



2014 Annual Report
**Society for Research on
Nicotine and Tobacco**

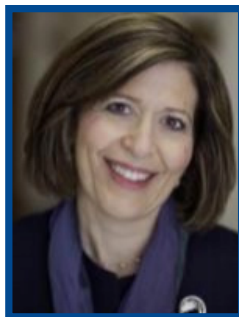




2013-2014 Board of Directors



Thomas Gould, PhD
President, 2014-2015



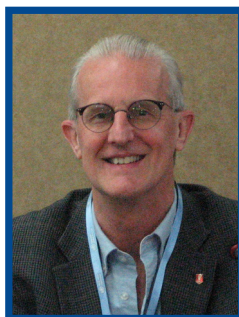
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Bruce Wheeler
SRNT Executive Director



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President's Report

Tom Gould, PhD

Because of the dedication of our members and the importance of the work that comes from our members, it has been an honor to serve as President of SRNT this past year. When my Presidential term began, February 27th, 2015 seemed far off but this year has flown by as SRNT faced new challenges and new initiatives. It is a privilege to report on a number of your accomplishments and initiatives during this period.

As part of SRNT's strategic plan, SRNT has increased activities in the dissemination of evidenced-based information that can influence policy and practice. SRNT used input from members to craft a formal response to Docket No. FDA-2014-N-0189, RIN 0910-AG38, Proposed Rule on Deeming Tobacco Products to be Subject to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. In addition, SRNT wrote a joint letter with the Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence (ATTUD) to the FDA's center for Drug Evaluation and Research encouraging them to modify labeling requirements on NRT products and also sponsored a letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee in support the Defense Subcommittee's bill that would direct the Secretary of Defense to eliminate price discounting for tobacco products sold in commissaries and exchanges. With input from the Networks, SRNT also responded to NIDA's development of a new strategic plan. Furthermore, SRNT wrote to the USDA to express concern with the recent Joint Meeting of the Psychopharmacologic Drugs Advisory Committee and the Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee held on the smoking cessation medication varenicline. In addition, input from SRNT was influential in keeping Philadelphia "smoke-free" as the City Council was considering a proposal to relax public smoking bans. As attempts to weaken effective health policies continue, SRNT will remain committed to providing evidence-based information that supports these policies. Finally, the Networks are increasingly developing information that informs policy and practice; as one example, the Treatment Network and ATTUD wrote a paper on the importance of pairing smoking cessation interventions with lung cancer screening.

Another objective of the strategic plan is to increase SRNT's international presence. This year SRNT provided financial support to the 4th Latin American Conference on Tobacco or Health (Costa Rica) and the Global Health Network conducted a preconference workshop at this event. In addition, the Global Health Network conducted a needs-assessment survey of attendees at the International Conference on Waterpipe Smoking in Qatar this past fall. Finally, SRNT has initiated exploration of an online Global Research Certification Program targeted at tobacco control advocates in lower- and middle-income countries, and people working in tobacco cessation/intervention.

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President's Report

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During the past year, several initiatives were implemented with the goal of strengthening SRNT while in other areas SRNT continued to maintain excellence. For example, SRNT enacted a new policy on receipt of funds to help ensure SRNT will always be free of external influence from contributing organizations. In addition, SRNT approved new media outreach activities and the development of a social media strategy that will be launched in conjunction with a new website in mid-2015. Finally, this past year saw a change with the Chief Editor of Nicotine and Tobacco Research. After developing the journal into one of the most important strengths of our society, David Balfour has stepped down and Marcus Munafò has taken over as Chief Editor. Words fail to adequately express SRNT's appreciation for what David accomplished with the journal.

To end, I would like to thank all of the members of SRNT for their continued dedication in advancing science and improving health. The SRNT Networks were instrumental in providing educational opportunities for our members: five new webinars were produced and archived, and Networks sponsored four preconference workshops at SRNT 2014, as well as three preconference workshops and four symposia for SRNT 2015. I would like to thank our Network Chairs (Melissa Blank and Mariella De Biasi, Basic Science Network; Marissa Ehringer and Nancy Saccone, Genetics Network; Jim Thrasher, Global Health Network; Joanne D'Silva and Patricia Nez Henderson, Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Network; Jonathan Foulds and David Hammond, Public Health Policy Network; Jennifer McClure and Bell Toll, Treatment Network; and Bryan Heckman, Jessica Cook and Steve Heishman, Trainee Network) and the Chairs of our committees (Saul Shiffman, Awards Committee; Judy Andrews, Finance Committee; A. Eden Evins, Nominations Committee; and Judith Gordon, Website Committee). I also want to acknowledge the hard work of the Board of Directors (Naowarut Charoenca, Anne Joseph, Robin Mermelstein, Marcus Munafò, Megan Piper, Jodi Prochaska, and Martin Raw), as well as our Executive Director, Bruce Wheeler; it has been a pleasure and honor working with you. Finally, special kudos to the Program Committee for the 2015 meeting in Philadelphia (led by Committee Chair Jody Prochaska and co-chairs Natalie Walker and Maciej Goniewicz) for an outstanding meeting. This year we saw a near record number of submissions, strong preconference workshops, and outstanding scientific content in the meeting.

As Robin Mermelstein leads SRNT into 2016, I look forward to watching SRNT continue to grow and advance nicotine and tobacco research.



Treasurer's Report

Megan Piper, PhD

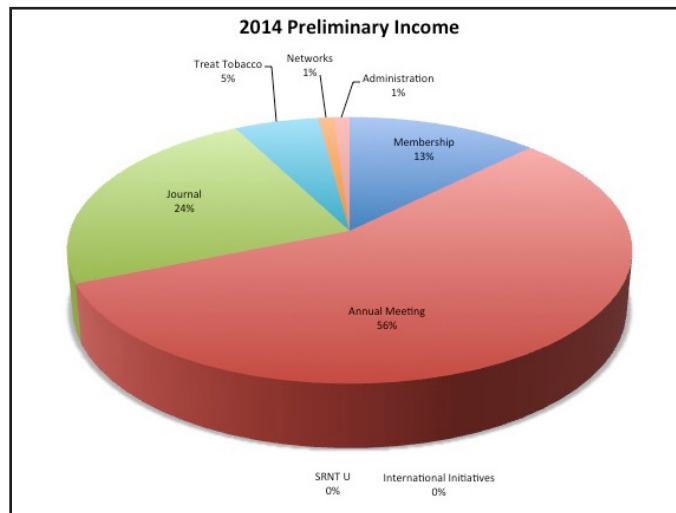
2014 Year-End Financials

As has become our custom, SRNT will end 2014 in the black, with an expected net income of \$10,000. This is due to several factors:

1. Conference registration, projected earnings from the journal, and membership income surpassed expectation
2. In keeping with historical practice, expenses were carefully controlled.

