ching-Ti Liu



Ching-Ti Liu is Professor of Biostatistics at Boston University School of Public Health. He received his PhD from UCLA and conducted his post-doctoral training at Yale University prior to join BU. His research activities focus on statistical genetics and its applications. Trans-ethnic association analysis, gene-by-environment interaction and integrative analysis have been the three primary focus of his scholarship and mentoring.

Over the years, he has involved in several international collaborative consortia studying genetics and environmental exposures in relation to metabolic-related disorders and musculoskeletal disorders. For example, the African American Genetics of Glucose and Insulin Consortium (AAGILE), Cohorts for Heart and Aging Research in Genomic Epidemiology (CHARGE) Consortium, the Genetic Factors for Osteoporosis Consortium (GEFOS), The Genetic Investigation of ANthropometric Traits (GIANT) consortium, the Meta-Analyses of Glucose and Insulin-related traits Consortium (MAGIC), and The Trans-Omics for Precision Medicine (TOPMed) program. He currently co-chairs the Adiposity working group in the CHARGE Consortium as well as the Anthropometry-Adiposity Working Group in the TOPMed program. Ching-Ti has served on the IGES membership committee. He is currently a member of the IGES Program Committee, and served as the Program Chair for the IGES annual meeting 2020.

Five s elected Publications:

1. Zhang H, Liu CT and Wang X. (2010) An association test for multiple traits based on the generalized Kendall's Tau. *J. Am Stat Assoc*, Vol. 105, No. 490: 473-481. PMID: 27159928
2. Liu CT, Raghavan S, Maruthur N, Kabagambe EK,..., Meigs JB. Trans-ethnic Meta-Analysis and Functional Annotation Illuminates the Genetic Architecture of Fasting Glucose and Insulin. *Am J Hum Genet*. 2016 Vol 99, Issue 1, p56-75. PMID:27321945 (Featured article of the issue)
3. Justice AE, Winkler TW, Feitosa MF, Graff M, Fisher VA, Young K, Barata L, Deng X, ..., Loos RJF[#], Kilpeläinen TO[#], Liu CT[#], Borecki IB[#], North KE[#], Cupples LA[#]. (2017) Genome-Wide Meta-Analysis Accounting for Smoking Behavior Identifies Novel Loci for Obesity Traits. *Nat Commun*. 2017 Apr 26;8:14977. PMID: 28443625. (#jointly supervised)
4. Wang L, Perez J, ..., Liu C-T (2018). Integrating Genetic, Transcriptional and Biological Information Provides Insights into Obesity. *Int J Obes (Lond)*. 2019 Mar;43(3):457-467. PMID:30232418
5. Lim E, Chen H, Dupuis J, Liu C-T. (2020). A unified method for rare variant analysis of gene-environment interactions. *Stat Med*. 2019 Dec 4. doi: 10.1002/sim.8446. PMID: 31799744

Keywords: Approachable, Collaborative, Encouraging, Inclusive

<p style="text-align: center;">2021 IGES Elections Candidates for Board of Directors – Maggie Wang</p>
--



Maggie Wang is an Assistant Professor in the JC School of Public Health and Primary Care at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She obtained her PhD in Statistics on complex disease classification using genome information from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She was a visiting scholar to the Columbia University in 2009 and Stanford University in 2016. Maggie serves as a Co-Director of the Master Program of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in her university, a council member of the Bioinformatics Society of Macau, and a council member of the Bioinformatics Society of China (in preparation). She serves as a Review Editor of Human Genetics.

Maggie's research interest is statistical genetics method development. She has been working on problems covering interaction effect test, rare variant association test, disease classification in human genome, and epidemiology methods. In recent years, Maggie finds great interest in virus genome and applies principals of genetic epidemiology in virus research. She collaborates closely with microbiologists, biomedical scientists and clinicians, striving to interpret the data with biological implication and clinical application.

Maggie has been an IGES member since 2009, and has attended almost all IGES meetings and Genetic Analysis Workshop ever since. She considers IGES as her academic home. Maggie serves on the communication committee since 2017, program committee since 2019, and the organizing committee of IGES 2020.

Outside professional work, Maggie has spent most of time taking care of her young kid. In her spare time (if there is any), she enjoys piano and photography.

