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 (CCQ), in the heart of this beautiful old-world city vibrant with music, art, and culture. The CCQ 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. An official badge is required for sessions and special events. 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>).

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 (see information on preregistration form; please note that an additional US $25 is applied to all bank transfers). Purchase orders are not accepted.

Registration Category	Through June 10	After June 10
SSR Members		
Regular and Associate	$325.00	$400.00
Trainee	$225.00	$300.00
Nonmember	$475.00	$550.00
Nonmember Student	$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, located in Foyer 4 on the main level of the Quebec City Convention Center, will be open during the following hours:

Saturday, July 23	5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 24	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Monday, July 25	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 26	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 27	7:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

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 38th 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 has 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 credits.

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 CCQ, 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 CCQ 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, Victoria, Australia), will discuss "Testicular Leukocytes and Cytokines: Inflammation and Immunoregulation in an Immune Privileged Tissue."

Plenary Lectures

On Monday morning, at 8:00 a.m., in Room 2000BC of the CCQ, **Keith Latham, Ph.D.** (Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), will speak on "Nuclear-Cytoplasmic 'Tug-of-War' in Cloning: Outcomes and Handicaps." On Tuesday morning at 8:00 a.m., 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 discuss "Mining Mammalian Ovaries for Evidence of Neo-Oogenesis: Past, Present, and Future Perspectives." On Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m., **P. Michael Conn, Ph.D.** (Oregon Health Sciences University, Beaver-

ton, 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 CCQ on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings, different start times each day. 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 CCQ, from 7:30–11:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 24. A continental breakfast will be served for workshop attendees from 7:30 to 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. to 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, Quebec, 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 CCQ. 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 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. (Panorama Vieux Port, Hilton Quebec), **Winston A. Anderson, Ph.D.** (Professor, Department of Biology, Howard University, Washington, DC) 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 will host an informal buffet dinner for underrepresented minority trainees and faculty. 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 CCQ. 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 at the meeting, all speakers should review their presentations in the **Speaker Ready Room** (CCQ 203) located on Level 2 of the CCQ. 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 Speaker Ready 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 non-essential 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 **Speaker Ready Room** (CCQ 203) located on Level 2 of the CCQ during the following days and times: Saturday, July 23, 12:00–5:00 p.m.; Sunday, July 24, 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.; Monday, July 25, 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Tuesday, July 26, 7:00–5:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, July 27, 7:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Poster Sessions

Poster sessions will be held in CCQ 200ABC on Monday, July 25, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.; Tuesday, July 26, 10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.; and Wednesday, July 27, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. **All posters must be mounted between 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., Sunday evening, July 24, and 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., M169) will be presented on Monday; those with a "T" prefix (e.g., T170) will be presented on Tuesday, and those with a "W" prefix (e.g., W171) 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 CCQ 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, Burroughs Wellcome Trainee Research Awards, and SSR Trainee Research Awards

Recipients of the Lalor Foundation Merit Awards (supported by the Lalor Foundation) will be recognized during 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 30, 2005.

Recipients of the USDA NRI Merit Awards (supported by a grant from the USDA National Research Initiative) 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: 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 30, 2005.

Winners of the Burroughs Wellcome Trainee Research Awards (supported by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund) will be recognized during the Opening Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 24. 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 30, 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 CCQ. All finalists 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 ($500), Second ($300), and Third ($200) 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.

Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund

The Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund (LEMTTF) provides travel assistance for Trainee Members of SSR 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 <www.ssr.org/Meetings.html>, or contact the Business Office.

Placement Service

The Placement Service will be located in Room 201C of the CCQ. 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 <www.ssr.org/Meetings.html>, 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 Panorama Les Plaines/Citadelle, Hilton Quebec. 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 US $15.00, and send it in as soon as possible to ensure that each trainee can have lunch with the mentor of his/her choice. Registrants will be directed to a list from which to select a mentor with whom to have lunch. This list will be available 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, by email: 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, preshrunk 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, 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.

FOOD SERVICES

Refreshments

Morning and afternoon refreshment breaks are scheduled in Room 200ABC of the CCQ, 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, 12:30–1:30 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 CCQ 2000BC every morning, with beverages and muffins available for purchase. Food concessions will be open every day on Level 4, offering full-course breakfast and luncheon menus 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 2000BC, 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 Foyer 4 of the CCQ. 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 Quebec 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 Méshoui, 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 encourage 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 leisurely 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 of the CCQ 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 <ky6o@nih.gov>, Dr. Richard Tasca (NIH) at <rt34g@nih.gov>, or Dr. Mark Mirando (USDA) at <mmirando@reeusda.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>) for more information.

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS

Commercial exhibits will be located in Room 200ABC of the CCQ, 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>).

CORPORATE SUPPORT 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. Vendors will have face-to-face contact with the people who have the purchasing authority for their products and services. SSR will be happy to work with any who wish to sponsor an event, bring an exhibit, or send materials to the annual meeting this summer. For details contact the SSR Business Office, 1619 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711-2063 (tel: 608-256-2777; email: <ssr@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

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 web site at 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>.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Local Arrangements Committee has reserved blocks of rooms at several hotels near the CCQ 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 René Lévesque 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 CCQ 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, openable 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 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. $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 ammenities, 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

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 ammenities, 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_r_servation_Loews.pdf. Reservations will be confirmed online.

Laval University Dorms. Tel: 418-656-2921; Fax: 418-656-2801; e-mail: 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 CCQ. (For a map of the university see page 12 or go to : 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 p.m. at room 1618 in Pavilion Alphonse-Marie-Parent. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m. Laval University accepts VISA, Mastercard, Interact, travelers' checks, and cash payments. To reserve a room at the dorms, please follow this link: 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 "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 Jean Lesage International Airport 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 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 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 CCQ 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**

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. Travelers' 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* (Web site) or **MeteoMedia** (Web site). You may also call 1-418-640-2736.

Concierge. The CCQ will provide a concierge on site to

assist 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 CCQ.

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 CCQ, 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 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, and from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday in the Cyber Cafe in room 200ABC of the CCQ.

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 CCQ, 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 CCQ 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 Business Office by e-mail at <ssr@ssr.org>.

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.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/visitors.

AWARDS CITATIONS

Carl G. Hartman Award (*sustaining support from Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, L.L.C.*). The 2005 recipient of the Carl G. Hartman Award is Dr. Gordon D. Niswender. Dr. Niswender has been recognized as a leader in the field of reproductive biology for over three decades and has amassed an outstanding record as a scientist, colleague, and mentor, and has provided exceptional service to the academic and scientific communities.

Dr. Niswender began his career as a faculty member at the University of Michigan in 1968. Working in the Reproductive Endocrinology Program, he and Dr. A. Rees Midgley, Jr., took the fledging art of radioimmunoassay and turned it into a science. They developed and validated radioimmunoassays for virtually all of the major reproductive hormones in a variety of species. Dr. Niswender is perhaps best known for his development of an antiserum to LH (GDN #15 antiserum) that was able to specifically identify and quantify LH in numerous species. Dr. Niswender rapidly applied this assay system to monitor changes in LH during the estrous cycle in several species, including his favorite research animal, the sheep. These studies were conducted to gain additional insight into the endocrine regulation of Dr. Niswender's favorite organ, the corpus luteum. Based on his initial report (Niswender et al., Radioimmunoassay for bovine and ovine luteinizing hormone. *Endocrinology* 84: 1166–1173, 1969; now a Citation Classic), Dr. Niswender received numerous requests from all over the world to supply other investigators with antiserum to measure LH in their species of interest. This led to an unparalleled advancement in our understanding the mechanisms involved in regulation of the entire reproductive axis in both males and females.

Following the development of radioimmunoassays for the other pituitary hormones directly involved in reproduction, namely prolactin and follicle-stimulating hormone, Dr. Niswender turned his talents to development of assays for steroid hormones. His novel approach quickly resulted in highly specific antibodies for estradiol, progesterone, and testosterone. In addition to developing specific antiserum for the reproductive steroid hormones, Dr. Niswender pioneered the development of analogs of the steroid hormones that could be radioiodinated, yet retain their ability to bind to an antiserum, the tyrosine methyl ester derivatives of the steroids. Compared to the use of their tritiated steroid counterparts, the radioiodinated steroids resulted in more sensitive assays that could be performed much more cheaply since scintillation fluid was not necessary for the quantification of the radioactivity. Today, many of the reagents developed by Dr. Niswender are still being used by numerous laboratories in more than 40 countries worldwide. Moreover, his techniques have been adopted by many of the commercial suppliers of assay kits for measuring hormone levels in humans and animals.

Having developed the techniques to assess the endocrine regulation of the entire reproductive axis in numerous species, Dr. Niswender focused his attention on developing our understanding of the mechanisms responsible for controlling function of the corpus luteum. He has made several seminal

contributions to our knowledge of luteal function. First, he established that the blood flow to the ovary increases with circulating concentrations of progesterone during the luteal phase of the estrous cycle; he further demonstrated that greater than 90% of the blood flowing to the ovary of the ewe during the luteal phase is actually flowing through the corpus luteum. He then showed that administration of the luteolytic agent, prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$, leads to a rapid decrease in luteal blood flow, apparently one of the major effectors of its luteolytic action.

