

Founded by the Society for Women's Health Research

President Sofia Ahmed, MD, MMSc Immediate Past President Liisa Galea, PhD President-Elect Armin Raznahan, MD, PhD Treasurer Rebecca Cunningham, PhD Secretary Natalie Tronson, PhD

Email admin@ossdweb.org

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask for your support of the OSSD meeting, June 1-5, 2025, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This will be the 19<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the OSSD.

Historically, women were excluded from clinical trials, and while that has changed in the last several decades, there is still not adequate consideration that women may manifest diseases or respond to treatments differently than men across the lifespan. The OSSD was created by scientists to form a research society aimed at enhancing knowledge about the biological and health differences between women and men. The OSSD brings together researchers from diverse fields, including but not limited to, cardiovascular biology, pulmonology, rheumatology, gerontology, immunology, cancer biology, neuroscience, psychology, toxicology, anatomy, physiology, and pathology. On January 25, 2015, the National Institutes of Health announced policy changes, including the requirement of considering 'sex as a biological variable' in preclinical research. Much of the research that was used to establish this policy change was from members of the OSSD.

Our annual meetings typically attract 300 national and international scientists for a program crafted from member-submitted symposia and abstracts to result in multiple symposia on diverse topics and typically 150-175 posters. There are additional editorial board meetings and trainee workshops as well. The OSSD annual meeting also supports education activities and workshops, through a series of lunchtime seminars. We always provide ample opportunities for networking and socialization at the opening and closing receptions for the meeting as well as at a private party for OSSD leadership, invited speakers, local hosts, and donors.

I'm writing to you today to ask that you consider helping to make the 19<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the OSSD a success through a donation or co-sponsorship. We look forward to hearing from you. Attached is a list of sponsorship opportunities and the associated benefits at each level of sponsorship. Of course, we would be grateful for any level of support for the 2025 meeting of the OSSD. Please note that we also make available space near registration or poster venues for corporate sponsors to display products or services. These displays attract a fair amount of foot traffic and are considered highly successful by the participating vendors. Please let me know if this is of interest and we will supply the pertinent information.

Warmest Regards,

Sofia Ahmed, MD MMSc FRCPC

President, OSSD University of Alberta

