



2012 Spring Newsletter

Meet our 2012-2013 President, Vinata Lokeshwar, Ph.D.....



I am honored to become the President of the SBUR for the May 2012 – May 2013 term. Since becoming a SBUR member in 1996, I have admired the work done by all the past SBUR Presidents, who navigated our society through sometimes rough waters. This past one year, in which I served as the vice-President of the SBUR, has been a good learning experience for me. Under the leadership of Dr. Zhou Wang, I have acquired knowledge of the day-to-day business of the SBUR. Dr. Wang is a great mentor, who is always calm and resourceful and yet decisive in taking tough decisions. All the preparations for the Spring SBUR meeting (May 19th, 2012) are now complete. The theme of the program is: “Personalized Medicine in Urology: Are we there yet?” We have organized a scientifically exciting program, with the morning joint session with the SUO that I will chair together with Dr. Edward Messing. The two afternoon sessions will be chaired by

Dr. Allen Gao and Dr. Hari Koul. I urge you all to attend the SBUR Spring Meeting. The Fall-2012 meeting preparations are well underway. This is the 25th Anniversary of the SBUR. The meeting will take place in the beautiful Trump International Resort, Sunny Isles, Florida (November 15 – 18, 2012). Dr. Jill Macoska, who is the Program Committee Chair, has organized an exciting scientific program that honors the SBUR’s past and looks ahead to a bright future for the SBUR.

The Executive Committee recognizes the good work done by WJ Weiser and Associates and especially Mr. Nathan Zastrow, in managing our society for a number of years. In the coming year, the senior leadership of the SBUR, consisting of past Presidents – Dr. Timothy Ratliff, Dr. Robert Getzenberg and Dr. James Mohler – will make recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the management services for the SBUR. These recommendations and the decisions that will follow are necessary to keep our society financially healthy so that we can continue to uphold the principle on which our society was founded – promotion of urological research! This transition period will present some challenges, but having Dr. Zhou Wang on the Executive Committee as the immediate Past President will make these challenges a little easier to meet. I am glad that our Secretary, Dr. Jill Macoska will remain on the post for one more year. Our treasurer Dr. Robert Sikes will also remain on the Executive Committee for the 2012 – 2013 term. With most of the team having a collective experience of over twenty years in serving the SBUR in various capacities, I am confident that SBUR will go through the transition smoothly and emerge much stronger.

As the members of the SBUR, I urge you to continue supporting our society by paying yearly membership dues and attending SBUR meetings. I also urge you to vote in the upcoming election to fill the positions of the vice-President and member-at-large. With limited corporate grants and funding for

our meetings, membership support is the key to keep our society growing and attracting next generation of young researcher to the field of urology research.

.....and Parting Words from Our Past (2011-2012) President, Zhou Wang, Ph.D.

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to bring to your attention the outstanding programs at the SBUR/AUA Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia May 19, 2012, which was organized by Vinata Lokeshwar, Ph.D., and at the Annual SBUR Fall Symposium in Miami, Florida November 15-18, 2012, which was developed by Jill Macoska, Ph.D. At the upcoming AUA Meeting, SBUR and the Society for Urologic Oncology (SUO) will jointly host the morning session entitled “Personalized Medicine: Are we there yet?” At the joint meeting, the Donald Coffey Lectureship will be delivered by William Nelson, M.D., Ph.D. The 2012 SBUR Fall Symposium will be a celebration of the 25th Anniversary of SBUR and will be very exciting.



It is election time for SBUR. The SBUR is fortunate to have a group of strong candidates for office again this year. Your participation at the election is important for the success of SBUR. All the SBUR members should be current with their dues so that you can vote for your new officers.

Our financial situation is not strong as we would like, particularly in the current economic situation. Paying membership dues in a timely fashion will be helpful to the society. Also, please encourage investigators in the area of urological research at their institutions to become members and to participate at the SBUR meetings.

