

# SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF REPRODUCTION Newsletter

Volume 23, Number 2

June 2006

*From the President—*

## **On to Omaha for SSR's science and social roundup of a dynamic year**

**A** year of dramatic change and challenges for the Society culminates in SSR's 39th Annual Meeting at the Qwest Center in Omaha July 29–August 1.

It has been a pleasure for me to serve the Society and its members as President this past year. Indeed this has been a challenging year in many areas that influence us as scientists and as a society. Joy Pate, as Past President, and I attended the Sister Societies Meeting held recently in Washington, DC. It is clear that SSR and its 14 associated sister societies are striving to meet many of the same challenges and windows of opportunity to sustain our excellence.

SSR's Endowment Subcommittee of the Development Committee, chaired by Janice Bailey, has focused on enhancing contributions to our Legacy Fund with the intent of replacing lost subscription revenue and anticipated higher costs of journal production. As the publisher of *Biology of Reproduction*, SSR is responsible for maintaining the excellence and vitality of the journal; over the past 37 years, SSR has dealt with an ever-changing environment related to its publication. Approximately 80% of SSR's revenue is generated from institutional/library subscriptions and licenses and publication/page charges. At present, we are facing the ongoing impact of online publication, especially the "open access" to journal articles mandated by NIH, the Wellcome Trust, etc. Subscription orders from libraries, institutions, and even from SSR members have declined; this decline has had a significant impact on revenue generated from *BOR* subscriptions. Our long-term solution to the situation is to build an endowment via the Legacy Fund whereby the publication process will be sustained by earnings from



the endowment. SSR believes this is a means to preserve scientific independence while maintaining our status as the top-rated journal in the area of reproductive biology.

Virendra Mahesh, Chair of the Publications Committee, has worked with Fraser Gurd of the Society's Business Office in using the SSR Web site to canvass members about how they envision the future structure of our journal. We need to know whether members and trainees prefer print and electronic versions of *BOR*, the electronic version and not the print version, or the electronic version with a "print on demand" option at cost for those who would like a printed copy. This information is vital for developing strategies to meet publication costs of *BOR* in the future.

In addition to using our Web site for surveys, we are now conducting the Society's elections and registering participants for the Annual Meeting online. Membership renewal will also soon become available via the Web. Our enhanced Web presence is essential for visionary planning and for maintaining direct connections with our membership.

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC), chaired by Susan Suarez, has been remarkably effective in its outreach strategies at meetings, targeting both minority trainees and SSR members. Susan has been successful in supporting this year's program through funding from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund to attract and retain underrepresented minorities into the field of reproductive biology. At the Sister Societies Meeting, our MAC program was represented as a high priority for SSR, and this has led to future networking opportunities with sister societies to sustain enthusiasm for minority programs and to expand efforts relative to diversity of membership, as SSR and other societies continue to internationalize their membership and outreach. Indeed Joy Pate has co-chaired an international committee whose intent is to develop a joint international symposium sponsored by our sister societies in reproduction (i.e., Society for

Reproductive Biology, Society for Reproduction and Fertility, Japanese Society of Animal Reproduction, Japanese Society of Fertility and Sterility, and Society for the Study of Reproduction). Tentatively, an international symposium is targeted just prior to the SSR meeting to be held in Hawaii in May 2008. The planners hope that this will be a sustained effort to further internationalize the interactions among our scientific societies in reproduction.

Obligations of scientists and authors, as we publish in *Biology of Reproduction*, are to provide an “accurate, honest, and precise account of the research performed” and to properly acknowledge the work of others without any suggestion or inference of plagiarism. SSR is currently fine-tuning our ethical guidelines for research and the channels of communication with the aim of forestalling potential ethical issues. Our Editors-in Chief, John Eppig and Mary Ann Handel, are commended for the excellent leadership in developing *BOR* as the best vehicle for publication of superior science in reproduction. Considerable effort and time are devoted to the details of upholding ethical standards, and we need to sharpen our sensitivities and training to meet the highest scientific values.

