

President's Message -- Natasha Kyprianou



Natasha Kyprianou, M.D., Ph.D.
SBUR President 2004-05

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your President. What an incredibly fantastic year it has been for the Society as we grow and expand into a stronger, internationally recognized organization that continues to attract the best and the brightest in urology. And what a wonderful and rewarding journey it has been for me personally. I have had the pleasure of working with a dedicated team of senior investigators and junior researchers within the SBUR and the AUA, establishing valuable interactions with the NIH leadership, and attending spirited meetings from the Satellite Symposium-style meeting during the ESUR Congress in Athens, Greece, to our own Annual Fall 2004 Meeting in Savannah, Georgia, last December. It's through the conduct of its Fall meeting and the special satellite symposia/conferences that the SBUR provides new opportunities and unique venues for fostering collaborations beyond borders,

attracting distinguished scientists into urology research, and rewarding talented young investigators while establishing a high-profile, respect-commanding status at an international level.

Just two years short of its 20th birthday, the Society still might be regarded as young, but as it grows, maturing into a seasoned, solid organization, it is crucial to the integrity of its identity to maintain the history of its evolution. Communication between the generations of members and maintaining fluid corporate memory have been a high priority during my Presidency and should continue to be so to the future leadership of the Society. Dr. Paul Walden has been appointed as the first Historian of the SBUR and his role will be to establish the Archives of the Society for future generations of urologic researchers to make the connection. The SBUR website (www.sbur.org) also has experienced a "face-lift" enabling links to multiple conferences, job opportunities and award-winning mechanisms. Additional changes are in progress for the SBUR website that will provide a historic prospective and recognition of the past-leadership of the SBUR, easily accessible to all who seek to find out more about this "fortress" of urology research. As part of a new financial strategic initiative, an investment portfolio has been established to provide income and stability to the SBUR assets and so far its performance has been strikingly favorable!

In recognition of the compelling need to disseminate accurate information rapidly to the public as well as to inform those willing and responsible for funding urology research, in both the public and private sectors, we have established two new committees led by past-Presidents. The Public Affairs and Advocacy Committee and the Endowment and Growth Committee will focus precisely on the above goals, in order to secure visibility and economic stability for the SBUR.

From our solid commitment to bring a dynamic fresh forum to many young investigators who so passionately choose urology research as their academic discipline and yet so quickly are met by obstacles in establishing a firm career as independent investigators, another new Committee was

formulated. The Academic Growth and Mentorship Committee chaired by the founder of the Society, Dr. Tim Ratliff, will be used as an effective platform for increased efforts in training a new generation of multidisciplinary urology researchers in grant writing, and encouraging academic networking activities, building and trafficking molecular tools and setting up key collaborations.

While realizing there are unprecedented opportunities to translate new knowledge into meaningful prevention, diagnostic and therapeutic advances, there are also obstacles to such translation, including the changing regulatory requirements, increased financial pressures on academic institutions and persisting gaps in culture between basic scientists and clinicians. With all the CSR re-organizations and changes in the NIH funding policy, I strongly encourage all the SBUR members, senior as well as junior investigators, basic scientists and clinician scientists alike, to serve as consultants/reviewers for study sections at the NIDDK and NCI (and other Institutes), with the same zest they submit their own grant applications for peer-review. It is vital to our existence as scientists and to the livelihood of the SBUR. Further, it is our highest academic task as researchers in recognizing the 'dark-periods' the research funding is facing ahead, not to shrink from the responsibility of offering our expertise and time in the peer-review process, but to embrace the challenge and welcome the opportunity to share our knowledge across every urology specialty (cancer research, interstitial cystitis, incontinence, sexual dysfunction, benign disease, pediatric urology), at a level of competitive recognition.

I am grateful to the leadership of NIDDK at the NIH for their continued, solid support of the SBUR and our meetings. Dr. Christopher Mullins, the Director of Basic Cell Biology Programs in the Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases at the NIDDK has been a tremendous advocate of the Society's mission in Urology Research. The Society salutes him for his dynamic role in strengthening the relationship between the NIDDK and the SBUR.

The membership has elected a superb individual to lead the SBUR, who embodies the best the Society has to offer, Dr. Shuk-Mei Ho, Professor of Urology and Cell Biology and Director of Urology Research at the University of Massachusetts. As the torch is passed on to Dr. Ho, it is my strong belief that the SBUR will expand its critical role in bringing together experts to compare best experimental approaches as well best clinical practices, identify new talent, share limited resources in order for the Society of Basic Urologic Research to facilitate the effective translation of basic knowledge into clinical outcomes in urology. I promise you that I will continue to work closely and tirelessly with the President-elect and the new Vice President to reach these goals.

