



## **Society for Prevention Research**

### ***Prevention Scientists Promoting Global Health: Emerging Visions for Today and Tomorrow***

**Hyatt Regency Washington, Washington, D.C.**

**Pre-conference Workshops May 31, 2011**

**May 31– June 3, 2011**

The Program Committee of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR) invites international and U.S. submissions for presentations within all content areas of public health, education, human services, criminal justice, and medical science as related to prevention of physical, emotional, and behavioral problems, health promotion and well-being. SPR includes members and participants from varied disciplines and areas of research, policy making, and implementation. Translational research (i.e., adapting interventions to the real world) is emphasized. The object of prevention and health promotion includes enhancement of health-related and positive behaviors and the reduction of unhealthy and negative behaviors. Prevention topics across the age span are welcome. Specific disease and physical health topics that are encouraged for submission and that are addressed by prevention include but are not limited to: cancer, diabetes mellitus, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and unintended pregnancy. Behavioral and mental health issues include but are not limited to: family conflict, violence prevention, delinquency, crime, academic failure, school drop out, unemployment, worker productivity, occupation safety, auto crashes, unintended injury, poverty, mental health problems and disorders, including substance use, abuse and addiction (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, prescription and street drugs). System and policy-related issues include but are not limited to: managed care, reduction of health disparities, policy-based interventions, international prevention strategies, welfare, maternal health, infant and child health, and global warming impact on health.

### **Conference Themes**

In recognition of increasing international interest in prevention research, the 2011 conference theme emphasizes prevention science from a global health perspective with the intent of fostering worldwide rapid development and/or diffusion of policies, strategies, and programs that have a scientific basis. Global health, and the science of prevention dedicated to promoting global health, are increasingly recognized as important to both individual nations and to the health of people worldwide. The diversity of experiences and ideas around the world offer opportunities for advancing the field of prevention science. The 2011 SPR conference offers an exciting opportunity to bring together prevention scientists and experts from around the world and to examine the ways in which our findings reveal universal features as well as distinct cultural and country differences. We look forward to creating a dynamic and diversified program that reflects the ideas, findings, and experience of the worldwide community in the field of prevention science. This conference provides an opportunity to bring together the most current and advanced thinking about prevention from various national and cultural perspectives.

Conference attendees are encouraged to submit to one of our four special themes listed below or the standing general conference themes for the SPR conference.

**Identifying emerging and existing prevention issues affecting global health.** Scientific knowledge relevant to emerging global health problems is of special interest for this theme and conference submissions are encouraged from any topic that is relevant to public health. Submissions should demonstrate how the international focus is addressed or is relevant for this theme.

**Policies, Strategies, and Programs for Promoting Global Health.** This theme will address policies, strategies, and or programs that have been tested for promoting global health in more than one country, including comparative tests involving more than one country. Of particular interest are those models that are innovative and that illuminate integrated progress among scientists, policy makers, and practitioners across different countries. These policy strategies and models are expected to illustrate the diversity of cultural contexts and communities while recognizing inherent strengths that may be shared across nations.

**Building international collaborative partnerships for prevention-researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.** International collaborations provide opportunities for sharing knowledge and testing of policies, strategies and programs in different nations. These collaborations may emerge as efforts among small groups or as larger organizational groups linked to share and build scientific knowledge in the prevention field. An inherent component of these international collaborations is to foster cross-fertilization of ideas, countries and disciplines. Building these collaborations requires a respect for cultural and national differences, a willingness to appreciate how universal features may emerge, and recognition that cultural differences must be respected. Within this theme, the planning committee is looking to highlight some of the efforts and synergistic effects of moving prevention research forward as a result of these collaborations.

**Cross-national comparative research findings in prevention science.** Cultural differences and similarities that are reflected in comparative studies across nations are important for understanding the universal features of promoting global health. In addition, countries reflect intrinsic differences that need to be honored for effective prevention policies, strategies, and programs. Presentations that provide this comparative look across countries are encouraged under this special theme.

**The Society is pleased to announce that for the 4<sup>th</sup> year the NIDA International Poster Session will be held at the SPR Annual Meeting, which will further build on the 2011 global theme.**

**NIDA International SPR Poster Session.** The National Institute on Drug Abuse is sponsoring an international poster session. Posters will highlight prevention and prevention-related research completed in international settings by international, domestic and cross-nation teams of researchers. A separate call for submissions to this international poster session will be issued.

#### **General Conference Themes: Advances across the Stages of the Prevention Research Cycle**

**Epidemiology.** Basic behavioral science and epidemiology remain the basis of strong intervention and prevention programs. Submissions focused on describing risk factors within specific populations, especially those with a developmental and/or lifespan approach would be consistent with this theme.

**Etiology.** Etiological and basic science research efforts generate knowledge that contributes to the development of future preventive efforts. Submissions examining biological and psychosocial factors in

the development of risk, problems and healthy development could be submitted under this theme.

**Efficacy Trials.** Efficacy trials demonstrate the “proof of concept” with a specified population under conditions of high quality assurance and strong research designs (typically randomized controlled designs). Submissions reporting findings from efficacy trials are welcome and those that combine efficacy trial research with one of the special conference theme are particularly encouraged.

**Effectiveness Trials.** Effectiveness trials involve replicating an efficacious intervention under real world conditions in community settings.

**Implementation Science.** Dissemination, implementation, and operations research can help to bridge the gap between clinical research and everyday practice through a dynamic, transactional process between the public health community and researchers. Studies should advance the scientific understanding of dissemination strategies, adoption of interventions, intervention fidelity and adaptation, effectiveness, and sustainability of interventions; outcomes are encouraged at the individual, provider, organizational, and system level. Operations research can inform how best to effectively and cost-effectively overcome the real-world challenges of implementation.

**Innovative Methods and Statistics.** “Cutting edge” studies and methodological analyses that address measurement, statistical and design challenges to prevention science, as well as the benefits offered by various innovative statistical methods are invited. Submissions describing strategies that have been designed or used to help overcome some of these unique challenges to prevention science are especially encouraged (i.e., advances in methods and statistics for neuroimaging and genetics).

**In addition to the themes described above, SPR is building upon the special theme System Science Perspectives which was first introduced for the 2010 annual meeting.**

**System Science Perspectives.** Submissions that explore the use of systems science approaches (e.g., computational modeling and simulation, network analysis, engineering control methods) to address prevention at the micro- or macro-levels of analyses are encouraged. System science involves taking into account the big picture in all its complexity (i.e., a system view) while also taking into account the important relationships between components of a system and changes in the system over time. This topic is of particular relevance for prevention science because translational efforts in prevention are squarely aimed at maximizing the population impacts of prevention intervention-related scientific discoveries while also incorporating knowledge from the basic neurobiological sciences for the possibility of designing more finely targeted interventions.

### **Pre-conference Workshops May 31, 2011**

All abstracts will be submitted on-line at [www.preventionresearch.org](http://www.preventionresearch.org).  
Please contact Jennifer Lewis for questions at 703-934-4850, ext. 213 or  
[jenniferlewis@preventionresearch.org](mailto:jenniferlewis@preventionresearch.org)

**The abstract site will open Wednesday, September 8, 2010.  
The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, October 27, 2010.**

**Society for Prevention Research**  
11240 Waples Mill Road, Ste 200, Fairfax, VA 22030  
703-934-4850, 703-359-7562 fax  
[jenniferlewis@preventionresearch.org](mailto:jenniferlewis@preventionresearch.org), [www.preventionresearch.org](http://www.preventionresearch.org)