

President's Report - Robert Getzenberg



Dr. Getzenberg, President of SBUR (2006-2007), gives the opening remark of SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta).

I would like to report on the spring 2006 SBUR meeting that was held in conjunction with the AUA Annual Meeting. This meeting was held in Atlanta, and the morning session was entitled, "Basic Science Approaches to Controversies in Prostate Cancer". During the morning session, two central questions were

It is a great pleasure to be able to write my first report as a President of the Society for Basic Urologic Research. This is an exciting time in the field of urology research and also a time in history where an organization such as the Society for Basic Urologic Research is even more important than ever. It is critical for us to work together to take many of the exciting advances that have been made and translate them into improved clinical care. We also must work together to educate the general public, politicians and others about the importance of urology research. With these exciting times, we now need to put more resources into the system, not less.

asked and perspectives given by both clinical and basic scientists. The first question related to androgen withdrawal therapy in prostate cancer and when it is most appropriate. **Dr. Christopher Logothetis** provided the introduction to the question and some of the clinical insights. **Dr. Chawshang Chang** described some of his exciting, recent data related to androgen action within the prostate and how it might be related to prostate cancer. **Dr. Martin Gleave** presented data related to the latest clinical approaches being applied to ask these questions.

That first set of questions was then followed by the 12th An-

nual Donald S. Coffey Lecture. The Lecture this year was given by **Dr. Peter A. Jones** from the University of Southern California. Dr. Jones gave an inspiring, exciting talk related to epigenetic changes that are associated with cancer.

I then had the honor of awarding the Society for Basic Urologic Research Service Award to **Dr. John T. Grayhack** for his many years of support of urology research. He truly has been a pioneer in developing and supporting research programs in our field.

The second question of the morning regarded utilizing today's technologies, how erectile dysfunction post radical prostatectomy can be addressed. **Dr. Patrick C. Walsh** introduced the question and provided his own insight.

It was then followed up by excellent talks by **Dr. Arthur Burnett** as well as **Dr. Michael Chancellor** on new approaches being applied. Finally, **Dr. George Christ** gave some exciting data related to novel mechanisms that might be important to the disease. After the morning session, we then had our Member Luncheon and

Business Meeting. **Dr. Joel Nelson** served as our Keynote Speaker in presenting his approach to novel therapies for prostate cancer.

Two afternoon breakout sessions were quite productive. The first related to neuroendocrine cells of the prostate. **Dr. Bob Matusik** was the Chair of this session, and the participants included Doctors **Wendy Huss, Sally Parsons, Jacek Pinski** and **Janni Mirosevich**. The second break session looked at new advances in interstitial cystitis. This session was chaired by **Dr. Susan Keay** and included Doctors **David Klumpp, Jordan Dimitrakov, Naoki Yoshimura** and **Anthony Buffington**. Overall, the day was extremely productive. We had a good attendance at the morning and breakout sessions, and I think everyone felt that it was an extremely successful meeting. (continued on Page 2)

Awards and Honors

At the Spring 06 meeting (AUA, Atlanta) the SBUR presented its Service Award to **Dr. John T. Grayhack**. Previous SBUR Service Awards were given to Dr. C. Olsson, Dr. R. Williams, and Dr. D. Vaughan.

Dr. Natasha Kyprianou, past

president of the SBUR (2004-2005) received the inaugural **Women in Urology Award**, a joint award from the Society of Women in Urology and the SBUR, recognizing the accomplishments and contributions by women (continued on Page 3)



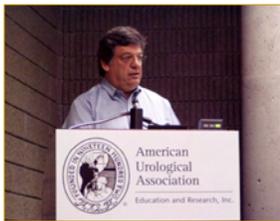
Dr. Getzenberg presents the SBUR Service Award to Dr. Grayhack

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President's Report (continued from Page 1)

As fall begins, we look forward to the upcoming fall meeting for the Society for Basic Urologic Research. **Dr. Simon Hayward** and his program committee have put together an excellent meeting that I think everyone will enjoy. **Dr. James Mohler** is currently working on the spring 2007 meeting which will again be held in conjunction with the American Urological Association's Annual Meeting. At this meeting, Dr. Mohler and his colleagues are working closely with the Society for Urologic Oncology to have a joint session. We continue to seek new ways in which we can improve upon the meetings and other activities that the Society performs and would certainly look forward to hearing your comments.