I would like to welcome all the new members of the SBUR and thank all the members for making the Society an appealing intellectual nucleus to many, and for being super-charged advocates for urologic research. Our membership has expanded by 25% this past year and we are growing stronger. Special recognition is due to all the EC members for their tremendous and enthusiastic efforts to make this a memorable year for our Society, supporting me every step of the way. I would like to acknowledge the upcoming President Dr. Shuk-Mei Ho, our immediate Past-President Dr. Diane Felsen, the Secretary Dr. Robert Sikes, the Treasurer Dr. Zhou Wang, and the Board members, Drs. Daniel Djakiew, Barbara Foster, Paul Walden, Tim Ratliff and

Zoran Culig for their dedication, skillful work and friendship. Finally, I would like to thank Sue O'Sullivan, Julie Davis, and Ann Marie DuPlessis (WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc.), for their professional commitment to excellence in managing the affairs of the SBUR.

I very much look forward to our spring meeting in San Antonio next May. With such a captivating theme as "Proteomics in Urology," and an outstanding list of speakers, this promises to bring "hot" messages of the application of this new, powerful, and cutting-edge technology to urology research at the AUA. I hope to see many of our members in San Antonio, remembering the Alamo, and strengthening the SBUR presence at the AUA. The Fall SBUR/SUR joint 2005 Meeting will take place in Miami next December. The Conference Chair Dr. Karl Chai and the organizing committee have put together a very attractive program entitled "Membrane Biology in Basic Urologic Research: Molecular Landscaping in Normal Physiology and Pathophysiology". I encourage all of our members, as well as our European colleagues in the ESUR, to plan to attend a state-of-the art scientific program integrating several prominent international speakers, in the culturally scintillating Miami Beach setting. There is more detailed information about this exciting SBUR/ESUR Joint 2005 conference provided in this newsletter, so please keep reading!

Thank you for your loyalty and the continued support of the SBUR. I wish you consistent growth in your career paths, successful funding of brilliant science, and productive research with groundbreaking results that will shape the future of urology.

–Natasha Kyprianou

Treasurer's Report -- Zhou Wang

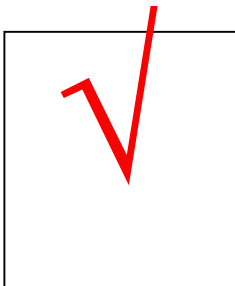
The overall financial situation of the SBUR is good. However, the financial situation of the SBUR requires member support. One way for our members to ensure the continued success of the SBUR is to simply pay your dues in a timely manner. This is because the SBUR depends on the payment of your membership dues and income generated from successful SBUR meetings to thrive. Therefore, I would like to thank our members for paying their dues and invite you all to participate in our societies' events. The SBUR Executive Committee is working closely with WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc., the company that manages SBUR business, to develop guidelines to ensure that fundraising activity is an integral part of our meeting organization strategy. Our membership committee, headed by Dr. Susan Kasper and the SBUR Executive Committee are doing a great job in recruiting new members to the Society. Kudos to all of our members that recruited qualified candidates to submit their applications! To enhance the financial stability of the Society, the Executive Committee recently voted to increase the annual membership dues to \$75, which is still very low. There is no change for the student membership rate, which is \$25 annually. Our goal is to raise enough funds for the Society to accomplish our mission effectively and be able to weather any unforeseen storms that may arise in the future. In keeping with this goal, the SBUR Executive Committee decided recently to move a significant portion of SBUR long-term funds and a portion of the Donald S. Coffey lectureship account into an investment portfolio managed by MEDIQUS Asset Advisors, Inc. The objective is to provide favorable income return and stability to SBUR assets. I am pleased to inform you that the investment has

outperformed our former management strategy by a significant margin. We will keep you informed on this development and hope it will benefit the Society long into the future.

