

## Sigma Xi's New Leadership Team

The next group of leaders for our Society was determined by elections held November 11 to December 10, 2013. Approximately 14 percent of members participated in our third year of online voting.

Many voters commented that the system was easy to use. Another common piece of feedback was on the need to have more than one candidate running for positions.

"We are, and will be, working diligently with all the Committees on Nominations to have more than one candidate for positions in the future," said Jerry Baker, Sigma Xi's executive director. "We want diversity on our committees and boards."

### President-elect



**Dr. George H. Atkinson** will serve as Sigma Xi president from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. He has been a member of Sigma Xi for 43 years.

Atkinson is executive director of the Institute on Science for Global Policy, which he launched in 2008. ISGP focuses on improving the role of credible scientific understanding in the formulation of domestic and international public policy.

Atkinson previously served as the science and technology adviser to past Secretaries of State Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. He was the first science diplomat in the Department of State for science, technology, and diplomacy.

Atkinson was formerly a professor of chemistry and optical sciences and head of the chemistry department at the University of Arizona.

As Sigma Xi president, Atkinson plans to remain focused on the organization's historical commitment to foster and strengthen outstanding scientific research.

"I would also welcome the opportunity to help structure and implement Sigma Xi programs designed to improve communication between the scientific researchers and policy makers, both domestically and internationally," he said in his candidate statement.

### President-elect designee



**Dr. Mark Peeples**, a professor in the Department of Pediatrics for The Ohio State University, will be president of Sigma Xi from July 1, 2015, to June

30, 2016. Peeples is a research scientist who studies the mechanisms of respiratory syncytial virus infection. His goal is to develop a vaccine or antiviral agent to reduce the number of infants who are hospitalized and elderly who die each year from the virus.

In his campaign, Peeples made clear that his intention is to focus on revitalizing chapters to keep Sigma Xi strong.

"Sigma Xi is doing well with high-concept science at the national and international levels but its roots, the local chapters, are not healthy," he said in his candidate statement. "We need to increase the value of our local chapters to their members. New members need to see the value of participating at the local level before they will join."

Peeples has been a sustaining member for 35 years and has held officer positions, including president, for the chapters of Rush University and The Ohio State University.

"I value Sigma Xi for what it has enabled me to do: meet faculty members outside my own department, particularly when my career has taken me to a new institution; support high school students by judging science fair projects and by talking to a class about what my labs has discovered and why I am so excited about what I do; and support new undergrad and graduate students through our chapter's own Grants-in-Aid of Research program." •

## Other Elected Leaders

*Terms begin July 1, 2014*

Treasurer:  
**Ron Millard**

Northeast Director:  
**Pamela Kerrigan**

Mid-Atlantic Director:  
**Cristina Gouin-Paul**

Membership At Large Director:  
**David Moran**

Research & Doctoral  
Universities Director:  
**Frank Abrams**

Northwest Associate Director:  
**Cheryl Jorcyk**

Southeast Associate Director:  
**Charles Lytle**

Area Groups, Industries, State,  
and Federal Labs Constituency  
Associate Director:  
**HollyAnn Harris**

## Elected Members to Nomination Committees

*Terms began at the conclusion  
of the voting period*

Baccalaureate Colleges Representative  
for Committee on Nominations:  
**Francis Dane**

Canadian & International  
Representative for Committee  
on Nominations:  
**Jennifer Patterson**

To learn more about your leadership team, visit <http://bit.ly/19kHckO>.