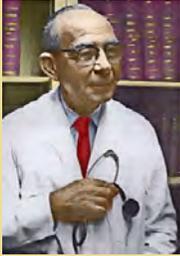


Tinsley Randolph. Harrison, M.D.
1900 -1978



SSCI Officers

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President-Elect

Gailen Marshall, Jr., MD, PhD
Secretary-Treasurer

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**The American Journal of the
Medical Sciences**

David W. Ploth, MD - Editor
Sarah McCann, Managing Editor

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**SSCI Newsletter
August 2016**



~ ~ ~ MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ~ ~ ~

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Having successfully celebrated the 70th anniversary of SSCI in 2016, the 2017 meeting offers the opportunity to focus on the future of our organization and academic medicine. SSCI has a rich history dedicated to the advancement of medical research and has fostered the next generation of investigators through sponsorship of the annual scientific Southern Regional Meeting (SRM) and publication of our scientific journal, *The American Journal of Medical Sciences* (AJMS). In 2017, SRM will have expanded sessions dedicated to medical educators and related scholarly activities. The 2017 meeting will also mark the transition to a new Editor-in-Chief for the AJMS and with it comes the opportunity for new perspectives and creative energy as we move forward. SSCI will continue to host outstanding scientific sessions and support trainees and early-career faculty at SRM, and advance science through the AJMS, while strategically planning for the changing needs of medical investigators and educators going forward.

The SSCI recognizes the critical importance of students, trainees, and junior faculty for the future of medical research and the importance of medical educators in preparing our future clinicians and scientists for the interface between medicine and research. To that end, our Society is committed to supporting scientific excellence, expanding opportunities for mentoring, fostering the academic development of our early-career colleagues, and expanding our engagement with medical educators. SSCI needs you, the members of the Society, to be successful in our endeavors and remain a vibrant organization in the face of current challenges in academic medicine. There are a number of key areas for participation: nomination of new members, assuring faculty, mentor and trainee attendance at the SRM meetings, manuscript submissions to the AJMS, participation in the Visiting Professor Program, and contributions to the Fund for Academic Medicine. We welcome your involvement in any and all of these endeavors.

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans at SRM February 11-13, 2017 (note the change to a Saturday-Monday schedule due to an unanticipated conflict). Program planning is well underway and will include an excellent scientific program with the theme of "Harnessing the Immune System" and an expanded medical educator pathway within the program. We are pleased that the Southern Society for General Internal Medicine will be returning to New Orleans for their meeting the same weekend in 2017.

As we look forward, we are confident that SSCI will remain one of the premier multispecialty organizations, devoted to fostering research and education and mentoring those who will be our future leaders in academic medicine. Your ongoing support of the organization and for the Southern Regional Meeting is critical to our success.

Monica M. Farley, MD

**Call For Abstracts for 2017 Southern Regional Meeting
(February 11 - 13, 2017)**

For more information about the
Call for Abstracts and SSCI Nephrology Young Investigators'
Forum visit the SSCI website: www.ssciweb.org

****Abstract Deadline is October 7th****

Please encourage your colleagues and trainees to submit their work
and attend our exciting and stimulating scientific
sessions and workshops.

Abstracts being presented at the 2017 Southern Regional Meeting will be printed
in February's issue of *Journal of Investigative Medicine*.

