

SSR 2025 AWARDS CRITERIA AND APPLICATION PROCESS

MISSION: An important function of the Society for the Study of Reproduction is to acknowledge individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the scientific discipline of reproductive biology.

Recognition is provided through seven awards: **Carl G. Hartman Award, SSR Research Award, SSR Jansen Distinguished Leadership and Service Award, SSR New Investigator Award, SSR Trainee Mentoring Award, Fuller Bazer SSR International Award, and Janice Bahr Junior Scientist Travel Fund.**

The Fuller Bazer SSR International Award has been changed to an SSR Member nominated award. The Janice Bahr Junior Scientist Award will remain a self-nominated award. Please see the description of the awards below for nominating procedures.

PROCEDURE: Members of the Society have the privilege and responsibility of nominating individuals for these awards. The process is straightforward. If more than one person is nominating, one person should be designated as the primary Nominator for future communications and be responsible for sending the following:

1. A letter of nomination, no more than 4 pages in length.
2. No more than two supporting letters from other individuals, each no longer than 2 pages in length. The Trainee Mentoring award may have up to four supporting letters, each no longer than 2 pages in length.
3. Curriculum Vitae (CV). The CV may be streamlined/ shortened to focus on the criteria for the award under consideration, and should include:
 - professional positions held
 - overview of research focus and seminal accomplishments
 - honors/awards
 - special appointments (e.g. administrative positions, editorships)
 - invited lectures/workshops/symposia
 - extramural funding/grant support
 - peer-reviewed publications and reviews that exemplify the criteria of the award (indicate the total number of publications at the beginning of this section)

Current Members of the Awards Committee are not eligible to be nominated. View current Awards Committee Members [HERE](#). See descriptions of individual awards for any other specific requirements.

Nominations Deadline is October 28, 2024. [Submit all applications online HERE](#). Contact Alan Ealy, SSR Awards Committee Chair, at awards@ssr.org if you have any questions.

CARL G. HARTMAN AWARD (*supported by the SSR*). The highest award of the SSR is given in recognition of a career of research and scholarly activities in the field of reproductive biology. The nominee must be living at the time their nomination is submitted. The nominee does not have to be a member of the Society. The letter of nomination should be accompanied by two supporting letters from other individuals. See Procedure, above, for guidelines regarding length of the nomination and supporting letters. Letters of nomination should specifically address each of the criteria for this award, as described below.

Criteria for the Carl G. Hartman award are as follows:

- I. Research
 - A. Originality
 1. Pioneered in the development of novel and significant areas of knowledge, including the development of creative and innovative hypotheses.
 2. Developed new knowledge in a creative manner and with independent insight.
 3. Created new knowledge to expand the understanding of reproductive biology and/or extended the application of knowledge to technology.

- B. Experimental Practices
 1. Developed new and superior experimental methodologies.
 2. Formulated experimental designs that enabled the derivation of unambiguous conclusions.
 3. Conveyed research results to the scientific community with clarity through timely presentation at scientific meetings and by publication in high-quality journals.
- C. Leadership
 1. Provided essential contributions in team research endeavors.
 2. Recognized as an innovator and scholar by peers as evidenced by other scientific awards and invitations to participate in scholarly activities, such as symposia.
 3. Shared research experience willingly and unselfishly with the scientific community through activities, such as providing expert advice, sharing new techniques, or providing unique reagents.

II. Other Activities: The nominee, through leadership and innovation, provided substantive and significant contributions to reproductive biology in one or more of the following activities.

- A. Teaching.
- B. Mentoring of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, or interns.
- C. Application of experimental results to the benefit of society.
- D. Administration or management in universities, government, industry, or other organizations.
- E. Membership with active participation in professional societies and their activities
- F. Participation in regional, national, or international review or advisory committees and panels.
- G. Editorships and other activities related to scholarly publications.

