



## 2020 SRS Board of Directors Candidate

**Sairam Parthasarathy, MD**



Over the course of my career, I have learned and accumulated skills that derived from various experiences that I hope could be used to serve the sleep research field as a whole. I currently serve as a Special Advisor to the national Center for Sleep Disorders Research (NCSDR) of the NIH to assist with the writing of the 2020 NIH Sleep Disorders Research Plan which comes to an end in March 2020. I have previously served as both a member and as Chairman of the Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board

(SRAB) to the NIH and during my tenure on the SDRAB the 2011 NIH Sleep Research Plan was crafted and helped me learn to think strategically about the future of sleep and circadian science research. I have been able to draw on such experiences in order to lead other initiatives and taskforce such as the recent NIH-SRS Implementation Science taskforce which led to a consensus statement in the journal SLEEP. I have contributed as the co-chair of the SRS Implementation Science taskforce, section head of the sleep-disordered breathing section, and serve currently on the nominations committee of the SRS. I have played other leadership roles in the Sleep Research Network (past-chairperson before it merged with the SRS); American Thoracic Society (as chair of the nominations committee); American Academy of Sleep Medicine (chair of the research committee); and American Sleep Medicine Foundation (chairperson of the grant review committee). All of such experiences have collectively aided me to develop skills in strategic visioning, effective communication, and leadership qualities.

I am actively engaged in sleep research and training. My sleep research is in the clinical-translational research (T2-4) spectrum and I am currently funded by 13 NIH and PCORI grants either as the PI or co-investigator. My contributions to sleep research are enclosed in the attached NIH-biosketch. As a health services researcher performing comparative-effectiveness research and patient-centered outcomes research, I believe that I have much to contribute to the future of sleep research by supporting the mission and goals of the SRS. With regards to training, I am an MPI

on a NIH R25-PRIDE training grant that serves to train young faculty who are under-represented in biomedical research. Lastly, I helped conceive and advance the Young Investigator Research Forum of the AASM which has inspired over 250 young investigators. Moreover, I also serve as the Program Director for the ACGME-accredited Sleep Medicine Fellowship Program at the University of Arizona.

I have received formal training in Academic Leadership as a 2017-2018 cohort of the University of Arizona Academic Leadership Institute and subsequently served on their selection committee. I currently serve as the Division Chief of a large division within the Department of Medicine with over 26 faculty members and direct the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center for Sleep and Circadian Sciences (UAHS). As the director of the UAHS-CSCS, I recently led a team to secure a \$5 million construction grant from the NIH Office of the Director to build a state-of-the-art sleep research center with the Senior Vice President of the UAHS. This required team building and bringing together over 20 funded sleep researchers at our institution to work together in order to be successful. I have previously served as Chief of Research at the Veterans Affairs and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Biomedical Research and Education Foundation of Southern Arizona, and through such a role, I have gained much understanding on regulatory, ethical, legal, and financial aspects of various fiduciary roles as they pertain to research advancement.

I have served the field in various roles as Associate Editor for SLEEP, Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine, and Frontiers of Neurology (Sleep Disorders Section) and on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine and as a member of various taskforces and committees. Through such roles as a volunteer, I had derived great satisfaction in contributing to the sleep field as a whole. Such broad and rich experiences combined with a strong desire to improve patient-centered outcomes through health services research continues to inspire me daily. I am committed to SRS' long-term objectives to advance sleep and circadian science. I believe that my experience in multiple such roles would be of assistance to furthering SRS' mission.

I believe that I am knowledgeable about the SRS and the field and am willing to learn more as a member of the board. I have been inspired by the overarching goals and mission of SRS and hope to serve as an effective board member. I appreciate your kind consideration of my candidacy.