

SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

Dedicated to Creating a Safer and Healthier World

What is the Society of Toxicology

The Society of Toxicology (SOT) is the scientific organization for professionals involved in toxicology. Founded in 1961, the Society is a global organization with more than 6,000 members from all over the world. The Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to increasing the awareness of and recognition for scientific achievements within toxicology. The Society is working to build the future of toxicology and is dedicated to increasing the visibility of the organization and members as scientific leaders.

“As SOT continues to grow in the next 50 years, I hope we continue to foster that element of personal belonging. SOT is not just a professional society that you carry a card for, it is an organization that you actually work for and that you belong to. You’re responsible for its success and for its failures. It is part of the fabric of any practicing toxicologist or any person training to be a toxicologist.”

Ken Wallace
SOT President 2005–2006

The Society’s members represent the broad spectrum of sciences that toxicology encompasses, including chemistry, microbiology, molecular biology, pathology, pharmacy and veterinarian sciences, and others. Members are drawn from academic institutions, industry, government, and the private sector and work together to help the organization advance science to enhance human, animal, and environmental health.

Toxicology is the study of adverse effect of chemical, physical or biological agents on living organisms and the ecosystem, including the prevention and amelioration of such adverse effects. Toxicologists conduct basic research to learn how living systems work and what changes natural processes. Toxicologists assist in the development of safe consumer goods. Some toxicologists develop and enforce regulations to ensure that chemical, physical, and biological agents are produced, used, and disposed of safely. They may teach others about the safe use of these substances. They may train future toxicologists or conduct research. Toxicologists work in education, government, industry, and other organizations.

The Organization

SOT is governed by an 11-person elected council and is managed by administrative offices in Reston, Virginia. Because SOT is dedicated to building for the future of toxicology, SOT offers rich and diverse services for members through a vast network of committees and task forces. The Society has more than 22 Specialty Sections focusing on specific areas in toxicology, 18 Regional Chapters that

foster scientific exchanges of information at the national and local levels, and 6 Special Interest Groups that are dedicated to increasing the diversity and inclusiveness of the organization.

Scientific Excellence

The SOT peer-reviewed journal, *Toxicological Sciences*, is the official journal of the Society and a premier peer-reviewed, toxicology journal. The journal is published monthly and contains original research articles in all areas of toxicology. *The Toxicologist*, another publication produced by the Society, features the abstracts of presentations from the SOT Annual Meeting. Abstracts of articles in *Toxicological Sciences* are available on-line at www.toxsci.oxfordjournals.org.

Scientific Meetings

Each year the Society sponsors the SOT Annual Meeting and ToxExpo™, which is the largest meeting of its kind in the world for presentation of groundbreaking toxicological research. The meeting draws more than 6,300 scientists from all over the world. The Annual Meeting provides the most comprehensive coverage of toxicology through the programmed scientific and poster and platform sessions. The meeting also offers continuing education programs ranging from basic to advanced courses on a multitude of topics of interest to the toxicologist. The ToxExpo™, is the largest exposition of its kind in the world and features more than 520 exhibits of the latest instruments, equipment, supplies, and services.

Professional Training and Public Education

SOT is working to build the future of toxicology by investing important resources in professional and public education through its publications, annual meeting, scientific meetings, and the official Web site, www.toxicology.org. Programs are offered to attract undergraduate students into toxicology. Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows actively participate in the Society and SOT coordinates several community outreach programs, including training programs related to students K–12.

Public Outreach/Communications

SOT is dedicated to providing as much information as possible to the general public about toxicology and how it can help in understanding exposure to chemicals in a variety of situations. SOT has established a special listing of toxicologists who can provide expert opinions to the public through the media, Members of Congress, and regulatory agencies. The listing appears on the SOT Web site, www.toxicology.org or you can contact Martha Lindauer at (703) 438-3115 or e-mail her at: martha@toxicology.org.

Find out more about the Society of Toxicology at
www.toxicology.org