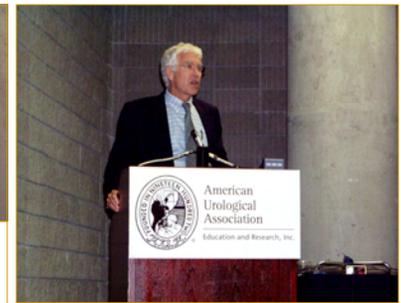
Thank you for reading this column. I hope that each of you will consider becoming more involved in the Society than you have been in the past. We need you now, and I certainly look forward to hearing from you. Robert



Dr. Logothesis, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Dr. Chang, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Peter A. Jones, Ph.D., D. Sc., University of Southern California, giving the 12th Annual Donald S. Coffey Lecture, on epigenetics and bladder cancer. Dr. Jones is Professor of Urology, and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Keck School of Medicine; and Director of USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Jones was a past-president of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) (2005-2006).



Dr. Gleave, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Dr. Walsh, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)

SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta) Highlights



Dr. Burnett, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Dr. Chancellor, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Dr. Christ, speaking during the morning sessions at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Dr. Matusik, chairing an afternoon session at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Dr. Keay, chairing an afternoon session at SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)

Treasurer's Report - Zhou Wang

The overall financial situation of the SBUR remains stable.

The financial stability of SBUR depends primarily on membership dues, revenues from the SBUR meetings, and corporate sponsorships. I would like to thank our members for paying their dues and attending the annual meetings of SBUR. The SBUR 2005 Fall meeting and 2006 Spring meeting were very successful both scientifically and financially. The SBUR is very grateful for the generous support from industrial sponsors and the peer-reviewed grants from NIDDK. The SBUR Executive Council has worked closely with **WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc.**, the company that manages SBUR business and helps raise funds for the Society to effectively accomplish our missions.

I would also like to thank past SBUR presi-

dents, especially **Dr. Natasha Kyprianou**, for their generous contributions to the Society. I am also grateful to the following members, **Drs. Arundhati Ghosh, Shutsung Liao, Yair Lotan, Michael Lu, and Barry G. Timms**, for making a special contribution to our society.

Once again, I am pleased to inform you that the investment portfolio, which was approved by the board in 2004, has performed well so far.

Zhou



Dr. Joel Nelson, Keynote Speaker, SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta), presenting at the Member Luncheon and Business Meeting, on approaches to novel therapies for prostate cancer.



(Left) Dr. Zhou Wang, speaking with Dr. Chris Mullins of the NIDDK, you guessed it, on money. (Right) Member Luncheon and Business Meeting. SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta)



Message from Chair of Membership Committee - Susan Kasper

Renty Franklin, Jim Brooks and I thank everyone who invited their students, post-doctoral fellows, residents and colleagues to join the Society. Our growth in membership brings in new expertise and provides exciting new opportunities for collaborations between bed-to-bench and bench-to-clinic research. We encourage everyone to keep up the good work. Innovative ideas on how to improve membership benefits and numbers are always appreciated.

Susan

Message from Chair of Mentorship/Academic Development Committee - Timothy Ratliff

The Mentorship/Academic Development Committee is focusing to assist young investigators in the SBUR in preparing competitive peer-reviewed grant applications. To accomplish this task, the committee is considering organizing a grant review panel to read and comment on grant applications written by SBUR young investigators. The process is under development with the intent for implementation in 2007.

