

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF THE SOCIETY 1988-1989

Highlights: The Society built on the initiatives of the previous year and stressed the setting of an agenda for the Society for the present and the future. The principal driving force for this was the completion and publication of the Tox 90's Commission Report. The Society of Toxicology will administer a training grant for post-doctoral fellows instituted by the U. S. Air Force. The Society demonstrated its awareness of the issues centering on the use of animals in research and presented a symposium on "Refining Animal Experiments in Toxicological Research". After a year in which the Society ran at a slight loss, increased attention to expenditures control resulted in a return to slight surpluses and an addition to the Society's reserves. The Annual Meeting continued to provide a means for communicating the latest findings on a broad range of topics.

The twenty-eighth Meeting of the Society of Toxicology was held from February 27 to March 3, 1989 in Atlanta, Georgia at the Atlanta Hilton Hotel. President James E. Gibson chaired the Annual Meeting of Members at 4:00 pm on March 2. He began his report with some statistics of the meeting. There were 3178 registrants at the meeting including 2700 scientists. This was the second highest registration in the history of the Society. The Continuing Education Program drew 2279 attendees for the eight sessions. The Scientific Program included 1167 abstracts, 13 symposia, 11 platform sessions, 17 poster/discussion groups and 35 poster sessions. The poster/discussion sessions, only in their third year, have proven to be very popular with those attending. President Gibson also noted that there were 221 positions listed in the Placement Service and 220 candidates. The Exhibits program continued its successful role in the meeting with 130 exhibitors.

The President's Report emphasized the importance to the Society of the work of the Tox 90's Commission. Three major questions were addressed. What will toxicology be like in the future; what role will the science play in minimizing the uncertainty in estimating health risks of societal activities and how will individuals be trained and their competence maintained in this field in the future? The detailed report of the Commission was published in "Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology" in October 1988 and the challenges, especially with respect to pre-doctoral, post-doctoral and continuing education were to be considered by several standing and ad hoc committees. The impact of the Commission would be felt in the Society for several years.

The Treasurer noted a definite improvement in the Society's financial position. The reserves had declined by \$60,000 in 1987 and \$12,000 in 1988 but modifications undertaken by Council during the twenty-eighth year would show an increase in reserves. The Society is a million dollar a year "business" with half that income being derived from the Annual Meeting; about a quarter from SOT publications and 7 percent each from Corporate Associate and individual member dues. On the expense side, the Annual Meeting accounts for one-third of the outlay and general administrative costs, Council and committees and publications take about 20%

each. The Treasurer projected that by the close of the current fiscal year (April 30, 1989) the reserves should return to the desired level of six months' operating budget. This would be accomplished through small increases in individual member dues; a doubling of the Corporate Associate dues (the first change in the nine year history of that program); increased registration fees for the Annual Meeting and the introduction of an Abstract Submission fee. The Treasurer also reported that the contracts with Academic Press for the two Society journals had been renegotiated with only a slight increase in subscription fees. Under the direction of the Finance Committee (Treasurer Gary Lage, chairman, James Bus, Lawrence Reiter, Mary Davis, Roger McClellan and James E. Gibson) the Society moved from a cash basis accounting system to an accrual basis.

With a mandate to advance and promulgate education in toxicology, the Education Committee had six major tasks during the year. A brochure describing the eligibility for Student Membership and the opportunities and awards available to students was prepared and distributed. The Committee administers the Graduate Student Travel Award program. There were 86 applicants for these awards for the Atlanta meeting, an increase of 50% over the previous year, probably the result of the student brochure. Fifty-five were approved and received round trip travel expenses and a stipend to defray room and board expenses. There were 14 applicants for the four SOT Graduate Student Fellowships. These awards were underwritten by Ciba-Geigy Corporation, Hazleton Laboratories, Hoffmann-LaRoche, Inc. and Procter & Gamble Company. The first two Colgate-Palmolive Post-Doctoral Fellowships in *In Vitro* Toxicology were awarded. These were for two years each and provided salary and research support. The Air Force has established Post-Doctoral Fellowships and Young Investigator Awards. The former is for two years and the latter for one year. All of these were administered by the Committee. The Education Committee also sponsored a program at the Atlanta meeting to acquaint minority undergraduate students with the discipline of toxicology. Students from five minority colleges in the Atlanta area were provided free registration for the meeting and met with members to discuss career opportunities in the field.

