



SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF REPRODUCTION

Newsletter

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From the President—

Reaping the harvest, sowing new seeds

As the summer fades into fall, we begin the annual cycle of harvesting our collective accomplishments and then planting the seeds that will ensure the continued growth of our Society. To me, the harvest begins with the Annual Meeting where we come together to hear great science, greet old friends, and meet new ones. The camaraderie that exemplifies our membership always amazes me, and its depth was quite palpable throughout the entire meeting this summer in Pittsburgh. Indeed, the Program Committee, under the creative leadership of Pat Hunt, deserves kudos for crafting an exciting and thought-provoking meeting that reminded us how our reproductive science serves the public good by promoting intellectual, social, and physical well-being.

The Annual Meeting is also a time to celebrate the accomplishments of some of our most distinguished members. Those honored this year include Drs. Terry Nett (Carl G. Hartman Award), Richard M. Schultz (SSR Research Award), Wei Yan (SSR New Investigator Award), Fred Stormshak (Distinguished Service Award), and Fuller Bazer (Trainee Mentoring Award). Each deserves our heartiest congratulations.

Our Annual Meeting relies on loyal supporters, and we have several. Contributors include Cook Medical (Hartman Award); Virendra B. Mahesh (New Investigator Award and the Mahesh Neuroendocrine Minisymposium); EMB Serono Research Institute (Distinguished Service Award, Trainee Research Awards, and program support);

Burroughs Wellcome Fund (Minority Affairs information booth, travel fellowships for under-represented trainees and junior faculty); Lalor Foundation (travel fellowships); CONRAD, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Highmark, Schering Plough, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Magee-Women's Research Institute & Foundation, Frontiers in Reproduction, and VWR International (program support); FASEB MARC Program (Minority Affairs Symposium & Luncheon), and the Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund where donations from SSR members support trainee travel. We are ever grateful for the generous grant in support of our program from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, as administered by Program Director Dr. Koji Yoshinaga. Likewise, we are grateful for the grant from the USDA-CSREES National Research Initiative (USDA-CSREES NRI Travel Fellowships and program support), as administered by National Program Leader Dr. Mark Mirando. Kudos also go to Dave Schomberg (chair of the Development Committee), Janice Bailey (chair of the Endowment Subcommittee), and Kyle Selcer (chair of the Annual Meetings/Industrial Relations Subcommittee) for their dedicated and continuous cultivation of these sources of support.

Speaking of sowing new seeds, thanks to the tireless leadership of Janice Bahr, who recently stepped down as chair of the Membership Committee, our total brood size increased by 1.7%

since July 2008. The growth can be attributed to increases in Trainees (23%), Associates (5%), and Emeriti (16%). In contrast, our Regular membership, the largest group, declined by 8.5%, a trend that has developed over the last few years. Clearly, this is a trend that we need to reverse, and Joe Cloud, the new chair of the Membership Committee, will be placing special emphasis on recruiting new Regular members. You can help by saying yes when Joe, or members of his committee, call upon you to help recruit new members. In addition, I am urging you to encourage your trainees to become members and to upgrade to Regular membership when they leave your laboratory.

Biology of Reproduction remains the premier journal in reproductive sciences, providing a beacon that illuminates the role played by SSR in bringing discoveries to scientific and lay audiences. The success of *BOR* builds upon a foundation of past and present dedicated editors. On July 1, Editors-in-Chief John Eppig and Mary Ann Handel passed the baton of *BOR* to its new Editors-in-Chief, Bernard Robaire and Bruce Murphy. John and Mary Ann are to be congratulated for their innovative and conscientious leadership that has enhanced the integrity and impact of *BOR*.

Bernard and Bruce are joined by a highly talented group of Associate Editors: Jay Baltz, Dan Carson, Paul Cooke, Dirk de Rooij, Jodi Flaws, Mary Hunzicker-Dunn, John McCarrey, Terry Nett, Debbie O'Brien, Lois Salamonsen, Susan Suarez, and Robert Viger. Bernard and Bruce intend to continue many of the editorial policies put in place by John and Mary Ann. In addition to emphasizing publication of manuscripts with novel findings that clearly advance the field of reproductive biology, Bernard and Bruce are committed to providing an open line of communication with authors to ensure that review of manuscripts meets the highest ethical standards of publication.

I am already looking forward to the 2010 Annual Meeting to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 30 to August 3, at the Midwest Airlines Center. The venue is fantastic. In fact, see for yourself by visiting www.midwestairlinescenter.com.

Program co-chairs for the 2010 Annual Meeting, Drs. Ruth Keri and Leslie Heckert, are currently working hard to plan the meeting based

on the theme of the President's Symposium, *The Intersection Between Genetics, Genomics, and Reproductive Biology*. More details can be found in Ruth and Leslie's contribution in this issue of the Newsletter.

The 2010 Annual Meeting will also be preceded by an outreach activity entitled *What does the science of reproduction mean to you?* This program will be designed and led by Dr. Joanie Jorgensen, a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. The outreach program will be held in Milwaukee on July 29, the day before the meeting starts. Middle school and high school kids from diverse ethnic backgrounds, and their teachers and parents, will be the target audience. Activities proposed range from wet lab experiences, conducted by local volunteers, to opportunities to attend a day of scientific sessions during the Annual Meeting, along with the chance to meet with selected scientists. Most important, we are grateful to the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, along with the efforts of Program Officer Rolly L. Simpson, Jr., for providing support for this outreach program. We are excited about this new offering and anticipate that it will become a permanent feature of our outreach efforts.

Analysis of revenues and expenditures for the first 6 months of 2009 indicates that SSR is on track to meet the projections of the revised budget. This is due to the incredible talent and stewardship of our Treasurer, Bruce Murphy, who has completed 9 years in this office and now passes the baton to Marty Matzuk, who will guide the finances of the Society for the next 3 years. We owe Bruce a deep debt of gratitude for his extensive service.

In the passing of the Treasurer's baton, Bruce and Marty deemed it useful to delegate active management of the SSR portfolio to a licensed broker. With approval from the Board of Directors, Bruce and Marty have retained the services of RBC Investments, with Ann Marie Etergino of the Washington office as the manager. With this new addition, we find the Society financially sound and well prepared for the future. Nevertheless, bear in mind that the long-term objective of SSR is to have assets that cover 2 years of operating expenses, which would be approximately \$4 million. Therefore, all of your gifts, no matter how small, will go a long way in helping your Society meet this goal.

