A CBE Retreat:

Authorship in Biomedical Publication

Berkeley Marina Marriott
Berkeley, California
20–22 February 1998
Optional workshop, 20 February 1998

Authorship, one of the most critical issues in biomedical publication, has in recent years also been one of the most hotly debated. (Editor's note: See CBE Views 1997;20(4).) What are the criteria for authorship? How many authors are too many for one paper? In a huge multicenter trial, who gets to be named in the author lists of the resulting papers? Journal editors, scientists, clinicians, and administrators will come together to examine issues in authorship and propose solutions to its problems in a lively weekend program.

CBE retreats belong to the participants, whose experiences provide the basis for all-group discussions. Panelists will discuss their views on issues in authorship, examining the prevailing standards and suggesting how they might be modified. “Real-world” perspectives will be provided by authors at many levels of experience.

The retreat setting is near the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. Located directly on San Francisco Bay, the Berkeley Marina Marriott faces the Golden Gate Bridge. Just across the street are acres of park land along the water, great for walking and biking, and terrific for kites. Within walking distance are good restaurants with spectacular bay views, and not far to the east is Berkeley’s Fourth Street, with distinctive shops and sidewalk cafes.

The optional workshop that precedes the retreat aims at peer reviewers of scientific papers. It has been organized by Fiona Godlee, assistant editor of the British Medical Journal (BMJ), and will be led by members of the faculty. Aspects of evaluating papers, journals’ and editors’ expectations, and responsibilities and limitations of the peer-review process will be covered.

Faculty
Linda Hawes Clever, Western Journal of Medicine
Paul J Friedman, UC San Diego

Fiona Godlee, BMJ
Mark Gruber, St Vincent Archabbev
Richard Horton, The Lancet
David Moher, Loeb Medical Research Institute
Drummond Rennie, JAMA and University of California, San Francisco
Richard Smith, BMJ

Mark your calendar now to join your colleagues for a weekend of spirited, stimulating exchanges. For more details and a complete registration packet, contact

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Other questions? Contact Retreat Director Susan Eastwood by phone at 510-547-0847; fax 510-594-2248; or e-mail eastwoods@neuro.ucsf.edu.

New Staff for CBE

In August, Joseph Samson of The Sherwood Group assumed the position of Executive Director of CBE. Samson, along with newly appointed Administrative Director Denise Baran, will be handling the day-to-day business of CBE. Joseph Samson came to The Sherwood Group in 1992 and engineered a highly successful administrative and financial restructuring program for the Association for Worksite Health Promotion. Before joining The Sherwood Group, Samson had more than 10 years of management experience with not-for-profit organizations, including a stint as superintendent of a private school system in the Midwest.

In 1994 Samson joined the National PTA as director of the Program Outreach Division with responsibility for membership services, leadership development, programs, resources, and publications. In 1995 he rejoined The Sherwood Group and now serves as executive director for the National Association of Catering Executives (NACE) and the International Society for Analytical Cytology (ISAC) as well as CBE.

Samson earned a master of arts degree (counseling and group process) from Creighton University and a master of arts degree (theology) from the Lasallian Center in Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Denise Baran came to The Sherwood Group in 1996 as an administrative assistant for Meeting Professionals International-Chicago Area Chapter (MPI-CAC), the Association of Behavioral Healthcare Management (ABHM), and the Council of Biology Editors. During the past 10 months, Baran has been working closely with the CBE team on day-to-day activities. Her responsibilities have included publications fulfillment, meeting registration, CBE Views subscriptions and advertising, and directory updates. Before joining The Sherwood Group, Baran was director of patient services and accounts for Thostrop Chiropractic in Racine, Wisconsin.