



letter from the executive director and president



Mitchell Creinin, SFP president



Susan Higginbotham,
SFP executive director

Dear friends,

We are pleased to provide you, our fellows, colleagues, and supporters, with SFP's 2008 Annual Report. Although 2008 was merely our fourth year of operation, much was accomplished. We are reminded of author Glenda Cloud's quote that "change is inevitable, growth is intentional." The SFP board and staff worked together in 2008 to grow the organization, our membership, and our internal capacity.

Research funding: 2008 represents the second year that SFP managed a Request for Proposals program and subsequently committed more than \$609,000 to researchers for large and pilot grants.

Annual Meeting: We convened our society's annual meeting in conjunction with Reproductive Health 2008 in September in Washington, DC—the fourth annual meeting that SFP has co-produced with our conference partners.

Publications: *Contraception*, a peer-reviewed scientific journal, is SFP's official journal. It is produced monthly and has consistently been the main source for the expansion of knowledge related to family planning for almost four decades.

Fellowship growth & development: In the past two years, our membership has more than doubled in size. In 2008, we created a new category of candidate fellowship to provide greater opportunity for academic leaders in our field to become members.

Operational infrastructure: In July of 2008, we relocated the SFP administrative office from San Francisco to Philadelphia, where we established an independent

letter from the executive director and president

office and the necessary administrative systems to advance our work and be positioned to incrementally grow the benefits of fellowship.

On behalf of the board of directors and staff, we want to thank our fellows, junior fellows and candidate fellows for becoming a part of our academic society—and for the incredible wealth of experience and leadership you provide to the field of family planning care and research. Indeed, our greatest strength is the collective expertise of the membership. As we look forward to 2009 and beyond, we are committed to supporting your work through our research grants program, as well as through serving as a resource for information and career development.

Thank you for your involvement in SFP, and for your support of our mission.

Best wishes,



Susan Higginbotham, M.Ed
Executive Director



Mitchell Creinin, MD
President, SFP Board of Directors

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Tracy Weitz, PhD, was one of SFP's 2008 grantees, receiving \$39,250 for a study on patient ultrasound viewing and abortion care

SMALL/PILOT GRANT

\$15,000 maximum award

Rebecca Allen, Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island—\$14,636

Women's preferences for pain control during first-trimester surgical abortion:
A qualitative study

LARGE GRANTS

\$120,000 maximum award

Deborah Bartz, Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts;
Harvard School of Medicine—\$111,100

Cervical preparation before same-day 2nd trimester abortion with vaginal
misoprostol versus Dilapan-S: A randomized controlled trial

Gillian Dean, Planned Parenthood of New York City—\$32,576

The safety and efficacy of digoxin as a fetocidal agent prior to 2nd trimester
abortion

Christine Dehlendorf, University of California, San Francisco—\$120,000

A direct observation study of provider-patient communication about
contraception: How does race affect communication, and how does
communication affect contraception use?

Eleanor Drey, University of California, San Francisco—\$51,781

Safety of intra-amniotic and intra-fetal digoxin administration before late 2nd trimester abortion by dilation and evacuation

Tracy Weitz, University of California, San Francisco—\$39,250

Patient ultrasound viewing and abortion care

Katharine O'Connell, Columbia University—\$119,998

RCT of intra-fetal vs. intra-amniotic digoxin feticide

Eleanor Schwarz, University of Pittsburgh—\$119,999

Computer-assisted provision of hormonal contraception

“The SFP pilot grants program helped me launch what will likely be the most important research contribution to abortion care that I make in my career. My area of work—designing supportive interventions for abortion providers—is not one that is readily funded by other organizations.”

—Lisa Harris, MD, PhD



Marissa Harris, MD, SFP Junior Fellow, at her poster presentation on men's perceptions of their roles in contraception and pregnancy decision-making

IN SEPTEMBER, nearly 800 attendees gathered in Washington, DC, for *Reproductive Health 2008*, our society's fourth annual meeting. *Reproductive Health* is the preeminent conference on reproductive health and is sponsored jointly by the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP), Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), and SFP.

