1998 TRAINEE RESEARCH AWARDS

The Trainee Research Awards, sponsored by Serono Laboratories, Inc., are given in recognition of outstanding research by young scientists. From the myriad of excellent abstracts submitted for this competition, only six are selected for final evaluation by the Awards Committee during oral presentations at the Society's Annual Meeting. Although only presenters of the top two abstracts receive a plaque and monetary award, all finalists are considered to be winners.

The 1998 recipient of the first place award is Faye A. Bradbury, Department of Biological Chemistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, for her abstract entitled "The role of hydrogen bonding in activation of the LH/hCG receptor," coauthored by I.D. Pogozheva and K.M.J. Menon. Faye Bradbury graduated from the University of California at Irvine in 1993 with B.S. degrees in Biological Sciences and Chemistry. In

1995 she received an M.S. in Biological Chemistry from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where she is currently doing research for her Ph.D. thesis in the laboratory of Dr. K.M.J. Menon. During graduate training, she was recipient of the NIH predoctoral

fellowship awarded to the Reproductive Sciences Program at the University of Michigan. She expects to complete the doctoral program in May 1999 and then intends to do postdoctoral work in the area of protein processing. Her long-range plan includes an academic position at a research university.

Second place was awarded to Dr. Charles L. Chaffin, Division of Reproductive Sciences, Oregon Regional Primate Research Center, for his abstract entitled "Progesterone promotes the expression of matrix metalloproteinases and their inhibitors (TIMPS) in the primate periovulatory follicle," coauthored by R.L. Stouffer. Dr. Chaffin earned his B.S. degree in Biopsychology from Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin, in 1989; his M.S. degree in Primate Behavior from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, in 1992; and his Ph.D. degree in Reproductive Toxicology from the same institution in 1996. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Richard Stouffer and a recipient of a National Research Service Award from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Chaffin plans to pursue a career in academic research, with other aspirations in the fields of baseball and stock car racing. He was recently elected as the SSR Trainee Representative.