

Parting Words from Our President - Gail Prins, PhD



Serving as the SBUR President this past year has been a particularly rewarding experience and I thank all SBUR members for providing me with an opportunity to serve the Society and the urologic research community. This has been a busy year for SBUR with growth on many fronts.



The highlight, of course, was a successful Annual Fall Meeting in Ft. Lauderdale on November 12-15, 2015. I want to particularly thank **Rosalyn Adam, PhD** for her remarkable leadership in formulating the program with the Program Committee. Her poise and perseverance throughout led to a seamless and productive meeting focused on the “Environment-Gene Interface in Urologic Disease”. Susan Kasper, PhD and her Program Committee are hard at work in developing a similarly stimulating 2016

Fall Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ this November 10-13 on “Urologic Biology: Cell Actions and Reactions in Normal and Disease Niches”. All are encouraged to make plans to participate in this exciting program and venue.

A highly visible change this year has been the new SBUR website which is a major improvement in communication, announcements and other sources of information for all our members as well as outside interested parties. This was developed using a Higher Logic platform which allows rapid communication of evolving issues. Please take time to go through this site and learn new things about the SBUR in the process. Thanks to Drew Shifflet and his team at our management headquarters for undertaking this substantial task.

Many of the SBUR Committees have been repopulated with members who have contributed significant time and energy that has provided significant momentum towards moving the Society in a forward direction. A **Media Committee** has been established, led by Don VanderGriend, PhD, that helped in the webpage development and is currently active in further developing the site to increase engagement between urologic researchers. The **Membership Committee** now has 10 members led by Travis Jerde, PhD, who have developed a long-term plan for recruitment. Already the SBUR membership is up markedly to levels not seen in quite some time. The **Awards Committee** was revitalized with 5 new members, headed by Beatrice Knudsen, MD, PhD, and not only did they develop a rigorous process for awardee selection, but also improved the criteria for the Young Investigator Award. **Trainee Affairs** and **Fundraising Committees** have also been created and will build in capacity going forward. Of course, all other standing committees of the Society have kept up to pace due to dedication by their chairs and members. So my deepest heartfelt thanks go to all who have participated in making the SBUR an interactive and vibrant Society.

I hope to see many of you soon at our upcoming Spring Meeting in sunny San Diego on May 7, 2016 in conjunction with the AUA Annual Meeting. Our Vice-President, Hari Koul, PhD, has put together a terrific program; a joint morning session with the SUO on “Therapeutic Resistance in Urologic Oncology” and two concurrent afternoon sessions on “Metabolic and Inflammatory Alterations in Urologic Diseases” and “Non-Coding RNAs in Urologic Malignancies”. We will host our Business Meeting at a luncheon where we will also present the Distinguished Service Award to Tim Ratliff, PhD, the first President of the SBUR. On Sunday, May 9, Donna Peehl, PhD will receive the 2016 SWIU/SBUR Award for Excellence in Urologic Research at the SWIU breakfast. A hearty congratulations to both highly deserving individuals!!

I’d like to close by commending Drew Shifflet, Lisa Heffner, Kristin Pichon, Stephanie Cascone and Cara Smith at our magnificent administrative office for running the show. We would be nowhere without you and I can’t thank you enough for your hard work and dedication.

Meet our 2016-2017 President – Hari K. Koul, MSc, PhD



I am enthused and humbled as I prepare to serve as the President of SBUR for 2016-2017. The society is uniquely positioned as the leading force for the Urologic Research Community and as a leading partner with AUA to promote and expand research opportunities focused on diseases affecting urogenital tract. My goals are to build on the existing strengths, to expand membership base and develop strategies for increasing the value of membership. I will work with thought leaders within the SBUR and I seek active participation of the membership in all aspects of SBUR. I plan to expand membership base by reaching out to urology residents, trainees and sub-specialty fellows to join SBUR as trainee members. During the upcoming year, I plan to form an ad-hoc SBUR strategic plan development committee, “**Mission Urosciences**” that will be charged with generating a road map for SBUR and an actionable agenda to further strengthen SBUR.

In addition there are several other opportunities to serve on SBUR committees as the current members rotate off. If you are interested in serving any of the SBUR committees, please contact me by e-mail at hkoul@lsuhsc.edu or Lisa Heffner at the SBUR management office at lheffner@auanet.org. Please include a brief CV with your request. Join me in shaping the future of SBUR.

