

# 2013

## Annual Report



Massachusetts Society  
for Medical Research, Inc.

## Chairman's Letter

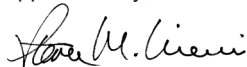
Dear Members and Friends of MSMR:

I have the pleasure to briefly summarize MSMR's activities in fulfillment of its mission. In 2013 MSMR provided numerous valuable services to member institutions as well as an active outreach program to the biomedical research community at large and to the public. Here are some notable activities and accomplishments in the past year:

- Convened our signature professional development workshops here in New England and with partner organizations in other regions, as summarized on the following pages
- Provided on-site training and updates to members across the region
- Tracked legislative initiatives in New England that could affect biomedical research using animals; reported to members on bills in each state that were likely to affect them
- Closely monitored and reported on trends in animal rights extremism that could impede or even stop the lifesaving work of our members and the entire biomedical research community, linking the related issues of law, legislation, security, communications and legislation
- Published twelve monthly issues of our electronic member newsletter, **MSMR e-UPDATE**
- Continued outreach to students, parents, and teachers our Annual Student Competition and our marquee **What A Year!** science discovery website for middle and high school students
- Digitized and added the remainder of our educational materials to the massive APS Archive of Educational Resources (now called the Life Sciences Teacher Resources Community)
- Worked with journalists in providing background on stories pertinent to our members and wrote letters to editors on points of importance
- Celebrated MSMR's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, with a gala event honoring biomedical research in New England - "From Lab to Lifesaving" - on September 26<sup>th</sup>. See the insert for details and photos.

MSMR is growing throughout New England with a diverse membership of leading hospitals and universities, biotechnology and pharmaceutical firms, professional organizations and vendors. The crucial work that MSMR does must continue in these challenging times. On behalf of the entire Board, thank you for your personal and corporate support and encouragement.

Appreciatively,



Steven M. Niemi, DVM, DACLAM  
Chairman, MSMR Board of Directors

# 2013 Highlights

## LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL

We monitor legislation New England-wide that might affect our members, positively or negatively. As appropriate, we notify our members directly or via e-Alerts. MSMR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, so we strictly limit our own lobbying; rather, our members call, write or visit with legislators.

If you'd like to see a listing of the particular bills noted by MSMR, please call the MSMR office and ask for a copy of the list.

Bills specifically mentioning animal research are quite rare. More often, our interest is in the inadvertent consequences a non-research bill will have if enacted. Such bills could include a large variety of legislative actions, from animal transport to technician licensing, from euthanasia methods to animal registration and agricultural practices.

Each state has its own approach to exempting regulated research from animal cruelty laws. Massachusetts has no comprehensive exemption at all. In the Bay State we have begun to see challenges to animal use based specifically on that lack. The other New England states have varying "degrees" of exemption. Nationally, this is just one of the rising number of legal and legislative challenges for animal research. With that in mind, MSMR member organizations have encouraged their attorneys to participate in the National Animal Law Advisory Group, an activity of States United for Biomedical Research (SUBR).

We celebrated **Massachusetts Biomedical Research Day** on October 21<sup>st</sup> at our new venue, the Union Club. We awarded the MSMR Honors, heard recipients' remarks and had a wonderful luncheon. The 2013 Honorees are: **Gregory P. Bialecki**, Secretary of Housing & Economic Development, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; **Leah M. Cataldo, PhD**, Science Department Head, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School; **Mark C. Fishman, MD**, President, Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research; **John A. Parrish, MD**, Executive Director, The Center for Integration of Medicine and Innovative Technology,

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Each year our professional development workshops draw hundreds of members and non-members alike, to learn from experts and to share their experiences to help develop best practices. Our professional development workshops are among our most important MSMR member services. In FY2013 we offered the following programs:

In October 2012 we offered **3 I's Harmonization: Bioethics and IACUCs, IRBs and IBCs**. That was preceded by **Effective IBCs**, presented in conjunction with NIH-OBA. The 3 I's "brand" has become one of MSMR's most recognized programs and is nationally noted for its rich content and presentation.