Two committees which have a major impact on the future of the Society of Toxicology are the Membership Committee and the Nominating Committee. Both groups had successful years. The Membership Committee met in August 1988 and February 1989 to review a total of 353 applications for membership in the Society. Of a total of 157 applications for Full Membership, 132 were recommended; 19 found not qualified and action deferred on 6. With respect to Associate Membership, 85 applied and 84 were recommended with action deferred on one. There were 101 applications for Student Membership and 100 were recommended and again, action was deferred on one. The Nominating Committee presented a well qualified slate of candidates to the membership for mail ballot. The results of the election were announced by the Secretary of the Society, Steven D. Cohen at the Annual Meeting of Members. The elected officers were Donald J. Reed, Vice President-Elect; Secretary, Florence K. Kinoshita; Treasurer, James E. Bus and Councilors (1989-1991) Philip G. Watanabe and John A. Moore. The elected Committee members were Andrew Sivak and R. Craig Schnell (Membership Committee 1989-1992) and Steven H. Safe and Linda S. Birnbaum (Education Committee 1989-1992). The elected

members of the Nominating Committee were Hazel B. (Skip) Matthews from the Regional Chapters; Hugh Tilson from the Specialty Sections; Tom S. Miya from the Past Presidents and John M. Essigmann from the membership at large. All began their term of office on May 1, 1989.

The Animals in Research Committee played an important role in a time when the very use of animals in any kind of research has been questioned by individuals from all parts of the lay and scientific community. There were five major projects undertaken during the twenty-eighth year, all of which were sent on to Council for approval. The first involved the preparation with the aid of a professional writer of a pamphlet titled "A Look at Animal Use in the Science of Toxicology" which was scheduled for printing and distribution by the Society. Related to this were more technical position papers on the use of the LD50 and Rabbit Eye Irritation tests. These awaited publication in the Society's journals. A Symposium on "Refining Animal Experiments in Toxicologic Research" was presented at the twenty-eighth Meeting and a plan was developed to screen the exhibit materials for possible insensitivity to animal welfare issues. Member posters were already subject to such screening. Last, the Committee has provided items on animal welfare issues for the Society's Newsletter.

The Board of Publications had a busy and productive year. Communication of new ideas and information in Toxicology has been a cornerstone of the Society and a successful publications program is central to that mission. Separate five year contracts with Academic Press for "Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology" and "Fundamental and Applied Toxicology" were negotiated and resulted in greater support by the publisher for the editorial management of TAP; increased annual pages for FAAT and a freeze on the special member subscription rate for both journals for 3 years. The Board approved the renewal of the terms of the current editors of TAP (I. Glenn Sipes) and FAAT (Bernard Schwetz) for an additional 3 years and acknowledged their fine work. The journals now have separate identities, are complementary rather than competitive and have clearly delineated editorial policies which make it easier for authors to decide where to submit their manuscripts. The number of manuscripts submitted to the journals remains relatively constant and the two journals have comparable acceptance rates of 53 % (TAP) and 51% (FAAT). In 1988, TAP published 5 volumes totaling 15 issues and 2697 pages. In the same period FAAT published 2 volumes with 8 issues and 1505 pages.

The Public Education Committee seeks to enhance and improve communications between the Society and the public at large. The Annual Meeting included a special Poster/Demonstration session on "Communicating Concepts" which drew a large and enthusiastic audience of 200-300. Several other projects were initiated by the Committee with respect to information resources and articles targeted to specific audiences. These were in an early stage during the twenty-eighth year.

The Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance Committee formed a subgroup to address recent reductions in the level of funding of toxicology training grants and extramural research in toxicology by the federal government. The Committee also provided assistance to

state groups, especially in Maryland and Virginia, considering legislation which would affect the conduct of toxicological research. In relation to this, visits were made to key Congressional and Senate members to provide position papers. The development of future position papers was considered in a meeting with the presidents of the Specialty Sections..

One of the most difficult and time-constrained tasks each year falls to the Program Committee. Under the leadership of Vice-President Roger O. McClellan the group met five times and produced the scientific program for the Annual Meeting. The final product included 1167 abstracts, 13 Symposia, 11 platform sessions, 17 poster/discussion sessions and 35 poster sessions. The Plenary Session, initiated in the previous year, again proved to be successful with the presentation of 6 papers viewed by the Program Committee to represent the best in toxicology research. Another major part of the Annual Meeting and holding an important place in the educational mission of SOT was the Continuing Education program. The Continuing Education Committee offered 7 courses during the twenty-eighth Meeting attended by 2279 registrants. The topics were Advanced Renal Toxicology, Concepts in Molecular Biology (offered twice), Neurotoxicology, Regulatory Toxicology, Assessment of Human and Environmental Health Hazards, Dermatotoxicology and Statistics for Toxicologists. There were three innovations made at the 1989 meeting. The number of courses was increased from the previous six to eight. It was decided to give one "advanced" course in the program (Advanced Renal Toxicology) to be followed in later years by advanced courses in other organ systems. The third innovation was the use of a continuing education course as preparation and background for a subsequent symposium. The topic was "Concepts in Molecular Biology" and the symposium was "Molecular Biology, Applications to Toxicology". A third major function at the Annual Meeting was provided by the Placement Committee which operated a placement Service during the meeting. There were 220 candidates and 221 jobs listed with the Placement Service during the meeting. There were 92 industry, 34 post-doctoral, 33 contract lab, 26 consulting, 19 government, 8 academic and 15 other jobs registered, an increase of almost 3-fold in 4 years. The number of candidate remained relatively constant in that interval. Innovations introduced in the twenty-eighth year included elimination of the quarterly job and candidates updates. These were replaced by paid advertising in the Newsletter. The confidential placement file has been eliminated as this became very cumbersome to maintain.