Notes: The 2014 year-end financials are preliminary, as SRNT hasn't yet received the 2014 journal royalties from Oxford University Press or the invoice for member journal subscriptions.

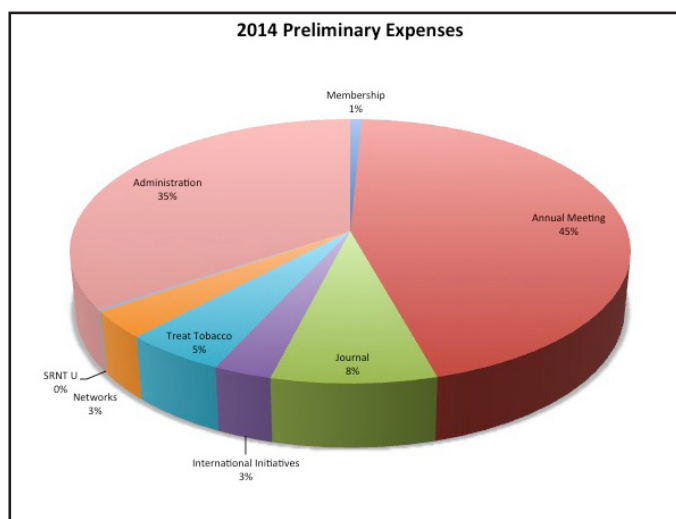
Therefore, year-end net is based on estimates that include outstanding budgeted income and expenses. In addition, interest income (or loss) will be determined based on December 31 actuals and added to the financials by our audit firm at the time the books are formally closed. As the stock market had a relatively positive year, it is expected SRNT will see an increase in interest income that is not reflected in this report.



Revenue and Expenses

SRNT's main sources of revenue are (a) membership dues, (b) conference registration, and (c) journal royalties. Financial support from the pharmaceutical industry in the form of unrestricted educational grants represents less than 10 percent of SRNT's 2014 revenues.

Our two largest areas of expense are (a) management of SRNT by The Rees Group, and (b) the Annual Meeting.



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Treasurer's Report

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Assets

SRNT currently has more than \$1.5 million in assets at year-end. In 2014, we made an effort to ensure that these assets are being used to fund ongoing Society activity, support the Board as it moves forward with the strategic plan, and provides a sufficient safety net in case of economic concerns. To that end, we made the following changes this year:

1. We redefined the definition of the “operating and other necessary expenses” in the Financial Reserve Fund Policy. The prior definition of “operating and other necessary expenses” was the budget for the previous year (2014 budget = \$1.0 million). However, we revised this so that the “operating and other necessary expenses” are defined as those necessary to cover the cost of running SRNT’s office/operations (management fees, phone, insurance, postage, office supplies, and other costs associated with maintaining minimum operations) for one year, based on the average of the prior three years’ expenses, plus \$100,000 to offset any potential conference-related contractual obligations (F/B minimums, sleeping room block, etc.).

Non-contractual costs associated with the Annual Meeting (speaker travel, A/V, printing, insurance, etc.) and costs associated with the journal (editorial fees, member subscriptions, etc.) will not be considered office/operational costs as long as those activities continue to generate more revenues than expenses.

By this definition, we would need \$425,000 to cover operations plus \$100,000 for future conference obligations.

We currently have \$622,873.86 in the Reserve Fund. This means we have exceeded the goal for “operating expenses”. No money will be taken out of the reserve fund at this time, but this also means that any 2014 surplus can remain in the general fund.

2. We are working closely with our professional investment firm to ensure that our funds are being properly managed. This means that funds needed for operations are readily available and that funds that will not be needed within the next 12 months (e.g., funds for the 2017 Annual Meeting in Florence, Italy) are in appropriate investment vehicles that meet the Investment Policy laid out by the SRNT Board. Specifically, this means that we will be closing out most of our CDs and using other investment vehicles to provide appropriate return on longer term investments.

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Treasurer's Report

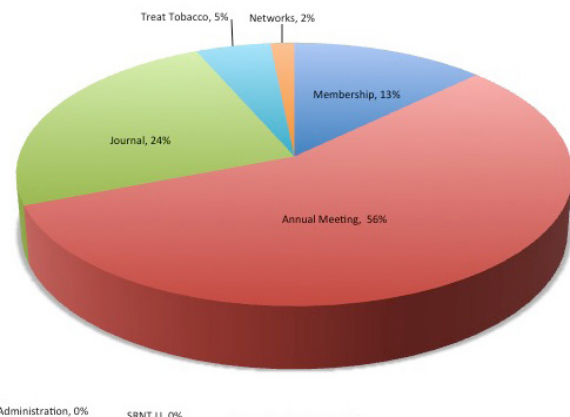
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2015 Budget

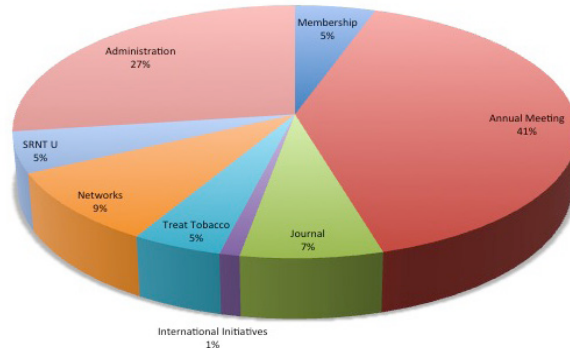
We currently project a budget deficit of \$35,000 for 2015. The largest contributor to this deficit is the Board's initiative to invest \$100,000 in researching the possibility of developing on-line resources to help increase research consumption and capacity in low- and middle-income countries. Further, it should be noted that the costs for the SRNT Networks, which will cost SRNT approximately \$45,000 in 2015 (staff support, travel awards, webinars, and other projects), are now broken out into a separate category to illustrate for the Board and Members how the Society is using funds to support the Members, through the Networks.

