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# SSR 2005

## SOCIETY *for the* STUDY of REPRODUCTION

Thirty-Eighth Annual Meeting, July 24–27, 2005

Quebec City Convention Center, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

*Hosted by the Centre de recherche en biologie de la reproduction,  
Laval University, Ste-Foy, Quebec, Canada*

Scientific Program

Lodging, Travel Information, Social Events

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### OVERVIEW

The 38th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction will be held July 24–27, 2005, at the Quebec City Convention Center, in the heart of this beautiful old-world city vibrant with music, art, and culture. The Convention Center is across from the Parliament Building and just steps from the fortifications. It is linked by underground walkways to a complex that includes two major hotels, indoor parking, and a shopping center.

### REGISTRATION

#### Registration Fees

Payment of registration fees permits attendance at all scientific sessions, except the Techniques in Reproductive Biology Workshop, for which separate registration is required (Faculty, US \$100; Trainee, US \$50). Registration fees are due with registration and cover the Welcome Reception on Sunday evening, morning and afternoon refreshment breaks, and a meeting portfolio. Registration fees are discounted for SSR members and for early payment. Each trainee (member and nonmember) registrant must obtain his/her mentor's signature on the registration form to qualify for the trainee/student rate. If you have a question about SSR membership or about the status of your membership in SSR, please contact the Business Office (tel: 608-256-2777; fax: 608-256-4610; email: <[ssr5@ssr.org](mailto:ssr5@ssr.org)>).

Prepayment of registration is required; payment options are (1) check in US dollars drawn on a US bank; (2) VISA, MasterCard, or American Express; (3) travelers' checks or international money order in **US dollars**; (4) Bank Transfer (for transfer information, please contact [ssr@ssr.org](mailto:ssr@ssr.org); please note that an additional US \$25 is applied to all bank transfers). Purchase orders are not accepted.

| <b>Registration Category</b> | <b>Through<br/>June 10</b> | <b>After<br/>June 10</b> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>SSR Members</i>           |                            |                          |
| Regular and Associate        | \$325.00                   | \$400.00                 |
| Trainee                      | \$225.00                   | \$300.00                 |
| <i>Nonmember</i>             | \$475.00                   | \$550.00                 |
| <i>Nonmember Student</i>     | \$325.00                   | \$400.00                 |

#### Confirmation and Receipts

Preregistration will be confirmed by email for those registrants who provide an email address. Registration packets will be distributed at the SSR's Registration Desk at the meeting. The registration packet will contain a receipt of payment, name badge, and tickets for special purchases.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

Meeting registration will be refunded in full only for cancellations received in writing on or before July 8, 2005. Cancellations received after July 8 and before July 23 will be subject to a US \$75.00 service charge. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received on or after July 23, 2005. Refund checks will be issued four weeks after the meeting. The SSR registration desk will be open during the following hours:

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Saturday, July 23  | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Foyer 4, Quebec City Convention Center  |
| Sunday, July 24    | 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Foyer 4, Quebec City Convention Center  |
| Monday, July 25    | 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Foyer 4, Quebec City Convention Center  |
| Tuesday, July 26   | 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Foyer 4, Quebec City Convention Center  |
| Wednesday, July 27 | 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Foyer 4, Quebec City Convention Center |

## ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS

**ACCME.** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ACCME) and the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR). The ASRM is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**AMA.** The American Society for Reproductive Medicine designates the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction for a maximum of 24 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

**AMA International.** The American Medical Association has determined that physicians not licensed in the U.S. who participate in this CME activity are eligible for AMA PRA category 1 credit.

**ACOG.** The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has assigned 24 cognate credits to this program.

## SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

### Keynote Address

The Keynote Address, "The Aftermath from Fetal-Maternal Cell Traffic of Pregnancy," will be delivered by **J. Lee Nelson, M.D.** (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Washington), on Sunday afternoon, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., in Room 2000BC of the Quebec City Convention Center, immediately following the Opening Ceremony and Awards Presentations.

### President's Symposium

The President's Symposium, "Immune Cells in Reproduction: A New Frontier," will take place in Room 2000BC of the Quebec City Convention Center on Monday afternoon, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. **Adrian Erlebacher, M.D., Ph.D.** (Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts), will speak on "Immune Regulation of Ovarian Function in Early Pregnancy," and Mark Hedger, Ph.D. (Monash Medical Center, Clayton, VIC, Australia), will discuss "Testicular Leukocytes and Cytokines: Inflammation and Immunoregulation in an Immune Privileged Tissue." (*Partial support of the President's Symposium provided by Ferring, Inc.*)

### Plenary Lectures

On Monday morning, at 8:00 a.m., in Room 2000BC of the Quebec City Convention Center, **Keith Latham, Ph.D.** (Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), will speak on "Nuclear-Cytoplasmic 'Tug-of-War' in Cloning: Outcomes and Handicaps." On Tuesday morning, in a special plenary session, **Jonathan L. Tilly, Ph.D.** (Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts), and **David Albertini, Ph.D.** (University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas), will deliver *Point-Counterpoint* talks. Dr. Tilly will speak on "Origin and Function of Mammalian Female Germline Stem Cells," and Dr. Albertini will present "Mining Mammalian Ovaries for Evidence of Neo-Oogenesis: Past, Present, and Future Perspectives." On Wednesday morning, **P. Michael Conn, Ph.D.** (Oregon Health Sciences University, Beaverton, Oregon), will speak on "Protein Folding: Implications for Reproductive Diseases."