Membership Drive/Retention Efforts -- Susan Kasper

I wish to personally thank everyone for working so hard to increase the visibility and membership of the Society. Due to your efforts we have received dozens of new applications for membership to the SBUR. At the Board of Directors meeting in Savannah, 61 new members were unanimously approved! These were new members who joined since the Spring 2004 meeting. The Membership Committee is actively seeking ways to increase our membership by contacting researchers funded to do Urologic research and by highlighting the benefits of becoming SBUR members. That notwithstanding, we recognize that our best advocates for recruiting new members are you, our current, active members. Our immediate opportunity to recruit new members starts in the environment in which we work with our lab personnel, residents and fellow faculty members. Furthermore, whether at study section, at a non-SBUR event, or giving an invited lectureship, please keep the SBUR in your thoughts and give us a plug! Each new member will allow us to be an even more dynamic Society, advocating for urologic research, increasing interdisciplinary collaborations and presenting great scientific programs at our annual meetings.

Get out the Vote! SBUR Elections.



Oh, yeah! Time to do your duty and choose your candidates for SBUR officers. This year we have to select members-at-large and the Vice President. You can find the list of candidates at <http://sbur.org/elections/slate05.asp> and cast your vote online at <http://sbur.org/elections/ballot05.asp>. If the e-vote is just not your thing, don't worry! We will put a hard copy in your mailbox. These elections are vital to the continued function of the society and maintaining continuity on the Board of Directors. Thanks.

"Don't know much about history..."--Sam Cooke

This 1960 classic "Wonderful World" has the unintended consequence of reminding us that if left to our own memory history is revised, rewritten, or worse yet, forgotten! Dr. Paul Walden has graciously taken on the task of archiving and organizing the "bits" (read BOXES) of stuff from storage that have made the SBUR what it is today. Basically, he is now the historian of record! Paul is currently attempting a complete chronology of SBUR officers...you go, Paul. If you have something of interest to the history of the SBUR you should contact Sue O'Sullivan (Sueo@wjweiser.com) or Paul Walden (paul.walden@nyu.edu) to see if you can plug in some missing pieces.....Thanks.

Members in Motion: Meeting Reviews

Athens: ESUR/SBUR

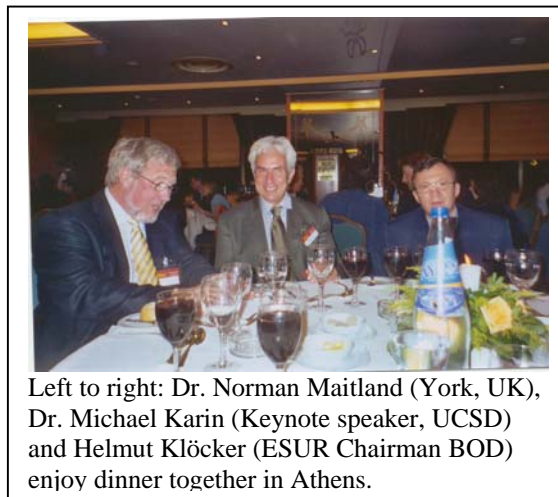
The SBUR Goes to Greece!—Michael Freeman

The European Society for Urological Research (ESUR), the sister society to the SBUR, hosted a wonderful conference this past November at the Divani Caravel Hotel in Athens, Greece. For the first time in its history, the ESUR organizers included an SBUR Satellite Symposium, which was held during one of the plenary sessions. Natasha Kyprianou, SBUR President and member of the ESUR, coordinated the organization of the SBUR portion of the program with the organizing committee.

Notably, Dr. Kyprianou arranged for Michael Karin (Univ. California, San Diego), one of the world's leading molecular biologists, to give the keynote talk. Dr. Karin spoke on his lab's seminal work on the Inhibitor of the NF-kappaB kinase (IKK) complex in cancer development and therapy. The two SBUR sessions also included talks by several invited SBUR members. Shuk-mei Ho (Vice President) presented a talk on estrogen receptor-beta and metastatic prostate cancer. J.T. Hsieh (University of Texas Southwestern) spoke about the DOC-2 protein and its role in the regulation of growth factor- and androgen signaling pathways. John Isaacs (Past President) spoke on Akt and MAP kinase regulation of prostate epithelial cell survival. Christopher Logothetis (University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center) spoke on novel medical strategies for the treatment of hormone-resistant cancers. Michael Freeman (Past President) spoke on lipid rafts and cholesterol-responsive mechanisms of signal transduction in prostate cancer. Zoran Culig (Secretary General of the SBUR and liaison to the ESUR), spoke on interleukin-6 regulation of cell cycle, apoptosis and androgen receptor activity in prostate cancer.

Sessions from the ESUR community included innovative strategies in BPH therapy, signaling cascades and translational research, erectile dysfunction, biomarkers in prostate and bladder cancer, and recent advances in female urology. Dr. Kyprianou was an invited speaker in the ESUR component of the program and gave an exciting lecture on new molecular targets for the management of BPH. The SBUR President was also elected as an Honorary Member of the Board of Directors of the ESUR.