Please note that the SRNT Finance Committee and staff budget very conservatively. If history is any guide and investments continue to do well the deficit will likely be smaller. Despite the projected deficit budget for 2015, SRNT is in a very strong financial position.

2015 Budget Income



2015 Budget Expenses



Journal Editor's Report

Editor-in-Chief: David J.D. Balfour, PhD

It is my privilege to present my final journal report as Editor-in-Chief.

2014 has again been a very successful year for the journal. We have received 825 new submissions this year, of which >75% were full papers or reviews. A further 17% were brief reports. The remaining submissions were editorials, commentaries etc. I think it is useful to put these numbers into context. When I began as Editor 9 years ago, we received around 350 original submissions per year. The table below demonstrates how the number of original submissions has mushroomed over the last 5 years.

Year	Number of Original Submissions
2010	525
2011	598
2012	608
2013	681
2014	825

The number of submissions for 2014 may have been influenced, to some extent, by the fact that, at the beginning of the year, we received some submissions for supplements that were published in 2014 and for themed issues that will be published in 2015. Nevertheless, that data suggest that submissions to the journal continue to show a marked upward trend, an indication I believe of the standing of the journal with researchers in the field. As I said in my final editorial in the journal, *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* has become the 'go to' journal for authors in nicotine and tobacco research". It is my impression that papers in the journal are being cited more frequently leading, in the last year, in a modest increase in our impact factor to 2.80.

Our overall acceptance rate was 38%. However, this includes papers submitted for supplements and upcoming themed issues for which the acceptance rate is generally higher – 69% this year. The acceptance rate for articles for regular issues was 34%. This is close to our target. Within this figure are submissions (e.g. editorials, responses from authors to letters to the editor) that are generally accepted. However, the editorial team probably need to be even stricter in 2015 to reduce it to maybe 25-30% to stay within the page budget and not cause too much of a backlog.

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Journal Editor's Report

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The average time between first submission and the first decision was 44 days and most of the Deputy Editor team were close to this mean. I think this is quite impressive and very close to our 6 week target. It is important to remember that the majority of papers are sent out for review and the time to respond to the authors is governed to a considerable extent by the time taken to get the reviewer reports. Thus, in practice, I do not believe we could improve on this figure. I note from the annual report submitted by our virtual editor that 54% of the reviewers we approached agreed to submit a report. This highlights the fact that, on average, we need to approach two reviewers for each report we receive – that is 4 reviewers per paper to get the minimum two reports we like to have for a decision. It is not uncommon to actually have to approach 10 reviewers to get two reports. This is very tedious for our team of Associate Editors and is an issue about which I received most comment. However, I do not think there is anything practical we could do about this.

Normally we aim to publish 2/3 themed issues and sections within our normal 12 issues of the journal. This year did not publish any themed issues. This was not by design but reflected the fact that themed issues commonly take longer to get to press than the guest editors realize. We have three themed issues “in the works” for publication in 2015. One is on Electronic Cigarettes (edited by Karl Fagerström, Jean-Francois Etter and Jennifer Unger). This was published as January issue of journal. Another, edited by Andrea Weinberger and Sherry McKee, on “Innovations in Translational and Gender-Sensitive Tobacco Research” is complete and with the printers. It will appear in the middle part of the year. A third, edited by Kola Okuyemi, will be on “Tobacco-Related Health Disparities”. Hopefully, this will be published toward the end of 2015

We also published three supplements this year. These are additional to our normal 12 issues and are published with the aid of a financial sponsor. They were on the following topics:

- *Economic Aspects of Tobacco Use in Low and Middle Income Countries* is a supplement edited by Deliana Kostova & Frank Chaloupka. It was sponsored by the Center for Disease Control and published with the January issue of the journal.
- *New Methods for Advancing Research on Tobacco Dependence Using Ecological Momentary Assessments* is a supplement was edited by Stephanie Lanza, Megan Piper & Saul Shiffman. It was sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and published with the May issue of the journal.
- The smoking *Assessment Toolkit: Results From Phase I of the PROMIS® Smoking Initiative* is a supplement was edited by Maria Edelen & Brian Hitsman. It was sponsored through the Rand Corporation and was published with the September issue of the journal.

It is quite unusual for us to publish three supplements in one year – our target is no more than two in any one year. However, the journal did not publish any supplements in 2013 so this number is not too excessive.

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Journal Editor's Report

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I think it valuable to reiterate a concern expressed by some of the Deputy Editor team about themed issues and, especially, supplements. While we try to be as strict with papers for supplements and themed issues as we are for general submissions to the journal, in practice I do not think this is true. As intimated above, the acceptance rate for papers submitted for these special issues was 69%. The editors are concerned that we “lower our standards” too much for these issues and their publication might damage the standing of the journal. It has to be remembered that many other journals publish similar themed issues and supplements so we are by no means alone in following this route. Themed issues are especially valuable, in my view, if the journal wants to focus on an important and contemporary issue. The themed issue on electronic cigarettes is a particularly good example of this. Supplements are universally suggested to us by researchers although it has been my practice to get the agreement of the Deputy Editor team before agreeing to a supplement. They are “money spinners” for the Society and the publisher. However, I think we need to be careful they do not damage the standing of the journal. This is a major factor in our decision to limit the number of supplements we agree to. I have also suggested to our new Editor-in-Chief that the papers for future themed issues should be by invitation only so that the editors can control better the quality and timeliness of the papers considered.

I would like to record my thanks to all the members of the Editorial Board for their contribution to the success of the journal in 2014. We have tried, with some success, to spread incoming manuscripts between them as evenly as possible. Thus, they have all been busy on our behalf with very few complaints. As in each year, there have been changes to the editorial team. Janet Audrain-McGovern resigned as an Associate Editor during 2014. We also appointed 4 new Associate Editors – Maciej Goniewicz (Roswell Park Cancer Institute), Mel Hovell (San Diego State University), Jennifer Pearson (Schroeder Institute, American Legacy Foundation, Washington DC) and Lorraine Reitzel (University of Houston). These new Associate Editors not only brought our complement back up to where it should be but also filled some important gaps in the areas of expertise covered by our editorial team.

