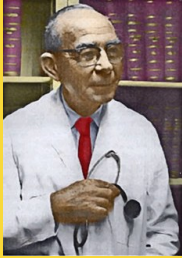


Tinsley Randolph. Harrison, M.D.
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**The American Journal of the
Medical Sciences**

David W. Ploth, M.D. Editor
Kathleen Kelly, Managing Editor

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Southern Society for Clinical Investigation Annual Newsletter July 2011



President's Corner, Karl T. Weber, MD



Council members, representing the SSCI, S-AFMR, SSPR and SSGIM came together on June 13, 2011 at our annual mid-year retreat, which was held in Memphis, home to rock 'n roll and birthplace to rhythm and blues. The meeting covered a wide range of topics, including several novel initiatives underway in 2011.

First, the SSCI-Sponsored Visiting Professors Program.

The SSCI mission statement indicates its dedication to the advancement of knowledge, information and ideas, together with a commitment to mentoring future generations of medical investigators and promoting careers in academic medicine.

The faculty embodied in SSCI membership represents an academic resource--- a book of knowledge. In 2011 and in keeping with its commitment to mentoring, the SSCI will launch a Visiting Professors Program. Its speakers bureau will consist of members, who are senior clinician scientists representing the very best of the various disciplines in internal medicine. Its purpose: to share knowledge with others.

Based on official applications submitted by an academic medical center to SSCI Council and its VPP Committee, SSCI faculty would be invited to deliver one or more lectures, including medical grand rounds, and to participate in other scholarly activities sponsored by the division or department for their

trainees and junior faculty. SSCI funds have been set aside to cover travel expenses; however, no honoraria will be provided for the privilege of representing the SSCI. More information can be found on the VPP announcement.

Second, a Pathophysiology In Medicine Series in The American Journal of the Medical Sciences.

Our annual scientific meeting is the flagship forum of the SSCI, where incremental knowledge and dialogues can spawn an interdisciplinary perspective in search of common pathophysiologic expressions of diseases and disorders. Thinly veiled barriers between disciplines can be easily torn down and replaced with refreshing and invigorating discourse between disciplines.

And what applies to our annual session should also hold true for the pages of our torchbearer, *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences*. In that spirit of cooperation and invigoration and with the endorsement

(continued on page 2)

Call For Abstracts

Visit the SSCI website: www.ssciweb.org
for Call for Abstracts and information on the
SSCI Nephrology Young Investigator's Forum

Abstract Deadline: October 14
Membership Nomination Deadline: November 10

President's Corner (continued from page 1)

of editor, David Ploth, a new series entitled *Pathophysiology in Medicine* will be launched this fall with Karl T. Weber as series editor. Its objective to present cutting edge insights into pathophysiologic expressions of a disease or disorder, spanning subcellular and cellular levels and meticulously woven into a fabric that includes integration and organ- based physiology and importantly clinical medicine. Senior clinician scientists will be invited to present topics on which they are a nationally-recognized opinion leader. These reviews will appear in *The Journal* on a regular basis, where they will serve as a state- of-the-art resource to students, trainees and faculty.

Thirdly, the SSCI has released its **official logo**. It is available as lapel pins and neckwear and can be worn to display our pride and support of the Society. Merchandise can be purchased through our website and at the annual meeting.

Finally, plans are underway for the SRM annual scientific session, February 9- 11, 2012, in New Orleans. The **President's Symposium** on Friday morning will feature 3 outstanding clinician scientists addressing *The Heart Failure Epidemic: New Insights and Strategies*.

On Saturday morning, the **Joint Plenary Session** will feature another national epidemic: *The Cardiometabolic Syndrome: Hypertension, Obesity and Diabetes*. Senior clinician scientists will share their insights gleaned from the bench and the curbside into this all- important health problem afflicting children and adults.

In closing, let us the members of the SSCI explore our creative potential as we pledge to advance knowledge, ideas and information, to mentor future generations of biomedical investigators and to develop programs that support and indeed promote young clinician scientists. Exceptionalism is within our reach, let us explore it together.



Some of the SSCI's Past Presidents. Photo taken at the June, 2011 mid-year retreat.

Back row, L to R: Drs. David W. Ploth, Robert T. Means, Jr., Michael S. Bronze, Charles "Bo" Sanders, Karl T. Weber. Front Row, L to R: Drs. Jesse Roman, L. Lee Hamm, Richard deShazo

2012 Annual Meeting

The 66th Annual Meeting will be held February 9-11, 2012 at Hotel InterContinental New Orleans.

Please make plans to attend now as we have some special events planned for this meeting. This will be a joint meeting with the Southern Section of the American Federation for Clinical Research, Southern Society for Pediatric Research, Academic Pediatric Association, and Southern Society for General Internal Medicine. The joint meeting will begin with subspecialty sessions and workshops Thursday

afternoon and a Poster session Thursday evening. The scientific sessions will start the following morning.

This year's Joint Plenary will feature another national epidemic "The Cardiometabolic Syndrome: Hypertension, Obesity and Diabetes".

