Authorship Retreat

Problems and solutions regarding authorship in biomedical publication will be explored at a CBE retreat on the afternoon and evening of Monday, 24 May 1999. The retreat will occur at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, during the CBE annual meeting.

The retreat, “Authorship in Biomedical Publication: Progress and Challenges”, is being organized by the CBE Task Force on Authorship, chaired by Frank Daviddoff, editor, Annals of Internal Medicine. It is cosponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Research Integrity.

Material presented at the retreat will include results of experiments that journals are pursuing on proposed solutions, such as contributorship schemes. A white paper containing a history of the situation will be circulated in advance for discussion at the retreat. It will be available electronically beforehand, and copies will be distributed at the retreat.

The task force has invited representatives of various editorial, academic, professional, and disciplinary organizations to give their perspectives on the issues. Confirmed participants include David Sharp, deputy editor of The Lancet and president of the European Association of Science Editors, and David Korn, of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Registrants for the CBE annual meeting can attend the retreat at no extra charge. Registration for the retreat alone also is available.

Montreal, Site of the 1999 Annual Meeting: The Next Best Thing to Paris in the Springtime!

Linda Armitage
Local Arrangements
CBE 42nd Annual Meeting

Margaret Levene and her committee have put together an excellent academic program for the 1999 annual meeting, but what does Montreal have to enhance that program?

For starters, Montreal is a thriving metropolis with a European flavor. Although it is the second largest French-speaking city outside France, English is widely spoken. Voted one of the world’s most livable cities, it is considered very safe—probably one of the few cities in North America that can boast a vibrant community in the downtown core at 3:00 am. You can wander the streets in the vicinity of your hotel at will.

Montreal celebrated its 350th birthday in 1992; cobblestone streets, gray stone buildings, monuments, museums, and churches in “Old Montreal” provide a window on the history of this great city. Its early development as a fur-trading center was due to its geographic uniqueness: an island (with a mountain in its midst) in the middle of a river that flows into the Atlantic Ocean. Visitors can choose an organized walking tour of Old Montreal or explore on their own; a 20-minute walk from the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, where the meeting will occur, will bring you to this area (via Chinatown if you like).

Inclement weather is unlikely, but if it does occur (or, if you are a shopaholic), you will want to know that 29 kilometers (18 miles) of tunnels and metro (subway) lines are linked to form Montreal’s underground city with boutiques, department stores, theaters, and restaurants. You don’t have to venture outside the hotel to access this network.

Name your pleasure, and we can send you on individual specialty tours—museums, specialty bookstores, antique shops, second-hand book stores, boutiques, off-beat bookstores, theaters, chain bookstores, churches. Rumor has it that some delegates might take time to eat between visits to bookstores. Montreal has also been designated (by the Canadian Automobile Association and American Automobile Association) the gastronomic capital of Canada; our eateries offer a smorgasbord of tantalizing local and ethnic specialties.

Last, but not least, the favorable US exchange rate against Canada’s looney makes a bargain that’s hard to beat; you get 40% more “joie de vivre” in Montreal for the American dollar.

See you all in Montreal.