One of the strongest attributes of SSR is the willingness of its members to serve on committees with a can-do spirit coupled with earnest effort. In this regard, the Board and I have begun reorganizing committees with an eye toward increasing efficiency. Three of the ten ad hoc committees (Emeritus, Nominating, and Trainee Affairs) are now being considered by the Bylaws Committee to change their status to that of standing committees. Such a change will enhance their status and stability. All the other ad hoc committees have been reorganized as subcommittees to better serve their parent standing committees. For example, Clinical Outreach has been renamed Translational Research as a new subcommittee of the Program Committee. CoRE and Local Arrangements have also been moved to the Program Committee as subcommittees. We also created an International Program Subcommittee under the auspices of the Program Committee to ensure that the Annual Meeting casts a global reach in developing its scientific program. Similarly, we added an International Relations Subcommittee to the Membership Committee to enhance our outreach to the international community. Finally, we disbanded the ad hoc Future Meeting Sites Committee and have assigned this function to the Public Affairs Committee, which will work in close partnership with the SSR Business Office to enhance its professional meeting planning function. Hopefully, these changes will better serve the needs of SSR.

As other Presidents before me, I will continue to work with the Publications Committee to ensure that we safeguard the well-being of *Biology of Reproduction* as well as the financial implications stemming from the implementation of the rules for compliance with the *Revised Policy on Enhancing Public Access to Archived Publications Resulting from NIH-Funded Research*. I will also work closely with the Publications Committee to complete the analysis of the financial and scholarly implications associated with moving *BOR* to an online-only publication.

Recently, the SSR Board approved my request to enroll SSR as a sustaining member of the National Postdoctoral Association. In addition, I have asked the Trainee Affairs Committee along with its advisors to begin developing programs that increase the postdoctoral membership of SSR and to develop programs that enhance their

professional development. Our Trainees represent the future of our Society, and SSR is now in position to offer mentorship that spans seamlessly their entire training experience.

The President is akin to a turtle on a fencepost and can do no more than those who are willing to provide the support and lift required to move the Society ever forward. Thus, I am indebted to the entire membership for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President. I also thank all of you who have accepted my invitation to serve on standing committees and the newly formed subcommittees. SSR is deeply dependent on your willingness to serve. I also owe a debt of gratitude to Doug Stocco and Asgi Fazleabas for their mentorship that still continues. Their willingness to share their experiences, insights, and voices of reason continues to be invaluable. I am also fortunate to work with a great group of Board members who go beyond the extra mile to ensure that the Society functions smoothly and efficiently. In this regard, I want to thank Bob Koos and Marco Conti for their contributions as they transition off the Board and welcome new Board members Pat Hunt and Tom Curry as well as our new President-Elect, Sally Perreault Darney. And of course, there is Judy Jansen and her staff at the SSR Business Office and *BOR* Editorial Office who care deeply about the well-being of SSR and who collectively offer an unprecedented corporate memory coupled with patient advice and instruction. This group offers invaluable service that keeps the Society and me on a steady course.

In summary, I find SSR alive and well and prepared for the future. The Society has given much to its members and it is our collective responsibility to give back more than we have received. We need to continue to grow and expand the membership base, generously donate our time, increase our monetary contributions, and serve however else we can to move SSR to an even higher level of value and accomplishment. I am honored to serve as your President and thank you once again for this great opportunity. ■

—John Nilson

Looking ahead to 2011—

A brief message from the President-Elect

While President John Nilson's committees are working full tilt on the 2010 Annual Meeting and various ongoing SSR activities and goals, I am thinking ahead to 2011. Members like YOU keep SSR strong, so I want to encourage you to stay active or become more active in SSR by volunteering to serve on committees and agreeing to chair committees when invited. A full listing of committees, current chairs, and

members can be found on the SSR Web site (www.ssr.org). Once the 2010 program is finalized, we'll be soliciting ideas for 2011, so look for announcements in the coming months. Also, I welcome your feedback and ideas via e-mail (darney.sally@epa.gov) or phone (919-541-3826). ■

—Sally Darney

The Intersection between Genetics, Genomics, and Reproductive Biology—

Program for 2010 Annual Meeting taking shape

As noted by President John Nilson, we are well on our way planning SSR's 43rd Annual Meeting, which will be at the Midwest Airlines Center in Milwaukee from July 30 to August 3. So far, we have assembled an outstanding cast of plenary speakers to represent the theme of the President's Symposium, *The Intersection Between Genetics, Genomics, and Reproductive Biology*. The 2010 Keynote Address will be presented by John Gearhart, whose topic will be genomics in stem cells. The President's Symposium continues with this theme, led by three exceptional investigators in genomics and reproductive biology: Huntington Willard, David Ledbetter, and Robert Braun. The State-of-the-Art Lectures will continue this central theme, and we have almost completed the slate of speakers. One of the lectures will be presented by Ruth Lehmann, discussing her work on the genetic control of germ cell migration.

Buck Hales and Phyllis Wise are developing the Historical Perspectives Lectures as a tribute to Anita Payne and her contributions to the field of reproductive biology.

With regard to the minisymposia, we are indebted to the membership of the Society,

which submitted over 40 intriguing suggestions for the 15 symposia. We are currently merging and compiling these suggestions for final ranking and selection by the Program Committee. In addition to identifying outstanding speakers, our goal is to develop a program emphasizing comparative approaches across species to provide a balanced, comprehensive view of our field.

Last, but certainly not least, we look forward to your abstract submissions to complete this year's program. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2010. ■

—Leslie Heckert & Ruth Keri, Co-Chairs
2010 Program Committee

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From the Editors-in-Chief of *Biology of Reproduction*

We began our stewardship of *BOR* on July 1 of this year, following on the admirable path paved by Mary Ann Handel and John Eppig. We had nominated, and the Board had appointed, a highly qualified panel of Associate Editors. We met with this group at the annual Editorial Retreat prior to the beginning of the SSR Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh. Together, we established the basis for review and were ready for the onslaught of new manuscripts and resubmissions. We have not been disappointed, as we have received and handled more than 200 new and resubmitted manuscripts from July to the time of this writing. Our Associate Editors have been kept busy identifying reviewers, reading reviews, and crafting decision letters. We have often leaned on the Board of Reviewing Editors to undertake these reviews, as well as other members of the community. The average turnaround time from receipt of the manuscript to first decision has been maintained at 26 days. So, in overview, it is clear that the transition has gone smoothly with respect to the handling of submitted papers.

