

# Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section

## Executive Council

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The *Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section* newsletter is published 2 times/year (spring and fall) in electronic format. If you would like to share any item of general interest to the specialty section, please send it to William G. Reifenrath ([wgr@stratacor-inc.com](mailto:wgr@stratacor-inc.com))



## President's Message



**Carol Auletta**  
DTSS President

Welcome to another year of DTSS/SOT! I hope you all enjoyed the summer, used plenty of sunscreen and are ready to move forward in the service of Dermal Toxicology. I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve as President of our Specialty Section this year (after having served my apprenticeship under the able guidance of Dave Hobson). Your Executive Council has been busy thinking and planning over the last several months and this newsletter will bring you up to date on our activities.

**Officers.** We had an excellent slate of candidates this year and I would like to thank all of you who agreed to run for office for volunteering your time and energy. Our new officers were announced at the 2008 SOT meeting and appear on the masthead of the newsletter. They are Bill Reifenrath (Vice President), Carol Sabourin (Secretary-

Treasurer) and Jens Mortensen (Councilor). Welcome to all of you!

**Students** We are fortunate to have 2 new student representatives this year, Michael Borland of Pennsylvania State University is our graduate student representative and Dae J. Kim of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is our postdoctoral representative. Welcome!

### Summer Leadership Meeting

George DeGeorge and Bill Reifenrath, our President Elect and Vice President, attended a summer leadership meeting of specialty sections and learned more about the SOT strategic plan and new initiatives. See a report of this meeting in a separate section.

### Program – SOT 2009 Annual Meeting, Baltimore

DTSS members submitted some excellent program proposals for this meeting. It appears that several other sections did also. The Program Committee reported that they were able to select fewer than half of the submitted proposals. So, we will have one DTSS-endorsed program: a workshop, chaired by Bob Osterberg, entitled Phototoxicology: A Passing Fancy or Enduring Concern? Thanks, Bob, and congratulations on being selected. Two proposed symposia, Percutaneous Penetration Studies for Toxicology and Safety Evaluation, organized by Dave Hobson, and Non-Animal Alternatives in Skin Toxicology: Challenges and Opportunities, organized by Cindy Ryan, were not selected. Special thanks to Dave and Cindy (and to all of the excellent proposed speakers) for the time and effort you put into preparing these proposals.

Mark your calendars. Our Business Meeting and Reception will be held on Tuesday evening, March 17, from 6 to 7:30 pm. We hope to see you all and welcome any suggestions for this event.

**Battelle Award** Awards are discussed in a separate section, but I want to take this opportunity to thank Carol Sabourin, our new secretary-treasurer, for obtaining a new \$5000 award. Terrific Carol! Thanks!! While I am giving thanks, thanks also to George DeGeorge and MB Laboratories for donating an iPod to a student winner at the student reception.

**Nominations for Officers 2009-2010**

It is already time to think about our next election! This year we will be electing a Vice President and a Councilor. Please let me (or any of our officers) know if you are interested in one of these offices or if you know someone who would be a good candidate. Don't be shy! It's a fun group. We would like to have nominations no later than the end of the year.

**SOT Public Web Site – An Opportunity to be Heard**

The SOT Communications Committee plans to launch a public web site in March 2009, prior to the annual meeting. The intent of this site is to serve as a reference for information on toxicology issues of interest to the lay public. Specialty Sections have been requested to submit articles in their field. One thought I had was that we might consider an article about the dermal effects of excessive sun exposure and the use of tanning booths. Does anyone want to tackle this? Do you have some other ideas? If you are interested in participating in this effort, please let me know. You can also contact the SOT liaison directly: Martha Lindauer – 703 438-3115. I hope some of you will consider this opportunity to make our voices heard.