RECAP OF THE 2016 SOUTHERN REGIONAL MEETING

The Southern Regional Meeting endures as the regional meeting for mentoring the next generation of clinical and translational scientists. From February 18th through 20th, the Southern Regional Meeting (jointly hosted by SSCI, SAFMR, SSPR, APA, and the ASN) attracted a record for recent times of 720 attendees (~450 trainees/students) and 577 abstracts from over 60 institutions in 26 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Many thanks go to everyone who worked to make this year's meeting a success. The Program Planning Committee was chaired by Dr. MA "Tonette" Krousel-Wood, the 2015 President of the SSCI. In keeping with our mission, SSCI presented 3 SSCI Young Investigator Awards, 6 SSCI Nephrology Young Investigator Forum Awards, and 8 SSCI Cardiovascular Case Report Scholar Awards. In collaboration with the Southern Section of the AFMR, 15 Junior Faculty, 32 Trainee, and 35 Student Travel Awards were presented. The combined investment in these awards totaled approximately \$76,000, with approximately \$52,000 of that amount paid by SSCI. There was a sustained focus on mentoring during the poster presentations, and 3 posters received SSCI Poster Awards. The critical importance of supporting the next generation of medical investigators was evident during the Chairs' breakfast when Chairs from across the region introduced promising trainees that represent the future of our profession. In the upcoming year, SSCI will continue to capitalize on the talents of its members to expand on mentoring in support of the next generation of clinical and scientific leaders.

One of the major highlights of our meeting is the presentation of the Founders' Medal Award, which was created in honor of Dr. Tinsley Harrison. This year's Founder's Medal Award was presented to Dr. Robert T. Means, Jr. from East Tennessee State University. Bob's dedication and contributions to SSCI have been unwavering for many years, and the recognition is richly deserved. We count on current and future members to continue this level of dedication to further the mission of SSCI.

The Tinsley Harrison Award recognizes the best original manuscript published in *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences*

in 2015. This year's award was presented to Dr. Kayoko Miyata from Tulane University for her work entitled "*Renoprotective Effects of Direct Renin Inhibition in Glomerulonephritis*".

To recognize the importance and contributions of mentors, the *Mentor of the Year Awards* were presented this year. Outstanding mentors were recognized in 2 categories: Postgraduate mentoring – Dr. Suzanne Oparil from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Junior faculty mentoring – Dr. Stephen Geraci from East Tennessee State University.

In recognition of the SSCI's 70th Anniversary, a celebration was held at Mardi Gras World which included a historical overview of the SSCI, a tour through the float den, a lavish dinner buffet and libations, and authentic New Orleans jazz music and storytelling by Dr. Michael White. A special presentation was made to Joan Kemp in recognition of her 25 year anniversary with the SSCI. This event was enjoyed by all who attended.

The combined societies succeeded in bridging adult and pediatric medicine by presenting a Joint Plenary entitled "*From Molecules to Humans: The Impact of the Microbiome on Obesity and Inflammation*". This session explored the mechanisms linking the microbiome to obesity and the relevance to children and adults. The SSCI Presidential Symposium entitled "*From Molecules to Mankind and Beyond*" provided highlights of SSCI accomplishments over the last 70 years and key insights on the impact of translational research in stimulating increased synergy among basic and applied biomedical researchers in pursuit of answers to clinical questions and has forged new collaborations among clinicians and population health investigators to address our most compelling healthcare issues.

If you did not attend SRM 2016, we encourage you to join your colleagues and bring your trainees to SRM 2017, which will be held February 11-13, 2017 at the InterContinental New Orleans.

The second annual [Karl T. Weber](#) Distinguished Lecture in Cardiovascular Medicine was added to the already successful Cardiology sessions at the Southern Regional Meeting.

Its *goal* is in keeping with the SSCI mission: to disseminate incremental knowledge.

Its *objectives*: to have an invited senior clinician scientist, accomplished in their field and an established opinion leader, deliver a state-of-the-art lecture in cardiovascular medicine on during the Cardiovascular Club Session of the annual SSCI meeting.

The lecture was delivered by [Dr. Ivor Benjamin](#), Professor of Medicine and Director of Cardiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. The title of his lecture: "*The Redox Biology Paradigm: New Insights and Perspectives*".



