Notes from the President

During the past 25 years our Society has grown from a fledgling to its current status as a highly respected scientific organization. We presently have over 2000 regular and student members, and we continue to grow thanks to the hard work of our Membership Committee. Our journal has been very successful and now is the most cited publication in the field of reproduction. We should all be very proud of our Society.

A brief ceremony to commemorate our 25th anniversary will take place on Wednesday, July 15 at the annual meeting.

As we begin the second 25 years of our existence, new challenges will certainly arise. With this in mind, the Board is in the process of formulating some long range goals for the Society. Your input is encouraged. Please communicate any thoughts that you may have on the subject to one of the Society’s officers or directors.

The financial status of the Society continues to remain strong. This is certainly good news for our membership, because it means that we will not have to increase our dues in the near future. You should also be aware that the Society has recently established an Endowment Fund. The amount of our Endowment continues to increase due to the diligent efforts of the Development and Endowment Committees to whom we are indeed grateful.

As part of the celebration of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR), the local arrangements committee plans to show slides of past SSR meetings and personalities. We are requesting slides (candid or formal, humorous or serious) from members to be shown during the upcoming meeting in Raleigh. Please make copies of as many slides as possible and mail them to Dr. Jerry Robinson, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Mail Drop 3-02, P. O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709, by June 23, 1992; if you have questions, Dr. Robinson may be reached at (919) 541-7724. The slides will become part of the SSR archives and can be used at future meetings.

Some of the proceeds from this fund will be used to support travel of trainees and new investigators to future meetings.

The Program and Local Arrangement Committees have certainly done an outstanding job of developing an excellent program that will be held at a superb facility. I am looking forward to an exciting 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction and hope to see you there.

Terry Nett, President

Plans for Our 25th Annual Meeting, North Carolina State University, Raleigh

Some Final Reminders

Plans for this summer’s SSR meeting are in their final stages and we are hoping for a large attendance (approx. 1000 people). Some last minute reminders for those of you planning to attend:

1. Be sure to return the Airport Transportation form if you wish to take the Airport shuttle bus from the Airport into Raleigh. This is the only way we can know when you will be arriving and thus how many buses to arrange for.

2. If you plan to arrive on Saturday 11th, between 2 and 9 pm, come to McKimmon Center where an Information Booth will be set up to help direct you to your dormitory. If you will be arriving later than this time you can go directly to the dormitory to check-in.

We look forward to seeing you in Raleigh this July, for what should be a great meeting.

John Gadsby and Jack Britt, Co-Chair, Local Arrangements Committee.

Notes from the Annual Meeting Program Committee

Members of the Program Committee are excited about the quality and the scope of the science
that will be presented in the upcoming meeting to be held at North Carolina State University at Raleigh, NC. We received 536 abstracts from the United States and several countries around the world. All abstracts were reviewed by three independent reviewers. In addition, reviewers provided suggestions regarding potential “groupings” of abstracts in sessions to (1) allow related topics to be covered by several sequential presentations or (2) highlight a controversy in a field. We have invited former presidents of the Society to co-chair slide sessions with younger investigators. We will have six simultaneous slide sessions during the afternoons thanks to the work of Drs. Jack Britt and John Gadby, co-chairs of the local arrangements committee. The Conference Center at North Carolina State is ideal for exchange of information both formally and informally: rooms for slide presentations are close to each other and close to the room in which posters will be presented. One half of the presenters of posters will be asked to be present for one hour and presenters of the other half of the posters will be asked to be present for the other half of each session. This should allow presenters to visit other posters in their area of interest.

Phyllis Wise for the Program Committee

Workshops – At the Annual Meeting

Techniques in Reproductive Biology Workshop

The Education Committee has organized the fifth Techniques Workshop to be held Sunday, July 12, 1992, in conjunction with the annual SSR meeting in Raleigh. This year’s workshop will focus on Recombinant Proteins: Expression, Analysis and Characterization. The workshop is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude with lunch at 12:30 p.m. Lunch and refreshments are included in the registration fee.

Participants include:

“Protein structure function analysis by site direct mutagenesis and expression in CHO cells”
Dr. David Kaetzel  
Department of Pharmacology  
Veterans Administration Hospital  
Cleveland, OH

“Analysis of recombinant proteins by two dimensional gel electrophoresis”
Dr. Bonnie Dunbar  
Department of Cell Biology  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, TX

“Purification of enzymes and antibodies”
Dr. Andrew Parkinson  
Department of Pharmacology  
University of Kansas School of Medicine  
Kansas City, KS

Financial assistance for this workshop is provided by Serono Symposia, USA. Persons wishing to register for the workshop may do so by checking the appropriate box on the registration form for the annual meeting.