Our management services agreement with W.J. Weiser and Associates, Inc. will end this year. On behalf of SBUR, I would like to thank W.J. Weiser and Associates for their services over the years. An ad-hoc committee consisting of Drs. Robert Getzenberg, Timothy Ratliff and James Mohler are exploring multiple options for future management services. The SBUR executive committee and the senior leadership will work together to make the transition smooth and successful.

I will complete my term as the President of SBUR at the upcoming SBUR/AUA meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members for the opportunity and honor. I would like to also thank the current executive committee, the past presidents, particularly Dr. David Jarrard, who provided many advice and help during my term. Our incoming president, Dr. Vinata Lokeshwar, is wholeheartedly dedicated and will continue SBUR tradition. She will move the society forward by providing strong leadership, particularly during the transition of management services. I look forward to assisting her in any way that I can.

***SBUR Election Information Enclosed –
VOTE online at SBUR.ORG***

2011 Meeting Summaries

AUA FOUNDATION / SBUR SUMMER RESEARCH CONFERENCE

'Aging and Urologic Disease'

July 16-17, 2011, AUA Headquarters, Linthicum, MD

The program included presentations from leading experts in the urological community with sessions on "Common Urologic Conditions in Aging," "Common Geriatric Syndromes," "Basic Sciences in Aging Research," "Health Services & Health Policy," and "Translational Research and the Future." The conference also featured a poster session and talks from National Institutes of Health training officers on career development and funding opportunities. The conference was Co-Chaired by Drs. Tomas Griebing (U. Kansas), Philip Dahm (U. Florida), and Jill A. Macoska (U. Michigan).

2011 Fall SBUR Symposium

Exploring the Developmental Paradigms that Underlie Urological Diseases

November 11-14, Las Vegas, NV

The SBUR had a very exciting meeting last November in Las Vegas, Nevada, which was organized by Ralph Buttyan, Ph.D. The symposium was well attended overall. The Leland W.K. Chung Lectureship delivered by Dr. Jeremy Reiter from the University of California, San Francisco was very exciting and informative. Dr. Nicholas Bruchofsky received 2011 SBUR Meritorious Award at the symposium for his outstanding contributions in androgen action and prostate cancer research. Drs. Wendy Huss and Praveen Thumbikat received 2011 SBUR Young Investigator Award. Also, SBUR had its First International Scholars Lecture at the symposium, which was delivered by Lei Li, M.D., Ph.D. from Xian, China. Since the lecture was well received, we will continue International Scholar Lecture series at the upcoming SBUR Fall Symposium.

2011 European Section of the Urological Research Meeting

Molecular Pathology and Experimental Models of Urological Diseases

September 15-17, Innsbruck, Austria

The SBUR worked with the European Section of the Urological Research (ESUR) in organizing the 9th World Congress on Urological Research on September 15-17, 2011 at Innsbruck, Austria. Dr. Zoran Culig, the congress president and the organizing committee did an outstanding job and the scientific program was cutting edge and stimulating. Many SBUR members attended and presented at the World Congress. The SBUR and ESUR will continue to work together to host future World Congresses on Urological Research.

2012 SWIU / SBUR Awardee

Congratulations to our SBUR Secretary, Jill A. Macoska, Ph.D., who is the 2012 recipient of the Society of Women in Urology/Society for Basic Urologic Research (SWIU/SBUR) Award for Excellence in Urologic Research.

SWIU and SBUR established this award in 2006 to recognize female scientists with a distinguished track record of basic science urologic research. The honor will be officially announced at the SWIU Annual Breakfast Meeting during the AUA Meeting on Sunday, May 20, 2012.



