



2024 SRS Board of Directors Candidate

Director-at-Large

Fiona Baker, PhD



Dear Colleagues:

If chosen to serve on the SRS Board, I would be committed to supporting growth and recognition of the society and its important role in advancing sleep and circadian science. The SRS is my home, and I have been a member since I joined as a trainee in 1997. I also have experience working within SRS: I served as Trainee member-at-large in 2005-2006 and served as a member of the Trainee Education Advisory Committee (2017-2020). I also am committed to the society through my current role as Associate Editor of SLEEP. I have an appreciation of the multiple domains of sleep and circadian research, having completed my post-doc in basic sleep research under the mentorship of Dr Dennis McGinty, and since then, having worked in applied, clinical, and industry-sponsored research at SRI International. My main areas of research are sleep and women's health, and sleep and brain development across adolescence. I believe a major strength of the SRS is its support for trainees. I am passionately committed to mentorship: while I am not at a higher learning institution, I find other ways to mentor, including mentoring junior faculty at SRI and other institutions on grant applications and papers, co-supervising students at US universities where I collaborate, and maintaining an honorary professorial research fellow position at my Alma Mater, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. I also have leadership experience that I can bring to the SRS board: Since 2021, I have served as Director of the Center for Health Sciences within the Biosciences Division at SRI, a non-profit research organization in Menlo Park, California. In this role, I sit on the leadership board of directors, which is involved in planning budgets, IR&D, staffing, policy, and infrastructure for the division. I also develop the future research plan and budgets for the Center of Health Sciences and supervise staff. Finally, I have

substantial research experience, having received continuous NIH-funding since 2007, and am currently serving on the NIH Mechanisms of Emotion, Stress and Health (MESH) study section. I am PI on two major consortium projects about brain development (NCANDA and ABCD). These projects are not sleep-centric but I am constantly promoting the importance of considering sleep as a major health factor within these projects. I am therefore a strong advocate for sleep. It would be my honor to serve as a Director on the SRS Board.

Sincerely,

Fiona Baker, PhD