The SBUR participants enjoyed the hospitality and comradeship of their European colleagues and were thrilled to be in Athens during the 2004 "Olympic Year", when the Olympic Games returned to Greece, the ancient place of their origin. Although the games had already concluded by the time of the meeting, the city was still alive with commemorative displays and Olympic fervor. This highly successful joint effort between the ESUR and the SBUR should continue the trend of a deepening relationship between the two



Left to right: Dr. Norman Maitland (York, UK), Dr. Michael Karin (Keynote speaker, UCSD) and Helmut Klöcker (ESUR Chairman BOD) enjoy dinner together in Athens.



Dr. Freeman takes in some of the local scenery in Athens...Must be hard to have the Parthenon in your backyard!
-Photo by Dr. JT Hsieh

societies, which in the past have hosted several joint meetings in Europe and North America.

The unknown is ever imagined.

--Greek proverb

Savannah: Fall SBUR Meeting—Vijay Kumar

In case you missed this, check out the Gallery of photos on the SBUR homepage! Karl Chai was our roving eye for candid shots and staged ones too! Thanks, Karl for flashing all of us....

This meeting was an outstanding success! Special thanks to the organizing committee headed by Vijay Kumar, all the speakers, attendees and our generous corporate sponsors that included: Boehringer Ingelheim, Eli Lilly & Company, Merck & Company, Novartis Pharmaceuticals and Pfizer, Inc. Our Fall Conference also received support from the NIDDK and the AUA. You have our gratitude for your generous ongoing support!

Keynote address delivered by Dr. Harold Moses:



The tone for this year's fall meeting was established at the get-go! Hal Moses' talk entitled, "Stromal and epithelial TGF β signaling in carcinoma initiation and progression" gave an early indicator of the quality of work and molecular tools used in modern cancer biology that would characterize the entire meeting!

2nd Annual AUA Lecture given by Leland W.K. Chung, Ph.D.

The ties between the SBUR to the AUA continue to strengthen. The AUA Lecture is an ongoing award sponsored by the AUA to recognize outstanding scientists whose research has remarkable translational application. This year's recipient lives up to that mantra. Dr. Chung gave a dynamic, thought provoking lecture on the osteomimicry of prostate cancer cells. I got the impression that even he was surprised where this research has led his group!



Arthur Pardee, Ph.D. Concludes Fall Meeting



Dr. Arthur Pardee-Harvard Med. School concluded with a summary of chemotherapy and detection.

Dr. Pardee held our attention to the end with a sentimental tribute to the past research done by himself and his late wife. Joined to this was a look at the present and future of chemotherapeutics, delivery and cancer detection.

In between-Something for everyone....

We had signaling in bladder and prostate. We had steroids, steroid receptors, steroid coactivators and growth factors. We had crystallins and chaperones, transgenics and tissue recombination. We had development and cancer. We had novel phyto-therapeutics and small molecule drug discovery, Whew! Great Stuff. I believe there were so many truly outstanding talks that you should all go to the SBUR website (<http://www.SBUR.org/>) and look at the program one more time. They were so good, I would have to mention them one at a time to do them any justice at all....Sorry, guys there's just not enough space for my notes!

Social events and networking opportunities.



Robert Sikes (SBUR Secretary) and Karen Knudsen (Guest Speaker) enjoying the Presidential Reception after the opening session on Thursday evening. Social and scientific exchanges were due course for the evening.

In addition to the serious research that was presented and discussed, the entire meeting was conducted in a very friendly, amicable atmosphere. Social interactions were promoted starting with breakfast and were extended to lunch and coffee breaks. Hanging out at these breaks were several department chairman and distinguished guests. Special thanks to Dr. Christopher Mullins (NIDDK) for attending our meeting and being so freely available to answer questions from all comers!

Friday night marked the 1st Annual Presidential Reception hosted by our very own President, Natasha Kyprianou in her 7th floor suite overlooking the Savannah river all lit up for the evening! There was a wonderful mix of young and seasoned investigators,

NIH representatives and many of the invited speakers. This was capped by an excellent dinner on December 11th, 2005. The venue of the gala event was the historic Gingerbread House, which was built in 1899. The Gingerbread House has been visited by many celebrities; such as, President Woodrow Wilson's wife, President Eisenhower and President Roosevelt. The Victorian house provided excellent ambience for the get-together and sumptuous food.