Another seminal discovery in advancing our understanding of luteal function was made by Dr. Niswender and his long-time colleague, Dr. Heywood Sawyer. In the late 1970s, they first reported the existence of two steroidogenic luteal cell types, the "large" and "small" luteal cells.

Techniques were rapidly developed to separate these cell types by centrifugal elutriation, and Dr. Niswender and his colleagues quickly showed that the different types of luteal cells were each unique. The large cells secreted large amounts of progesterone constitutively (−80% of the total progesterone produced by the corpus luteum) did not respond to LH, but did respond to prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$. In contrast, the small luteal cells were very responsive to LH, but their function was not affected by prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$. These physiological findings were corroborated by more biochemical studies in which Dr. Niswender's group developed new techniques to measure receptors for the hormones regulating luteal function, and more recently, techniques to quantify mRNA for a variety of proteins involved in synthesis and secretion of progesterone.

Dr. Niswender has authored or co-authored over 210 publications in refereed journals, 40 chapters in books, and over 110 abstracts presented at scientific meetings. These publications have been cited more than 12,000 times by his peers, with over 2800 citations in the last decade. As indicated above, one of these publications has been designated a Citation Classic with more than 1000 citations. This demonstrates the relevance of his research and the reverence with which it is held by his colleagues. Dr. Niswender also holds five patents for his scientific discoveries.

Perhaps Dr. Niswender's most lasting legacy to the scientific community will emanate from the students that have benefited from his tutelage. To date he has trained 6 M.S. and 19 Ph.D. students, and 32 postdoctoral fellows, many of whom have gone on to have distinguished careers in science and hold key positions in academia, government, and industry. These individuals will continue to advance our knowledge and the application thereof well into the future.

During his career, Dr. Niswender's accomplishments have been recognized by numerous organizations that have selected him as recipient of prestigious awards. These include "Honor Book" recipient for College of Agriculture, University of Wyoming, awarded to a senior with highest grade average; the Colorado State University Sigma Xi Scientist of the Year Award; Young Scientist of the Year for the Western Section of the American Society of Animal Science; Andrew G. Clark Award for Achievement in Research and Creativity, Colorado State University; Animal Physiology and Endocrinology Award for the American Society of Animal Science; the Endocrine Society Ayerst Award for distinguished service to endocrinology; Scientist of the Year awarded by the Colorado State University Research Foundation; Special Service Award for the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University; Research Award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction; Merit Award from the National Institutes of Health; Alumni Award of Merit, College of Agriculture, University of Wyoming; Oliver P. Pennock Distinguished Service Award, Colorado State University; and Distinguished Service Award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction. In addition to these honors Dr. Niswender's outstanding contributions as a faculty member at Colorado State University lead to him being named a University Distinguished Professor in the inaugural class in 1987. He has also been invited to present eight named lectureships, the premier lecture in the discipline of reproduction at the respective universities or societies.

Dr. Niswender has been generous in contributing his time to the service of government, industry, and scientific organizations. He has served on the editorial board for several scientific journals including *Biology of Reproduction, Endocrinology, Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, Steroids,* and *the Journal of Animal Science.* He has served as Treasurer and President of the Society for the Study of Reproduction, on the Board of Directors for the Ovarian Workshop, and XY, Inc. (a Fort Collins biotechnology corporation). He has been a consultant for the Food and Drug Administration, and Micromedics Diagnostics Inc. He has served as an Ad Hoc member of the Reproductive Biology Study Section and the Endocrinology Study Section for the NIH; in addition, he served as a regular member of the Population Research Committee for the NIH. These appointments constituted nearly 10 years of service to the NIH. Dr. Niswender also served on the Board of Scientific Advisors for Merck, Sharpe, and Dohme, and on the Scientific Advisory Board for *Reproduction, Fertility and Development.* His most recent major service commitment was as Editor-in-Chief for *Biology of Reproduction.*

Dr. Niswender's most recent contribution to science has been the establishment of a Master of Science program in Integrated Resource Management at Colorado State University. This program is designed to provide a broad training to students interested in utilizing agriculture resources for livestock production. This program integrates several scientific disciplines including reproductive biology, animal science, range science, and economics to teach individuals to manage farms, ranches, livestock cooperatives, game farms, etc., in a productive and profitable manner. Since Dr. Niswender came from an agricultural background, utilization of the expertise he has developed in the field of reproductive biology and integrating it with other scientific disciplines to help farmers and ranchers achieve profitability in this time of dwindling agricultural profits completes the cycle of knowledge.

His distinguished scientific career, his tremendously generous service to the scientific community, and his contributions as a teacher, mentor, and colleague certainly make Dr. Niswender a worthy recipient of the Carl G. Hartman Award.

SSR Distinguished Service Award (*sustaining support from Serono Research Institute*). Dr. Virendra B. Mahesh is the recipient of the 2005 SSR Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Mahesh is the perfect embodiment of the definition of distinguished service.

Dr. Mahesh became an Assistant Research Professor in Endocrinology at the Medical College of Georgia in 1959. In 1963, he was named Professor of Endocrinology, and in 1970, Regents' Professor and Director, Center for Population Studies. From

1972–1999, he was first Chair of the Department of Endocrinology and then Chair of the Department of Physiology. He has devoted his entire life to the research, teaching, and service missions of the Medical College of Georgia. He was recognized numerous times by this institution for his outstanding research and teaching program. During this time, Dr. Mahesh established a nurturing environment which enabled faculty to accomplish their research and teaching missions. Through teaching, he interacted with thousands of medical students and trained numerous postdoctoral fellows and graduate students in reproductive biology. The training of the next generation of scientists is an extremely important contribution to society.

Dr. Mahesh's long history of generous service to the scientific community is matched by few other reproductive biologists. He served on various NIH study sections almost continuously from 1976–2003. Through his generous service on these numerous study sections, he was able to influence the direction of research. It is very important that scientists such as Dr. Mahesh, who have a broad knowledge of reproductive physiology and act with integrity, serve year after year.

Dr. Mahesh demonstrated unselfish service and leadership in advancing reproductive biology by serving as Editor-in-Chief of *Biology of Reproduction* from 1999–2004. The role of editor is an intellectually and time demanding responsibility. He was very fair and honest in dealing with both authors and reviewers. He, along with his associate editor, Dr. Darrell Brann, were extremely good managers and decision makers, advancing the scientific ranking of *Biology of Reproduction.* Dr. Mahesh has continued as Consulting Editor for the journal, and also has had editorial responsibilities for eight other journals.

Dr. Mahesh is a member of 15 scientific and professional societies. He has served on committees for many of these societies beginning in 1975 and continues to serve. This past year, he accepted committee appointments to the American Physiological Society, SSR, and FASEB. As a member of the Board of Directors of FASEB (2004–2007), he is the representative for SSR. He is also serving on a new publications committee established by FASEB. Certainly service on various SSR's committees has been Dr. Mahesh's priority. This lifetime of service to reproductive biology is most impressive.

Unstinting service to the community of reproductive biologists and his significant research accomplishments have attracted many awards and honors. Early in his career in 1963, Dr. Mahesh received the Rubin Award of the American Society for the Study of Fertility for his work on polycystic ovaries. He received the Billings Silver Medal for work on gonadal dysgenesis in 1965. During the intervening years, he received numerous recognitions from both national and international organizations. In 1996, he received the coveted Carl G. Hartman Award of SSR, a significant recognition of a career of research and scholarly activities in reproductive biology. He was repeatedly given outstanding teaching and research awards by his own institution, the Medical College of Georgia.

One of the primary means of advancing the discipline of reproductive biology is through the performance of high quality and novel research and the publication of these discoveries in highly respected journals. Dr. Mahesh has an outstanding research record of addressing key physiological questions in reproductive biology for over 40 years. During this time he has been continuously funded by NIH, a strong indication of the importance and quality of his research. He has published 434 full-length publications, excluding chapters in books. Though his research has focused primarily in neuroendocrinology, he has also investigated gonadal function, function and regulation of steroids, and their interaction on the hypothalamic-pituitary axis, to name a few areas.

Dr. Mahesh is associated with a number of scientific and professional societies; however, SSR is his favorite Society. He has indicated that SSR represents his deep interests in science. He has shown this support by serving on numerous SSR committees, being Editor-in-Chief of *Biology of Reproduction,* and financial contributions to SSR. In 1996, he established an endowment, matched by funds from SSR, to initiate and sustain a neuroendocrinology program at the annual SSR meeting. This program can take the form of an invited lecture, a forum, or a minisymposium. In 2003, he made a substantial contribution to establish SSR's Legacy Fund to convert, sustain, and enhance SSR's publications program, i.e., *Biology of Reproduction.* Then in 2004, Dr. Mahesh contributed the funding to establish the New Investigator Award, which recognizes an active regular member of SSR for outstanding research completed and published within 10 years after receiving the Ph.D. or other equivalent professional degree. As Editor-in Chief of *Biology of Reproduction,* Dr. Mahesh many times returned his editorial stipend to the SSR Endowment. He has not only given generously of his time to advance reproductive biology in general and SSR in particular, but also has provided substantial financial support to SSR.

This brief overview of Dr. Mahesh's unselfish service and leadership in advancing the discipline of reproductive biology does not do justice to his many contributions. Dr. Mahesh is held in the highest respect by his colleagues and is appropriately honored again by the SSR with the Distinguished Service Award.

