

ASTMH Announces New Council Leaders

October 28, 2015 – The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene announced Stephen Higgs, PhD, FASTMH, as its new president today at the Society’s 64th Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Higgs is director of the Biosecurity Research Institute at Kansas State University.

He succeeds Christopher V. Plowe, MD, MPH, FASTMH, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and professor of medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Patricia F. Walker, MD, DTM&H, FASTMH, director of the University of Minnesota Global Medicine and HealthPartners Travel and Medicine Center, is the new president-elect.

The Society also welcomed three new councilors: Nicole Achee, PhD, a Medical Entomologist and Research Associate Professor at the Department of Biological Science, University of Notre Dame and the Eck Institute for Global Health; Rick Fairhurst, MD, PhD, FASTMH, Chief, Malaria Pathogenesis and Human Immunity Unit, Laboratory of Malaria and Vector Research at the National Institutes of Health; and David Fidock, PhD, Professor of Microbiology & Immunology and Medical Sciences (in Medicine) at Columbia University Medical Center.

“Our Society is extending its global reach through international advocacy and diplomacy, and I am confident that this new council will continue to make choices in these areas that are thoughtful, compassionate and professional,” Plowe said. “Steve’s leadership will be an asset to the Society as it moves forward into a new year of challenges and advances in tropical medicine. I look forward to witnessing the progress that our exceptional tropical medicine specialists foster in the name of improving global health.”

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The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, founded in 1903, is the largest international scientific organization of experts dedicated to reducing the worldwide burden of tropical infectious diseases and improving global health. We accomplish this through generating and sharing scientific evidence, informing health policies and practices, fostering career development, recognizing excellence, and advocating for investment in tropical medicine/global health research. For more information, visit astmh.org