For additional information please contact:
H. Edward Grofjan  
Chair, SSR Education Committee  
A224 Animal Sciences  
University of Nebraska  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0908  
Telephone: (402) 472-6469  
FAX (402) 472-6362
Cell Biology Symposium:

Mechanisms of Flagellar and Ciliary Movement
Sunday, July 12
Raleigh, North Carolina

This symposium, to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting, is being sponsored by Carl Zeiss, Inc. Registration is not required and there will be no charge for the symposium.

3:00 Peter Satir: Control of Ciliary Beating
3:40 Winfield S. Sale: Molecular Organization of Dyneins in Cilia and Flagella
4:20 Patricia Olds-Clarke: The f Complex in the Mouse Alters Flagellar Function and Fertility
5:00 Carl Zeiss, Inc.: Techniques in Video Microscopy

For additional information contact:

Susan S. Suarez
Dept. of Physiology, Box J-144
Health Science Center
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32610-0144

Congratulations to the SSR Award Winners for 1992

The winner for the Hartman Award is Dr. Neena B. Schwartz, Dr. Jerome Strauss III is the winner of the SSR Research Award, and Dr. Luigi Mastroianni, Jr. is the winner of the Distinguished Service Award.

SSR Award Nominations for 1993

An important function of the Society for the Study of Reproduction is to provide recognition for those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to our scientific discipline. Our recognition is provided through the Carl G. Hartman Award, SSR Research Award, and SSR Distinguished Service Award. As a member of SSR, it is your right and privilege to nominate individuals for these awards. The Awards Committee depends on nominations from the membership at large in the selection of recipients for the Society's awards. We urge you to nominate individuals who are well qualified by their accomplishments for the following awards.

CARL G. HARTMAN AWARD
(Sponsored by Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation)

The highest award of the SSR is given in recognition of a career in research and scholarly activities in the field of reproductive biology of an individual who is living at the deadline time. The awardee receives $1,500, a plaque and reimbursement for expenses associated with attendance at the annual meeting.

SSR RESEARCH AWARD
(Sponsored by the Society for the Study of Reproduction)

This award recognizes an active, regular member of the Society for outstanding research published during the past six years (1986–1992), regardless of the age of the recipient. In making its recommendation, the Awards Committee will consider the significance of the problems under investigation, the depth and breadth of the analyses performed, and the level of originality manifested in the publications of this work. The awardee will receive $500, a plaque and travel expenses to attend the annual meeting.

SSR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
(Sponsored by Serono Symposia, Inc.)

This award recognizes a person who has given unselfish service and leadership to reproductive biology. The Awards Committee will give most attention to records or organization of meetings, provision of reagents, public advisory groups, contributions to lay support groups, pre- and postdoctoral training, editorial service, review committees and offices in scientific organizations such as SSR and related organizations. There should also be evidence of a productive research career, especially studies that pioneered new and significant areas of research in reproductive biology. The awardee will receive $1,000, a plaque and travel expenses to the annual meeting.
SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

When submitting nominations, please provide (1) a detailed letter of nomination signed by an active, regular member of the SSR; (2) seconding letters and (3) a curriculum vitae or resume.

To simplify the nominating process, no special forms are required to nominate individuals for these SSR awards. Ten copies of the nominating materials, as noted under the description for each individual award, are required. Please submit nominations and other materials, as noted under the description for each award, before December 1, 1992 to:

Hal Behrman
Awards Committee

Placement Service

A placement service will again be available at the annual meeting. Preregistration is strongly recommended; on-site registration will be limited to Monday. This year we are making an increased effort to exchange placement service information with both the SSF and ASRB. Preregistration is mandatory if you would like to be listed as either a candidate or employer at those meetings. Registration materials are available from the SSR Business Office, 309 W. Clark St., Champaign, IL 61820 or call (217) 356-3182.

Sue Moenter
Trainee Representative

Report of the Bylaws Committee

A change in the SSR bylaws has been approved by the Board of Directors and will be voted upon by the members at the 1992 annual meeting. The membership committee requested that the change be made in order to remove any ambiguity about the eligibility of Master's degree graduate students for membership in the Society.

Article V: Membership. Section 1. Categories of Membership

Present wording:
(e) Trainee Member: Any individual in predoctoral or postdoctoral training in the field...

