

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

Registration Fees

Payment of registration fees is required to participate in the meeting. Registration covers attendance at all scientific sessions, the Opening Reception on 27 May 2008, continental breakfasts, refreshment breaks, lunches, and a meeting tote. An SSR 2008 Annual Meeting badge is required for admission to all scientific sessions and for access to food functions. Registration fees are discounted for SSR members and for early registration and payment.

Confirmation and Receipts

The registration packet will contain a receipt of payment, name badge, and vouchers for special purchases. Registration packets will be distributed at the SSR Registration Desk in the lobby of the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Meeting registration will be refunded in full only for cancellations received in writing on or before 13 May 2008. Cancellations received after 13 May 2008 and before 27 May 2008 will be subject to a U.S. \$75.00 service charge. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received on or after 27 May 2008. Refund checks will be issued four weeks after the meeting.

On-Site Registration

The SSR Registration Desk, located in the rotunda of the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa, will be open during the following hours:

Monday, 26 May	3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 27 May	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 28 May	7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, 29 May	7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 30 May	7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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 (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR). The ASRM is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

The ASRM designates this educational activity for a maximum of 9.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Please note that abstract sessions (oral and poster) are not eligible for CME credit.

ACOG

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has assigned 14 ACOG cognates to this program.

How to Claim CME Credits

Within one week after the meeting, you will receive an email from the ASRM inviting you to visit the ASRM Web site to evaluate those scientific sessions you attended. Your responses will be used to determine the number of credits and/or cognates for which you are eligible. You then will receive a return email confirming the award of your credits and/or cognates. In case of difficulty contact Ms. Penelope Fenton at pfenton@asrm.org.

Needs Assessment and Course Description

Reproductive Biology: Basic Discoveries That Affect Our Lives is the theme of the 41st Annual Meeting of the SSR. Each day brings news of advances in basic reproductive biology that have the potential to translate into new approaches for regulating reproduction and fertility in humans and other species. The accelerating pace of scientific discovery requires that physicians and scientists work ever harder to keep abreast of current scientific knowledge in reproductive medicine and biology. The Annual Meeting of the SSR brings practicing physicians and basic and clinical researchers 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 and clinical specialists in reproductive medicine and biology with advanced training in the physiology of reproductive systems at the organ, tissue, cellular, and molecular levels. Speakers will focus on the early stages of reproduction, including gametogenesis, fertilization, implantation, and pregnancy. Meeting participants will learn about the latest discoveries in unlocking the mysteries of developmental biology and stem cell differentiation and how environmental contaminants can disrupt these processes. Special emphasis will be placed on using knowledge gained from laboratory and domestic animal models to devise new therapeutic approaches in humans.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, participants should be able to

1. Describe current concepts of sequential intracellular signaling during gametogenesis, fertilization, early embryogenesis, implantation, and pregnancy;
2. Explain how reproductive processes in males and females are disrupted by environmental contaminants;
3. Summarize recent advances in stem cell research;
4. Propose novel strategies for regulating fertility in humans and domestic animals;
5. Discuss the role of epigenetic modifications in redirecting differentiation.

PRESENTER INFORMATION

Platforms and Invited Talks

Upon arrival at the Resort, all speakers should review their presentations in the Slide Preview Room adjacent to the Keauhou Convention Center entrance. This room will be equipped with computers, slide advancers, and digital pointers identical to those in the session rooms, and 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. A timed rehearsal is recommended. The Slide Preview Room will be open during the following times:

Tuesday, 27 May	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 28 May	7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, 29 May	7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 30 May	7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Posters

Five poster sessions, with approximately 110 posters in each, will be held from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings, and from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. Posters must be mounted prior to the beginning of the poster session during which they will be presented and must be removed at the end of the session so that the posters for the next session can be put in place. Posters left in place after a session has ended will be removed and will be held at the Registration Desk until the end of the meeting. If not retrieved by the presenter, the poster will be discarded.

FOOD SERVICE

An SSR 2008 Annual Meeting badge is required for access at all food functions.

Breakfasts

Continental breakfast buffets will be set up on the Pool Terrace, Keauhou Convention Center Foyer, and the Keauhou Lawn, from 6:30–8:00 a.m., Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings.

Lunches

Lunch buffets will be set up on the Pool Terrace, Crystal Terrace, Keauhou Convention Center Foyer, and the Keauhou Lawn from 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. No lunch is served on Tuesday.

Refreshments

Morning and afternoon refreshment breaks will be served in the Keauhou Convention Center Foyer and on the Keauhou Lawn. No refreshments will be served Tuesday morning or Friday afternoon.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Opening Reception

The Opening Reception will take place on Tuesday, 27 May, from 6:45–8:00 p.m., on the Crystal Blue Terrace. A selection of appetizers and beverages (soda, beer, wine) will be served. For those staying at the Outrigger, an after-hours shuttle will operate until 9:00 p.m.

