

order known as congenital lipid adrenal hyperplasia, an autosomal recessive disorder resulting from several mutations of the StAR gene that render the protein inactive. Following isolation of the StAR protein, Dr. Stocco showed that its transfection into COS cells rendered them steroidogenic, that StAR was important in embryonic development, and, in collaboration with others, that StAR was present in the placenta and that it played a role in steroidogenesis in the testis and the adrenal. He has further investigated the upstream elements that regulate the expression of the StAR gene.

Dr. Stocco has an outstanding record of scientific productivity. In the three years since his landmark 1994 publication of the StAR sequence, he has been senior author on more than 24 articles and reviews, and a coauthor of another 20. These papers are in the best journals including *Biology of Reproduction*, *PNAS*, *Nature*, *Science*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, and *Molecular Endocrinology*.

Dr. Stocco has received a number of other awards and honors for his scientific work, including the Texas Tech President's Academic Achievement Award and the ARCS Distinguished Scientist Award. He presented the William A. Sadler Lecture in 1997 and is an NIH Merit Grant Awardee.

A highly significant aspect of Dr. Stocco's achievements is that they have been accomplished with an admirable level of collegiality and cooperation with other scientists. He has always been open and helpful, and he is always ready to share his expertise and his laboratory materials. He has been particularly generous with his time and reagents to students and young investigators. Dr. Stocco personifies the scientist who considers the science more important than the credit. His attitude is refreshing in these times of fierce competition for ever-decreasing funding.

Dr. Douglas M. Stocco is a worthy recipient of the SSR Research Award, not only for the fine science that he has accomplished over the last six years, but also for his exemplary and unselfish collegiality.

#### 1997 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD JANICE M. BAHR

The Distinguished Service Award is sponsored by Serono Symposia, Inc., Norwell, Massachusetts, and is given in recognition of outstanding service, leadership, and scientific contributions in the field of reproductive biology. Dr. Janice Bahr is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for 1997.

Dr. Bahr was born in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. She grew up on a farm, there developing a curiosity and empathy for animals. She graduated from Viterbo College in 1964, where she later taught biology. Dr. Bahr did her M.S. work at the University of Illinois on chickens and amphibians with Dr. Ray Watterson, an embryologist. Her interest in endocrinology was piqued by a class taught by Dr. A.V. Nalbandov, and he served as her mentor for the Ph.D. on the subject of ovulation and steroidogenesis in the rabbit. In 1974, when relatively few women earned the Ph.D. and fewer still were faculty members, Dr. Bahr was hired as an Assistant Professor of Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois. She rose rapidly through the ranks on the merits of her work as a teacher and researcher. She has continued on this



course, currently holding the position of Associate Vice Chancellor for Research while maintaining an active research program.

Every aspect of Dr. Bahr's career has been distinguished by commitment to service. She has worked to advance the science of reproductive biology and to promote the education of future scientists. She served her university in many capacities, and her record of service to the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) has been continuous.

Dr. Bahr's service to SSR includes Assistant Editor for *Biology of Reproduction* (1977–1981), Development Committee member (1983–1986), session chairperson at annual meetings (1980–1996), Board of Directors (1984–1987), Awards Committee member (1988–1989), Treasurer (1988–1991), President-Elect, President, and Past President (1992–1995), editorial board member (1985–1989), and Nominating Committee member (1995–1996). Dr. Bahr has also served on editorial boards of the *Journal of Animal Science*, *Poultry Science*, *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*, and *Endocrinology*; she has also served as an ad hoc reviewer for several other professional journals.

Dr. Bahr's service to the larger scientific community is well recognized. As an adept judge of proposals and project, she has been asked to be a reviewer for Presidential Young Investigator Awards (1985–1986), a member of project site visit teams (1978, 1984, 1989–1991, 1995) for the National Institutes of Health and United States Department of Agriculture, and a member of award committees for the Poultry Science Association. She has lent her expertise to help evaluate programs for the Cooperative States Research Service (USDA), National Institutes of Health, and National Science Foundation.

Dr. Bahr's wide interest and experience in research is exemplified by the number of coinvestigators with whom she is associated and the broad scope of subject matter of past and present studies. Animals studied have included rabbit, sheep, pig, chicken, bear, fish, and mouse. Dr. Bahr's research has attracted about \$5,000,000 in funding in collaboration with coinvestigators and colleagues in training programs. Her research has resulted in numerous publications, including 25 book chapters, a book she co-edited, and 102 articles in peer-reviewed professional journals.