SSR Research Award (*sustaining support from Organon, NV*). Dr. Mary Hunzicker-Dunn is the recipient of the 2005 SSR Research Award.

This prestigious award is given for scientific accomplishments during the past six years. Dr. Hunzicker-Dunn is preeminently worthy of this award because of her seminal contributions in understanding signal transduction induced by gonadotropins. During the past six years, she and her laboratory have published 31 papers in premier journals, e.g. *Journal of Biological Chemistry, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Endocrinology,* and *Biology of Reproduction.* Her research has been recognized by her peers. She has given invited presentations at the Endocrine Meeting and at numerous universities. NIH has continuously funded her research, and she has received support from USDA. She has served on NIH study sections and is currently an associate editor for *Molecular Endocrinology.* These honors and awards and many others attest to her stature in the scientific community. Despite all of the demands on her research time, she was also a capable president of SSR in 2003–2004.

Dr. Hunzicker-Dunn is an outstanding researcher who has made numerous major contributions to the field of signal transduction that have enhanced our understanding of how the gonadotropin receptors signal to promote follicular maturation. One of her major accomplishments in the last 6 years has been to elucidate the cellular mechanism by which the LH receptor becomes desensitized. In particular, she has not only convincingly demonstrated that desensitization of

the LH receptor does not involve receptor phosphorylation, but also successfully proved the involvement of ARNO, ARF6, and arrestin in this pathway. This research is considered to be a major breakthrough, because it is in contrast to the popular belief that G protein-coupled receptors are generally desensitized by receptor phosphorylation, as in the case of the adrenergic receptors. Thus, this body of work has settled the controversy regarding the requirement for receptor phosphorylation by this gonadotropin receptor to promote desensitization.

The phosphorylation-independent desensitization of the LH receptor is a new paradigm. Following this new paradigm, other groups appear to be re-examining the desensitization of other G protein-coupled receptors, including the adrenergic receptors, to determine the roles of ARNO, ARF, and arrestin in regulating the coupling of these receptors to their cognate G proteins. This is an area in which reproductive biology has played the pioneering role and led the general field of cell biology and biochemistry. These discoveries clearly show the integrity, quality of research, and leadership of Dr. Hunzicker-Dunn and her research group.

Dr. Hunzicker-Dunn's laboratory has also made impressive strides towards elucidating the signaling pathway by which the FSH receptor directs follicular development. One of the key substrates that her lab has identified as being downstream of the FSH receptor and its signaling intermediate protein kinase A (PKA) is histone H3. Her lab, in collaboration with Larry Jameson, demonstrated that FSH stimulates the phosphorylation and acetylation of histone H3 on Ser10 and Lys14, respectively, under cellular conditions in which granulosa cells differentiate but do not proliferate. Whereas histone H3 phosphorylation on Ser10 has long been recognized as a marker for mitosis, the notion that H3 phosphorylation marks regions for transcriptional activation was novel and potentially universal, because the Ser10 phosphorylation site on histone H3 can be phosphorylated not only by PKA but also by a number of protein kinases including those downstream of growth factor receptors. Indeed, the demonstration of H3 phosphorylation in a 1999 publication and its phosphorylation and acetylation coupled with activation of immediate early target FSH genes in a 2001 publication by the Hunzicker-Dunn laboratory were some of the first evidence that histone H3 modifications were directly linked with activation of target genes. The epigenetic field is now filled with papers describing histone modifications under various experimental paradigms. This laboratory has gone on to identify a previously unrecognized target gene activated by FSH, that of the A-kinase anchoring protein microtubule-associated protein 2D (MAP2D).

The family of MAP2 proteins, which consists of MAP2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D, was thought to be predominately associated with neuronal cells. The discovery by the Hunzicker-Dunn lab that MAP2D, and not the other members of this family, is selectively induced in granulosa cells by FSH and persists in corpora lutea following ovulation suggests that this protein plays a key role in final follicular maturation.

Additionally in the past 6 years, this laboratory has identified the cellular pathway by which FSH signals to activate the extracellular regulated mitogen-activated protein kinases, or ERKs. They discovered that all of the components in this signaling cascade were already activated in untreated granulosa cells, and yet FSH was able to activate ERK. This conundrum was solved when her group demonstrated that FSH signals into the ERK cascade at the level of ERK itself by regulating the association of an inhibitory protein tyrosine phosphatase with ERK. By catalyzing the phosphorylation of this phosphatase, PKA promotes the dissociation of the inhibitory phosphatase from ERK, allowing ERK activation via a tonic pathway that is not understood at present. Using chemical inhibitors of the ERK pathway, FSH-stimulated ERK activation appears to be crucial not only for the ability of FSH to induce a select group of FSH target genes, including MAP2D. This group has also shown that FSH signals into the phosphatidylinositol-3 kinase (PI-3 kinase) pathway to regulate translation. One of the proteins whose translation is increased in response to FSH is the transcription factor hypoxia inducible factor-1 (HIF-1). They have shown that HIF-1 activation is necessary for FSH to activate a number of target genes, including that for the LH receptor, inhibin-α, and vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF). This was the first evidence that FSH regulated expression and activation of this transcription factor.

Overall, Dr. Hunzicker-Dunn's laboratory has provided a body of work in the past 6 years that begins to define the cellular mechanisms by which the gonadotropic hormones regulate ovarian function. Her distinguished record of achievement provides ample evidence that she is highly deserving of the SSR Research Award.

SSR New Investigator Award (*sustaining support from the Virendra B. Mahesh New Investigator Endowment Fund*). Dr. Robert Viger is the recipient of the 2005 SSR New Investigator Award.

Dr. Viger is an active member of the SSR and completed his Ph.D. in 1995 under the direction of Dr. Bernard Robaire at McGill University where he studied the regulation of 5α-reductase mRNAs and proteins. He received a number of awards based upon these studies including the Wyeth Award of the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society in 1990 and the New Andrologist Award from the American Society of Andrology in 1991. In 1992 and 1994, he received the Trainee Merit Award from the American Society of Andrology and the Outstanding Original Research Award in 1997 for his outstanding 1996 publication in the *Journal of Andrology*. He was awarded both the Governor General's Gold Medal and the Gordon Maclaughlin prize for his thesis in 1995.

Dr. Viger carried out postdoctoral studies in molecular biology with Dr. Mona Nemer at the Clinical Research Institute of Montreal. During his postdoctoral research, he independently realized that the transcription factor, GATA-4, was expressed in a sexually dimorphic fashion during the time of gonadal differentiation in the mouse. Shortly thereafter, he obtained his current Assistant Professor position in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Laval University where he continued exploring the importance of GATA-4.

Since 1997, Dr. Viger has firmly established himself as a significant player in the field of reproductive development by being the first to conclusively show that GATA-4 is a key transcription factor involved in sex determination and differentiation. This original discovery opened the doors to research towards understanding the molecular mechanisms leading to sex determination in mammals. Moreover, Dr. Viger's team has shown that GATA-4 is a novel downstream effector of hormone-induced, cAMP/protein kinase A signaling in gonadal cells, which has new insights into our understanding of the cAMP responsiveness of hormonally regulated gonadal genes that lack classical cAMP regulatory ele-

ments. Another major breakthrough was the finding that GATA-4 regulates the expression of steroidogenic acute regulatory protein (StAR), an essential cholesterol transporter required for steroid biosynthesis, and P450 aromatase, the enzyme that produces estrogen.

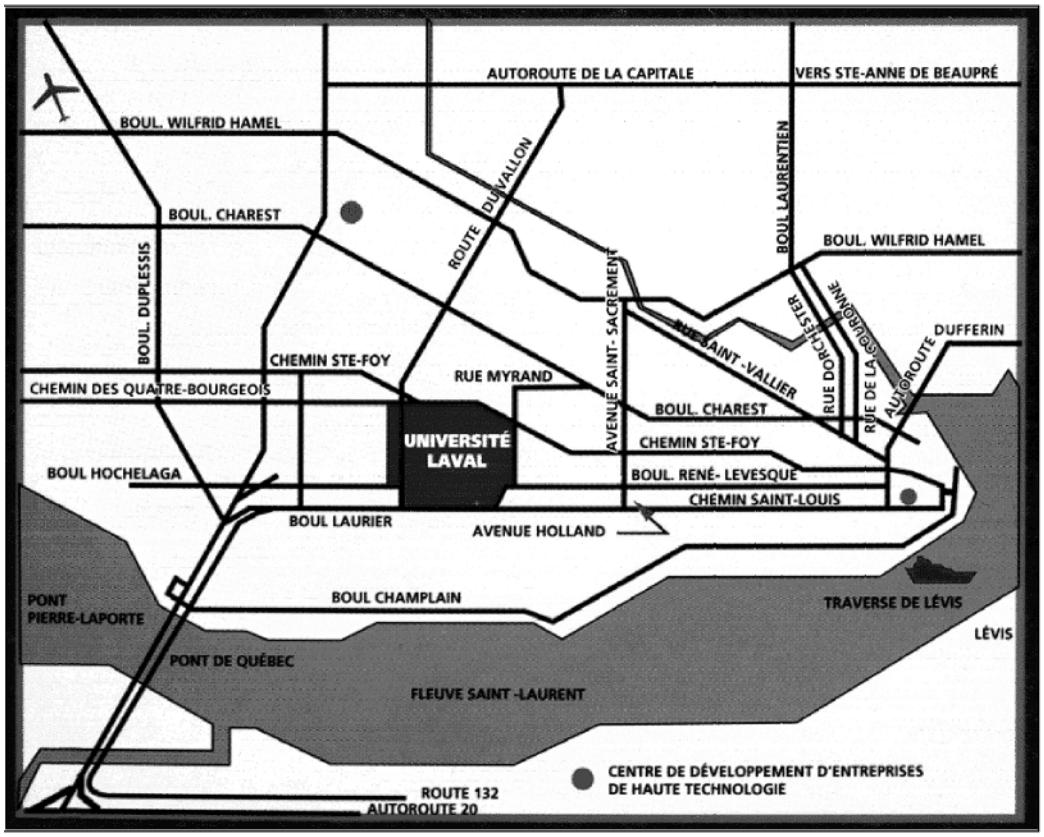
His 1998 and 1999 papers have received close to 200 citations, which is solid proof of the impact of his research contribution. Furthermore, Dr. Viger has spoken at four national or international meetings on the role of GATA-4 and sex determination, hormone signaling mechanisms, and steroidogenesis. Similarly, he has authored four invited reviews or book chapters on this subject. His work is also attracting attention due to potential roles of GATA factors in endocrine disorders such as polycystic ovary syndrome, breast cancer, and endometriosis.

