Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that a satellite symposium of the International Committee for Contraception Research (ICCR) of the Population Council will take place on October 20, 2009 at the Rockefeller University in New York, NY in honor of Dr. C. Wayne Bardin. We would like to invite you to attend the meeting as you are a friend or previous fellow of Wayne and we will celebrate his career achievements in the field of reproductive biology and contraceptive technology in particular during the years when he chaired the ICCR and directed its biomedical research as a Vice President of the Population Council.

The ICCR was created in 1970 by the Population Council with a vision to be a leader in male and female contraceptive development bringing novel ideas and new concepts to clinical development, establishing their place within the broader aspects of reproductive and sexual health, and assisting in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). Dr. Wayne Bardin chaired this prestigious Committee from 1978 to 1996 and during his tenure at the Population Council as Vice President and Director of the Center for Biomedical research, he was able to get FDA approval for Norplant, Jadelle, and mifepristone, key technologies used now by millions of women worldwide.

The symposium will review the status of currently available contraceptive methods and ongoing research in contraception for future options for men and women. Topics include basic research and clinical development in the field of contraceptive technology, ongoing and future research with 16 lectures delivered by leaders in this field. The papers will be published as a special issue of the Journal Contraception. Thus in this comprehensive meeting, recent progress in the field as well as future opportunities will be reviewed. We anticipate that the audience will include the scientists and research staff of the Reproductive Health Program at the Population Council, previous fellows from the Center for Biomedical Research who were mentored by Dr. Wayne Bardin, Family Planning Program directors in several US institutes, as well as past and current fellows in the specialty of Family Planning.
All the invited speakers have already agreed to participate and will present a review on the different topics addressed on the attached program as well as their latest findings.

We are writing to extend to you an invitation for attendance to this symposium. We will reimburse the travel expenses of the speakers and chairpersons. You will be invited to the celebration cocktail party on the evening of the 20th of October. We do hope that you will be able to find external support for your travel and will be able to participate.

We would be grateful if you could send a short memo with a picture about a memory related to your collaboration and friendship with Wayne. We intend to prepare a book for Wayne to celebrate this event.

Please RSVP to Nick Gontarz, Program Coordinator, ngontarz@popcouncil.org, (212)327-7112

We look forward to welcoming you to New York next October.

Yours very sincerely,

Regine Sitruk-Ware and Daniel Mishell, Jr