I have had a privilege to serve as vice-president during the past year, and to organize the Spring SBUR Meeting. The spring meeting is scheduled to take place at the AUA Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA on May 7, 2016. This exciting full day program will focus on cutting-edge basic and translational urological research, with an overarching goal of identifying novel targets for therapeutic intervention in urological diseases. As in past years, the SBUR will host a joint morning scientific program with SUO, which I will chair with Dr. Christopher P. Evans, MD. This joint program is focused on **Therapeutic Resistance in Urologic Oncology** and presentations by thought leaders will discuss the current state of our understanding of the mechanisms underlying therapeutic resistance in prostate, bladder and kidney cancer. The **Donald S. Coffey Keynote Lecture**, at the conclusion of the morning session, will be given by **Dr. Carlo Croce, MD**, Distinguished University Professor and John W. Wolfe Chair in Human Cancer Genetics at Ohio State University. We have scheduled two parallel afternoon sessions, which will highlight the role of non-coding RNA's in urologic malignancies (moderated by Dr. Shawn Lupold) and relationship between altered metabolism and inflammation with urological diseases (co moderated by Drs. Benyi Li, Zongbing You and Chand-Deng Hu). If you are attending the AUA meeting, I urge you to join us at the SBUR Spring Meeting.

SBUR 2016 Member Luncheon & Business Meeting

Saturday, May 7, 2016

11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.

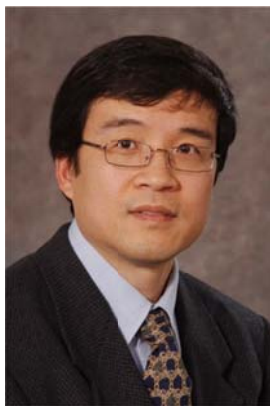
Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel

Golden Hill Room

Deadline to Pre-Register: April 25, 2016

Visit www.SBUR.org to register.

Treasurer's Update – Allen Gao, MD, PhD



Dear SBUR Members –

It is an honor to serve as SBUR Treasurer and I am happy to provide a quick report on our Society's financial status.

As of December 31, 2015, the Combined Statement of Financial Position reflects Total Assets of \$423,499 with Net Assets (Equity) of \$407,973. The Statement of Activities for the year shows total revenue of \$154,636 and total expenses \$142,058 resulting in an operating surplus of \$12,578. Total investment income and gain on investments of \$714 results in an increase in Net Assets of \$13,292 for the 12-month period.

A majority of the SBUR's revenue and expense activity is associated with our fall symposium. We have budgeted both the spring and fall meetings to again have positive returns in 2016. See the below Table for 3 year financial history. We do not budget Investment Gains.

In the fall of 2015, SBUR moved its portfolio from Charles Schwab to Vanguard, primarily because of advisory fees and other fund expenses.

I look forward to being able to report on another positive financial year for SBUR and appreciate the opportunity to serve my colleagues in this way. Thank you for your continued support of SBUR.

	2013	2014	2015	2016
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget
Total Operating Revenue	156,266	174,974	154,636	155,780
Total Operating Expenses	126,987	134,675	142,058	146,232
Surplus/(Deficit) From Operations	29,279	40,299	12,578	9,548
Investment Activities				
Total Investment Income/(Loss)	39,935	11,877	714	8,000
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	69,215	52,176	13,292	17,548
Net Assets-Beginning of Year	273,291	\$ 342,506	\$ 394,682	\$ 407,974
Net Assets-End of Year	\$ 342,506	\$ 394,682	\$ 407,974	\$ 425,522

Secretary's Report – Rosalyn Adam, PhD



A personal highlight from the past six months was the Fall symposium held in not-so-sunny Fort Lauderdale. As Program Chair, there was a certain frisson of excitement associated with this year's event, and it was hugely gratifying to see the hard work of the program planning committee over the past year come to fruition. I am very grateful for their efforts as well as the unwavering support of the management group, in particular Lisa Heffner, Kristin Pichon and Drew Shifflet who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of our meetings.