Looking forward to hearing from you.....Carol Auletta  
[aulettac@princeton.huntingdon.com](mailto:aulettac@princeton.huntingdon.com)

**Program Committee**



George DeGeorge

**DTSS President Elect**

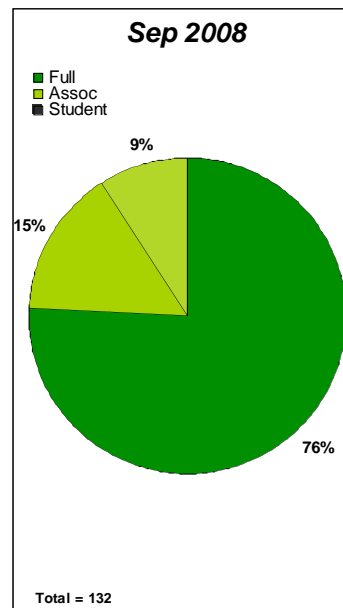
One of the most important contributions of our Specialty Section is the active participation in the scientific program at the national meeting. Our task is to put together suggested sessions (including speakers) for symposia, workshops, roundtables and continuing education courses for the Annual Meetings. In the past our Specialty Section has made important contributions primarily by the initiative of our individual members coming forward with sessions and speakers. We would like that to continue, but we would also like to try a more “global” or “top down” approach to brainstorm important topics in the skin area and then try to identify individuals who could be session chairs and come up with speakers. The 2010 meeting seems like a long way away, but we need to submit our list of recommended sessions next spring shortly after the 2009 annual meeting. If you are interested in serving on this committee or already have a session in mind please contact:

George L. DeGeorge  
 Program Committee Chair  
[degeorge@mbresearch.com](mailto:degeorge@mbresearch.com)

**Special Reports**

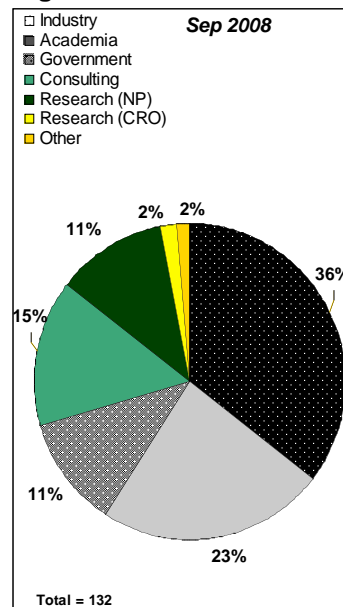
**Membership Report by George DeGeorge**

**SOT Dermal Specialty Section Membership by Membership Category:**

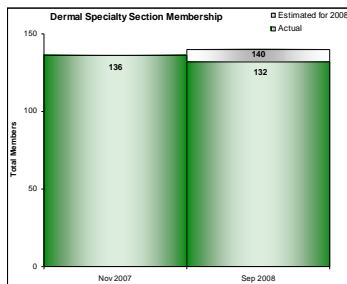
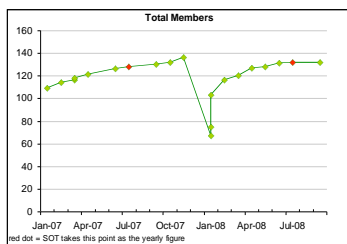


Section membership statistics as of September, 2008 are given in the following charts by category and organization. Total Section membership was essentially unchanged from last year, with a slight increase estimated for 2008.

**SOT Dermal Specialty Section Membership by Organization:**



**SOT Dermal Specialty Section Total Membership by Date:**



The dip in the upper chart occurred when SOT deleted those who have not yet renewed at the end of the year.

## Communications Committee



**William Reifenrath**  
DTSS Vice President

The communications committee puts together this newsletter and keeps the Dermal Specialty Section website up to date. Check it out at: <http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/dtss/index.html>

We are always looking for information to share with members, such as meetings, announcements, job openings, postdoctoral positions, etc. that can be posted on the website or included in the newsletter. We are hoping to include updates on hot topics in dermal toxicology and other updates and information of interest

to our members. If you have information or new ideas/suggestions for inclusion in the newsletter contact:

William G. Reifenrath  
[wgr@stratacor-inc.com](mailto:wgr@stratacor-inc.com)

## Special Reports

### Report from SOT Leadership Meeting by William Reifenrath

In July, 2008, the SOT hosted a Leadership Meeting at Reston, VA, that George DeGeorge and I attended.

