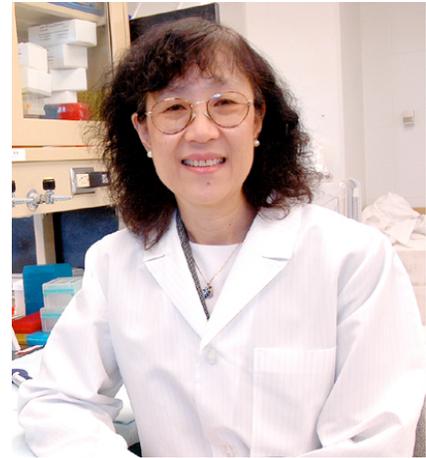


President's Message:

Shuk Mei Ho

Fellow Members,

How quickly time passes. It seems like yesterday that I started as the 19th president of the SBUR. Now my time on the job is about to draw to a close. One reason I find this moment so poignant is because I felt incredibly honored and privileged to have served you and the Society. I have enjoyed every conference call, our fall and spring symposia, and every major and minor challenge we faced as our Society grows. I appreciated both the collegiality and the advice I got along the way from the Vice-President Robert Getzenberg, the Past-president Natasha Kyprianou, the Secretary Dr. Robert Sikes, the Treasurer Dr. Zhou Wang, and the Board members, Drs. Daniel Djakiew, Tim Ratliff, Jer-Tsong Hsieh, Michael O'Donnell, and Zoran Culig. I also like to give thanks to Sue O'Sullivan, Julie Davis, Ann Marie Duplessis, Kelly Cushing, and Kristy Glass at WJ Weiser Associates for their professional management of the Society's affairs.



Today, our membership is at 588 strong; a huge accomplishment largely due to the efforts of our Membership Committee chaired by Dr. Susan Kasper. Our 2005 spring and fall meetings were phenomenal successes; both drawn recorded participation from members and distinguished guests around the world. The Spring Symposium held this past May in San Antonio, Texas, titled The Discovery of Biomarkers of Urological Diseases: Proteomic, Genomic and Epigenomic Approaches. The 11th Annual Donald Coffey Lecture was delivered by Dr. Richard Caprioli from Vanderbilt University on image mass spectrometry. The Service Award was presented to Dr. Carl A. Olsson, Professor and ex-Chairman of Columbia University Medical Center. Drs. Jordan Dimitrakov of Children's Hospital Boston, Robert Uzzo of Temple University and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and Aria F. Olumi of Harvard Medical School received the Young Investigator Awards. The conference succeeded in building strong interests in this emerging field of technologically driven research. The Fall Joint SBUR-ESUR Meeting, held last December in Miami Beach, Florida was extremely well-attended by members and guests of both societies. Its exceptional program that focused on Membrane Biology in Basic Urologic Research-Molecular Landscaping in Normal Physiology and Pathophysiology engendered unprecedented excitement and inspiration. My most sincere congratulation goes to Dr. Karl Chai, the conference chair, and his organizing committee members, Drs. Simon Hayward, Vijay Kumar, Vinata Lokeshwar, and Craig Robson. At this meeting the first SBUR Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Tim Ratliff, the founder of the Society, in recognition of his distinguished scientific and service-based contributions to the urologic basic science community.

This year, the SBUR has enjoyed a distinction unmatched by previous years in establishing successful joint ventures with other scientific societies. We worked closely with the American Urologic Association on the joint AUA-SBUR Basic Urologic Summer Research Conference on Inflammation in Prostate Diseases, and also in promoting the AUA Foundation Bridge Awards. We have developed strong partnership with the Prostate Cancer Inc. in supporting travels for junior investigators. A newly formed alliance with the Society of Women in Urology has fruitfully produced the first joint SBUR-SWIU award that will go to a woman in urology with distinguished research accomplishments. We have also benefited from the collaboration with the British Journal of Pharmacology/Nature Publishing Group in offering a satellite conference on The Physiology and Pharmacology of the Lower Urinary Tract at our fall symposium.

Throughout the year, our membership has supported the AUA, the AACR and the Endocrine Society in advancing public affairs' issues, particularly those concern NIH research funding levels. Through these activities our Society has grown in influence in scientific communities within and outside urology.

In the interest of establishing long term financial stability, our Treasurer Dr. Zhou Wang has been guiding the Board to make good decisions with our reserve fund investments. We are also indebted to our Past-President, Dr. Natasha Kyprianou, Chair of the Endowment Committee, who has spearheaded a major funding raising campaign. Successes in securing major gifts in coming years will undoubtedly bring remarkable changes to the financial well being of the Society.

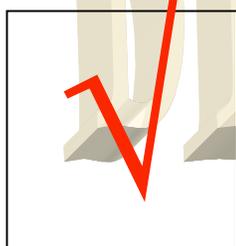
The SBUR and its membership will be facing an extraordinarily point in time, challenged by a shrinking research funding environment. What will the future bring? What scientific and technological advances await us? How will our Society be shaped by scientific and economic changes yet to occur? I do not know. However, I do know that the membership has elected Dr. Robert Getzenberg, a superb scientist and a visionary leader as its incoming President. I have every confidence that he will lead our society to the next level.

In closing, to our members, please stay in touch. A note or email is always appreciated. In my mind and heart you will always be a close friend.

Shuk-mei Ho

Election Time—Get out the Vote!

