**Susan Kasper, PhD**

**BioSketch:** Susan Kasper, PhD, is Professor of Environmental Health at the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine. Dr. Kasper received her PhD in Physiology/Endocrinology in the Laboratory of Henry G. Friesen, MD at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and completed a Medical Research Council (MRC) of Canada-funded postdoctoral fellowship in the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School and the Department of Molecular Medicine, New England Medical Center Hospitals, Boston, MA. Dr. Kasper joined the Department of Urologic Surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN as Research Assistant Professor in 1996, moving to Assistant Professor (tenure track) and subsequently to Associate Professor (tenured) in the Department of Environmental Health at the University of Cincinnati. She has developed and currently leads a research program centered on processes that promote prostate cancer development and progression, including androgen receptor signaling, EMT, and signaling pathways which regulate self-renewal, proliferation, survival, adhesion, migration and differentiation of cancer stem cells (CSCs). These studies have received funding from the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program and NIH/NIDDK.

Dr. Kasper is actively involved in serving the scientific community. This includes being an Editorial Board member for *Endocrinology* and *The Prostate,* and a reviewer on national [NIH study sections; DoD pre-application, programatic, and scientific peer review panels] and international [e.g., Prostate Cancer UK; Australian NHMRC; Israel and Czech Science Foundations] grant review panels. Dr. Kasper has also served on the Advisory Board of Gordon Research Conferences and the World Congress on Urological Research. She is an active SBUR member since 1994 and has served on numerous committees including Member at Large/SBUR Executive Committee (2001-03), Chair of the Membership (2004-07) and ByLaws (2007-09) Committees, Member/Abstract Committee (2014), and Member/Planning Committees for the SBUR 2010 Fall Symposium (2009-10), the SBUR/SUO Spring Meeting (2014-15), and the SBUR 2015 Fall Symposium (2014-15), Chair of the SBUR 2016 Fall Symposium Planning Committee (2015-16), Scientific Chair of the SBUR 2016 Fall Symposium, and Member of the Abstract and Travel Award Selection (ATAS) Committee (2017) and joint SBUR 2017 Fall Symposium/ ESUR conference.

**Research Interests:** She and her laboratory study mechanisms that drive metastatic cancer. They have identified Stathmin1 as a novel metastasis suppressor and are investigating the mechanisms by which Stathmin1 phosphorylation differentially regulates processes that control cell cycle progression, cell motility and metastasis using cell culture approaches and xenograft animal models (e.g., mouse and zebrafish). They also study androgen receptor (AR) signaling and cancer stem cells (CSCs) in promoting metastasis and resistance to AR-mediated therapies. To accomplish this, they have established several unique human prostate CSC-like models derived from patient biopsy tissues. In addition, her lab is utilizing *in vitro* and *in vivo* models, including standard cell-based approaches, CSCs derived from biopsy tissues, and animal models, to determine the effects of androgenic and antiandrogenic endocrine disrupting chemicals on normal organ development and in prostate cancer progression.

**Vision Statement:** The SBUR is a vibrant society including scientists who are focused on a broad range of urologic research areas. I have been an active member for over 20 years and have served on numerous SBUR committees. If elected, I would continue to promote the active participation of our junior and new investigators. I believe that our junior and new investigators are essential to the Society's future. Therefore, I would expand the Trainee Affairs Career Symposium to increase interactions between our new and established investigators for furthering multidisciplinary research. In addition, opportunities will be provided to meet with AUA and NIH representatives and receive information on new areas of research, new funding opportunities, and insights into the funding process. Of particular importance is to ensure that SBUR covers all aspects of urologic research. Thus, my goal would be to support comprehensive systems biology and work towards including research in all urologic disciplines, including normal development and benign and malignant disease. We also need to continue building our SBUR's financial health and this can be accomplished, in part, by supporting publication of articles in the American Journal of Clinical and Experimental Urology (AJCEU), a journal adopted by SBUR for the rapid publication of its clinical, translational and basic research. Finally, I would work towards increasing the Society's membership because collectively, we can strengthen our representation at NIH, DoD, and other funding agencies to raise awareness of the need for urologic research, expand opportunities, and increase funding levels for urologic-based research. It would be a privilege to serve our members as SBUR Vice President.