Finally, the location and weather were tailor-made for our meeting. An extremely pleasant warm weather welcomed the attendees to Savannah. The hotel is situated on the banks of the Savannah River, providing an excellent view of the harbor. The schedule allowed a free afternoon for site-seeing, conducted tours or walking in the beautiful historic district of Savannah. All attendees spoke highly of the scientific program and have not stopped congratulating the organizing committee and the SBUR leadership for such an informative and enjoyable meeting.



Zhou Wang (SBUR Treasurer) and Ed Gelmann (Speaker, Georgetown U) strike pose for Natasha at the Presidential Reception!

Posters and Travel Award Recipients—Savannah Meeting

http://www.sbur.org/resources/travel_award_young_investigator.asp

Post-doctoral fellows and students were provided excellent opportunity to present their research in two poster sessions on December 10th and 11th. Nearly 120 high caliber posters were presented in a very informal setting. During the poster sessions, the attendees were able to interact with each other over snacks and drinks. Many poster presenters were noticed having earnest discussions with senior investigators, which certainly have resulted in several collaborations.

Twenty travel awards were given for the 2004 Fall meeting who presented their meritorious research in Savannah. They were awarded to:

1. **Myers-Irvin, Julie**- University of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh
Utilization of the novel marker, BLCA-1, for the detection of bladder cancer.
2. **Farokhzad, Omid**- Brigham and Women's Hospital-
Nanoparticle-aptamer bioconjugates: a new approach for targeting prostate cancer cells.
3. **Ishii, Kenichiro-Mie**- University School of Medicine, Tsu Mie, Japan- Tissue recombination to characterize phenotypes of transgenic mouse models of prostate carcinoma.
4. **Iczkowski, Kenneth**- VA Medical Center, FL
Paracrine calcitonin production and Gs alpha activity are linked to CD44 variant expression and invasion in prostate cancer.
5. **Odero-Marah, Valerie**- Emory University-
Induction of epithelial-mesenchymal transition in bone stromal microenvironment contributes to enhanced bone metastatic potential of human prostate cancer cells.



Participants in the travel awards podium session. Four outstanding abstracts were chosen to present as a podium talk. Left to right: Ronald Lewis (Urology Chief, Medical College of Georgia), Diane Felsen (Immediate Past-President of SBUR) presided over the travel awards presentations given by, Omid Farokhzad, Yuzhuo Wang, Chih-Chi Hu, & Kenichiro Ishii.

6. **Mirosevich, Janni**- Moffitt Cancer Ctr. & Research Institute
The role of FOXA transcription factor proteins in prostate cancer progression.
7. **Quayle, Steven**- British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver, BC Canada
Differential expression of novel expressed sequences in prostate cancer.
8. **Gray, Danny**- UNC, Chapel Hill-
Androgen receptor expressing human prostate endothelial cells can be directly affected by castration and participate synergistically during vascular rebound.
9. **Robinson, Victoria**- University of Chicago
Post-transcriptional regulation of MKK4- a stress signaling kinase implicated in the regulation of metastatic growth.
10. **Hofer, Matthias**- Brigham and Women's Hospital
Characterization of novel prostate cancer cell lines representing early prostate cancer development and discovery of genes potentially responsible for prostate cancer progression.
11. **Chigurupati, Srinivasulu**- University of Louisiana, Monroe
Calcitonin-induced induces reorganization of actin cytoskeleton in prostate cancer cells: Evidence for the involvement of protein kinase A and Rho kinases.
12. **Stien, Xavier**- Vanderbilt University
IGF signaling in human prostate cancer, a role in cell invasion and differentiation.
13. **Anderson, Cynthia**- Emory University
Radiation induction of ADAM9 expression promoted prostate cancer cell survival: possible mechanism and potential therapeutic application.
14. **Hu, Chih-Chi**- NY University School of Medicine
Formation of Urothelial plaques: assembly mechanism of uroplakins.
15. **Sung, Shian-Ying**- Emory University
Prostate tumor- but not benign-associated stromal cells induced the growth of human prostate cancer in a chimeric mouse cell recombination model: Validation of stromal gene profiles in clinical specimens.
16. **Ricke, William**- UCSF
The effects of anti-hormones on malignant transformation and metastases in prostate cancer.
17. **Love, Harold**- Vanderbilt University
Defining the androgen-regulated gene profile in xenografted benign human prostate tissue.
18. **Shirley, Robert**- Medical College of Georgia
The response of LNCaP cell line to 17-allylamino-17-demethoxygeldanamycin (17-AAG) and lactacystin, alone or in combination.
19. **Lakshmi Kanthan, Vijaya**- Medical College of Georgia
HDAC inhibitor, SAHA, sensitizes LNCaP cells to TRAIL.
20. **Wang, Yz**- British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver, BC Canada
Establishment of an orthotopic metastatic prostate cancer model via subrenal capsule xenografting of patient's cancer tissue.

