



A message from the SCTC executive committee

The SCTC is thriving, building upon the achievements of our continuing initiatives.

We are thrilled to witness the ongoing growth of our organization, as we welcome new members to our community in 2023.

We concluded grant-funding calls for our working groups, and more recently for the Betty Benedict grant. Furthermore, we are excited to announce that we will be holding a hybrid Annual General Meeting (AGM) at this year's ACR meeting. During this event, we will provide updates on recent SCTC initiatives and hear about the progress of recent Betty Benedict awardees. In addition, we will be conducting elections for vice-president. We are looking forward to connecting with many of you in San Diego next month.

Shervin, Robyn, Jerry & Antonia

Vice president election

We have 2 nominations for the role of vice-president of the SCTC:

Dr Tracy Frech (Vanderbilt, US)
Dr Luc Mouthon (Paris, France)

Their personal statements have been circulated. Voting will take place in-person at the AGM in San Diego, as well as via e-mail. Each member institution has a single vote, and annual dues must be up to date and paid in full for a vote to be valid.

SCTC AGM

Saturday, November 11th, 2023
Hybrid Meeting 6:00pm to 8:00pm
PST

All SCTC Members, Industry Roundtable Members, and Advisory Board members are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting 2023. The meeting will be held at the

Westin San Diego Gaslamp Quarter. An opportunity to join remotely will be made available to those unable to join the meeting in person.

There will be working group meetings taking place before the main AGM at 4:00pm and dinner will be served from 5:00pm. In addition to standing business, we shall have updates from recent Betty Benedict Award winners.

We shall also be holding a panel discussion entitled "**How to measure disease activity in SSc**".

New SCTC Members

The SCTC are delighted to welcome the following four institutions to our consortium:

McMaster University, Canada (Maggie Larche)
Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, USA (Laura Carbone)
IRCCS SanRaffaele Hospital. Vita-Salute San Raffaele University Milan Italy (Corrado Campochiaro)
Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust & University of Liverpool, UK (Clare Pain)

SCTC WG Research Grants

We are delighted to announce the recipients of the 2023 Working Group Grants:

GI Working Group (Liz Volkmann and Zsuzsanna McMahan)

Project Title: "Leveraging the Gastrointestinal Microbiome as an Indicator of Disease Activity in Systemic Sclerosis"

Renal Crisis Group (Marie Hudson)

Project Title: "Towards the Development of Comprehensive Classification Criteria for Scleroderma Renal Crisis"

We extend our warmest congratulations to the deserving grant winners. We would also like to express our gratitude to all who submitted their projects for consideration and expect more applications in the future.

Forthcoming meetings:

16th Hamburg Symposium on Juvenile Scleroderma

The SCTC shall be supporting the 16th Hamburg Symposium on Juvenile Scleroderma, on December 9th 2023 in Hamburg, Germany
<https://kinderrheumatologie.de/veranstaltungen/>

8th Systemic Sclerosis World Congress

The 8th SSc World Congress shall be held in-person on March 14-16, 2024. Details of the preliminary program and registration can be found at:

<https://web.aimgroupinternational.com/2024/sclerosiscongress/venue/>