This success notwithstanding, we do not wish to lose sight of our overall goal: to publish the best manuscripts. As frequently stated, our major criteria for acceptance are novelty of the work and advancement of knowledge in reproductive biology. It is essential that the review process be rigorous, consistent, and fair. We believe that issues of peer review and consistency of evaluation across the slate of Associate Editors are best addressed by ensuring that there is transparency and communication between the Editors-in-Chief and the Associate Editors. We began this process at our Editorial Retreat. We are continuing with online editorial forums that will present the Associate Editors with issues of review, publication, and communication with authors for their comment, interaction, and discussion.

It is our plan to publish a minimum of two minireviews per issue of *BOR*, beginning in 2010. We have asked our Associate Editors to identify topics and authors for these reviews, and to make the initial contact with the authors. The response has been excellent and we have developed an impressive list of potential reviews. These cover a wide range of topics, as diverse as epigenetics in the germ cell line, to formation of the follicular antrum. The manuscripts that are submitted will be subject to the same rigorous review process that we employ for original submissions, and we expect that we will have a series of published reviews that will be a credit to the authors and to *BOR*. We believe that high-quality reviews will further enhance the impact and influence of the journal. If you have suggestions for reviews, please send them to the Associate Editors, Editors-in-Chief, or the *BOR* Editorial Office.

As we indicated in our earlier message, other enhancements are in the works, and we expect some to see light in journal issues in 2010. These will include commentaries and perspectives on articles published in *BOR* and on new findings of interest to the reproductive biology community. Our goal is for researchers in our field to look upon *BOR* as the "go-to" place for the newest and most exciting research in reproductive biology.

We welcome feedback on the journal and the reviewing and editorial processes. The quality of the journal depends on the quality of the manuscripts published. It is most important that SSR members submit their best work to *BOR*. By this means, we will maintain our place as the most important journal in reproductive biology. ■

—Bernard Robaire and Bruce Murphy

Minutes of SSR's 2009 Business Meeting

The annual Business Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction was called to order by President Asgerally Fazleabas at 12:29 p.m., July 22, 2009. Approximately 43 members were in attendance.

Dr. Fazleabas asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the 2008 Business Meeting, as distributed at the 2009 Business Meeting. No additions or corrections were requested.

Dr. Janice Bahr moved to approve the minutes of the 2008 Business Meeting. Dr. John McCarrey seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Program Committee: Program Committee Chair Patricia Hunt reported that she had received valuable feedback on the 2009 Annual Meeting. She noted that the concept of an abbreviated abstract booklet was appreciated by many attendees but that improvements were necessary. She explained that the system of having 6 rather than 8 presentations in each platform session was initiated for the 2008 Annual Meeting in Hawaii and was continued for the 2009 meeting. She reported that interest had been expressed in having the Historical Perspectives lectures recorded in print. She noted that the venue for the 2009 Meeting in Pittsburgh was well received and that the boat trip was a success. She welcomed additional comments from the membership regarding the meeting and said that she would pass these along to the Program chairs of the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Local Arrangements Committee: Local Arrangements Committee Chair Tony Plant said that he hoped attendees enjoyed the meeting. He thanked the staff of the SSR Business Office and members of the Society for their hard work. He noted that some attendees had expressed an interest in having a critique of some of the local restaurants and that this type of information would likely be appreciated at the 2010 Annual Meeting. He finished by expressing how much he enjoyed working with President Fazleabas and becoming involved in the business of the Society.

SSR Strategic Planning Committee: Dr. Fazleabas reported for Strategic Planning Committee Chair Robert Berghardt. Dr. Fazleabas acknowledged Dr. Berghardt's leadership in development of the new Strategic Plan for SSR. He explained that it represents the third Strategic Plan for the Society. The first

Strategic Plan was initiated in 1996 by then President Fuller Bazer; Heywood Sawyer was chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, which completed its work in April 1997. The second Strategic Plan was completed in 2004, with Dr. Fazleabas as chair. A synopsis of the new Strategic Plan will be placed on the SSR Web site, and members are encouraged to send their comments. Dr. Fazleabas showed a slide of the various subcommittees that worked on the Strategic Plan and their members. He then outlined challenges that are addressed in the Strategic Plan:

1. Sustain the Society's journal, *Biology of Reproduction (BOR)*, in order to continue to promote excellent science and succeed in the face of financial challenges. A goal is to avoid classification of *BOR* as a niche journal and to encourage an all-encompassing view so that the journal takes its rightful place among other excellent journals.

2. Make the SSR Annual Meeting the most sought-after venue in reproductive biology. To address this challenge, the Society will entertain the possibility of having international meetings every few years to insure that the SSR remains the foremost international society in reproductive biology.

3. Promote recognition of SSR. Policymakers must be informed of the fundamental contributions of reproductive biologists to the public good and lobbied for their support.

4. Broaden SSR's membership base.

5. Insure implementation of the Strategic Plan. To address this, an Oversight Committee has been formed to continually revisit the plan and prioritize activities. Future reports from SSR committees will outline how their activities address the Strategic Plan.

Dr. Fazleabas thanked the members of the Strategic Planning Committee and its chair, Dr. Berghardt, for their efforts and encouraged members of the Society to provide feedback on the Strategic Plan.

Dr. Skip Bartol moved to accept the Strategic Plan. Dr. Bernard Robaire seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Editors-in-Chief of *Biology of Reproduction*:

Dr. Bernard Robaire said that he and Dr. Bruce Murphy are deeply honored to serve as Editors-in-Chief of *BOR*. He noted that they will continue to use the system of Associate Editors established by previous Editors-in-Chief John Eppig and Mary Ann Handel. Their goal will be to publish the best papers

that advance the field of reproductive biology. He reported that the new team of Associate Editors began their terms July 1, 2009. He explained that the field of publishing is rapidly changing; requirements by funding agencies for authors to make manuscripts rapidly available for public access will demand rethinking approaches for *BOR*. The SSR Publications Committee will consider these issues and advise the SSR Board of Directors. He said that they hope to bring in new initiatives to improve *BOR*. The possibility will be considered that publication of *BOR* may move to an online only format. Dr. Robaire commented that while the impact factor for *BOR* has remained steady, other measures indicate improvement in the quality of the journal. He noted the need for increased numbers of submissions of the best manuscripts from each member of the Society. He welcomed questions.