Ivor Benjamin, MD

2015 NEW MEMBERS

Luna Bhatta, MD
SUNY Upstate Medical University

Perry Bickel, MD
University of Texas Southwestern

Rodrigo Cavallazzi, MD
University of Louisville

Kanishka Chakraborty, MD
East Tennessee State University

Rhonda E. Colombo, MD, MHS
Augusta University

Matthew J. Diamond, DO
August University

Andres Duarte-Rojo, MD, MSc, DSc
University of Arkansas for the Medical
Sciences

Srilatha Edupuganti, MD, MPH
Emory University

Joshua P. Fessel, MD, PhD
Vanderbilt University

Augustin A. Garcia, MD
Louisiana State University Health Sciences
Center

Michael E. Hall, MD, MS
University of Mississippi Medical Center

Colleen F. Kelley, MD, MPH
Emory University

Colleen S. Kraft, MD, MSc
Emory University

Richard A. Lange, MD, MBA
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center - El Paso

Marco Marcelli, MD
Baylor College of Medicine

Aneesh Mehta, MD
Emory University

Jeanie Park, MD
Emory University

Nadine Roupheal, MD
Emory University

Ashwani K. Singal, MD, MS
University of Alabama at Birmingham

James Paul Steinberg, MD
Emory University

Uma Sundaram, MD
Marshall University

Camille Vaughan, MD, MS
Emory University

Nicholas Verne, MD
Tulane University

MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 15TH

Information regarding this process can be found on our website: www.ssciweb.org.
The society encourages you to nominate successful and qualified members from your institution or other academic centers. A thriving membership is fundamental to sustain our scholarly objectives.

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 2016 are eligible. Post-doctoral research training may be considered to extend for a period of up to 3 years and time spent in strictly clinical fellowships need not count against this. The applicant must be

the 1st 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 2017 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 7, 2016.**

****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.**

SSCI COMMITTEE UPDATE

Membership Committee

Committee Chair, Jesse Roman
University of Louisville

The membership of the SSCI has remained relatively stable throughout the past few years. The SSCI is proud to house some of the most talented academicians in the region and recognizes that our members represent the core of this organization. It is for this reason that the Membership Committee continues to look for ways to attract candidates for membership. The committee hopes to engage members at each of the Southern academic centers to serve as liaisons for the SSCI and attract new members to the organization. To provide recommendations or to participate in the activities mentioned above, please contact the committee chair at j.roman@louisville.edu. The membership nomination deadline is September 15. Nomination forms and additional information on membership can be found at <http://www.ssciweb.org/membership.php>.

Mentoring Committee

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

The educational activities sponsored by the mentoring committee continue to be very successful and well received by faculty, trainees, and students. These include oral and poster mentored presentations, the poster award competition, and the mentor of the year award program. In addition, this year the committee has proposed the creation of the SSCI research program directed to support the research careers and professional development of young clinician scientists. It is anticipated that this program could be launched early in 2018.

Please forward your comments/suggestions to the committee chair at villarrrd@upstate.edu.

SSCI COMMITTEE UPDATE

Publications Committee

Committee Chair: M. "Tonette" Krousel-Wood
Tulane University

Co-Chair: Michael McPhaul
Quest Diagnostics

It has been a busy and productive year for the publications committee. We are pleased to celebrate the success of *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* (AJMS) increased impact factor (IF 1.575)! Congratulations are in order for our authors, editorial board, the editor-in-chief Dr. Ploth and the team at AJMS. Submission of high quality review articles, original research papers, and symposia issues for publication in AJMS are key to the continued success.

Over the past year, the committee has been preparing for the transition to a new editor-in-chief of the Journal in 2017. The committee encourages all qualified and interested individuals to apply for the position. Details can be found at <http://www.ssciweb.org/ajms-editor-in-chief.php>. Applications are due September 1, 2016.

The Publications Committee actively seeks nominations from the membership to assist with increasing the value and visibility of SSCI publications. Please forward nominations and other comments to Joan Kemp at joankemp@uab.edu. As always, suggestions for expanding and improving publications to enhance our membership engagement are welcome.

