



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

July 14, 2023

8-10:00 a.m.

Shaw Centre, Canada Hall 3

Ottawa, Canada

1. Call to Order (Pete Hansen)

The President, Dr. Peter Hansen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. Approval of the 2022 Business Meeting Minutes (Pete Hansen)

Dr. Hansen asked for approval of the minutes of the 2022 Business Meeting

Motion to approve the 2022 Business Meeting Minutes

First (Andrea Cupp), Second (Peter Sutovsky)

Unanimously approved

3. Treasurer's Report (Lane Christenson)

The Treasurer gave a report and highlighted the following:

- a. Administrative costs are \$500,463, which is 3% over the costs in 2022
- b. SSR Strategic Initiatives cost \$112,000
- c. Membership revenue is \$196,000
- d. The 2023 Annual Meeting will be budget neutral
- e. Publications revenue is \$435,100
- f. We have \$1,155,789 cash in hand
- g. The total investment portfolio is \$6,011,648
- h. Donor restricted and Board restricted endowments are \$4,025,095
- i. Operating reserves are \$1,986,553

SSR remains financially strong and positioned to support the annual meeting and new strategic plans

Martin Matzuk commented that the Treasurer is doing a great job overseeing the finances of the Society and hitting 6 million dollars in investment

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report

First (Joy Pate), Second (Marc-André Sirard)

Unanimously approved

4. BOR EIC Update (Romana Nowak and Mary Zelinski)

The EIC's gave a report and highlighted the following:

- a. The impact factor is 3.6 and BOR remains the third most cited journal in the Reproductive Biology category. Changes to Clarivate's process have lower impact factor for almost all journals.

- b. From July 1 to June 30, 2023, BOR published 216 papers, with the majority being research papers
- c. We published 20% of the papers as Open Access. This is important because the industry trend as pushing us to move toward full Open Access. We are working with OUP to plan a sustainable transition to full Open Access. We need to increase submissions and published articles. We need to reach 40% Open Access articles to consider flipping to a fully Open Access journal.
- d. Journal performance/manuscript turnaround time is good and submission to decision is about 32 days for reviewed manuscripts.
- e. BOR will publish two Special Issues (one on Imaging in early 2024 and one on Reproductive Biology in Europe in late 2024).
- f. BOR is working with the Virtual Education Committee to publish methods papers.
- g. The EICs encourage members to submit their best papers to BOR and they encourage trainees to apply to be trainee reviewers for the journal. About 30% of published papers are on rodent models, 30% on human models, and 18% on large animal models. This is similar to the percentage of submitted manuscripts using the models.
- h. The EICs thank their AEs and Board of Reviewing Editors.

5. State of the Society and Recognition of Committee Chairs (Pete Hansen)

- a. Strategic plan
The new Strategic Plan was approved at the SSR Board Meeting. The Mission in the plan is to “Advance the Science of Reproduction, Fertility and Development for the Benefit of Humans and Animals.” The vision is “A Sustainable World Through the Science of Reproduction, Fertility and Development. The plan includes three strategic goals (enrich and expand membership, strengthen and forge external partnerships, and transform the working model of SSR). Dr. Hansen also provided an overview of the objectives and key indicators in the plan. These include more focus on new investigators, reengaging with sister societies, engaging with charitable organizations, developing new partners, holding the annual meeting internationally, improving the capacity to collect and use data about membership, and making sure that ideas bubble up from committees.
- b. Mini-Grant Program
Dr. Hansen indicated that the Board approved a mini-grant program for new/early stage investigators. The mini-grant program will fund up to eight grants for up to \$10,000 each. The RFA for the program will be out soon.
- c. Recognition of Committee Chairs
Dr. Hansen recognized the Chairs of SSR Committees and thanked them for their service.

6. Membership Committee Report (George Perry, Chair)

Dr. Perry welcomed new Emeritus members (Drs. George Gerton, Naojiro, and Rina Medan). He also asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of those we lost in the past year (Drs. Brian Cook, Syed Saiduddin, Billy Day, Sherrill Eldren Echterkamp, Kenneth McNatty, Charles Graves, and Kimberly Barnett Ringgold).

7. Nominating Committee Report (Carol Bagnell, Chair)

Dr. Hansen recognized outgoing Officers and Board Members (Troy Ott, Marc-André Sirard, Aileen Keating, and Taylor Pini). Dr. Hansen also recognized newly elected Officers (Melissa

Mann and Lane Christenson) and newly elected Board Members (Francesca Duncan, Rocio Rivera, and Alison Ermisch).

8. Installation of President (Pete Hansen)

Dr. Hansen installed Dr. Blanche Capel as the 2023-2024 SSR President. Dr. Hansen commented that the SSR is in good hands with Dr. Capel. Dr. Capel thanked those who voted for her as well as Troy, Pete, and the administrative staff for helping train her for the role. Dr. Capel mentioned that she is looking forward to working on new initiatives for SSR.

9. New Business (Blanche Capel)

None

10. 2024 SSR Annual Meeting: Dublin, Ireland

Dr. Hansen indicated the following things about the 2024 Dublin meeting:

- a. It will be held on July 15-19, 2024
- b. It will be held at the Convention Centre Dublin
- c. We do not have a conference hotel block so it is important for people to book early; the SSR office is going to try to obtain some hotel blocks, but this is not guaranteed yet
- d. The abstract deadline will be February 15
- e. The Program Chairs are Marc-André Sirard and Monika Ward.
- f. The Program Committee has outlined eight Plenary Speakers and 20 Focus Sessions
- g. The Local Arrangements Chair is Pat Lonergan
- h. There will be two pre-conference workshops (Ovarian Workshop organized by Stephanie Pangas and a DOHaD and Epigenetics Meeting organized by Marc-André Sirard).

Motion to accept all reports and adjourn the meeting

First (Troy Ott), Second (Marc Andre Sirard)

Unanimously approved

The Business Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi A. Flaws, Ph.D.
SSR Secretary