This meeting covered a wide range of subjects, from the desirability of subject headings for the Toxicological Sciences Journal to the goals of SOT. Of the many issues/concerns discussed at this meeting, the following commentary relates to selected topics that we felt were perhaps more important.

#### 1. Strategic Plan

The meeting began with a discussion of the goals and long range plan (Strategic Map 2008-2011, given on page 5 of the SOT Directory) by SOT President Ken Ramos. As a "rank and file" member of SOT for the past 15 years, my perceptions of the benefits of membership centered around the annual meeting, as it provided a place to present my research, to meet colleagues, and to view research developments of general interest. It was to me a new perspective to hear a discussion of the Society's mission and goals. The cover of the information packet we received at the meeting boldly states that SOT is "Creating a Safer and Healthier World". To that end, the strategic map 2008-2011 was created. While the goals are reasonable, and to varying extents, SOT accomplishes these in a general sense, the specifics of how this happens or could happen were less clear, at least to me. For example, under "increase scientific impact" and "expand and deepen member engagement", a number of significant discoveries are presented at the annual meetings, and while some may take note, it is usually up to the discoverer to beat the drum. I don't think there are too many members who would look to or even consider SOT for assistance. Under "advocate the value of toxicology/communicate benefit of toxicology to the general public", there is not likely to be consensus among toxicologists for any given hot-button issue. Unless SOT

develops a careful mechanism to achieve balance, a proposed website topic could become a forum for a biased view.

The SOT Council regards the specialty sections, regional chapters, and the special interest groups as the heart of SOT and sends the message that these sections/chapters/groups are the catalysts for the long range plan. It really boils down to individual effort, and at that level, one has to look at the overall goals and focus a sustainable energy on a specific topic that has a direct benefit to the goals of our section as well as SOT.

#### 2. Super Section:

There was some discussion about the need for an intermediate "super section" between the specialty sections and SOT Council; that is, a body that would represent all the specialty sections to Council and perhaps functions in some way to police the specialty sections. While some attendees thought this might be useful, others felt that since all the specialty sections were in good shape financially and had an adequate number of members, why fix something that's not broken (my view). In the words of Jerry Brown, less is more.

#### 3. Symposium/Workshop Feedback

Some attendees commented on the lack of any detailed feedback when workshop or symposium topics are not accepted by Council. While this is a valid point, the number of proposals is large (150 this year), and there is a considerable burden to provide detailed commentary on all the rejected proposals.

#### 4. Ad Hoc Committees:

Several committees were set up at the meeting:

1. Leadership Meeting Agenda for next year
2. Awards
3. Program Assessment Feedback (on proposal topics for symposium or workshops)
4. Cross Specialty Section Communication

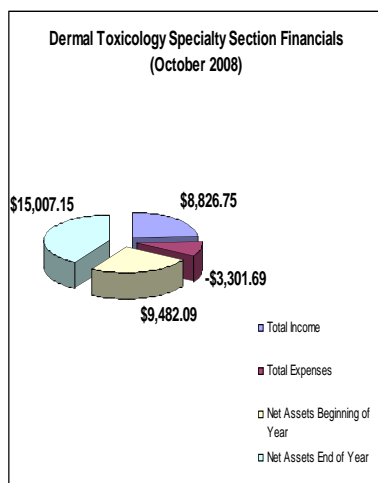
Stay tuned for their reports at next year's meeting in Baltimore.

## Treasurer's Report



**Financial Report, October, 2008**  
**Carol Sabourin**  
**DTSS Secretary Treasurer**

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section (DTSS) financial summary was provided by SOT on September 11, 2008 for the year July 2007 – June 2008. Net assets at the beginning of the year were \$9,482.09. Expenses were \$3,301.69. Total Income was from 2008 dues (\$1,845.00), registration (\$1,505.22), interest (\$476.53), and a donation (\$5,000.00) to the DTSS on August 20, 2008 for a total of \$8,826.75. Total net assets to date are \$15,007.15.



