



Member Newsletter

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NEWS & UPDATES

ICYMI: The New SSR Member Portal is Now Live!

Members, you should have received an email from info@ssr.org earlier this week announcing our new member portal! Please refer back to that email for important log-in steps.

As a reminder, this enhanced community-based platform is intended to provide you the space to collaborate, engage, learn, and connect with other SSR members. In addition, you will be able to renew your membership online, easily register for events, manage your profile and notification settings, contribute to online communities, access member-only content, view the online membership directory, and much, much more.

[Log in Here](#)

Have You Heard About the New ASRM & SSR SPARK Program?



[ASRM](#) and [The Society for the Study of Reproduction \(SSR\)](#) have collaborated to develop **SPARK**, a research network connecting basic scientists with physicians and clinicians through the use of the community platform UPSquad. Increase your prospects for grant funding when you join the **SPARK** community and connect and collaborate with others sharing your research interests!

[Learn More About the SPARK Program](#)

White House Women's Health Research Initiative

On **November 13, 2023**, the Biden Administration announced the **White House's first-ever [Women's Health Research Initiative](#)**. This effort will be led by First Lady Jill Biden and the White House Gender Policy Council. SSR supports this initiative to change how women's health research is represented and advocated for!

The following have been identified as the first steps of action:

- Establish an initiative consisting of executive departments and agencies across the federal government.
- Deliver concrete recommendations to advance women's health within 45 days of initiation.
- Take a targeted, high-impact approach.
- Engage the scientific, private sector and philanthropic communities.

Frontiers in Reproduction (FIR) 2024

The Marine Biological Laboratory at the University of Chicago is hosting their **2024 Frontiers in Reproduction (FIR)** event in Woods Hole, April 28 - June 9, 2024.

Join for world class training in advanced reproductive science & medicine:

- Cutting edge biological concepts & techniques
- Hands-on work with the newest technologies & equipment
- Over 60 leading international faculty members

Visit [FIR.mbl.edu](https://fir.mbl.edu) or [click here](#) for more information!

[Read More About This Initiative](#)

[Learn More](#)

SSR REFLECTS

New on the Blog: Meet Jeffery B. Mason



In honor of November being Native American Heritage Month, Diversity Committee member Dr. Klementina Fon Tacer sat down with SSR member **Dr. Jeffery B. Mason** to discuss his career and the influence of his Native American heritage.

Read the Full Blog

WEBINARS

The Rising Stars Webinar Series is Back on January 10th!

The first Rising Stars Webinar of the year will be held on **January 10, 2024, at 12pm ET!** You can now [register](#) to hear from Dr. Katy Patras and Dr. Daniel Mathew. Read about their sessions below!

Gestational Diabetes Disrupts Maternal Immunity and the Vaginal Microbiota to Promote Bacterial Infection

Group B Streptococcus (GBS) is a pervasive perinatal pathogen, and gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) increases the risk of GBS perinatal disease although the underlying mechanisms are unknown. Using a novel murine GDM model of GBS colonization, we found that GDM mice had greater GBS dissemination and worse neonatal outcomes. GDM altered host responses, including reduced uterine natural killer cell activation and recruitment, and distinct vaginal microbial taxa were associated with GDM status and GBS invasive disease status. Our translational model of GBS perinatal transmission in GDM hosts recapitulates several clinical aspects and enables discovery of host and bacterial drivers of GBS perinatal disease.



Dr. Katy Patras, Baylor College of Medicine, USA

The In Vitro Produced Conceptus: What the Endometrium Can Tell Us

The early conceptus creates a microenvironment with the surrounding endometrium, supporting pre-implantation development. During this webinar I'll discuss how the in vitro produced cow conceptus impacts the endometrial transcriptome and surrounding proteome compared to the in vivo derived conceptus and how that may influence establishment of pregnancy.



Dr. Daniel Mathew, University of Tennessee, USA

Register Here

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Reminder: Review the 2024 Annual Meeting Checklist



SAVE THE DATE

SSR Annual Conference 2024
**EVOLUTION OF
REPRODUCTIVE SCIENCES**
Where Should We Go?



JULY 15–19, 2024
Dublin, Ireland

Start thinking about ways you can prepare by reviewing the list of items below:



Be on the lookout – a call for abstracts is launching **next week!** *Note that the submission deadline is **February 15.***

Download and review the [2024 Annual Meeting FAQs](#).

Save the date for the Preconference Symposia on **July 15-16, 2024!** Join us for the [Ovarian Workshop](#) and 1st International Domestic Animal DoHad and Epigenetics Symposium.

See this year's [Keynote and Plenary Speaker](#) lineup!

Check your passport expiration date so you can travel with us to Dublin in 2024.

Note: If you are a U.S. citizen intending to go anywhere in the EU after or before the conference, your passport must have an expiration date at least 3 months after the date you intend to leave the EU. This does not apply to Ireland, where a valid

passport is sufficient (just another reason to love Ireland!).

[More Details Here](#)

BIOLOGY OF REPRODUCTION

Thank you From Biology of Reproduction

BOR is grateful to the authors, reviewers, and readers who have contributed to the journal this year. With your help, BOR is able to support the research community by publishing high quality science in the field of reproductive biology. This would not be possible without the tireless work of our peer review volunteers, and the contributions of the authors who submit their best work to BOR.

Thank you to all who contributed to BOR in 2023, and we look forward to working with you 2024 to bring even more advances to the research community.

This edition of the SSR Newsletter is sponsored by [CReATe Fertility Centre](#).



Thank you!

Connect with SSR



About SSR: The Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) was founded in 1967 to promote the study of reproduction by fostering interdisciplinary communication among scientists, holding conferences, and publishing meritorious studies. Today, our members come from 50 countries around the world.

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