Five selected publications:

1. Wang MH, Cordell HJ, Van Steen K. Statistical methods for genome-wide association studies. *Seminars in Cancer Biology* 2019 Apr 1 Vol. 55, pp. 53-60
2. Wang MH, Chang B, Sun R, Hu I, Xia X, Wu WK, Chong KC, Zee BC. Stratified polygenic risk prediction model with application to CAGI bipolar disorder sequencing data. *Human Mutation*. 2017 Sep;38(9):1235-9.
3. Sun R, Weng H, Hu I, Guo J, Wu WK, Zee BC, Wang MH. A W-test collapsing method for rare-variant association testing in exome sequencing data. *Genetic Epidemiology*. 2016 Nov;40(7):591-6.

4. Wang MH, Sun R, Guo J, Weng H, Lee J, Hu I, Sham PC, Zee BC. A fast and powerful W-test for pairwise epistasis testing. *Nucleic Acids Research*. 2016 Jul 8;44(12):e115.
5. Wang H, Lo SH, Zheng T, Hu I. Interaction-based feature selection and classification for high-dimensional biological data. *Bioinformatics*. 2012 Nov 1;28(21):2834-42.

Keywords: curious, positive, open, friendly, supportive

2021 IGES Elections
Candidates for Board of Directors – Eleanor Wheeler



Eleanor Wheeler is a Senior Research Associate at the MRC Epidemiology Unit in Cambridge, UK. Eleanor completed an MPhil in Statistical Science and PhD in Statistical Genetics at the University of Cambridge. Her PhD was focused on extending the case/pseudocontrol method for family-based association tests to quantitative traits, with an application to immune response traits from the Belem family study in Brazil.

After her PhD Eleanor worked at the Wellcome Sanger Institute for over 10 years before moving to the MRC Epidemiology Unit in 2018. Her research uses large-scale ‘omics’ data sets to identify genes of interest and to help understand the mechanisms underlying diabetes, obesity and related quantitative traits. She enjoys collaborating with others and has been involved in many projects as part of the Meta Analyses of Glucose and Insulin-related traits Consortium (MAGIC).

Eleanor has been attending IGES since 2004, and most recently chaired the Scientific Program Committee for the 2019 conference.

Eleanor is an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion champion for her department and in her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family and her cat Simba.

Five Selected Publications:

Pietzner M, **Wheeler E**, Carrasco-Zanini J, Raffler J, Kerrison ND, Oerton E, Auyeung VPW, Luan J, Finan C, Casas JP, Ostroff R, Williams SA, Kastenmüller G, Ralser M, Gamazon ER, Wareham NJ, Hingorani AD, Langenberg C. Genetic architecture of host proteins interacting with SARS-CoV-2. *bioRxiv Preprint*. (2020). PMID: 32637948

Chen J, Sun M, Adeyemo A, Pirie F, Carstensen T, Pomilla C, Doumatey AP, Chen G, Young EH, Sandhu M, Morris AP, Barroso I, McCarthy MI, Mahajan A*, **Wheeler E***, Rotimi CN*, Motala AA*. Genome-wide association study of type 2 diabetes in Africa. *Diabetologia*. (2019) PMID: 31049640

Riveros-McKay F*, Mistry V*, Bounds R, Hendricks A, Keogh JM, Thomas H, Henning E, Understanding Society Scientific Group, O’Rahilly S, Zeggini E, **Wheeler E**, Barroso I, Farooqi IS.

Genetic architecture of human thinness compared to severe obesity. *PLoS Genet.* (2019) PMID: 30677029

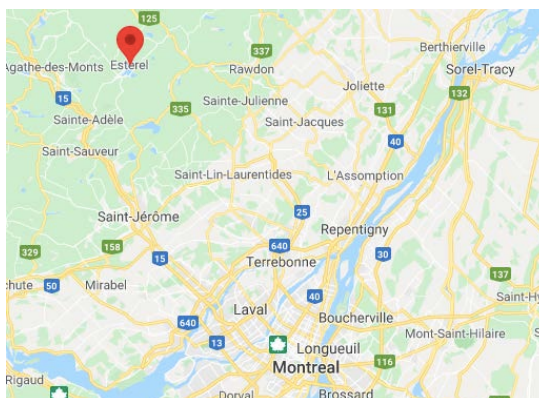
Wheeler E*, Leong A*, [202 Authors], Roberts DJ, Florez JC, Sladek R, Dupuis J, Morris AP, Tai ES, Selvin E, Rotter JI, Langenberg C, Barroso I*, Meigs JB*. Impact of common genetic determinants of Hemoglobin A1c on type 2 diabetes risk and diagnosis in ancestrally diverse populations: A transethnic genome-wide meta-analysis. *PLoS Med.* 14:e1002383. (2017) PMID: 28898252

Panoutsopoulou K, **Wheeler E.** Genetic Epidemiology: Methods and Protocols. Chapter: Key concepts in genetic epidemiology. Editor: Evangelou E (2018)

Keywords: Positive, Enthusiastic, Committed, Collaborative

IGES 2021 in Canada
Save the dates and plan to attend!

