

January 1, 2009

Dear Colleague,

2008 was a very good year for the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research. Our annual meeting was one of the best ever. Lake Louise was a great location, and the program was outstanding. One of the highlights was a fascinating talk by our Neil Miller awardee, Dr. Erica Sloan, on her innovative research on sympathetic innervation of lymph nodes. I would like to thank our immediate Past President, Ron Glaser, for organizing a very stimulating and enjoyable conference.

The ABMR Handbook of Behavioral Medicine Research also got off the ground in 2008. Andrew Steptoe, one of our most renowned members, agreed to serve as the Editor-in-Chief, and he has assembled a very impressive cadre of authors and associate editors. The Handbook is scheduled for completion in mid-2009 and will be published by Springer, Inc.

The Lake Louise conference is going to be a hard act to follow, but our 2009 annual meeting is one that you will not want to miss. It will be held at the Keystone Resort and Conference Center in Keystone, Colorado, June 17-20, 2009. Keystone is a beautiful resort in the Rocky Mountains, only 90 minutes by car or shuttle from Denver International Airport. The accommodations are very nice but also very affordable, the conference facilities are excellent, and the recreational opportunities are almost limitless. Keystone is a family-friendly resort, so please consider bringing your family.

The theme of the 2009 annual meeting is "The Significance of Behavioral Medicine Research." At a time when research funds are scarce, we need an opportunity to reflect on the broader significance and impact of our work. The program will highlight areas of biobehavioral research that are of interest not only to specialists in behavioral medicine, but to other researchers, clinicians, and policymakers as well.

There will be three invited talks this year. Greg Miller will deliver the keynote address on "Behavioral Epigenetics in Human Health and Disease," Allan Jaffe will speak on "Recent Advances in Cardiovascular Imaging and Biomarkers: Implications for Biobehavioral Research," and Steven Cole will give a talk on "Biobehavioral Genomics in Cancer." There will also be symposia on:

- Cancer
- Heart Disease
- Diabetes, Obesity, and the Metabolic Syndrome
- The ABMR Handbook of Behavioral Medicine Research
- Stress and Cardiovascular Disease
- Psychoneuroimmunology
- Biobehavioral Health Research Priorities for Veterans and Military Personnel
- Children's Health and Early Influences on Adult Health
- Clinical Trials and Evidence-Based Behavioral Medicine

In addition, there will be several optional “lunch and discussion sessions”, and a new, pre-conference “Research Camp” program for junior faculty and postdoctoral fellows. As always, the annual meeting will provide an opportunity for us to welcome our newest members and to hear from the winner of the Neil Miller Young Investigator award.

Your participation in our annual meeting is essential for the success and vitality of ABMR. **Please register for the conference and reserve your accommodations as soon as possible.** You will receive the preferred room rate if you make your reservation by May 15, but please don't wait. We have to fill our room block by **March 1**.

To register for the conference online and pay by credit card, please go to our website, www.academyofbmr.org/meeting.htm. To register by mail and pay by check, please use the attached conference registration form. Information about hotel reservations, shuttle bus service from Denver International Airport, and the pre-conference Research Camp is also attached.

I look forward to seeing you at Keystone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. E. Freedland', with a stylized, flowing script.

Kenneth E. Freedland, PhD, FABMR
President