In recent months we've enjoyed some significant advances within the Society, not least of which is the unveiling of the new SBUR website. The redesigned interface enables easy navigation through a variety of pages, with information on meetings, membership, funding resources all readily accessible. In parallel with the redevelopment of the website, the Society now has a Media Committee, chaired by Donald VanderGriend, responsible for oversight of content and social media. Another newly convened committee led by current SBUR member-at-large Shawn Lupold focuses on Trainee Affairs. This committee will serve as a voice for trainees to air concerns related to career development, visibility within the urology community and how to build supportive networks as they navigate the challenges of an academic career. We encourage the membership to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by these new committees and to participate as fully as possible in their activities.

We encourage all members to reach out to colleagues in other disciplines to encourage them to join our Society. We are constantly striving to add value and benefits to being an SBUR member and encourage all members who would like to be more involved in the Society to contact us for information on opportunities for participation.

SBUR at AUA 2016
Saturday, May 7, 2016
San Diego, CA

- SBUR/SUO Joint Session: Therapeutic Resistance in Urologic Oncology (8:00 - 11:50AM)
- Breakout Session I: Metabolic and Inflammatory Alterations in Urologic Diseases (1:00 - 3:35PM)
- Breakout Session II :Non-Coding RNAs in Urologic Malignancies (1:00 - 3:35PM)



[View Programs](#)

SBUR Member's Only Luncheon & Business Meeting

Saturday, May 7, 2016

11:50 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.

Manchester Grand Hyatt ~ Golden Hill Room

Registration deadline is April 25th. [Register here.](#)

Meeting Recap: 2015 SBUR Fall Symposium – Rosalyn Adam, PhD

‘The Environment-Gene Interface in Urologic Health and Disease’

November 12-15, Fort Lauderdale, FL

In early November 2015, we held our annual Fall meeting, which focused on the theme *‘The Environment-Gene Interface in Urologic Health and Disease’*. Over the course of the meeting, the theme was addressed at both macro- and micro-environmental scales with presentations from across the spectrum of organ systems and biological processes relevant to genitourinary pathophysiology.



The meeting began with an outstanding Leland W. K. Chung Lecture entitled ‘Hypoxia, Metabolism and Tumor Progression’ delivered by **Dr. M. Celeste Simon**, Director of the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Simon’s lecture fit perfectly with the overarching theme of the meeting and was a tour de force, ranging from metabolomics of tumor tissues to uncover metabolic adaptations in clear cell

renal cell carcinoma to the identification of druggable nodes for future treatment of this disease. We were especially gratified that Dr. Simon stayed at the meeting to the extent that her schedule would allow, and participated in a number of the plenary sessions after her superb opening presentation.



Dr. Michael O'Donnell from the University of Iowa presented the AUA Lecture entitled 'A Role for Toll Like Receptor Sensitization in Interstitial Cystitis/Painful Bladder Syndrome'. Based on research conducted as part of the U01-funded MAPP network, Dr. O'Donnell's presentation described a role for TLR-2 and TLR-4 sensitization in patients with bladder pain, as well as the potential implication of these findings for therapeutic intervention in this challenging-to-treat condition.



In addition to the award lectures we enjoyed plenary talks from experts in urology research who spoke on a range of topics relevant to external and internal environmental influences on urologic pathophysiology. These included metabolism and inflammation, immunotherapy and endocrine disruption, as well as the impact of race, ethnicity and dietary constituents on the manifestation of both benign and malignant urologic disease.



We also convened two highly successful poster sessions highlighting work from trainees and established investigators alike, with over 100 posters displayed during the meeting. A highlight of the meeting for many was the Discussion Forum on the use of model systems for urologic disease research in which participants enjoyed rapid-fire presentations on novel approaches to modeling disease in a variety of contexts.



Attendees also heard updates from **Dr. Carolyn Best**, Director of the AUA Office of Research and **Dr. Tracy Rankin**, Training Program Director at the NIDDK on funding opportunities, grant-seeking strategies and training initiatives to facilitate their research and career development. (Also pictured **Dr. Aria Olumi**.)

We thank the membership for their attendance at, and support of the meeting and are eager to hear any additional feedback that you feel would enhance this event in future years. We hope to see you all again this November in Scottsdale, for what promises to be another stimulating event.