Dr. Sally Perreault Darney moved to accept the report of the Editors-in-Chief of BOR. Dr. Janice Bahr seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Publications Committee: Dr. Fazleabas reported for Dr. Virendra Mahesh, chair of the Publications Committee, who could not be present. He explained that discussion between the Publications Committee and the SSR Board of Directors was planned to determine whether publication of *BOR* would move to an online only format and that consideration of the financial implications of such a change would involve input from the Treasurer. Dr. Fazleabas reported that Dr. Mahesh and Dr. Mitch Eddy are now serving as co-chairs of the Publications Committee and that they will have an extensive report to share at the 2010 annual Business Meeting. Dr. Fazleabas announced that a gift from the Society would be forwarded to Dr. Mahesh to recognize the multiple ways in which he has served the Society, as Editor-in-Chief of *BOR*, as SSR representative to FASEB, and as chair of the Publications Committee. Finally, he gratefully acknowledged that Dr. Mahesh has donated greater than one hundred thousand dollars of personal funds in support of *BOR* and other functions of the Society.

Membership Committee: Dr. Janice Bahr, chair of the Membership Committee, announced that she will be stepping down and that Dr. Joe Cloud would be serving as the new and very capable chair. She explained that they have used a pyramid model in which representatives from 28 regions across the globe work together to attract membership. She noted that 14 of these regions are international (outside the United

States) and that the Membership Committee had been focusing on attracting international membership. The number of members increased 2% in the last year, primarily in the number of Trainees and Emeritus members. There has been an erosion in the number of Regular members, however, representing an 8.5% decline in the last year and an 18% decline over the last 6 years. She said that the membership is the “life blood” of the Society and that work was necessary to encourage Trainee members to continue on to become Regular members and to reach out to encourage international colleagues to become members. Currently, 63% of members are from the United States and 37% are international. She announced that a 50% reduction in the cost of membership dues was extended to members in developing countries. She further urged members to offer to pay these dues for members from developing countries.

Dr. Bahr read the names of members of the Society who had passed away in the last year and asked for a moment of silence in their memory: Harold R. Behrman, Yusoff M. Daywood, Robert H. Foote, Masaki Nakai, Anita H. Payne, Robert Ryan, and Xiangzhong Yang.

Dr. Fazleabas thanked Dr. Bahr for her yeoman effort on the Membership Committee for so many years.

Dr. Mary Hunzicker-Dunn moved to accept the report of the Membership Committee. Dr. Joanne Fortune seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Bylaws Committee: Dr. Fazleabas announced that there would be no report this year but that an extensive report would likely be given next year.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bruce Murphy reported that there was a balanced budget for SSR in 2008. He noted that despite trepidation over a potential loss of revenue from the 2008 Annual Meeting in Hawaii, there was actually a positive balance. He attributed this to the judicious planning by staff at the SSR Business Office. Dr. Murphy explained that the goal has been to balance the SSR budget each year and to refrain from use of reserve funds. He noted that the Society is in many ways robust, with strong membership, good attendance at the Annual Meetings, and a large number of Trainee members. He added that he expected the 2009 Annual Meeting to yield a positive balance. He noted, however, that uncertainties regarding the changing landscape of publishing, including open access rules mandated by funding agencies, could alter revenue obtained through publication of *BOR*. For example, if

BOR is available online free of charge, this could potentially lead to a reduction in library subscriptions. From 2004 to 2007 there was an 18% reduction in library subscriptions while in the current year there was a 2% to 3% reduction. This erosion has been addressed by increasing the cost of library subscriptions and was deemed justified based on the relatively low cost of a subscription to *BOR* compared to other journals. A question that remains is the future business model to be used for publication of *BOR* and whether there should be a move to publication online only. Dr. Murphy next reported on SSR's investment portfolio and explained that performance was reasonable until the general North American financial crisis in autumn 2008, when the overall value of the SSR portfolio declined by 37%. He noted, however, that there has been remarkable recovery in 2009 with an increase of 16%. Despite the recent drop in the value of the SSR portfolio, it is still higher than it was 4 years ago. Dr. Murphy explained that in recent years the SSR portfolio had been managed by the Treasurer through a broker. The SSR Board of Directors recently decided to hire an active manager. The cost of this was estimated to be equal to or less than that paid in the past. Dr. Murphy finished by saying that this report represented his 9th and final report to the Society, having been elected to the office of Treasurer three times. He said that it had been an exceptional honor for him to serve the Society each term. He noted that he could not have performed his role as Treasurer without the close symbiotic relationship between the SSR Board of Directors and the SSR Business Office led by Judy Jansen.

Dr. Fazleabas said that the Society owed an enormous debt of gratitude to Dr. Murphy for his service.

Dr. Sally Perreault Darney moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Dr. John Nilson seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Nominating Committee: Dr. Stocco presented the report for Dr. Landis Keys, chair of the Nominating Committee, who could not be present. Dr. Stocco explained that the committee solicited nominations and that all nominees were contacted to confirm their willingness to run for election if selected by the committee. A ballot was sent out to the membership by e-mail and 37% of the eligible membership voted. To increase participation, the deadline to vote was extended by 2 weeks and this resulted in votes from 47% of the membership. Dr. Stocco said that the lesson learned is that members should vote as soon as

they receive the first request and that they should encourage their colleagues to vote. Dr. Stocco announced newly elected individuals: Dr. Sally Perreault Darney, President-Elect; Dr. Martin Matzuk, Treasurer; and Dr. Patricia Hunt and Dr. Tom Curry, Directors. He said that their election bodes well for the SSR Board of Directors and the leadership of the Society.