The discovery of GATA-4 as a key mediator of sex determination and effector of hormone-induced protein kinase A signaling is significant to research fields beyond reproductive biology. Because GATA-4 can activate transcription of target genes on its own and with other factors, it is now considered to be a novel "pan-gonadal" regulator of gene transcription. This 2001 publication has also received a great number of citations as well as an editorial in the journal *Endocrinology,* all of which attest to the significance of Dr. Viger's research to molecular and cell biology and endocrinology in general.

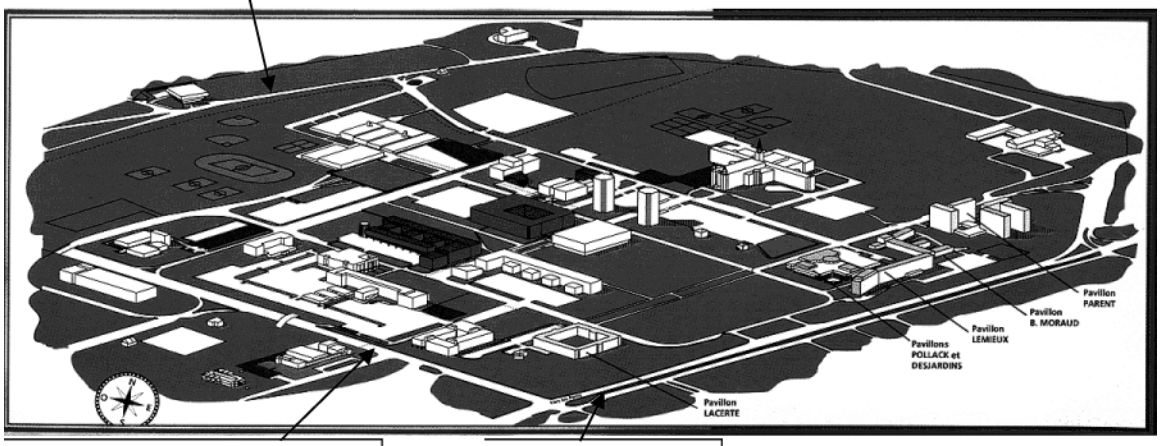
Dr. Viger and his team have provided conclusive evidence that a functional cooperation between GATA-4 and SF-1 is essential for cell-specific *MIS* transcription in the murine gonads. They have extended this mechanism to the human where disruption of a GATA-4/SF-1 transcriptional cooperation is likely responsible for some cases of abnormal human male sex differentiation. As mentioned earlier, their work on GATA-dependent gene expression is potentially implicated in different endocrine disorders such as polycystic ovary syndrome, breast cancer, and endometriosis. These clinically important topics are currently the subjects of ongoing research in his laboratory.

It is noteworthy that Dr. Viger is a recipient of a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair Holder in Reproduction and Sex Development. The Canada Research Chairs are the most prestigious research titles in the nation with the Tier 2 level being specific for junior scientists. Dr. Robert Viger is therefore a worthy recipient of the 2005 New Investigator Award.

University of Laval: City and Campus Maps



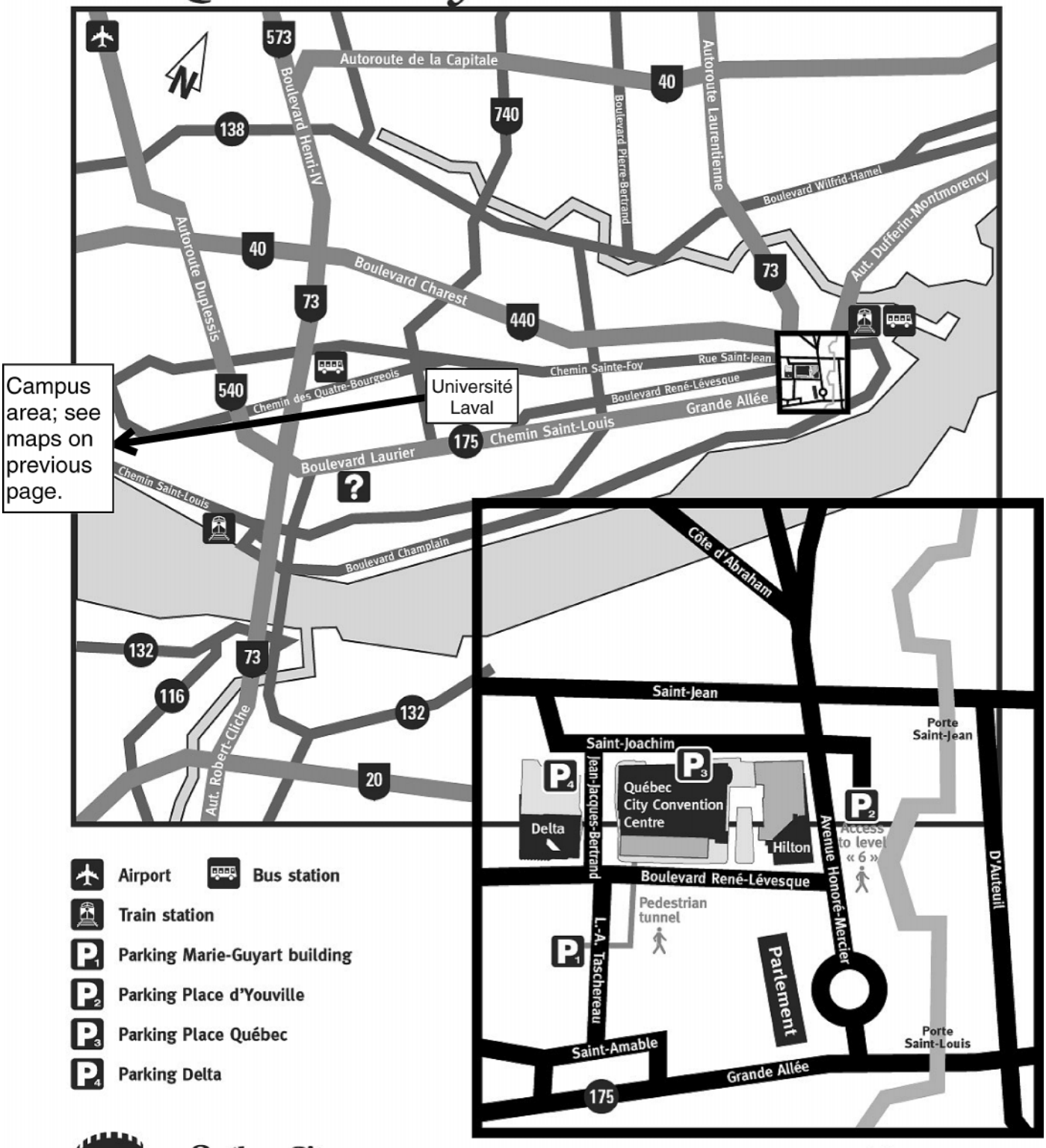
Chemin Sainte-Foy



Autoroute du Vallon (A-740)