A major topic of interest at the Annual Meeting has always been the awards program. The Awards Committee, chaired by Past President Jerry B. Hook, was responsible for the selection of recipients of the Society's awards from the nominations submitted by members. There were several qualified nominees for each of the five awards. The Frank R. Blood Award which recognizes the best paper published in an official journal of the Society was won by R. K. Wolff, R. F. Henderson, M. B. Snipes, W. C. Griffith, J. L. Mauderly, R. G. Cuddihy and R. O. McClellan for their paper titled "Alterations in Particle Accumulation and Clearance in Lungs of Rats Chronically Exposed to Diesel Exhaust". The Arnold J. Lehman Award is given to an individual who has made major contributions to the control of chemical agents. These contributions stem from the application of sound scientific principles to regulation or from research which has significantly influenced the development of regulatory processes. The 1989

Award was made to Richard H. Adamson of the National Cancer Institute. The Toxicology Education Award is given annually to an individual distinguished in the teaching and training of toxicologists and who has made significant contributions to education in the field. The award was presented to Tom S. Miya, a Past President of the Society. The Achievement Award for distinguished contributions to toxicology by a younger member was received by James P. Kehrer of the University of Texas. The Society's most prestigious award, the Merit Award, was presented to Wayland J. Hayes, Jr. in recognition of his distinguished career in toxicology. Among his many contributions was his service as the eleventh President of the Society of Toxicology. The Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Award Advisory Committee, chaired by Tom Miya is responsible for selecting the recipient of this career development award. The 1989 recipient was Stephen H. Safe of Texas A & M. The Award Advisory Committee also decided to emphasize in its announcement brochure the role of the applicant in the development and strengthening of the institution's toxicology program. The Society noted with pleasure that Dr. George Hitchings of the Burroughs Wellcome Foundation and a principal contact between the Foundation and SOT had received the Nobel Prize in Medicine that year.

The number of Specialty Sections in the Society continued to grow with the addition of an eighth, Risk Assessment and a ninth, Molecular Biology to the roster. These Sections provide an important means for toxicologists with closely allied interests to meet and share information. This was especially valuable as the Society overall continued to grow. The Specialty Sections provided symposium topics for the Annual Meeting and several have Section awards programs. Toxicologists also continued to find merit in the concept of Regional Chapters. The geographical spread of the Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic Chapters prompted an organizing group from the Pittsburgh area to undertake the formation of a new Regional Chapter. During the twenty-eighth year of the Society Council approved the establishment of the sixteenth Regional Chapter. The name finally selected by the members was the Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter.

The Council of the Society met in May, July, September and November of 1988 and March of 1989. The meetings were normally two days long and dealt primarily with the day-to-day administration of the Society's activities. Members of council also serve as liaison to each of the SOT Committees and the work of these groups was reported, reviewed and where appropriate, approved. During the year Council noted that three proposals presented at the twenty-seventh Annual Meeting to amend the By-Laws were subsequently approved by mail ballot of the members. These dealt with the Awards, Ethics and Placement Committees. New amendments proposing the new positions of assistant secretary and assistant treasurer were developed. Council agreed to a Robert L. Dixon Memorial Student Fellowship to be continued in perpetuity if a minimum endowment were raised. He was the twenty-second President of the Society. In recognition of just how busy and complex the routine operations of the Society had become, Council decided that the Secretary would no longer have to take the detailed minutes of Council meetings. The Headquarters staff would do this, but the Secretary remained responsible for the content. An SOT Fact Sheet was developed and sent to all of the sister organizations with which SOT maintains liaison relationships. The Council for the twenty-eighth year of the Society included President James E. Gibson, Vice President Roger O. McClellan, Vice President-

Elect Curtis D. Klaassen, Secretary Steven D. Cohen, Treasurer Gary L. Lage, Past President Jerry B. Hook and Councilors John L. Emmerson and I. Glenn Sipes (1987-1989) and Meryl H. Karol and Jack H. Dean (1988-1990). The Society's Headquarters Office continued to be managed by IMG, an association management firm, under the dedicated leadership of Joan Walsh Cassidy, the Executive Secretary.