Spring is the time of year for the SBUR to elect new officers to the Board of Directors. This is one of the most critical duties that you, as members, perform. The SBUR Board of Directors makes critical decisions about committee rosters that determine meeting locations, topics, speakers and award recipients. The Board of Directors also serves as the point of contact for the SBUR with the American Urological Association (AUA), our European counterpart, the European Society of Urologic Research (ESUR) and the U.S. Government as a representative of the membership on topics of concern in Urologic research. The Board of Directors is concerned directly with good stewardship of SBUR funds and the continued health and growth of the Society. So, who do you want running the show?



Voting is easy! You can do it online at www.sbur.org and follow the member links to the Ballot. You can find the list of candidates at <http://www.sbur.org/elections/2006/> or at the end of this newsletter. You may cast your vote online at <http://www.sbur.org/elections/2006/vote.aspx> If the e-vote is just not your thing, don't worry! We will put a hard copy in your mailbox. This year's slate of highly qualified candidates has been nominated by your current managing Board of Directors. They have all generously accepted the nominations to serve the SBUR with their time and talent. Voting determines the lucky new members of the SBUR Board of Directors. Cast your lot or don't complain!

The offices required to be filled in this year's elections are Vice-President (1), Secretary (1), and Member-at-Large (2). The official slate of candidates for this year's SBUR Board of Directors in alphabetical order by position are: Vice-president: George Christ, Ph.D. and James Mohler, M.D. Secretary: Karl Chai, Ph.D. and Vinata Lokeshwar, Ph.D., Member-at-Large: Mark Day, Ph.D., Jer-Tsong (JT) Hsieh, Ph.D., Alice Levine, M.D., and Marianne Sadar, Ph.D. Biographies and vision statements from each candidate are included at the end of the newsletter so you can make a decision on whom you think should represent us.

The overall financial situation of the SBUR is stable and we are cautiously optimistic...

The incomes from membership dues, revenues from the SBUR meetings, and corporate sponsorship represent the major financial resources for the SBUR. I would like to thank our members for paying their dues and attending the annual meetings of SBUR. Member participation is the only way to maintain longterm solvency of the SBUR. The SBUR 2005 Spring and Fall meetings were very successful both scientifically and financially. The SBUR is very grateful for the generous support from participating industrial sponsors. In addition, the SBUR is honored that NIDDK continues to provide peer-reviewed grants for annual SBUR fall meetings. SBUR Executive Committee is working closely with the Weiser Group, Inc., the company that manages SBUR business, to raise enough funds for the Society to effectively accomplish our mission.

I am pleased to inform you that the investment portfolio, which was approved by the board in 2004, continues to perform well.

Membership Committee**Susan Kasper**

The membership committee extends thanks to all who advocate for the SBUR and encourage new and established investigators to join. There are several categories to the membership, including Active, Active Lifetime, Emeritus, Retired, and Trainee Members. Currently we have a grand total of 523 members and an additional 35 researchers who have applied for membership. The SBUR has two meetings coming up, one in May on "Basic Science Approaches to Controversies in Prostate Cancer" and another meeting in November on "Stromal Epithelial Interactions". What a great opportunity to invite your colleagues, lab personnel, residents and fellow faculty members, study section contacts, etc to attend these meetings. Increasing our membership is essential since it provides new expertise, resources and collaborative opportunities to make significant contributions to basic urologic research.

Post-meeting Wrap-up ESUR/SBUR 15th Annual Symposium in Miami Beach**Karl Chai**

The 15th annual symposium of the SBUR and joint ESUR meeting is in the books. As the program chair of this meeting, I am filled with pleasant memories at this moment reflecting back on the four days that we spent together at Miami Beach last winter. Everyone must have taken back something memorable yet different from this great gathering of friends and colleagues. I am grateful to have this opportunity here to provide a unique retrospective. I guess, in a sense, I was in a unique position relating to this meeting. In this modern day and age of unbelievable level of technological sophistication, I do not like to record any events in my life by any multimedia means, outside of my hobby and passion of amateur still photography (which, by now everyone would have guessed since I have become, unofficially, the official photographer of our last three meetings, though I feel I am being surpassed by Vijay Kumar). Anyway, I think I am still qualifiably young, but in a way I am very old-fashioned about storing good memories in my heart and mind. The really good ones do not fade away, those that fade away do not really need to be on a tape, or whatever multimedia techno gadgets.



Dr. Karl Chai examines his "unique perspective" from the deck of a luxury yacht as a guest of Dr. Mark Solloway.

So, let's see if you had these impressions together with me in my attempt here with a replay, from real memory. Robert Sikes really liked my "top 10" reasons to come to the 2005 meeting (published in our newsletter). In there I said something to the effect of reading papers and going about research by e-mail are not the same thing as listening to,

talking to and meeting people person to person. I was right on from the moment Shuk-Mei Ho announced that our meeting was underway. Henry Sun defined the “key” part of a keynote speech! The urinary bladder is no longer just a sack holding our fluid waste, and now we all know this. Bill Gates once said “simple is difficult”, and I think many of my speakers might have accomplished just that, with quality research data presented on a theme of simple but direct questions. The audience was attentive and I don’t think my beating on a water glass had a lot to do with it. When speaker references at the same meeting took on a spin like “Michael Freeman’s cholesterol,” I do not need to explain more, and nothing beats that! Now, I just have to come up with a theme-music for John Isaacs as this part of the replay cannot stand to be silent. I can still hear the applause after his challenge to all of us: “We are in a meeting, not just a meeting, our society’s meeting! If you don’t speak up now, when?” Got it? It’s got to be something Beethoven or Wagner!



Natasha Kyprianou, Tim Ratliffe, Barbara Foster (Members of the SBUR board) were found enjoying the dinner cruise with Chawnshang Chang, Ming-Fing Lin and several other Fall meeting attendees.