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

For those of you who would like to make your reservations early, a hotel reservation form is also included in the Call for Abstracts.

PLEASE NOTE: If forms provided by the SSCI are not used or you do not indicate

your attendance at the Southern Regional Meetings when making your reservation by telephone, you will not receive the special room rate provided to members by the hotel and the society will not get credit for your stay at the hotel.

Therefore, please indicate that you are attending the Southern Regional Meetings when making your reservations.

The deadline for hotel reservations at our convention rate and the hold on the room block is **January 8, 2012.**

Reservations can be made online at

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/SSCI2012>

Dr. Charles V. Sanders, our immediate past president provided an outstanding recap at this year's SRM entitled "The SSCI at 65: Older and Wiser"

It can now be found on the SSCI website. <http://www.ssciweb.org/Sanders.doc>

Nephrology Young Investigators' Forum

The Eleventh Annual SSCI Nephrology Young Investigators Forum will be held on Wednesday, February 8. Information on this Forum can be obtained from the SSCI website www.ssciweb.org.

Abstract deadline for this Forum is October 14th, and is limited to Nephrology fellows.

SSCI Young Investigator Awards

The SSCI Young Investigator Awards are offered to recognize and encourage excellence in investigation by physicians and medical students during research training.

Eligibility: Medical students, combined MD/PhD students, interns, residents and post-doctoral physicians who are in research training or were in research training June 2011 are eligible. Post-doctoral research training may be considered to extend for a period of up to three years and time spent in strictly clinical fellowships need not count against this. The applicant must be the

first author of the abstract submitted in competition for the award and will plan to present the paper during the scientific sessions of the Southern Regional Meetings. Please note that it is not necessary for the senior author to be a member of the SSCI.

Procedure: Abstracts will be submitted for the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation according to the usual procedure described in the instructions on awards consideration accompanying the abstract form.

Deadline: The submission deadline of the abstracts and application for the SSCI Young Investigator Award is **October 14, 2011.**

****Please note that nomination letters from the senior investigator or mentor and the Division Director or Department Chairman are required and should include a statement of the candidate's role in the study. In order to be eligible for consideration of these awards, the nomination letter(s) should be uploaded on the website at the time of abstract submission.**

Congratulations to Dr. Karl T. Weber, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, winner of the 2012 SSCI Founders' Medal Award!



SSCI COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Have you updated your SSCI bio recently?

It's especially important if you have changed positions, or your contact information has changed in any way.

While you're there, why not update your areas of expertise?

Thanks so much!

Mentoring Committee

Committee Chair:
Dan Villarreal, Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY

It is a great pleasure to inform you that the mentored poster session at this year's SSCI was a major success. Faculty members who are recognized distinguished teachers were assigned the mentoring of poster presentations within their areas of expertise in the various sub-

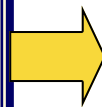
specialties of Internal Medicine. The goals, which were successfully accomplished, were directed to promote in depth discussions, and to provide constructive criticism, advice and support. Both trainees and mentors had enjoyable and productive interactions, and mutually beneficial relationships were established at the personal and professional levels.

The SSCI is appreciative of the enthusiasm and efforts of

all faculty involved in this and other programs that are being developed, including: 1) Mentored Oral Presentations; 2) Visiting Professor Program at SSCI affiliated Institutions; and 3) Professional Development Programs. We are convinced that these initiatives will continue to promote collective growth within the SSCI biomedical community, and will enhance its core missions of education, research and clinical care.

The SRM has a new logo as well! Our partners include:

APA
SSPR
SGIM
S-AFMR



By-Laws Committee

Committee Chair:
Robert T. Means, Jr, MD
University of Kentucky College of Medicine

The committee will be meeting via conference call to discuss potential bylaws changes related to:

1. Membership Eligibility
2. Award Eligibility
3. Organizational Tax Code
4. Status and endowment activities.

The committee will report their findings to the SSCI Council at the February 2012 meeting.

Website Committee

Committee Chair:
Jim Oates, MD
Medical University of South Carolina

The website committee has enacted several changes to the website since last year, when the look and feel of the site was improved. The goal of these changes was to make the work of committees and meeting-related activities run more smoothly and to increase communication with the membership.

On the main page, the President's letter is available with the eSSCI Newsletter. The logo has been updated. When members login, they can obtain SSCI and committee-related documents under a new "my files" link. Biographies can be updated, and members can volunteer to be meeting mentors for trainees at that time. Members can update how they would like to be notified of events, particularly those relating to the Southern Regional Meeting. You can now

receive updates by SMS, Twitter, or Facebook. On the administrative side, changes can be made to committees without involving a website administrator. The SSCI office can now add scrolling news items to the upper banner. Members who have not logged in and changed their biography will now be automatically notified. We hope that you will find these changes useful, and the committee welcomes feedback on the site.