I want to thank Tod Hansen and his Program Committee for putting together an exciting and diverse program for this year’s meeting. The program offers diversity in state-of-the-art topics and has been very responsive to the needs of the membership, as expressed in a survey taken at last year’s meeting. Slight alterations have been made in organizational structure with attention to maximizing opportunities for scientific dialogue, interactions with trainees, and exposure to topics such as *Taking Your Science to the People*. The program (<[www.ssr.org/06ProgramHighlights.html](http://www.ssr.org/06ProgramHighlights.html)>) balances the latest in scientific advances with a historical perspective of the estrogen receptor presented by one of SSR’s founding fathers, Dr. Jack Gorski. Tod has imprinted his organizational skills throughout the program, and has teamed up with Melissa Clifton in efficiently integrating the abstracts and trainee abstracts for awards competition. Between the Keynote Address, President’s Symposium, plenary presentations, and minisymposia, the meeting will be a great experience for the gourmet or connoisseur of science in reproduction. The SSR program—coupled with the Third International Symposium on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) for the Conservation and Genetic Management of Companion Animals, Non-Domestic and Endangered Species (CANDES)—will make for an exciting meeting. We are beholden to Shyamal Roy and the Local Arrangements Committee for having organized the meeting at the Qwest Center Omaha, a

state-of-the-art venue, and for showcasing one of the gateways to the West.

The SSR Annual Meeting requires a considerable amount of support to bring forth the latest in science to the program and to support trainee participation in the meeting. We are indebted to continued grants from the USDA Animal Reproduction Program and the NICHD that support the Annual Meeting and trainee travel expenses. I would like to offer well-deserved kudos to the leadership of our Development Committee (Roger Gosden) and of the Endowment (Janice Bailey) and Industrial Relations (Andy LaBarbera) subcommittees for their sustained efforts in building support for SSR.

In ending, I want to personally thank Joy Pate as a lovely and supporting mentor for me during her tenure as President and Past-President. Likewise, I am indebted to Judy Jansen, our Executive Director, and her team at the SSR Business Office. Collectively, they, and all SSR volunteers through their committee service, and the entire membership make the Society for the Study of Reproduction the renewing success that it is. We have a society that fills us up again and again, and makes us feel that we are part of something bigger than ourselves. I thank you all and look forward to seeing you in Omaha. ■

—Bill Thatcher

## Recipients chosen for travel awards

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) is very pleased to announce the winners of the Burroughs Wellcome travel awards. The trainee awardees are Avenel Joseph, Karenne Fru, Charles Gyamera-Acheampong, and Lindsey Treviño. The recipient of the faculty travel award is Dr. William Catherino. Congratulations!

MAC is planning the second annual dinner and symposium to be held July 30 at SSR’s 2006 Annual Meeting. The speaker will be Dr. John Parrish, University of Wisconsin–Madison. Dr. Parrish will speak about challenges faced by minority students who move from small schools with large minority populations to large universities. His title will be “Challenges to succeed in the absence of diversity.” The symposium is open to all.

SSR will sponsor a MAC booth at the Annual Meeting where members and trainees may meet and obtain information on funding sources for minorities. This year, the booth will be stocked with refreshments and chairs, so it can be a place to relax and meet people. ■

—Susan S. Suarez, Chair  
Minority Affairs Committee

# SSR members elect new officers, Directors

The SSR membership has elected Douglas Stocco as President-Elect, Bruce Murphy as Treasurer, and Marco



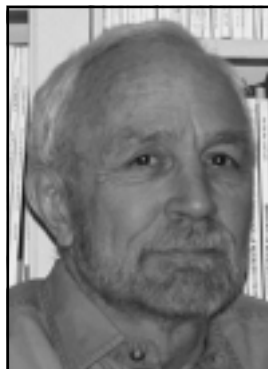
**Douglas Stocco**

Conti and Robert Koos as Directors. The initial nominations and the final ballot included strong candidates, a fact reinforced by how close the votes were throughout this process. We sincerely hope that those individuals who were nominated but not elected this year will run again in the future.

Biographical sketches of the candidates on the ballot can be found at <[www.ssr.org/Documents/06elect.pdf](http://www.ssr.org/Documents/06elect.pdf)>.

Ballots were sent to 1,422 eligible voters. Although the response was slightly greater than last year, only 47.3% of the membership voted. The electronic voting is so easy that it is hard to understand why participation was so low this year. I challenge the membership to improve this percentage next year. This is your Society and your participation is important.