I think it was actually Natasha Kyprianou’s idea to get those other real doctors to speak. Wow, all of them were great! But a movie star, comedian, and a doctor? Mark Soloway was too much, way too much charisma! Real cases and options presented in quiz format to an engaged audience. Wow! It went over very well. Logothetis presented very exciting news about MD Anderson’s efforts to standardize their new clinical trial protocols to allow for direct inter-protocol bioinformatics comparisons to be made for responders versus non-responders. Very novel.

I am not a front-stage person but I had the time of my life at our awards ceremony. I am hoping that this year’s travel awardees felt especially honored when they received their awards right before Wade Bushman, our AUA Speaker, and Tim Ratliff, our first President of the Society and first recipient of the SBUR Service Award. That was a great evening, and Tim, I know this feeling of mine is shared by all: when I think of you, I think of class! I am so looking forward to that memoir about the early history of this great society that you helped found. While you work on that, I will work on coming up with a theme-music for you ...

Well, shall we do it again in Arizona? Different theme, dryer climate (so I’ve heard), but the same family of people, only bigger success!



Dr. Tim Ratliffe (right) receives the first SBUR Service Award from President Shuk-Mei Ho while on board a cruise ship for a stellar dinner cruise.

We invite you all to peruse the gallery of images from the Fall meeting at your own convenience. This can be found at <http://www.sbur.org/photogallery/>.

Upcoming Meetings – Save the Date!

The SBUR Spring 2006 Meeting in Association with the AUA

Robert Getzenberg

Spring 2006 Society for Basic Urologic Research Meeting—Atlanta, GA
Controversial Topics in Urology: Clinical and Basic Science Perspectives
May 20, 2006
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The spring 2006 Meeting of the Society for Basic Urologic Research (SBUR) will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, in conjunction with the American Urological Association's Annual Meeting. Atlanta is a cosmopolitan city that offers a wide range of entertainment and culinary options while retaining that brand of charm characteristic of the South. These features and many more make Atlanta an attractive venue for the spring meeting.

The format for this years' SBUR meeting will be different from those in the past. The meeting agenda is designed to address important questions related to urologic disease by focusing on both basic and clinical models. For each of the sessions, the clinical topic will be introduced and then the current state of the art data will be presented. Our goal from this meeting is to bring the basic and translational science that is being done on these topics to help to answer these important clinical questions. This should engage basic scientists, clinicians and other interested individuals. We have been able to put together a program consisting of leaders in the field. The two topics that will be covered are "Androgen withdrawal therapy and prostate cancer – when is it most appropriate?" and "Utilizing today's technologies, how can erectile dysfunction post radical prostatectomy best be addressed?" The speakers for the meeting include **Drs. Christopher Logothetis, Norman Greenberg, Chawshang Chang, Martin Gleave, Patrick C. Walsh, Arthur Burnett, Michael Chancellor and George Christ.** After each of the presentations, there will be time for questions and discussion from the audience.



Photo credit : www2.gsu.edu/~wwwath/images/photos/atlanta.jpg
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The 2006 meeting will also be the opportunity to present the **12th Annual Donald S. Coffey Lecture**. This year we are very fortunate to have **Dr. Peter Jones** as the Coffey Lecturer. Dr. Jones is the Director of the Norris Cancer Center at the University of Southern California, a Professor of Urology at USC and is the President of the American Association for Cancer Research. Dr. Jones is an internationally recognized expert in the field of epigenetics and disease and has focused much of his effort in relation to urologic cancers. This will certainly be a highlight of the meeting and something that should not be missed.

The morning session will be followed by a luncheon and business meeting where **Dr. Joel Nelson**, the Chairman of Urology at the University of Pittsburgh, will serve as the keynote speaker. Dr. Nelson is an accomplished urologist and scientist who has performed much of the pioneering work related to understanding the role of the endothelin axis in prostate cancer and the application of therapies to address this pathway.

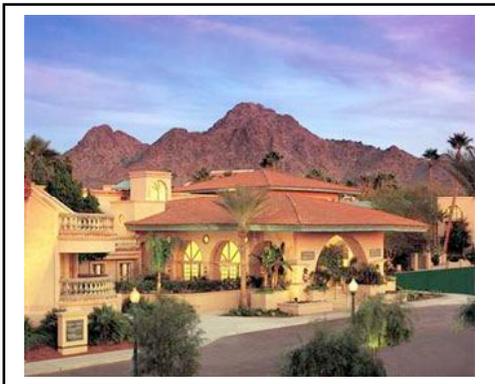
To permit a more in depth analysis of the science, during the afternoon, there will be two breakout sessions. The first breakout will focus on **neuroendocrine cells** of the prostate and will be chaired by **Dr. Robert Matusik**. Speakers for this session include **Drs. Gary Smith, Sally Parsons, Jacek Pinski and Janni Mirosevich**. The second but simultaneous breakout session will be on new advances in **interstitial cystitis**. **Dr. Susan Keay** will chair this

session. Speakers for this session include **Dr. Klumpp, Jordan Dimitrakov, Naoki Yoshimura and Anthony Buffington**. We hope that you will agree that the spring meeting should be quite exciting! We are looking forward to having everyone participate in this important meeting.

The SBUR Fall 2006 Meeting

Simon Hayward

The 16th Annual Fall Meeting of the SBUR will be held in Phoenix, AZ from November 16th-19th 2006. 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 that occur in benign and malignant disease is also a source a major focus of research and opens exciting new possibilities for therapeutic intervention. Experts from various fields 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 will be posted at <http://www.sbur.org/meetings>. Travel awards will be offered for students and postdoctoral fellows submitting abstracts, the best of which will be selected for short presentations.