Boulevard Laurier

On your way to the Québec City Convention Centre



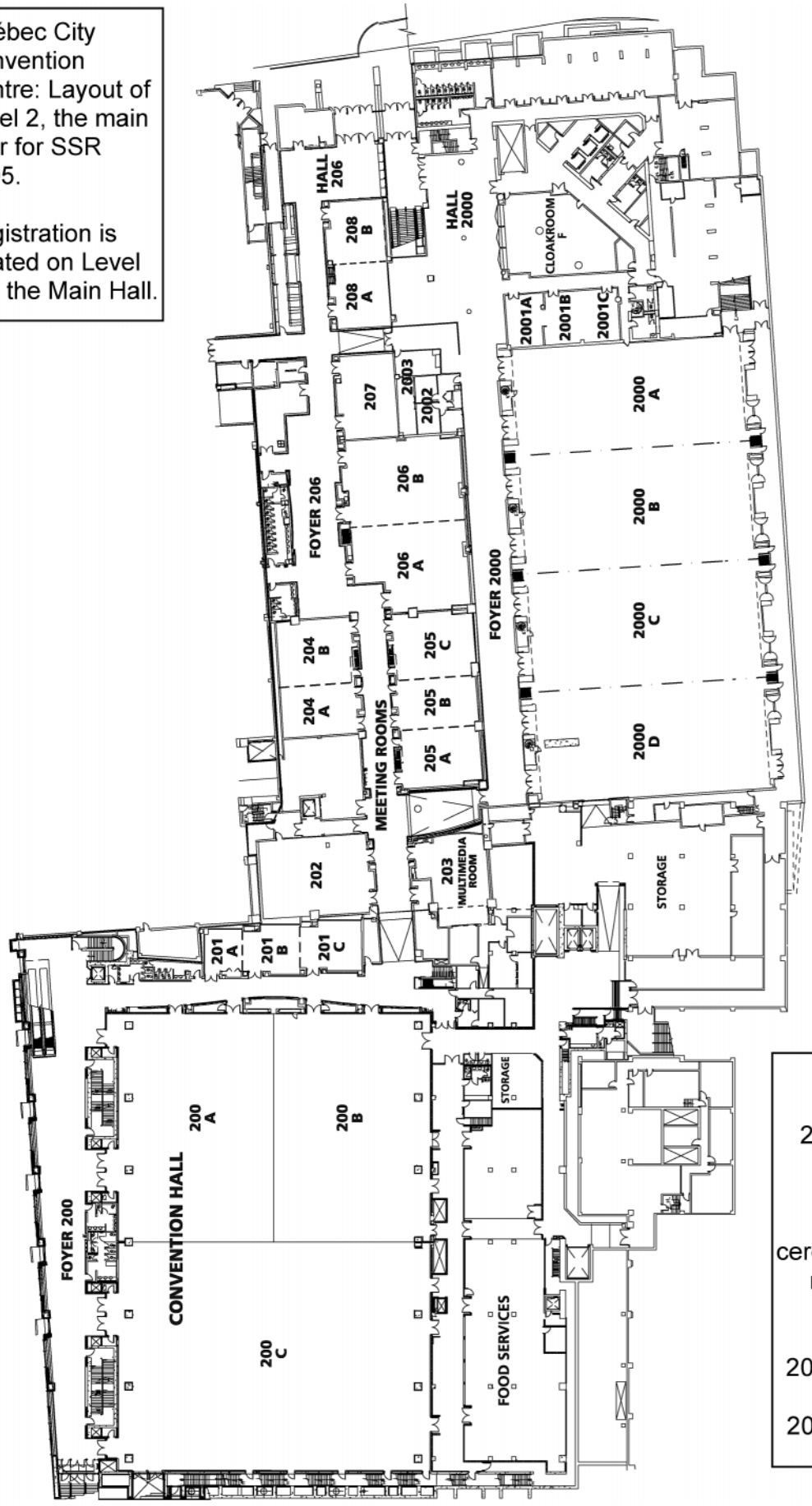
Québec City Convention Centre

Main entrance
1000, boul. René-Lévesque Est

Head office
900, boul. René-Lévesque Est
Québec (Québec)
Canada G1R 2B5
Toll free : 1 888 679-4000
Tel. : (418) 644-4000
Fax : (418) 644-6455
www.convention.qc.ca

Québec City Convention Centre: Layout of Level 2, the main floor for SSR 2005.

Registration is located on Level 4 in the Main Hall.



SSR Meeting Rooms:

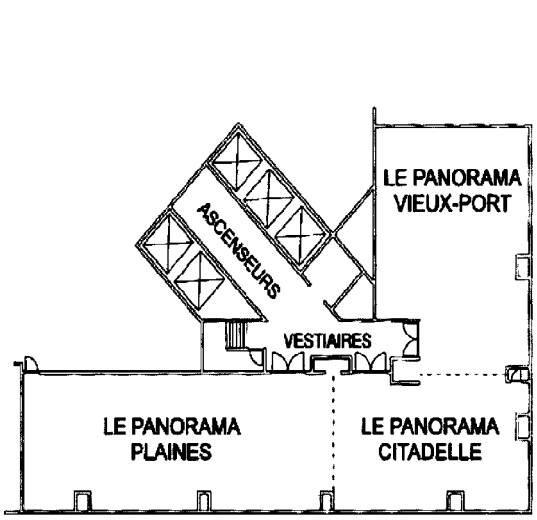
200 A,B,C - Posters and exhibits.

2000 B,C - Opening ceremony, plenary sessions, minisymposiums, slide sessions.

201C - Placement Service.

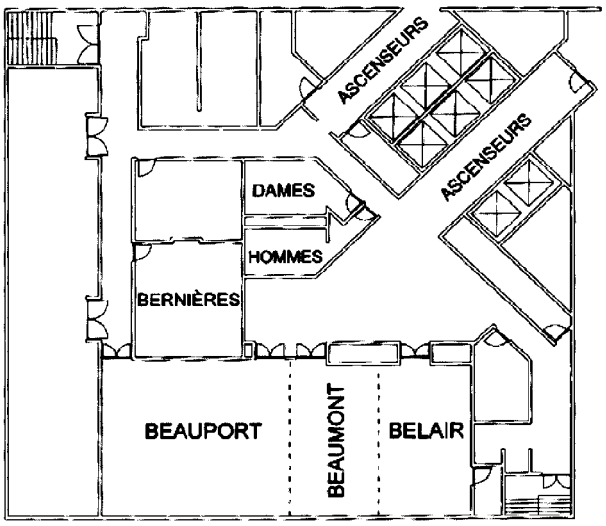
203 - Slide Preview Room.

Hilton
Québec



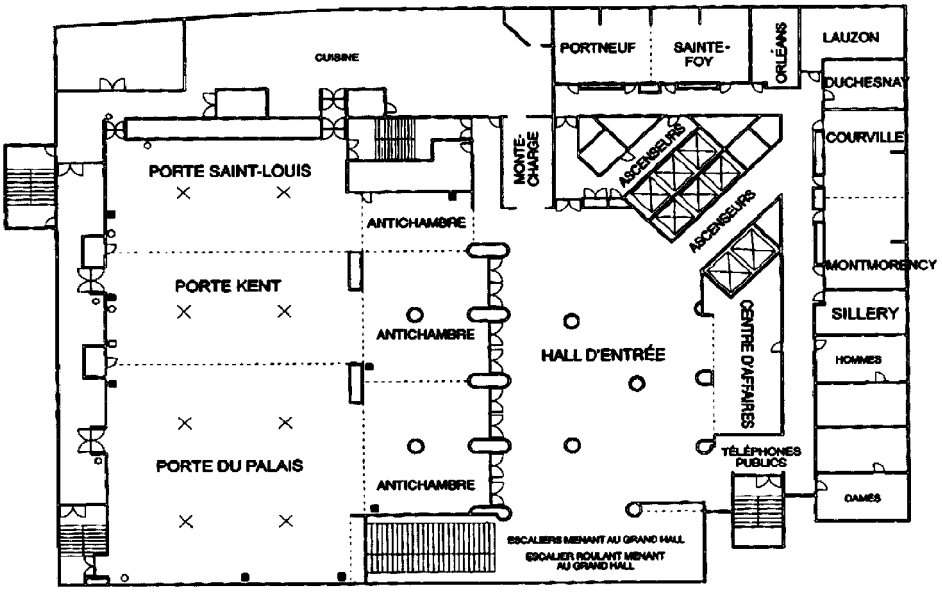
23e ÉTAGE

23e étage / 23rd Floor



2e ÉTAGE

2e étage / 2nd Floor



1er ÉTAGE

1st Floor

Légende :
x = lustre
(x) = point d'ancrage
μ = colonne

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2005 SSR Annual Meeting—Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

Quebec City Convention Center (CCQ)

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.

Friday, 22 July 2005

4:30 pm–6:30 pm **Finance Committee Meeting.** *Panorama Les Plaines, Hilton Quebec.*

7:00 pm–10:00 pm **Board of Directors Meeting.** *Panorama Les Plaines, Hilton Quebec.*

Saturday, 23 July 2005

8:00 am–5:00 pm **Board of Directors Meeting.** *Panorama Les Plaines, Hilton Quebec.*

12:00 pm–5:00 pm **Slide Preview Room.** *CCQ 203.*

5:00 pm–8:00 pm **Registration.** *CCQ Foyer 4, main level.*

Sunday, 24 July 2005

7:00 am–8:00 pm **Slide Preview Room.** *CCQ 203.*

7:00 am–5:00 pm **Registration.** *CCQ Foyer 4, main level.*

7:00 am–8:00 am **LAC Meeting.** *CCQ 201B.*

7:30 am–8:00 am **Techniques in Reproductive Biology Workshop Continental Breakfast.** *CCQ 206.* (For Workshop registrants only.)