Website Committee

Committee Chair: Vin Tangpricha
Emory University

The committee has been working hard over the past year on the SSCI website. We hope that the members like the new design of the website which features more information about the society and its members. We hope to highlight an existing member every month and to showcase our society's activities on the website. Please visit the website frequently for president's notes, information on our annual meeting, educational materials and membership information. Please don't forget to check your member profile that is featured on the website and update your photo and/or research/academic interests.

Finally, please also feel free to contact the chair of the website committee at vin.tangpricha@emory.edu if you have an important society event or activity that you wish to highlight.

Bylaws Committee

Committee Chair: Robert Means, Jr.
Tennessee State University

The Bylaws of the SSCI were last amended when the category of Associate Member was created several years ago, and had not been comprehensively reviewed for many years. At the February 2016 Council meeting, the Bylaws Committee was charged with a full review of the Bylaws with recommendations for revisions. These were presented to the Council at its June retreat, approved, and will be submitted to the membership for approval at the February 2017 meeting. High points of the revision include restructuring of the Standing Committees, more clear definition of the responsibilities of the Publications Committee and of the AJMS Editor, clarification of the expectations for members, and allowing SSCI votes to be held electronically.

Revisions to the bylaws can be found on the SSCI website: www.ssciweb.org

The SSCI would like broaden the participation of the membership in leadership. Members are invited and encouraged to apply to be members of the Standing Committees of the SSCI. The committees primarily meet by conference call, generally 1- 4 times year. If you are interested, please submit a letter of interest and your CV to Joan Kemp.

Committees include: Finance/Audit * Governance * Mentoring * Membership * Publications * SRM Program * Website

Don't sit on the sidelines. Be someone who wants and CAN make a difference in the Society!

SSCI COMMITTEE UPDATE

Fundraising Committee

Committee Chair, Jesse Roman
University of Louisville

While finances of the SSCI are strong, the SSCI is committed to expand its mission in order to enhance academic internal medicine through faculty development, research and education. Resources, however, are needed to extend our footprint in these areas further. Recognizing the potential impact that philanthropy can play in these efforts, the SSCI established a Fundraising Committee to develop a fundraising strategy. After careful evaluation and considering the potential for this endeavor to enhance our programs, the committee established initiatives that would enhance fundraising within and outside of our organization. An analysis of the organization's potential for fundraising was done and a plan developed. Initiatives included the identification of potential donors, the development of documents defining our goals, and the preparation of activities designed to foster this endeavor. The program started in November 2013 and has already shown promise.

To emphasize the importance of this initiative, the SSCI established the **Fund for Academic Medicine (FAMe)** which has now grown a little over **\$600,000** in gifts, pledges, and investment from the SSCI since the beginning of the year thanks to the generous support of many. Our goal is to use these resources to:

- ◆ Sustain support for the travel awards.
- ◆ Maintain the quality of the meeting despite the loss of corporate underwriting.
- ◆ Provide the annual meeting "all year round" by being able to record and distribute presentations, etc.
- ◆ Upgrade our website and its educational offerings.

Below is a list of our generous member supporters thus far this year. Unrestricted gifts today have ranged between annual, cash gifts of \$50 to \$10,000. Gifts restricted to support a particular area of medicine, lectureship, scholarship or travel award have ranged from \$1 to \$25,000 either annually or over a period of up to 5 years.

Each and every one of these gifts is important, makes a difference, and ensures our continued ability and commitment to serve our mission to promote the highest levels of scientific medical inquiry, and to nurture the next generation of clinician scientists. For more information or to make a gift, please contact Joan Kemp at joankemp@uab.edu.

The SSCI is dedicated to keep our mission alive and healthy for 2016 and beyond, but we need your support. So, how can you help?

President Monica Farley, MD, and the Council of the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation (SSCI) gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their leadership gifts and pledges in support of the SSCI Fund for Academic Medicine. The Fund supports travel and other awards in concert with the Society's mission to mentor future generations of medical investigators and to promote careers in academic medicine.