Tim

Message from Chair of Growth and Endowment Committee - Natasha Kyprianou

The initiative of establishing the General Growth and Endowment Funds for the SBUR was undertaken as I completed my term as the President of the Society in 2005. The response of past Presidents of the Society and distinguished Urology leaders to this call has been tremendously positive and on behalf of the Committee and the Society I am extremely grateful. I would like to recognize the following individuals who made generous contributions towards the Growth and Endowment Funds. With continuous growth these general funds will be used for future expansion of the long-term goals of our Society:

- Dr. Donald Coffey
- Dr. Alan Retik
- Dr. Richard Williams
- Dr. Anthony Schaefer
- Dr. Michael Freeman
- Dr. Diane Felsen
- Dr. Leland Chung
- Dr. Renty Franklin
- Dr. Shuk-Mei Ho
- Dr. Leonard Marks

I look forward to receiving more responses from the past leadership of the SBUR as well as other national leaders in academic urology. Thank you again for giving from the heart towards a better economic future for the Society for Basic Urologic Research.

Natasha

Dr. Natasha Kyprianou also contributed to the General Growth and Endowment Funds.

Awards (continued from Page 1)

scientists in urology, a field wherein women represent the minority.

The SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta) continues to feature the **Young Investigator Award**, to active members of the SBUR at less than forty (40) years of age with significant contributions to urologic research. The awardees receive a check for \$2,500 to be used at the discretion of the recipients, and a photo op with the past president at the awards ceremony. This year's awardees are **Haojie Huang**

(University of Minnesota), **Rosalyn Adam** (Harvard Medical School), and **Karen Knudsen** (University of Cincinnati College of Medicine). Past awardees include: Alan Partin, Michael Freeman, Zhou Wang, Joel Nelson, George Christ, Natasha Kyprianou, Jill Macoska, Thomas Griffith, Margot Damaser, Arul Chinnaiyan, Aria Olumi, Robert Uzzo, and Jordan Dimitrakov.



Past SBUR President, Shuk-mei Ho (2005-2006) presents the Young Investigator Awards at the Member Luncheon and Business Meeting, SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta).



Post-award photo op with the president, Karen Knudsen, Rosalyn Adam (right). Not pictured: Haojie Huang.

Think of a good name for the newsletter, so we don't have to call it that? Write to the Editor!

SBUR Fall 2006 - Simon Hayward, Conference Chair

On behalf of the organizing committee I would like to invite everyone to attend the 16th Annual Fall Meeting of the SBUR which will be held in Phoenix, AZ from November 16th-19th 2006.

You should all have received a mailing listing the program and registration details. The scientific theme of the meeting will be **Stromal-Epithelial Interactions in Urology**. Mesenchymal cells have long been known to dictate development of the urogenital tract epithelium. Reciprocal epithelial to mesenchymal signaling clearly plays a role in the differentiation and patterning of the stroma. The molecular basis for these interactions is now starting to be elucidated. The mechanisms underlying the changes in intercellular communication which occur in benign and malignant disease is also a source a major focus of research and opens exciting new possibilities for therapeutic intervention. We have assembled a wonderful lineup of speakers who will address the role and mechanisms by which cell-cell interactions influence development, developmental abnormalities and benign and malignant diseases of the urogenital tract. The meeting will also feature a half day mini symposium on Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia which will examine the interface between the laboratory bench and the patient, looking at our current understanding of BPH biology and the development of new predictive biomarkers for this disease. Full details of the scientific program and information for registration has been posted at <http://www.sbur.org/meetings>. Travel awards

will be offered for students and postdoctoral fellows submitting abstracts by the September 29th deadline. The best and most programatically relevant of these abstracts may be selected for short podium presentations. Early registration ends on October 26th so don't delay.

