

From the President's Desk, Dr. Carrie Rinker-Schaeffer

*G*reetings Everyone!

As we move toward the fall meeting I have exciting news to report regarding the SBUR's interaction with the AUA and the AUA Foundation. As you may be aware, Drs. James Mohler, Michael Freeman and Robert Getzenberg have worked diligently with their counterparts in these organizations to advance urology research and the interests of urologic disease investigators. We are exceedingly fortunate that our good friend Dr. Leo Giambarrresi, formerly of the DOD Prostate Cancer Research Program is now the new Director of Research at the AUA Foundation. As a bonus, we also have the great fortune to work with Mr. Rodney Cotton who is the veteran Research Project Coordinator. I have begun to work with both of these remarkable gentlemen to continue or develop, and implement a variety of initiatives for 2009. These include a Research Leadership Program, a Summer Research Conference, the Research Forum at the AUA Annual Meeting, grant writing workshops, and a grant pre-review program.

Additionally, SBUR is collaborating with the AUA Foundation and the AUA Foundation Research Council on developing a National Urology Research Agenda. This document is intended to serve as a guide for investigators and funding agencies on the priorities in urologic disease research.



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My goal is to work with Leo and Rodney to capitalize on the considerable ground-breaking efforts of Drs. James Mohler, Michael Freeman, and Robert Getzenberg and bring at least some of their efforts to fruition. I will keep you posted on our progress and will almost certainly ask for your help to make their visions into reality. I can't wait to see you at the Fall Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona! It promises to be spectacular!

Awards and Notable Mentions

Dr. Culig Receives C. E. Alken Award

Zoran Culig, M.D., member of the SBUR Executive Council, receives this year's C.E. Alken Award for the publication "**Suppressor of cytokine signaling-3 is up-regulated by androgen in prostate cancer cell lines and inhibits androgen-mediated proliferation and secretion**" in *Endocrine Related Cancer*, **14:1007-1019, 2007**. This prestigious award will be given to Dr. Culig in November 2008 in Heidelberg, Germany. The Alken Foundation selects a high quality basic or clinical science publication and invites the awardee to present a talk at its annual meeting. Recent research of Dr. Culig and his group is focused on the role of suppressors of cytokine signaling, which are induced by interleukins, in prostate cancer. Suppressor of cytokine signaling-3 could be up-regulated also by hormones that up-regulated cAMP and androgens. The evidence obtained so far supports its anti-apoptotic role in human prostate cancer. **(Continued on Page 2)**

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Meet Me in Phoenix- Fall 2008 Meeting

Preparations for the Fall 2008 Meeting are well underway under the enthusiastic leadership of Dr. Shuk-mei Ho from University of Cincinnati Medical School, Cincinnati, OH. Other members of the Program Committee include, Dr. Vinata Lokeshwar from University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, Florida, Shawn Lupold from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, and Philip Febbo from Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC.

The theme of the Fall 2008 Meeting is, **Epigenetics and Genitourinary Disorders**. This year's meeting is structured as a forum for the attendees to learn about the latest advancements in the field of epigenetics (e.g. micro-RNA, DNA methylation, histonemodification) and their applications to investigative research in GU diseases. Scientific exchange at this meeting will open up new avenues for the discovery of diagnostic/prognostic epigenetic markers and for devising novel therapeutics for GU diseases. Key advancements in benign and malignant diseases of the bladder, prostate, and kidneys will be emphasized through a mini-symposium on novel therapeutics and management strategies. The trainees will have opportunities to network with peers and senior members of the Society. They will also have an opportunity to present their data at poster sessions and, in selected cases, as podium presentations. The invited speakers are leaders in their respective fields, offering extensive knowledge and experience. As always, the atmosphere of the meetings is friendly and informal, providing encouragement and unique opportunities for trainees to participate and establish collaborations.

The deadline for abstract submission is September 30, 2008 at 12.00 pm central time. A limited number of travel awards will be provided to junior researchers. Students, post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty below the level of Assistant Professor are eligible for this award. Award winners will be selected by a committee based on the quality of the abstracts submitted and the first three awardees will be invited to give oral presentations at the meeting.

Awards and Mentions (continued from Page 1)

Dr. Natasha Kyprianou, past President of the SBUR received the **2008 Distinguished Mentor Award** from The American Urological Association Foundation. Dr. Kyprianou was presented with this award at the AUA-2008 meeting in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Kyprianou is the James F. Hardyman Chair in Urologic Research and a Professor of Urology, Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry and Pathology at the University of Kentucky, College of Medicine. Dr. Kyprianou's research focuses on the molecular mechanisms underlying prostate cancer development and progression and the development of drugs targeting metastatic tumors. Dr. Kyprianou was selected by her peers as a senior investigator and mentor who continues to advance urologic research, contributes to the nurturing of young investigators, and promotes the value and heritage of the AUA Foundation Research Scholars Program. The AUA Foundation is a partnership of physicians, researchers, health care professionals, patients, caregivers, families and the public established to support and promote research, patient/public education and advocacy to im-

prove prevention, detection and treatment to ultimately cure urological diseases.