Frank Anania, MD	Elvira Gosmanov, MD	Greg Martin, MD	Jesse Roman, MD
J. Claude Bennett, MD	David Green, MD	Richard McCallum, MD	Nadine Rouphael, MD
Rajesh Bhagat, MD	David Guidot, MD	Michael McPhaul, MD, PhD	Charles V. Sanders, MD
Michael Bronze, MD	Clifford J. Guntel, MD	Robert T. Means, Jr., MD	David Schulman, MD
Brad Burlew, MD	Michael Hagensee, MD	Donald Miller, MD, PhD	Solomon Solomon, MD
Rhonda Colombo, MD	Michael Hart, MD, PhD	Paul Muntner, PhD	Paul Southern, MD
Sushma Cribbs, MD	Octavian & Adriana	N. Stan Nahman, MD	Gerald Staton, MD
Patrice Delafontaine, MD	Ioachimescu, MD	Jim Oates, MD	David S. Stephens, MD
Richard deShazo, MD	Diane Kamen, MD	John Oates, MD	Viranuj Sueblinvong, MD
Molly Eaton, MD	Peter Kohler, MD	Suzanne Oparil, MD	Vin Tangpricha, MD, PhD
Marian Evatt, MD	Marie Krousel-Wood, MD	Genaro M.A. Palmieri, MD	Michael Ullian, MD
Michael B. Fallon, MD	Mack Land, MD	Rafael Perez, MD	Daniel Villarreal, MD
Xian Fan, MD	C. Seth Landefeld, MD	David Ploth, MD Sumanth	Karl Weber, MD
Monica Farley, MD	Ken Leeper, MD	D. Prabhu, MD	Donald Wesson, MD
Stephen Geraci, MD	Carrie Lenneman, MD	Jules Puschett, MD	C. Mel Wilcox, MD
Gary Gilkeson, MD	Charles Mansbach, MD	William Ratnoff, MD	Cherry Wongtrakool, MD
Lynn Goebel, MD	Gailen Marshall, MD, PhD	Don Rockey, MD	

SSCI Announces Agreement with Tulane Center for Continuing Education for Administrative Services



Tulane CCE Staff: (left to right) Caroline Lind, Anita Jobson, Melinda Epperson, Pamala Schmidt and Roblynn Sliwinski.

The SSCI is pleased to announce that an agreement for administrative services has been reached with the Tulane Center for Continuing Education (CCE). Joan Kemp, long time Executive Director of the SSCI, asked the Council to start thinking about a transition plan as she would like to scale down her activities over the next few years. Since the SSCI has had a 20+ year relationship with Tulane CCE, this was felt to be the best arrangement for the organization at this time. Ms. Pamala Schmidt, Tulane CCE's Assistant Director, will serve as the Administrative Director of the SSCI and will work closely with Joan Kemp over the next few years to make the transition seamless. Pamala and the Tulane CCE will take care of the day-to-day activities of the organization and Joan will continue to serve in the role of Executive Director.

The SSCI would like to thank Drs. Lee Hamm, Kevin Krane, and Melinda Epperson for their cooperation in finalizing these arrangements.

THE 2017 SOUTHERN REGIONAL MEETING

The 71st Annual Meeting will be held February 11-13, 2017 at the InterContinental New Orleans.

Please make plans to attend as we have some special events planned for this meeting. Partners of this joint meeting include the Southern Section of the American Federation for Medical Research, Southern Society for Pediatric Research, Academic Pediatric Association, Southern Society for General Internal Medicine and the American Society of Nutrition.

The joint meeting will begin with subspecialty sessions and workshops, our traditional mentored poster session Saturday afternoon followed by the Saturday evening dinner symposium.

Registration opens September 1, 2016.
Register at [SRM 2017 Registration link](#).

Hotel Reservations: For those who wish to make their reservations early, the hotel reservation form is also included in the Call for Abstracts.