Dr. Fuller Bazer moved to accept the report of the Nominating Committee. Dr. Janice Bahr seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Trainee Affairs: Dr. Chrissy Cochran, chair of the Trainee Affairs Committee, reported that the 2009 Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh set a record for the most highly attended meeting by Trainees. She thanked FASEB for its continued support of the Trainee Placement Service and its support of Joe Tringali and Bill Lindstaedt, who provided career counseling advice. She extended congratulations to Dr. Fuller Bazer who received the Trainee Mentoring Award, an award initiated by the Trainees 3 years ago. She thanked Brandon Lingenfelter and Daniel Poole for organizing the Trainee volunteers for the 2009 Annual Meeting. She thanked Kristin Happ Molitoris, the designer of the T-shirt for the 2009 Annual Meeting, and those individuals who purchased T-shirts. She noted that Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Awards of \$235 were provided to each eligible Trainee who applied. She extended thanks to Denise Archangeau for organizing the Trainee Mentor Luncheon and welcomed her as new Trainee Representative.

Dr. Janice Bahr moved to approve the report of the Trainee Affairs Committee. The motion was seconded (name of individual not recorded). The motion carried by voice vote.

Old Business: Dr. Fazleabas recognized officers retiring from the Board of Directors and Executive Committee and presented each of them with a gift from the Society: Dr. Douglas Stocco, Past President; Dr. Bruce Murphy, Treasurer; Dr. Marco Conti and Dr. Robert Koos, Directors; and Dr. Rebecca Bott, Trainee Representative. He also gratefully acknowledged the outgoing Editors-in-Chief of *BOR*, Dr. John Eppig and Dr. Mary Ann Handel. Dr. Fazleabas said that it was an honor to have served the Society as President and that he appreciated the effectiveness of everyone he worked with. He noted that he was particularly pleased with the development of the new Strategic Plan for SSR and excited about the focus on international outreach. He noted that Dr.

John Findlay from Australia, the first international member on the SSR Board of Directors, had provided valuable perspective to the Board during the preceding year. He explained that the next World Congress of Reproductive Biology, slated to take place in Australia, may merge with the meeting of the Society for Gynecologic Investigation and this may prove to be a truly interactive international meeting. If successful, this type of meeting might be organized every 5 years or so. Dr. Fazleabas thanked Judy Jansen and staff in the SSR Business Office. He presented a gift to Ms. Jansen for her assistance during his presidency. He then introduced Dr. John Nilson, the incoming President of SSR. Dr. Nilson expressed his appreciation to the membership for the opportunity to lead the Society with their open participation and thanked Dr. Fazleabas for his guidance. Dr. Nilson and Dr. Fazleabas exchanged gifts. Dr. Nilson said that he would lead with an effective team including Past President Fazleabas and new members of the Board of Directors: Dr. Sally Perreault Darney, President-Elect; Dr. Martin Matzuk, Treasurer; Dr. Patricia Hunt and Dr. Tom Curry, Directors; and Ms. Denise Archambeault, Trainee Representative.

New Business: Dr. Nilson stated that his agenda as President was simple and rooted in the fact that SSR is a great society. He explained that a newly formed Strategic Plan Oversight Committee would continually assess the progress of the Society in reaching its aims. He announced that he will work with the Bylaws Committee to initiate a change of status of two ad hoc committees to standing committees; the Nominating Committee and the Trainee Affairs Committee. Another proposed change that will be addressed by the Bylaws Committee is to extend the term of the President-Elect from 1 year to 2 years to promote a more effective transition to the presidency. Dr. Nilson described several of his plans. First, he will examine the structure of SSR committees to determine if improvements can be made. Second, he will participate in efforts to sustain the Society's journal, *BOR*, by addressing the challenge of open access, and working to increase *BOR*'s impact factor and effectiveness. An important question that will be addressed is how to make the transition from paper publication of *BOR* to electronic-only format. Third, he will initiate changes to enhance the experiences of Trainees; for example, by having the Society support the National Postdoctoral Association. He extended a formal challenge to Trainees to become interactive partners of this organization.

Dr. Nilson highlighted the many positive aspects of the venue for the 43rd Annual Meeting of SSR to take place July 30 to August 3, 2010, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Program co-chairs for the meeting are Dr. Ruth Keri from Case Western Reserve and Dr. Leslie Heckert from Kansas University Medical Center. An outreach activity to occur in conjunction with the Annual Meeting has been organized by Dr. Joanie Jorgensen from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. The theme is *What does the science of reproduction mean to you?* Participants will come from diverse ethnic backgrounds and will include middle school and high school students, teachers and parents. The Burroughs Wellcome Fund has contributed \$10,000 to support this activity, in addition to funds provided to support Minority Affairs activities at the Annual Meeting. The keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting will be Dr. John Gearhart. The President's Symposium, *The Intersection Between Genetics, Genomics, and Reproductive Biology*, will include as speakers Drs. Hunt Willard, David Ledbetter, and Robert Braun. A Historical Perspectives lecture will offer special tribute to the late Dr. Anita Payne; Drs. Buck Hales and Phyllis Wise will participate.

Dr. Stephen Downs, chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, reported on aspects of the upcoming 2010 Annual Meeting. He said that Milwaukee represents a melting pot of residents with diverse ethnic backgrounds. He noted that one of his goals is to make the ancillary aspects of the Annual Meeting warm, welcoming, and memorable and to tie activities to the diverse ethnic populations in the Milwaukee area. The Executive Director of the SSR, Judith Jansen, and her staff are located "next door" in Madison, and this will facilitate planning of the meeting. He welcomed members to send their ideas and suggestions for the meeting to him by phone or e-mail. Dr. Nilson added that the SSR membership will be contacted by e-mail to solicit suggestions for minisymposia topics and speakers for the Annual Meeting.

Dr. John Findlay announced that the 2010 Ovarian Workshop will be held immediately before the SSR Annual Meeting, and he encouraged members to check the Web site for details and to save the date. Dr. Nilson noted that co-chairs of the Program Committee for the Annual Meeting are working with Dr. Findlay and other organizers of the Ovarian Workshop to insure coordination of programs.

Dr. Mary Hunzicker-Dunn moved to adjourn the Business Meeting. Dr. Janice Bahr seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Susan Quirk, Secretary*

Input needed for public outreach event at 43rd Annual Meeting

The Public Outreach Subcommittee of the Public Affairs Committee is drafting a plan for a new public outreach event at the SSR Annual Meeting in Milwaukee. The primary goal of this event is to facilitate public engagement of SSR with the local community during the Annual Meeting. This event will provide opportunities for SSR to introduce itself to the public, to promote public awareness of the significance of the reproductive science that we conduct, and to highlight the contribution of SSR to the local community via an education outreach program. The tentative plan is to hold a press conference-style presentation shortly before the opening ceremony. This presentation will feature remarks from the SSR President, an NIH

representative, the chair of the Public Outreach Subcommittee, and a local community leader. At the end of these presentations, a Q&A session will be open to the press and attendees. Following the event, the press and local representatives will be welcome to attend the opening ceremony and mingle with SSR members. This plan is tentative and committee members (Humphrey Yao, Kristen Grace, and Pat Morris) would welcome format suggestions from the membership. Please e-mail your comments or suggestions to hhyao@illinois.edu.

