



A message from the SCTC executive committee

Our community is delighted to see the international experience of Covid-19 finally improve and are looking forward to the opportunity to hold in-person meetings in the near future.

The SCTC has continued to strive to grow as an organization that can meet the needs of our research community and patients. We have devised a Board of Advisors comprising expertise from industry, patients and the research community who will be helping to shape our 5-year strategy and other new initiatives over the coming years.

The SCTC will be undertaking grant-funding calls this Spring for our working groups and a 3rd Betty Benedict project call later in the year. We are also hosting the 2nd Collective Working Group meeting, bringing together the leaders of our working groups for an interactive update on their progress and aspirations.

We wish you all the very best in the months ahead.

Sherwin, Robyn, Tracy & John

SCTC Visiting Fellowships

We have had a number of applications for the SCTC visiting fellowships which are designed to provide individuals early in their career with the opportunity to spend time in a SSc centre with mentorship by a senior SSc clinician.

The overall aim is to foster the next generation of clinicians and clinician scientists with an interest in systemic sclerosis-spectrum disorders.

With growing interest in this initiative, we are considering timed calls in the future.

It is anticipated that 2-3 fellowships will be awarded per year. Further details on our website:

<https://sclerodermaclinicaltrialsconsortium.org/grants-awards/visiting-fellowships>

SCTC Collective Working Group Meeting

We are pleased to announce our second annual Collective Working Group meeting to provide investigators and industry collaborators to learn more about the progress of our working groups.

The meeting took place on April 29th, virtually, where SCTC members, SCTC Roundtable members and other partners were invited to attend and engage in question and answer sessions.

[Scleroderma Clinical Trials Consortium - SCTC - Meetings](#)

The 2022 SCTC Working Group Research Grants

The purpose of the 2021 SCTC Working Group Research Grants is to provide support for projects that advance the mission of the SCTC and particularly to enhance the productivity of current or new Working Groups.

Applicants must be from SCTC member institutions whose membership is current and in good standing at the time of application.

A maximum of four awards of up to \$25,000 (USD) for a one-year period are anticipated. We will consider continued funding for past awardees based on merit and depending on availability of funds.

Each funded working group is expected to present updates at the SCTC Annual General Meeting during the American College of Rheumatology Annual Scientific Conference and at future virtual Collective Working Group Update meetings.

Please go to our website for further details on how to apply:

[Scleroderma Clinical Trials Consortium - SCTC - Working Group Grants](#)

17th International Workshop on Scleroderma Research

We are all looking forward to having the chance to meet again in person at the international workshop this summer:

[About – 17th International Workshop on Scleroderma Research \(wordpress.com\)](#)

July 30-August 3, 2022 ~ Seaport / Boston, Massachusetts

Abstract submission is now open and will close on Friday, May 13, 2022 at 6pm EST.

The SCTC shall be sponsoring six \$1000 travel awards for early career researchers attending the Scleroderma Workshop. All trainees (fellows/PhD candidates) AND individuals within 3 years of their first faculty appointment are eligible. To apply, please see the following requirements:

[S.C.T.C. Travel Awards – 17th Interna-](#)

2022 SCTC-SRF Betty Benedict Award

Please look out on our website for forthcoming details about the 2022 SCTC-SRF Betty Z. Benedict Award.

The award shall provide support for a high impact, collaborative project that advances a shared mission of the SCTC and Scleroderma Research Foundation: to advance the conduct of clinical trials for patients with SSc.

<https://sclerodermaclinicaltrialsconsortium.org/grants-awards/working-group-grant-awardees-2>

Another opportunity to meet in person shall be at the 2022 ACR Convergence. As always we expect this in person meeting to be a wonderful opportunity to share recent data and network. Abstract submission is currently open for the meeting:

[ACR Convergence Abstracts \(rheumatology.org\)](#)