

ANNUAL REPORT: 2005-2006

May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006

I. Officers/Committees:

Officers:	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>
President:	Mary Ellen Cosenza	Carol Auletta
Vice President / President-elect:	Carol Auletta	Maryka Bhattacharyya
Secretary/Treasurer:	Maryka Bhattacharyya	Melissa Rhodes
Councilors:	Janet Benson Stacie Wild	Stacie Wild Katie Sprugel
Past-President	Eva Oberdorster	Mary Ellen Cosenza
Student Liason:	Sharmilee P. Sawant	Sharmilee P. Sawant

II. Activities

2005-2006 Meetings:

1. Annual 2006 SOT Meeting

WiT Meeting/Reception

The **Spring 2006 Annual Meeting/Reception** was held March 7 in San Diego CA. Approximately 100 people from across the United States were in attendance. Dr. Cosenza called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Awards: Student Achievement Awards for outstanding achievement in academics, leadership, and community service were presented to:

Lauren M. Aleksunes (University of Connecticut) and
Christine Perdan Curran (University of Cincinnati).

The WiT Service Recognition Award for contributions in mentoring woman in the field of Toxicology was presented to:

Anna A. Shvedova, PhD, DSc, ATS (CDC-NIOSH).

A Special Recognition Award (Honorary Mention for WiT Service Award) was presented to:

Miriam Poirier (NCI)

A guest speaker, **Joanne DeRitis**, presented an interactive program entitled: **Communicating with Confidence**.

Joanne is a Senior Training Consultant for Novations Group Inc, and has provided training and personalized coaching to executives, leaders, sales teams and technical professionals across the United States, Europe and Asia. She demonstrated how confident communicators connect with their audience and get results. She taught the three most impactful skills that lead to openness, acceptance, and action. Attendees learned how to identify and minimize the common mistakes that can hold them back.

WiT Executive Committee Meeting

This was held on March 7, 2006 7:00 – 8:00 AM. to review reception plans, introduce newly-elected officers and discuss program proposals for 2007.

Linda Birnbaum and Mike Holsapple attended to discuss the possible transition of Women in Toxicology from a Specialty Section to a Special Interest Group (SIG). The Executive Committee raised a number of questions and made it clear that we want to continue to contribute to the science as well as continue our mentoring activities and other aspects of our mission. As a SIG we would need continued revenue to support these activities. Drs. Birnbaum and Holsapple appeared to understand this and felt that our group was exactly what a SIG should be. They enlisted our assistance and leadership in helping with the formation of other SIG's.

Meetings with SIG (Special Interest Group) Organizing Committee

Executive Committee members Mary Ellen Cosenza and Maryka Bhattacharyya attended this meeting. It appears that our group will be making this transition over the next year or two.

Student Poster Session

WiT presented a poster at the student poster session on Sunday night and encouraged students to join our section.

2. Activities outside of the SOT Annual Meeting

Conference calls every 2-3 months to plan for the annual Meeting, discuss increasing membership, continued mentoring opportunities; and other issues related to WiT's mission.

Carol Auletta represented WiT at the first meeting of Specialty Section Presidents/Vice Presidents in Chicago in August 2005

Proposal for Programs for 2007

WiT submitted a proposal on the Woman's Health Initiative with speakers who participated in this study and will present on key women's health issues (including breast cancer, heart disease and osteoporosis). This proposal: **Women's Health Initiative: Lessons Learned and Future Directions**, has been tentatively accepted as a workshop for 2007. WiT plans to have the speakers attend our reception.