



INTERNATIONAL GENETIC EPIDEMIOLOGY SOCIETY

July 2026 Pre-Meeting Newsletter

Topics:

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Early registration deadline: 24 July 2026

<https://iges.memberclicks.net/2026-annual-meeting-workshop>

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| Save the Date



2026 Annual Meeting & Education Workshop Registration Fees

Category	Early Fees March 24-July 24	Regular Fees July 25-September 19	Late/Onsite Fees September 20-October 20
Members			
Academia / Professional	\$689	\$826	\$918
Retiree/Student, Low Income	\$551	\$662	\$772
Country			
Non-Members			
Academia / Professional	\$895	\$1,033	\$1,125
Retiree/Student, Low Income Country	\$662	\$772	\$882
Education Workshop	\$85	\$85	\$85

All fees are USD

Annual Meeting Fees include access to

- General Sessions, Poster Sessions, Business Meeting, (2) Lunches and (4) Refreshment Breaks, and the Awards Banquet
- Guest tickets to the Awards Banquet can be purchased for \$90
- Transportation from the Montreal Airport to the Esterél Resort is an additional cost

2026 IGES Annual Meeting Invited Speakers

Leading voices in genetic epidemiology, statistical genetics, and systems genomics from around the world. Their presentations will explore cutting-edge approaches to understanding complex disease risk, from GWAS and rare variant analysis to multi-omic integration, polygenic prediction, and biobank-scale data analysis. Speakers whose work continues to shape the future of precision medicine and population health. Attendees will gain valuable insights into innovative methodologies, emerging discoveries, and the evolving role of genetic epidemiology in advancing human health.



Josée Dupuis, PhD
McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Topic: *Unravelling the genetic architecture of type-2 diabetes using novel statistical approaches*

Bio: Josée Dupuis is Professor and Chair of the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University. Prior to joining McGill in 2022, she was Chair of the Department of Biostatistics at Boston University. Professor Dupuis's research focuses on the development of statistical methods for genome-wide association, rare variant analysis, gene-environment

interaction, fine-mapping and colocalization, multi-omics integration, and their applications to diabetes and lung diseases. She served as IGES president and was honoured with the Society's Leadership Award for her substantial contributions to the field. She also received the 2020 American Society of Human Genetics Mentorship Award.



Mike Inouye, PhD
University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Topic: *Multi-omic approaches for elucidating aetiology and enhancing risk prediction*

Bio: Mike Inouye is currently Professor of Systems Genomics and Population Health at the University of Cambridge, Theme Lead for Data Science and Population Health at the NIHR Cambridge Biomedical Research Centre, Director of Data Sciences at the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, and Director of the Cambridge Baker Systems Genomics Initiative. His lab has four main research programmes: (i) improving the prediction, prevention and management of common

diseases with polygenic scores, (ii) Uncovering insights into disease aetiology through integrative analysis of high-dimensional multi-omics data, (iii) Developing open computational methods, tools and resources for translational research, and (iv) Developing green computing through the Green Algorithms Initiative.



Sriram Sankararaman, PhD

University of California, Los Angeles, USA

Topic: *Understanding the genetic architecture of complex traits from Biobank-scale data: Statistical and Computational challenges*

Bio: Sriram Sankararaman is a Professor in the Departments of Computer Science, Human Genetics, and Computational Medicine at UCLA. His research interests lie at the interface of computer science, statistics, and biology. His lab develops machine learning algorithms to analyze genomic and biomedical data with the broad goal of understanding the interplay between evolution, genomes, and traits. He is a recipient of a NSF Career Award, a NIH Outstanding Investigator Award, a NIH Pathway to Independence Award, and fellowships from Microsoft

Research, the Sloan Foundation, the Okawa Foundation and the Simons Institute as well as multiple teaching awards at UCLA.



Alexander (Sasha) Gusev, PhD

Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA

Topic: *Leveraging large-scale data to identify novel context-specific disease mechanisms*

Bio: Sasha Gusev is a statistical geneticist and an Associate Professor of Medicine at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in the Population Sciences Division. He received his PhD training in Computer Science from Columbia University, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship focused on developing computational methods to understand disease heritability at the Harvard School of Public Health. His lab has led the development of methods for deciphering biological mechanisms from genome-wide association studies, identifying germline-somatic interactions, and characterizing the germline influences on response to treatment. This work includes the development of the

Transcriptome-Wide Association Study and related methods for integrating molecular and GWAS data.

IGES 2026 Annual Meeting Hotel Room Sharing

If you are interested in sharing a room at IGES, please make sure to indicate interest on the meeting registration form by answering yes to the question “Do you want to be added to the list of people looking for a roommate?”. Your name and email will be shared with other interested attendees to facilitate pairing.

