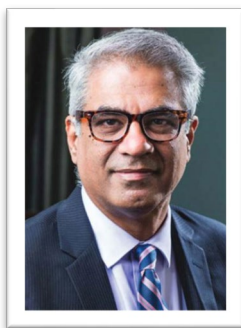




## 2023 SRS Board of Directors Candidate

### President-Elect

**Sairam Parthasarathy, MD**



Dear Colleagues:

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 have previously served as a **Special Advisor to the National Center for Sleep Disorders Research (NCSDR)** of the NIH to assist with the writing of the *2021 NIH Sleep Disorders Research Plan* and as **Chairman of the Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board (SDRAB)** to the NIH. During the latter tenure, I participated in the working groups of the older 2011 NIH Sleep Research Plan. During both of these tenures with the NCSDR/ SDRAB, my learnings and contributions 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 as well as my most recent tenure as **SRS Foundation President and member of the Board of Directors of the SRS**. I have previously contributed as the co-chair of the SRS Implementation Science taskforce, section head of the sleep-disordered breathing section, and served 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 these 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 15 grants

from NIH, PCORI, CDC, Office of Minority Health of the Department of Health and Human Services as either the contact PI, MPI, 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. Currently, I am one of the MPIs of the adult cohort of the RECOVER study that is addressing the epidemiology, pathobiology, and consequences of long-COVID. Considering the profound effects of long-COVID on sleep, I led a team of 5 multiple PIs and over 50 sleep-circadian science researchers from 16 institutions to secure an adaptive platform trial of sleep interventions in Long-COVID. Moreover, I serve as the contact PI for a statewide NIH grant addressing health disparities – Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) against COVID Disparities which is part of a 21-state consortium that promotes health literacy, inclusive participation in research and enrollment into the RECOVER trial on long COVID that affects sleep and lung health. This initiative is funded by National Institute of Minority Health and Disparities (NIMHD) as well as NHLBI.

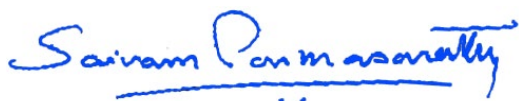
With regards to **training**, I am an MPI on a NIH R25-PRIDE training grant that serves to train young faculty who are underrepresented in biomedical research and in the process of a competitive renewal. Lastly, I helped conceive and advance the Young Investigator Research Forum of the AASM which has inspired over 350 young investigators that partners with the SRS for at least 3 slots for trainees each year. Moreover, I serve as a standing member of the NITM (T32) study section for the NIH-NHLBI. Until January 2023, I served as the Program Director for the ACGME-accredited Sleep Medicine Fellowship Program at the University of Arizona before I relinquished this position to a mentee of mine (Dr. Saif Mashaqi). 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, 10 advanced practitioners, 21 fellows, and 6 administrators. I direct the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center for Sleep and Circadian Sciences (UAHS) as the inaugural director since 2018. Recently, I 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 roles, 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 serve 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 as a board member and SRSF President. I have helped raise and substantially increase the fundraising for the SRSF and most recently helped secure a large and focused grant on big-data science aimed at advancing the field of narcolepsy research with regards to cardiovascular outcomes. I believe in life-long learning and have been inspired by the overarching goals and mission of SRS and the SRSF and hope to serve the community of sleep-circadian science researchers and members as an effective President of the SRS. I appreciate your kind consideration of my candidacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sairam Parthasarathy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a blue line.

Sairam Parthasarathy, MD