### Minisymposia

Five concurrent minisymposia will be held in meeting rooms on Level 2 of the Quebec City Convention Center on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings. Each minisymposium focuses on a topic or area of emerging interest.

### **Techniques in Reproductive Biology Workshop: Methods of Whole-Animal and Whole-Cell Imaging**

The 17th Techniques in Reproductive Biology Workshop (organized by the SSR Education Committee) will be held in Room 206 of the Quebec City Convention Center, from 7:30–11:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 24. A continental breakfast will be served for workshop attendees from 7:30–8:00 a.m. in Room 206. The buffet luncheon will be served in the Panorama Room of the Quebec Hilton from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Breakfast, refreshments, and lunch are included in the registration fee of US \$100 (\$125 after June 10) for faculty, and \$50 (\$75 after June 10) for students. Register for the workshop on the preregistration form for the Annual Meeting. This year's workshop, chaired by **David H. Townson, Ph.D.** (University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire) features the following speakers: **Stephen Michnick, Ph.D.** (University of Montreal, Montreal, QC, Canada), "Visualization of Network Dynamics in Living Cells"; **Robert Balaban, Ph.D.** (National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland), "Use of Multiphoton Confocal Microscopy to Image Intracellular Events In Vivo"; and **Victoria Centonze Frohlich, Ph.D.** (University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas), "Multiphoton Confocal Microscopy and Its Application in the Study of Protein: Protein Interaction In Vivo."

### **Trainee Affairs Forum: Writing Winning Grants**

The Trainee Affairs Forum will be held on Tuesday, July 23, from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m., in Room 206A of the Quebec City Convention Center. The speaker at this year's forum is **Mark Mirando, Ph.D.** (United States Department of Agriculture-National Research Initiatives, Washington, DC). The forum is open to all attendees of the annual meeting. **Please purchase a box lunch on your preregistration form and plan to attend the forum. Pre-purchased box lunches may be picked up in the CCQ 200ABC and taken into the forum.** *The Trainee Affairs Forum is supported by a career development grant from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund.*

### **Minority Affairs Symposium**

On Monday evening, July 25, from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m., **Winston A. Anderson, Ph.D.** (Professor, Department of Biology, Howard University, Washington, D.C.) will discuss career development with all interested attendees of the annual meeting. Professor Anderson's symposium topic will be "Mentee to Colleague: Paths to a Research Career." Prior to the symposium, the Minority Affairs Committee invites underrepresented minority trainees and faculty to an informal buffet dinner. The dinner will begin with a round of introductions, followed by informal remarks from Professor Anderson to fuel discussion during dinner. *Funding for this event and for travel grants to underrepresented trainees and junior faculty to attend the SSR Annual Meeting provided by a career development grant from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund.*

### **Platform Sessions**

Seven simultaneous platform presentation sessions will be held on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday afternoons on Level 2 of the Quebec City Convention Center. Each session room will be equipped with a digital data projector for PowerPoint presentations. No other presentation formats (e.g., slides, overheads) will be accommodated.

All sessions will have Master PCs running **PowerPoint 2003** in Windows XP. Individual Laptops will not be connected to the projectors. Instead, all presentations must **be deposited by July 17th** on the following Web site: <http://www.nilsonlab.wsu.edu/SSR>.

This site will contain instructions for accessing folders for each platform, minisymposium, and other featured sessions. It is important that you transfer your presentation to the correct folder. A copy of the event calendar will be placed in the site to help you confirm the folder for your session. While the use of the Web submission is platform independent, Mac users will have to follow special instructions for accessing the FTP function; these instructions will be available as a PDF on the site.

To ensure efficient delivery of PowerPoint Presentations, **all must be saved**, prior to deposit on the Web site, as a **PowerPoint Show (\*.pps)**. This can be accomplished regardless of the version of PowerPoint used to generate the initial \*.ppt file. Begin by selecting the "Save As" function under the "File" menu. Then select the "Save As Type" drop down menu and click on "PowerPoint Show (\*.pps)."

To avoid confusion, name your saved presentation with the following format:

PRESENTER LAST NAME\_SESSION NUMBER\_ABSTRACT NUMBER.pps

Upon arrival, all speakers should review their presentations in the **Slide Preview Room** (CCQ 203) located on Level 2 of the Quebec City Convention Center. This room will be staffed by trained personnel available for

assistance should technical difficulties arise. Speakers may modify their presentations up to 24 hours prior to the scheduled session.