2015 Young Investigator Awardees:

Emmanuel Antonarakis, MD
John Hopkins Medical Institute
Baltimore, MD

Xin Li, PhD
New York University
New York, NY

Todd Morgan, MD
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI



2015 Distinguished Service Award

Natasha Kyprianou, MD, PhD
(May 2015)

2015 SBUR Meritorious Achievement Award

Natasha Kyprianou, MD, PhD
(November 2015)



2015 Travel Award Winners

Karen Aitken, MD - SickKids Hospital
Cameron Armstrong, PhD - University of California, Davis
Zarine Balsara, MD, PhD - Boston Children's Hospital
Daniela Carreno, PhD - Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Timothy Gauntner, MS - University of Illinois at Chicago
Oh-Joon Kwon, PhD - Baylor College of Medicine
Seok Joo Kwon, PhD - Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey
Shyama Majumdar, PhD, MBA - University of Illinois at Chicago
David McIlwain, PhD - Indiana University School of Medicine
Kathryn Pellegrini, PhD - Emory University
Krizia Rohena-Rivera, BS - University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus
Kai Sha, PhD - Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Eswar Shankar, PhD - Case Western Reserve University
Aisha Siebert, MPH - University of Rochester
Bethany Smith, PhD - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Suman Suman, PhD - University of Louisville
Sam Thomas, BSC - University of Wisconsin
Jordan Vellky, BS - University of Wisconsin
Renee Vickman, PhD Candidate - Purdue University
Latanya Williams, PhD - University of Illinois
Lishi Xie, PhD - University of Illinois

2016 Fall Symposium Committee Update – Susan Kasper, PhD



The Committee is excited to present the SBUR 2016 Fall Symposium entitled, **“Urologic Biology: Cellular Actions and Reactions in Normal and Disease Niches”** to be held November 10-13, 2016 in Scottsdale, AZ. This year’s theme of Urologic Biology will be presented through diverse perspectives and approaches that range from urologic models, immunology, developmental biology, and mathematical modeling to innovative engineering technology. Furthermore, topics of discussion will include, and not be limited to:

- a) The impact of hormones and transcription factors on the regulation of urologic organ development
- b) The cell type of origin involved in normal organ development and in neoplastic transformation
- c) Signaling networks that regulate angiogenesis and metastasis; and processes which might provide novel “druggable” targets
- d) Cell-cell interactions during development and disease; and their potential use as “Trojan horses” to deliver drugs to interacting cells
- e) Personalized medicine
- f) Cell-matrix interactions during wound healing in the lower urinary tract, and
- g) The roles of inflammasomes, immune cells, and bacteria in the regulation of urologic stem cell expansion and the development of disease.

We look forward to many great presentations and discussions and are pleased to announce the following list of confirmed speakers (in alphabetical order): **Alexander Anderson, PhD** (H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute), **Ritu Aneja, PhD** (Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Georgia State University), **Darius Bägli, MD** (The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto), **Linda Alford Baker, MD** (UT Southwestern), **Lori Birder, PhD** (University of Pittsburgh), **Jeremy Burton, PhD** (Lawson Health Research Institute), **Angelo DeMarzo, MD, PhD** (John Hopkins Hospital), **Martin Gleave, MD** (University of British Columbia), **John Isaacs, PhD** (Johns Hopkins School of Medicine), **X. Sean Li, PhD** (Boston Children's Hospital), **Andrew McMahon, PhD** (Keck School of Medicine, USC), **Andrea Morrione, PhD**

(Thomas Jefferson University), **Leonard Neckers, PhD** (Center for Cancer Research National Cancer Institute), **Timothy Ratliff, PhD** (Purdue University Center for Cancer Research), **David Rowley, PhD** (Baylor College of Medicine), **Michael Shen, PhD** (Columbia University Medical Center), **Dean Tang, PhD** (UC Davis Medical Center), **Ashleigh Theberge, PhD** (University of Washington), **Zongbing You, MD, PhD** (Tulane University), and **Jindan Yu, PhD** (Northwestern University).

Therefore we invite and encourage all of you to attend the SBUR 2016 Fall Symposium for great science, exciting discussions, and the beautiful setting of Scottsdale, Arizona.

Abstract submission will open in May and meeting registration will open later this summer.