

Southern Society for Clinical Investigation

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Dear Colleagues,

I am truly honored to serve as President of the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation for the 2022-2023 term. I have been a member of the SSCI for more than 30 years and have had the opportunity to participate in multiple meetings. These meetings have provided the motivation to develop and complete clinical research projects for presentation. This has been a particularly important activity for the students, residents, and fellows at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. I am convinced that these presentations have advanced the careers of our students and residents when they make application for residency training or fellowship training.

The Society has maintained its program of excellence throughout the last two difficult years. SRM 2021 was held virtually; SRM 2022 was a hybrid meeting with both virtual presentations and in-person presentations. These changes in meeting format have created significant challenges but also increased the skills our leadership needs to meet future challenges with any changes in meeting formats.

SRM 2022 was very successful, which can be attributed in large part to Dr. Sumanth Prabhu, who was the President, and Joan Kemp, Executive Director and Pamala Schmidt, Administrative Director. They made last-minute changes in the meeting format, which worked well for all participants. There were 600 abstracts submitted to the meeting and 677 registrations. Again, students and residents had opportunities to make presentations, meet other trainees and society members, and increase their understanding and experience with ongoing clinical research. The 2023 meeting will again provide important opportunities for trainees to present clinical research projects. In addition, program organizers hope to increase the participation by SSCI Fellows and Members so that all participants can gain more insight into high-level clinical research.

The SSCI increased its membership in 2021, and it continues to have strong representation throughout the southern United States. These new members will bring new ideas to the organization and will represent its future. I encourage SSCI members to take on the following responsibilities. All members should attend the meeting and participate in sessions, especially those in which they have particular expertise. All members should serve as reviewers for the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*. The number of submissions to this journal has more than doubled, and this creates important responsibilities for the Editor and the Editorial Board. These manuscripts

need critical review which, in turn, will improve the end product and enhance the standing of the journal. Finally, all members should make suggestions to enhance the academic activities of this organization. As always, we need to recruit new Fellows and Members and develop an annual meeting which provides benefits for all attendees.

Please plan to attend SRM 2023 which will be held on February 2-4, 2023 at the InterContinental New Orleans. The abstract deadline will be October 7, 2022. Please mark these important dates on your calendar.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Nugent". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "K" and "Nugent" written in a flowing script.

Kenneth M. Nugent, MD, President
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