NOTE: To obtain the special room rate, be sure to use the reservation forms provided by the SSCI. When making your reservation by telephone, you must mention the Southern Regional Meeting, or you will not receive the special room rate provided to members by the hotel. *Therefore, please indicate that you are attending the Southern Regional Meetings when making reservations.*

The deadline for hotel reservations at our convention rate and the hold on the room block is January 9, 2017. Register at [InterContinental New Orleans](#).

SRM Meeting & workshop registration: www.cme.tulane.edu.

**2017 SSCI Presidential Symposium
&
2017 Joint Plenary Symposium**

The 2017 SSCI Presidential Symposium and the Joint Plenary Symposium's theme this year will be "Harnessing the Immune Response". The SRM 2017 Program Committee is planning a very scientifically stimulating program with outstanding speakers. Speakers and topics will be announced in the near future.

**16th Annual SSCI Nephrology Young
Investigators' Forum**

Friday, February 10, 2017

Abstract deadline - October 7, 2016.

Call for abstracts and additional information can be found at www.ssciweb.org.

This forum is sponsored by an educational grant from AstraZeneca.

Meet the Experts for Breakfast

Sunday, February 12, 2017
7:00 - 8:00 am

At SRM 2016, a "Meet the Experts Breakfast" meeting was implemented for trainees and junior faculty, and was a tremendous success.

This session will again be held and will feature three experts who will discuss "Choosing the Next Step in Your Career", "Doing Research in the Modern Age", and "How to Advance as a Clinical Educator".

Additional details regarding the "experts" will be provided in the meeting announcements. Please encourage your trainees and junior faculty to register and attend. There is no charge to attend this session.

We welcome SSGIM back to the SRM 2017!!!

In order to better serve their membership across a broad region, the Southern Society for General Internal Medicine (SSGIM) decided to meet in another location on an every other year basis. The SSCI and the sister societies of the SRM welcomes SSGIM back for SRM 2017.



Congratulations to
David M. Guidot, MD
the SSCI's 2017
Founders' Medal Award recipient!

2017 SRM Workshops

Saturday, February 11th

12 - 4 pm Manuscript Preparation and Peer-Reviewed Publication. This workshop will address multiple aspects of publication in scientific journals. Course presenter is Dr. Thomas Welch from *The Journal of Pediatrics*.

2:15 - 4 pm "Moving Your Clinical Case Presentation into a Published Manuscript" In this workshop, aspects related to developing a clinical case presentation into a manuscript awaiting submission and choosing the optimal journal for submission will be discussed. The audience will view and discuss how 2 abstracts selected from the 2016 SRM meeting moved from a presentation to a manuscript.

Sunday, February 12th

1 - 5 pm Career Development for Clinician Educators. Topics covered will include: Making Career Decisions and Career Development Planning; Scholarship for Promotion and Tenure, Choosing Projects for Career Advancement; Performing Educational Research; and CVs and Documentation. This workshop will be a combination of didactic presentations and break-out audience participation. More details about this workshop and its speakers can be found on the next page.

The Cardiovascular Club invites you to the following session:

The Third Annual Karl T. Weber Distinguished Lecture in Cardiovascular Medicine, will be held Saturday, February 11th at 11:00 a.m. Guest speaker is Dr. Patrice Delafontaine, MD, Professor of Medicine and Dean, University of Missouri School of Medicine.



Patrice Delafontaine, MD

Have you recently changed institutions? Perhaps your email address or phone number has changed or you've been promoted. If so, please take a quick moment to update your profile online at www.ssciweb.org.

This will help us keep you up-to-date on Society news.

While you're there, why not sign up to be a mentor, update the Classification, Research and Educational Interests fields and upload a recent photo!

Career Development Course

In 2013, SSCI leadership committed to increasing the value of membership and its annual regional meeting to its Educator Membership. A new course on Career Development was added to the Southern Regional meetings in 2015, and will be repeated with some modifications in 2017 to focus exclusively on Strategic Issues.