IGES 2021: October 16-18, 2021



Held in conjunction with ASHG
(Montreal, October 19-23)

Venue: the Esterel Resort in the Laurentides
(driving time to Esterel from Montreal is 1:45)

Committee Reports Latest news from IGES Committees

This section contains current news and announcements from the IGES Committees. We often have vacancies to fill on IGES committees. If you are interested in joining an IGES Committee, please contact the relevant Committee Chair listed on the IGES website, or email us at iges@geneticepi.org.

Communications Committee

Members of the Communications Committee have been active in managing the IGES website, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter pages. This year we have continued our initiative of publicising monthly “highlighted” papers (in any journal) by IGES members, and an “Editor’s pick” paper from each issue of Genetic Epidemiology. Many thanks to outgoing member **Maggie Wang** for her service on the committee.

Heather J. Cordell
Communications Committee Chair

Young Investigators’ Committee

The current membership of the Young Investigators’ Committee comprises:

Ekaterina Yonova-Doing (chair, University of Cambridge, UK)
Chloé Sarnowski (Boston University School of Public Health, USA)
Damian Gola (University of Lübeck, Germany)
Tessel Galesloot (Radboud University Medical Center, The Netherlands)
Hamzah Syed (Koç University, Turkey)
Joycelyne Efua Ewusie (Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa, Canada)
Anthony Herzig (French Institute of Health and Medical Research, France)
Brandon Coombes (Mayo Clinic, USA)
Daniel John Panyard (Stanford University, USA)

Education Committee

The education committee welcomes two incoming co-chairs, **Sarah Buxbaum** and **Wei Xu**, replacing previous co-chairs **Stephanie Santorico** and **Todd Edwards** (who remain on the committee). We have welcomed one new member, **Chunyu Lui**, and one member has left the committee, **Heather Ochs-Balcom**.

ELSI Committee

The ELSI Committee has started a series of meetings discussing issues of race/ethnicity and diversity in genetic epidemiology. We have started by working on a literature review of race/ethnicity in genetic epidemiology. We anticipate meeting every 2-4 weeks with the end goal of having a statement put forward by the ELSI Committee and approved by the IGES Board of Directors by March 2021.

Ronnie A. Sebro
ELSI Committee Chair

2020 IGES Officials

The names of all the IGES officials are available on our **website**:

<https://www.geneticepi.org/organization>

Current **officers** are: President: Peter Kraft; Past-President: Celia Greenwood; President-Elect: Heike Bickeböllner; Treasurer: Julia Bailey; Secretary: Heather Cordell; Editor-in-Chief, Genetic Epidemiology: Sanjay Shete.

Board members comprise the officers and the following 6 people: Frank Dudbridge, Liz Gillanders, Jinko Graham, Jaya Satagopan, Pak Sham and Ele Zeggini.

The **Education Committee** is co-chaired by Stephanie Santorico and Todd Edwards.

The **ELSI Committee** is chaired by Ronnie Sebro.

This year's **Publications Committee** is chaired by Heike Bickeböllner (ex-officio).

The **Scientific Program Committee** for 2020 is chaired by Ching-Ti Liu.

The **Young Investigators' Committee** is chaired by Ekaterina Yonova-Doing.

The **Communications Committee** is chaired by Heather Cordell (ex-officio).

Please refer to the above website for the current respective committee members.

The **Wiley/Genetic Epidemiology Liaison Committee** is chaired by Mike Province. Members are Sanjay Shete, Angelo Canty, and Alexander Wilson.

The **IGES webmaster** is Sarah Gagliano. The **IGES Facebook contact** is Elizabeth Blue, the **Twitter contact** is Priya Duggal and the **LinkedIn contact** is Han Chen.

Membership and conference administration is organized by Vanessa Olmo.

IGES Web Site: <https://www.geneticepi.org>

IGES Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/geneticepi?ref=hl>

IGES Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/genepisociety>

IGES LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12061041/>

IGES Facebook page exclusively for Young Investigators:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/International-Genetic-Epidemiology-Society-Iges-Next-Generation/174416209303988?ref=hl>