SSCI COMMITTEE UPDATE (continued):

Finance Committee

Chair: Michael S. Bronze
University of Oklahoma Health Science Center

The Finance Committee has met several times during the year reviewing financial metrics of the organization. As a whole, the SSCI is financially stable. Comparing FY 2009 with close of FY 2010, the SSCI witnessed a moderate increase in revenues (mostly derived from dues and meeting income) but increased expenditures. The success of the Southern Regional Meeting and our Awards program explain the majority of the expense increase. At the close of FY10 (December, 2010), we had a modest profit of \$22,164 and our

account balance rose to \$437,289. As of May 31, 2011 FY11 looks very similar. We have a net income of \$3500.

The Southern Regional Meeting (SRM) continues to prosper, although expenses have grown while revenues have been flat. The Committee has made several suggestions to Council to augment revenue for the meeting and to contain some of the expenses. At the 2011 SRM, 701 registrants joined us for an outstanding meeting making this the highest attended meeting since 1994 representing nearly 150 institutions. There were also 602 abstracts presented at this year's meeting. This represents a significant increase over

the preceding 5 to 6 years. Finally, we welcomed a number of new members to the SSCI.

The Finance Committee also discussed the long term financial stability of the SSCI, especially at a time where educational grants and industry support has been challenging. The SSCI has excellent operating reserves large enough to cover more than 12 months of expenses. In addition, the *Journal* continues to be financially strong and the Committee has recommended to Council that some of our cash reserves be invested more aggressively.



**Join us in
welcoming our
newest members
to the Society...**



Aruni Bhatnagar, PhD	University of Louisville
Marcy B. Bolster, MD	Medical University of South Carolina
Mary Jane Burton, MD	University of Mississippi Medical Center
Matthew Cave, MD	University of Louisville
Yvette M. Cua, MD	University of Louisville
Frederick C. deBeer, MD	University of Kentucky
Jonathan A. Dranoff, MD	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Gerald Dryden, MD	University of Louisville
Lee S. Engel, MD	Louisiana State University - New Orleans
Juan Guardiola, MD	University of Louisville
Orlando M. Gutierrez, MD, MMSc	University of Alabama at Birmingham
David Hiestand, MD, PhD	University of Louisville
Laura B. Hughes, MD, MSPH	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Peter Igarashi, MD	University of Texas Southwestern
Stephen P. Kantrow, MD	Louisiana State University - New Orleans
Rami N. Khouzam, MD	University of Tennessee
Mary Klotman, MD	Duke University
Santhosh, K.G. Koshy, MD	University of Tennessee
Carl J. Lavie, MD	Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Christine Maric, PhD	University of Mississippi Medical Center
Jorge A. Martinez, MD, JD	Louisiana State University - New Orleans
Leonard Meggs, MD	Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Allan M. Ramirez, MD	University of Louisville
Jasvinder Singh, MD, MPH	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Robert F. Todd, III, MD, PhD	Baylor College of Medicine
Xian K. Zhang, DVM, PhD	Medical University of South Carolina

THE
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MEDICAL
SCIENCES
FOUNDED 1820

Official Journal of the SSCI

We thank those members of the SSCI who have submitted papers and/or reviewed manuscripts for *The AJMS* during the past year. We continue to seek and encourage submissions from the membership, particularly from trainees and junior faculty.

We welcome the submission of case reports, reviews or manuscripts of original research at any time. *The Journal* is also interested in soliciting high quality symposia on topics of general interest.

Trainee Research Report

Purpose: To provide students & other trainees not participating in a full-time research experience a venue for publication of their data in a focused, small scope report. Additional details can be found on our website.

www.editorialmanager.com/maj

Annual submissions continue to increase in 2010 with a total of 874 submissions; up from 732 in 2009, 583 in 2008 and 480 in 2007. It's only mid-July and we're already at 542 new submissions YTD. We thank you for your contributions to and support of *The AJMS*.

**Our impact factor
grew this year from
1.195 to 1.257!**

You can now read AJMS articles using your internet-enabled mobile device? Check out "Mobile View" at www.amjmedsci.com

October's issue contains a symposium entitled "From Laboratory to Bedside: Ethical, Legal and Social Issues in Translational Research".

Our Guest Editor is Dr. Robert Sade from the Medical University of South Carolina.



What's happening at The Journal?

WEB NEWS.....

The AJMS site has seen a 51% increase in the page views per visit between 2010 and 2011.

There has also been a 466% increase in time spent on the site!

If you enjoyed the President's Symposium & Joint Plenary speakers at this year's SRM, we encourage you to check out our January, 2012 issue as we will be publishing articles from the 2 sessions.

Guest Editor is Dr. Charles V. Sanders from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Have you updated your profile lately? If not, click on www.editorialmanager.com/maj. While you're updating your contact information, we love for you to update the "Personal Classification" and "Personal Keywords" sections. Keywords provide more specific details as to your area of specialty/interest, and that is of great assistance to us when we are seeking reviewers, plus we want to ensure we have the most up-to-date contact information for you. Updating your profile is quite simple and will take less than 5 minutes to accomplish. We appreciate you taking the time to accommodate this request.

On behalf of the Society, we wish to thank all members who attended this year's meeting and those who nominated candidates for membership. We extend an invitation to all members to take an active part in the Society and to support the Society in its efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Karl T. Weber, MD
President

Monica M. Farley, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