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 possibilities. 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!

Notices:

The SBUR Website (www.sbur.org)

The SBUR website is a user-friendly, multi-functional tool for members. The SBUR website now includes more links to funding sources as well as up-to-date listings of SBUR-sponsored meetings, complete with links to registration pages and online submission. Members can search the member database for contacts, change their personal information, check their membership status, pay dues and read past issues of the newsletter. Our ever-eager website managers are looking for more ways to improve the site. Your suggestions are welcomed. Oh, use the “Contact” button in the “About” menu to do this most efficiently!

We Want Cool Pix!! The SBUR would like to update the homepage on a regular basis with your data! We will proudly indicate the source of the contribution. Please consider sending some of your really cool pictures of cells or

immunohisto/cytochemistry or immunofluorescence, or whatever you think is cool. The web manager will make selections to be forwarded to the executive committee for a final decision on which images to post. All images will be posted with appropriate credit for the donor. We will start rotating through them as soon as we can...Thanks.

Support the SBUR with Donations.

The SBUR is a nonprofit entity. Please contact us if you would care to make a donation to the SBUR. Requests for specifically targeted personal donations and estates will be considered by the executive committee on an individual basis. The SBUR needs your continued support for long-term survival, we appreciate your keeping us in mind for your charitable contributions. Thank you.

Membership Information

We welcome applications for SBUR membership through our website, www.sbur.org.

News from the AUA Foundation Office of Research

Monica Liebert

Lots of changes to report from the Office of Research! To start, the American Foundation for Urologic Diseases (AFUD) has transitioned to a new position inside the AUA and has been renamed the AUA Foundation. Last May, the Office of Research became the first Department within the new AUA Foundation, which has continued to grow and develop. We welcome John Huber as the new Executive Director, and hope you will also get a chance to meet Stephanie Chisholm, Ph.D., Director of Patient Education, and Tom VandenBosch, Director of Development, as well as the Office of Research Staff: Kozbi Simmons, who has been promoted to Pre-Award Coordinator, and Rodney Cotton, who is now our Post-Award Coordinator.

Here are some highlights of this AUA Foundation Research Report:

- **AUA Foundation Research Funding**
- **Research Activities at the 2006 AUA Annual Meeting**
- **Report from NIH**
- **Progress on the TRU Act**
- **Applications Opening Soon for the Summer Research Conference**
- **New AUA Foundation Website**

AUA Foundation Research Funding

With the move to the AUA Foundation, functions of the Office of Research have changed significantly as well. Many of you know that our Office now handles grant activities. The programs include continuation of the successful Research Scholar program, which funded seven new scholars last year; two new programs, the Astellas "Rising Stars in Urology" program for new urologist faculty; the AUA Foundation/NIDDK/NCI Surgeon-Scientist award, which provides supplements for Career Development awardees on a competitive basis; and our new Bridging Award program.

The first competition for the Bridging Award was recently completed. This program is intended to provide essential support for grants previously submitted to external funding agencies and deemed competitive but not funded. As we all know, review committees always expect response to critiques, but don't provide those essential dollars to do the work. The AUA Foundation has launched the Bridging Program to span this funding gap and to improve the competitiveness of urology research applications. We are pleased to announce that our grantees are: Drs. Diane Felsen, Cornell; Dr. Susan Marengo, Case Western Reserve University; and Dr. Hunter Wessells, University of

Washington. Support for the Bridging Awards comes from the proceeds of the AUA Annual meeting Run for Research—so we hope you will participate in the run. You don't have to be a runner, or even be at the meeting—there is a 2 K walk or you can support the run as a “sleep walker” by donating. You will receive a t-shirt and recognition pin, and there are prizes for competitors in various age categories. The Run will be held on Saturday, May 20, and will start at 7 AM in Centennial Park near the Convention Center in Atlanta, GA.

Research Activities at the 2006 AUA Annual Meeting

The 2006 AUA Annual Meeting is quickly approaching. This year's meeting is May 20-25 in Atlanta. Remember these AUA Foundation highlights when you're down south:

- ✓ Run for Research, proceeds benefiting research into prostate diseases, 7 a.m. on Saturday, May 20 at Centennial Park. You don't have to run, or even attend the meeting—be a “sleepwalker” to support urologic research and the new Bridging Award program! Website for registration: or contact research@auafoundation.org.
- ✓ Basic Sciences Research Forum, “Urologic Complications of Diabetes and Obesity,” 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 21 in B302 of the Georgia World Congress Center. Hear about the impact of diabetes and obesity on cancer, incontinence and erectile dysfunction! This area is an important focus for new research and funding.
- ✓ **Free** Grantscraft Course, 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, May 22 at the Georgia World Congress Center. Take this unique opportunity to meet with funding program officers—who are essential links in successful funding!
- ✓ AUA Foundation Scholars Breakfast, 6:30 a.m on Tuesday, May 23 at the Omni. This year's program honors Drs. Bill Steers and Tim Ratliff, and also includes presentations from four outstanding graduating scholars.
- ✓ AUA Foundation Booth, regular exhibit hours from Saturday through Tuesday in the Georgia World Congress Center. Come meet the staff and learn about your Foundation!

Visit www.aua2006.org to register and for details about the scientific program, social events, Atlanta and more.

