

SOCIETY for the STUDY OF REPRODUCTION

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Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I realize that under the current economic circumstances we are facing, this is a terrible time to ask each of you to think of SSR and find it in your hearts to support our society. Like all of us, SSR has not been immune to the turmoil of Wall Street. When I wrote my State of the Society letter just a couple of months ago, the fiscal health of SSR was quite good and we had realized a profit from our annual meeting in Hawaii. However, as the economy has worsened the fiscal situation of SSR has suffered, too. Since January of this year, our investment funds have decreased by one million dollars in spite of the best efforts of our treasurer Bruce Murphy.

We hope we have hit bottom and that things are on the way up. The long-term fiscal health of our society is paramount and no gift is too small to help ensure its long-term fiscal well being. Our goal is to raise one million dollars in the endowment fund, and prior to the economic downturn we were over halfway to this goal. Needless to say, we have had a setback! Once the endowment fund reaches the one million dollar goal, the proceeds will be used to support the long-term educational goals of SSR, particularly to maintain and enhance the excellent science that is the hallmark of our annual meeting.

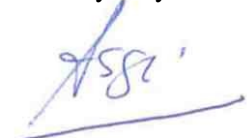
Please be generous, even in these difficult times, and help to keep SSR fiscally sound. Please take a few moments to fill out the enclosed donation form. You may choose from these categories of special recognition: **Platinum** (> \$5000), **Gold** (\$2500–\$4999), **Silver** (\$1000–\$2499), **Bronze** (\$250–\$999), or **Contributor** (\$1–\$249). You may also also donate online on the SSR web site: <http://www.ssr.org/Donations.shtml>

No gift is too small; any amount you can afford will help to ensure the future of SSR and its many important activities. All who contribute will be recognized in the SSR February Newsletter. The Society for the Study of Reproduction is a 501(c)(3) corporation, and your contribution is fully tax deductible.

We also established another fund known as the Legacy Fund. This Fund was created to support the digitization and indexing of all back issues of *Biology of Reproduction (BOR)* and to sustain the archive. The initial project was completed in 2005, and all issues of the journal—from its first issue published in 1969—are available and readily searchable online. The Legacy Fund now has another mission: to help sustain the excellence of *BOR* in the face of challenges such as open access with a concomitant decrease in revenue from library subscriptions and hence, journal-generated revenue. The Legacy Fund must grow in order to meet these challenges, and your generosity in supporting this fund will be greatly appreciated.

Your society and I thank you for your generosity in advance. If you have already contributed, thank you. Your gift is greatly appreciated.

With my very best wishes,



Asgi Fazleabas, President