The APS Conference Committee (APSCC) continued its effort towards reviewing and overseeing the conference program beyond Experimental Biology and joint meetings with other societies. We held a face-to-face meeting at APS headquarters in October of 2016 where we reviewed reports from recent conferences as well as updates from pending conferences that were submitted by APS members. In the coming years, we have approved the following conferences:

### 2017

- **Cardiovascular and Aging: New Frontiers and Old Friends** will be at the Westin Westminster Hotel August 10-14, 2017.
- **Physiological Bioenergetics: Mitochondria from Bench to Bedside** will be at the U.S. Grant Hotel in San Diego, CA from August 30-September 2, 2017.
- **Physiology and Pathophysiology Consequences of Sickle Cell Disease** will be at the Embassy Suites Convention Center Hotel in Washington, D.C. from November 6-8, 2017.

### 2018

- **Institute of Teaching and Learning** will be held June 18-22, 2018 at the Convourse Hotel in Madison, WI.
- **Intersociety Meeting: Comparative Physiology** was approved for 2018 and will be held in Austin, TX.

### 2019

- **Aldosterone and ENaC in Health and Disease: The Kidney and Beyond** is scheduled for October 2-6, 2019 at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, CO.

For the first time, the committee also met for a breakfast meeting at the EB meeting in Chicago. The new strategic plan will have a major impact on the APSCC’s activities and so it was important to discuss how the strategic plan may impact the committee’s activities. It is clear that scientific conferences are viewed as extremely valuable to the membership and the society at large. However, there has been long-standing concern about the financial cost of having small conferences, so we conducted a review of how finances have been managed in recent years. This resulted in a decision by the Meetings Department along with the Business Office that the APSCC will be managing the budgets in coordination with the conference organizers going forward. The APSCC and Meetings Department are also working with the Development Office to discover new ways of gaining financial support for specific conferences. This includes applications for NIH funding. Most recently, we were able to obtain a R15 grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute to support trainee and early career investigator travel to the 2017 APS Conference on Sickle Cell Disease.

Importantly, one of the new strategic priorities identified in our new strategic planning process is that APS needs to expand the influence of the Society through conferences. Therefore, in the coming year, the conference committee will be reviewing how this can be achieved not only by increasing the number of conferences and developing a stronger brand identity, but also develop a long-term strategy for addressing our members’ needs and bring the conference program into context with larger meetings such as Experimental Biology. We look forward to receiving your conference proposals and ideas to strengthen the value of this critically important aspect of physiological research and discovery.

David M Pollock, Ph.D., Chair
University of Alabama at Birmingham