I would also like to record my thanks to the team at Oxford University Press, especially Rachel Safer and Jan Martin. Their help and ideas have contributed significantly to the presentation and efficiency of the product we offer. I must also record my thanks to Margaret Searle in the Editorial Office. It has been a genuine delight for me to work with her on the journal. She has made the Editor's job very easy and a great pleasure. Her hard work on our behalf contributes significantly to the quality of service we provide to authors.

As the Board will know, Marcus took over as Editor-in-Chief on January 1st of this year. However, for last 5 months of 2014 I increasingly took a back seat as Marcus took up the reins to ensure that the transition was

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Journal Editor's Report

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as seamless as possible. I think we achieved this very satisfactorily. I know that Marcus has some exciting new ideas for the journal and I look forward to watching it flourish under his editorship.

Finally, I would like to close by saying that it has been an honour and a privilege to serve as the Editor of *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. I have greatly enjoyed my time as Editor and I have appreciated the opportunity I have been given to serve in this role.

SRNT-Europe Report

Marcus Munafò, PhD, MSc

The primary activity of SRNT-Europe continues to be our annual meeting, which this year was held from 18th to 20th September 2014 in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. We welcomed delegates from several countries, and enjoyed the local hospitality and culture. In fact, many delegates took the opportunity to complete at least part of the Way of St James, the pilgrimage route that ends in Santiago de Compostela, en route to the meeting.

The 2015 meeting of SRNT-Europe will be held in Maastricht, the oldest city in the Netherlands, from 10th to 12th September 2015 (<http://www.srnt-e2015.com>). The well-known treaty of Maastricht was signed more than 20 years ago in this city and was the start of the European Union and led to the creation of the single European currency. The call for abstract submissions is now open, and will remain open until 15th April 2015.

SRNT-Europe continues to build its membership base as it establishes itself a chapter of SRNT with independent status. We are particularly delighted that so many of our members come from countries outside of Europe. Any member of SRNT may join SRNT-E, and all SRNT-E members must be members of SRNT. SRNT-E members receive a discount on registration for SRNT-E's annual meeting, and can take part in the Chapter activities.

The SRNT-Europe board members for 2014-2015 are Marcus Munafò (President, and Honorary Secretary), Ann McNeill (President Elect), Olivia Maynard (Communications Officer), Sally Adams (Treasurer), Marc Willemsen (Ordinary Member), Outi Salminen (Secretary), and Ivan Berlin (Programme Committee Chair). We also welcome Tellervo Korhonen onto the board, who holds an ex officio position as SRNT Member Delegate for Europe.



Basic Science Network Report

Network Chairs: Melissa Blank, PhD and Meriella De Biasi, PhD

In 2014, the Basic Science Network put a structure in place to manage current work, increase the presence of Basic Science and Basic Science members in SRNT, and develop new projects.

An Advisory Committee with sub-committees was formed as follows:

1. Communications: Christie Fowler (University of California, Irvine)
2. Collaborations: Vaughn Rees (Harvard School of Public Health), Jason Oliver (University of South Florida), Jill Turner (University of South Carolina)
3. Education/Scholarship: Caroline Cobb (Virginia Commonwealth University), Trish Grebenstein (Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation), Alex Duncan (Scripps Research Institute)
4. Program: Mark LeSage (Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation & University of Minnesota), Jerry Stitzel (University of Colorado, Boulder), Heath Schmidt (University of Pennsylvania)

The initial tasks of the Advisory Committee included:

1. Announcing the Advisory Committee members, creating and posting bios to the webpage.
2. Developing a mission statement, posted to the webpage.
3. Generating a list of ideas for projects and goals for the upcoming year.
4. Brainstorming ways to enhance Network engagement.

The Network continues to produce and disseminate its Scientist Spotlight Series. This series highlights the work and accomplishments of basic scientists who are members of SRNT. The chosen scientists are rotated between male and female, as well as junior and senior levels. We had just begun this series as of the 2013 report. Since that time, we have completed four additional interviews and are currently working on our fifth. The interviews are posted on the Network webpage.

Four Basic Science-related symposia proposals were submitted for SRNT 2015, and all were accepted! The topics covered are:

1. Nicotine and alcohol co-abuse
2. Smoking and depression
3. Smoking and eating disorders
4. Mapping circuits of nicotine addiction.

In addition, the Network provided feedback on NIDA's proposed strategic initiatives and generated the idea for a "data blitz" for the 2015 annual conference (the idea was accepted and implemented!).

Finally, the Advisory Committee reviewed applications for the Network's 2015 Travel Awards, and selected two recipients.

Genetics Network Report

Chairs: Marissa Ehringer, PhD and Nancy Saccone, PhD

The Genetics Network focused on educational efforts in 2014, including co-sponsoring a webinar on genetics and personalized smoking cessation treatment with the Treatment Network and planning a pre-conference workshop on the Genetics of Smoking for SRNT 2015. The Network also reviewed applications and chose two recipients of the SNRT Travel Awards.

Global Health Network Report

Chairs: James Thrasher, PhD and Carla Berg, PhD

The Global Health Network's (GHN's) activities in 2014 primarily focused around building research capacity and communications within the GHN membership (summarized below). To provide input into short- and long-term goals and activities, we have quarterly conference calls with our Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from major regions around the world. We thank Carla Berg, Chair of the GHN subcommittee on communications for volunteering to become the new Co-Chair of the GHN!

Research capacity building

We have engaged in research capacity building in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) primarily in the following ways:

- 1) Develop and participate in regional workshops and conferences:
 - a. 4th Latin American Conference on Tobacco or Health, San José, Costa Rica (March 2014)
 - i. Led a day-long pre-conference workshop on building research capacity
 - ii. Participation of SRNT members in various research panels
 - iii. Translation and printing of large Spanish-language banner on the history of the FCTC
 - iv. Surveyed participants
 - v. SRNT research award given to best poster, juried by SRNT members and research leaders from the region
 - b. Summer course on Tobacco Control in Latin America, National Institute of Public Health, Cuernavaca, Mexico (August 2014)
 - i. Helped organize modules on writing for publication
 - ii. Contributing articles that result to a special issue of the Mexican Journal of Public Health

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Global Health Network Report

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- c. 2nd International Conference on Waterpipe Research, Doha Qatar (October 2014)
 - i. Distributed Arabic language abstracts from *NTR* publications on waterpipe and/or tobacco use in the Middle East
 - ii. Surveyed participants and discussed results in a plenary session
 - d. World Conference on Tobacco or Health, Abu Dhabi, UAE (March 2015)
 - i. Organized pre-conference workshop and panel on FCTC Research needs, to follow up on special issue of *NTR*
 - ii. Organized symposium on what we have learned from multi-country studies
 - iii. Global Tobacco Network Survey of participants
- 2) Assess opportunities for meaningful and sustainable SRNT involvement in LMIC research capacity building, including online learning opportunities:
- a. Surveys of established and aspiring tobacco researchers from LMICs who attended key regional conferences on tobacco control (see above)
 - b. Engagement with key stakeholders, including funding agencies, leaders of capacity building projects
 - c. Environmental assessment of existing online materials for tobacco research capacity building.