Depositing talks on the Web site on or before July 17th will allow SSR staff to pre-flight all presentations. Presentations delivered after that time, either on the site or through a technician in the Slide Preview Room, cannot be pre-tested and therefore cannot be assessed for technical flaws. **Thus, it is strongly recommended that presentations be submitted on or before July 17th, especially those from Mac users since all master computers will be running Windows XP.**

**Special instructions regarding fonts:** A presentation created on a computer that uses one set of fonts may not look the same on another computer that has different fonts. To solve this problem, save the fonts or embed them in the presentation:

- On the File menu, click 'Save As'
- Click 'Tools', and then click 'Embed TrueType Fonts' (in Word, click 'Tools,' then 'Save Options,' then click 'Embed TrueType Fonts')

You can embed any TrueType font that comes with Windows. Other TrueType fonts can be embedded only if they have no license restrictions. If a font cannot be embedded (for example, it is not marked as being editable or installable) a message will appear that explains why. Note that saving a presentation with embedded fonts will increase the file size of your presentation.

Although fonts can be embedded, we recommend using only fonts that come with and are supported by Windows XP to ensure that slides retain their original look.

**Presentation tips:** Each screen should have a single, clear purpose, tell a unified story, and be understood readily. Each should have a simple, uncluttered format and be free of nonessential information.

To ensure legibility from the back of a large room, the height of the smallest figure should be not less than 5% of the height of the projected image. Another good rule is that the projected image should be legible when viewed from a distance of 10.5 times its width. Use modern bold type and double spacing. Use a dark-colored background and light-colored type. Avoid using red and green together; colorblind people cannot distinguish between the two. Avoid using 3-dimensional bar charts unless 3-dimensional information is being presented.

The best 10-minute talks use an average of six to seven screens. Use duplicates or hyperlinks if an image is referred to more than once. A timed rehearsal is recommended.

PowerPoint presentations may be previewed in the **Slide Preview Room** (CCQ 203) located on Level 2 of the Quebec City Convention Center from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, July 23; from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday, July 24; from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday, July 25; from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 26; and from 7:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 27.

## **Poster Sessions**

Poster sessions will be held in Exhibit Hall 200ABC of the Quebec City Convention Center on Monday, July 25, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Tuesday, July 26, from 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; and Wednesday, July 27, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **All posters must be mounted after 4:00 p.m. and before 10:00 p.m., Sunday evening, July 24, and will remain in place for the duration of the meeting.** Posters must be removed by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 27.

Approximately one third of the posters will be presented each day; poster numbers with an "M" prefix (e.g., M 169) will be presented on Monday; those with a "T" prefix (e.g., T 170) will be presented on Tuesday, and those with a "W" prefix (e.g., W 171) will be presented Wednesday morning. Posters must not exceed 4 feet by 4 feet (1.2 m by 1.2 m) and must be mounted with Velcro fasteners. All presenters should bring their own Velcro fasteners. Long T-pins and push-pins will not be permitted. Abstract numbers will be indicated on the poster boards.

Posters should include the title of the abstract and the name(s) and affiliation(s) of the author(s). Charts, drawings, and illustrations may be similar to those used in making slides, but with bolder, heavier figures. They should be readable from distances of 4 feet or more. Color may be used to add emphasis. Keep illustrative material simple. Hand-lettered material should contain appropriate heavy lettering at least 3/8" high. Please use large type for all text. When feasible, use graphs to demonstrate qualitative relationships and tables for presenting precise numerical values. If possible, photographs should be on matte, not glossy, paper. Brief "Introduction" and "Conclusions" sections are helpful.

## **Brown Bag Discussion Groups**

Several rooms have been reserved in Quebec City Convention Center for small group discussions and for committee meetings from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. Topics and room assignments will be posted in the SSR registration area.

## **SPECIAL FOR TRAINEES**

### **Lalor Foundation Merit Awards, USDA NRI Merit Awards, SSR Trainee Research Awards, and Burroughs Wellcome Trainee Research Awards**

Recipients of the Lalor Foundation Merit Awards (supported by the Lalor Foundation) will be recognized at the Opening Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 24. Recipients will be selected on the basis of abstracts submitted for presentation and evaluated according to the following criteria: scientific merit, interpretation and impact of the results, and clarity of the abstract. Sixteen presenters will be selected to receive a Lalor Foundation Merit Award of US \$500. Recipients will be notified after June 15, 2005.

Recipients of the USDA NRI Merit Awards (supported by a grant from the USDA National Research Initiative) recognized at the Opening Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 24. Recipients will be selected on the basis of abstracts submitted for presentation and evaluated according to the following criteria: meets the NRI goal of benefiting or enhancing our understanding of reproduction in agriculturally important species, scientific merit, interpretation and impact of the results, and clarity of the abstract. The competition was open to qualifying trainees regardless of SSR membership status or country of origin. Ten presenters will be selected to receive a USDA NRI Merit Award of US \$500. Recipients will be notified after June 15, 2005.