8:00 am–5:00 pm **Placement Service.** *CCQ 201C.*

7:30 am–1:00 pm **Techniques in Reproductive Biology Workshop: Methods of Whole-Animal and Whole-Cell Imaging (Abstracts TW1–TW3).** *CCQ 206.* Chair: **David H. Townson, Ph.D.** (University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire). Chair, SSR Education Committee. 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"; **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." (*Organized by the SSR Education Committee.*) ***Separate registration required. Registration includes continental breakfast, coffee break, and buffet luncheon (11:30 am–1:00 pm, Panorama Room, Hilton Quebec.)***

8:30 am–12:30 pm **Editorial Retreat.** *Montmorency, Hilton Quebec.*

11:00 am–11:30 am **Meeting of 2005 Program Committee and Session Chairs.** *CCQ 201A.*

12:00 am–1:00 pm **2005–2006 Future Meeting Sites Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 201A.*

1:00 pm–1:30 pm **Opening Ceremony.** *CCQ 2000BC.*
Welcome: Joy L. Pate, Ph.D. (Ohio State University, Wooster, Ohio). President, SSR.
Awards Presentations. Robert C. Burghardt, Ph.D. (Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas). Chair, SSR Awards Committee.
Carl G. Hartman Award: Gordon D. Niswender, Ph.D. (Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado). *(Sustaining support from Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research and Development, LLC.)*
Distinguished Service Award: Virendra B. Mahesh, Ph.D., D.Phil. (Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia). *(Sustaining support from Serono Research Institute.)*
SSR Research Award: Mary Hunzicker-Dunn, Ph.D. (Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois). *(Sustaining support from N.V. Organon.)*
SSR New Investigator Award: Robert Viger, Ph.D. (Laval University, St-Foy, Quebec, Quebec, Canada). *(Sustaining support from the Virendra B. Mahesh New Investigator Fund.)*
Recognition of Lalor Foundation Postdoctoral Travel Fellows. *(Sustaining support from the Lalor Foundation.)*
Recognition of Burroughs Wellcome Travel Fellows. *(Supported by a career development grant from the Burroughts Wellcome Fund.)*
Recognition of the USDA NRI Travel Fellows. *(Supported by a grant from the USDA National Research Initiative.)*

1:30 pm–2:30 pm **Keynote Address (Abstract KA1).** *CCQ 2000BC.* Speaker: **J. Lee Nelson, M.D.** (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Washington), "The Aftermath from Fetal-Maternal Cell Traffic of Pregnancy." Introduction by **Joy L. Pate, Ph.D.** (Ohio State University, Wooster, Ohio). President, SSR.

2:00 pm–9:00 pm **Cyber Cafe**. *CCG 200ABC. (Partial support from Nikon Canada.)*
2:30 pm–3:00 pm **Refreshment Break.** *CCQ Foyer 2.*
3:00 pm–5:00 pm **Platform Presentations.** Concurrent sessions.
Session 1. Uterine Development and Post-Implantation Embryonic Signaling (Abstracts 1–8). *CCQ 202.*
Session 2. Signaling Pathways in the Ovary, Uterus, and Pituitary (Abstracts 9–16). *CCQ 204AB.*
Session 3. Germ Cell Differentiation and Development I (Abstracts 17–24). *CCQ 205ABC.*
Session 4. Effects of the Environment and Nutrition on Male Reproduction (Abstracts 25–32). *CCQ 206A.*
Session 5. Sperm, Sperm-Egg Interaction, Egg Activation (Abstracts 33–40). *CCQ 206B.*
Session 6. Reproductive Technologies: Recent Advances in Nuclear Transfer, ICSI, Germ Cell Cryopreservation, and Embryonic Development (Abstracts 41–48). *CCQ 208AB.*
Session 7. Gene Expression in Follicles, Oocytes, and Embyos (Abstracts 49–56). *CCQ 2000B.*
5:15 pm–6:00 pm **Film Premier: "SSR—The Generation of a Legacy."** *CCQ 2000BC.* Produced by Patricia Hoyer and Craig Highberger. Edited by **Craig Highberger** (Cincinnati, Ohio). Introduced by **Patricia B. Hoyer, Ph.D.** (University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona).
6:00 pm–7:30 pm **Welcome Reception: Black & White JAZZ.** *CCQ Foyer 4.*
7:30 pm Dinner on your own.

Monday, 25 July 2005

6:00 am–7:00 am **Emeritus Breakfast.** *CCQ 206A.*
7:00 am–9:00 pm **Cyber Cafe.** *CCQ 200ABC. (Partial support from Nikon Canada.)*
7:00 am–5:00 pm **Registration.** *CCQ Foyer 4, main level.*
Slide Preview Room. *CCQ 203.*
7:00 am–8:00 am **LAC Meeting.** *CCQ 201B.*
7:15 am–8:00 am **Historical Perspectives Lecture.** *CCQ 2000BC.* **Jack Gorski, Ph.D.** (University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin), "Discovery of the Nuclear Estrogen Receptor: A History Lesson." Introduction by **Fredrick Stormshak, Ph.D.** (Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon). Chair, SSR Emeritus Committee.
8:00 am–5:00 pm **Placement Service.** *CCQ 201C.*
Funding Agencies Meeting Room. *CCQ 201A.*
8:00 am–8:45 am **Plenary Session 1 (Abstract PL1).** *CCQ 2000BC.* Speaker: **Keith Latham, Ph.D.** (Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), "Nuclear-Cytoplasmic 'Tug-of-War' in Cloning: Outcomes and Handicaps." Introduction by **Alan L. Johnson, Ph.D.** (University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana). Chair, SSR 2005 Program Committee.
9:00 am–10:30 am **Minisymposia I–V**. Concurrent sessions.
Minisymposium I. Threats to Reproductive Success in a Modern World (Abstracts MS1–MS3). *CCQ 205ABC.* Chair: **Louis J. Guillette, Jr., Ph.D.** (University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida). Co-Chair: **Douglas Foster, Ph.D.** (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan). Speakers: **David E. Wildt, Ph.D.** (National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution Conservation and Research Center, Front Royal, Virginia), "Genes Versus Environment, and Reproductive Success in Endangered Species"; **Kevin Sinclair, Ph.D.** (School of Biosciences, University of Nottingham, Loughborough, United Kingdom), "Risks Associated with Assisted Reproduction: Mechanistic Insights from Animal Studies"; **Bernard Jegou, Ph.D.** (INSERM, Universite de Rennes I, Rennes, France), "Integrated Study of the Reproductive Health of Workers and Wild Rats Exposed to Pesticides in Banana Fields of Guadeloupe (French West Indies)." *(Organized by the Committee on Reproduction and the Environment.)*
Minisymposium II. Non-Genomic Actions of Steroids in Reproductive Tissues (Abstracts MS4–MS6). *CCQ 2000B.* Chair: **Fredrick Stormshak, Ph.D.** (Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon). Co-Chair: **Terry Nett, Ph.D.** (Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado). Speakers: **Donald Pfaff, Ph.D.** (Rockefeller University New York, New York), "Membrane Actions of Sex Steroids in Neurons: Implications for Genomics and Behavior"; **Richard J. Santen, M.D.** (University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia), "Signaling Pathways Activated by the Nongenomic Effects of Estradiol"; **John J. Peluso, Ph.D.** (University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, Connecticut), "Identification of a Putative Progesterone Receptor Complex and Signal Transduction Pathway That Mediates Progesterone's Nongenomic Action in Rat Granulosa and Luteal Cells."

Minisymposium III. Determinants of Preimplantation Embryonic Development (Abstracts MS7–MS9). *CCQ 206B.* Chair: **Peter H. Hansen, Ph.D.** (University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida). Co-Chair: **Rocio Melissa Rivera, Ph.D.** (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). Speakers: **David K. Gardner, Ph.D.** (Colorado Center for Reproductive Medicine, Englewood, Colorado), "Development and Assessment of the Human Embryo"; **Alfonso Gutierrez-Adan, Ph.D.** (INIA, Madrid, Spain), "Developmental Consequences of Sexual Dimorphism for Gene Transcription During Preimplantation Embryonic Development"; **Davor Solter, M.D., Ph.D.** (Max-Planck Institute of Immunobiology, Freiburg, Germany), "The Oocyte as a Reprogramming Milieu." *(Supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Organon USA.)*

Minisymposium IV. Biology of Male Germline Stem Cells (Abstracts MS10–MS12). *CCQ 204AB.* Chair: **Andrea S. Cupp, Ph.D.** (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska). Co-Chair: **Johnathan Andy Schmidt** (Washington State University, Pullman, Washington). Speakers: **Ina Dobrinski, Ph.D.** (University of Pennsylvania, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania), "Germ Cell Transplantation and Transgenesis in Pigs and Goats"; **Derek J. McLean, Ph.D.** (Washington State University, Pullman, Washington), "Germ Stem Cell Maturation and Transplantation in Mice and Bovine"; **Makoto Nagano, Ph.D.** (McGill University Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, Quebec, Canada), "Age-Dependent Difference in the Colonization Ability of Mouse Spermatogonial Stem Cells after Transplantation." *(Supported by an unrestricted educational grant from CONRAD.)*

Minisymposium V. Metabolic Interactions: Reproductive Signals from Nontraditional Sources (Abstracts MS13–MS15). *CCQ 202.* Chair: **Leslie MacLaren, Ph.D.** (Nova Scotia Ag College, Truro, NS, Canada). Co-Chair: **Todd Bilby** (University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida). Speakers: **William W. Thatcher, Ph.D.** (University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida), "Effects of Omega-3 and -6 Fatty Acids on Reproduction in Dairy Cattle"; **M. Susan Smith, Ph.D.** (Oregon National Primate Research Center, Beaverton, Oregon), "Reproductive Function and Energy Balance: Lactation as a Model"; **Paul Bischof, Ph.D.** (Laboratoire d'Hormonologie Maternite, Geneva, Switzerland), "Leptin: A Human Placental Hormone with Pleiotropic Effects."

