

SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION RESEARCH

EARLY CAREER PREVENTIONIST NETWORK (ECPN)

2009 ELECTION FOR CHAIR-ELECT

Date: May 4, 2009
From: David Wyrick, Chair, ECPN
Re: 2009 Election for Chair-elect

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

This year's ECPN ballot includes two nominees for the ECPN Chair-elect. The chair-elect shall assume the duties of the Chair in the event of absence, death, resignation, or incapacity of the Chair, and shall succeed to the office of the Chair at the expiration of the two-year term as Chair-elect. As chair of the ECPN, which is a standing committee of the Society for Prevention Research, the chair is the presiding officer of the ECPN and is also a voting, ex-officio member of the SPR Board of Directors.

We encourage you to read the following materials carefully before you cast your vote. Your ballot must be cast via the online balloting system by **May 28, 2009**. Please note that you must be a member of the ECPN and SPR at the time that you cast your vote. You will need your SPR membership ID number which was included in your membership dues confirmation e-mail or e-mail info@preventionresearch.org.

Please access the on-line ballot at
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=SHZF22o27_2b7GFNQ4U7FJAg_3d_3d

Nominees are:

- [Kerry Green, PhD](#), University of Maryland
- [Keryn Pasch, PhD, MPH](#), University of Texas



Kerry Green, PhD

Assistant Professor

Department of Public and Community Health
University of Maryland

Kerry M. Green is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public and Community Health at the University of Maryland School of Public Health in College Park, Maryland. She received her PhD in Public Health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) in 2004 and her MA in Human Development from the University of Maryland in 2000. She also completed a two-year post doctoral fellowship in Prevention Science in the Department of Mental Health at the JHSPH under the mentorship of Nicholas Ialongo.

Dr. Green’s work focuses on development over the life course, and in particular how early family, school, and environmental influences, as well as individual risk behaviors affect later health and well-being. She is particularly interested in mental health outcomes. Her work focuses on gender and racial differences in development. Much of her research has been with low-income, urban community populations followed longitudinally, and thus health disparities are a key topic of her research. She has experience with the implementation and evaluation of school-based intervention, and is particularly interested in university-community partnerships for implementing preventive interventions. She is skilled in advanced statistical techniques, in particular propensity score matching and latent



Keryn E. Pasch, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor

Department of Kinesiology and Health Education
University of Texas, Austin

My name is Keryn Pasch and I am running for the ECPN Chair-Elect position. Currently I am an assistant professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Education at the University of Texas at Austin. My research focuses on the influence of parenting and media on adolescent health risk behaviors. I have published 13 papers with 7 more under review and have contributed to 21 scientific presentations in the field of Prevention Science. I have a multi-disciplinary training background including Psychology (B.A.), Health Behavior and Health Education (M.P.H.), and Behavioral Epidemiology (Ph.D.). Throughout my doctoral training at the University of Minnesota, I was able to gain invaluable prevention experience working on Project Northland Chicago with Senior Scientists Cheryl Perry and Kelli Komro.

I have been involved with the ECPN Steering Committee since 2006 and have really enjoyed working with other early career prevention scientists. I believe that ECPN is a wonderful organization, dedicated to furthering the careers of early prevention scientists. If elected to this position, I would continue to work to build a sense of community among early career professionals. As a member of the steering committee, and through my current role as the Membership Committee Chair, I have helped to create and establish the publication of *ECPN Connections*, a newsletter dedicated to furthering a sense of

variable modeling.

Vision Statement:

I am honored to be nominated as Chair-Elect of the Early Career Prevention Network (ECPN). I have thoroughly enjoyed my membership in ECPN and participation on the Steering Committee. I have also benefited greatly from my membership with SPR since 2004. My vision for ECPN involves continuing to connect early career scientists with the magnitude of resources already available within SPR and increasing opportunities for early career folks to become successful prevention scientist.

I seem to end almost every one of my Prevention Science graduate class I'm teaching this semester by reiterating to the students that developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating programs is hard work. ECPN is doing a number of great things that can help those of us early in our careers to tackle this hard work without reinventing the wheel.

I have three areas that I am particularly interested in ECPN increasing its focusing on over the next few years. First, I feel strongly about helping students, post-docs, and early career professional to develop collaboration with each other. ECPN is well positioned to increase its infrastructure for collaborations among existing and new members, whom ECPN should actively recruit. I know junior scientists can benefit from working with others who are dealing with similar issues. This will enable us to better help one another find a high-quality post-doctoral fellowship, network for academic positions, develop a K or first R01 application, make initial community connections, gather pilot data, figure out a power calculation, and all those other tasks early career prevention scientists need to do.

Second, I have never been part of a membership organization in which senior scientists have been so dedicated to the career development of more junior scientists. The mentoring opportunities within SPR are amazing. I would like to see ECPN work more with the SPR board to determine new and publicize lesser known opportunities for training and mentoring.

community among early career preventionists. This newsletter has been very successful and we have published three issues to date.

In addition to community building, I believe ECPN plays a crucial role in the development and recruitment of new professionals into the field of Prevention Science. As chair-elect and then as chair, I would continue to make this a priority. This year I was very happy to develop the ECPN Student Poster Competition, a competition for undergraduate and graduate students, to encourage student attendance and participation in the annual meeting, increase student visibility at the conference, and attract new student members to SPR and ECPN. In our inaugural year of the competition we had 35 entries. With the generous support from the SPR Board, we are able to offer the top 3 posters a \$250 travel award plus a free 1-year SPR membership, with the remaining top 10% of posters receiving a 1-year SPR membership as well. The winners of the competition will also be recognized at the awards ceremony. I hope that this competition will become a yearly event and will help to highlight the wonderful student members of SPR and ECPN.

The role of ECPN is also to create opportunities for mentorship through several avenues 1) among other early career professionals, 2) through interaction with senior scientists, and 3) through training opportunities. As chair-elect and chair, I would work to continue creating mentorship and training opportunities for early career scientists. In 2008, I was co-chair of the ECPN Luncheon where we highlighted the Early Career Award winners who shared their insights on how to be a successful early career prevention scientist. This year, I am involved in an ECPN symposium on the NIH Loan Repayment Program, which I hope will be very helpful to ECPN members.

I appreciate your consideration for this position and hope to receive your vote. I would be honored to serve as the Chair-Elect and eventually as Chair for such a wonderful organization. To have the opportunity to help develop the careers of new prevention scientists as well as assist early career professionals in their journey to becoming senior scientists, is something I would be privileged to do.

Third, I know we all struggle from analytic and methodological challenges when doing our prevention work. I have been impressed with the depth of attention paid to methods during the annual meeting. I would like ECPN to explore opportunities for connecting early career scientists with all the methodological resources within SPR.

I appreciate the nomination of Chair Elect of ECPN and hope to continue to work with the ECPN Steering Committee and show my dedication to SPR.