

Southern Society for Clinical Investigation

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Dear SSCI Members and Fellows,

We hope that you are enjoying the rest of the summer. The SSCI/SRM Program Committee has been working very hard on SRM 2024 which will be held in New Orleans on February 22-24, 2024. I wanted to provide some exciting details about this upcoming meeting.

Southern Regional Meeting Plenaries. The meeting will feature two outstanding bench-to-bedside plenary talks on two topics in pediatrics and medicine.

Joint Plenary Symposium

Congenital Heart Disease: Examining the Spectrum of Care from Birth to Adulthood (sponsored by SSCI and SSPR)

Speakers: Dianna Milewicz (UTHealth), Ali Zaidi (Mt. Sinai), and Martina Brueckner (Yale)

Congenital heart diseases refer to the range of structural defects that occur during the development of the heart. Recent investigations in the genetic and molecular causes of these defects have led to advances in the diagnosis and treatment of this condition. The focus of this plenary is to explore the genesis of congenital heart disease and to describe recent advances in clinical care.

SSCI Presidential Symposium

The Story of Cystic Fibrosis: Gene Discovery to Drug Development (sponsored by SSCI)

Speakers: J.P. Clancy (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation) and Raksha Jain (UTSW)

Cystic fibrosis is caused by a mutation of the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene. The human genome project led to the discovery of the CFTR gene sequence which led to the development of drugs that modify the effects of the CFTR gene mutation. This symposium will cover the discovery of the sequence of the CFTR, the drug development that followed this discovery, and the clinical outcomes following CFTR modulator therapies.

Tinsley Harrison Scholar Awards. *New in 2024!* The SSCI is pleased to announce a new program for junior investigators. Postdoctoral fellows and clinical fellows/instructors are encouraged to apply for one of these prestigious travel awards. Awardees will be expected to present their work at the annual meeting, attend the Thursday afternoon workshop on February 22 on the topic of “Successful Careers in Academic Medicine”, and be paired 1:1 with a mentor at the meeting to establish connections outside their home institution. Individuals selected for these awards will have their meeting expenses (up to \$1,500) paid. Please visit our website at www.ssciweb.org to learn more about how to apply.

SRM 2024 Call for Abstracts and opportunities for travel awards will go live on August 10. Our abstract deadline is October 6. Please visit our website at <https://www.ssciweb.org/southern-regional-meeting> for information on the abstract submissions, registration, hotel reservations, and program information.

SSCI Fellow Nominations. Please do not forget to nominate your colleagues and/or mentees to become a Fellow of the SSCI. Our recent bylaws revisions were approved and will make the nomination process much more streamlined. Please visit our website at <https://www.ssciweb.org/membership> to nominate eligible physician-scientists and clinician-educators today! ***Our newly streamlined nomination process has taken a bit longer than expected to get online, so our nomination deadline has been extended until September 15.*** Additional notifications and reminders on the deadline will be distributed soon.

We hope that you save the dates of February 22-22, 2024. We will have more information about the annual meeting in the next few months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vin Tangpricha".

Vin Tangpricha, MD, PhD
President, SSCI