Thank you! ■

—Humphrey Yao, Chair
Public Outreach Subcommittee
Public Affairs Committee

Seeking nominations for 2010 SSR election

Please exercise your right to nominate candidates for SSR Officers and Directors. For the coming year, the Society will elect a President-Elect, Secretary, and two Directors. You need only submit the name of the individual(s) you wish to nominate, his/her professional affiliation, and a *brief (1–2 sentences) statement of support*. We request that you contact the individual(s) you wish to nominate to confirm their willingness to serve, if elected. Members of the Nominating Committee (Lane Christenson, Dick Stouffer, Doug Stocco, Janice

Bahr, Barry Zirkin, Sue Moenter, Debbie O'Brien, Richard Schultz, and Mary Hunzicker-Dunn) are not eligible for nomination. Previous Board members and SSR Officers can be reviewed at www.ssr.org/Directors.shtml and www.ssr.org/Officers.shtml. Please send your nomination and statement of support ASAP and no later than **November 9, 2009**, to Mary Hunzicker-Dunn (mehd@wsu.edu). ■

—Mary Hunzicker-Dunn, Chair
Nominating Committee

Campaign to educate public about animal research needs support from scientists

The Foundation for Biomedical Research (FBR) has launched an exciting new campaign to garner public support for the humane use of animals in medical research. The “8Twenty10” campaign—named for the date after which public support for animal research is predicted to drop significantly below the majority—is a multimedia approach to educating the public about the important role animals have played and continue to play in medical advancements. The key messages of the campaign describe how animal research saves lives, how humane animal research is carefully regulated, and how continued use of animals in research is necessary for medical progress. FASEB is proud to support the FBR effort, as a complement to our own work protecting the responsible use of animals in research and education. An alarming increase in the targeting of scientists and laboratories by extremists in the animal rights movement has underlined the need for the scientific community to do a better job educating the public about the role animals play in biomedical research.

The proactive, public relations campaign began on August 1, 2009, and is already generating a great deal of attention. Television commercials airing on cable networks all over the country highlight “Jen’s Story,” a heartwarming account of a research scientist’s struggle with breast cancer and her fight to find a cure. In the first month, the commercial was viewed in over 7 million households. Provocative billboards along highways and at bus stops ask, “Ever had leprosy? Thanks to animal research, you won’t.” Preliminary data from polling conducted by Zogby has already shown an increase in public support in the areas targeted by the campaign. Nationwide, according to polling results, public support increased to 57 percent (+/- 2.0), up from 54 percent in December 2008. The campaign will run, and polling data will be collected, through August 20, 2010.

FBR is creating innovative marketing tools to support the campaign. For example, the *Advance Animal Directive* is a pointed sign-on document for those who reject the benefits of animal research, directing their doctors and other health care personnel not to treat the signer with a list of nearly 7,000 therapies and procedures developed using animal models. Podcasts describing recent advances in animal research are also available for download, as are videos describing how animal research has benefited animals themselves through advancement in veterinary medicine. Accompanying the public relations activities will be the launch of a middle school curriculum, including videos, lesson plans, homework, surveys, and a teacher’s guide, to provide accurate, scientifically based information about biomedical research and the roles played by laboratory animals. The curriculum will be freely available and downloadable by school teachers.

FASEB encourages society member scientists to learn more about the campaign and participate in the ongoing dialogue at www.researchsaves.org. FBR is also asking scientists to support this effort by contributing stories to the Research Saves magazine. FBR is looking for previously published articles, with photographs, aimed at a nonresearch audience, and which highlight the importance of animal models in biomedical research. Finally, if you or someone you know has a compelling story about how animal research has impacted his/her health and life, you can share that story at www.researchsaves.org for a chance to be featured in an upcoming television commercial. For more information, please contact Carrie Wolinetz in the FASEB Office of Public Affairs at cwolinetz@faseb.org or 301-634-7650. ■

—Carrie D. Wolinetz, Ph.D.
FASEB Office of Public Affairs

Nominations open for five major SSR Awards

The Awards Committee invites SSR members to nominate individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the discipline of reproductive biology. The five major SSR awards are:

The Carl G. Hartman Award is the highest award of SSR and is given in recognition of a career of research and scholarly activities in reproductive biology. The nominee does not have to be a member of the Society.

The SSR Research Award recognizes an active, Regular member of SSR for outstanding research published during the last 6 years.

The SSR Distinguished Service Award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated unselfish service and leadership in advancing the discipline of reproductive biology.

The SSR New Investigator Award recognizes an active, regular member of SSR for outstanding research completed and published within 10 years after receiving the Ph.D. or equivalent professional degree.

The SSR Trainee Mentoring Award

recognizes an SSR member who as a mentor has demonstrated a measure of support and guidance to SSR Trainees that far exceeds the basic responsibilities required of an academic advisor.

The nomination procedure (including nomination form), award criteria, selection process, and list of past recipients are posted on the SSR Web site (www.ssr.org/Awards.shtml).

Award Committee members include Kwan Hee Kim (chair), Charlie Chaffin, Phillips Fields, Michelle Garcia, Geula Gibori, Carolyn Komar, Jeffrey May, Cheryl Rosenfeld, Bruce Schultz, and Jennifer Wood.

