

November 2008 – Member Update



Dear SAVIR Members,

I am delighted to take over the helm of the SAVIR Presidency. I believe this will be an exciting year for the organization as well as a very important year for our future. I have identified three important focus areas for the coming year:

- **Engage SAVIR members in SAVIR activities:** the Board and Committees will make new efforts to involve SAVIR members in their activities, and we will host new activities and initiatives for SAVIR member involvement.
- **Identify and recruit new SAVIR members:** We hope that all SAVIR members will help spread the word about SAVIR, and encourage your students and colleagues to join.
- **Sustainability of the organization:** The Sustainability Committee has been working to ensure a strong infrastructure for the continued growth of SAVIR. This committee will have important updates and activities for members to help with.

Perhaps most exciting of all is the upcoming SAVIR meeting in Atlanta this March (more information below). We have received more than 180 abstracts, which surpasses the approximately 80 received for our first meeting two years ago in Columbus and sets us on a great trajectory. I hope as many of you as possible can come to the meeting. There will be a ½-day pre-conference workshop focused on advocacy sponsored by the SAVIR Training and Infrastructure Committee. The panelists are fabulous and this is likely to be a highly productive workshop.

With the new SAVIR year comes a change in leadership. Before introducing our new leaders, I want to say a very heart-felt thanks to the following: **Charlie Branas**, who moves from his role as President to Past-President; **Hank Weiss**, who completed three years of service as President-Elect, President, and Past-President; **Jim Helmkamp** who completed four years of service as SAVIR Treasurer; and, our outgoing Board members **Lenora Olson** (who will continue as the Chair of the Sustainability Committee) and **Garry Lapidus**. **Shannon Frattaroli** has completed one term on the SAVIR Board, but will continue for another term. These individuals have contributed invaluable time and energy over the last years to help establish the infrastructure of our organization, and their contributions will be an important foundation for our future. I am pleased to introduce our new leadership, who will carry SAVIR into the future.

Please welcome our new SAVIR President-Elect

Michael J. Mello, MD MPH
Director
Injury Prevention Center at Rhode Island Hospital

Please welcome our new SAVIR Board members

Susan DeFrancesco, JD, MPH, MAT
Research Assistant Professor
University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center

Barry Pless, CM, MC, FRCPC
Professor, McGill University
Editor Emeritus, Injury Prevention

Douglas Wiebe, PhD
Assistant Professor,
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Michael Yonas, DrPH
Assistant Professor
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Professional fundraiser and Sustainability Committee actively seeking donors

The Sustainability Committee has been working to begin a fundraising campaign for SAVIR's infrastructure and new projects. We began by first becoming a "giving Board," which shows that all Board members are vested in the future of the organization. Our next step was an individual donor campaign, which involved sending donor brochures to more than 500 individuals. This step will be followed by a donation request to all members. Our goal for member donations is to get as many members to donate as possible – the number of donors is much more important than the amount. Please consider making a donation in response to this request.

The Sustainability Committee would also like to request your help for two things. First, if you know of any individuals who we could include in our individual donor campaign, please contact Julie Gibbs (admin@savirweb.org) so that we can send them our donor brochure. Second, if you know of any industries or foundations that might be potential donors, please forward contact information to Julie Gibbs.

2009 SAVIR Conference hosted by Emory University and the NCIPC

As many of you have already heard, the 2009 SAVIR Conference is scheduled for March 5 & 6, 2009 at the Emory Conference Center Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. There will also be a reception the evening of March 5th. This year's conference theme will be *From Discovery to Practice: Innovative Translational Approaches to Injury Prevention and Care*. Scientific abstracts will be broadly solicited from injury researchers in the upcoming months and we look forward to submissions from our members, their students and advisees, and any other injury researchers from the US or around the world interested in presenting their work.

A pre-conference workshop sponsored by the Training and Infrastructure Committee will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 4th. The workshop is titled "From Computer to Community: Translating Science for Policy and Advocacy in Injury Prevention." Workshop Leaders include Linda C. Degutis (past APHA president), Susan S. Gallagher (SAVIR Advocacy and Public Policy committee Chair), Susan Hardman (past STIPDA president), and Amy Harris (Associate Director of Policy, CDC/NCIPC).

The conference is being hosted by SAVIR, the Emory University Department of Emergency Medicine, and the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Dr. Debra Houry of Emory has been doing a fantastic job putting the conference together with help from Dr. Shannon Frattaroli of the SAVIR Conference Committee and the NCIPC team. Conference *Save the Date* information is now posted on the SAVIR website and registration will begin in a few weeks. Early registration goes through January 15, 2009.

Read the “From SAVIR” page in every issue of *Injury Prevention*

The “From SAVIR” page in the next issue of *Injury Prevention* will focus on the Injury Prevention Core Competencies developed by the National Training Initiative for injury prevention. This collaboration between SAVIR and STIPDA led to the development of nine Core Competencies for Injury and Violence Prevention in Public Health Practice.

Finally, we have had a number of important accomplishments over the last year. Please go to the SAVIR website to see this list:

http://209.190.249.51/assets/187_2008saviraccomplishments.pdf

Yours Truly,

Corinne Peek-Asa, PhD

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Contact Information

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