Preliminary Meeting Agenda Overview

Saturday, October 17

Arrival Day to Estérel Hotel *(transportation will be organized from Montréal Trudeau International Airport to the hotel and will be shared once details are confirmed. If you arrive before October 17, transportation will be on your own)*

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Registration and Help Desk

Sunday, October 18

6:00 am - 8:00 am: Breakfast (included with your hotel room)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm: Keynotes and Scientific & Poster Sessions

Monday, October 19

6:00 am - 8:00 am: Breakfast (included with your hotel room)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm: Keynotes and Scientific & Poster Sessions

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm: Awards Banquet

Tuesday, October 20

6:00 am - 8:00 am: Breakfast

9:00 am: Transportation to Education Workshop @ McGill University in Montréal

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Workshop Light Lunch

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm: Education Workshop

Bonfire shirt campaign

There is still time to get your IGES 2026 edition shirt! Contact iges@geneticepi.org if you need to ship the merchandise directly to Canada. Our local organizing committee member has generously agreed to collect the packages in Montreal and bring them to Esterel.

International Genetic Epidemiology Society 26



Link to the IGES shop: <https://www.bonfire.com/store/iges/>



Workshop Chairs: Pingzhao Hu (phu49@uwo.ca) and Tae-Hwi Schwantes-An (tischwan@iu.edu).

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

12:00pm Workshop Lunch - Optional pre-workshop lunch and informal networking.

12:50pm Welcome and Opening Remarks

Welcome, workshop goals, and orientation to the hands-on components.

1:00 PM Section 1

Overview of Modern AI Capabilities in Advancing Genomic Research

This opening session frames current AI capabilities and limitations for genomic research, including opportunities for discovery, interpretation, and reproducible workflows.

Speaker: Dr. Yue Li, McGill University

2:00 PM Section 2

AI in Genomics: How to Train Your gLM

30-minute lecture followed by a 50-minute hands-on tutorial on training and applying genomic language models (gLMs).

Speakers: Dr. Hae Kyung Im, The University of Chicago

Henry Raeder, The University of Chicago

- Lecture: core concepts, model inputs, training objectives, and evaluation.
- Tutorial: practical steps for training a gLM and interpreting outputs.
- Requirements: Laptops and a Google account

3:20 PM Break

3:40 PM Section 3

Agentic AI for Transforming the Interplay Between Clinical Care and Genomic Research

Talk on how agentic AI systems can connect clinical workflows, research questions, data interpretation, and feedback loops, with safeguards for privacy, accuracy, and responsible use.

Speaker: Dr. Bingxin Zhao, University of Pennsylvania

4:40 PM Section 4

Vibe Coding with Agentic AI for Genomic Research: A Hands-On Tutorial

Tutorial on using agentic AI tools to support genomic research coding, prototyping, troubleshooting, and reproducible analysis workflows.

Speakers: Yu Shi, University of Toronto

Jasper Zhang, University of Toronto

- Requirements: laptops and Google account

5:30 PM Panel Discussion + Q/A:

Future Directions for AI-Enabled Genomic Research

Closing discussion with speakers and participants:

6:00 PM Workshop Adjourns

SPEAKERS



Dr. Yue Li

Associate Professor
School of Computer Science
McGill University



Dr. Hae Kyung Im

Associate Professor
Section of Genetic Medicine
The University of Chicago



Henry Raeder

PhD Candidate, Department of Human Genetics
The University of Chicago



Dr. Bingxin Zhao

Assistant Professor
Department of Statistics and Data Science
Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania
Department of Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania



Yu Shi

PhD Candidate
Dalla Lana School of Public Health
University of Toronto



Jasper Zhang

PhD Candidate
Dalla Lana School of Public Health
University of Toronto



The Education Workshop is open to everyone. The cost to attend is \$85 US. Scan the QR code to register today.

IGES Leadership Award (awarded annually)

A list of previous Leadership Award winners can be found at:

<http://www.geneticepi.org/meetings/>

Eligibility and Nominations

To be eligible, the nominee must have made significant contributions to the field of genetic epidemiology through teaching, research and/or service. In addition, the nominee must have provided demonstrated consistent leadership in the society by contributing to making IGES a vibrant research community who foster the career of young investigators. Members of the IGES Board or IGES Officers are not eligible in their years of service.

Nominations should be sent by July 30th 2026 to andrew.paterson@sickkids.ca (marked 'IGES Leadership Award Nomination'), and should be accompanied with a paragraph describing the contributions of the nominees to IGES and the field of genetic epidemiology. We encourage nominations by all, including junior investigators.

Selection Criteria

Criteria for the award include, but are not limited to, excellence in the following areas:

- Sustained service to the International Genetic Epidemiology Society
- Genetic epidemiology research (Methodological and/or Applied)
- Genetic epidemiology education (teaching, course development, education sessions/workshop organization)
- Student and faculty mentoring

Award Selection Committee

The Award Selection Committee will consist of the IGES Officers and members of the IGES Board of Directors.