Proposed wording:
(e) Trainee Member: Any individual in postbaccalaureate or postdoctoral training in the field...

If anyone has any questions about these changes, please contact Susan Suarez, chair of the Bylaws Committee, at (904) 392-0921.

Publications Committee

The Journal Citation Report for 1991 ranked BOR first of 44 journals listed in the Obstetrics and Gynecology category for being cited in other publications in 1990. Congratulations to all authors for their high quality manuscripts!

James Ireland
for the Publications Committee

In Recognition and Appreciation of Our Sustaining Members

Over the years SSR has been very fortunate to have the continued interest and support of our industrial colleagues: Hamilton-Thorn, Genentech, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Ortho, Serono, Upjohn, Wyeth-Ayerst, Marion Merrell Dow and Syntex. The Society congratulates these companies for their total commitment and outstanding contribution toward the improvement of human and animal health. We look forward to the ongoing involvement of our sustaining members and hope that our mutual interest will continue to serve human and animal kind and help shape the future of reproductive biology.

Jan Roser
for the Development Committee

Public Affairs Committee

Capitol Hill Update

The Appropriations proceedings of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate are currently underway on Capitol Hill. The Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies of the House of Representatives, and the counterpart Subcommittee in the Senate, are determining the final operating budget for the NIH and its component Institutes for fiscal year (FY) 1993. The President has stipulated an overall budget of $9.376 billion for the NIH for FY 1993. This is an increase of $442 million, a 4.9% increase, above the FY 1992 spending level of $8.934 billion. The percentage increase for each of the individual Institutes and Centers of the NIH is once again variable. These increases range from a minimal increase of 3.0% for the Cancer Institute to a maximal increase of 6.2% for the Aging Institute. The Nursing Center would increase by 8.0% under the President's Budget, while the Office of the NIH Director would receive a 43.1% increase in funding during FY 1993.

The President requested $545.2 million for the NICHD for FY 1993, which is an increase of 4.9% above the current (FY 1992) level of $519.7 million. The budget for the NIDDK would increase from the current level of $662.6 million to $699.8 million in FY 1993. This is an increase of 5.6% above current levels. Table 1 lists the budgets and the percent changes for the various Institutes and Centers of the NIH for FY 1990-FY 1993. Table 2 lists the funding for the overall NIH, the NICHD, and the NIDDK for the fiscal years
FY 1987–FY 1993 (President's Request). Under the President's Budget the number of new and competing renewal grants funded by the NIH would decline slightly from 6,001 grants which are projected for this year (FY 1992), down to 5,800 for FY 1993. The success rate would also decline slightly from 28.0% this year down to 26.4% estimated for FY 1993.

As a comparison, during FY 1991 the NIH funded 5,771 new and competing renewal grants with a success rate of 29.3% of submitted grants which were funded. During FY 1990 the NIH funded only 4,645 competing grants at a funding rate of 25.3%; during FY 1989 the NIH funded 5,382 competing grants at a funding rate of 29.4%; in FY 1988 the NIH funded 6,213 competing grants at a funding rate of 35.3%; while during the banner year of FY 1987 the NIH funded 6,453 new and competing renewal grants at a funding rate of 38.3%.

Although the number of new and competing renewal grants which would be funded by the NIH during FY 1993 would decrease slightly (by approximately 200 grants), the number of competing grants which would be funded by each Institute of the NIH would vary. Approximately one-half (total of six) of the Institutes would receive increases in the number of competing grants which would be funded, while seven Institutes would receive decreases. The Allergy Institute would receive the greatest increase in competing grants funded. The number would increase from 541 grants funded in FY 1992 (22.9% success rate), to 627 funded under the President's FY 1993 budget (25.2% success rate). The Cancer Institute would receive a substantial decrease in the number of competing grants funded in FY 1993. For that Institute the number of competing grants would decrease from 1,089 funded this year (34.2% success rate), down to 921 funded in FY 1993 (29.4% success rate). Similar losses would be experienced by the Diabetes, the General Medical and the Aging Institutes. Table 3 lists the funding of competing awards by each Institute of the NIH, along with the projected success rates for FY 1991, FY 1992 and FY 1993.

