The Early Career Preventionists Network (ECPN) is dedicated to fostering the professional development of prevention science researchers, practitioners, and advocates. “Early career” was chosen to describe our group because our membership includes professionals who are just entering the field of prevention as their first career as well as those who have recently entered the field of prevention as a second or third career. Our members include master’s level preventionists, pre-doctoral candidates, post-doctoral fellows, assistant professors and research associates as well as practitioners, educators, administrators, and advocates who have been in the prevention field for a few years. **Membership in ECPN is voluntary and open to any “early career” member of SPR.** Please come and meet the current members of ECPN at our Social Wednesday night from 7:45-9:15 p.m. in Regency B.

As defined by ECPN members, our current primary goals are:

1. to foster a supportive atmosphere for exchanging ideas, including receiving feedback about ongoing prevention-related efforts by members;
2. to foster the development of new research ideas;
3. to foster the development of collaborative research efforts across agencies and institutions, particularly amongst career researchers and more established colleagues;
4. to disseminate information on employment and grant opportunities;
5. to disseminate information on important advancement in the field of prevention science;
6. to disseminate information on domestic and international initiatives related to prevention;
7. to provide a forum for the discussion of prevention-related topics such as methodological problems, solutions and advances;
8. to provide a central place on the Internet for storage and easy retrieval of prevention-related publications and documents by early career researchers; and
9. to sponsor various activities, such as conference training workshops, mentoring match-ups with senior level researchers among others aimed at supporting the developing careers of early career prevention scientists.

ECPN was founded and is maintained by early career preventionists with the support of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR). ECPN is a standing committee of SPR and the chair is an ex-officio member of the SPR Board of Directors. The ECPN sponsors a variety of activities throughout the year and at SPR’s Annual Meeting. A volunteer steering committee makes administrative decisions for ECPN based on input from the ECPN membership. **Please see the listing of ECPN conference events and activities included in the program on page 38.**

For further information, please visit our table near registration or log onto the ECPN homepage for more information:
If you have any questions or are interested in serving on the steering committee, e-mail the chair Keryn Pasch at kpasch@austin.utexas.edu.
4th ANNUAL ECPN STUDENT POSTER CONTEST

The ECPN Student Poster Contest was initiated in 2009 (by current ECPN Chair Keryn Pasch) to encourage student attendance and participation in the annual meeting, increase student visibility at the conference, attract new student members to SPR and ECPN, and encourage existing student members to become full members upon graduation. Both undergraduate and graduate students were encouraged to enter. The posters will be displayed during the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening SPR poster sessions, and winners will be announced on Thursday at the awards presentation. The top 3 poster winners will receive a $250 travel award plus a free 1-year SPR membership. Honorable mention poster authors will receive a 1-year SPR membership. SPR memberships will be awarded for the next year (2013). Judging criteria included innovation, importance of the research topic to the field, quality, use of advanced methods, and contribution to prevention science. ECPN Steering Committee members Jessica Duncan Cance, Marie-Hélène Véronneau, Amanda Sisselman, Jeff Temple, Kerry Green, and Miesha Marzell reviewed all of the entries and SPR senior scientists served as judges of the top 25% of the entries. Posters were due three weeks prior to the SPR meeting to enable thorough reviews. We are very excited that the ECPN Student Poster Contest continues to be an annual event. We look forward to your attendance at the poster session. Please note that ECPN Student Poster Contestants are indicated with an * throughout the program.

Please visit the ECPN exhibit table in the Regency Foyer to pick up an ECPN ribbon for your name badge.

Wednesday, May 30, 2012, 11:45 am - 1:15 pm

(2-018) ECPN LUNCH (Registration required), Regency B
INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION: MAKING CONNECTIONS

Co-chairs: Amanda Sisselman, PhD, Empire State College and Crystal Barksdale, PhD, SRA International, Inc.
Panel: Jenae Neiderhiser, PhD, and Mark Greenberg, PhD, Pennsylvania State University, Jordan Wright, PhD, Empire State College, and Jeff Temple, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston

The ECPN sponsored lunch session will address interdisciplinary collaboration in research and grant writing. A panel of successful researchers in the prevention field will be convened, such that each will speak about their interdisciplinary success for a short time as an introduction. Panel members will specifically address the types of collaborations in which they have participated, the ways in which they initiated these collaboration and interdisciplinary connections, and with which disciplines they have worked outside of their own. Participants will write questions on pieces of paper to be placed in a basket and answered by panel members, as time allows. Based upon participants’ responses to a brief survey completed upon registration, participants will also be seated according to research interests and fields in which they are interested in developing connections. This seating will help to facilitate interdisciplinary relationships among ECPN members. The last portion of the session will be devoted to helping ECPN participants develop interdisciplinary relationships. Participants will be prompted to provide an example of interdisciplinary interest to the panel and the panel members will provide their opinions and hypothetical approach to developing this interest with colleagues across disciplines. Forms for collecting contact information and other relevant information will be available at the tables for participants to utilize. Panel members will be available during this time to circulate and help members identify specific ways to foster collaborations.

1:15 pm – 2:45 pm

(2-020) ECPN SESSION I, Regency B
MAINTAINING A WORK-LIFE BALANCE AS AN EARLY CAREER PREVENTIONIST

Co-chairs: Sarah Chilenski, PhD, Pennsylvania State University, and Keryn Pasch, PhD, University of Texas at Austin
Panelists: David Wyrick, PhD, University of North Carolina-Greensboro, Kimberly Mallett, PhD, Pennsylvania State University, Kerry Green, PhD, University of Maryland, Elizabeth Stuart, PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Phillip Graham, PhD, RTI International.
The purpose of the session will be to discuss how to balance the demands of an early career work load and also have time for life outside of work. This session will have a mix of panel members from different settings, approximately 7-10 years post completion of their PhD. Panel members will include those with children and those without, single and those with partners, as well as a mix of men and women. The session will be structured as a roundtable, and it will begin with asking panel members specific questions about how they have strived to achieve and maintain work-life balance, as well as describing possible trajectories of work-life balance through the early career stage. It will then be opened up for a question and answer session and discussion among all attendees and presenters.

7:45 pm - 9:15 pm

(2-048) ECPN SOCIAL AND COMMITTEE MEETING, Regency B
Chair: Keryn Pasch, PhD, University of Texas at Austin
Join friends and colleagues for networking, an informal committee meeting and social gathering (light refreshments).

Thursday, May 31, 2012, 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

(3-035) ECPN SESSION II, Columbia C
OBTAINING FOUNDATION FUNDING: SURVIVING IN A TIGHT FUNDING CLIMATE
Co-chairs: Jessica Duncan Cance, PhD, University of Texas at Austin and Sarah Lindstrom Johnson, PhD, Johns Hopkins University

In this time of economic uncertainty identifying other sources of funding for research is critically important, especially for early career professionals looking for their first funding. This session will highlight foundations that are interested in both funding prevention work and supporting early career scientists. During the session attendees will become familiar with the many foundations that exist whose missions are relevant to prevention science research. Also discussed will be how foundations’ priorities, processes, and funding practices differ from those of the federal government. Speakers include a representative from The Foundation Center, a leading resource for information on philanthropy and grant funding, the William T. Grant Foundation and the Anne E. Casey Foundation. Time will be allowed for attendees to solicit advice from the panelists.