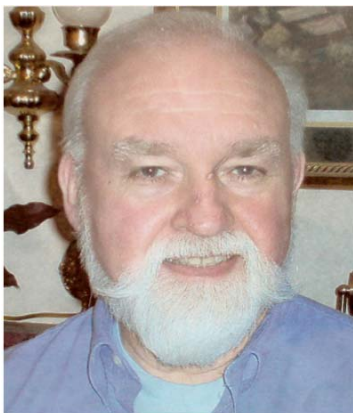
**Student Activities**



**Michael Borland**  
**DTSS Student Representative**

A major goal of the SOT Specialty Section Student Representatives has been to increase student membership in the specialty sections. To spark interest in the Section, we are announcing the availability of both Student Grants and Student Awards. Every student abstract in the field of dermal toxicology that is accepted for presentation at the 2009 Annual Meeting will receive consideration for an Award. And for the first time this year, we have funds for up to two Student Grants (see the NEW GRANT for details). At next year's Annual meeting, there will again be a prize giveaway for people visiting the DTSS poster at the student/postdoc mixer and recruitment events. The prize drawing will be for students who visit the poster and answer some general questions about the skin.

**!! New Grant !!**



**Robert Osterberg**  
**DTSS Senior Councilor**

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section is pleased to announce a new grant, the Battelle-DTSS

Graduate Student Grant. The Section is accepting grant proposals for the amount of \$2,500. An awardee of this research grant must send a report of accomplishment to the DTSS after completion of the selected research project. The deadline for proposal acceptance is January 31, 2009. This grant award will be presented at the March Annual Meeting of the SOT in Baltimore. Please submit all proposals to:

Dr. Robert E. Osterberg  
Aclairo Pharmaceutical Development Group, Suite 300  
1950 Old Gallows Road  
Vienna, VA 22182

**Student Awards**

Our Section is again sponsoring Student Awards in recognition of outstanding papers (poster or platform) in the field of dermal toxicology that will be presented at the 2009 Annual SOT Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. The Student Awards will be presented at the Section Reception on Tuesday evening, March 17, 2009. Winners will receive a certificate and cash award of \$500. Each candidate must have an accepted abstract for the 2009 Annual Meeting. Contact:

Robert Osterberg  
DTSS Senior Councilor  
[pharmdrugs@comcast.net](mailto:pharmdrugs@comcast.net)

**DTSS Best Paper Award**

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section is requesting nominations for the Third Annual "Paper of the Year" Award in recognition of an exceptional recent publication in the field of skin toxicology and pharmacology. To be eligible, a paper must have been published or in press in a peer reviewed journal during the period of August 1, 2007 and July 31, 2008 and first-authored by an SOT member. The award will consist of a plaque and a \$500 honorarium. The winner will be announced at the Section Reception. Deadline for submission of nominations is December 15, 2008. Each nomination must be accompanied by an electronic copy of the publication.

Contact:

Robert Osterberg  
DTSS Senior Councilor

[pharmdrugs@comcast.net](mailto:pharmdrugs@comcast.net)

Last year, the DTSS selected recipients for two Best Abstract Student Awards, one winner for the DTSS Best Paper Award and announced the winner of the Informa Best Paper Award. We encourage all members and their colleagues to submit candidate papers and abstracts for consideration for these awards of scientific achievement. Please do not miss out on a good opportunity for these career-enhancing awards.



**Dave Hobson**  
DTSS Past President



**Jens T. Mortensen**  
Junior Councilor

### Honors and Awards

The DTSS gave two awards for the "Graduate Student Best Abstract" presented at the 2008 Society of Toxicology Annual meeting in Seattle:

Dae Joon Kim and John DiGiovanni, Department of Carcinogenesis, The University of Texas, MD Anderson Medical Center, Science Park-Research Division, Smithville, Texas for "Constitutive activation and targeted disruption of signal transducer and activator of transcription 3 (Stat 3) in mouse epidermis reveal its critical role in UVB-induced skin carcinogenesis." SOT abstract # 561. The award was sponsored by the Sinclair Research Center.