View previous Carl G. Hartman recipients [HERE](#)

SSR RESEARCH AWARD (*supported by SSR*). This award recognizes an active, regular member of the Society for outstanding **research published over the previous six years**. The letter of nomination should be accompanied by two supporting letters from other individuals. See Procedure, above, for guidelines regarding length of the nomination and supporting letters. Nomination and supporting letters must emphasize exclusively the work completed in the previous six years. Letters of nomination should specifically address each of the criteria for this award, as described below. In making its recommendation, the Awards Committee will consider the significance of the problems under investigation, the breadth and depth of the analyses performed, and the level of originality manifested in the publications of this work. The recipient of this award will have the honor of presenting their research during the annual meeting of the SSR in 2025 and of the Society for Reproductive Biology (SRB) in 2025.

Criteria for the SSR Research award are as follows:

- I. Research
 - A. Originality
 1. Pioneered in the development of novel and significant areas of knowledge including the development of innovative hypotheses during research.
 2. Developed new knowledge in a creative manner and with independent insight.
 3. Created new knowledge which served as a foundation for expanding our understanding of reproductive biology and/or for the application of knowledge to technology.
 - B. Experimental Practices
 1. Developed new and superior experimental methodologies.
 2. Formulated experimental designs that permitted the derivation of unambiguous conclusions and concepts.
 3. Communicated research results to the scientific community with clarity through timely presentation at scientific meetings and by publication in high-quality journals.
 - C. Leadership
 1. The nominee provided essential contributions in team research endeavors.
 2. The nominee is recognized as an innovator and scholar by her/his peers as evidenced by other scientific awards, and invitations to participate in scholarly activities such as symposia.

3. The nominee shared her/his research experience willingly and unselfishly with the scientific community through activities such as providing expert advice, sharing new techniques, or providing unique reagents.
- II. Other Activities: This award is given for research excellence. However, the requirement that the nominee be an “active, regular member of the Society” implies participation in the activities of the Society for the Study of Reproduction.

View previous SSR Research Award recipients [HERE](#)

SSR JANSEN DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD (*supported by SSR*). This award recognizes an active, regular member of the Society who has demonstrated unselfish service and leadership in advancing the discipline of reproductive biology. The letter of nomination should be accompanied by two supporting letters from other individuals. See Procedure, above, for guidelines regarding length of the nomination and supporting letters. Letters of nomination should specifically address each of the criteria for this award, as described below.

In submitting nominations for the SSR Distinguished Leadership and Service award, the following criteria (in order of importance) will be considered:

- I. Evidence of service to the discipline, such as organization of meetings, provision of reagents, participation in public advisory groups, contributions to public relations or communications with lay support groups, and related activities.
- II. Evidence of leadership positions in reproductive biology, such as offices in the Society for the Study of Reproduction and related organizations, editorial boards, and national and international review committees.
- III. Evidence of training predoctoral and/or postdoctoral fellows in reproductive biology. Emphasis should be placed on trainees who have attained positions of leadership.
- IV. Evidence of a productive career in research. Of particular importance are insights resulting from studies of the nominee that pioneered new areas of significant research in reproductive biology.

View previous SSR Jansen Distinguished Leadership and Service Award recipients [HERE](#)

VIRENDRA B. MAHESH NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD (*supported by the Virendra B. Mahesh New Investigator Endowment Fund*). This award recognizes an active, regular member of SSR for outstanding research completed and published within 12 years after receiving the Ph.D. or other equivalent professional degree. Nominees will be evaluated on the originality, significance, and impact of their research in reproductive sciences or allied fields, and the degree to which their research was independent of that of a mentor. Letters of recommendation from two senior colleagues and/or scientific collaborators should accompany the nomination. See Procedure, above, for guidelines regarding length of the nomination and supporting letters. Letters of nomination should specifically address each of the criteria for this award, as described below. The recipient of this award will have the honor of presenting their research during the annual meeting of the SSR in 2025 and of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility (SRF) in 2025.