The venue for the meeting will be the Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort <http://www.pointehilton.com/indexsp.html> where rooms will be available at a special conference rate. This beautiful resort complex is adjacent to the Phoenix Mountain Preserve allowing easy access to hiking, biking and nature watching possibili-

ties. The resort itself has a full range of amenities including a spa, salon, fitness center, associated golf course, tennis, shopping and a lazy river – for when the science just gets to be too much! This is a perfect time of year to visit the mountains and deserts of the West. Daytime highs in mid-November are typically around 75°F/24°C and nighttime lows around 50°F/11°C. The Saturday evening banquet will be a Western themed event held in the resort and will feature local music and dancing, so bring your hats and boots!

Simon



SBUR Spring 2007 (AUA, Anaheim) - James Mohler, SBUR Vice President and Chair of Organizing Committee

The Spring SBUR meeting at the AUA Annual Meeting in Anaheim, May 19, 2007, will try to combine a portion of our meeting jointly with the SUO as a trial. A joint program will occur between 8:00 am -11:00 am which will include two sessions and the Coffey lecture. The first session is tentatively entitled, New Ideas in Prostate Cancer Recurrence after Castration and will feature three state-of-the-art lectures on metabolism of testicular androgens from adrenal androgens, prostate androgens coming from an androgen reservoir after castration, and growth factor transactivation of androgen receptor after castration.

The second session will address target selection in renal cell carcinoma and bladder cancer and will feature paired lectures on kidney and bladder cancer; kidney cancer lectures will address hypoxia-dependent pathways and the future of immunotherapy in the era of tyrosine kinase inhibitors. Bladder cancer lectures will discuss epigenetics in the development and treatment of bladder cancer and the role of immunotherapy in bladder cancer. (continued on next page)

SBUR Spring 2007 (AUA, Anaheim) (continued from previous page)

The SBUR meeting will continue with the Coffey lectureship and then a fourth session on non-cancer subjects. The SBUR business lunch will be followed with two breakout sessions, which may feature high throughput discovery using clinical specimens and models of angiogenesis for urologic research. In addition, the SBUR has been engaged in discussions with the AUA Annual Meeting Organizational Committee and AUA leadership regarding the enhancement of translational science at the annual meeting.

Jim



Belfield campus of University College Dublin, 4 km south of the centre of Dublin.

7th World Basic Urologic Research Congress - Barbara Foster

Barbara Foster and **Tim Ratliff** represent the SBUR-USA on the Organising and Scientific Committee of the 7th World Basic Urological Research Congress.

Come to Dublin, Ireland September 27-29, 2007 for the 7th World Basic Urological Research Congress, which is the joint meeting of the European Society for Urological Research (ESUR), and the Society for Basic Urologic Research (SBUR), hosted by the ESUR in 2007. The Congress is set in a unique Irish university setting and will prove an opportunity interactions and scientific discussions. There will be a strong emphasis on translational research, highlighting the significant progress made in our understanding of the biology of urological diseases and how this has helped in clinical intervention. With the advancement in scientific "omic" technology and the collection of relevant biological material, urological research should be making significant advances in our understanding of many biological and clinical questions such as the development of androgen independence, biomarker discovery for early prostate, bladder and renal cancer and the emerging role of inflammation in prostate disease. But have these advancements been made? The theme of this year's joint meeting of the ESUR and SBUR will be to ask the question "is there proof of translation?"

The meeting will focus on diseases of the prostate, bladder and kidney. Invited speakers include prominent epidemiologists to discuss the identification of disease cohorts; scientists to investigate the molecular and cellular pathways for target identification and the emerging role of new pathways in disease progression, such as inflammation; clinicians to discuss the use of targeted drugs or natural dietary compounds in clinical practice. Each session will be based around a disease area and will explore each of these areas of interest. The meeting will also actively encourage the participation of junior and young investigators, by including talks selected from the submitted abstracts and running interactive oral poster and poster presentation sessions. These sessions will be designed to highlight the training programs across the ESUR and SBUR, as the training and fostering of our young scientists is central to the continued success of urological research and these two societies. There will be reduced registration costs for junior scientist still in training and a range of accommodation options to facilitate and encourage high attendance at the meeting. Ireland and Dublin is a hospitable place and the social programme will involve cultural experiences and good honest Irish fun!

