The annual Early Career Course, cosponsored by the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) and the American Society of Neurorehabilitation (ASNR), will begin with a reception on the evening of October 18, 2010, followed by a full-day workshop on October 19, 2010. This course will take place just prior to the annual ACRM-ASNR joint educational conference, which runs October 20–23, 2010, in Montreal, Canada.

This year’s Early Career Course will focus on effective communication skills, which are critical for academic success. The course is designed to provide not only brief lectures but also ample opportunity for individualized breakout sessions. The workshop will focus on written communications (e.g., research papers and grants), oral presentations (e.g., research talks and lectures), and poster interactions. These experiences will highlight keys to effective communication with specific pointers on organization, presentation, and engagement. The breakout sessions will give you special opportunities to work through your own needs, goals, and current issues.

In addition, we will again be offering the Mentor-Matching Program, where attendees will be matched with senior rehabilitation scientists who share similar interests. Mentors and attendees will have several opportunities to interact and network throughout the course and during the broader ACRM-ASNR conference. Specifically, mentors will lead breakout sessions, attend a conference session with mentees, and network during the welcome reception.

Because this course will be tailored to the needs of participants and encourages participation, early registration is encouraged! After registration, information will be solicited from attendees and more information will be provided about collaborative opportunities. Please note that attendees need not participate in the mentoring program to attend the course, but this is highly encouraged to make the most of the experience.

Based on feedback from previous courses, this year’s course will also include a session highlighting personal stories from fellow attendees. So if you have an experience or other teachable moment that you would like to share publicly—particularly involving our theme of communication (e.g., publication stories, presentation experiences)—then please send us a note to the email below. We are looking to construct a panel of a half-dozen representative stories.

On the evening of October 18, 2010, the Early Career Course Committee will host a welcome reception for course attendees to meet each other, mentors, and committee members. The course will begin on October 19, 2010, at 8:30 AM.

If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee at PMR-Early-Careers@umich.edu. We look forward to seeing you in Montreal!

For ACRM and ASNR conference registrants there is NO extra cost to attend the Early Career Course and to participate in the Mentoring Program. You can register by going to either www.acrm.org or www.asnr.com.