Criteria for the SSR New Investigator award are as follows:

- I. Originality, independence, and innovation.
- II. Contribution and significance to the field of reproductive sciences and allied fields of investigation.
- III. Development of important new methodology, technology, and/or clinical procedures with clear applications in basic research, animal or human clinical practice, or assisted reproductive technologies.

View previous SSR New Investigator Award recipients [HERE](#)

SSR TRAINEE MENTORING AWARD (*supported by the SSR Trainee Mentoring Fund*). This award recognizes an SSR member who as a mentor has had significant impact on Trainees within the SSR. The Trainee Mentoring Award will be presented each year at the SSR Annual Meeting to an SSR member who has consistently demonstrated a measure of support and guidance to Trainees that far exceeds the basic responsibilities required of an academic advisor. An individual may receive this award only once. Candidates must be nominated by Regular and/or Trainee members of SSR who were significantly influenced by the nominee. Nominations must include a one-page objective summary highlighting the candidate's contributions to trainees in SSR and no more than four additional letters of support demonstrating how this candidate is an outstanding mentor. See Procedure, above, for guidelines regarding length of the nomination and supporting letters. Letters of nomination should specifically address each of the criteria for this award, as described below. The award will be presented at the SSR Annual Meeting by a member of the Trainee Affairs Committee.

Criteria for the Trainee Mentoring award are as follows:

- I. Outstanding service as a mentor: the nominee has exceeded the basic roles of an academic advisor, becoming a mentor to those with whom they interact.
- II. Knowledge of the discipline: the nominee has demonstrated a comprehensive knowledge and passion for reproductive biology and its implications in the broader world of scientific research, which significantly shapes intellectual interactions with trainees.
- III. Scope of mentorship: the mentoring may be concentrated in the classroom, laboratory, or in the field. The number of Trainees who have been mentored by the nominated individual will be considered, with special attention given to mentorship of Trainees who have subsequently made an impact in reproductive biology.
- IV. Other activities: selfless service as a teacher and trusted mentor to undergraduate, graduate, and/or post-doctoral Trainees in reproductive biology; instruction inside or out of the classroom with a passion that is passed on to those mentored; evidence that the nominee has significantly enhanced the careers and potential for success in advisees.

View previous Trainee Mentoring Award recipients [HERE](#)

FULLER W. BAZER SSR INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIST AWARD FUND (*supported by Fuller Bazer*)

The Fuller W. Bazer SSR International Scientist Award Fund was established in 2017 to support an award presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction which recognizes outstanding accomplishments in research and research training by a reproductive scientist working outside of North America, as follows:

Requirements:

- The nominee must be an outstanding International Scientist who has consistently demonstrated excellence in research in reproductive sciences and graduate education at an institution outside of North America.
- An individual must demonstrate outstanding potential for leading and directing scientific research in reproductive sciences overseas.

Application Components to be sent by the Nominator:

1. One nomination letter (max 4 pages)
2. Up to two recommendation letters (max 2 pages each) from members of the SSR.
3. Curriculum Vitae (maximum of 3 pages)

View previous Fuller W. Bazer SSR International Scientist Award Fund recipients [HERE](#)

JANICE BAHR JUNIOR SCIENTIST TRAVEL FUND (*supported by Janice Bahr*)

The Janice Bahr Junior Scientist Travel Fund is a self-nominated award and was established in 2017 to recognize a Regular Member of the Society, an active Assistant Professor or position of similar rank on the tenure-track.

Requirements:

- Individual must be a regular member of SSR
- Provide proof of appointment as an Assistant Professor or position of similar rank and be less than 5 years into a tenure track/ similar appointment
- Be employed by a U.S or international academic institution

Application Components:

1. Statement of Purpose - Please submit a statement (2-page maximum) describing your professional accomplishments that qualify you as a competitive applicant for the award. Specifically detail your accomplishments in the areas of research, education, and service.
2. Recommendation Letters
3. Curriculum Vitae

View previous Janice Bahr Junior Scientist Travel Fund recipients [HERE](#)