Communications

We launched quarterly e-newsletters to GHN members, which address:

- GHN activities and opportunities for participation by GHN membership;
- upcoming events, including conferences, conference presentations, and other events of potential interest to GHN membership;
- recent *NTR* publications on topics most relevant to global health.

Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Network Report

Chairs: Patricia Nez Henderson, MD, MPH and Joanne D'Silva, MPH

2014 – 2015 Network Advisory Committee

Jack Burkhalter, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Jennifer Cantrell, American Legacy Foundation

Kelvin Choi, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Steven Fu, University of Minnesota/VA

Norval Hickman, Tobacco Related Disease Research Program

Monica Webb Hooper, University of Miami

Shadi Nahvi, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Kola Okuyemi, University of Minnesota

Jennifer Vidrine, University of Texas

Donna Shelley, New York University

Strategic Plan: A major accomplishment for the TRHD Network Advisory Committee this year was the revision of the Network's strategic plan. The new five year plan for 2014-2018 builds upon the previous strategic plan and outlines goals and objectives that align with SRNT's organizational strategic plan. Through the strategic planning process, a new vision and mission statement for the Network were also adopted (see excerpt below).

VISION: To stimulate the generation and dissemination of scientific knowledge concerning tobacco-related disparities across the translational spectrum – from molecular to societal.

MISSION STATEMENT: The Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Network is the infrastructure to bring the state of the science to the SRNT community about tobacco use disparities and to build capacity among investigators and trainees to understand and eliminate such disparities.

TRHD Network Goals 2014-2018

1. Promote leadership development, diversity, and inclusivity among investigators interested in disparities research.
2. Provide information and support to investigators to ensure that innovative and cross-disciplinary disparities research and collaboration is well-represented at the SRNT annual conference.
3. Serve as the resource for policy, practice, and research related to disparities.
4. Enhance visibility of disparities research and promote leadership for the advancement of the field.
5. Financial resources are sufficient and sustainable to support Network activities.

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Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Network Report

Continued

6. Support the collective identity and external visibility of SRNT by enhancing proactive disparities-related communications to the organization and the scientific community.
7. Provide ongoing evaluation of Network activities to provide helpful information and actionable recommendations for planning future Network activities.

Journal Supplement: The special themed issue to *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* on tobacco-related health disparities received an overwhelming response with over 60 abstracts submitted for consideration. The issue is on track to be published in mid-2015. Guest editors for the themed issue are Kola Okuyemi, Pebbles Fagan, and Lorraine Reitzel.

Additional activities for the TRHD Network for 2014 are summarized below by workgroup.

Program Workgroup: Co-chairs Donna Shelley and Jennifer Cantrell worked closely with members to develop disparities-related submissions for the 2015 SRNT annual meeting. They provided information on abstract and symposia criteria, helped researchers develop symposia themes, and connected researchers with similar interests to facilitate symposia submissions. At least 35 posters, 11 paper sessions, 1 new investigator session and 3 symposia will focus on disparities-related research. In addition, a pre-conference workshop titled “Integrating Mobile Technology into Research with Disparate Populations: Methodological Challenges and Solutions” was accepted for the 2015 meeting. The pre-conference workshop will include an overview of the use of mobile technologies to conceptualize, design, implement and manage studies, a discussion of methodological challenges and solutions, as well as small group technology demonstrations with presenters.

Evaluation Workgroup: Co-chairs Norval Hickman and Shadi Nahvi have developed a survey of past TRHD scholarship recipients to assess the impact of the scholarship on career development and engagement with SRNT. The goals and objectives of the survey, survey materials, and consent documents were reviewed with the advisory committee; IRB approval was obtained; and the survey was launched in December 2014. Data collection is ongoing, and results are anticipated in February 2015.

Communications Workgroup: Chair Monica Webb Hooper has continued to develop methods to maintain communication, correspondence, and engagement among TRHD Network members. The TRHD Network’s website went live in January 2015, with regular updates of relevant events and announcements. The Facebook page remains one of the most active sources of communication, with membership increasing to 71 members (from 59 at this time in 2014). The workgroup has also developed a plan for encouraging communication via the Network’s listserv, which includes stimulating conversations, questions, and information sharing led by the Advisory Committee.

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Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Network Report

Continued

Scholarship Workgroup: It was another competitive year for the 2015 SRNT TRHD Increasing Diversity Scholarship Program lead by Co-chairs Steve Fu and Jack Burkhalter and assisted by Kelvin Choi and Jennifer Vidrine. 47 applications were reviewed by expert reviewers from the Network. A total of 9 scholarships were awarded to a diverse and highly qualified group of junior investigators, fellows and graduate students who are conducting ground-breaking research to ameliorate tobacco-related health disparities. Scholars are also invited to participate in a mentorship program, coordinated by Cendrine Robinson, which pairs scholars with senior investigators based on their areas of interest. In addition, TRHD travel awards were presented to one international researcher and one US-based researcher. The scholarship program was made possible through the generous support of the American Legacy Foundation, the Tobacco Related Disease Research Program, ClearWay Minnesota, and SRNT.

Training Network Report

Chairs: Jessica Cook, PhD, Bryan Heckman, PhD and Stephen Heishman, PhD

Summary of Activities

The Trainee Network is excited to report that we have continued to be highly active since our development three years ago, and the Network consists of 177 active members. Our advisory board meets monthly via teleconference. Founding co-chair, John Hughes, transitioned off the advisory board and Steve Heishman began serving as co-chair. To best serve our membership, and enhance the sustainability of the Network, we established sub-committees dedicated to Networking, Education, and Communications. Committees work together to provide services requested by SRNT's trainees (Heckman et al., 2013), with a focus on resources aimed to enhance networking opportunities and career development. The advisory board collects feedback throughout all activities, and integrates this information into subsequent planning.