Upcoming SBUR Meetings and Events

2012 AUA Foundation Basic Science Symposium

Nanomedicine: Applications in Urology Today

May 18, 2012, 1:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Georgia World Congress Center, Rooms A-404/405

The SBUR continues to provide strong support for the AUA to enhance translational research. Working with Dr. Leo Giambarresi at the AUA Foundation, former SBUR president Robert Getzenberg, Ph.D. and Piotr Grodzinski, PhD, Director of the National Cancer Institute Office of Cancer Nanotechnology Research, will serve as co-chairs to discuss nanomedicine and its applications in urology today. The goals of this conference are to advance progress in urology, recruit and stimulate the interest of individuals engaged in or having an interest in traditional and non-traditional urologic research, and to build bridges among basic scientists, academic urologists active in research and clinical urologists interested in research. The conference will focus on an overarching basic science theme of broad appeal to attract a multidisciplinary audience. The support of young investigators to attend the conference will be primarily focused on individuals who would not normally attend the AUA National meeting although all young investigators will be encouraged to attend and will be supported as possible.

SBUR At the AUA Spring Meeting

Personalized Medicine in Urology

May 19, 2012, 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m., Omni Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

The morning joint session with the Society of Urologic Oncology will discuss novel targets for cancer therapy (chaired by Edward Messing, M.D.) and targeting markers for cancer therapy (chaired by Vinata Lokeshwar, Ph.D.), and ends with the Coffey Lecture to be given by William Nelson, Professor and Director of the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University. The afternoon SBUR session, with concurrent sessions chaired by Drs. Allen Gao and Hari Koul, will provide information and discussion of advances in personalized medicine for urological diseases, research in the areas of targeted therapies for treatment resistant urologic diseases, and models for testing targeted therapy and markers to predict treatment response. Come join us for an exciting day of urologic research presentations and discussions at the AUA in Atlanta!

AUA / SBUR SUMMER RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Hormones and in Urologic Health and Development

August 11-12, 2012, AUA Headquarters, Linthicum, MD

This year's symposium will enhance the understanding of the physiological interactions of hormones within the genitourinary system during development, assess the roles that hormones play as the body ages, define the current state of androgen receptor targeting, and will relate to the critical future of medical breakthroughs that are being made in urology to treat and cure diseases in patients of all races, ages, and ethnicities. The goal of these meetings is to inspire young basic scientists and urologists by providing an outstanding scientific program presented by leaders in the field, as well as research funding information provided by NIH program officers and staff. There will also be poster exhibits, a funding workshop with roundtable discussions where researchers can talk directly with grant officials, and a tour of the William P. Didusch Center for Urologic History. This year marks the 20th anniversary of these annual conferences, and the chairs for the meeting are Allen Seftel, MD and Natasha Kyprianou, PhD. This meeting is intended for individuals at all levels of their research and/or clinical careers, and travel awards are available for young investigators. The registration fee is \$100 for junior investigators and \$250 for seniors. To register, call 800-908-9414. Questions? E-mail src@AUAFoundation.org.

2012 Fall SBUR Symposium
The 25th Anniversary of the SBUR: Looking Back to Move Forward
November 15-18, 2012
Trump International Resort, Miami, FL

The theme of the 2012 Symposium captures the desire of the SBUR to utilize the firm foundation of outstanding scientific research represented by its senior investigator members to propel research forward into new areas and new applications relevant to GU developmental biology and disease pathobiology. In particular, a theme running throughout the Symposium is the purposeful juxtaposition of Past Presidents with former Young Investigator and Travel Awardee presenters in each Plenary Session, intended to illustrate the continuity and advancement of outstanding basic urologic research pursued by senior and junior investigators. The 25th Anniversary is the ideal time, and the annual Symposium is the ideal venue, for the SBUR to take stock, recognize and summarize past outstanding research endeavors and investigators, and utilize these strengths to encourage, inspire, and promote the next generation of basic science research and investigators.