Barbeque and Social

The traditional SSR Barbeque, Social, and Dance will be Thursday evening, 29 May, from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. The barbeque will be held on the Bayview Lawn and will feature traditional barbeque food with a distinctly Hawaiian

flavor: grilled chicken breast, Parker Ranch beef brisket with mango salsa, Hawaiian field greens, pineapple coleslaw, red potato salad, dinner rolls, and apple tart with caramel for dessert. A selection of beverages (soda, wine, and beer) will be available at the hosted bars from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. After 8:00 p.m., liquid refreshments may be purchased at cash bars. After dinner, from 8:00 p.m. to midnight in the Keauhou Convention Center Ballroom, get ready to rock, roll, swing, stomp, and two-step to the sound of Johnny Shot and his dance-floor-packing, seven-piece band. Tickets to the barbeque and dance are U.S. \$65.

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 Office, 1619 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711–2063, (tel: 608-256-2777; email: <ssr-am@ssr.org>) for more information. Media representatives should check in at the SSR Registration Desk in the Sheraton Keauhou Rotunda to show their credentials and obtain a press badge.

EXHIBITS

Commercial exhibits will be located in Trainee Placement/Exhibits Tent near the Poster Tent. Exhibit times will coincide with the Posters Sessions and will be held 7:00–9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and at other times by appointment.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

SSR actively seeks educational grants for scientific sessions, social events, general program support, and exhibitions. Meeting support is recognized in all announcements for the meeting, in the program book, and on prominently displayed signs outside the meeting and event rooms. We will be happy to work with anyone who wishes to support an event, bring an exhibit, or send materials to this or future Annual Meetings. For details contact the SSR Office, 1619 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711-2063 (tel: 608-256-2777; email: <ssr-am@ssr.org>).

OTHER SERVICES AND INFORMATION

Transportation and Parking

The Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa and the Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort are 20 minutes by car from the Kona International Airport (KOA), and south of the town of Kailua-Kona, along Highways 19 and 11. Numerous car rental companies are available at the airport. Self parking at the Sheraton is U.S. \$9 per day and valet parking at the Sheraton is U.S. \$16 per day. **SpeediShuttle** offers transportation to and from the airport at a 20% discount to WCRB meeting attendees. For reservations, visit <http://www.speedishuttle.com/>. A free public shuttle/trolley runs between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. between the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa and Kailua-Kona, stopping at the Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort and the Keauhou

Shopping Center. The complete shuttle schedule is available at the Registration Desk and with the hotel concierge. For times not covered by the free shuttle, SSR will provide a shuttle between the Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort and the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa (see Map).

Concierge Services

For information on a variety of activities on the Big Island, visit the Sheraton's Concierge Service in the Lobby or go to its Web site at <http://www.sheratonkeauhou.com/cs.htm>.

Copies and Faxing

The hotel's Business Center offers a full range of communications technology and business services. Guests may also print their boarding passes in the Lobby.

Internet

The Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa offers high-speed wireless internet access throughout the resort. In-room wireless access is available at U.S. \$10.95 per day. Computer use for internet and email access is available through the Business Center.

Dining and Entertainment

The Sheraton features a variety of dining venues. The **Man-ta Ray Bar & Grill** is perfect for light poolside dining and cocktails (try the "String Bikini"). The **Kai Restaurant** is open for breakfast and dinner. **Crystal Blue** offers cocktails and pupus (hors d'oeuvres) as well as live entertainment five nights a week. **Keauhou Bay Coffee Co.** serves delicious coffee drinks, light snacks, wraps, sandwiches, and hot pizza. Other dining and entertainment options are offered in the town of Kailua-Kona; please check with the hotel concierge for information.

Insurance

Liability insurance is the responsibility of each individual delegate. All delegates should have their own medical coverage.

Dear SSR Members and Friends of the Society:

I would most sincerely like to welcome you to the 2008 SSR meeting in beautiful, Kona, Hawaii. This meeting has been several years in the planning and represents the first-ever "off shore" meeting in the history of our Society. As a result, we are confident that the 2008 meeting will be one of the best gatherings in the memories of not only our own members but also in the memories of those who have attended our meetings in the past, drawn by the superb science and friendship that our Society offers. The program is superb, thanks to the tireless efforts of John McCarrey and the entire Program Committee. I thank all of the speakers who have graciously agreed to attend this meeting and share their latest findings with us in order to make the meeting a great success as far as scientific content is concerned. The arrangements for this meeting are no less impressive as a result of the hard work and dedication of Meetings Coordinator Gwen Abramson and, indeed, all of the staff of the SSR office. In truth, the entire Society, as a result of its enthusiasm and support for this extraordinary departure from our normal approach to SSR meetings, has played a significant role in putting together what will prove to be a memorable event in the history of the SSR. I welcome you to enjoy the science, the comradery of your colleagues, and the beauty and serenity of this special place. During the course of this meeting you will be surrounded by new knowledge, new sites, new cultures, and—most importantly—dear friends. Enjoy each to its fullest and join in celebrating an exciting new venture for the SSR and its members and friends. We trust that you will feel that the efforts you have all made to attend this special meeting will be rewarded with a most memorable experience that you will forever cherish.