Networking Committee

Amanda Mathew (co-chair), Jen Dahne (co-chair), Elana Hoffman, Adrienne Lidgard, and Erica Peters

Communications Committee

Olga Rass (co-chair), Emily Zale (co-chair), Erika Litvin Bloom, and Lauren Pacek

Education Committee

Trish Grebenstein (co-chair), Paul Harrell, and Melissa Blank

Continued



Training Network Report

Continued

To Address Networking

1. We hosted a trainee/senior investigator mixer event at SRNT 2014 that drew attendance from 18 institutional representatives and over 100 members.
2. We have an active listserv, and regularly communicate with trainees by soliciting input and feedback via online surveys (e.g., preferred topics for workshops & webinars).
3. We have developed and established the Trainee Spotlight Series for quarterly publication in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* Society pages and on the SRNT website. In the first quarter, we received 21 responses (19 unique nominations) and the work of 4 trainees has already been highlighted. Those featured will have ribbons on their conference name tags so feel free to congratulate them on a job well done!
4. We provided \$500 travel awards to 4 trainees to help attend the SRNT 2015 conference.
5. We plan to develop the “*Trainee’s Guide to the Annual Meeting*” and distribute it trainees for the 2015 SRNT conference.

To Address Career Development

1. We have continued the Trainee Network webinar series.
 - a. 60 members attended “How Trainees Can Contribute to Tobacco Regulatory Science,” hosted by Drs. Cathy Backinger and Dorothy Hatsukami.
 - b. 54 members attended “Translational Science,” hosted by Drs. Eric Donny and Mary Kautz.
2. We hosted our first pre-conference workshop at the SRNT 2014 conference.
 - a. 47 members attended “Developing a Successful Line of Research Across Early Career Stages,” featuring presentations by Bryan Heckman, Erika Bloom, Jessica Cook, Thomas Brandon, Richard Brown, Michael Fiore, Ron Borland, Stephen Heishman, and John Hughes.
3. We maintain an active website that provides advertising for upcoming events and access to past events. This year we updated website content and structure to make the webinar videos more accessible. The website also lists potential training sites.

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Training Network Report

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2015 Goals

We will maintain the activities listed above, and hope to achieve greater international representation among our advisory board. Below are additional goals under consideration:

1. Conference events
 - a. Trainees sign up to meet with senior researchers, perhaps individually (e.g., at poster session) or in group format (e.g., “Breakfast with Champions”)
 - b. Trainee data blitz
2. Quarterly membership meetings, via teleconference/webinar
3. Interactive trainee research webinars (e.g., to get feedback)
4. Monitor website metrics to see how people are using it.

Reference: Heckman, B. W., Blank, M. D., Peters, E. N., Patrick, M. E., Bloom, E. L., Mathew, A. R., Schweizer, C. A., Rass, O., Lidgard, A. L., Zale, E. L., Cook, J. W., & Hughes, J. R. (2013). Training tomorrow's tobacco scientists, today: The SRNT Trainee Network. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, 15.

Treatment Network Report

Chairs: Jennifer McClure, PhD and Benjamin Toll, PhD

1. The Treatment Network Advisory Committee continues to meet monthly to provide high level guidance for all Treatment Network activities. In addition to providing guidance for each of the Treatment Network Sub-committees, key activities of the AC in 2014 included:
 - Sponsored a pre-conference workshop at the 2014 annual meeting.
 - Planning pre-conference workshop for the 2015 meeting entitled, “Treating Patients with Common Clinical Co-morbidities: What Clinicians and Researchers Need to Know.”
 - Awarded travel awards to 2 recipients in 2014 and have selected 3 travel award recipients for the 2015 conference.
 - Collated Network feedback on NIDA's proposed strategic initiatives.
 - Jennifer McClure will end her term as co-chair of the AC in February 2015, but remain on the AC. Lisa Fucito has been named as her replacement, with prior approval from the SRNT Board.
 - Provided feedback to the SRNT Board regarding organizational policies and procedures for soliciting and endorsing official SRNT position papers.
 - Explored SRNT Board interest in an official position paper calling for additional research on

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Treatment Network Report

Continued

e-cigarettes, but was advised not to pursue this topic as an official publication. [See discussion of other publication efforts under Writing sub-committee below.]

Advisory Committee Members: Jennifer McClure (co-chair), Ben Toll (co-chair), Lisa Fucito, Megan Piper, and Nancy Rigotti. Lisa Fucito will replace Jennifer McClure as co-chair in 2015.

2. ATTUD/SRNT Synergy Committee: The goal of this Sub-committee is to enhance synergy between SRNT and ATTUD. Key activities in 2014 included:
 - Wrote a position paper calling for smoking cessation treatment to be offered in conjunction with lung cancer screening. The manuscript received joint Board approval in December 2014 and was submitted to the Journal of Clinical Oncology.
 - Helped inform planning for the 2015 pre-conference workshop, which is co-sponsored by ATTUD.
 - Created a Dissemination and Implementation research survey that is in process of being implemented among the members of the SRNT Treatment Network and ATTUD.

ATTUD/SRNT Synergy Sub-committee Members: Ben Toll (chair), Lisa Fucito, Chris Kotsen, Sharon Czabafy, Peter Hendricks, and Donna Richardson. [NOTE: Peter Hendricks will assume role as chair in 2015 and Erin McClure and Erica Peters will join this sub-committee. Ben Toll and Lisa Fucito will rotate off committee in February 2015]

3. Education Sub-committee: The goal of this subcommittee is to host educational webinars of interest to the Treatment Network and broader SRNT membership. Key activities in 2014 included:
 - Sponsored 3 webinars:
 1. Dr. Erik Auguston, “The Potential of mHealth for Tobacco Dependence Treatment: Domestic and International Examples from NCI’s Smokefree.gov Initiative.” [January 2014]
 2. “Genetics and Personalized Smoking Cessation Treatment” Co-sponsored with Genetics Network [November 2014]
 3. Dr. David Wetter, “Tobacco-related Disparities: SES, Context, and Smoking cessation.” [December 2014]
 - Published a summary of Dr. Auguston’s webinar in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, July 2014
 - Coordinated webinar for January 2015, “Missing Data in Smoking Cessation Trials” by Dr. Don Hedeker.