10:00 am–2:00 pm **Exhibits.** *CCQ 200ABC.*

10:30 am–11:00 am **Coffee & Refreshment Break.** *CCQ 200ABC.*

10:30 am–12:30 pm **Poster Session I.** *CCQ 200ABC.* Authors will attend odd-numbered posters from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., and even-numbered posters from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

12:00 pm–2:00 pm **2005–2006 Program Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 202.*
2005–2006 Public Affairs Committee Meeting. *CCQ 204AB.*
2005–2006 Minority Affairs Committee Meeting. *CCQ 208AB.*

12:30 pm–2:00 pm **Lunch break.**
Box lunches. *CCQ 200ABC.*
Trainee/Mentor Luncheon. *Panorama Les Plaines/Citadelle, Hilton Quebec. Supported by the R.H. Foote Lectureship Fund.*

2:00 pm–4:00 pm **Platform Presentations.** Concurrent sessions.
Session 8. Effects of the Environment and Nutrition on Development and Female Reproduction (Abstracts 57–64). *CCQ 202.*
Session 9. Signaling Pathways in the Ovarian Follicle (Abstracts 65–72). *CCQ 204AB.*
Session 10. Germ Cell Differentiation and Development II (Abstracts 73–80). *CCQ 205ABC.*
Session 11. Genomics and Proteomics from Gametogenesis to Pregnancy (Abstracts 81–88). *CCQ 206A.*
Session 12. Gene Expression and Genome Activation in Oocytes and Embryos (Abstracts 89–96). *CCQ 206B.*
Session 13. Sexually Dimorphic Development of Reproductive Organs in Embryos (Abstracts 97–104). *CCQ 208AB.*
Session 14. Gene Expression in the Pituitary Gland (Abstracts 105–112). *CCQ 2000B.*

4:00 pm–4:30 pm **Refreshment Break.** *CCQ 200ABC.*

4:30 pm–6:30 pm **President's Symposium. Immune Cells in Reproduction: A New Frontier (Abstracts PS1–PS2).** *CCQ 2000BC.* Speakers: **Adrian Erlebacher, M.D., Ph.D.** (Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts), "Immune Regulation of Ovarian Function in Early Pregnancy"; **Mark Hedger, Ph.D.** (Monash Medical Center, Clayton, Victoria, Australia), "Testicular Leukocytes and Cytokines: Inflammation and Immunoregulation in an Immune Privileged Tissue." Introduction by **Joy L. Pate, Ph.D.** (Ohio State University, Wooster, Ohio). President, Society for the Study of Reproduction.

6:30 pm **Free Evening.**

8:00 pm–9:00 pm **Minority Affairs Symposium.** *Panorama Vieux-Port, Hilton Quebec.* Speaker: **Winston Anderson, Ph.D.** (Howard University, Washington, DC), "Mentee to Colleague: Paths to a Research Career." *(Supported by a career development grant from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund.)*

Tuesday, 26 July 2005

7:00 am–9:00 pm **Cyber Cafe.** *CCQ 200ABC. (Partial support from Nikon Canada.)*

7:00 am–5:00 pm **Registration.** *CCQ Foyer 4, main level.*
Slide Preview Room. *CCQ 203.*

7:00 am–8:00 am **Past Presidents' Breakfast.** *Beauport, Hilton Quebec.*
Past Trainee Representatives' Breakfast and Trainee Affairs Committee Meeting. *Beaumont, Hilton Quebec.*
LAC Meeting. *CCQ 201B.*
2005–2006 Awards Committee Meeting. *CCQ 208AB.*
2005–2006 Bylaws Committee Meeting. *CCQ 201A.*

8:00 am–5:00 pm **Placement Service.** *CCQ 201C.*
Funding Agencies Meeting Room. *CCQ 201A.*

8:00 am–9:00 am **Plenary Session 2. Point–Counterpoint (Abstracts PL2–PL3).** *CCQ 2000BC.* Speakers: **Jonathan L. Tilly, Ph.D.** (Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts), "Origin and Function of Mammalian Female Germline Stem Cells"; **David Albertini, Ph.D.** (University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas), "Mining Mammalian Ovaries for Evidence of Neo-Oogenesis: Past, Present, and Future Perspectives." Introduction by **Alan L. Johnson, Ph.D.** (University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana). Chair, SSR 2005 Program Committee.

9:15 am–10:45 am **Minisymposia VI–X.** Concurrent sessions.

Minisymposium VI. Breast Cancer and Biology and Physiology of the Breast (Abstracts MS16–MS18). *CCQ 204AB.* Chair: **Alan James Conley, Ph.D.** (University of California-Davis, Davis, California). Co-Chair: **Patience Browne, Ph.D.** (University of California-Davis, Davis, California). Speakers: **Colin Clyne, Ph.D.** (Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research, Clayton, VIC, Australia), "Cox2, Nuclear Receptors, and Aromatase Regulation in Breast Cancer"; **Tim H.M. Huang, Ph.D., dABMG** (Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio), "Epigenetic Regulation of Estrogen Signaling in Breast Cancer"; **Irma H. Russo, M.D., FCAP, FASCP** (Breast Cancer Research Laboratory, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), "Human Chorionic Gonadotropin and Pregnancy-Induced Differentiation Protect the Breast from Cancer."

Minisymposium VII. Mahesh Neuroendocrine Minisymposium: Androgen Actions in the Developing Female Brain (Abstracts MS19–MS21). *CCQ 206B.* Chair: **Jon E. Levine, Ph.D.** (Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois). Co-Chair: **Catherine Christian** (University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia). Speakers: **Jon E. Levine, Ph.D.** (Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois), "Neuroendocrine Consequences of Prenatal Androgen Exposure in Rodents"; **Jane Robinson, Ph.D.** (University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland), "Prenatal Androgens and Their Effects on Neuroendocrine Function in Ewes"; **Suzanne Moenter, Ph.D.** (University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia), "The Effects of Pre- and Postnatal Androgens on Reproductive Neuroendocrine Circuitry." *(Sustaining support from the Virendra B. Mahesh Neuroendocrine Program Fund.)*

Minisymposium VIII. Epigenetics and Imprinting (Abstracts MS22–MS24). *CCQ 2000B.* Chair: **James Resnick, Ph.D.** (University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida). Co-Chair: **Karen Johnstone, Ph.D.** (University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida). Speakers: **Marisa Bartolomei, Ph.D.** (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), "Regulation of Imprinting at the H19/IGF2 Locus"; **Wendy Dean, Ph.D.** (Babraham Institute, Babraham, Cambridge, United Kingdom), "Dynamic Chromatin Changes During the First Cell Cycle"; **Jacquetta M. Trasler, Ph.D.** (McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada), "Setting and Perturbing Gametic Imprints." *(Supported by an unrestricted grant from Serono Research Institute.)*

Minisymposium IX. Molecular Mechanisms of Sperm Function (Abstracts MS25–MS27). *CCQ 205ABC.* Chair: **Janice L. Bailey, Ph.D.** (Laval University, Ste-Foy, Quebec, Canada). Co-Chair: **Pablo Visconti, Ph.D.** (University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts). Speakers: **W. Steven Ward, Ph.D.** (University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii), "Sperm DNA Degradation into Loop-Sized Fragments and Its Possible Functions"; **Susan S. Suarez, Ph.D.** (Cornell University, Ithaca, New York), "Hyperactivation of Sperm: Swimming in Circles Wins the Race"; **Keith Sutton, Ph.D.,** and **Harvey Florman, Ph.D.** (University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts), "Sperm Calcium Dynamics During Fertilization." (*Supported by an unrestricted grant from CONRAD.)*

Minisymposium X. Endogenous Retroviruses and Reproduction (Abstracts MS28–MS30). *CCQ 202.* Chair: **Fuller W. Bazer, Ph.D.** (Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas). Co-Chair: **Kathrin A. Dunlap** (Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas). Speakers: **Neal S. Rote, Ph.D.** (MacDonald's Women's Hospital, University Hospitals of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio), "Endogenous Retrovirus Expression Drives Villous Cytotrophoblast Differentiation"; **Francois Mallet, Ph.D.** (CNRS-bioMerieux, Ecole Normale Superieure de Lyon, Lyon, France), "Functional Preservation of the Syncytin Encoding Retroviral Locus ERVWE1: From Viral to Cellular Function"; **Thomas E. Spencer, Ph.D.** (Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas), "Endogenous Betaretroviruses of Sheep: Biological Roles in Uterine Function and Placental Morphogenesis."