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS: As a special pre-conference session, SFP sponsored a panel for junior faculty on career development and research. SFP fellows and board members also helped lead a pre-conference session on understanding the scientific literature. Other pre-conference sessions covered promoting post-abortion well-being, incorporating reproductive environmental health tools into practice, long-acting reversible contraception, and advocating for hot button policy issues.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS: During the main conference, SFP sponsored a "lunch and learn" session on balancing career and family. SFP members presented sessions on including sexual and reproductive health content in primary care professions training, male contraception, working with the Cochrane Prospective Meta-analysis Program, late-breaking reproductive health updates, and emerging issues in abortion care—as well as plenary sessions on translating the most frequently downloaded articles into clinical practice, strategies for reducing high unintended pregnancy and repeat abortion rates in the United States, a vignette-based approach to addressing hormonal contraception, the HPV vaccination, and contraception for obese women. SFP members also moderated sessions on cardiovascular risk factors in the postmenopausal woman, preconception and interconception care, teen pregnancy rates, and best-practice patient education materials.

ABSTRACTS (ORAL & POSTER PRESENTATIONS): SFP provided leadership and significant fellowship participation in the scientific abstracts, which were presented in four separate sessions during the conference. Poster presentations were on display for two full days of the meeting.

AWARDS DINNER: Each year at Reproductive Health, SFP hosts a dinner for SFP members at which our two annual awards are announced. Our Lifetime Achievement Award, honoring individuals whose cumulative research has reached the highest level of importance in the field, was awarded this year to Sheldon Segal, PhD. Dr. Segal directed the research that led to the development of copper-bearing IUDs and implant contraceptives, as well as initial studies on contraceptive vaginal rings, the intrauterine system Mirena®, contraceptive vaccines, and male contraceptives. Our Allan Rosenfield Award for Lifetime Contributions to International Family Planning, created in 2007 to pay homage to SFP founding Board member, Dr. Allan Rosenfield, by honoring individuals who have made invaluable contributions to the health of women worldwide, went to Dr. Paul Van Look. Dr. Van Look is Director of the Department of Reproductive Health and Research at the World Health Organization. He has traveled extensively in developing countries and has been an adviser to governments on a wide range of sexual and reproductive health issues.



*Dr. Sheldon Segal (left) and
Dr. Paul Van Look (right)*

*“I love this conference
for the quality of
the information and
the commitment
displayed to quality
service and public
health.”*

*“Great conference
with very good
balance between
networking
opportunities and
professional/scientific
updates.”*

SFP fellowship demographics and growth in 2008



*Jeanelle Sheeder, MSPH,
SFP Junior Fellow, and Stephanie
Teal, MD, MPH, SFP Fellow*

IN THE FALL OF 2006, SFP had 78 fellows and junior fellows. By the end of calendar year 2008, we had grown to 170 qualified members, including 73 full fellows, 6 candidate fellows, and 91 junior fellows. The new category of candidate fellowship was created in 2008 to provide greater opportunity for academic leaders in our field to become members.