Winners of the SSR Trainee Research Awards (sustaining support provided by Serono Reproductive Biology Institute) will be recognized at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 27, during the Trainee Awards ceremony immediately following the SSR Business Meeting in Room 2000BC of the Quebec City Convention Center. All contestants for the Trainee Research Awards in both the Platform and Poster categories will present their research reports during the regular poster and platform sessions on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. The Awards Committee will evaluate all abstracts entered in competition for the Trainee Research Awards according to the following criteria: scientific merit, interpretation and impact of results, and clarity of the abstract. The Committee will select up to twenty abstracts for final evaluation during presentation. The criteria for final evaluation are (1) merit of the study, (2) presentation format, (3) delivery, (4) visual aids, and (5) response to questions during discussion. From these finalists, the Awards Committee will select First, Second, and Third prizes to be awarded to the three best poster and three best platform presentations. The identity of the finalists will remain confidential until presentation of the Trainee Research Awards.

Winners of the Burroughs Wellcome Trainee Research Awards (supported by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund) will be recognized at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 27, during the Trainee Awards ceremony immediately following the Business Meeting in Room 2000BC of the Quebec City Convention Center. The Burroughs Wellcome Trainee Research Awards, each consisting of a plaque and US \$500, will be presented to four graduate Trainees and four postdoctoral Trainees who are in training at degree-granting institutions in the United States or Canada. The winners will be selected on the basis of the following criteria: scientific merit, interpretation and impact of results, and clarity of the abstract. Recipients will be notified after June 15, 2005.

### **Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund**

The Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund (LEMTTF) provides travel assistance for Trainee Members of the Society to attend and present their research results at the Annual Meeting. The LEMTTF is administered by the SSR Trainee Committee and is supported, in part, by a grant from the NIH/NICHD; by donations; and by the sale of commemorative t-shirts at each annual meeting. To qualify for a grant from the LEMTTF, an applicant (1) must have been a paid-up Trainee Member of SSR by March 1, 2005; (2) must be the presenting/first author of an abstract accepted for presentation (poster or slide) at the Annual Meeting; and (3) must complete and submit an application for a travel grant. The application MUST be accompanied by a photocopy of the SSR abstract acceptance notification. To request a travel grant from the LEMTTF, go to the SSR Web site online at: <http://www.ssr.org/Documents/05LEMTTF.pdf>, or contact the Business Office.

### **Placement Service**

The Placement Service will be located in Room 201C of the Quebec City Convention Center. The room will be staffed on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to

noon. A bulletin board, files for resumes and job announcements, and a copier will be available. If you would like a form, go to the SSR Web site online at:

<<http://www.ssr.org/Documents/05plcmt.pdf>>, or contact the Business Office.

### **Trainee-Mentor Luncheon**

The Trainee-Mentor Luncheon will be Monday, July 25, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., in the ???. This Trainee-organized event provides Trainee participants with the opportunity to talk to an SSR scientist about careers and science over a catered lunch. To participate, trainees must mark the appropriate box on the registration form, include payment of \$15.00, and send it in as soon as possible to ensure that each can have lunch with the mentor of his/her choice. Registrants will be sent a list from which to select a mentor with whom to have lunch. This list will be sent after the deadline for early registration. Seating will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions about this event, please contact the luncheon organizer: Jessica Schrunk, Department of Molecular Biology, University of Colorado Health Science Center, PO Box 6511, MS8122, Aurora, CO 80045; tel: 303-880-0185; fax: 303-724-3247; email: [jessica.schrunk@uchsc.edu](mailto:jessica.schrunk@uchsc.edu)

### **T-Shirts**

T-shirts commemorating SSR 2005 in Quebec City will be sold to raise money for the Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund (LEMTTF). The t-shirts are of high quality, pre-shrunk cotton, and come in a variety of sizes (including children's sizes) and two styles (men's or women's). The t-shirt logo was designed to highlight the most recognized symbol of Quebec City, the Château Frontenac, which is the most photographed hotel in the world. T-shirts may be ordered on the preregistration form or purchased at the meeting. The price is US \$15. You may see the design at:

<<http://www.crbr.ulaval.ca/inscription-ssr-crbr.html?&L=1>>

## **FOOD SERVICES**

### **Refreshments**

Morning and afternoon refreshment breaks are scheduled in Room 200ABC of the Quebec City Convention Center, site of the posters and exhibits.

### **Box Lunches**

Box lunches must be purchased in advance at a cost of US \$15.00 on the preregistration form. Box lunches will be distributed in Room 200ABC, site of the poster and exhibit sessions, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday. Those attendees participating in the Trainee-Mentor Luncheon on Monday, July 25, should not purchase a box lunch for that day.

