2008 CSE Annual Meeting: The Rhododendrons Will Be in Full Bloom!

Iain Taylor, Co-chair
2008 Program Committee

The 2008 meeting of the Council of Science Editors will be held on 17-20 May in Vancouver, BC. Come enjoy the spectacular rhododendrons and an array of presentations and activities.

The Program Committee is organizing sessions that should provide plenty of interest for all members. Topics include

- How cost-effective is your journal?
- What do your readers really think?
- AuthorAID and the move to develop AuthorAID.
- Problems that journalists face in dealing with editors.
- Data integrity in the digital age.

The intent is to keep formal presentations short enough to ensure full participation and to offer three or four fully hands-on activities, including one specifically directed at manuscript editors. We hope that each of the scholarship winners will be able to present in a session that deals with his or her particular expertise or experiences.

The Local Arrangements Subcommittee (Sylvia Taylor—she of past Hookey Desk fame; Karim Khan; and Christy Costello) has provided general information. (See accompanying article below.) They will provide onsite advice about the many exciting things to see, do, and eat in Vancouver. The Vancouver Hyatt is at one of the two major intersections at the city center. The Art Gallery is 1 block away. Stanley Park is a 15- to 20-minute walk. There are at least 50 very good restaurants within walking distance and many more that are a short bus or taxi ride away. Bus travel is cheap, with tickets valid for 2 hours. A regular get-on-and-get-off tourist bus stops outside the hotel and takes riders to all the main sites of interest.

There are two major botanical gardens (University of British Columbia and VanDusen), the world-famous Vancouver Aquarium, the Museum of Anthropology at UBC, Science World, and many high-quality craft and art galleries, so there is plenty for everyone, including a fairly active night life. For those who want to “head for the hills”, the Sea Bus crosses the harbor and connects with service buses that will deliver you to the Grouse Mountain gondola. There will still be snow at least on the higher mountains immediately north of the city, but most trails are usually accessible by the middle of May.

Local Arrangements for CSE 2008

The 2008 CSE meeting in Vancouver takes place during the weekend of the Canadian May public holiday celebrating the birthday of Queen Victoria! The conference hotel is at the city center (corner of West Georgia and Burrard Streets). The city has a very good public transport system and major attractions, restaurants, and so on are within walking distance.

Those who wish to hike or travel farther afield should come prepared for mid-spring weather in the city (rain jacket) and snow still on the surrounding mountains. Good walking boots are essential. Some whale-watching excursions start in the Vancouver Harbour (5-6 blocks from the hotel). Travel to Vancouver Island is at least a full-day excursion. May is a relatively quiet time in the theaters and concert halls, but there are a number of jazz and folk music clubs.

Detailed local information will be available from the Local Arrangements group, who will operate the famous “Hookey Desk” in the registration area.

The airport is about 30 minutes from the hotel by car or limousine. The Alaskan cruise season will be starting when you arrive in Vancouver. If you choose to link your visit to an Alaskan cruise, check with your travel agent and look on the Web, but above all START PLANNING NOW. You may also want to start planning your air travel because Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are busy days as cruise passengers fly into Vancouver to connect with their cruises.

The United States requires passports for all airline passengers entering the United States. Visitors who are not US citizens should check to be sure that they have the correct documents to enter Canada and to return to or visit the United States. Passports are required for entry to Canada from any country and possibly also other documents, such as visas. Please check that you have all the necessary documents.

If you are traveling to the United States by air, you should know that US customs clearance for entering the United States takes place in Vancouver. You should allow at least 2 hours before your flight departure takes place in Vancouver. You should allow at least 2 hours before your flight departure from Vancouver to complete check-in, US customs clearance, and security screening.

If you are driving from the United States, delays at the border are unpredictable, especially on the main route to Seattle via Interstate 5.

If you have further questions, the Web sites for Vancouver are useful and easy to follow.

If your CSE committee or other group needs to arrange a restaurant meal, informal advice is available from Iain Taylor at ietiep@interchange.ubc.ca.
Four Short Courses to Be Presented at 2008 CSE Annual Meeting

Mark Hoffman, Director
CSE Education Committee

The popular short courses will be presented in conjunction with the 2008 CSE annual meeting, in Vancouver, British Columbia, at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver. The short courses are intense 1- or 2-day courses for people who have recently taken on a new position or new responsibility or who have served in a position for some time and want to find out what others are doing. All the courses are updated each year to ensure that the presentations are timely and pertinent. Each course includes time for discussion, and each person who attends receives a course notebook of supplementary materials.

The Short Course for Journal Editors will be presented on Friday and Saturday, 16 and 17 May, and will be organized by Iain E P Taylor, assistant editor-in-chief of the National Research Council of Canada research journals. The course will cover such topics as the roles and responsibilities of editors and authors, establishing a peer-review process and nurturing reviewers, and ethical obligations of editors, reviewers, and authors.

The Short Course on Publication Management will be presented on Saturday, 17 May, and will be organized by Patricia Baskin, of the University of Washington. The focus will be the “managing” role of managing editors and the host of issues they face involving personnel, liaisons, editors-in-chief, publishers, and subcontractors.

The Short Course for Manuscript Editors will be presented on Saturday, 17 May, and will be organized by Margaret Perkins, director of manuscript editing of the New England Journal of Medicine. It will cover such topics as editing of tables and figures, grammar and usage challenges, levels of editing, and statistics for the science editor.

The Short Course on Statistics will be presented on Saturday, 17 May, and will be organized by Jessica Ancker. The course curriculum is designed to enable participants to read, understand, report, and edit basic statistical analyses.

More information about the CSE short courses will appear in coming issues of Science Editor, on the CSE Web site (www.CouncilScienceEditors.org), and in the preliminary program for the meeting. Mark your calendars now to attend!