

# San Diego Meeting to Focus on "Connecting Scientific Communities"

**Jessica Ancker**  
Chair, 2002 Program Committee

Interdisciplinary and international communication in the sciences will be the focus of the 45th annual CSE meeting in San Diego, and our theme will be "Connecting Scientific Communities".

A number of sessions will focus on international themes. We are organizing a session with journals that publish simultaneously in English and in other languages, and we plan a separate session on the concerns of non-English-language journals. Another session will address finding translating services, working with translators, and recognizing and respecting cultural differences.

Rethinking journal goals in light of evidence-based medicine will be the topic of an address by New York physician Peter Wyer. An editor of *Annals of Emergency Medicine* and a professor at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Wyer will discuss how evidence-based medicine, with its emphasis on critical appraisal and immediate practicality of medical research, has changed what clinicians need and want from biomedical journals. To accommodate the changes, Wyer believes, journals should consider making a number of changes both in their publications and behind the scenes. One possibility is more educational articles to educate readers in critical appraisal skills and in applying research to clinical decision-making.

As usual, we are planning to offer a variety of activities to appeal to CSE's many constituencies. Manuscript edit-



**San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
Photo by Brett Shoaf

ing will be discussed by a panel that will include, among others, Elliott Churchill, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Edward Huth, former editor of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*; and Della J Mundy, of the Kaiser Foundation Research Institute. They will present the available data on the measurable effects of author's editing, such as impact on publication speed and publication rates.

At this year's meeting we will also offer a new approach to publication and research ethics. After participating in a panel discussion on publication ethics, Mary Scheetz, of the Office of Research Integrity, and CSE member Susan Eastwood, of the University of California, San Francisco, will invite CSE members to join a new network of so-called

editors' councils. They point out that ethical standards that are well accepted within CSE might be less well known in the rest of the scientific world. The editors' councils are intended to bring educational programs to inexperienced journal editors, associate editors, editorial boards, and peer reviewers in their own universities and research centers. We will set aside meeting time for CSE members, particularly journal editors, who would like to join and help to promote responsible conduct of research in their home institutions.

The program committee is continuing to work on the program and will bring you more updates as we get closer to the meeting time, which is 4-7 May 2002.