



## **2022 SRS Board of Directors Candidate**

### **Director-at-Large**

### **Saurabh Thosar, PhD**



I write to express my interest in serving as a Director-at-Large on the Sleep Research Society (SRS) board. I have relevant administrative experience, balanced perspectives, and excellent leadership and communication skills that I will use to further the objectives of our society. I have served the SRS since 2015, first as a member of the advocacy task force and currently as a member of the scientific review committee.

These service opportunities have allowed me to gain valuable experience and knowledge about SRS's strategic planning, scientific offerings, and career development opportunities.

I am currently an assistant professor at the Oregon Health & Science University with relevant research experience in sleep and circadian biology demonstrated by numerous publications, a track record of securing incremental funding for my research enterprise, and invited speakerships at international meetings and organizations. In my short career (since July 2018) as a faculty member at the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences, my institute's leadership has entrusted me with several critical service appointments, including 1) chairing a collaborative projects committee to increase collaboration among faculty within the institute, 2) co-chairing the faculty retreat committee to help facilitate a faculty retreat, 3) serving on a successful faculty search committee, and 4) serving on a strategic vision committee. In addition to these appointments, as an example of my commitment to education, I direct the institute's summer internship program, which we successfully adapted to enrich student learning even during the ongoing pandemic.

I am committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Being an immigrant and a person of color positions me uniquely to understand the complexities of our working and social environment. To demonstrate my commitment to this cause, I have led our

research group's efforts to increase our understanding of DEI in science by helping schedule formal readings and discussions around these topics. Furthermore, I was invited to serve as a reviewer for anti-racism fellowship grants through the School of Public Health at OHSU. My service commitments do not end in academia. For instance, I recently finished a 3-year term as a member of the visioning advisory committee for Beaverton, OR, facilitating the inclusion of residents' views in the visioning process.

As an independent early-career investigator, I am uniquely suited to help drive the vision of SRS, which would have sustainable benefits for junior investigators such as myself. I am committed to sleep research and have the necessary knowledge, experience, creativity and drive to serve the SRS as a Director-at-Large should I be afforded this opportunity. I am fully aware of the time commitments for this service position and have secured the endorsement of my institute's director for this application.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Saurabh S. Thosar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Saurabh S. Thosar, PhD