

SSR Distinguished Service Award. (*Sponsored by Serono Laboratories, Inc.*)



Dr. Fuller W. Bazer was nominated for the Distinguished Service Award because of his service to reproductive biology and SSR. He has provided leadership in organization of numerous meetings in reproductive biology and was a co-founder of the Gordon Research Conference on Reproductive Tract Biology. His current leadership responsibilities

at Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center allow him to communicate across disciplines of health and animal sciences to enhance strong science-based interdisciplinary research and teaching programs. Dr. Bazer is an excellent teacher and mentor for trainees. He has served as chair or co-chair of committees for 23 Ph.D. students, 32 M.S. students, committee member for 107 graduate students and mentor or co-mentor for 28 postdoctoral fellows. His trainees will attest that he is a mentor par excellence who inspires by example. For excellence in graduate education, he received the L.E. Casida Award for Graduate Education from the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Bazer instills in students the value of cooperation and free dialogue so that many students trained by him continue to collaborate and continue to be good friends, which is the greatest compliment and a benchmark for “Distinguished Service.” Dr. Bazer has served the SSR as a Director, Editor-in-Chief, President-Elect, President, Past-President, and member of the Editorial Board of *Biology of Reproduction* which afforded him opportunities to imprint his vision on the SSR. Between 1989 and 1995, at the University of Florida and Texas A&M University, he worked with Drs. William “Bill” Thatcher and Robert Burghardt, and Ms. Judith Jansen to improve *Biology of Reproduction*. His philosophy was that *BOR* is a peer-reviewed journal and that the editorial office is to facilitate communications and decision making between authors and reviewers. Dr. Bazer increased the visibility and stature of *BOR* by appointing international scientists to the editorial board, soliciting mini-reviews from international scientists, and recruiting SSR members from international scientists. As President of SSR, Dr. Bazer appointed and administrated a Blue Ribbon Committee that assessed the status of SSR after 30 years and made recommendations for charting its future. At present, SSR is a first-class society with the premier journal in reproductive biology. This is not due to any single person, but reflects the collective wisdom of

many visionary leaders. Dr. Bazer is one leader who has left a lasting imprint on the SSR. Dr. Bazer is recognized for his research on uterine biology, pregnancy recognition signaling in pigs and ruminants, and fetal-placental physiology and endocrinology. He received the “Physiology and Endocrinology Award” of the American Society of Animal Science and the SSR Research Award due to his ability to excel in productive and functional collaborations with investigators at the University of Florida and Texas A&M University. His record of accomplishment in research, teaching and service documents his stature as a leader in reproductive biology. This has been fostered through leadership, excellence in science and personal friendships founded on the highest level of personal and scientific integrity.