The new Nominating Committee will begin in the fall to solicit nominations for the next President-Elect



**Bruce Murphy**

and Directors. Begin now to think of those members of SSR you would like to see elected. The SSR Annual



**Marco Conti**

Meeting provides a great opportunity to watch those members who are very active in our Society or to indicate to friends that you would like to be nominated for one of the offices.

I want to thank the members of the 2005–06 Nominating Committee for their help. These are John Albrecht, Carol Bagnell, Frank Bartol, Michael Fields,

Michael Griswold, Carol Keefer, Landis Keyes, Michael Soars, Richard Stouffer, and Joy Pate (Board liaison). Thanks also to Judy Jansen for helping us complete numerous tasks in a timely fashion, and to Fraser Gurd for the collecting and processing the ballots.

Please take time to congratulate the new officers and Directors in Omaha. ■



**Robert Koos**

—Phillip A. Fields, Chair  
Nominating Committee

## SSR AWARDS FOR 2006 ARE ANNOUNCED

*Carl G. Hartman Award (sponsored by Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, LLC)—Dr. R. Michael Roberts.*

*SSR Distinguished Service Award (sponsored by Serono Research Institute)—Dr. P. Landis Keyes.*

*SSR Research Award (sponsored by the NV Organon)—Dr. Michael D. Griswold.*

*SSR New Investigator Award (sponsored by the Virendra B. Mahesh New Investigator Fund)—Dr. Andrea S. Cupp.*

*The Hartman and Distinguished Service Awards will be presented at the Awards Ceremony immediately following the Opening Ceremony at the 2006 Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 29.*

*The SSR Research Award and the SSR New Investigator Award will be presented at an Awards Ceremony on Sunday, July 30.*

*A description of the awards is at <[www.ssr.org/ssr/ssraward.htm](http://www.ssr.org/ssr/ssraward.htm)>. ■*

## Have you made your Omaha reservations?

The SSR Annual Meeting is rapidly approaching. From the large number of abstracts submitted, it seems that the membership is eager to attend the meeting and to enjoy our beautiful and friendly city of Omaha. We, the Local Arrangements Committee, along with the SSR management team, have organized all major events and are wrapping up small loose ends so that attendees can enjoy their stay in Omaha. The outstanding scientific program is packed solid with current topics to please all sectors of reproductive biology community around the world. We strongly feel that the poster and platform sessions will be equally invigorating. Additionally, this year's Conservation and Genetic Management of Companion Animals, Non-Domestic and Endangered Species (CANDES) meeting, with its many exciting topics, is a special attraction and will allow SSR members to interact with people in the applied sectors.

We urge all members, foreign and domestic, to please come to Omaha with your families and celebrate the Annual Meeting with us. This is an excellent opportunity to renew acquaintances, exchange ideas, and develop new friendships. The new Web site for registra-

tion is superb. It is simple, easy to use, and contains all relevant information to plan your visit to Omaha. Please register, make your hotel reservations now, and schedule a few extra days of stay to take advantage of our Midwestern hospitality. We are certain that you will enjoy your visit to our city, and you will return home with fresh ideas to face the challenges of the current funding climate.

Please make your reservations early in order to stay close to the Qwest Center and take advantage of hotel rooms with reduced conference prices. The Omaha Old Market area is a lively place during the summer. Expect morning temperatures to be pleasant and relatively warm temperatures in the afternoon. Remember, this is your meeting. Your participation makes this the best meeting of the year. The LAC is here to assist you, so please do not hesitate to contact us if you need specific information. We look forward to seeing you at SSR 2006! ■

—*Shyamal K. Roy, Chair*  
*Local Arrangements Committee*

## CME credits offered for participation in SSR 2006 Annual Meeting

### Accreditation statement

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 and The Society for the Study of Reproduction. The American Society for Reproductive Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

*AMA (AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)*

The American Society for Reproductive Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 28 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

*ACOG*

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has assigned 26 cognate credits to this program.

### Needs assessment and course description

Biomedical researchers are advancing the frontiers of reproductive biology through the discovery of new approaches to regulation and manipulation of human and animal cells. The translation of knowledge of basic reproductive processes into the development of novel therapies for human reproductive disease requires that healthcare professionals continuously update their knowledge of human and animal reproduction.

The Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) brings basic and clinical researchers in re-

productive biology and medicine together in a collegial atmosphere that enables them to exchange scientific information and further advance our understanding of reproduction and development. The SSR Annual Meeting will provide basic scientists, clinical researchers and physicians in the area of reproductive medicine and biology with advanced training in cell signaling in reproductive organs, developmental biology and implantation of early embryos, and application of animal models to cloning and stem cell research. Lecturers will focus on the impact of nutrition and energy homeostasis on reproduction. Participants will learn how to optimize communication of their research findings to the scientific and lay communities.

### Learning objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, the participant should be able to:

1. Explain how reproductive processes are impacted by alterations in nutritional status, metabolism and energy balance.
2. Summarize recent advances in cloning and stem cell technology.
3. Compare and contrast molecular signaling pathways in cells of different reproductive organs.
4. Describe the cellular sequence of events in fertilization, embryonic development and blastocyst implantation.
5. Devise strategies for effective communication of new scientific discoveries. ■

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## New Members

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### Regular

William E. Ackerman IV  
Edgardo D. Carosella  
Sylvie Chastant  
Maria Anna Ciemerych  
Diego A. Ellerman  
Kazuyoshi Hashizume  
Naomi Kashiwazaki  
Yuichi Kameyama  
Yasuyuki Kurihara  
Michelle Lane  
Uwe Paasch  
Jeyasuria Pancharatnam  
Jens Vanselow  
Pablo Visconti  
Trevor Williams

### Associate

Tamara Keeley  
Neng-Wen Lo

### Trainee

Anna Maria Ajduk  
Brenda M. Alexander  
Jennifer L. Antelman

Denise Archambeault  
Michael Bradaric  
Kate M. Brannon  
Shawn Breen  
Joseph C. Chen  
Catherine A. Dayger  
Christine DeCarlo  
Geraldine Delbes  
Lei Deng  
Raina Dias  
Matthew Dyson  
Shai E. Elizur  
Justin M. Fear  
Amy-Lynn Frankshun  
Anne M. Friel  
Christine Glidewell-Kenney  
Xiaoyan Gong  
Rangan Gupta  
Ling Hui  
Monika Janssen  
Sukanya Japoenporn  
Cia L. Johnson  
Aya Kasamatsu  
Chinatsu Mukai Kazama  
Mohamad Khalaf  
Annet Kirabo  
Brian C. Kitamura  
Kessiri Kongmanas  
Satomi Kohno  
Arantatzu Lassala

Mary Laws  
Adam Luckenbach  
Brian Luong  
Sergio Abreu Machado  
Gabriela F. Mastromonaco  
Takashi Matsuzaki  
Ramsey H. McIntire  
Carla Morrow  
Gladson Muthian  
Chad W. O'Gorman  
Joe Jesse Owens III  
Haiyan Pan  
Anand S. Panimaya  
Daniel H. Poole  
Seppan Prakash  
Scott Purcell  
Eila Roberts  
Megan Roberts  
Anamika Sengupta  
Flavio Teixeira Silvestre  
Madhu Prabhakar Sirivelu  
Jacqueline E. Smith  
Elizabeth Snyder  
Yang Song  
Vivek Kumar Srivastava  
Meena Sukhwani  
Jessica Taibl  
Timothy Stearns  
Jui-Chih Su  
Ji Ho Suh

Mikiko Tokoro  
Marcella S. Torres  
Crystal White  
Jeffrey J. Whyte  
Joceyln Wiarda  
Christine Witchell  
Ching-I Wu  
Yasuhiro Yamauchi  
Xiaoqin Ye  
Christine Xueling Yeo  
Deirdre Zander

### Change of status

*To Regular:*  
Blanche Capel  
Jong G. Kim  
Sarah Kimmins  
Daudi K. Langat  
Zhiming Liu  
L. Christie Rockwell  
Kevin Sinclair  
Jens Vanselow  
Antony W. Wood

*To Associate:*  
Robert J. Belton Jr.  
Koji Sugiura

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## Report from the Membership Committee

*"Dear Janice: It has been some time since I have sent a message to the SSR Membership Committee. I now have the names of the SSR members in your region who have not renewed. At the beginning of the year, the SSR Office sent a second reminder to each member who had not renewed. Now we are left with the current SSR members who have not yet renewed . . . ."*