For the NICHD the number of new and competing renewal grants which would be funded would increase slightly from the current (FY 1992) level of 422 competing grants (24.8% success rate) to 444 competing grants funded during FY 1993 (25.1% success rate). During FY 1991 the NICHD funded 370 new and competing renewal grants at a success rate of 25.1%. During FY 1990 the NICHD funded only 310 competing grants (funding rate: 19.8%), during FY 1989 the NICHD funded 433 new and competing renewal grants (funding rate 26.5%), while during FY 1988 the NICHD funded 450 new and competing renewal grants at a funding rate of 27.0%. During FY 1987 the NICHD funded 545 competing grants at a funding rate of 35.6%. Under the President's Budget, the number of new and competing renewal grants funded by the NIDDK would substantially decrease from the current (FY 1992) level of 638 competing grants funded (29.1% success rate) down to 562 competing grants funded during FY 1993 (26.8% success rate). Table 4 lists the funding of research project grants for the NIH/NICHD/NIDDK for FY 1987–FY 1993.

The NIH continues to substantially downsize competing grants which are funded. Beginning last year (FY 1991), each new and competing renewal grant which is funded is decreased during the first year of funding. In subsequent "out" years the percentage increase is limited to only a small percentage increase in funding over the previous year. The major drawback of this funding mechanism is that even if the budget of an Institute should substantially increase in a future fiscal year, each non-competing research grant will remain limited to the minimal increase over the previous fiscal year.

### Table 1

National Institutes of Health
Presidential Budget Justification
Fiscal Year 1993
(Dollars in Millions)
Includes AIDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>1,643.4</td>
<td>1,711.7</td>
<td>1,951.5</td>
<td>2,010.4</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart</td>
<td>1,070.6</td>
<td>1,120.9</td>
<td>1,191.5</td>
<td>1,245.4</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td>135.4</td>
<td>148.7</td>
<td>159.2</td>
<td>166.7</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>580.2</td>
<td>615.7</td>
<td>662.6</td>
<td>699.8</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurology</td>
<td>489.3</td>
<td>524.3</td>
<td>591.8</td>
<td>615.1</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allergy</td>
<td>832.2</td>
<td>907.0</td>
<td>950.9</td>
<td>1,010.8</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Medical</td>
<td>710.5</td>
<td>757.8</td>
<td>815.1</td>
<td>862.1</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Health</td>
<td>441.9</td>
<td>478.9</td>
<td>519.7</td>
<td>545.2</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye</td>
<td>236.4</td>
<td>253.2</td>
<td>270.3</td>
<td>285.1</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environ. Health</td>
<td>228.7</td>
<td>240.6</td>
<td>252.0</td>
<td>261.5</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aging</td>
<td>238.9</td>
<td>323.8</td>
<td>383.6</td>
<td>407.2</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthritis</td>
<td>168.5</td>
<td>194.4</td>
<td>203.9</td>
<td>214.9</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comm. Disorders</td>
<td>117.3</td>
<td>134.9</td>
<td>149.1</td>
<td>157.3</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Res. Resources</td>
<td>337.1</td>
<td>335.8</td>
<td>314.5</td>
<td>330.2</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Center</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>39.9</td>
<td>44.9</td>
<td>48.5</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Genome</td>
<td>59.5</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>104.8</td>
<td>110.4</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fogarty Center</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lib. of Med.</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>103.3</td>
<td>108.6</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Director</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>142.1</td>
<td>203.4</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build. &amp; Facilities</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>168.6</td>
<td>103.8</td>
<td>72.5</td>
<td>-30.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Subtotal NIH             | 7,576.3     | 8,276.632   | 8,934.818     | 9,376.453    | 4.9%               |
| CRADAS*                  | .513        | .854        | .882          |             |                    |
| Total NIH                | 8,277.145   | 8,935.672   | 9,377.335     |             |                    |

*Collaborative Research & Development Agreement
The NIH continues to refer to "success rate" instead of the previous term of "funding rates". The "funding rates" simply referred to the percentage of approved research grants which were actually funded during each fiscal year. The current term "success rate" refers to the percentage of research grants which are actually funded compared to the total number of research grants which are reviewed during each fiscal year. By utilizing this mechanism, the NIH will no longer consider the number of approved grants which are funded as a primary index of the level of NIH funding.

Congressional Committees
The membership of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies of the U.S. House of Representatives and the United States Senate are the same this year as last year. However, Senator Brock Adams (D, Washington) announced that he will not run for re-election this year, and Congressman Joseph D. Early (D, Massachusetts) is engaged in a close race for re-election to the House of Representatives. Due to reapportionment based on the 1990 census, Rep. Early's district, which encompasses Worcester, Massachusetts, was merged with the district currently represented by Congressman Barney Frank from Boston. There evidently is a close race to decide who will represent this new Congressional district. Congressman Early is very active in NIH funding issues. He is a firm supporter of the NIH, and a leading Congressional advocate. We unfortunately lost Congressman Mario Conte (R, Massachusetts), who suddenly passed away in January of last year. Mr. Conte was also a strong advocate of the NIH in Congress. With the scandals plaguing Congress this year, we may see some unexpected changes in the membership of the Appropriations Subcommittees.