The meeting will take place September 27-29, 2007 at the Belfield campus of University College Dublin, 4 km south of the centre of Dublin. Belfield is a campus village and offers easy access to the city centre and surrounding countryside including stunning coastal scenery and the majestic Wicklow mountains.

For detailed information visit the Conference Website at www.wcur-dublin2007.com

Barb



(Left) Dr. Monica Liebert, formerly of the AUA Foundation Office of Research, addressing SBUR members at the Member Luncheon and Business Meeting, SBUR Spring 06 (AUA, Atlanta).

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

- Confucius (551-479 BC)

Important – Call from the SBUR EC to Members!

It is becoming more and more difficult to get grant funding for research, while the picture in funding for urological research is especially bleak. Each of us may have a favorite personal list of things working against us in this perpetual battle of a profession that we chose for ourselves. "All the money is going to Iraq!" "The Congress is disillusioned about research!" "There's a big problem with the peer-review system!" For any of us at any given time, any or all of these may be true. But the fact is: there is a decline in the number of applications submitted

(e.g., to the NIDDK). We as the researchers always look to the funding agencies for help, but this time, they are looking to us for help, help to make an argument that there is real need to increase funding for research, and, urological research.

We urge the members of the Society to submit more applications. We will have rejections. We must not view these as defeat, but rather as part of the process, part of the game. And we must not let these intimidate us. Perhaps we all can use a little of the Olympic Motto, "Citius, Altius, Fortius" (swifter, higher,

stronger), and the Olympic Creed: "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well." In the end, too, if we all have fought well, we will have conquered and won, in grants and in our continued success in urological research!

Submit! Submit! Submit!

A Special Thank You to Our 2006 Corporate Partners

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American Urological Association*

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Eli Lilly and Company

GTx

OURLab - Oppenheimer Urologic Reference Lab

Sanofi-Aventis

**Contributed to both the Spring and Fall meetings*

Member Highlights (in order of submission or nomination)

Ralph Buttyan recently moved his laboratory from Columbia University to The Ordway Research Institute in Albany, New York. Ralph's new contact information is available on the SBUR website (the Membership Roster).

Zhou Wang has recently relocated from Northwestern University to the University of Pittsburgh to serve as the Director of Urological Research in the Department of Urology, and as Co-Director of Prostate and Urologic Cancer Program at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. Zhou recently received a Merit Award from the NIDDK.

Timothy Ratliff was elected to chair the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program Integration Panel. Tim will assume the chair position in November 2006, serving a 1-year term.

Shuk-mei Ho is now Professor and Chair in the Department of Environmental Health, at the University of Cincinnati. Mei has been invited to serve as a member of the 2007 IMPaCT TPC: Innovative Minds in Prostate Cancer Today, a conference sponsored by The Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program.

Natasha Kyprianou is a member of the 2007 IMPaCT TPC.

Robert Getzenberg was officially installed as the inaugural recipient of the Donald S. Coffey Professorship in Urology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine on October 10, 2006 in a formal ceremony.

When do I hear from you for your highlights? Please write to the Editor!

Re-Union of SBUR Presidents - May 20, 2006, Atlanta, GA



From Left to Right:

Donald Coffey – 1988-1989

Michael Freeman – 2002-2003

Diane Felsen – 2003-2004

Shuk-mei Ho – 2005-2006

Ralph Buttyan – 2000-2001

Donald Tindall – 1992-1993

Robert Getzenberg – 2006-2007

Natasha Kyprianou – 2004-2005

James Mohler – 2007-2008

Timothy Ratliff – 1987-1988

Chung Lee – 1994-1995

If you have an old picture from years ago, or, not so many years ago, and would like to share with everyone for a fond memory of a Society function, please submit an electronic copy to the Editor.

The SBUR Newsletter October 2006

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