

Four Short Courses to Precede Annual Meeting

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The 2008 CSE meeting will take place at the Hyatt Hotel in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on 16-20 May. Why not start the next 50 years of CSE by attending one of the short courses?

The CSE short courses, which are offered immediately before the annual meeting, present valuable information about topics relevant to a specific part of scientific publishing. Four short courses will be offered again this year. The 2-day Short Course for Journal Editors will take place on Friday and Saturday, 16-17 May. The Short Course on Publication Management, the Short Course for Manuscript Editors, and the Short Course on Statistics for Editors will all be held on Saturday, 17 May. Each course is led by experienced faculty and is updated each year to address current issues and problems.

The 2-day Short Course for Journal

Editors is designed as an introduction for newly appointed editors and a refresher for experienced colleagues, providing a comprehensive survey of the roles and responsibilities of editors of scientific journals. The course coordinator is Iain E P Taylor, assistant editor-in-chief of *National Research Council of Canada Research Journals*. There will be formal presentations on the fundamentals of editing, the editorial board, journal management, publishing ethics, and business practices.

Patty Baskin, managing editor of *Neurology*, will be serving as coordinator of the 1-day Short Course on Publication Management. The course is designed to address the management challenges that managing editors and publication managers face every day. The course will include lectures, practice exercises, practical take-home materials, and ample time for discussion.

The 1-day Short Course for Manuscript Editors, led by Margaret Perkins, director of manuscript editing for the *New England*

Journal of Medicine, is designed both for novices and for experienced editors who need to stay current in the skills required for mechanical and substantive editing of scientific materials for publication. The course will include a faculty panel on text editing, grammar, usage, and jargon, so participants will have the opportunity to hear a variety of views on issues facing manuscript editors across the sciences.

The 1-day Short Course on Statistics for Editors is being organized by Jessica Ancker, a writer and statistician. Topics will include basic descriptive statistics, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing and *P* values, and measures of association, such as relative risks and odds ratios. Faculty will give demonstrations and provide examples from scientific publications and the lay press. Group exercises will allow attendees to practice interpreting, presenting, and editing statistical information.

For information on registering for the short courses, please see www.CouncilScienceEditors.org.