### **Coffee Carts and Snack Bar**

Coffee carts will be located outside of CCQBC every morning, with coffee, tea, and juice available for purchase. The snack bar, on Level 4 of the CCQ, will be open every day, with muffins, Danish rolls, sandwiches, and beverages available for purchase.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

### **Film Premier**

"SSR—The Generation of a Legacy" (produced by Patricia Hoyer and Craig Highberger; edited by Craig Highberger) film will debut on Sunday afternoon, July 24, from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m., in room 2000AB, immediately preceding the opening reception. This 45-minute documentary film relates the story of the Society's founding nearly four decades ago. It features interviews with many of the individuals responsible for SSR's creation who also helped guide it toward growth, maturity, and its present stature as a respected worldwide scientific organization. In their own words, through their own eyes, these remarkable men and women bring our history to life—starting, incidentally, with the contentious debate over what to name the new organization. This is history laced with poignant memories and spiced with humor—a documentary that does justice to SSR's well-deserved reputation for enhancing the scope and integrity of reproductive research.

### **Opening Reception**

The opening reception will take place on Sunday evening, July 24, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., in the Foyer of the Quebec City Convention Center. With its immense floor-to-ceiling windows providing a breathtaking view of old Quebec and the Laurentian Mountains, the Foyer provides a superb setting for socializing with colleagues and friends. The theme of the reception is “Black & White Jazz”; a live jazz trio (graduate students from the Faculty of Music at Laval University) will play against a backdrop of city lights. Giant puppets dressed as jazz musicians will complete the jazz theme and contribute to the festive atmosphere. Hors d’oeuvres and canapes will be served, and soft drinks, water, beer, and wine will be available at an open bar. Admission to the opening reception is included in the registration fee; your annual meeting badge is all you need for admission.

After the reception, the evening will still be young; you are encouraged to enjoy dinner in one of many fine restaurants nearby.

### **Barbecue and Social**

Located in the charming harbor area of Old Quebec, near the Musée de la Civilisation du Québec and Place Royale, the Espaces Dalhousie is the unique setting for our traditional barbecue and social, scheduled for Tuesday evening, July 26, from 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Located on the banks of the St. Lawrence River, the Espaces Dalhousie features a covered terrace where you may relax with a drink while enjoying the scenery. The barbecue, in the form of a traditional Québécois Méchoui, will take place on the terrace adjacent to an indoor dining area.

After dinner, on the second floor of the Espaces Dalhousie, the Time Travelers will invite you to burn up the dance floor. This excellent live band will provide entertainment from 9:00 to 11:30 p.m. Afterwards, a DJ will take the lead until 2:00 a.m. The second floor has floor-to-ceiling windows and affords a magnificent view of the St. Lawrence River and Old Quebec.

Although the Espaces Dalhousie is a pleasant walk from the Convention Center, shuttle buses will provide transportation from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Then, from 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m., after the party, shuttle buses will carry revelers back to the Convention Center and to the Laval University Dorm.

Tickets for this event are US \$35 each. Open bars will serve soda and water all evening, and beer and wine between 7:00 and 8:30 p.m. After 8:30 p.m., beer and wine may be purchased at cash bars.

### **FEDERAL AGENCY ROOM**

Room 201A will be available for staff from NIH, NSF, USDA, FDA, and other funding agencies to interact with meeting attendees. Meeting attendees are encouraged to make appointments to discuss grant applications and grants management with representatives of the funding agencies. Please contact Dr. Koji Yoshinaga (NIH) at <[ky60@nih.gov](mailto:ky60@nih.gov)>, Dr. Richard Tasca (NIH) at <[rt34g@nih.gov](mailto:rt34g@nih.gov)>, or Dr. Mark Mirando (USDA) at <[mmirando@reusda.gov](mailto:mmirando@reusda.gov)>.

### **PRESS RELATIONS AND NEWS COVERAGE**

The Society encourages news coverage of the meeting and will assist participants and the media in reporting current research discoveries in the reproductive sciences. Please contact the SSR Business Office (1619 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711-2063, tel: 608-256-2777; email: <[ssr@ssr.org](mailto:ssr@ssr.org)>) for more information.

### **COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS**

Commercial exhibits will be located in Room 200ABC of the Quebec City Convention Center, adjacent to the poster displays. Exhibits will be open Monday and Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and at other times by appointment. To receive an exhibitor’s information packet, please contact the SSR Business Office, 1619 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711-2063 (tel: 608-256-2777; email: <[ssr@ssr.org](mailto:ssr@ssr.org)>).

### **CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES**

SSR is actively seeking educational grants for scientific sessions, social events, general program support, and exhibitions. Join us at this exciting meeting and confirm your corporate commitment to the highest standards of research in reproductive biology.

Meeting support will be recognized in all announcements for the meeting, in the program book, and on prominently displayed signs outside the meeting and event rooms. As a vendor, you will have face-to-face contact with the people who have the purchasing authority for your products and services. Please know that we will be happy to work with you should you wish to sponsor an event, bring an exhibit, or send materials to our annual

meeting this summer. For details contact the SSR Business Office, 1619 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711-2063 (tel: 608-256-2777; email: <[ssradmin@ssr.org](mailto:ssradmin@ssr.org)>).

### CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

US citizens or permanent residents of the US can usually cross the border without difficulty. However, visitors must carry identification, such as a passport or birth or naturalization certificate, as proof of citizenship. A driver's license is NOT accepted as proof of citizenship. For more information, please check these sites:

<<http://www7.nationalacademies.org/visas/>>

<[http://www7.nationalacademies.org/visas/Traveling\\_from\\_US.html](http://www7.nationalacademies.org/visas/Traveling_from_US.html)>

All other international visitors require a valid passport, and some visitors may need a tourist visa. For up-to-date information, please see the Government of Canada website at:

<<http://www.cic.gc.ca>>

Be sure to consult the Canadian Embassy or Consulate in your own country well in advance of travel to ensure that the appropriate documentation is obtained.

We encourage scientists planning to attend the SSR Annual Meeting to apply for a visa as EARLY AS POSSIBLE. The SSR Office will provide letters of invitation to help you make travel arrangements. If you need a letter of invitation to the SSR Annual Meeting, please contact the SSR Office at <[ssr3@ssr.org](mailto:ssr3@ssr.org)>

### ACCOMMODATIONS

The Local Arrangements Committee has reserved blocks of rooms at several hotels near the Quebec City Convention Center and in the dormitories at Laval University, about 20 minutes by car or by bus from the Convention Center. July is one of the most popular times of the year for tourism. We strongly suggest that you reserve your room as soon as possible. For each hotel, please note the reservation code required for booking at the special SSR rate. All rates are in Canadian dollars and do not include a mandatory (\$2/night) lodging tax and service fee (15%).

**Hilton Quebec.** 1100 Rene Levesque East, Quebec City, Canada. Tel: 418-647-2411; Fax: 418-647-2986. \$195 Canadian (plus applicable taxes), single or double occupancy. Every guestroom offers a wonderful view in this fully renovated hotel, positioned at the entrance of the old walled city. The Hilton Quebec is directly linked to the Quebec City Convention Center and to the Government buildings via Place Quebec, a modern underground complex with several boutiques and restaurants. Every room offers cable TV, radio, hairdryer, minibar, desk & chairs, a coffee machine, voice mail, modem port, 2 telephones and 2 telephone lines, in room video games, stationary, opening windows and access to the hotel health club. Amenities include a fitness room and swimming pool. You may reserve a room online at:

<<http://www.crbr.ulaval.ca/1922.html?&L=1>> **IMPORTANT: Section "Special Accounts," under "Group/Convention code," please write "REP"** Reservations will be confirmed online.

**Courtyard Marriott.** 850 Place D'Youville, Quebec, Quebec, Canada. Tel: 418 694 4004; Fax: 418 694 4007. SSR's room block is completely filled; some rooms may be available, but at a higher rate.

**Palace Royal.** 775 Avenue Honoré-Mercier, Vieux-Quebec, Quebec, Canada. Tel: 418-694-2000; Fax: 418-380-2553. \$190 Canadian, single or double occupancy, standard room; \$210 Canadian, single or double occupancy, luxury room or suite. The Hotel Palace Royal exudes elegance. For a description of services and amenities, visit

<<http://www.jaro.qc.ca/en/palace/service.htm>>

To reserve a room at the Palace Royal, use this link:

<<http://www.jaro.qc.ca/en/palace/reservation.asp>> **IMPORTANT: Section "Comments," please write "REPRO"** Reservations will be confirmed by your choice of e-mail, fax, or telephone.

**Chateau Laurier.** 1220 Place George-V Ouest, Quebec City, Canada. Tel: 418-522-8108; Toll free: 1-800-463-4453 (Canada & U.S.A); Fax: 418-524-8768; e-mail: [laurier@vieuxquebec.com](mailto:laurier@vieuxquebec.com). \$185 Canadian, single or double occupancy. This lovely hotel is conveniently located at the gateway to Old Québec, just a short walk from Parliament Hill, the Québec City Convention Center, and the Plains of Abraham. For a description of services and amenities, visit:

<<http://www.hotelchateaulaurier.com/en/index.aspx>>

To reserve a room at the Chateau Laurier, use this link to download a reservation form that you may fax to the hotel:

<[http://www.crbr.ulaval.ca/fileadmin/fichiers/fichiersCRBR/pdf/Formulaire\\_r\\_servation\\_de\\_chambre\\_ANG.pdf](http://www.crbr.ulaval.ca/fileadmin/fichiers/fichiersCRBR/pdf/Formulaire_r_servation_de_chambre_ANG.pdf)>

Please request a confirmation of your reservation by telephone or e-mail.