Please send nomination packages to Kwan Hee Kim by December 1, 2009. The preferred method is by e-mail (khkim@wsu.edu), but supporting materials may be sent by fax (509-335-9688) or mail to Kwan Hee Kim, Chair, SSR Awards Committee, School of Molecular Biosciences, Biotechnology Life Sciences Building 345, 1715 NE S Fairway Rd, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-7520. ■

—*Kwan Hee Kim, Chair
Awards Committee*

Emeritus Committee activities

This year at SSR's Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, the Emeritus Committee sponsored an Emeritus/Senior Breakfast. We honored Larry Ewing, a Past President of the Society for whom the Trainee travel awards were named. Barry Zirkin, a former colleague of Larry's made the presentation. Larry's widow, Aggie, was unable to attend but she sent a letter, which was read at the breakfast. I will quote from her letter:

Thank you for this opportunity to thank the Society for honoring Larry's memory at this breakfast. Larry loved SSR; he loved the idea of making the opportunity for students to attend the meetings, and would be pleased by the creation of the student travel fund in his name. He loved research, teaching and his students. Basketball was in the mix somewhere. He left us too soon.

Fondly, Aggie Ewing

The Emeritus Committee invites and encourages Emeritus/Senior members of the Society to attend this breakfast. One hundred fifty letters of invitation were sent to Emeritus/Senior members in the United States, Canada, and eight other foreign countries. Approximately 40 persons attended the breakfast in Pittsburgh.

At its meeting in Pittsburgh, the committee selected Jack Gorski as the honoree at the 2010 Emeritus Breakfast in Milwaukee. Fred Stormshak has agreed to make the presentation in honor of Jack Gorski.

The Emeritus Committee has been conducting a trial initiative to contact select members of the Society about what they are doing during retirement. The e-mails of those who responded were published in the June Newsletter. Because many of the emeritus members contacted did not respond, the committee has decided to continue with the trial for another year. On the right is a response that came in after the last Newsletter.

From David Armstrong to Fred Stormshak

I have been retired from the University of Western Ontario since 1998, and Catherine and I are now living full-time in Adelaide, Australia. I have maintained my honorary appointment as Visiting Professor at the University of Adelaide, which gives me a small office in the Research Centre for Reproductive Health (formerly Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynecology) and access to facilities such as the University libraries, e-mail and internet connections, etc. I still keep a small hand in research, through advisory roles for two Ph.D. students in late stages of theses writing, and attending seminars. I continue to serve on the Editorial Board for Animal Reproduction Science, and to referee manuscripts regularly for several other journals including BOR. Apart from these academic activities, I have taken up golf, although I'm afraid much too late to aspire to anything other than getting fresh air and exercise once a week at the local golf club. We gave up our farming and cattle breeding operations 5 years ago, with plans to take up sailing again, and built a weekend retreat at a new marina development at the mouth of the Murray River. Unfortunately our plans for lake and river sailing have been frustrated by a prolonged drought which has greatly lowered water levels in the Murray and Lake Alexandrina. So unless or until the drought breaks, we're looking at canoeing instead. Catherine has some health issues that restrict our overseas travel, except for trips to Ontario to visit family which we have tried to manage once a year. Next time the SSR meeting is in Canada or northeastern states, we'll try to include it in our visit and look forward to catching up with many old friends after missing the meeting for the past few years.

Members of the Emeritus Committee for the coming year are Bill Day, Phillip Dziuk, Stanley Glasser, Neena Schwartz, Gordon Niswender, Fred Stormshak, and John Resko (chair). I wish to thank all of the committee members for their work. Harold Spies has resigned from the committee, and Gordon Niswender will be his replacement.

The Emeritus Committee requested and the SSR Board approved the use of an electronic format for most forms of communication by this committee. The rationale for this request is that many emeritus members no longer have secretarial help to type and send letters. It should

also be noted that the Board has recommended that the status of the Emeritus Committee be changed from *ad hoc* to *standing*. ■

—John Resko, Chair
Emeritus Committee

SSR trainee report

I would like to start by thanking the outgoing Trainee Representative, Becky Bott, for all of her inspiration and leadership in serving the Trainees for the last 2 years. In addition, I would like to welcome Denise Archambeault as the 2009–11 Trainee Representative. I know she will do a great job in serving the Trainees. I would be remiss if I didn't thank our advisors, Humphrey Yao, Mary Zelinski, and Joan Jorgensen, for their gracious guidance and support.

What a successful meeting in Pittsburgh! This year marked the highest turnout ever by Trainees. We certainly handled a number of activities that just wouldn't be possible without your help. I would like to thank some people in particular for their hard work this past year, starting with the green-shirted volunteers who were present throughout the meeting under the fearless leadership of Dan Poole and Brandon Ligenfelter. Dan and Brandon made the second year of the Trainee Volunteer Subcommittee a success, and with their organization over 30 Trainees helped the meeting run smoothly. Speaking of shirts, the fun design this year was the brainchild of Kristin Happ Molitoris, who also handled the Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund. Denise Archambeault organized the Trainee-Mentor Luncheon. A big thank-you goes out to Denise and to all of the mentors who fight for a spot each year at this favorite event of Trainees and mentors alike.

This was another great year for the Trainee Forum. We kicked it off by presenting Dr. Fuller Bazer with the third annual Trainee Mentoring Award. His effect on the Trainee pool is seen far and wide. Thank you to Jackie Atkins for gathering the nominations and organizing the review. The Forum itself consisted of a presentation and panel discussion focusing on a variety of career options available to Trainees. FASEB's continued support helps make this and the career counseling by Bill Lindstaedt and Joe Tringali possible.

Although it seems as though the 2009 Annual Meeting just ended, it is time to start gearing up for next year's meeting in Milwaukee. Keep an eye out for abstract and award submission deadlines. Remember—membership pays! Renew your membership and you will get a discounted rate for the Annual Meeting, be eligible for Trainee awards, and get to be a part of the best society for Trainees in reproduction! In addition, you will be eligible to run for the next Trainee Representative position; look for the call for nominations soon. I look forward to working with you all over the next year. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or want to get more involved. ■

—Chrissy J. Cochran, Ph.D.
Trainee Representative
E-mail: chrissy.cochran@fda.hhs.gov

News from the Endowment Subcommittee

A recent newsletter article by outgoing subcommittee Chair Janice Bailey (“SSR endowments: Good and bad news” <www.ssr.org/Documents/2009-06-01nws.pdf>) did an excellent job of explaining exactly what the Endowments and Legacy Funds are, and their current status. What has changed in the last few months is our increased commitment to finding new and creative ways to increase the growth in these funds to protect both our Society and its journal. The reasons to do both are well understood by the membership—SSR is the major society in our field and is now a member of FASEB, and *Biology of Reproduction* is the leading journal in the field of reproductive biology. These are both treasures we need to protect.