Sincerely,
Doug Stocco
President, SSR

Medical Services

The **Keauhou Urgent Care Center (tel: 808-322-2544)**, located in the Keauhou Shopping Center, is open 7 days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. No appointment is needed. The **Kona Community Hospital (tel: 808-322-9311)**, is located four miles south of Keauhou Bay along Highway 11, at 79-1019 Haukapila St., Kealahou, HI 96750.

Messages

Messages for attendees may be posted on a board near the SSR Registration Desk in the Lobby. Lost or found items should be reported or turned in to the front desk of the Sheraton.

Child Care

Kama'aina Kids is an on-site, fully licensed childcare center. Daily activities are offered for children ages 3 to 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information see <http://www.sheratonkeauhou.com/keiki.htm> or call 800-930-4900.

Special Needs

Please contact the SSR Registration Desk if you require assistance getting to or from sessions/events, or need special dietary or physical accommodations 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.

Smoking Regulations

Smoking is prohibited in the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa.

Sales Taxes

There is no sales tax in Hawaii. Thus, tourists and other nonresidents are not issued tax exemption certificates. However, businesses are subject to a general excise tax (GET). Businesses may or may not indicate the portion of a sale that has gone toward the GET.

2008 Local Arrangements Committee

Steve Ward (Chair)	Yukiko Yamazaki
Richard Allsopp	Ryuzo Yanagimachi
Yusuke Marikawa	Robert Koos (Board Liaison)
Monika Ward	Judith Jansen, <i>ex officio</i>

2008 Program Committee

John McCarrey (Chair)	Steve Hammes	William (Bill) Miller	Peter Sutovsky
Janice Bailey	Mary Ann Handel	Marvin Meistrich	Winston E. Thompson
Jay M. Baltz	Norman Hecht	Mark Mirando	Mehmet Uzumcu
Marisa Bartolomei	Mark Hedger	Makoto Nagano	Carmen J. Williams
Richard Behringer	Barry Hinton	Deborah O'Brien	Don Wolf
John S. Davis	Gary Hunnicutt	Mary Ann Ottinger	Teresa Woodruff
Tamara Davis	Patricia Hunt	Melissa Pepling	William Wright
Dirk G. de Rooij	Mary Hunzicker-Dunn	Tony Plant	Wei Yan
Francesco DeMayo	Richard Ivell	James Pru	Koji Yoshinaga
Ina Dobrinski	Keith Latham	Aleksander Rajkovic	Douglas Stocco (Board Liaison)
John Eppig	Kate Loveland	Stephan Schlatt	Judith Jansen, <i>ex officio</i>
Janice P. Evans	Denis Magoffin	Richard Schultz	Martin Matzuk, <i>ex officio</i>
Asgi Fazleabas	Melissa Mann	Ann O. Sperry	Joy Pate, <i>ex officio</i>
Erwin Goldberg	Derek McLean	George W. Smith	Steve Ward, <i>ad hoc</i>
Dale (Buck) Hales			

Ad Hoc Review Panel

Fuller W. Bazer	Alberto Darszon	Carolyn M. Klinge	Donal C. Skinner
Daniel J. Bernard	Raj Duggavathi	Carolyn Komar	George W. Smith
Mario Binelli	Riaz Farookhi	T. Rajendra Kumar	Thomas E. Spencer
Derek Boerboom	Jodi Anne Flaws	Pavine L. C. Lefevre	Stuart A. Tobet
Vilceu Bordignon	Michelle R. Garcia	Bruce D. Murphy	Catherine VandeVoort
Robert C. Burghardt	Rodney D. Geisert	Peter W. Nathanielsz	Robert S. Viger
Blanche Capel	L. Earl Gray, Jr	John H. Nilson	Srinivasan Vijayaraghavan
Charles L. Chaffin	Leslie L. Heckert	Jon Oatley	Pablo Visconti
Beverly S. Chilton	Michael C. Henson	William C. Okulicz	Jeffrey Weiss
Lane K. Christenson	Aveline Hewetson	Michael G. O'Rand	Vickie Wilson
Colin M. Clay	Michael Holland	Timothy A. Quill	Dori C. Woods
Paul Cooke	Alan L. Johnson	Prabhakara P. Reddi	R. Yanagimachi
Austin J. Cooney	Greg A. Johnson	Sarah A. Robertson	Humphrey H.C. Yao
Andrea S. Cupp	Ruth A. Keri	Cheryl S. Rosenfeld	Qing Zhou
Robert A. Cushman	Kwan Hee Kim	Jonathan A. Schmidt	Barry R. Zirkin