**Loews Le Concorde Hotel.** 1225 Cours Du General De Montcalm, Quebec City, Canada. Tel: 418-647-2222; Fax: 418-647-4710. \$195 Canadian, single or double occupancy. For a description of services and amenities, please visit

<<http://www.loewshotels.com/hotels/quebec/features.asp>>

To reserve a room at the Loews le Concorde, use this link to download a reservation form that you may fax to the hotel:

<[http://www.crbr.ulaval.ca/fileadmin/fichiers/fichiersCRBR/pdf/Formulaire\\_de\\_reservation\\_Loews.pdf](http://www.crbr.ulaval.ca/fileadmin/fichiers/fichiersCRBR/pdf/Formulaire_de_reservation_Loews.pdf)>

Reservations will be confirmed online.

**Laval University Dorms.** Tel: 418-656-2921; Fax: 418-656-2801; e-mail: <[sres@sres.ulaval.ca](mailto:sres@sres.ulaval.ca)>. \$40 Canadian, single occupancy (includes breakfast); \$50 Canadian, double occupancy (includes breakfast).

Dormitory accommodations at Laval University have been reserved for SSR participants. The student residences are located 20 minutes, by car or by bus, from the Quebec City Convention Center. (For map of the university: <<http://www.sres.ulaval.ca/images/SummerHousing/Autres/Maps/Campus.gif>>) Special shuttle buses will operate between the dorms and the Convention Center. Each dorm room contains a single bed (a double room contains a second single bed), sink, dresser, wardrobe, desk, and armchair. A telephone is included, with free local calls. Long distance calls can be made with a calling card. Bathrooms and washrooms with shower stalls are located on each floor, and there is a laundry room in the building. Rooms are serviced every day, and sheets, towels, and soap are provided. Breakfast is included in the price, and parking is free. Check in after 2:00 PM at room 1618 in Pavilion Alphonse-Marie-Parent. Check-out time is 11:00 AM. Laval University accepts VISA, Mastercard, Interact, traveler's cheques, and cash payments. To reserve a room at the dorms, please follow this link and procedures:

<<http://www.sres.ulaval.ca/>>

- Click on "Summer Housing" in the center of the navigation bar rimmed in blue
- Click on "Convention participants" (far left on the navigation bar under the bar rimmed in blue); this will take you to a page from which you may navigate to a description of dorm features (breakfast is included), laundry facilities, room descriptions, and room rates.
- To make a reservation, click the "Reservation" link and complete the form.
- At the bottom of the page (you may have to scroll down) is a drop-down box; select the Society for the Study of Reproduction Annual Meeting 2005 (number 114785).
- After you submit you reservation, you will receive a confirmation by e-mail.

### TRAVEL INFORMATION

**By car from to the Laval University Dorms.** Depart Jean Lesage International Airport Quebec on the local road going East. Turn RIGHT (south) on Route de l'Aéroport. After approximately 2 km (1.2 miles), the road name changes to Autoroute Duplessis (AUT-540). After approximately 4 km (2.4 miles), the road name changes to boulevard Laurier (RTE-175). After approximately 2 km (1.2 miles), turn LEFT (north) into the main Laval University campus entrance. Turn RIGHT (east) immediately onto Avenue des Sciences humaines. Follow the road and turn RIGHT into the Pavillon Alphonse-Marie-Parent. Turn LEFT (west) immediately onto Avenue des sciences humaines; the road name changes to Avenue de la Médecine. Turn LEFT into the Pavillon Agathe-Lacerte parking lot.

**From Jean Lesage International Airport to the Quebec City Convention Center (CCQ) Area.** Depart Jean Lesage International Airport Quebec on the local road going East. Turn RIGHT (South) onto route de l'Aéroport. The road name will change to (AUT-540) Autoroute Duplessis. At exit 3-E, take the exit ramp (RIGHT) onto AUT-40 (Autoroute Charest) towards AUT-40 / Aut. Charest E. / Quebec. The road name will change to Boulevard Charest. After approximately 4 km (2.4 miles), turn RIGHT onto rue Dorchester. The road name will change to Côte d'Abraham. After 1 km, turn RIGHT on boul. Honoré Mercier. To your left are the Palace Royal Hotel and the Courtyard Marriott. Continue up the hill and turn RIGHT on boul. René-Lévesque. At the traffic light and on the right are the Hilton Quebec and the CCQ. Turn LEFT at the next traffic light. Turn RIGHT on rue St-Amable and immediately turn LEFT on rue d'Artigny. At the traffic light, if you want to go to Château Laurier, go straight ahead; the hotel is on your right. If you want to go to Loews Le Concorde, turn RIGHT. At the next traffic light, turn LEFT into the Loews Le Concorde.

**From the Laval University Dorms to the Quebec City Convention Center (CCQ).** Depart at Pavillon Agathe-Lacerte. Turn RIGHT on Avenue de la Médecine. The road name will change to Avenue des sciences humaines. After approximately 1 km (0.6 mile), turn LEFT on boul. René-Lévesque O. After approximately 5 km turn LEFT into the CCQ.