Special Invited Lectures include:

- **Martin Jack Blaser, M.D.** (*Leland W.K. Lectureship*), the Frederick H. King Professor of Internal Medicine and Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at the New York University Langone Medical Center, who will speak on “The Human Microbiome: At The Interface Of Health And Disease.”
- **Arthur “Bud” Burnett, M.D.** (*AUA Lecture*), Professor of Urology and Director of the Basic Science Laboratory in Neurourology and of the Male Consultation Clinic, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, who will speak on: “Signaling and Erectile Function: Mechanisms and Therapies.”
- **Yoshika Sugimara, M.D., Ph.D.** (*Second International Scholars Lecture*), Professor, Department of Nephro-Urologic Surgery and Andrology, Mie University Graduate School of Medicine, who will speak on “Heterogenous induction of carcinoma-associated fibroblasts.”

Plenary Sessions include:

- Genomically-Driven Mechanisms that Promote GU Pathobiology and Disease
- Autophagy and Apoptosis in GU Pathobiology.
- Tissue Microenvironment in GU Development and Disease.
- Clinical and Translational Research in GU Disease.
- Mentors and Trainees: Inspiration and Success!

The conference also offers two Poster Sessions in which attendees are invited to present current research in GU development and disease. We will also have two Networking Receptions and a Celebration of our 25 Past Presidents.

Come join your colleagues at the breath-taking Trump International Resort to celebrate and advance your career and the work of the Society! Look forward to seeing you in Miami!



Morning Session is a combined meeting of the Society for Basic Urologic Research and the Society of Urologic Oncology

SBUR/SUO at the AUA Spring Meeting
Omni Hotel 100, CNN Center May 19th, 2012
Personalized Medicine: Are We There

7:55 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Introduction and Welcome

Vinata Lokeshwar, PhD
 University of Miami
 Edward Messing, MD
 University of Rochester

I. NOVEL TARGETS FOR CANCER THERAPY

Moderator: Edward Messing, MD

8:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. Targeting proteolytic, chemokine and growth-factor related pathways in prostate cancer bone metastasis

Michale Cher, MD
 Wayne State University

8:20 a.m. – 8:25 a.m. Questions & Discussion

8:25 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. N-cadherin and associated EMT Mediates castration and chemotherapy resistance in advanced prostate cancer

Robert Reiter, MD
 University of California
 Los Angeles

8:45 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. Questions & Discussion

8:50 a.m. – 9:10 a.m. Resistance to VEGF targeted therapy: Mechanisms and drug development opportunities

Michael Atkins, MD
 Beth Israel Deconess
 Medical Center

9:10 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Questions & Discussion

II. TARGETING MARKERS FOR CANCER THERAPY

Moderator: Vinata Lokeshwar, PhD

9:15 a.m. – 9:35 a.m. Towards personalized therapy for bladder cancer

David McConkey, PhD
 MD Anderson Cancer
 Center

9:35 a.m. – 9:40 a.m. Questions & Discussion

9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. miRNA targets in personalized management of urological malignancies

Rajvir Dahiya, PhD
 University of California
 San Francisco

10:00 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. Questions & Discussion

10:05 a.m. – 10:25 a.m. Inflammation and Prostate Cancer Development

Timothy Ratliff
 Purdue University

10:25 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Questions & Discussion

III. THE COFFEY LECTURESHIP

Moderators: Vinata Lokeshwar, PhD
 Edward Messing, MD

10:30 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. Androgens, Nnuclear structure, and the systemic Treatment of prostate cancer

William Nelson, MD
 Johns Hopkins
 University Sidney
 Kimmel Comprehensive
 Cancer Center



SBUR At the AUA Spring Meeting
 Omni Hotel 100 CNN Center Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Personalized Medicine In Urology
AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SESSION I. PERSONALIZED THERAPIES FOR TREATMENT RESISTANT UROLOGIC DISEASES

Moderator: Allen Gao, PhD

1.30 – 1.35pm: Welcome & Introduction

1.35 p.m. – 1:55 p.m. ErbB3 levels and response to Everolimus and bicalutamide in CRPC

Paramita Ghosh, PhD
 University of California
 Davis

1:55 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. PSMA inhibitors reduce prostate carcinogenesis by antagonizing cell invasion