SSR Congressional Efforts
For the first time in many years, our request to testify before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, was not granted. Although I submitted our request in early January, it apparently was not early enough. In past years I have submitted requests in mid- to late-February and have been scheduled to testify. However, our Senate request is still pending. It appears that this is a rushed year due to the Presidential and Congressional elections. Appropriations proceedings seem to progress much more rapidly in pre-election campaign years.

We recently activated our SSR Congressional Mail-In campaign in support of increased funding for the NIH/NICHD for FY 1993. This year we are also including a request for SSR members to write in support of USDA funding. I anticipate another high level of activity by the members of our Society in our annual Congressional mail-in campaign.

USDA FY 1993 Budget Situation
The National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) plays an important role in the Science and
Education (S & E) portion of the USDA budget. This organization makes recommendations to the USDA and also gives testimony and tracks the budget process very closely through Congress. That portion of the S & E budget of greatest interest to members of SSR is the Animal Systems component of the National Initiative for Research on Agriculture, Food and Environment (NRI). This component was funded at $25 million in FY 1992. The President's Executive Budget contained a $32 million request in FY 1993. NASULGC is recommending $38 million. Testimony has been given before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture and Related Agencies. No public hearings will be held in the Senate. We will not know the results of these efforts until mark-up time which is not even scheduled as of this writing.

Those members in Land-Grant Universities will be interested to know that the formula funds (commonly referred to as Hatch and Regional Research Funds) were recommended for level funding in the Executive Budget request. NASULGC has recommended a 10% increase. The Executive has once again zeroed the so-called Section 1414 and Section 1433 funds for Animal Health research. NASULGC has requested they be reinstated. Again, the position of Congress is unknown at this time.

Annual Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina

We are planning to once again have extensive media coverage at our upcoming annual meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina. Last year in Vancouver we had adequate media coverage of our meeting. We had extensive media coverage at our previous meetings in Columbia and Knoxville. There were numerous press interviews of SSR scientists and elected officials present at the meeting by both the printed and electronic media.

By the time of our Annual Meeting in Raleigh, the Congressional appropriations deliberations regarding the funding of the NIH/NICHD for FY 1993 should be completed. I have updated information to share with you at that time. I am once again planning to present a formal discussion of our Public Affairs activities including the funding of the NIH/NICHD at our annual business meeting. Please plan to attend.

If any public affairs or funding information which is of critical importance to us becomes available prior to our meeting, I will provide it to you in an SSR mallout. In the meantime, if you should have any questions regarding the Information which I have discussed, please contact me at any time.

I look forward to seeing you in Raleigh.

James P. Preslock and Colin Kaltenback
for the Public Affairs Committee

*Success rate.

Table 4
Research Project Grants Comparison
NIH vs NICHD vs NIDDK
FY 1987-1993

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>NIH Competing RPG's</th>
<th>NIH Funding Rate</th>
<th>NICHD Competing RPG's</th>
<th>NICHD Funding Rate</th>
<th>NIDDK Competing RPG's</th>
<th>NIDDK Funding Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1987 actual</td>
<td>6,453</td>
<td>38.3%</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988 actual</td>
<td>6,213</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989 actual</td>
<td>5,382</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990 actual</td>
<td>4,645</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 actual</td>
<td>5,771</td>
<td>29.3%*</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>25.1%*</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>26.6%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992 estimate</td>
<td>6,001</td>
<td>28.0%*</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>24.8%*</td>
<td>638</td>
<td>29.1%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993 President's Request</td>
<td>5,800</td>
<td>26.4%*</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>25.1%*</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>26.8%*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note from the SSR Animal Care and Experimentation Committee

Representative Charles Stenholm's "Farm Animal & Research Facilities Protection act of 1992" (H.R. 2407) moved one step closer to law this April when it was marked-up and passed by voice vote in the full House Agriculture Committee. This important bill, which currently has 263 cosponsors, if passed into law, will make it a federal crime to carry out any of a specific list of prohibited acts at publicly or privately funded research or farm animal facilities. The next step for this bill is likely to be the House Judiciary Committee, chaired by Representative Jack Brooks of Texas. Letters of thanks can be sent to members of the Agriculture Committee and letters urging quick action on H.R. 2407 can be sent to Representative Brooks.