As Chair of the SSR Membership Committee, I am inviting you as one of our valued members to renew your SSR membership. The SSR Business Office did send renewal reminders late last fall. However, I know it is very easy to overlook electronic membership renewals, especially because we receive many e-mails each day. Membership in SSR is important because without a scientific society such as SSR very few journals would be published and

annual scientific meetings would not be held. Your membership in SSR gives you access to *Biology of Reproduction*, the top reproductive biology journal in the world. There is also a financial benefit of being a member of SSR. Publication costs are reduced and the registration fee for the Annual Meeting is less.

I invite you to renew your membership and help keep SSR strong. We need you as a valued SSR member. To renew, you will need to contact the SSR office. Please go to <www.ssr.org> and click on membership renewal. I hope that you are well and that 2006 thus far has been a good year for you and yours. ■

—Janice Bahr, Chair  
Membership Committee

## Great trainee events planned for Omaha

I would like to formally extend an invitation to all trainees to attend SSR's Annual Meeting in Omaha this summer. As in the past, this year's program promises to be a very exciting and influential event.

I will also like to welcome Rita Vassena to her new position as the 2006–08 Trainee Representative. I am sure she will do an excellent job representing our trainees on the Board.

Trainees, please mark you calendar and make sure to attend the Trainee Forum on Monday, July 31. This year, Dr. Howard Adams will speak on "Strategic careering in the 21st century." Dr. Adams is founder and president of H.G. Adams & Associates, a consulting company that provides human development services and products to educational, governmental, and industrial organizations. He is a highly sought-after keynote speaker and seminar presenter, having spoken at over 500 colleges and universities and numerous national conferences and conducted training for a number of Fortune 500 companies. I am sure he will have a profound impact on our trainees.

Looking for a job? Well, we have you covered. The placement service will be open as usual throughout the meeting. Want a great way to serve? Sign up as a volunteer to help run the placement service. By signing up for one to two hours during the meeting, you can help keep the placement service running throughout the meeting. E-mails will be sent shortly to solicit volunteers for this service. Questions can be forwarded to Olga Bolden-Tiller at <olgabolden@yahoo.com>.

The Trainee-Mentor Luncheon will be held on Sunday, July 30. This year we have a variety of excellent mentors joining us. A list of these mentors is available online when you register. Please remember that seating is limited and will be assigned on a per table basis. Trainees will be assigned in the order in which the preferences are received. We hope everyone will have the opportunity to take advantage of this exciting event. Questions can be forwarded to Chrissy Schilling at <cschi001@umaryland.edu>.

Finally, trainee members of SSR who are presenting abstracts are eligible to apply to the Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund (LEMTTF). To apply for this award, you will need verification that you are presenting an abstract at the meeting. If you did not receive an e-mail verifying that your abstract was accepted, please contact the SSR Business Office. The deadline for submitting the application is June 16. The application form

can be found on the trainee information Web site at <[www.ssr.org/TraineeMtgInfo.html#Grants](http://www.ssr.org/TraineeMtgInfo.html#Grants)>.

I look forward to seeing you in Omaha! ■

—*Kimberly Barnett*  
*Senior Trainee Representative*

## From your Public Affairs Committee

Since last year's Annual Meeting, your Public Affairs Committee has focused on two primary goals: to showcase our members via the SSR Web site and to develop a brochure that will be an asset to SSR representatives when they meet with government officials to encourage support for our mission. To this end, we highlighted the accomplishments of our members by featuring summaries from our Carl G. Hartman, Research, Distinguished Service, and New Investigator awardees on the SSR Web site. We will continue to highlight our honorees, so please keep an eye on the Web site and future SSR Newsletters.

While we have made significant strides toward achieving our second goal, it remains a work in progress. To ensure the best possible brochure we will continue to solicit assistance and input from SSR members. We plan to include in this brochure images of species commonly used in research performed by SSR members. If you have an image that you are particularly proud of and feel it would enhance the appeal of the brochure, we would love to hear from you.