Dean Bacich, PhD
 University of Pittsburgh

2.15 P.M. – 2.35 P.M. Cancer Chemoprevention

Yi-Fen Lee, PhD
 University of Rochester

2.35 – 2.55 p.m. Androgen receptor mediated chromatin looping and personalized medicine

Quinben Wang, PhD
 Ohio State University

2.55-3.15 p.m. Mechanisms and strategies for the treatment of docetaxel resistant prostate cancer

Allen Gao, PhD
 University of California
 Davis

3.15 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. Open Floor Discussion

II. MODELS AND MARKERS FOR PERSONALIZED TREATMENT

Moderator: Hari Koul, PhD

1.30 – 1.35pm: Welcome & Introduction

1.35 p.m. – 1:55 a.m. Molecular approaches towards fingerprinting prostate cancer

Robert Getzenberg, PhD
 Johns Hopkins
 University School of
 Medicine

1.55 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Applying patient-derived cancer xenografts by personalized cancer therapy

YuZhou Wang, PhD
 BC Cancer Agency

2:15 p.m. – 2:35 p.m. The metabolic basis of kidney cancer

Martson Linehan, MD
 National Cancer
 Institute

2.35 p.m. – 2.55 p.m. Personalized Medicine in Pediatric Urology

Linda Baker, MD
 UT Southwestern

2.55 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. Novel targets in prostate cancer

Hari Koul, PhD
 University of Colorado

3.15 p.m.

Open Floor Discussion

SBUR 2011 Executive Committee Ballot

VOTE online at sbur.org

CANDIDATES FOR VICE-PRESIDENT (PRESIDENT-ELECT)

Karl X. Chai, Ph.D.



BIOSKETCH: I received my Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in 1992 from the Medical University of South Carolina (Charleston) and continued on to my post-doctoral training in the same institution in the research area of molecular genetics of hypertension. I began my independent research in 1996 at the University of Central Florida (Orlando). I am now a tenured associate professor in the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, UCF College of Medicine.

RESEARCH FOCUS: The main research focus in the Chai laboratory is an “extracellular membrane-associated serine protease proteolytic activation and action network”, involving the glycosylphosphatidylinositol (GPI)-anchored prostaticin (PRSS8), the type-II transmembrane hepsin (TMPRSS1) and matriptase (PRSS14), and the urokinase-type plasminogen activator (uPA) with its GPI-anchored plasma membrane receptor uPAR. These extracellular serine

proteases regulate cellular signals mediated by two major classes of membrane receptors, the receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs) and the G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). This extracellular membrane-associated serine protease activation and action network, reminiscent of the blood coagulation serine protease activation and action cascade, but acting at the cell membrane of epithelial cells is essential for maintaining epithelial homeostasis but is also implicated in the pathophysiology of many epithelial cancers as well as inflammation and innate immunity.

SBUR SERVICE: I have been an active, dues-paying member of the SBUR since 2001. I also served as the Chair of the Organizing Committee for the 2005 SBUR Fall Symposium/Joint Meeting with ESUR in Miami Beach, Florida. I was the Secretary of the SBUR between 2006-2008.

VISION: My vision of any leadership position (or in this case the secondary leadership position) is conforming to the Taoism belief known as “治大国若烹小鲜” (Lao Tzu, 6th century BC), literally translating to “governing a big country is like cooking a delicate fish”: too much “cooking” can only help to ruin the taste. This ideology would not have been appropriate in the formative years of the organization. I consider the SBUR a mature organization owing to the cumulative efforts of many devoted members and former leaders, some of whom are featured in the photograph I took and placed on our SBUR page that I created on Wikipedia. In my role as the Vice President, I will assist the reigning President to ensure that successful policies and procedures in every aspect of the Society’s lives are nurtured and protected to bring about the maximum benefits to our members and the Society. In the eventual leadership position, my role will also be to ensure that the talents of the leadership team and our

