

Candidate: President Elect



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Thomas Kilduff is Senior Director of the Center for Neuroscience in the Biosciences Division at SRI International in Menlo Park, California and a Consulting Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Stanford University School of Medicine. He received his MS and PhD degrees from Stanford University where he was awarded fellowships from the Danforth and the National Science Foundations. He was a National Academy of Sciences–National Research Council Research Associate at NASA-Ames Research Center prior to joining the Stanford University Sleep Disorders Research Center where he worked for 15 years. In 1999, he joined SRI International where he founded the Sleep Neurobiology Program and, in 2008, he was appointed to direct the Center for Neuroscience. Along with researchers at the Scripps Research Institute, he is co-discoverer of the hypothalamic peptide hypocretin (also known as orexin), a key neurotransmitter system in the maintenance of wakefulness. His research in sleep and circadian neurobiology has included studies on the suprachiasmatic nucleus, neurochemical and immunological studies of narcolepsy, neural gene expression across arousal states, and neural control of hibernation. His current work focuses on the hypocretin system, the development of therapeutics for sleep disorders such as insomnia and narcolepsy, and the function of a novel population of sleep-active neurons in the cerebral cortex that his group described in 2008. He has previously served on the Boards of the APSS, the SRS, and the SRS Foundation and as Education Chairperson, TEAC Chairperson, and Secretary/Treasurer of the SRS. His research has been supported by the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program, several NIH institutes (NHLBI, NIA, NIMH, NINDS), the U.S. Army Research Office and several pharmaceutical companies. He was elected a Fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science in 2009 and an SRI Fellow in 2010.

