



Stefan Sarafianos, PhD

HBA-USA Election
Board of Directors 2025-2027

Professional profile (Expertise, degrees, current position, previous positions)

Current Position: Nahmias-Schinazi Distinguished Research Chair, Professor at Emory Univ School of Medicine, Pediatrics. Co-director of the Center for ViroSciences and Cure; Co-director of B-HIVE Center for AIDS Structural Biology; Co-Director of Next Generation Therapeutics SWG, Center for AIDS Research-CFAR

Expertise: Drug Discovery, Virology, Structural Biology

Degrees: PhD (Georgetown Univ), BS (Patras U)

Previous Positions: Professor and Chancellor’s Excellence Chair, Univ Missouri (2015); Assistant and Associate Research Professor at the Center for Advanced Biotech & Medicine at Rutgers Univ (2006)

Scientific profile (Research interests, publication record, distinctions & awards)

Research interests: (sarafianoslab.com) My work focuses on unraveling the molecular details of how viruses function or are inhibited, how they develop drug resistance, towards developing drugs to treat human disease. We have helped develop Islatravir-in Phase III clinical trials for the treatment of HIV. Our research has been supported by >\$70 million in research funds; I am the PI of 8 active NIH grants (1 R37 MERIT Award, 1 U54 Center grant, 5 R01s, 1 R21) out of the 16 active NIH grants that fund my group’s research.

Publications: >210 papers; h-index: 64; i10: 174; 16 patents/invention disclosures; 67 structures deposited.

Recent distinctions: American Academy of Microbiology elected to Fellowship; 2022 Faculty Mentor Award from Emory for excellence in mentoring (mentored 30 grad students, 20 post-docs, 104 undergrad researchers); Assoc Editor/Editorial Board member in 3 Journals; Organizer of International Meetings in Virology; Member of Scientific advisory boards: ArrowheadPharma and Kumamoto Univ International Research Center (Japan); External Advisory Committee of NIH IDeA Center Of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE); >100 reviewing sessions in NIH study sections or in other panels; Scientific consulting (Merck, Gilead, GlaxoSmithKline, Tibotec, others).

Priorities regarding activities that the HBA-USA should undertake

- To further strengthen the HBA-USA network by increasing recruitment, scientific, and social activities of Greek scientists from the Southern US states.
- To strengthen mentoring activities and help promote opportunities for young scientists from Greece.
- To leverage the influence of Greek biomedical scientists in the US towards establishing mechanisms for increased training opportunities of Greek scientists in US Institutions.
- To strengthen fund-raising efforts to enable support of Greek biomedical scientists in training in the US.

Time commitment that the candidate can take during his term as a BD member:

- Less than 4 hours/month
- 4-10 hours/month
- 10-20 hours/month
- More than 20 hours/month

Highest position that the candidate would prefer to hold in the BD (more than one can be selected):

- President
- Vice-President
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- Appointed Secretary
- Councilor
- Any of the above

Additional comments that the Candidate wants to make:

- -Contributed to the educational and training activities of the WHBA Summer School in Biomedical Research & Management-Sessions in Mani, Neo Oitilo (2022 and 2023).
- Founding member of the Southern chapter of HBA-USA, based in Atlanta, GA and Houston (2022).
Collective activities of this chapter so far include:
 - Organization of virtual scientific seminars of Greek scientists in US.
 - Reaching out to Greek scientists in the states of Georgia and Texas (so far) to get them involved in HBA-USA activities.
 - Helping students from Greece to successfully apply for acceptance to graduate school.
 - Reaching out to Professors and University leadership at a Greek University (Demokritos/Thrace) to help create research opportunities in the US for Greek students/post-docs (2023).