In addition, we plan to include a section featuring *scientific milestones in reproductive biology* achieved by SSR members. For the most complete list of these contributions, we are counting on you to provide us with information. We are also interested in turning this list into a time line for the SSR Web site. If you recall an especially noteworthy scientific achievement that involves an SSR member, please share that information with us via e-mail to <[cquirk@indiana.edu](mailto:cquirk@indiana.edu)>.

It is with the input of the entire SSR membership that your Public Affairs Committee will maximize its efforts. Your participation is greatly appreciated. We look forward to hearing your ideas and thank you for your support in building these valuable resources. ■

—*Christine Campion Quirk, Chair*  
*Public Affairs Committee*

## *Views from SSR's 2005 Annual Meeting*



*(Photos by the Local Arrangements Committee)*

# News from the Reproductive Sciences Branch

## **Branch objectives for funding in tight times.**

During these challenging times for the NIH budget and paylines, Reproductive Sciences Branch (RSB) staff have developed three objectives that help guide funding decisions. These are (1) support new investigators, (2) keep as many investigators in the game as possible, and (3) maintain a balanced science portfolio. Please know that we are always available to discuss your concerns and answer questions through these difficult and challenging times.

**Change in program directorship.** Dr. Charisee Lamar is now the Director of the Reproductive Neuroendocrinology Program in the RSB. Please address inquiries regarding this program to Dr. Lamar at 301-435-6977 or <cl225r@nih.gov>. Dr. Lamar also is the Director of the Interdisciplinary Research and Reproductive Biology Program, as well as the Director for the Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health Program. Please visit our Web site at <[www.nichd.nih.gov/cpr/rs/rs.htm](http://www.nichd.nih.gov/cpr/rs/rs.htm)> for a complete listing of our programs and staff contact information.

**Funding opportunities.** The following are active Program Announcements (PAs) that seek to convey the interest of the RSB in supporting research in a particular area. Remember that there are no set-aside funds to support the applications submitted in response to a particular PA, although such applications are given priority in making funding decisions. The PAs are:

- **Reproductive Genetics and Epigenetics (R01, R03, R21)** (PA-04-049, expiration date 12/2006)
- **Endometrial Cell Function (R01, R03)** (PA-04-056, expiration date 3/2007)
- **Vulvodynia – Systemic Epidemiologic, Etiologic or Therapeutic Studies (R01)** (PA-06-302, expiration date 3/2009)

Applications submitted in response to these PAs use the regular receipt dates for unsolicited R01 applications.

We also support administrative supplements to existing grants for human embryonic stem cell research. The notice number is NOT-HD-05-011. Principal investigators of NICHD-funded R01, R37, P01, and U01 grants may request an administrative supplement not to exceed \$75,000 direct costs per year for each of two years. These supplement requests need to be forwarded to NICHD by July 1, 2006, for funding in FY 2006.

**New investigators.** The NIH announced the establishment of a new program to foster the independence of new investigators. The Pathway to Independence Award Program (K99/R00) presents an opportunity for promising postdoctoral scientists to receive both mentored and independent research support from the same award. The initial 1–2-year mentored K phase of the award will allow investigators to complete a supervised career development experience. Years 3–5 will allow awardees who secure an assistant professorship, or equivalent position, to establish their own research program. The NIH plans to issue between 150 and 200 awards for this program in its initial year, which will begin in fall 2006. For more information on this, please visit <[grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-133.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-133.html)>.

The NIH also plans on conducting a feasibility pilot study to shorten the time between resubmissions of applications submitted by new investigators. The Integrative and Clinical Endocrinology and Reproduction Study Section (ICER) will participate in this pilot study. For more information, please visit <[grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-013.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-013.html)>.

**Multiple principal investigators.** Beginning in 2006, the NIH will offer the option of naming multiple PIs on applications submitted in response to a selected group of Requests for Applications (RFAs) and Program Announcements (PAs) with receipt dates of mid to late 2006. Based on experience from these pilot initiatives, an option for more than one PI will become available for most investigator-initiated research grant mechanisms in 2007. It is envisioned that this option will promote “team science” in which various scientific disciplines or translational investigations are needed to address a scientific question or public health need. For more information, please visit <[grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-036.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-036.html)>. ■

—Louis V. DePaolo  
Reproductive Sciences Branch  
Center for Population Research  
NICHD, NIH, DHHS

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