This 4-hour workshop will be held on Sunday February 12, 2017 from 1-5 pm. We will present information, guidance, suggestions and resources to maximize professional success for the early-to-mid career clinician educator, highlighting important issues. Topics will be presented as didactic sessions plus break-out groups using case scenarios to reinforce the processes advised. It will include a broad-based faculty from 5 medical schools. The panel will take questions on specific issues related to career advancement at the end of the workshop.

Speakers for 2017 include:

Stephen A. Geraci, MD (Course Director)

Professor, Department of Internal Medicine
Quillen College of Medicine/East Tennessee State University
Topics: Making Career Decisions/Career Development Planning

Robert M. Centor, MD

Professor, Division of General Internal Medicine
Associate Dean, UAB Huntsville Regional Medical Campus
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Topic: Teaching Clinical Reasoning

Lee Berkowitz, MD

Professor and Associate Chair for Education, Department of Internal Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Topic: Scholarship for Promotion and Tenure

S. Calvin Thigpen, MD

Assistant Professor and Associate Residency Director
Department of Internal Medicine
University of Mississippi Medical Center
Topic: Choosing Projects for Career Advancement

Alix G. Darden, PhD

Research Professor, Department of Pediatrics
Director of Faculty Development
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Topics: CVs and Documentation; Performing Educational Research

SSCI Visiting Professor Program (VPP): The SSCI continues to have an unwavering devotion to its tripartite mission: the advancement of overall knowledge and sharing of incremental knowledge, information and ideas; a commitment to the mentoring of future generations of medical investigators; and fulfillment of its vision.

The VPP's purpose: to sponsor senior members of the Society who would volunteer their time and share their knowledge through a visitation to an academic medical center. The visit is sanctioned by the SSCI through the formal approval of a submitted application by the hosting center. The application would include the agenda and specific objectives of the visit. A Visiting Professor Program Committee of the SSCI Council would make the determination of applicant selection.

Five visiting professor programs were approved by Council for 2016 and include (1) [Dr. Suzanne Oparil](#), Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, to speak at the Medical University of South Carolina; (2) [Dr. David Veseley](#), Professor of Medicine at the University of South Florida, to speak at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center - Lubbock; (3) [Dr. Tonette Krousel-Wood](#), Professor of Epidemiology at Tulane University, to speak at the University of Mississippi Medical Center; (4) [Dr. Michael Bronze](#), Professor of Medicine at University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, to speak at Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University; and (5) [Dr. Mark Segal](#), Professor of Medicine at University of Florida, to speak at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The 2016 application deadline is December 15th. We greatly encourage you to utilize the valuable resources available to your students/trainees/fellows within the SSCI. For more details about this program and how your institution can enhance its training opportunities, please visit www.ssciweb.org.

SSCI MENTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mentoring is a fundamental determinant of success in the biomedical sciences and is a major mission of the SSCI. These awards recognize outstanding mentors who are members of our organization and who have demonstrated a longstanding commitment to mentoring students, trainees, and/or junior faculty. Moreover, through their positive impact on the mentee's careers, they have advanced medical education and research for the benefit of the community at large.

Awards Criteria

Mentor award nominations will be evaluated based on the positive educational and/or research experiences of the mentors' trainees, including the impact of mentorship on their subsequent professional and personal success. Key roles of a mentor include:

- ⇒ A wise and trusted advisor
- ⇒ Intellectual growth and development
- ⇒ Career and professional guidance
- ⇒ Positive role modeling

Award Categories

- ◆ Student Mentor (includes medical and graduate students)
- ◆ Postgraduate Mentor (includes residents, fellows and other postdoctoral trainees)
- ◆ Junior Faculty Mentor

Eligibility Criteria

Nominees must be SSCI members in good standing.

Nominees may include physicians, scientists, and educators in the various clinical disciplines of the biomedical sciences.