<https://iges.memberclicks.net/eligibility-for-iges-leadership-award>

***Genetic Epidemiology* is inviting applications for the role of Editor-in-Chief**

See: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/10982272/homepage/eic-advert>

Genetic Epidemiology is the official journal of IGES. The journal focuses on the contributions of genetic and environmental factors to human disease as revealed by genetic, epidemiological, and biological investigations. *Genetic Epidemiology* primarily publishes papers in statistical genetics, a research field that is primarily concerned with development of statistical, bioinformatical, and computational models for analyzing genetic data. Incorporation of underlying biology and population genetics into conceptual models is favored. You can find the [full Aims and Scope here](#).

We are excited to be seeking a new Editor-in-Chief to build on the journal's strong foundations and to continue developing *Genetic Epidemiology* as a core community resource. The successful candidate will join a dynamic and inclusive editorial team dedicated to upholding high standards and embracing innovative practices. The EiC will also serve as an officer of IGES. The appointment shall be for a 5-year term beginning **January 1, 2027**. There is an annual honorarium for the role.

We are committed to fostering a broad range of perspectives within our field. We strongly encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds, to ensure a representation of varied perspectives to contribute to the advancement of knowledge in our editorial process.

The successful candidate will have an international network of contacts and will also ideally have the following:

- Broad and extensive knowledge in the field
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work to tight deadlines
- Experience in journal publishing and editorial decision making
- Commitment to varied perspectives in the editorial process

The pace of change in academic publishing is accelerating, and to respond, the Editor-in-Chief will need to work effectively with the Publisher and Editorial Board in an efficient way. A flexible and collaborative approach will therefore be essential for the successful applicant.

For further details about this role, please refer to the Job Description below.

To apply, please submit your application via [this form](#). If you have any queries about the role, please contact editorrecruitment@wiley.com.

Please prepare a CV, a short vision statement with strengths, weaknesses, and future development vision for the journal, summary of prior experience preparing you for the role.

The submission deadline is 30th October, 2026.

This vacancy may close earlier than the advertised deadline if a high volume of applications is received. Early applications are therefore encouraged.

Job Description

The Editor-in-Chief will work closely with the Publisher to oversee the effective peer review of manuscripts and undertake initiatives for journal development. The role includes the screening of regular submissions and responsibility for peer review decisions. In addition, the Editor-in-Chief should be committed to journal development and editorial standards and will be responsible for implementing and managing core strategic initiatives alongside the Publisher.

The successful candidate[s] will:

- Embrace a flexible and collaborative approach, working closely with the Publisher and Editorial Office staff at Wiley.
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to ensuring that the journal's editorial practices, including peer review process, policies, and workflows, promote inclusivity and reflect varied perspectives in the advancement of scholarly research

The position of Editor-in-Chief on *Genetic Epidemiology* includes the following responsibilities:

- Maintaining high standards in the peer-review process and ensuring that the Journal adheres to best practice guidance with respect to research integrity and publishing ethics in accordance with COPE ([Committee on Publishing Ethics](#)) guidelines.
- Using an online editorial management system to have such contributions peer reviewed by appropriately qualified and experienced persons, to accept or reject manuscripts or to request revision in response to referees' reports and editorial comments and to communicate with authors as appropriate.
- Working with the Wiley Editorial Office on the day-to-day operations of the Journal in an efficient manner and to provide accepted material to the Publisher in accordance with the Author Guidelines and the Production Schedule.
- Working with the Publisher to maintain a strategy for the development of the Journal, to maintain/increase the status and visibility of the Journal and ensure that the Journal fulfils its aims and serves the readers in its field.
- Enhancing the position of the Journal in the field, including relative to competing journals.
- Communicating regularly with the wider editorial board concerning the development of the journal, editorial strategy, submissions, and promotion.

- Reviewing and renewing the Advisory Board on an annual basis to achieve an active and holistic representation of the community the journal serves, mentoring new members as needed.
- Assisting the Publisher by promoting the Journal wherever possible through professional contacts and at conferences.
- Attending and contributing to editorial meetings, where appropriate, in collaboration with the Publisher.
- Attending the monthly meeting of the IGES Board of Directors, report to the Board on journal status, and work with the IGES Publications Committee on the Robert C. Elston Best Paper Award.

Desired Attributes and Selection criteria:

- Strong leadership with excellent communication and organizational skills.
- A high level of efficiency and time management, with the ability to work to continual deadlines.
- A high level of professional and ethical standards and a commitment to ensuring the journal maintains a good level of scholarly rigor in the field.
- Experience in editorial decision making with astute editorial judgment in the evaluation of research publication.
- Active in the field with a good record of personal research, initiative, expertise and performance
- A flexible and collaborative working style. Keen to work in partnership with the Publishing team and the Editorial Board.
- A willingness to contribute ideas for editorial initiatives and developments such as new themed issues, genres and formats.
- Awareness of changes in the research publishing environment and of relevant technological advances in the publication and dissemination of research.
- Determination to pursue a broad range of perspectives.