members are maximized into output, rather than “leading by doing”, or, “cooking”. But this is not saying that I will not be doing anything in the leadership positions, which are exactly the platforms for enhancing the SBUR’s service to our members. Together with the leadership team, I will seek to make the SBUR more involved in our own members’ lives. For example, our members have not been actively using the SBUR bulletin to be more interactive and engaged with one another. Of course, our members are interactive and engaged with one another on their own. But this is exactly an area that the Society can and should help play a bigger role and help bring about bigger benefits and impacts, at least, bigger joys in our professional and social interactions and engagements. Where there is life, there will be poetry, my vision is to have our members look forward to paying our dues because of the poetry that we together can write rather than paying the dues, sometimes, upon repeatedly being reminded. I wish to thank the Nominations Committee for extending me the honor of being a candidate of the Society’s Vice President, and thank you for your kind indulgence and consideration.

Marianne Sadar, Ph.D.



BIOSKETCH. Education and Training: PhD (1995), University of Bradford, England; Postdoctoral Fellow Astra Hässle (AstraZeneca), Mölndal, Sweden (1995); Postdoctoral Fellow, BC Cancer Agency, (1995-1997), Vancouver; Research Associate, BC Cancer Agency (1997), Vancouver; Current Affiliation: Provincial Program Leader for Prostate Cancer Research, BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver; Senior Scientist, BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver; Honorary Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of British Columbia; Chief Scientific Officer, ESSA Pharma Inc, Vancouver; Awards: SWIU/SBUR Award for Excellence in Urologic Research 2010, Simon Fraser University Outstanding Alumni Award for Academic Achievement 2009, National Cancer Institute of Canada - Terry Fox Young Investigator Award 2008, D. Harold Copp Award - Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism 1997; European Science Foundation Research Fellowship in Toxicology 1993.

RESEARCH FOCUS: Identification of the molecular mechanisms underlying lethal castration resistant prostate cancer and development of therapeutic strategies for improved clinical management of advanced disease.

SBUR SERVICE: Life Member, Executive Board Member, and Treasurer for two terms (2007-2011).

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 and clinical 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, American Urological Association, GU ASCO 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.

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Neil Bhowmick, Ph.D.



BIOSKETCH: I am an Associate Professor of Medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and a member of the Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute. I also have appointments as Associate Professor in Residence at the Geffen School of Medicine at University of California, Los Angeles and a Veterans Administration Research Scientist. I received my Ph.D. at University of Georgia and did Post-doctoral studies at Vanderbilt University. I stayed on at Vanderbilt as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urology, where I was first introduced to prostate and bladder biology through nurturing members of the SBUR. Our development of transgenic mouse models for studying TGF- β signaling in bladder fibrosis and hypertrophy was the basis for the Adult Female and Pediatric Urology Clinical Fellows that I mentored for six years at Vanderbilt University, with support by the SPU (Society for Pediatric Urology) and the AUA foundation. I am a

member of the NCI/Tumor Microenvironment Network steering committee, is a scientific reviewer for the DOD, and appointed NIH/TME study section member.

SBUR SERVICE: I am an active, dues-paying member of the SBUR, served on the Abstract Review Committee for the 2011 Fall SBUR Symposium and now serve on the 2012 SBUR Fall Symposium Organizing Committee.

RESEARCH INTERESTS: My research interests have centered on stromal-epithelial interactions in the critical role of paracrine signaling in inflammatory processes and cancer. The laboratory develops novel transgenic and xenograft mouse models to identify signaling mechanisms and test of targeted therapeutics for prostate cancer and its metastatic progression to bone. We also identified a number of biomarkers that distinguish prostate cancer patients with indolent and aggressive disease, based on retrospective case control studies. My recent move to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center enabled strategic collaborations with leading faculty in basic and clinical urology, imaging, stem cell, heart disease, diabetes, and medicinal chemistry.