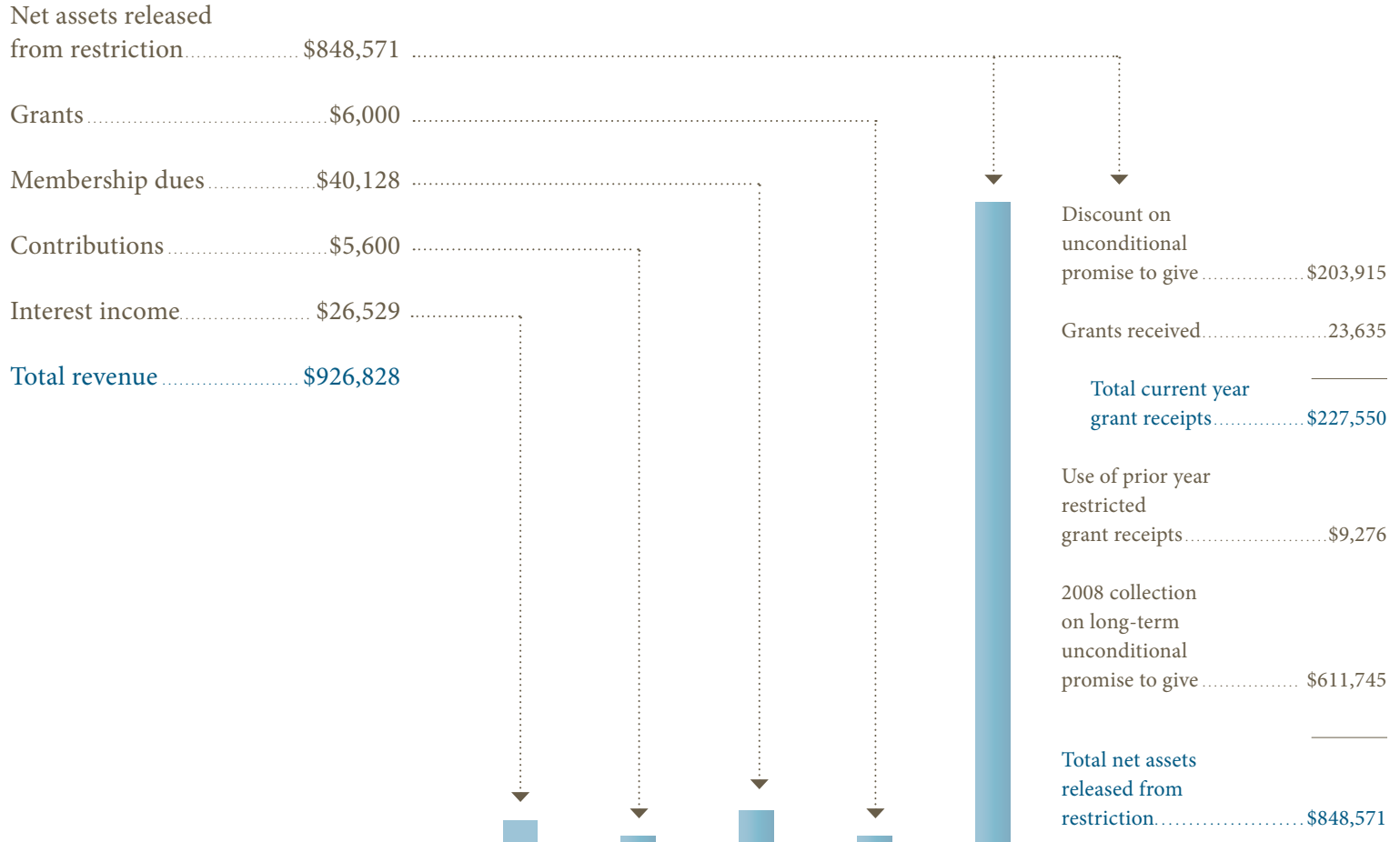
SFP is truly a multi-disciplinary academic organization with specialists in obstetrics and gynecology, internal medicine, family medicine, public health and the social sciences. Members include physicians and advanced care practitioners, PhDs, and those with Masters in Public Health, representing a broad array of academic interests.

“The grant that I received from SFP enabled me and my team of researchers to conduct important research into the safety of digoxin prior to second-trimester abortion. The funds helped our team of researchers win buy-in from our organization to pursue this research agenda in a busy clinical setting. In addition, I believe being the recipient of an SFP grant helped PPNYC win the 2009 PPFA Affiliate Excellence Award in the Clinical and Social Research. If I had not been an SFP fellow, I would not have been able to receive that grant.”