10:30 am–2:00 pm	**Exhibits.** *CCQ 200ABC.*
10:30 am–11:00 am	**Coffee & Refreshment Break.** *CCQ 200ABC.*
10:45 am–12:45 pm	**Poster Session II.** *CCQ 200ABC.* Authors will attend odd-numbered posters from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., and even-numbered posters from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
11:30 pm–2:30 pm	**Development Committee Meeting and Luncheon.** *Villeray, Hilton Quebec.*
12:00 pm–2:00 pm	**2005–2006 Membership Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 202.* **2005–2006 Publications Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 204AB.* **2005–2006 CoRE Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 201A.* **2005–2006 Animal Care and Use Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 208AB.*
12:30 pm–2:00 pm	**Lunch break.** **Box lunches.** *CCQ 200ABC.*
12:45 pm–1:45 pm	**Trainee Forum: Writing Winning Grants.** *CCQ 206A.* Speaker: **Mark Mirando, Ph.D.** (United States Department of Agriculture-National Research Initiatives, Washington, DC). Chair: **Ugur Salli, D.V.M., Ph.D.** (Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, Pennsylvania). *(Supported by a career development grant from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund.)*
2:00 pm–4:00 pm	**Platform Presentations.** Concurrent sessions. **Platform Session 15. Diseases of the Reproductive System (Abstracts 113–120).** *CCQ 202.* **Session 16. Dying—The Price of Maturation and Aging (Abstracts 121–128).** *CCQ 204AB.* **Session 17. Egg and Embryo Development (Abstracts 129–136).** *CCQ 201A.* **Session 18. Neuroendocrinology (Abstracts 137–144).** *CCQ 206A.* **Session 19. Cell Signaling at the Maternal-Embryonic Interface (Abstracts 145–152).** *CCQ 206B.* **Session 20. Immune-Endocrine Interactions in Reproduction (Abstracts 153–160).** *CCQ 208AB.* **Session 21. Gonadal Gene Expression (Abstracts 161–168).** *CCQ 2000B.*
4:00 pm–4:30 pm	**Refreshment Break.** *CCQ 200ABC.*
4:30 pm–6:00 pm	**Trans-Atlantic Exchange Lectures (Abstracts EX1–EX2).** *CCQ 2000BC.* SRF New Investigator 2004: **Lisa M. Thurston, Ph.D., D.V.M.** (Royal Veterinary College, London, United Kingdom), "A Molecular Approach to Semen Cryopreservation: New Technologies to Answer Old Questions"; SSR New Investigator 2005: **Robert Viger, Ph.D.** (Laval University, Ste-Foy, Quebec, Canada), "The Role of GATA Factors in Mammalian Reproductive Function." Introduced by **Mary Hunzicker-Dunn, Ph.D.** (Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois). Past-President, SSR. *(Supported by the Society for Reproduction and Fertility and the Society for the Study of Reproduction.)*
5:00 pm–7:00 pm	Shuttle buses from CCQ to Espaces Dalhousie.
6:00 pm–7:00 pm	**2005–2006 Nominating Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 204AB.* **2005–2006 Clinical Outreach Committee Meeting.** *CCQ 202.*
7:00 pm–9:00 pm	**Barbecue.** Espaces Dalhousie.
9:00 pm–2:00 am	**Social & Dance.** Espaces Dalhousie.
9:00 pm–3:00 am	Shuttle buses from Espaces Dalhousie to CCQ and Laval University dorms.

Wednesday, 27 July 2005

7:00 am–1:00 pm	**Cyber Cafe.** *CCQ 200ABC.*
7:00 am–12:30 pm	**Registration.** *CCQ Foyer 4, main level.* **Slide Preview Room.** *CCQ 203.*
7:00 am–8:00 am	**LAC Meeting.** *CCQ 201B.*
8:00 am–12:30 pm	**Placement Service.** *CCQ 201C.* **Funding Agencies Meeting Room.** *CCQ Level 2.*
8:00 am–8:45 am	**Plenary 3 (Abstract PL4).** *CCQ 2000BC.* Speaker: **P. Michael Conn, Ph.D.** (Oregon Health Sciences University, Beaverton, Oregon), "Protein Folding: Implications for Reproductive Diseases." Introduction by **Alan L. Johnson, Ph.D.** (University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana). Chair, SSR 2005 Program Committee.

8:45 am–9:00 am **Business Meeting.** *CCQ 2000BC.*

9:00 am–9:15 am **Trainee Research Awards Presentation.** *CCQ 2000BC.* **Robert C. Burghardt, Ph.D.** (Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas). Chair, SSR Awards Committee. *(Sustaining Support from Serono Research Institute.)*

9:15 am–9:30 am **Break.**

9:30 am–11:00 am **Minisymposia XI–XV.** Concurrent sessions.

Minisymposium XI. New Insights Through Modern Approaches into Gamete Biology and Acquisition of Fertilization Competence (Abstracts MS31–MS33). *CCQ 205ABC.* Chair: **Janice P. Evans, Ph.D.** (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland). Co-Chair: **Shelley Tischkau, Ph.D.** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois). Speakers: **Lisa M. Mehlmann, Ph.D.** (University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, Connecticut), "Maintenance of Meiotic Arrest in Mouse Oocytes by GPR3 and Gs"; **Janice L. Bailey, Ph.D.** (Laval University, Sainte Foy, QC, Canada), "Insight into Sperm Capacitation: Tyrosine Phosphorylation of sp32, a Proacrosin-Binding Protein"; **Paula Stein, Ph.D.** (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), "RNAi in the Oocyte: A Powerful Tool to Study Gene Function in Oocyte Maturation and Fertilization." *(Supported by an unrestricted grant from Centre d'insemination porcine du Quebec.)*

Minisymposium XII. Fertility in the 21st Century: New Approaches to Monitoring and Assessing Human Reproductive Health (Abstracts MS34–MS36). *CCQ 206B.* Chair: **Patricia A. Hunt, Ph.D.** (Washington State University, Pullman, Washington). Co-Chair: **Kembra Howdeshell** (EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina). Speakers: **N.E. Skakkebaek, Ph.D.** (Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark), "Testicular Dysgenesis Syndrome (TDS) and Environment: A Possible Role of Endocrine Disruptors"; **Toshihiro Shioda, Ph.D., M.D.** (Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital, Charlestown, Massachusetts), "What Can We Learn from the Transcriptome Profiling? Promises and Caveats"; **Shanna H. Swan, Ph.D.** (University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri), "Future Families: Background Contamination and Human Reproductive Health."

Minisymposium XIII. Regulation of Reproduction by Molecular Clocks (Abstracts MS37–MS39). *CCQ 204AB.* Chair: **Michael Lehman, Ph.D.** (University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio). Co-Chair: **Shelley Tischkau, Ph.D.** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois). Speakers: **Eric L. Bittman, Ph.D.** (University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts), "Clock Genes in Peripheral Organs: Neural and Endocrine Control"; **Gerald A. Lincoln, Ph.D.** (MRC Human Reproductive Sciences Unit, Center for Reproductive Biology, Edinburgh, Scotland), "Clock Genes in Calendar Cells (Sheep)"; **Lance J. Kriegsfeld, Ph.D.** (University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California), "Neural and Genetic Control of Endocrine Timing by the Circadian System."

Minisymposium XIV. Meeting the Demands of the Fetus: A Maternal-Fetal Partnership (Abstracts MS40–MS42). *CCQ 202.* Chair: **Margaret Petroff, Ph.D.** (University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas). Co-Chair: **Ronald R. Magness, Ph.D.** (University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin). Speakers: **G.J. Burton, Ph.D.** (University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom), "The First Trimester: Creating a Suitable Environment for Organogenesis"; **Ronald R. Magness, Ph.D.** (University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin), "Uteroplacental Blood Flow Regulation and Fetal Growth During Gestation"; **Stacy Zamudio, Ph.D.** (New Jersey Medical School, Newark, New Jersey), "Testing the Limits of Maternal-Fetal Partnership: Adaptive Success and Failure under Conditions of Chronic Hypoxia in Human Pregnancy."

Minisymposium XV. Transcriptional Regulation of Gene Expression in the Ovary (Astracts MS43–MS45). *CCQ 2000B.* Chair: **John S. Davis, Ph.D.** (University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska). Co-Chair: **Joshua Johnson, Ph.D.** (Massachusetts General Hospital, Charlestown, Massachusetts). Speakers: **Peter Koopman, Ph.D.** (University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia), "Molecular Regulation of Fetal Ovary Development"; **Kenneth P. Nephew, Ph.D.** (Indiana University School of Medicine, Bloomington, Indiana), "Epigenetic Regulation of Transcription in Ovarian Cancer"; **Diego H. Castrillon, M.D., Ph.D.** (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas), "Foxo3 and Primordial Follicle Activation"; **Xiaoying Hou, M.D.** (University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska), "Regulation of Transforming Growth Factor β Transcription by the Early Growth Response Factor 1 Transcription Factor in the Corpus Luteum." *(Supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc.)*

11:00 am–11:30 pm **Break and Refreshments.** *CCQ 200ABC*

11:00 am–1:00 pm **Exhibits.** *CCQ 200ABC.*

11:00 am–1:00 pm **Poster Session III.** *CCQ 200ABC.* Authors will attend odd-numbered posters from 11:00 to 12:00 noon, and even-numbered posters from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

1:00 pm **Meeting adjourned.**

1:15 pm–3:00 pm **2005–2006 Board of Directors Meeting.** *Panorama Citadelle, Hilton Quebec.*