Nominees should have a sustained outstanding record of mentoring over time.

Nominators must be a previous or current mentee(s) of the mentor or be a colleague of the nominee with personal knowledge of the nominee's mentoring qualities and excellence.

There must be a primary and secondary nominator providing written nominations and documentations.

Ineligibility Criteria

- Previous recipients of the SSCI's Mentor of the Year Award are not eligible.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Self nominations will not be accepted.

Nomination Packages

The nomination packages must include:

- a. Primary and secondary nomination letters including nominators' relationship to nominee
- b. Nominee's curriculum vitae
- c. List of former and present mentees with current status/location

Nominating letters should summarize the nominee's impact on mentoring with clear examples of the positive outcomes on students, trainees, and/or junior faculty. If the nominator(s) is a mentee, a narrative of how the mentor influenced his/her career (s) and those of others should be included.

Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the SSCI Mentoring Committee based on the award criteria outlined above.

Nominations should be submitted to Joan Kemp at joankemp@uab.edu no later than **October 31, 2016**.

Notification and Award Presentation

Award recipients will be notified by mid-December. The award presentation ceremony will be held during the SSCI/ SRM meeting February 11-13, 2017.

Congratulations to our 2016 Mentor of the Year awardees:

Junior faculty mentoring - Stephen A. Geraci, MD at East Tennessee State University (right).

Postgraduate mentoring - Suzanne Oparil, MD at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (left).



The AJMS is proud to be the Official Journal of the SSCI

Multimedia is not just a thing of the future. The AJMS' website is a state-of-the-art electronic forum that has become the definitive, expanded and multi-function version of the Journal for SSCI members and individual users.

Such innovations include:

- ◆ Collections: authors will have the ability to create their own.
- ◆ Press and news
- ◆ Multimedia (streaming audio & video can be hosted within articles)!
- ◆ Mobile-optimized websites allowing easy reading of the Journal on multiple mobile devices
- ◆ Clinical Search Optimization: filters and offering "Also Read" articles
- ◆ Author, Editor and Reviewer Feedback Programs
- ◆ Improved navigation and exciting new look
- ◆ Social Media Integration: available at the article level, allowing members and readers to share journal content on Facebook and Twitter pages.

Our partnership with Elsevier, the largest medical publisher, allows our members and authors maximum exposure to their other journals (Lancet, Mayo Proceedings, American Journal of Medicine).

www.editorialmanager.com/maj

Journal news from David W. Ploth, MD, Editor-in-Chief

As *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* moved late last year to systems consistent with our new publisher, Elsevier, we adopted a new manuscript management platform called EVISE. Unfortunately, EVISE did not work well in our system, which forced us to move back to using Editorial Manager as our manuscript management platform in early in 2016. Once again, material is moving through our system smoothly. As we hope you have noticed, the Journal has also undergone a major facelift with a number of changes in our print format. We hope the readership is pleased. In addition to a larger font and new formatting we now have increased the color content of every page in order to be more contemporary and attractive than our old format.

We are pleased to report that the most recent data indicate that our Impact Factor has improved to a new higher level of 1.575. We are pleased with our progress to improve one of our challenging, long term goals.

The AJMS continues to seek high quality research papers, topical reviews and symposia for publication in the Journal. The Journal acknowledges the high quality of science available within the SSCI community and respectfully requests members to support our efforts to continue to improve the value of our Journal.

Impact
Factor:
1.575

The journal
is now full
color

The AJMS will be hosted on Elsevier's online platforms: **ScienceDirect** for academic, corporate and government institutions; on **HealthAdvance** for members and individual subscribers and **ClinicalKey** for clinicians in the hospital setting.



In March 2016, the Journal welcomed Ms. Sarah McCann, replacing Ms. Kathleen Kelly, as Managing Editor. Sarah has a Business degree from Northwood University and has a background in auditing and post-secondary healthcare education.