From the President’s Desk

The end of summer is upon us and EPIC is swinging into action. Here’s a summary for September, with details available in the Events calendar on our website. On September 7 we kick off our successful weekly yoga series led by Professor Emerita Ginny Papaioannou. We’ve switched to Thursday mornings (with a few exceptions). Thanks to Lalla Grimes for organizing all the details that keep the yoga program running smoothly. September 12 is our annual membership meeting. Please RSVP and come vote for officers, give us your input, and share a brunch buffet. On September 26 we are going to face these grim times, with its catastrophic events of Biblical proportions, by hosting a luncheon to honor Columbia’s new retirees. Professor Emeritus (Philosophy) Bernard Berofsky will assume his Sebastian persona and dazzle us with his famed magic show.

Just in case you haven’t found enough things to be aggravated about recently, here’s something that really roils me. I boil over when some pundit comments on a controversial presidential action by saying something like, “Well, he’s 71-year old man …” or “He’s over 70, with fixed views.” What does age have to do with Trump’s actions, which seem to me to have been pretty consistent over the years? Politics aside, please let’s not exacerbate ‘agism’ along with all the other prejudices that are bubbling up through the cracks in our social veneer. Recently The Economist ran an excellent special report on aging that deserves your careful read. Many adjustments to social systems and perceptions are drastically needed as the world demography transforms and mindless, baseless stereotypes about aging must be confronted if positive change is to occur. You can read the report, Getting to Grip with Longevity,” here. (You’ll need your Columbia UNI and password to read the report.)

I hope that you take the opportunity to enjoy yourself in the excellent company of fellow emeriti at our upcoming events. If you have ideas for future events, do let us know.

Jeanne Mager Stellman, President, EPIC
Professor Emerita & Special Lecturer
Mailman School of Public Health

Annual Meeting is Sept. 12

Please join us for the EPIC annual meeting September 12, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Presidential Room 1 at Faculty House.

Continental breakfast will be provided. Election of EPIC officers and steering committee members will take place. Agenda and slate of nominees will be emailed in advance to members.

RSVP
New Member Reception Sept. 26

Welcome newly retired faculty to EPIC at a lunch buffet Tuesday, September 26. Entertainment provided by Professor Bernard Berofsky, a.k.a. Sebastian.

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Faculty House
Garden Room 2

RSVP

EPIC Yoga Resumes Sept. 7

Yoga for EPIC members is led by Virginia Papaioannou, Professor Emerita of Genetics and Development, and a registered teacher with the Yoga Alliance Registry. The class will meet 10 to 11 a.m. in Faculty House during the fall semester. Please see our calendar events for location details. Each one-hour class is offered for mixed levels, but designed for beginners to intermediate yogis. Classes practice breathing techniques and basic yoga poses, concentrating on alignment, balance, and flexibility. More details available on the EPIC website and by email from Lalla Grimes.

RSVP

First Thursday Graduate Scholar Talks Begin October 5

EPIC’s first First Thursday Graduate Scholar Talk of the year will be presented by Kunal S. Sachdeva, Ph.D. candidate in Columbia Business School, on the subject “Linking the Wealth and Longevity Gap: Evidence from the Life Settlement Market”

More information about First Thursday Graduate Scholar Talks and the full schedule of Fall 2017 talks is available on our website.

12:15 - 2:00 p.m.
Ward H. Dennis Room
602 Lewishohn Hall
Guests welcome!

Please click here for map

Complimentary lunch provided