Michael G. Borland<sup>1</sup>, E.E. Girroir<sup>1</sup>, A.N. Billin<sup>2</sup>, T.M. Wilson<sup>2</sup>, and J.M. Peters<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> Department Vet. and Biomed. Sci., Penn State Univ., University Park, PA.  
<sup>2</sup> Nuclear Receptor Discovery Research, Glaxo SmithKline, Research Triangle Park, NC. for "Ligand activation of PPAR $\beta/\delta$  inhibits proliferation of human HaCaT keratinocytes". SOT abstract # 1549. The award was sponsored by Stratacor and Port Royal Research.

DTSS selected a Best Paper Award for 2007 from nominations submitted by Specialty Section members. At least one of the authors had to be a member of the DTSS. This is a relatively new award for our specialty section and represents our second annual award for Best Paper. This year's award was sponsored by Sinclair Research Center. The Best Paper Award this year went to: "Quantification of Chemical Peptide Reactivity for Screening Contact Allergens: A Classification Tree Model Approach" by G. Frank Gerberick, Jeffrey D. Vassallo, Leslie M. Foertsch, Brad B. Price, Joel G. Chaney, and Jean-Pierre Lepoittevin, *Tox. Sci.* 97(2), 417-427, 2007.

### Announcements

#### Roundtable Discussion

The DTSS is sponsoring a Roundtable discussion at SOT's 2009 Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD. The title of the Roundtable is "Phototoxicology: A Passing Fancy or Enduring Concern" and it will be introduced and moderated by Don Forbes and Bob Osterberg. One of the themes to be discussed is the utility of in vitro phototoxicity tests for regulatory purposes in Europe and the U.S.

#### Informa

We hope to have Informa (Taylor and Francis) Publishers again sponsor an award for the Best Dermatological Paper in Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology. The winner of the best paper will be honored at the dermal specialty section annual

meeting with a certificate and a one-year subscription to the journal.

If you are interested in submitting manuscripts for publication, please submit them electronically to:

A. Wallace Hayes, PhD, DABT, FATS, FIBiol, FACFE

Harvard School of Public Health

Editor, Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology

[awallacehayes@comcast.net](mailto:awallacehayes@comcast.net)

(978) 749-3085

Informa offers a discounted price to DTSS members for its journal *Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology*. Be sure to inquire about this when purchasing this journal. Just ask the Customer Service department for the special SOT DTSS rate:

Taylor and Francis Customer Service

325 Chestnut St., Suite 800  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

(215) 625-8900

[customer.service@taylorandfrancis.com](mailto:customer.service@taylorandfrancis.com)

### Addendum

2007 Publications by Members of the DTSS:

Roy, T.A., Kriech, A.J., and Mackerer, C.R. 2007.

Percutaneous absorption of polycyclic aromatic compounds from bitumen fume condensate. *J. Occup. Environ. Hyg.* 4: 137-143.

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Meetings, Near . . .

March 6-10, 2009 – American Academy of Dermatology, 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA

#### . . . and Far

November 19-22, 2008 – 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology, Hong Kong

April 23-26, 2009- 6<sup>th</sup> EADV Spring Symposium, Bucharest, Romania

May 6-9, 2009 –  
Society for Investigative Dermatology,  
69th Annual Meeting, Montreal,  
Canada

September 9-12, 2009 –  
European Society for Dermatological  
Research, 39th Annual Meeting,  
Budapest, Hungary

October 7-11, 2009-  
18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European  
Academy of Dermatology and  
Venerology, Berlin, Germany



DTSS Members - Would you like to become more active in your  
Specialty Section? Do you know of others who would?

We are looking for:

Nominations for officers for next year

Suggestions for Future Program Topics

Please let us know NOW!

Send nominees to:

**Carol Auletta**

DTSS President

[aulettac@princeton.huntingdon.com](mailto:aulettac@princeton.huntingdon.com)

Send program suggestions to:

**George DeGeorge**

DTSS President Elect

[degeorge@mbresearch.com](mailto:degeorge@mbresearch.com)