Upcoming Events -- Whoa! Pardner.

San Antonio: Spring 2005 SBUR – Shuk Mei Ho

The Theme of the SBUR Spring 2005 Symposium is **“Discovery of Novel Biomarkers of Urologic Diseases: Proteomic, Genomic and Epigenomic Approaches!”** As we usher in the new millennium, we also entered the “-nomics” era which some prefer to term it the “post-genomics” era. It has become an inevitable necessity to understand the enormous impacts and opportunities afforded by these “-nomics” on the landscape of research, diagnosis and treatment of urologic diseases.



The Alamo. Located in Alamo Park in Proximity to the conference center is this centerpiece of Texas history. Just one of many sites to enjoy in the San Antonio area.

Genomics:

It has been over 44 years since the first time the term “genomic” appeared on the PubMed of the National Library of Medicine. Thanks to the rapid technology development in the last decade, the Human Genome Project was finished in 2003, two years before the planned completion date. With the entire human genome on hand, we can now identify and map all putative genes in the human genome. Harnessed as an experimental tool, global gene profiling technique has revolutionized approaches to decoding gene function and complex biological pathways that governed diseases.

Epigenomics:

The term “epigenetic” first appeared nearly 47 years ago in a Cold Spring Harbor Symposium and it took another seven years before Olenov IuM published an article in Russian and dubbed the word “epigenomics”. Epigenetic mechanisms are mediated by either chemical modifications of the DNA itself or by modifications of proteins that are closely associated with DNA. Epigenetic regulation controls important biological processes such as imprinting, X chromosome inactivation, and transcriptional control of genes. Disruption at this level of regulation contributes significantly to the etiology of many human diseases. In the past decade, “epigenomics” or the study of whole-genome epigenetic changes has gained momentum with the advent of new molecular techniques.

Proteomics:

The term “Proteomics” was only coined within this decade. It started initially with determining the structure, expression, localization, activity and cellular roles of as many proteins as possible. Great progress has been made in this field of research owing to novel instrumentation, experimental strategies, and bioinformatics methods. A more contemporary goal of proteomics research is to obtain a comprehensive, quantitative description of expression of hundreds, if not thousands of proteins/peptides, and changes in their inter-relationship under the influence of biological perturbations such as disease or drug treatment. To this end, the hope of identifying

specific proteomes for diagnosis and prognosis of disease, patient classification and prediction of treatment responses is rising.

Traditional vs. “-nomics” Biomarker Discovery:

The traditional biomarker discovery paradigm is to identify and validate one marker at a time. Now, with the advent of proteomics, genomics and epigenomics, we are able to identify many more potential biomarkers or highly discriminative marker-clusters that may serve as diagnostic, prognostic and therapeutic tools with accelerating speed. The opportunity to rapidly decode the often-perplexing behavior of a disease has arrived. The combined discovery power of the -nomics and bioinformatics is ready to connect all the dots, in a multidisciplinary manner, to generate roadmaps towards effective intervention and management of urological diseases.

Here’s the WOW! Something for everyone.....

The Spring 2005 Meeting is cutting edge! The speakers will set the roadmap for biomarker discovery using the latest technologies. **Dr. Richard Caprioli**, to present the 11th annual Donald S. Coffey Lecture. Professor of Biochemistry, Chemistry, and Pharmacology and Director of the Mass Spectrometry Research Center of the University of Vanderbilt, Dr. Caprioli is the most recognized scientist in the field of proteomics worldwide. He has pioneered many new developments in mass spectrometry and data analysis techniques applied to problems in medicine. Dr Caprioli will present his seminal work on the application of Imaging Mass Spectrometry (IMS) to generate **CANCER “FINGERPRINTS”** for rapid diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

Dr. Arul Chinnaiyan, S.P. Hicks Collegiate Professor of Pathology and Associate Professor of Pathology and Urology at the University of Michigan, who was the recipient of the 2004 SBUR Young Investigator Award. His is well recognized for his distinguished accomplishment in identifying the association of the Polycomb Group Protein, EZH2, with aggressive prostate cancer. As the founder of the public data warehouse for cancer biologists called “ONCOMINE”, he is recognized worldwide. In this meeting, Dr. Chinnaiyan will present his view of **-NOMICS INTEGRATION** to advance prostate cancer research.