Where do we go from here? Both SSR and *BOR* are growing. This is a necessity and a product of being the best at what we do. This means that we must begin to increase the ways in which we build our endowments. So, while I encourage all members to continue to contribute to the Endowment and Legacy Funds (contributions can now be made online at www.ssr.org/Donations.shtml), we recognize that the kind of growth we need cannot be sustained solely by donations from individual members. We will be exploring two additional pathways this year:

◆ *Increasing participation from clinically related fields.* At the 2008 SSR Annual Meeting in Hawaii, I was struck by the President’s Forum speakers

who described the role of basic reproductive biologists in the development of the contraceptive pill. Most of the chairs and medical faculty of clinical academic departments recognize the relationship between basic science and the advancement in medical technology, and the Endowment Subcommittee is considering various proposals to increase the participation of these departments in our Annual Meeting and our Society in general. This will have to be done carefully so that the scientific integrity of the Society remains foremost. However, if this is done correctly, it will enhance the much coveted translational avenues to our Society’s research.

◆ *Industry funding.* By increasing the participation of clinical departments, more avenues for industry funding are opened. Again, this will have to be done very carefully, but many other societies have successfully integrated corporate funding with their endowments.

Next steps. At the moment, these are only ideas for moving forward in our continuing effort to build our endowments. These ideas will be properly vetted and fully considered by the SSR Board and by the membership. We are sending them out now in particular so that we can hear from the membership how they feel. Please do not hesitate to send us your thoughts. ■

—*W. Steven Ward, Chair
Endowment Subcommittee
SSR Development Committee
E-mail: wward@hawaii.edu*

New members

Regular

Mark T. Johnson
Baisong Lu
Hugo H. Ortega
Paolo Rinaudo
Sana M. Salih
Laura Clamon Schulz
Emre Seli
Kexiong Zhang

Associate

Liveness Banda
Steven W. Blue
John A. Shupe
Fan Yi Zeng

Trainee

Laiq Ahmad
Carolyn C. Allen
Hanako Bai
Kristin Baker
Ashwini Balakrishnan
Shannon R. Boone
Ashish Bosukonda

Leonardo D'Aiuto
Sterling E. Davis
Jillian L. Fain
Craig A. Gifford
Katherine S. Hackbart
Akira Hanashi
Jacquelyn Hand
Richard N. Hanna
Justin M. Jacobson
A'Kebia Y. Jimmerson
LaToya Keith
Dale E. Kelley
Claudia Klein
Kerri S. Kluetzman
Naga Mohan Kommu
Raquel N. Kouba
Megan E. Land
Sridurga Mithraprabhu
Caitlin J. Murphy
Manjunatha Nanjappa
Bart T. Phillips
Lauren M. Schulke
Elizabeth C. Sefton
Vibha Shrivastava

Nilam Sinha
Ari Tadmor
Jennifer F. Thorson
Qian Wang
Heather M. Wilson

Change of status

To Regular:
Rebecca S. Brogan
John Gibbons
Carlos Gutierrez
Jennifer A. Hernandez
Gifford
Leslie M. Jackson
Pedro A. Orihuela
Christopher A. Pearl
Zhanquan Shi
Kaye Stenvers
Margarita Vigodner
Friedrich Wieser

To Associate:
Abdullah Ali AlKahtane
Patrick J. Donnelly

To Emeritus:
Kenneth L. Barker
P.W. Concannon
George H. Davis
J. Charles Eldridge
Lawrence L. Espey
P. Esponda
Michael J. Fields
Douglas L. Foster
H. Allen Garverick
William Hansel
Zlatko Kniewald
Joseph J. Mitala
Manubai Nagamani
Shuji Sasamoto
Akhouri A. Sinha
Frank Talamantes, Jr.
Basil Ho Yuen

News from the Reproductive Sciences Branch, NICHD

Succinctness will be key to grant success come January 2010. As many of us know from our own experiences, scientists have a tendency to be verbose (e.g., those 30-minute talks that last one hour, or my newsletter contributions). Oftentimes, this is well-intentioned in terms of trying to ensure an understanding by the audience, journal reviewers, or study section panels of the research findings or grant proposal. However, NIH is in the process of revising its page limits for grant applications beginning with the January 25, 2010, receipt date with the intent of reducing the length of applications. Page limits for the "Research Strategy" section (replaces "Research Plan" section) will be 6 pages for R03, R13, R21, R41, R43, and all fellowship applications, and 12 pages for R01, R15, R42, R44, and a host of other grant mechanisms. Thus, being brief and to the point will be critical to grant success. By the way, page limits for multiproject applications (e.g., P01s, centers) will be 12 pages for subprojects and 6 pages for cores.

RSB adds two new programs in 2009. The RSB added two new research portfolio programs during 2009. These were Reproductive Medicine Infertility, directed by Dr. Esther Eisenberg, and Fertility Preservation, directed by Dr. Charisee Lamar. The Reproductive Medicine Infertility Program provides oversight for grants dealing with the prevention, detection, and management of infertility as well as underlying diseases that affect fertility. The Fertility Preservation Program supports basic, clinical, and translational research designed to preserve reproductive capacity in individuals who are or may become infertile secondary to chronic disease (e.g., cancer, systemic lupus erythematosus, uterine fibroids, endometriosis, polycystic ovarian syndrome); or disease treatment (radiation, chemotherapy, or surgery), exposure to environmental toxicants, advanced reproductive age,

or genetic predisposition. For a complete list of our programs, please visit www.nichd.nih.gov/about/org/cpr/rs/.

Funding opportunity announcements.

Three new RFAs, as well as an RFA for the re-competition of our centers program, have been issued by the RSB in the past few months. These are:

Fertility Preservation Research: Advancing Beyond Technology (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-09-009.html>

Application receipt date October 20, 2009

Cooperative Research Partnerships to Promote Workforce Diversity in the Reproductive Sciences (U01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-09-008.html>

Application receipt date November 17, 2009

Epigenetic Processes in Development (R21)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-09-033.html>

Application receipt date November 18, 2009

Specialized Cooperative Centers Program in Reproduction and Infertility Research (U54)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-09-032.html>

Application receipt date May 5, 2010

—Louis V. DePaolo, Ph.D.
Chief, Reproductive Sciences Branch
Center for Population Research
Eunice Kennedy Shriver
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

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