Report from NIH

As you probably know, we are an official liaison at NCI's National Cancer Advisory Board meetings, and routinely attend all NIDDK Research Council meetings. The news on funding is not very encouraging—funding levels will be at approximately 9-10 percentile at NCI and 14 percentile at NIDDK, some of the worst funding levels in years. The President's budget for 2007 promises no better, so the next few years will be very tight for funding.

Dr. Allen Spiegel, NIDDK Director, left the Institute on March 3 to become the Dean at the Albert Einstein Medical School. Dr. Griffin Rodgers, who has been NIDDK Deputy Director, will serve as Acting Director while a national search is made for a new Director. Watch our email research news, EUREKA!, for developments in this area.

Although few new initiatives are currently available, there are two new programs of note. The first is a new program addressing the funding problem facing new investigators. The program, “NIH Pathway to Independence Award,” PA-06-133, is a new K99/R00 award. See <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-133.html> for details. The second is a new program to encourage small clinical trials in an R21 Exploratory Grant mechanism. This program, “Pilot and Feasibility Clinical Research Grants in Kidney or Urologic Diseases,” PA-06-112, will use an ad-hoc clinical research review committee. For more information, see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-112.html>. As always, check our email newsletter, EUREKA!, for additional funding news. Request a subscription by email to Research@AUAFoundation.org.

Work on the TRU Act Continues

You may be aware that Urologic Research is increasingly underfunded relative to the large numbers of affected patients and the huge financial costs of urologic diseases. To address this problem, the AUA Foundation has partnered with the AUA in a legislative initiative, The Training and Research in Urology (TRU) Act. This act will create a new Division of Urology at NIDDK, and expand and enhance urologic research.

The TRU act is currently active in both the House (H.R. 944) and the Senate (S. 258). The House bill has 25 co-sponsors plus sponsor Rep. James Leach (Iowa); and seven senators along with sponsor Sen. Mike DeWine (Ohio) have signed on in support of the TRU act. But more support is needed. *Please* take a moment to act on what will be strong legislation with a lasting effect. Write your Congressional representatives in the House and Senate and ask them to cosponsor the TRU act! Please write your legislators *now*. We *need* your support in order to get results. The simplest and fastest way to send this important letter is to log onto <http://capwiz.com/aua/home/>. Email research@auafoundation.org with any questions on the TRU Act or for more information about how you can participate in the process.

Applications Opening Soon for the Summer Research Conference

The AUA/SBUR Summer Research Conference has consistently been a unique and informative meeting for urologic researchers. The 2006 SRC, entitled "Urothelial Biology & Bladder Cancer," will be held August 3 through 5 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Full and partial travel awards and a mentoring program will be offered to young investigators. The call for applications will open next month. Stay tuned to www.auafoundation.org or email SRC@auafoundation.org for updates on what will be an exciting and important program.

New Website

For more information on all of our grants programs, visit our new website at www.auafoundation.org or email grants@auafoundation.org. And, if you haven't already, subscribe to EUREKA!, our e-newsletter on funding and research opportunities! Email research@auafoundation.org and ask to join!

It's your Foundation! Let us know what we can do to serve you better!

Candidates for SBUR Officers 2006
Alphabetical order by category.

George J. Christ, Ph.D
Candidate for Vice President.

Biography: Dr. Christ received his Ph.D. in 1987 from the Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He then did a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Dept. of Pharmacology at Mount Sinai Medical Center, NY (1987-1989). He then moved to the department of Urology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine as an Instructor (1989) and ascended through the ranks: Assistant Professor (1990), Associate Professor (1995). He became an Associate Professor of Physiology & Biophysics in 1998 and Professor of Urology and Physiology and Biophysics in 2000. He is currently Professor of Regenerative Medicine, Urology, Physiology & Pharmacology, Affiliate Faculty Member, Molecular Medicine Program and the Virginia Tech-Wake Forest University School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences, Head of the Cell, Tissue & Organ Physiology Program, Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

Dr. Christ has been an SBUR Member since 1994. He received the SBUR/Merck Young Investigator Award (1997) and has served as an Organizing Committee member for two SBUR Fall Symposia (2001; 2004). He has also been the SBUR Representative to the Organizing Committee for BPG/ESUR/SBUR meeting in 2003. He has chaired the Committee for the SBUR Fall Meeting in 2002 and has served as an invited speaker at the Joint SBUR/ESUR Meeting and BJP/NPG Joint Meeting with SBUR in 2005.

Research Interests: Smooth and striated muscle physiology/pharmacology, bladder physiology/dysfunction, sexual medicine, tissue engineering, regenerative medicine, and gene transfer. Urologic complications of diabetes and aging. Co-Founder and Directing Member of Ion Channel Innovations, LLC, an early stage biotech company pursuing gene transfer treatments for urogenital smooth muscle disorders. A Phase I Clinical Trial for the treatment of erectile dysfunction has recently been completed.

Vision Statement: The SBUR has clearly benefited from outstanding leadership since its inception. I would consider it an honor to have the opportunity to further contribute to the continued growth, stability and visibility of this important organization. I would do so not only by conferring with present and past leadership of the SBUR, but also by reaching out to the SBUR Membership directly to identify their priorities and find out how the Society can best continue to serve them. Exciting and challenging times are ahead of us so it will be critical for the entire membership, from current trainees through established investigators, to work together to ensure our continued success and viability. We must position our society, and its membership, to benefit from the multidisciplinary scientific studies and translational research efforts that will define the funding landscape for the foreseeable future. In addition, we must be very forward thinking and progressive in our vision of how we adapt to a rapidly changing, technology-driven research environment. The historical blend of clinical and basic research scholars that defines the fabric of the SBUR guarantees that we are uniquely positioned as an organization to flourish even in the most challenging times. I hope to be part of our continued progress through a leadership role in the SBUR.