The morning plenary session speakers will also include two most distinguished experts in the field of biomarker discovery, **Dr. Oliver John Semmes**, at the Eastern Virginia Medical School and **Dr. Robert H. Getzenberg** at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Semmes is a leader in the field of clinical proteomics and has contributed significantly in identification of **SERUM PROTEOMES** for prostate and bladder cancer. He is a member of the National Cancer Institute’s Early Detection Research network program. Dr. Robert Getzenberg, the newly appointed Director of Brady Urological Research Institute at Johns Hopkins University, was a former treasurer of SBUR. He has successfully used genomics and proteomics in the discovery of biomarkers of **PROSTATE AND BLADDER CANCER**. Both speakers will present their latest work in these areas. **Dr. Shuk-Mei Ho** will present her “-nomics” to conclude the morning plenary session. Her talk is entitled, “Prostate Cancer Marker Discovery through Proteomics and Metabolomics Approaches.”

The two afternoon breakout sessions will feature a number of highly regarded basic and clinical investigators who will discuss recent advances in biomarker discovery in various urologic diseases. **Session I**, chaired by **Vinata B. Lokeshwar** University of Miami School of

Medicine, will focus on new diagnostic and prognostic markers of bladder diseases. Speakers include **Drs. Seth Lerner, Jack Schalken, Susan Keay, and Ralph de Vere White**. The topics will include biomarkers for **INTERSTITIAL CYSTITIS** and **BLADDER CANCER**. The concurrent **Session II**, chaired by **Dr. Mark Rubin** at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, will address the **UTILITY** of novel diagnostic and prognostic markers for **PROSTATE AND RENAL DISEASES**. Speakers will include **Drs. Richard Alexander, Peter Nelson, and William Seller**, covering **LATEST** developments in **BIOMARKERS** for prostate diseases including **PROSTATITIS**.

More WOW! San Antonio.

For those of you who think of the desert southwest, time to change your thinking! San Antonio has great nightlife and fine dining! The Riverwalk is the center of this swirling, ongoing fiesta! Shown here is Commerce Bridge in the daytime...lush, clean and inviting. At night, the whole riverwalk lights up! Boat tours are available and the fun goes on for hours!



Commerce Bridge. On the riverwalk this is a historic site for San Antonio. Want to learn more? Come on down!

Miami: Fall 2005 — Karl Chai

The 15th Annual Fall Meeting of the Society for Basic Urologic Research (SBUR), in association with the European Society for Urological Research (ESUR), will be held in Miami Beach, Florida, December 1st to 4th, 2005. The scientific theme of the joint SBUR/ESUR 2005 meeting is **“Membrane Biology in Basic Urologic Research - molecular landscaping in normal physiology and pathophysiology”**. A satellite meeting on “The Physiology and Pharmacology of The Lower Urinary Tract”, sponsored by the Nature Publishing Group (NPG), will be held in conjunction with the SBUR-ESUR meeting on December 1st, 2005 at the same location. The cell membrane and its contiguous intracellular compartments are the platform where many important molecules act and interact to perform the designed cellular and tissue functions. The greatly successful 2004 SBUR Fall Meeting may be viewed as a highlight show of intracellular molecules, underscoring the importance of hormones, growth factors, apoptotic proteins, heat shock proteins, and HOX genes (proteins). The 2005 meeting, with its theme of molecular landscaping, will underscore the importance of cellular compartmentalization *via* the contiguous membrane bilayer, to the actions and interactions of the molecules highlighted in the 2004 meeting. Be there to witness the inaugural address of the **“Outstanding Contributions to Urologic Research,”** the latest SBUR sponsored annual award.

The SBUR-ESUR 2005 fall meeting will hold four plenary topic sessions to highlight advances in: intercellular communications (involving proteins and membrane components); intracellular communications (involving vesicular transport and secretory functions); metal ions and transport; and use of model systems in membrane biology research. Experts in and outside of the immediate urologic research areas are featured on the scientific program (<http://www.sbur.org/meetings/program2005december.asp>) to promote cross-fertilization of research. A prostate cancer mini-symposium is also organized as part of the scientific program. Poster sessions will be held to present opportunities for trainees to interact with their peers and senior scientists. Travel awards will be made to highly qualified trainees and the top awardees will be invited to give podium presentations.