In December 2012 we hosted the IAA *Best Practices* meeting, and we twice presented (December 2012 and May 2013) *Basic Training - ABCs for IACUCs and IBCs: Frameworks for Compliance*, graciously hosted by MSMR members Merck and University of Massachusetts Medical School, respectively. MSMR will continue to present this program and offer materials and presenter training to our peer groups within States United for Biomedical Research (SUBR).

In April we presented an important new workshop, *Exploring New Trends, Issues, and Developments in Security, Biosecurity and Terrorism*, kindly hosted by Sanofi-Genzyme.

Our annual **Enrichment Symposium**, our most popular program, drew nearly 250 members for an intense one-day program focused on behavior, in March, 2013, at the Starr Center in Boston.

And we continue to offer our unique on-line course **Introduction to Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees**. In FY2013 we held three iterations, filling each time. Students from around the country take the course.

## OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION

Important to our mission is our goal of education and development both within and outside the laboratory animal research field.

MSMR continued digitizing and adding its numerous K - 12 educational materials, especially **What A Year!**, to the American Physiological Society's vast digital archive of teaching resources, under a 3-year contract that completes in 2014. The Archive now houses more than 7,000 items, all peer reviewed and free to educators.

MSMR provided journalists with background on two stories and interviews for one other. We also wrote letters to newspapers and on-line news sources on errors and omissions in their stories about animal research. In addition, we wrote supporting a special recognition in the town of Milford, Massachusetts, for the late **Dr. Joseph Murray**, *emeritus* MSMR Board member and Nobel laureate for his work in organ transplantation.

We presented classes at Becker College and the Tufts Cummings Veterinary School as part of our commitment to increase student knowledge about laboratory animal science and medicine, and about the pro and con positions different groups have adopted on this sometimes controversial field. We also presented for a second time at the Research Integrity Forum (Saco, ME). This year's topic was *Is My Research Unethical?*

## 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

MSMR's Annual Meeting on June 14, 2013, was held in sequential sessions at The Colonnade Hotel in Boston. The Business Meeting of Members formally accepted six new members, elected or re-elected eight representatives to the Board, and noted with great sadness the death of our Board member Krista Paynton. The members also approved the previous Annual Meeting minutes and the budget and accepted a variety of reports, including those of the auditor, the legislative agent, the chairman and the president.

The members discussed and made recommendations on a number of potential additional members and several offered sponsorships for the upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

We recognized generous sponsors of the Annual Meeting: Biogen Idec Foundation (Silver), Pfizer, Charles River Laboratories, The Massachusetts Medical Society (all Bronze), Boston College (Copper), EnVivo Pharmaceuticals, Tufts University, Ms. Lynne H, Brum (all Friends), and Merck Research (Student Competition sponsor).

After the Business Meeting, we adjourned to the Huntington Foyer and Ballroom for our delightful Reception and Dinner. MSMR Board chairman Dr. Steven Niemi welcomed our guests, including numerous MSMR members and friends, and student competition winners, their parents and their teachers. He explained concisely the work and mission of the MSMR prior to dinner.



Later he introduced keynote speaker. Dr. Kirby Johnson, Director of Program Development in the office of the Vice Provost for Research at Tufts University, where he is also responsible for Responsible Conduct of Research training. Among his research interests are fetal cells that are naturally acquired during pregnancy. Dr. Johnson's topic, **What did your Mom inherit from You?** enraptured the audience and led to many post-presentation questions.



When the Q & A with Dr. Kirby concluded, Dr. Dittrich and Ms. Lynne Walsh announced the winners of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Student Essay/Poster/Webpage Competition, and presented prize checks, gift books and Certificates of Achievement to the winning students; MSMR also presented checks to their teachers. We were thrilled to note that a school which had not previously participated in the Competition - Massachusetts Academy of Mathematics and Sciences - was extremely well-represented among this year's entries and winners.