James L. Mohler, M.D.
Candidate for Vice President

Biography: After 16 years at UNC, I joined Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI), our nation's first cancer center, May 2003, as Chair, Department of Urologic Oncology. Since, I have become Director, Surgical Services and Co-Leader, Prostate Program. The Prostate Program became the sixth program of our Comprehensive Cancer Center Core Grant, April 1, 2005. Gary Smith, PhD was recruited from UNC to co-lead the program December 1, 2005. I see patients two days per week and spend the rest of my time scientifically. I care for patients with prostate cancer and focus upon robotic radical prostatectomy and innovative clinical research protocols. I serve as Vice Chair of the Urology Committee of the Cancer and Leukemia Group B (CALGB) and Chair of the NCCN Prostate Cancer Guideline Committee. My research activities are supported by a DOD Consortium grant and New Idea Award, an NCI funded program project, which is in its sixth year and co-investigator roles in work by others. I spend 3 days monthly at UNC's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center where I maintain a laboratory and direct the Department of Defense North Carolina-Louisiana Prostate Cancer Program (PCaP).

Research Interests: focus on understanding the role of the androgen receptor in the growth of prostate cancer. Particular emphasis is discerning the role that specific genes regulated by androgens play in racial differences in prostate cancer and the growth of advanced prostate cancer after failed hormonal therapy.

Vision Statement: I am a founding member of SBUR and I have attended every meeting except the 2004 Fall meeting in Greece. Many of you will remember the fun we had at the 1995 Fall meeting we hosted at UNC. In many respects, SBUR and I grew up together. The SBUR remains my favorite scientific organization since the Society reflects so well my identity as a surgeon-scientist. SBUR promoted translational science long before translational science became a buzzword at NIH. Although SBUR has matured as a scientific organization, I think I can offer some guidance in three areas that could further strengthen SBUR. First, I would like to help enhance the relationship between SBUR and AUA. I have gained insight into the complexities of this relationship by my continuous involvement in both organizations. Specifically, I worked with past-president, Steve Ward, PhD, to navigate unexpected difficulties encountered during the 2001 AUA meeting and I served two terms on the AUA Research Committee. Second, I would like to encourage greater interactions between urologic scientists in SBUR and physician scientists in urology focused on the study of urologic diseases. One way to do this would be to enhance participation by urologists and other physician-scientists in SBUR. Another way would be to facilitate more interactions between scientists in SBUR and AUA committees and research directives. Today, it appears especially critical to focus on translational science in the face of a real dollar contraction of the NIH budget. Lastly, I would like SBUR to consider the advantages of changing the role of its officers. Replacing the method of election of officers with a nomination process would avoid pitting friend against friend annually. Two-year terms would permit greater continuity in SBUR leadership that would facilitate addressing long-term issues and building stronger relationships with AUA and other societies and NIH and other grant awarding organizations.

Karl X. Chai, Ph.D.
Candidate for Secretary

Biography: Dr. Chai received his B.S. degree from Peking University in 1985 and where he became an instructor in the Department of Biology. He received his Ph.D. from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) at Charleston in 1991 where he studied tissue kallikrein binding protein in rodents. His post-doctoral fellowship was at MUSC where he examined the molecular and genetic basis of salt-induced hypertension. Dr. Chai became Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology and Microbiology at the University of Central Florida in 1996 and was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 2002. He is also a faculty member of three additional programs at the University of Central Florida: 1) The Forensic Science program in the Department of Chemistry, 2) The Biomolecular Science Ph.D. Program, and 3) The Biomolecular Science Center. Dr. Chai has participated in numerous study sections for the Department of Defense PCRP and BCRP. In addition he has reviewed applications for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Dr. Chai has been a member of the SBUR for 5 years. In that time he has been on two organizing committees for SBUR meetings and Chaired the organizing committee for our most recent meeting.

Research interests: The biological function of an epithelial cell specific, extra-cellular membrane, GPI-anchored serine protease called prostasin. Dr. Chai's group characterized the membrane anchor, its down-regulation in prostate and breast cancers, its anti-invasion phenotype, transcription regulation and post-translational regulation. He is working on the molecular mechanisms by which prostasin regulates epithelial integrity and trying to identify the substrates and interactive proteins for this protease.

Vision Statement: I was led by the "protein of interest" in my research (prostasin) to the field of basic urology, and to the fantastic group of friends and colleagues in the SBUR. To me the SBUR has always been, from day one of my association a short five years ago, a society that is warm to new members and hot for new ideas. As a relatively fresh member myself, I even got the opportunity to try out a new idea for the scientific theme of the 2005 annual symposium, linking membrane biology to basic urologic research and linking up basic urologic research with membrane biology. The effort was richly rewarded with a successful meeting, thanks to all the generous support from my friends and colleagues of the SBUR. I am honored by the nomination to run for the Secretary of the Society, I will do everything I can to help the Society keep it warm to new members and hot for new ideas. I think I am a good story teller, have reasonably good organizational skills, and always love a good challenge. I can help execute the functions of the Society by providing timely communications for the leadership council, the members, the friendly societies, and other agencies and organizations that interact with and support the Society. Best of luck to all of us!

Vinata Lokeshwar, Ph.D.
Candidate for Secretary

Biography: I received my Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology from Saint Louis University. I completed the NIH and American Heart Association postdoctoral fellowships in Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of Miami. I joined the Department of Urology faculty at the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine in late 1994. Currently I am a tenured Associate Professor of Urology and Cell Biology and Anatomy in the same institution.