The venue for the 2005 SBUR-ESUR meeting is the Wyndham Miami Beach Resort, at Miami Beach, Florida, a winter vacation hotspot with sparkling white-sandy beaches and famed nightlife. The SBUR has signed a contract with the Wyndham Miami Beach Resort for discount rooms. The Miami International Airport is serviced by many major US and international airlines. A cruise banquet is the special Saturday evening event on December 3, 2005.



Miami Beach. The meeting site is shown here along with a cruise ship like those we will have for the Saturday evening social! **Vamanos!**

AUA Office of Research: News and Upcoming Events– Monica Liebert

Many changes are coming—including expansion of research programs at the AUA! There will be some big news announced at the AUA Annual meeting—be sure to attend.

Upcoming Events

The **AUA Annual Meeting** will be held May 21-26, 2005 in San Antonio, Texas. Research activities that will take place during the meeting include:

1.) Research Forum Sunday May 22, 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The Fourth AUA/SBUR Research forum will be held on Sunday, May 21 from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m at the Convention Center, Room 001 A/B. This year's forum topic is "Complementary and Alternative Medicine." The panel will be chaired by Dr. Franklin Lowe, from Columbia University, and panelists are: Drs. Andrew Avins, Michael Barry, Leonard Marks, Ian Thompson, Aaron Katz, Neil Fleshner and Mark Moyad. This topic is of increasing research interest, so plan to attend!

2.) Clinical Trials Course, Saturday May 21, 6:00 to 8 p.m.

This **FREE** course will provide basic information on clinical trials. With the increasing emphasis on translational research, this information will be invaluable.

3.) AUA/AFUD Run for Research, Saturday May 21, Registration 7 a.m., start time 7:45 a.m. Lace up your running shoes—or boots, since it is San Antonio!-- and join us for the third annual AUA/AFUD Run for Research! This year's run will be held around the Alamodome. The expanded Run includes: team competitions, enhanced awards in different categories, either a 5K run or a 2K walk—and even a “sleep-in” option for those of you who want to donate but prefer to sleep! Register at www.aua2005.org. Registration fee \$35. All participants, even “sleep-ins,” will receive the event t-shirt (sure to be a collector's item) as well as a sticker for your AUA meeting name badge. All proceeds will benefit urology research. You don't want to be left out--so y'all come on down!

Legislative Update

Monica Liebert, Ph.D., Director of the AUA Research Office, will present an update on Research Office activities at the SBUR Spring 2005 Symposium on Saturday, May 21. Just to update you on the Training and Research in Urology (TRU) act, we are thrilled that the bill has been re-introduced in both the House and Senate as of February, 2005, very early in the new 109th Congressional Session. Further, both introductions have been bi-partisan: in the Senate, Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH) was joined by Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT); and in the House, Rep. Jim Leach (R-IA) was joined by Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN). The TRU act will create a Division of Urology at NIDDK and requests additional support for Urology research activities. We need your help to make the TRU act a reality! Contact your Senators and Representative and ask them to co-sponsor the TRU act! It is very easy—go to www.urologyhealth.org, and on the left side near the CURE logo is a link to an electronic site to contact Congress. This will only happen with your support!

On a more gloomy note, the President's 2006 budget provides for a miniscule increase for NIH spending. At the February 2005 NIDDK Research Council, Dr. Allen Spiegel, Director, projected less than a 1% increase for investigator-initiated grants at NIDDK under this budget picture. The situation at the NCI is likely to be no better. Contacting Congress to request more funds for NIH may be the only way to alleviate this problem. The Urology Research Community should also develop information to show how increased NIH spending in Urology Research has benefited the health of the U.S. public. The AUA Office of Research will be working on this report over the next few months. If you have important research results that you can contribute, please contact us via email at research@auanet.org.

AUA/SBUR 2005 Summer Research Conference

The SBUR/AUA Summer Research Conference will be held August 19-20, 2005 at the AUA Headquarters Building in Linthicum, Maryland. This year's conference title is: “Inflammation in Prostate Diseases,” and the conference co-chairs are William Nelson, M.D., Ph.D., from Johns Hopkins University, and Robert Getzenberg, Ph.D., from the University of Pittsburgh. The meeting is intensive, focused on an emerging research topic, and also includes a mentoring session. This invitation-only meeting is intended for younger or new investigators but we welcome all interested investigators. Applications will open in March. For more information, contact: Research@auanet.orgT.