Currently, 25 states have passed laws to protect research facilities, including South Dakota, whose new law becomes effective July 1 and Nebraska, whose new law takes effect July 14, 1992. The Nebraska law states that "a person who intentionally, willfully and without permission releases an animal lawfully confined for science, research, commerce, agriculture, or education is liable to the owner of the animal for damages, including the costs of restoring the animal to confinement and to its health condition prior to release and the costs for damage to real property caused by the released animals. If the release causes the failure of an experiment, the person shall also be liable for all costs of repeating the experiment, including replacement of the animals, labor and materials." Similar legislation is pending in Colorado, Connecticut, Missouri, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia (Virginia’s bill was approved and is awaiting Governor Wilder’s signature). Let your state representative hear from you. You can be sure they are hearing from the animal rightists.
The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) has struck again. This time at Michigan State University, where vandalism and arson destroyed the offices and laboratory of Dr. Richard Aulerich, who has been studying environmental contamination and its impact on the decline of wild mink and otter in the Great Lakes Area. Also destroyed were research facilities devoted to developing alternatives to animal models in toxicological testing by Dr. Karen Chou. The FBI lists the ALF as one of the 10 most dangerous terrorist organizations.

In other news, a U.S. District Judge has ruled that the USDA’s decision to exclude rats, mice and birds from coverage under the federal animal welfare act is arbitrary and capricious and in violation of law. The USDA has requested additional time to review the decision and its impact before deciding whether to file an appeal. A New York State court has again ruled in favor of the State University of New York at Stony Brook regarding access to animal care committee meetings by an animal rights group. The court ruled that the IACUC derive powers solely from federal law and is not a “public body” as defined in state law. Therefore, IACUC meetings are not subject to Open Meetings Law, which applies only to entities “performing a governmental function for the state.”

Three new publications are available from the Foundation for Biomedical Research. “Understanding the Use of Animals in Biomedical Research”, “The Use of Animals in Product Safety Testing” and “Caring for Laboratory Animals” are available for $1.00 each. FBR can be reached at 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 303, Washington, D.C. 20006.

Look for information and legislative updates at the Animal Care table during poster sessions at the annual meeting. As always, members of the committee are eager to listen to your ideas and suggestions regarding our service to the SSR. Please forward comments to Brent Bruot, Mary Buhr, Patrick Concannon, Char Farin, Larry Katz, Jeffrey Knickerbocker, Sandra Jean Legan, Troy Ott, Dan Sharp, George Stabenfeldt or Carol Ziomek.

We’re looking forward to seeing you in Raleigh.

LARRY S. KATZ
for the Animal Care and Experimentation Committee

Notes from the Board

The Officers and the Board of Directors have established three general high priority objectives which will serve as a framework for future planning for SSR. These objectives represent areas which we feel should receive new or renewed emphasis from the Society over the next several years. They are consistent with the overall goals and mission of the Society and underscore unique areas where we can move the field of reproduction forward.

One objective should be to increase public awareness of the importance of research in reproduction. Several mechanisms to attain this goal have been discussed. One suggestion was development of a program to expose school-aged children to on-going research and its benefits. We believe that considerable experience and expertise to develop such a program(s) already exists within the Society. This expertise could be made available to members of the Society.

The second objective is to continue and, if possible, increase assistance to young investigators in reproduction. Providing funds for travel to the annual meeting and the trainee forum are examples of current activities in this area. Other ideas include development of a fund to support travel to another laboratory to learn new techniques and the establishment of one or two SSR graduate fellowships.

The third objective is to reduce factionalism in the Society and to increase interdisciplinary interactions both within the Society and with other societies. Mechanisms to accomplish this objective include sponsoring symposia with speakers covering interdisciplinary topics, holding joint meetings with other U.S. societies, and occasionally holding a meeting in conjunction with a foreign society.

The objectives and especially ideas for their implementation are under consideration by the Board. We welcome your comments and ideas. Please contact any of the Board members or the President with your suggestions.

Are You Interested in Serving on an SSR Committee?

Would you be interested in serving on an SSR Committee? If so, you may communicate your interest by writing to next year’s President, Dr. Keith Inskeep at the Division of Animal Science, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506-6108.

Looking forward to seeing you in Raleigh.

Respectfully submitted,

SSR Education Committee
Robert Bigsby
Prabir Chakraborty
Marsha Crowder-Sousa
Ed Grotjan