



AUA Staff Liaison	Christine Lagana-Riordan, PhD, LCSW-C
Chair	Steven Kaplan, MD
Terms of Office	Chair: 4 years (non-renewable) Members: 3 years (renewable once)

Council Makeup

Council shall consist of the chairs of the designated component committees (ex officio voting) and at least one member from each AUAER Section. Per AUA Bylaws, each Section shall be entitled to select one representative for each 800 voting members enrolled by that Section during any year. The AUA will request Sections to submit the names and CVs of three candidates that meet the member qualifications listed in this profile. Additional supplemental member criteria may also be required as defined by the Research Chair and Director of Research. Per affiliation agreements, there are also three members from the Society for Basic Urology Research and one Dornier MedTech Corporation representative.

Note: The SBUR appoints its President, Vice-President and President-elect to serve as the three SBUR representatives on the Council, and these positions rotate at the fall SBUR meeting.

Mission Statement

The Council supports the research component of AUAER's mission by advising and facilitating advancement of the Office of Research and its efforts to advance research through funding, education, and advocacy. The Council's mission is to increase and maintain the workforce of urology physician-scientists and researchers to catalyze the advancement of clinical practice to reduce the burden of urologic disease through impactful research.

The functions and activities of this Council shall be assigned to component committees including but not limited to 1) the Research Education, Conferences, and Communications Committee and 2) the Research Grants and Investigator Support Committee, and including a strong relationship with the Research Advocacy Committee, which reports to the AUA Public Policy Council. In addition, the Research Council Chair, in consultation with the Director of Research and the Research Grants and Investigator Support Committee Chair, shall appoint members of an overarching Research Grant Review Panel (RGRP) that will serve to peer review applications, across several panels, for Urology Care Foundation and AUAER research grants, as well as other ad hoc workgroups for specific research-related activities.

Council Meetings

The Research Council typically meets twice per year via teleconference to ensure that the Council maintains appropriate oversight of Office of Research programs. Other meetings of the Council are limited but may occur in person or by teleconference as deemed necessary by the Chair, Director of Research, or AUA Chief Executive Officer.

Time Commitment

Chair: 12 hours per week

Member: 1 hour per month (average) (some Council members also serve on a Research Committee, which has additional service requirements). Council members are encouraged to extend their service to



engagement with Office of Research programs, including peer review or program committees.

Responsibilities

Chair: In executing responsibilities, the Chair of Research will report to the Board of Directors and will chair the Research Council and oversee its Committees. The Chair must work in a mutually effective and collaborative manner with the Director of the Office of Research to help coordinate and implement research activities. The Chair's efforts will include teleconferences and meetings with staff, AUA- or Urology Care Foundation-funded investigators, AUA Research Committees, and representatives of external organizations/agencies, as well as collaborating with the Director of Research in providing presentations to the AUA Board of Directors and Urology Care Foundation Board of Directors three times a year each. This time commitment includes travel up to 30 days annually for attendance at AUA's Annual Meeting, fall AUA and Urology Care Foundation Board of Directors meetings, leadership meetings with NIH institute officials, and interaction with other AUA/Urology Care Foundation Councils supporting funding, education, or advocacy activities.

Members:

- Serve as active liaisons between the Research Council and their sections/organizations by attending meetings and providing status reports on activities of the Council and urologic research in general
- Be available to participate in Council meetings, workshops and sub-committee activities
- Work collaboratively and effectively with the Council Chair, Council members, and Research staff to provide guidance for the oversight (including development and optimization) of all AUA research programs

Qualifications

Chair:

- Must be an Active AUA Member in good standing in the practice of urology.
- Be a nationally recognized thought leader in urologic research with vision, enthusiasm and interest for the spectrum of urologists and others advancing urologic research, from early-career to established investigators, to move both individual research and the field of urology forward.
- Be well-versed in, and a champion for, the academic mission with a robust program of research including current or recent independent research funding and a strong track record of achievement in clinical urology and urologic research as evidenced by funding and publications.
- Possess NIH peer review experience and familiarity with NIH institute operating procedures and leadership.
- Demonstrate an understanding of institutional budget planning and developments and the importance of fiscal responsibility for the AUA Office of Research.
- Comply with AUA's Disclosure and Conflict of Interest Policy as a Level 1 Board Consultant.

Members:

All Council members, except those mandated by contractual obligations, should meet the following criteria to qualify for appointment to the Council:

- The first representative from all Sections must be a urologist. The second section representative is encouraged to be a Ph.D. (or equivalent) researcher, but may be a M.D. (or equivalent) from another specialty, or another individual with an advanced degree who is active in urologic research. The third section representative may be a urologist or fit any of the other categories listed.
- Have a strong track record of achievement in urologic disease research as evidenced by:



- A history of multiple investigator-initiated, peer-reviewed, research funding grants as the Principal Investigator (or Co-PI), and sustained (three years or more) funding of at least one R01-type grant from agencies under the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Veterans Affairs (VA) or the Department of Defense (DoD), and
- A history of publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals in areas of basic, translational and/or clinical research related to urology.
- Be active in research-related service, including service on HHS, VA, or DoD peer review; and in research-related associations, organizations, and societies.

Recent Accomplishments 2021

The Research Council has governance responsibility over the activities of the two Research council subcommittees. Some of the programs and initiatives that the Council has guided and approved include:

- Developing the 2021-2025 AUA Research Strategic Plan, which emphasizes building engagement for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in urologic research, greater support for community-based research, and greater support for international research stakeholders, as well as the development of a urology research incubator facilitated by the AUA.
- Continuing development of online **Research Education** courses to enhance training of urology researchers through useful, affordable courses. Course 1, “Writing a Successful Career Development Award Application,” opened in 2018. Course 2, “Introduction to Big Data and ‘Omics’ in Urologic Research” opened in 2020, and “Establishing Your Independent Urologic Research Lab” opened in 2021.
- Conducting the **9th Annual AUA Early-Career Investigator Workshop (ECIW)**, hosted virtually for the second time on October 7-9, which provided intensive mentoring between participants and faculty mentors and speakers including representatives from the NCI, NIDDK, NIA, NICHD, DoD, American Cancer Society, and AUA. Participants of the ECIW have garnered over \$10 million in research funding following these workshops.
- Hosting four **Scientific Symposia** as part of the virtual AUA Annual Meeting in September 2021.
- Hosting the 4th annual co-sponsored bladder cancer scientific symposium in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute in March 2021, which brought together stakeholders to examine, discuss, and identify opportunities to improve “**Drug Development in NMIBC from Scientific, Regulatory, Clinician, and Patient Perspectives**”
- Completing the receipt and peer review of competitions of 152 applications and awardee selections for four **2021 Urology Care Foundation Research Programs**: Research Scholar Award, Residency Research Award, Summer Medical Student Fellowship, and Rising Stars in Urology Research Award, with awards totaling over **\$1.4 million**.
- Adding more than ten new diversity- and health disparity-based awards to the Urology Care Foundation portfolio of research funding awards.
- Launching Year 4 of the **Urology Scientific Mentoring and Research Training (USMART) Academy** to provide external, high-quality mentoring to early-career investigators developing their independent research careers. With this year’s cohort, the program was converted to a limited-competition application-based approach, and incorporated emphasis on increasing diversity in urologic research.
- Collaborating with the Research Advocacy Committee and Public Policy Council to grow relationships with the **NCI, NIDDK, NICHD, NIA, NINDS, and NIAID** and improve funding outcomes for urologic research grant applications.