

Society for Prevention Research  
Call for Team Applications  
Eleventh Annual *Sloboda and Bukoski SPR Cup*

Significant advances in prevention science are often due to a team of individuals working closely together across many years. In recognition of the importance of the collaborative process to the field, the Society for Prevention Research (SPR) will sponsor a friendly competition amongst teams of early career researchers for the honor of bringing home the *Sloboda and Bukoski SPR Cup* for the 2016-2017 academic year. The *Cup* is named for two of the founders and long time active members of SPR, Dr. Zili Sloboda and Dr. William Bukoski. The competition is an opportunity for a unique experience: several independent teams of scientists, each working with the same data set, problem solve together for a brief period of time and then jointly present the results of their work to each other and to a panel of senior prevention scientists and the SPR membership.

*Competition*

The competition will take place on May 31 through June 3, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency in San Francisco. Two months before the meeting, each team will receive the competition data set. Leading up to the meeting, each team will conduct a literature review, generate hypotheses, conduct analyses, and thoroughly prepare for a 10-minute multimedia symposium talk on their results. Teams will present their results during a highlighted, invited symposium at the SPR annual meeting. A panel of senior prevention scientist judges and the audience at the symposium will rate the quality of the research work and of the presentation. The highest scoring team will be recognized and awarded the 2016 *SPR Cup* during the SPR Awards Ceremony.

*Teams*

Teams are limited to five members. Each team should include participants with knowledge and practical experience in research methodology, data analysis, and conference presentation. Eligible team members are individuals who are either (1) currently enrolled in a masters or doctoral training program, or (2) have received their terminal graduate degree within the last 5 years and have not yet been a principal investigator on a research grant from a federal agency or private foundation.

*Data Set*

A public data set from the University of Michigan's Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) will be released to teams on March 31, 2016. The data set and *SPR Cup* theme will follow the 2016 conference theme: "Using Prevention Science to Promote Health Equity and Improve Well-being".

*Mentors*

Teams are invited to engage mentors from multiple disciplines to consult with them as they work. If teams so desire, an experienced *SPR Cup* prevention science mentor also will be assigned to advise a team and will be available for consultation via phone or email on an as needed basis. Mentors may advise, but may not conduct work for their team. All mentors must be acknowledged during the presentation.

### *Criteria*

Presentations will be judged on six criteria -- Innovation of Project, Depth and Usefulness of Statistical Analyses, Ability to Draw Meaningful Conclusions from the Data, Significance of the Project to Prevention Science, Quality of Verbal Presentation, Quality of Visual Presentation – as well as on Overall Impression.

### *Publication*

All participating teams will be encouraged to refine their analyses after the meeting and to generate publishable products. The highest scoring team may be invited to submit a manuscript to be considered for publication in SPR's flagship journal *Prevention Science*. If so, the manuscript will undergo the regular peer review process.

### *Application Process*

To apply, send an email to the SPR Cup Co-Chairs ([leve@uoregon.edu](mailto:leve@uoregon.edu) and [Marie-Hélène veronneau.marie-helene@uqam.ca](mailto:Marie-Hélène.veronneau.marie-helene@uqam.ca)) with the subject line "2016 *SPR Cup* Submission". Within the email, for each team member, please include the name, highest academic degree, current position, primary institutional affiliation, a brief summary of research skills and expertise, email address, and mailing address. Please list a team name and designate a team captain and a team primary mentor (or request assistance in finding one). A receipt of submission will be sent to the team captain.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Pacific time on February 15, 2016. Accepted teams will be informed by email on or before March 1, 2016. A maximum of five teams will be accepted this year. Teams will be accepted in the order of receipt of applications from eligible teams (i.e., all team members must qualify to participate).

Questions are welcome. Please contact:

Leslie Leve, Ph.D., and Marie-Hélène Véronneau, Ph.D.

Co-Chairs, 2016 *Sloboda and Bukoski SPR Cup*