Dr. Bahr is very well known for her work on the endocrinology of the laying hen. Of nearly equal importance has been her work directed at understanding the mechanisms of maintenance of pregnancy in the rabbit, the possible causes of post-weaning anestrus in the pig, and the metabolism of hibernation in bears. The work with bears has been particularly innovative and ground breaking. Most recently, Dr. Bahr has been a part of a group that has localized estrogen in the epididymis of mice and cocks.

Dr. Bahr has participated in and helped organize many meetings, among them the workshop that culminated in the Avian Pituitary Program at the University of Illinois, of she served as director from 1982–1991. This program enabled researchers to establish standards for assay of avian hormones. She was an invited participant in a workshop sponsored by the National Science Foundation on single-species conservation biology, and she was invited to discuss animal models for the study of aging by the National Institute of Aging. Dr. Bahr has been invited to present seminars at 35 research institutions, both in the United States and abroad. Dr. Bahr has been a member or chairperson of 30 university committees at the University of Illinois. These include the graduate grievance committee, institutional review board, promotion and tenure committee, search committees for di-

rector of campus operations and for president of the university, committee for evaluation of campus funding priorities, and many more. At the level of the College of Agriculture, she has been on more than 25 committees, including research policy, promotion and tenure, faculty honors, curricula committee, and committees to search for director of the experiment station, head of animal sciences, and several other positions.

Dr. Bahr's impact on reproductive physiology is revealed by the graduate students and postdoctoral associates who have benefitted from her advising, counseling, and mentoring. Twenty-three students have earned the M.S. with Dr. Bahr, twenty have earned the Ph.D., and six have studied with her as visiting scientists or postdoctoral students. These former students and associates are now affiliated with government agencies, both private and public universities in the U.S. and abroad, medical schools, hospitals, and research departments in industry.

In addition to her professional activities, Dr. Bahr has been very involved in civic and charitable groups. She has been a member of the board of the local YMCA for eight years, member of the board of the Covenant Hospital Medical Group, member of the board of the local Alzheimer's Association, and a member of the local Rotary Club, which she has served as a member of its executive board and as president.

This condensed, perfunctory listing of activities indicates the dedication, altruism, and positive effect of Dr. Bahr's professional, academic, and civic work. She has been, and continues to be, a true servant to society and to the Society for the Study of Reproduction; thus, she has been honored as the recipient of the 1997 Distinguished Service Award.

#### NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

The New Investigator Awards, sponsored by Serono Symposia, Inc., Norwell, Massachusetts, are given in recognition of outstanding research by young scientists. Each year, many excellent abstracts are submitted for the competition. From these, six are selected for final evaluation during presentation at the Society for the Study of Reproduction's annual meeting. Although only presenters of the

top two abstracts receive a plaque and monetary award, all finalists are acknowledged at the annual meeting and are commended for their outstanding research.

The 1997 recipient of the first-place award is **Todd W. Sandhoff** for his abstract entitled, "Repression of the rat steroidogenic acute regulatory (StAR) protein gene promoter by the negative transcription factor DAX-1," coauthored by X. Lei and M.P. McLean. Todd Sandhoff graduated from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, in 1993 with a bachelors degree in Music. In the fall of 1993, he joined the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of South Florida where he pursued a doctoral degree under the direction of Dr. Mark P. McLean. He completed his Ph.D. degree in September of 1997 and is continuing studies with Dr. McLean while he investigates postdoctoral opportunities. Dr. Sandhoff plans to pursue a career in pharmaceutical research.



The recipient of the second-place award is **Vinayak Doraiswamy** for his abstract entitled, "Immunohistochemical localization of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) in the ovine ovary during the peri-ovulatory period," coauthored by R.M. Moor, Y. Dai, L.P. Reynolds and D.A. Redmer. Mr. Doraiswamy received his B.S. in Zoology from Presidency College in Madras, India, where he was awarded the P.K. Menon endowment prize in 1991-92 for outstanding academic performance. He remained at Presidency College to pursue his M.S. degree in Zoology, which he received in 1994. He currently is pursuing his Ph.D. degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology at North Dakota State University under the supervision of Dr. Lawrence P. Reynolds and Dr. Dale A. Redmer. He plans to complete his Ph.D. in 1998 and then would like to pursue postdoctoral studies in reproductive oncology.