I am a life member of the SBUR and have served on the Executive Committee (Member At-Large; 2002 – 2004), Patient Advocacy Committee (1998- 2000) and Program Committee (Fall 2005 and Spring 2005 meetings). Currently, I am serving on the Fund-Raising committee. Last year, I also served as the chair of the Tumor Marker panel in the Bladder Cancer Consensus Project supported by WHO and Société Internationale d'Urologie.

Research Interests: The specific focus of my laboratory is on understanding the functions of extracellular matrix components and their-degrading enzymes. Specifically, I am investigating their use as diagnostic/prognostic markers, and as treatment targets in urologic cancers and interstitial cystitis. I am also involved in mentoring Ph.D. students, urology residents and clinical fellows in urology-related research.

Vision Statement: In the past ten years since I joined the SBUR, I have seen the tremendous growth of our society under the leadership of both the past and present SBUR Presidents and the Executive Committee. This past Fall SBUR meeting in Miami Beach, reflected how as a society we have been able bring together not only the basic and clinical Urology researchers from the US, but also from Europe. 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. Our efforts led to increased funding for Urology research and the establishment of a separate urology study section at the NIH. However, at the present time, a bulging federal deficit has resulted in a tighter NIH budget and a significant lowering of the pay line. Therefore, I believe now is the time for our society to remain strong and be a staunch advocate of urology research and the researchers. I believe our strength is in increasing our membership, which includes both basic and clinical researchers, and to encourage young investigators to join the society. As a young investigator, several members of the society took me under their wings. I feel that as a society, we should continue to nurture the research interest of not only young investigators, but also of urology residents, Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows. They are the future! 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. After giving a few talks on behalf of the SBUR to patient advocacy groups, I realized that they are the strongest voices that influence the congress to increase research funding. Therefore as a society we need to continue to tap into this valuable resource and to work with other urologic societies so that NIH funding will continue to increase, at least at the rate of inflation.

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.

It is my wish, that our society because of its nurturing and caring environment will be a powerful organization that unites all urology researchers. I am **honored** to accept the nomination to run for the position of Secretary.

Mark Day, Ph.D.
Candidate for Member-at-Large

Biography: Dr. Mark Day, is an Associate Professor of Urology and a member of the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Program in Cellular and Molecular Biology. Dr. Day received his B.S. in Microbiology from Indiana University and his PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology from Washington University School of Medicine, where he also began his career in prostate cancer research 1991. He has been a member of the SBUR since 1992 and was a recipient of the SBUR/Merck Young Investigator Award in 1999. Dr. Day has served on number of federal, state and international study sections and review panels focused on Cell and Tumor Biology including the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, American Cancer Society and the Department of Defense. He was the recipient of an American Cancer Society Assistant Professorship (1995-1997) and is the principal investigator of the NIDDK George M. O'Brien Center for Urological Research at the University of Michigan.

Research: Dr. Day's research focusing on prostate and mammary epithelial adhesion and survival has been continuously funded through various private and federal organizations including the NIH, DOD, ACS, AFUD and CaPCURE.

Vision Statement: Since Joining SBUR in 1992, I have witnessed the growth of the society into a prominent venue for the dissemination of basic research topics and a platform for scientific and clinical achievements in the field of Urology. Biomedical research has shifted rapidly towards a translational focus and the society has been instrumental in supporting the interactions between basic scientists and clinicians who share common translational goals in urologic disease. As a voting member of the society these are functions that I will continue to support. However, we are now faced with the formidable challenge of reduced funding for research and increasing pressure on resources at the federal level and at our home institutions. SBUR should take an active and visible role in responding to these challenges by increasing advocacy efforts on behalf of urology researchers and clinicians to increase the awareness of urologic disease and research priorities at the federal level. SBUR has been an active partner with the AUA and Coalition for Urologic Research and Education (CURE) to support the TRU (Training and Research in Urology) act that has been proposed to congress. I believe that these collaborations should not only continue, but efforts increase to support these bills that would establish representation of urologic issues at the National Institutes of Health. SBUR should also expand efforts to educate patients and legislators and to inform the general community of the importance of urology research to the future health of our citizens.

Jer-Tsong Hsieh, Ph.D.
Candidate for Member-at-Large

Biography: Dr Hsieh received his B.S. degree in plant pathology from the National Taiwan University in Taipei, Taiwan in 1982 and an M.S. degree in Microbiology from National Yang-Ming Medical College in Taipei, Taiwan. He received his Ph.D. in 1989 from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in Microbiology and Human Cancer. Dr. Hsieh then did a post-doctoral fellowship with Leland Chung at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center where he was subsequently promoted to Assistant Professor of Urology in 1993. He moved to Southwestern University in Dallas, TX in 1996 where he was promoted to Associate Professor of Urology in 2000. Dr. Hsieh is now the Director of the Jean H. and John T. Walter, Jr., Center for Research in Urologic Oncology at UT Southwestern. Dr. Hsieh has received several awards including: the Gillson Longenbaugh Research Award; SBUR/Merck Young Investigator Award (1997); and, Second Prize, Society for Basic Urology, Research (SBUR) essay contest to name a few. Dr. Hsieh is a longstanding member and participant of the SBUR and its events. Recently, Dr. Hsieh has been a member-at-large for the SBUR board.