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Treatment Network Report

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Education Sub-committee members: Jan Blalock (chair), Darla Kendzor, Michael Businelle

4. Communications: This subcommittee is focused on building membership within the Treatment Network Listserv and facilitating active discussions on the Listserv. Key activities in 2014 included:
 - Increased Treatment Network Listserv membership from 99 to 139 (from January 2014 to January 2015)
 - Modestly increased engagement (i.e., responses to Listserv posts) with Treatment Network listserv posts
 - Began *Treatment Network Member Highlights*, to introduce and spotlight different Network members. The first edition will be posted to the members only website and distributed via the Network Listserv before the February 2015 meeting.

Communications Sub-committee members: Marc Steinberg (chair), Sally Adams, Michael Burke, Audrey Darville, Peter Selby, Andrea Weinberger

5. Writing: The goal of this subcommittee is to publish one peer-reviewed paper per year related to important tobacco treatment scientific content. Key activities in 2014 included:
 - Drafted a jointly sponsored ATTUD/SRNT manuscript on integrating smoking cessation services with lung cancer screening. Following approval from the SRNT and ATTUD Boards, the paper was submitted to the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.
 - Submitted a paper proposal on cytisine to the SRNT Board for consideration with Natalie Walker as the lead author. Other collaborators include: Nancy Rigotti, Martin Raw, Robert West, and Carolyn Dresler. The paper will be submitted to the Board for approval prior to submission in spring 2015.
 - Submitted a paper proposal to the SRNT Board on smoking cessation for patients with medical and psychiatric comorbidities. The paper was drafted by the SRNT Treatment Network Comorbidity workgroup. Alana Rojewski was the lead author and Graham Warren the senior author. The final paper will be submitted to the Board for approval prior to submission in spring 2015.

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Treatment Network Report

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Writing Sub-committee members: Lisa Fucito (chair), Ben Toll, Ariadna Forray, Alana Rojewski, Peter Selby, Robert West

6. News: The goal of this subcommittee is to keep our membership abreast of breaking news in the tobacco world by publishing brief reports in the *Nicotine & Tobacco Research Society Pages*. Key activities in 2014 included:
- Published two write-ups for *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, one on smoking and special populations and one on recent policy-related treatment issues.
 - Prepared a write-up on e-cig use, but were asked not to publish this given the controversy on this topic and belief from committee members that SRNT should address the issue in a more substantive position paper on behalf of the society. [NOTE: The AC sought Board approval for an official paper reviewing the research literature on e-cigs, but did not receive approval to prepare this paper on behalf of the society.]

With limited opportunities to publish in the Society Pages section of the journal and competing demands for subcommittee member time, this subcommittee was formally disbanded in January 2015. Members have been invited to join other Treatment Network subcommittees and this transition is underway.

News Sub-committee members: Jolomi Ikomi (chair), Ariadna Forray, Erica Peters, Karen Cropsey, Michele Pergadia, and Robert West.

Awards Committee Report

Chair: Saul Shiffman

The Awards Committee met in mid-February to review the nominations for the 2015 Awards: John Slade Award, which honors SRNT members who have made outstanding contributions to public health and tobacco control through science-based public policy and public advocacy; Jarvik-Russell Early Career Award, which honors SRNT members who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of nicotine and tobacco research within seven years of receiving their terminal degree; and the Ove Ferno Award, which honors scientists who have made groundbreaking advances in the area of clinical research.

As usual, the Committee received many outstanding nominations from the membership and after lengthy discussion selected the following recipients:

John Slade Award: Matt Myers, JD

Jarvik-Russell Early Career Investigator Award: Hayden McRobbie, MB, ChB

Ove Ferno Award: Tim Baker, PhD

Finance Committee Report

Chair: Judy Andrews, PhD

Please see the 2014 Treasurer's Report

Nominations Committee Report

Chair: Eden Evins, MD

The annual call for nomination of officers was sent to SRNT in the fall of 2014. The Committee, chaired for the third year by Al Eden Evins, reviewed nominations for the positions of President-Elect and Member Delegate representing Europe. The membership responded with outstanding nominees, which were reviewed by the Committee and the final slate of candidates was presented to the Board of Directors before opening the election process.

Deborah Ossip was elected to the office of President-Elect. Telervo Korhonen was elected to the office of Member Delegate representing Europe.



Program Committee Report

Chair: Jodi Prochaska, PhD

The 2015 Program Committee is chaired by Jodi Prochaska, and co-chaired by Maciej Goniewica and Natalie Walker. This year's meeting presents a highly transdisciplinary collection of cutting edge science across the full spectrum of basic and applied research on nicotine and tobacco. Electronic nicotine delivery systems are making a statement in the field as are many advancing areas, including a focus on special populations, health disparities, reduced nicotine content strategies, health technology and mHealth, among others. The field is moving apace, cutting ground and impacting public health. Highlights of the 2015 Program include:

Keynote Lecture

"One Billion Lives at Stake: Addressing the Greatest Public Health Challenge of Our Time"

John Seffrin, PhD

2015 Langley Award and Basic Science Theme Lecture

"Regulation of Nicotinic Cholinergic Receptors in Brain"

Kenneth Kellar, PhD

Epidemiology and Public Health Theme Lecture

"Epidemiology of Tobacco Use and Dependence: Historical Patterns and Emerging Perspectives"

Gary Giovino, PhD

Clinical Theme Lecture

"Pragmatic Trials to Inform Smoking Cessation Policy & Practice"

Natalie Walker, PhD

Public Policy Theme Lecture

"The Sale of Cigarettes Should Be Banned! The Case for Abolition"

Robert N. Proctor, PhD

Jarvik-Russel Early Career Award Lecture

"The Sociopharmacology of Tobacco Addiction: Using Psychopharmacology to Understand Health Disparities"

Adam Leventhal, PhD

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Program Committee Report

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Special Symposium

“The Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study: An Interim Preliminary First Look at Tobacco Use from the Baseline Wave”

Andrew Hyland, PhD, Kevin Conway, PhD, Elizabeth Lambert, PhD, Nicolette Borek, PhD, Bridget Ambrose, PhD, MPH, Jonathan Kwan, PhD, Kristie Taylor, PhD, Charles Carusi, PhD, David Maklan, PhD, on behalf of the PATH Study Team

