

Southern Society for Clinical Investigation

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Celebrating our 75th Anniversary!

January 27, 2019

Dear SSCI Members,

I can hardly believe it! Our annual meeting is literally right around the corner. Just a couple of more weeks until we gather in New Orleans for the Southern Regional Meeting. We will be welcoming a new group of members and fellows to the SSCI. I hope you can be present for all of the activities.

The meeting will begin Thursday at noon with multiple afternoon sessions focused on various aspects of research from getting a grant to converting your abstracts to a research (or clinical) letter or full length journal article to a symposium on various aspects of career building as a clinician educator. The afternoon will progress to the grand poster session with hundreds of participants from all across the region. This is a very important opportunity for members and fellows to pour themselves into our young people, many of whom will someday be taking the reins of clinical research from us. This is a grand event with extended refreshments and many opportunities for dialog and mentoring.

Friday morning will kick off with the SSCI plenary session. I will have the privilege of sharing what I hope is the vision of our organization as we move rapidly into the future of biomedical research from committed internal medicine subspecialists. You will have opportunity to see the status of our organization, our journal and our award recipients from trainees to outstanding mentors. The SSCI Presidential Symposium will come from two accomplished clinician researchers who will use the example of a biological for asthma as the basis for a discussion of the translational research process. We will also recognize and hear from the first recipient of our new SSCI Research Scholar Award. After the break, the Southern American Federation for Clinical Research (S-AFMR) will have their session, and I encourage you to be present to support our young research faculty who are the up-and-coming backbone of our regional clinical research enterprise across the Southern United States. We will end the morning with the recognition of the 2020 SSCI Founder's Medal recipient. I promise you will enjoy and benefit from attending the program.

The afternoon will continue with a variety of platform presentations from faculty and trainees in a variety of disciplines. The structure of the meeting is purposefully intimate to allow any of us who wish to visit different sessions to do so in a time efficient fashion.

Friday night is typically a dinner in New Orleans night but be sure to make time for our 75th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the SSCI. We will convene in the Blue Room in the Roosevelt Hotel where there will be wonderful dietary and libation offerings. We will recognize our new members and fellows and have ample opportunity to visit with one another prior to going out to dinner.

Saturday morning is the Joint Plenary Session cosponsored by the SSCI, the Southern Society for Pediatric Research and the S-AMFR. This symposium will present a fascinating session on the Lifelong Effects of Early Life with three totally outstanding speakers. This session should promote deep thought and hopefully good discussion. I promise you will get a thought provoking experience.

Lunch is our annual Jazz Brunch. The food is great and fantastic music from a local jazz ensemble. It is an experience you will not want to miss.

The meeting will conclude with an afternoon concurrent session with nine different groups presenting. These presenters have worked hard to prepare, and we would love to have a great attendance to support them. I have seen all of these abstracts and strongly believe that there will be many great presentations. Come and support our junior faculty and trainees.

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for honoring me by allowing me to serve as your 2019-20 SSCI President. It has been a distinct honor to work with the many people who make our organization tick. As we move forward into the next 75 years of our organization, I see great things head for us, for our journal, and for biomedical translational research well into the 21st century and beyond.

See you soon in NOLA!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Marshall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gailen D. Marshall, Jr., MD, PhD, FACP, FSSCI
President