Research Interests: Dr. Hsieh's interests are quite varied and indicate a great depth of understanding. These interests include: Prostate stem cells and cell lineage; signaling pathways leading to differentiation of prostate

epithelium; signaling defects in prostate cancer development; develop of novel treatment strategies of advanced prostate cancer; non-invasive molecular imaging; and, bladder cancer gene therapy.

Vision Statement: The SBUR has emerged as a major organization representing basic urologic researchers from all over the world and become a strong advocate for promoting urologic research. Research funding has always been the priority for our members. To better serve our member with comprehensive information of funding resources for our members, the SBUR must establish an e-mail notification and an effective communication network between members and various federal and private funding agencies, including pharmaceutical industry. Given the broad expertise of its membership, the SBUR can provide up-to-date information of urologic diseases for the general public through the website, educating support group and informing local media. Overall, urologic research is a clinical-related subject, therefore, teaming up with clinicians becomes a major step to translate meaningful research outcome into potential clinical application. The SBUR needs to create a platform for the interaction between basic scientists and clinicians. The key mission of the SBUR is not only to expand its involvement in the training and inspiration of medical students, residents and clinical fellows in basic research, but also to provide a clinical informatics for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and new principle investigators for initiating research project. With respect to different geographic locations of members, the SBUR could encourage members to establish local chapels that would certainly strengthen the close intellectual interaction of research advances from laboratories among members, and also serve as the resources for the general public for current knowledge in urologic diseases. The SBUR stands as a communicating bridge between clinicians, basic researchers and the general public. By doing so, the SBUR itself will benefit from the opportunities of the expansion of its membership and the potential more funding opportunities for research. To achieve these goals, SBUR must make continuous fundraising effort to establish endowment for its future expansion and it has been my commitment to pursuing this project after joining Executive Committee last year.

Alice C. Levine, M.D.
Candidate for Member-at-Large

Biography: Dr. Levine received her B.A in French Literature from State University of New York at Albany and her M.D. from Columbia University College of P & S. Dr. Levine did her residency at the New York University/VA Hospital in New York, NY and a Fellowship in Endocrinology and Metabolism at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, NY where she became a clinical instructor and rose through the ranks to become Associate Professor of Medicine and Acting Chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism.

Research Interest: Dr. Levine's research continues to focus on the interactive effects of sex steroids, cytokines and growth factors in normal and abnormal prostate growth. Her laboratory group has a strong interest in stromal-epithelial-endothelial interactions, particularly with respect to prostate cancer bone metastases.

Vision Statement: The SBUR provides a unique opportunity for collaborative research between basic scientists and clinicians in the field of urology. As a longstanding member, I have benefited greatly from the semi-annual meetings that provide focused and cutting-edge talks. Perhaps even more importantly, through the SBUR, I have forged collaborations and friendships that have been invaluable to my career. My background is somewhat different from the majority of SBUR members, in that I have an M.D. degree and part of my time is spent as a Clinical Endocrinologist. My basic science career grew out of my collaborations with basic scientists and urologists. I would like to help shape the future of the SBUR by recruiting young clinicians interested in basic research. Given the growing financial constraints and demands of the healthcare industry, most clinicians, especially urologists, have less time (even during residency training) to pursue scientific investigation. Clinicians are, therefore, more and more dependent upon basic scientists to test and investigate their clinical observations and ideas. Basic scientists also need the clinician's perspective, in order to determine the clinically relevant research questions and to have access to patient tissues and data. This is imperative in this time of shrinking funding sources. Most agencies clearly stress this emphasis on

translational and collaborative research. I also envision strengthening the cross-talk between the SBUR and clinical societies such as The Endocrine Society. I firmly believe that bringing more clinicians into the SBUR will also increase funding sources, as private donors and foundations are likely to direct resources to clinicians. These interactions will benefit the clinicians, the basic scientists and the overall quality of the science.

Marianne Sadar, PhD.

Candidate for Member-at-Large

Biography: Dr Sadar received her B.S. degree in Biochemistry from Simon Fraser University in Burnaby BC, Canada and her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of Bradford, in the United Kingdom in 1995. Post-doctoral fellowships were done at Astra-Hassle (now AstraZeneca) in Sweden followed by the BC Cancer Agency in Vancouver, Canada. Dr. Sadar became a senior scientist at the BC Cancer Agency in 1998 and was appointed Program Leader for the BC Agency's Prostate Cancer Program in 1999 to develop a Centre of Excellence for Prostate Cancer Research. She is currently Associate Professor of Surgery, Associate Member of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Program Leader for Prostate Cancer Research and Senior Scientist in the Genome Sciences Centre at the BC Cancer Agency. Since 2000, she has served as a member of both the Genitourinary (GU) Tumour Group and the GU-Scientific and Ethical Review Committee (SERC). These committees review and approve the protocols for the clinical management of GU tumours and ethical review of clinical trials in British Columbia. In the past eight years, I have served on more than 20 grant review panels including NCI, US Army DOD, and NCIC. In my role as Program Leader for the BC Cancer Agency's Prostate Program, I frequently provide lay lectures to the public on prostate cancer. Dr. Sadar is an active member and participant of the SBUR and its functions. She was the Smith-Beecham Young Investigator Award Recipient in 1995 and has received an SBUR travel award for an outstanding abstract.

Research Interests: Dr. Sadar's research interests include the molecular mechanisms of hormonal progression of prostate cancer and development of therapeutic strategies for improved clinical management of advanced disease.

Vision Statement: The SBUR plays a leadership role for Basic Urologic Research in North America. In this role, 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. Efforts to expand the SBUR's affiliations with other urological associations around the world will continue to strengthen and fulfill its mandate. 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 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.