Eight pre-conference workshops were accepted for presentation in Philadelphia:

- Building Consensus in Tobacco Control Measurement: PROMIS and PhenX
- Emerging FDA-funded Tobacco Regulatory Science
- Genetics of Smoking - Biology, Biomarkers, and Health Impact
- Integrating Mobile Technology into Research with Disparate Populations: Methodological Challenges and Solutions
- Moving Beyond “Mice to Men”: Innovations in Translational Gender-Sensitive Tobacco Research
- Transforming Science into Policy: Identifying Obstacles and Developing a Roadmap
- Translation of Tobacco Research into Clinical Education and Training of Health-Care Professionals Treating Patients with Common Clinical Co-morbidities: What Clinicians and Researchers Need to Know

And, seven highly interactive Transdisciplinary Discussions were planned:

- Electronic cigarette advertising: The good, the bad, and the ugly
- Continuum of risk - pros and cons in tobacco regulation
- Marijuana and tobacco use: What common concerns are there regarding use, co-administration, marketing, and social norms?
- Smoking cessation in the work place- butting in, how companies can help employees quit
- Research needs for strengthening tobacco control in low- and middle-income countries
- Vaping in public places - pros and cons
- What standards do we need for new nicotine-delivery products?

With more than 850 abstracts submitted for presentation at the 2015 conference, the Program Committee worked thoughtfully to create a timely and high-quality scientific program spanning the transdisciplinary science of nicotine and tobacco research. At the time this report was going to print, early registration numbers indicated attendance would break the record set in Boston in 2013. In response to the sheer quantity of high quality abstracts submitted, there will be eight concurrent breakout Podium Sessions presented over the course of the conference rather than the usual six – for a total of 48 symposia and paper sessions, and five poster sessions rather than the usual four.



Web Committee Report

Chair: Judith Gordon, PhD

SRNT's Web Committee is in the process of transitioning into SRNT's Electronic Communications Committee, which, in 2015, will oversee the development of a new, more sophisticated website that will fully integrate with SRNT's membership and conference registration databases. In addition, the Electronic Communications Committee will be seeking volunteers to support new social media projects, including a new Facebook page that will promote Network activities, highlight journal articles, provide additional information on SRNT's annual meeting, and shine a spotlight on members in the news. A Twitter Feed is also being discussed as a way of engaging the broader research community and interested members of the public by highlighting breaking news in the areas of nicotine and tobacco, as well as promoting special public health initiatives such as the Great American Smokeout.

Executive Director's Report

Bruce Wheeler

“Coming Soon: SRNT 2.0”

You’ve seen the tagline on the back of the abstract book and even on the back of your name badge. You’ll also see it on the back of the SRNT journal for the next few months.

But what the heck does it mean? What, exactly, is “SRNT 2.0”?

While every year since I came on board in 2004 has (truly) been a good one, 2014 was the year I saw the future imagined with the 2013 strategic plan, the organizational foundation strengthened in recent years, and the hard work of countless volunteers really begin to coalesce. As noted in Tom Gould’s presidential report, SRNT’s topical Networks produced pre-conference workshops, white papers and webinars. With the support and direction of the Global Health Network, SRNT participated in conferences in Costa Rica and Qatar. We became more adept at providing comments to the FDA. New internal policies were put into place that will help insure a strong financial future.

As for “SRNT 2.0,” this year SRNT will see even more webinars presented by Networks and publication of more Network-generated papers. We will take a more active role in coalitions focused on regulatory and legislative efforts to expand clean air regulations to more work and public spaces. SRNT will unveil a more user-friendly website, with more resources for members, as well as for consumers of the research SRNT members present and publish. We will have a brand-spanking new Facebook page that will highlight Network activities, the conference, journal content, members in the news (and more!). SRNT will truly become “2.0” when we fully embrace social media with the introduction of an SRNT Twitter feed.

But, as they say, that’s not all!

We will also have a new abstract system in place for the 2016 conference submissions, and *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* Editor-in-Chief, Marcus Munafò, will begin implementing aspects of his vision for SRNT’s journal that will make it an even more valuable resource for researchers around the world. This year, for the first time, SRNT has a fully-staffed press room at its Annual Meeting, and we will develop a global press list in the coming months, to which we will send press releases highlighting important news/events within SRNT. I’m even working with a graphic designer on a new logo that will support future outreach activities to better represent, visually, who SRNT is and what we stand for.

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Executive Director's Report

Continued

But to me, the most exciting initiative is the first phase of what will ultimately be an expansive new educational strategy for SRNT. This year, after several consecutive fiscal years ending squarely in the black, SRNT is investing resources (financial, as well as volunteer and staff) in a process to identify how SRNT can most efficiently and effectively provide education to people working in lower- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Incoming SRNT President, Robin Mermelstein, has seated a blue-ribbon advisory committee, chaired by Past President Ken Warner, that will spend the year considering opportunities/challenges related to the creation of a web-based certification program targeted at consumers of nicotine and tobacco research in LMICs. The program is intended to build capacity by helping professionals working in tobacco control and cessation/intervention to access and utilize existing research, as well as document their own activities, undertake in-country studies that validate existing data (which can then be used to impact local regulations) or support other regional tobacco control and/or intervention activities. If successful (and I have no doubt that it will be successful), these efforts will significantly raise SRNT's visibility globally, increase membership in underrepresented regions, and position SRNT as the go-to organization for nicotine/tobacco expertise.

This multi-year project may also include mentoring and online dissemination components, and is just Phase One of a long-term, web-based educational initiative dubbed "SRNT-U" that will incorporate annual meeting content, Network and other webinars, educational tracks for trainees and high-income country researchers, and even a track for academics and others who work alongside researchers and need a better understanding of what it is that all y'all do. As this Society-wide initiative begins to take shape in coming years, there will be numerous opportunities for SRNT member participation, so be on the lookout for calls for help!

I can honestly say that 2014 was an amazing, productive year for SRNT. However, all I have to do is look at the many initiatives/activities/projects currently underway to know that next year I'll report what a turning point 2015 was for the organization, a very real re-visioning of the Society, focused on both members and the future.

And that, my friends, is what "SRNT 2.0" is all about!



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