



SSR Distinguished Service Award (*sustaining support by EMD Serono Research Institute*). The SSR Distinguished Service Award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated unselfish service and leadership in advancing the discipline of reproductive biology. The recipient of the 2007 SSR Distinguished Service Award is **Dr. Bruce D. Murphy**.

Dr. Bruce Murphy has been a member of SSR since 1974, has participated in the Society's Annual Meetings since 1972, and has served on SSR's Nominating, Public Affairs, Program, and Finance committees. Dr. Murphy has been Treasurer of SSR since 2000 and has been re-elected to that position through 2009. His outstanding performance as Treasurer has been recognized by his selection to the Finance Committee of FASEB as an SSR representative. During Dr. Murphy's tenure as Treasurer, his conservative fiscal policy has delivered uniformly balanced budgets, which include financing of Biology of Reproduction, of the Legacy Project to post back issues of BOR online, and of six Annual Meetings. More significantly, under his judicious and active management of SSR investments, the value of the Society's portfolio has more than doubled since 2000 to 3.1 million dollars. This is particularly noteworthy because the U.S. equity and bond markets increased less than 10% over the same period. His regular contributions to the SSR Newsletter have kept SSR members abreast of the Society's financial situation.

Dr. Murphy founded the Reproductive Biology Research Unit at the University of Saskatchewan to bring together basic and clinical researchers. He is a founding member and was president of the Canada West Society of Reproductive Biology, a group assembled to consolidate reproductive biologist in the western Canadian provinces and to provide links between clinical and basic research.

Dr. Murphy worked extensively to consolidate and favorably position the discipline of reproductive biology when the Canadian Institutes of Health Research was established in 2000, including the formation of the Canadian Consortium in Reproduction to organize reproductive scientists. The consequence was the successful incorporation of the discipline in a single CIHR Institute, the Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health, which has provided a voice for reproductive biologists in funding initiatives. As a member of the Institute board, Dr. Murphy has worked successfully to direct funding to the reproductive sciences, including a large initiative focused on oocyte and embryo development. He chaired the advisory board, which, under his leadership, developed a new 5-year strategic plan for the Institute. He further participated in consolidation of Quebec reproductive biologists into a network to increase interaction, funding, and training capacity. He also chairs the Canadian Council of Animal Care Biotechnology Committee, which developed draft guidelines for genetically modified animals. He carries on all these responsibilities efficiently and seriously.

Dr. Murphy serves or has served on editorial boards of several journals, including BOR and Reproduction. He has also been serving almost continuously since 1988 on grant funding committees, including Canadian MRC Endocrinology, NSERC Strategic Research, NSERC Animal Biology, NIH REB (2000–04), CIMR (ad hoc) Study Sections, and special NIH panels.

Dr. Murphy has conducted research in two primary areas of reproductive biology: obligate delayed implantation and ovarian cell differentiation. His work has made a substantial impact in both fields. His pioneering studies demonstrated the mechanisms of photoperiod influence on termination of embryonic diapause via inhibition of melatonin and consequent induction of prolactin for reactivating the corpus luteum. More recently, his group has developed culture systems allowing for the in vitro escape from embryonic diapause, and carnivore trophoblast stem cell lines to examine mechanisms of proliferation, differentiation and invasion. In his laboratory's focus is ovarian cell differentiation; his group described the role of pituitary hormones in lipoprotein utilization and has extensively studied the expression of cholesterol trafficking genes. A recent paper from his lab describes a new mechanism of estrogen regulation of ovarian cell proliferation. Dr. Murphy has to his credit more than 160 publications in refereed journals, with a majority of them published in BOR. In addition, he has contributed numerous book chapters, including chapters in recent editions of *The Endometrium* and *The Ovary*. He has appeared frequently on the programs of international congresses and his studies on carnivores led to invitations to speak at conferences and workshops on endangered species, including the black-footed ferret and the panda. In recognition of his continued contributions to science, Dr. Murphy has been elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. He has also served since 1991 as Director of the Centre de recherche en reproduction animale, Université de Montréal; this center has 9 scientists, 35 graduate and postdoctoral students, and 10 research staff.

Dr. Murphy received his B.Sc. degree in Biology in 1965, and his M.Sc. in Physiology in 1969, both from Colorado State University. He completed his Ph.D. in Physiology in 1973 at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Murphy has supervised 15 Ph.D. and 18 M.Sc. students to completion and directed 8 postdoctoral fellows. He is currently supervising 2 M.Sc. and 5 Ph.D. students, and 2 postdoctoral fellows. Many of his former trainees hold faculty positions throughout the world, including 7 in Canada, 2 in Mexico, 1 in Colombia, and 2 in the United States. Others are employed in industry as directors of research at biotech companies. Dr. Murphy also worked extensively from the 1980s through the 1990s in international development, including visits to South and Central America and Africa, where he lectured, established laboratories, and mentored research programs.

Dr. Murphy cooperates and interacts with scientists professionally and compassionately. He supplies reagents and technical information to numerous colleagues. He is dependable, generous, and sincerely honest and honorable. Dr. Murphy's continuing leadership, multifaceted contributions to reproductive biology, and academic achievements are being recognized by bestowing upon him the 2007 SSR Distinguished Service Award.