Dr. Marianne Sadar: Dr. Marianne Sadar, the current Treasurer of the SBUR received The Terry Fox Young Investigator Award from the National Cancer Institute of Canada. This National award is given out annually to one promising young investigators in Canada who is in the first 10 years of his/her career and doing outstanding basic laboratory work. The award honours Terry Fox who attempted to run across Canada after losing his right leg to bone cancer.

Ms. Sue O'Sullivan: As the designee of WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc., Ms. O'Sullivan continues to manage the day-to-day operations of the SBUR. WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc. helps organize, and raise funds for the SBUR Fall and Spring Meetings.



Come & Experience Southern Hospitality: Fall 2009 Joint SBUR-ESUR Meeting – The 8th World Basic Urological Research Congress

Fall 2009 Meeting: Plans are already underway for the Fall 2009 Meeting, which is a joint meeting between the SBUR and the ESUR (The 8th World Basic Urological Research Congress), and will be held in “The Big Easy”-New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme of the meeting is, **Molecular Targeting for Emerging Diagnostics and Therapeutics in Urology**. So make plans to enjoy the “Mardi Gras”, in winter!

Executive Committee 2008 – 2009

This year there was a tremendous response to the elections held to fill several positions on the SBUR's Executive Committee. At the Spring 2008 Meeting, the new President, Dr. Carrie Rincker-Schaeffer thanked the outgoing President, Dr. James Mohler and outgoing Secretary Dr. Karl Chai. She welcomed the President-elect, Dr. Simon Hayward and other members of the Executive Committee. The current make-up the Executive Committee is as follows:

Dr. Carrie Rincker-Schaeffer	President
Dr. Simon Hayward	President-Elect
Dr. James Mohler	Past President
Dr. Vinata Lokeshwar	Secretary
Dr. Marianne Sadar	Treasurer
Dr. David Jarrard	Member-at-Large
Dr. Gail Prins	Member-at-Large
Dr. William Ricke	Member-at-Large
Dr. Timothy Ratliff	Founding President of the SBUR
Dr. Zoran Culig	Ad hoc Member - ESUR

Each Executive Committee member volunteers his/her effort to advance the mission of the SBUR, which is to promote urology research, stimulate productive collaborations among urologists and basic urology researchers, and to support young investigators and trainees in the field of urology. It is our pleasure to share with our readers how some members of the Executive Committee feel what the SBUR stands for.

Dr. Simon Hayward (President-Elect): The SBUR must continue to provide a forum for young scientists in the field of Urologic Research to both present their data and to interact with more established investigators on an informal basis. It is important to maintain our diversity and ability to attract scientists from the broad range of Urologic Research disciplines including both pediatric and adult disease and also both benign and malignant conditions.

Dr. Vinata Lokeshwar (Secretary): Largely because of the SBUR, there is increased visibility of basic urology researchers in the national and international Urology meetings, which traditionally have focused on clinical research. I believe SBUR's strength is in increasing our membership, which includes both basic and clinical researchers, and to encourage young investigators to join the society. The strength of our society is in many outstanding scientists performing research on various benign and malignant urologic diseases. Thus, we must continue our efforts to be inclusive of all urology researchers by expanding the themes of the Spring and Fall Meetings, and to have more joint meetings with our European counterpart. Patients are our best advocates and as a society we need to continue to tap into this valuable resource to push for increased federal and private funding for urology research. Therefore, I believe it is the responsibility of the SBUR to: 1. Increase society's membership and broaden its base to attract young and established investigators and those who are in training. 2. Coordinate efforts with other societies and push for increased NIH funding. 3. Reach out to patient advocacy groups to increase awareness. 4. Raise funds from private and industry sources to make our society financially strong and to support the travel of many more young investigators and trainees to our meetings.

Dr. Marianne Sadar (Treasurer): The SBUR is important for the exchange of research, networking, career development and training, and provides a venue for recruitment of young scientists and post-doctoral fellows. It is important to continue to enhance the SBUR's role in bringing together clinicians and basic scientists to facilitate collaborations in expediting translational research and realizing novel approaches for clinical trials. Thus relationships between the SBUR and the American Urological Association and other Urological Associations around the world should be a priority, as well as, targeting membership to residents, young investigators and junior faculty members. By increasing the membership of the next generation of urologic researchers, the SBUR will continue to be dynamic and maintain and strengthen its predominant stature worldwide in urological research.

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