## Financial Results for FY2012

<b>Support &amp; Revenues</b>			
	Contributions and membership fees		\$303,175
	Consulting and workshop fees		80,047
	Interest income		132
	Grants		25,000
	Annual Meeting net of costs		6,010
	Grants: restrictions fulfilled		33,500
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<b>Total Revenues</b>			<b>\$447,864</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
	Program services, general advocacy and educational outreach		\$323,456
	Management and general		40,275
	Member development and fundraising		6,454
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<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$370,185</b>
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<b>Increase in net assets</b>			<b>\$77,679</b>
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Note: Audit by Daniel F. Friel, CPA. The U.S. Form 990 and all forms and submissions required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have been filed. Copies of the audited financial statement, our IRS determination letter and other regulatory documents are available from the Society upon request.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Student Competition



Each year MSMR conducts two student competitions judged by volunteers from our member organizations. Students in grades 7 - 8 compete in Level 1; those in grades 9 - 12, Level 2. This year's challenge was to submit an essay, poster or webpage exploring a recent biomedical research breakthrough, acting as reporters for **What A Year!** our popular science discovery website. Winning students were feted at our Annual Meeting, along with their parents and teachers. Students from *any* New England state or school were eligible to enter.

This year there were no Level 1 entries that qualified as winners.

The Level 2 results: First Place: **Joseph Campo**, Mass. Academy of Math and Science; Second Place: **Sameera Salame**, Norfolk County Agricultural High School tied with **Olivia Silva**, Mass. Academy of Math and Science; Third Place: team of **Annabel Consilvio** and **Sebastien Deveau** tied with **John Long**, all from Mass. Academy of Math and Science; Honorable Mentions: **David Brodsky**, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School; **Viktoriah Dahill**,

## Special Thanks to These Recent Foundation Supporters of MSMR

The Biogen-Idec Foundation • The Merck Charitable Foundation  
The William Townsend Porter Foundation • The Edna H. Tompkins Trust

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Deborah Ann Siwik, PhD  
*Boston University Medical Center*

Changes: Board member Krista Paynton passed away on May 9, 2013.

## Students Contests, *continued*

Norfolk County Agricultural High School; **Sarah Wadehul**, Nipmuc Regional High School.

Many thanks to our judges: Kathryn Allen, Bill Avery, Kelly Balko, Marissa M. Cardwell, PhD, Peggy J. Dannemann, VMD, Michael DePiano, Melissa Dragon, Kristin Ferrigno, Tanmoy Ganguly, Angie Heiser, Jennifer Kilpatrick, Sharron Kirchain, DVM, MBA, DAACLAM, Karen Krueger, DVM, David Lee-Parritz, DVM, Tracy Lewis, Bonnie Lyons, DVM, Caroline McPhee Leeth, DVM, PhD, Kathryn Mellouk, Kathy Meunier, Toni O'Connell, Marie Ortega, Dotty Paquin, Curtis Schondelmeyer, DVM, LaWanda Thompson, PhD, Hilary Woodcock, PhD. Our judges volunteer their time and expertise.

## The Massachusetts Society for Medical Research, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1953 and incorporated in 1980

The Massachusetts Society for Medical Research (MSMR) is the nation's oldest state-based biomedical research support organization in its field. It was organized in 1953 to respond to proposed legislation that would have severely hampered basic medical research in Massachusetts.

As anti-science and radical animal rights groups made inroads in the regulatory, educational and legislative arenas in the early 1980s, MSMR was formally incorporated in Massachusetts and earned Federal tax-exempt non-profit [501(c) (3)] status shortly thereafter

The Society's mission is: **To promote and enhance biomedical and biological research, including the humane care and use of animals, for the improved health and well-being of people, animals and the environment.**

To implement this mission, we foster better understanding of biomedicine by improving basic literacy in, and enthusiasm for the life sciences among the public, the media and future generations of citizens and scientists.

### Services to Members

- Professional development seminars, workshops, conferences, on-line courses
- Customized on-site programs and training for member organizations
- Legislative tracking and updates
- Security tracking and alerts
- Media and public outreach training - crisis communication training
- Assistance with IACUC Community Member searches
- MSMR Legal Memorandum: Legal & Regulatory Risks to Animal Research
- Up-to-the-minute news through **MSMR e-UPDATES**
- The MSMR Annual Meeting of Members
- National collaboration with States United for Biomedical Research

### Services to Students, Teachers, The Research Community and the Public

- Outreach and education
- Classroom materials, now at the APS Archive of Teaching Resources
- Science Cafés for Teachers
- Speakers
- **What A Year!** Cool Science is Happening Now
- Facility tours for students and teachers
- Annual Student Competitions
- Background and contacts for journalists
- Biomedical Research Day Honors (October 21<sup>st</sup>)



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