**Taxi.** From the Quebec City (Jean Lesage) International Airport to the Laval University dorms, or the Quebec City Convention Center area, taxi fares are approximately CAN \$25.00 to \$30.00.

### OTHER INFORMATION

**Air Travel.** Air Canada offers 5% to 15% off an airplane ticket for individuals attending the SSR Annual Meeting. To obtain this discount, please indicate Convention number **CV053694** (Code I.T.) or tell your travel agent while booking. For more information: 1-800-361-7585 or <[conventions@aircanada.ca](mailto:conventions@aircanada.ca)>

**Banking and Credit Cards.** Normal banking hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with extended hours on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at some locations. Traveler's checks, ideally in Canadian funds, are the safest way to carry money and are accepted by banks and major commercial establishments. There are different Canadian chartered banks with branches throughout the area along with over 100 Caisse Populaire Desjardins (credit union) branches. Check the telephone directory for listings. Automated teller machines provide banking services and excellent rates of exchange for visitors through Plus, Circus, Interac, etc. Major credit cards such as American Express, MasterCard, and Visa are accepted almost everywhere.

**Climate.** During July, daytime temperatures are usually in the range of 20-28 degrees Celsius (68-82 degrees Fahrenheit). Occasional rain can be expected. For evenings, light sweaters or jackets may be needed. For up-to-date weather information, check **Environment Canada**

(<[http://weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/city/pages/qc-133\\_metric\\_e.html](http://weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/city/pages/qc-133_metric_e.html)>) or **MeteoMedia**

(<<http://www.meteomedia.com/Meteo/Villes/Can/Pages/CAQC0441.htm>>). You may also call 1-418-640-2736.

**Concierge.** The CCQ will have a concierge on site who will provide help with dinner reservations, deliveries, taxi service, rental cars, etc.

**Conference Attire.** Casual dress is appropriate for all meetings and social events.

**Copies and Faxing.** Photocopying and faxing services will be located at the Business Center on the second floor of the Quebec Hilton and near the Registration Area on Foyer 4 of the Quebec City Convention Center.

**Dining.** While the vast array of activities in the region will help you develop an appetite, the gastronomic wealth of more than a thousand different restaurants will give you a taste of Quebecois friendliness and hospitality. From maple products eaten in a sugar shack to fantastic meals savored in a 17th century residence, the Quebec region is a veritable gourmet circuit. Visit <<http://www.quebecregion.com/e/restaurants.asp>> for suggestions. Dining guides will be available on site. Within only a 1-minute walk of the Quebec City Convention Center, you will find Place Québec, a shopping district located under the Hilton Hotel that is home to excellent restaurants and cafés.

**Electricity.** Throughout Canada, electricity is 120V, 60 Hz.

**E-mail.** Internet access will be available between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. in the Cyber Café on Level 2 of the Quebec City Convention Center.

**Insurance.** Liability insurance is the responsibility of each individual delegate. The Canadian Medical Health Insurance Plan does not cover visitors to Canada. All delegates should therefore have their own medical coverage.

**Medical Services.** Urgent Care treatment is available at the University Hospital located on campus. (See also under Insurance).

**Message Service/Lost and Found.** The SSR Information Desk and Message Center will be on Foyer 4 of the Quebec City Convention Center, Sunday through Wednesday. Messages for attendees may be posted on the Message Board. Mail for hotel guests should be sent to the appropriate hotel (please include guest's full name, group name, arrival date or room number, if known).

**Parking.** For guests staying at the Laval University Dorm, parking is free in designated university parking lots. Those using a car for transportation to the Quebec City Convention Center will find a parking area near the Convention Center. Daily rates range between CAD \$12 and \$17, plus taxes.

**Special Needs.** Please contact the SSR Business Office at 608-256-2777 or on site at the Registration Area in Foyer 4 if you require assistance getting to or from sessions or events or need special dietary or physical accommodation at any event or session. SSR is pleased to accommodate any attendee who needs assistance to

ensure that all attendees are able to participate in the meeting. For those who have food allergies, please advise the SSR Administration Office by e-mail to <[ssr@ssr.org](mailto:ssr@ssr.org)>, with a copy to <[nathalie.giroux@crbr.ulaval.ca](mailto:nathalie.giroux@crbr.ulaval.ca)>

**Smoking Regulations.** Smoking is prohibited in all meeting rooms. Local and Provincial Laws stipulate that smoking is prohibited in all indoor public places.

**Sales Taxes.** Most goods and services purchased in the Province of Quebec are subject to a 7% Federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) and a 7.5% Provincial Sales Tax (PST). Non-resident visitors to Canada may be eligible for a rebate of the GST paid on eligible goods and on short-term accommodations. The Visitor Rebate Program requires that you submit proof of export if you wish to claim a rebate of eligible goods. For further information about the program and its entitlements and requirements, call 1-800-668-4748 (within Canada) or 1-902-432-5608 (outside Canada). You may also visit the Program web site at:

<<http://www.cera-adrc.gc.ca/visitors>>