Five FASEB Society Members Among Those Recently Installed on AAHRPP Board of Directors

Five FASEB Society Members are among the 21 newly installed members of the board of directors for the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP). David J. Skorton, a member of the American Physiological Society, was elected president of the board. Other AAHRPP board members affiliated with FASEB societies are: Barbara E. Bierer, who represents the American Society of Clinical Investigators (ASCI) on the FASEB Board of Directors and is also a member of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research and the American Association of Immunologists; Shlomo Melmed, a member of ASCI and The Endocrine Society; Mark Sobel, the executive officer for and member of the American Society for Investigative Pathology, and a member of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB); and, L. Dennis Smith, also a member of ASBMB.

AAHRPP is developing a voluntary, peer-driven, educationally focused accreditation program for human research protection, using a site visit model that employs a rigorous set of performance standards and outcome measures. One of the board's first tasks will be to review the public comments on AAHRPP's Interim Accreditation Standards and Procedures. A public review and comment period runs until December 3, 2001. These comments, along with input from pilot site visits, will be used in finalizing the standards. AAHRPP's first pilot site visit will be conducted at the National Institutes of Health in December, and the organization plans to accept applications for full accreditation in early 2002.

Marjorie Speers, AAHRPP's executive director, said, "I couldn't be more pleased with the people that chose to serve on this board, and who will carry the work of AAHRPP forward. There is important representation from all relevant perspectives: from research participants, from institutional review boards, and from a wide range of research interests. I'm particularly pleased that 5 of the 21 members are public representatives."

AAHRPP is a national, nonprofit accrediting organization incorporated in April 2001. It's founding
members, along with FASEB, are the Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of American Universities, Consortium of Social Science Associations, National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, National Health Council, and Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research. For more information, visit www.aahrpp.org.

AAHRPP's Board of Directors is:

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National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health

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Vice President for Research
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Mark Sobel, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Officer, American Society for Investigative Pathology,
FASEB is comprised of 21 societies with more than 60,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB strives to enhance the ability of life scientists to improve, through their research, the health and well-being of all people. FASEB serves the interests of these scientists, particularly in areas related to public policy; facilitates coalition activities among its Member Societies; and, disseminates information on biological research through scientific conferences and publications.