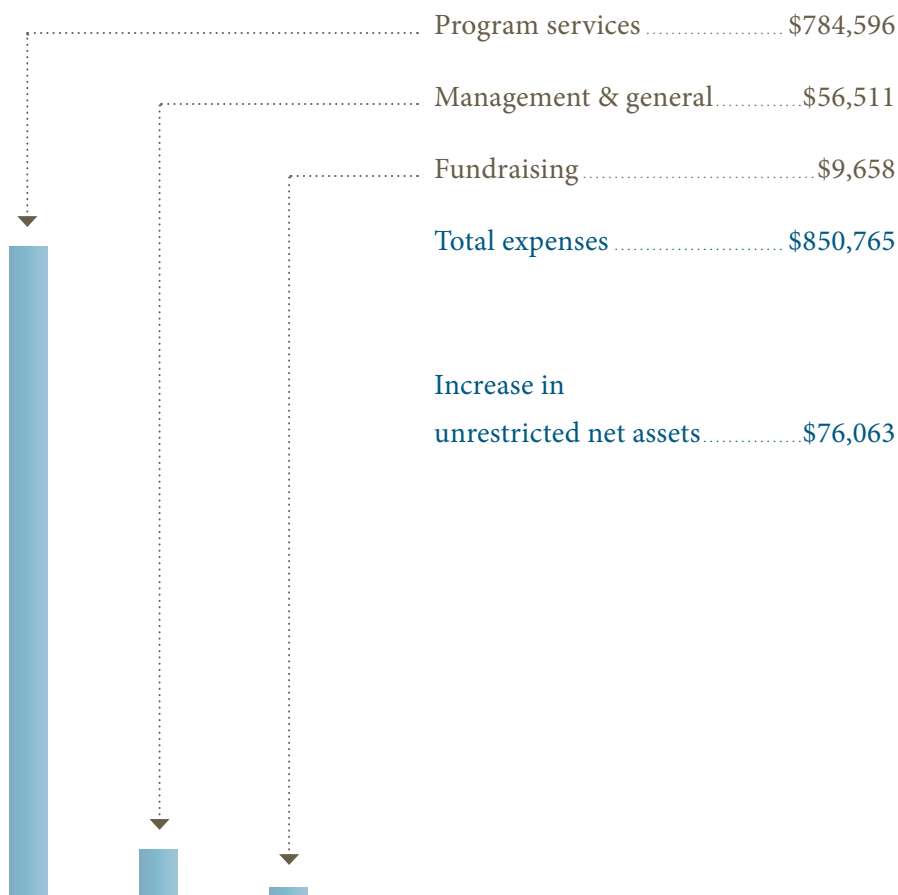
—Gillian Dean, MD, MPH

2008 audited financials

2008 REVENUE



2008 EXPENSES



“Having a large grant from SFP has allowed me to hit the ground running in my academic career after graduating from fellowship.

But the biggest reward is knowing that I am able to do research that has the potential to improve the safety of abortion care.”

—Deborah Bartz,

MD, MPH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mitchell D. Creinin, MD—President
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Mark Nichols, MD—President-Elect
Oregon Health Sciences University

Melissa Gilliam, MD, MPH—Secretary
University of Chicago Medical Center

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Northwestern University Medical School

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University of California, San Francisco

At-large members

Eve Espey, MD, MPH
University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Lawrence Finer, PhD (*since September 2008*)
Guttmacher Institute

Marji Gold, MD
Albert Einstein College of Medicine



Eve Espey, at-large, and President-Elect Mark Nichols

“I belong to a number of other professional groups, but none provides as much in-depth consideration of research in family planning—or the same opportunity to help set the standards for reproductive health care through evidence-based research.”

—Mark Nichols, MD



Nikki Zite, at-large board member

Bryna Harwood, MD, MSc

University of Illinois at Chicago

Tessa Madden, MD, MPH, Junior Fellow Representative *(since September 2008)*

School of Medicine, Washington University in Saint Louis

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Office of Population Research, Princeton University

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Gynuity Health Projects

Miriam Ziemann, MD *(until September 2008)*

Emory School of Medicine

Nikki Zite, MD, MPH

Cleveland Clinic

In memoriam

Allan Rosenfield, MD

Dr. Allan Rosenfield served on SFP's board until his death in October, 2008. Public health lost a great leader with his passing.

STAFF

Susan Higginbotham, M.Ed.

Executive Director (since June 2008)

Marlo Polonsky, MPH

Grants Officer (since August 2008)

Sarom Sot

Administrative Coordinator (since September 2008)

Patricia Anderson, MPH

Executive Director (through June 2008)

Erin Armstrong

Program Coordinator (through June 2008)



Daniel Mishell, Jr., MD, SFP fellow and founding member

SFP thanks Pat Anderson and Erin Armstrong for their hard work and perseverance as our first staff members. They were instrumental in helping our society grow.



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