VISION STATEMENT: I am a product of the SBUR, initially as a Young Investigator, and now in a position to guide some young investigators, yet always learning from those more experienced. I would like to continue that paradigm of the SBUR for attracting new and sustaining long-standing members. As grant funding becomes more challenging the SBUR has continued to make deliberate efforts to marry clinical relevance to the basic research we all do. I would add, that we should also look at new technologies used in other fields to complement the work we all do now in benign and oncologic research.

Hari Koul, Ph.D.

BIOSKETCH: Dr. Koul Professor (with tenure) and Director Research - Division of Urology and Department of Surgery, and is the founding Program Director of the Urosciences Program at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Anschutz Medical campus, Aurora- CO. Dr. Koul is a full member of the University of Colorado Cancer Center and Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and holds joint appointments in the Program in Developmental Therapeutics, Program in Hormone Related Malignancies, Program in Reproductive Sciences, Department of Bioengineering and The Graduate School.



Dr. Koul received early education B.Sc. (Biology and Chemistry: 1984) and M.Sc. (Biochemistry: 1986) from The Kashmir University; and Ph.D. (Biochemistry: 1990) from prestigious Postgraduate Institute of Medical education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh in India. Dr. Koul trained under Drs. Mani Menon, MD, (Professor and Chairman of Urology) and Dr. Cheryl Scheid, PhD (Cellular and Molecular Physiology) as a postdoctoral fellow from 1991-1994, at University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA. Dr. Koul continued to work as Sr. Research Associate and then as Research Instructor at UMASS (1994-1996). In 1996, Dr. Koul was recruited to the Henry Ford Health Sciences Center, as Senior Staff Scientist and helped build the Urology Research Laboratory at Vatikuti Urology Research Institute, a position he held till 2003. In 2003 Dr. Koul was recruited to the current position as founding Director of Urology Research.

VISION STATEMENT: I have been a tireless advocate of urology research at local, regional as well as at national level. I serve as a member of AUA Research counsel and have been an active participant in deliberations as part of shaping the national urologic research agenda. I have actively participated in SBUR spring meetings and have been a member of SBUR for many years, including as a speaker and will serve as a moderator of one of the afternoon break-out sessions at upcoming AUA spring meeting. I believe SBUR has an important responsibility to not only provide platform for sharing ideas and promote discussions among its members, but also to promote Urologic Research at regional, national and international levels. SBUR must strengthen partnership with AUA research council and other urology sub-societies to fight for the common cause. We have to step up advocacy for urology research, and help secure more targeted funds for urology research. I also believe, we must encourage our collaborators and junior members in our laboratories to become SBUR members. Given my commitment to urology research, I look forward to an opportunity to serve as a representative of our members as an SBUR Member-at-Large and contribute to its continued success.

RESEARCH INTERESTS: I have been an active researcher in urology research for over two decades. My studies have focused on understanding molecular mechanisms in urologic diseases with special emphasis on role of Stress signaling in mediating pathophysiology of renal stone disease, progression of bladder and prostate cancer. Current research efforts in the laboratory are focused on castrate resistant prostate cancer with special emphasis on the role of hypoxia/re-oxygenation, androgen receptor signaling and PDEF (prostate derived Ets factor/Sam Pointed Ets Factor) in prostate cancer progression. We provided first direct evidence to suggest that PDEF is lost in aggressive prostate cancer in part by direct regulation of MMP9 and MMP13. My laboratory has also identified a small molecule that suppresses AR levels in prostate cancer cells and eliminates castrate resistant prostate cancer in a xenograft model of prostate cancer. My research has been funded by grants from the NIH, the Veterans Administration and Novartis. I received my first NIH-DK-RO1 in 1996, a research project currently funded through 2013. In addition I am funded by NIH-NCI-RO1 (currently funded through 2016) and a VA Merit Award (currently funded through 2015). I also serve as mentor on AUA-foundation supported Award aimed at understanding regulation of PDEF promoter.