

## 2011 SOT Annual Meeting – Invitation to Submit a Proposal

The Society of Toxicology's (SOT) Annual Meeting is the most important venue where scientists from multidisciplinary fields can present new developments in toxicology, learn how to apply state-of-the-art technology to toxicological research, and provide information to attendees that will enable them to learn about emerging fields. Each year, more than 6,000 toxicologists interact with their peers in this unique forum where there is one common theme "**Creating a Safer and Healthier World by Advancing the Science of Toxicology**," which is also the SOT's vision statement. This year alone, the Society presented a historic number of sessions and programmed over 210 sessions that accounted for over 2,400 presentations -- second only to our 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in San Diego in 2006. This programming accounted for an 18.5% increase in the number of presentations including a record number of keynote and featured lectures.

SOT is now accepting proposals for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting which will be held March 6-10, 2011 in Washington, D.C. at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. All proposals must be submitted online via the proposal submission site - <http://sot2011.abstractcentral.com>. **The deadline for submission is Friday, April 30 2010, 11:59 p.m. EST. Decisions will be announced in early June.** Please visit the SOT Web site to review the [Submitting a Proposal Guide](#), which is a step-by-step guide to assist you in submitting a proposal for consideration.

### 2011 Themes

Some years ago there was a societal push to 'think globally, act locally' which urged people to consider the health of the entire planet and to take action in their own communities and cities. Long before federal and state agencies began enforcing environmental laws, individuals were coming together to protect habitats and the organisms that depend on them, and toxicology has always been a focal point of these grassroots efforts. Fast forward to 2011 when SOT is celebrating a milestone rich in history, which arguably started with **Paracelsus** declaring 'The dose makes the poison.' We still believe in the same message, but with a modified tone to continue the push in the direction to 'think locally while considering the global community to create a safer and healthier world.'

Therefore, both the Scientific Program and Continuing Education Committees, are actively seeking your involvement to develop and submit proposals that will highlight ground-breaking areas of research, new and exciting toxicological developments, and cross-cutting activities in support of science, technology, and education. The following are the themes and CE target areas that will be highlighted for the 2011 Annual Meeting.

### Scientific Program Themes

- [Emerging Global Public Health Issues](#) - The global economy raises challenges to protecting human health within the United States for our regulatory agencies. Ultimately, public health issues are no longer just local issues affecting a single country or specific geographic region of the world, but have international health implications. The global public health issues theme has been selected to highlight recent advances in these areas, as well as how this knowledge is impacting regulation and policy.

- [Environment and Disease](#) - Growing evidence suggest that the environment is a significant factor in the susceptibility and progression of cardiovascular and neurodegenerative diseases and cancer. The environmental influence on disease theme has been selected to highlight recent advances in these areas as well as contrast how this knowledge is impacting regulation and policy.
- [Global Air Quality and Human Health](#) - It is becoming increasingly apparent that air pollution is not just a local issue, but has international health implications. The goal of this theme is to integrate information on individual susceptibility, disease mechanisms and levels of exposure and to demonstrate how this information can have a significant impact on the development of global air quality policies and regulations.
- [Integration of Toxicological and Epidemiological Evidence to Understand Human Risk](#) - As novel technologies expand the range of biomarker assessments and the NAS vision for toxicity testing begins to be implemented, the integration of mechanistic laboratory animal testing and in vitro systems with human epidemiological data will require new strategies to fully utilize and integrate these data for extending the range of observations and to characterize the exposure-response of human risk. The goal of this theme is to initiate discussion on how new technologies can improve assessment of the dose-response curve and thereby improve human risk assessment from environmental exposures.
- [Novel Approaches to Preclinical Safety Assessment: Bridging the Gap between Discovery and the Clinic through Translational Toxicology](#) - Toxicology can play a key role in identifying and implementing advances in toxicological mechanisms, safety assessment, and biomarkers when cross-disciplinary efforts are coordinated during the drug development process. The goal of this theme is to highlight advances in toxicology that improve translation from animal models to humans.
- [Toxicity Testing: State of Science and Strategies to Improve Public Health](#) - In order for Federal regulations to best reflect the current state of the science, toxicity testing paradigms need to adapt to the advances of science. The main challenge inherent in bringing this vision to fruition is to have testing strategies that provide sufficient context for evaluating potential risk. The goal of the toxicity testing theme is to initiate discussion on how toxicity testing could integrate state of the science methodologies and thereby reduce the uncertainties in the interpretation of toxicity-pathway data to humans.

### **CE Target Areas**

- [Cardiovascular Toxicology](#) - This topic provides an overview of cardiovascular function at the gross and cellular level. It includes descriptions of cellular biochemistry and the impact of toxicants on system components or functions and presents methods and techniques to measure toxicity.
- [Epigenetic Mechanisms](#) - This topic describes the field of epigenetic mechanisms and reviews fundamental cellular biochemistry. Roles of epigenetic mechanisms in cellular differentiation, aging, disease, therapeutic gene regulation, and toxicity may be presented.

- **Systems Biology** - This topic describes and demonstrates the systems biology approach to the study of chemical mode of action and toxicity. It describes the interdisciplinary nature of the field and provides examples of how a multi-faceted systems biology approach can yield powerful results that both predict and describe the relationship between chemical exposure and cellular/systemic response.

While we are actively soliciting proposals for the themes and target areas, all submissions will be reviewed under the current criteria for their timeliness and relevance to the field of toxicology and given equal consideration. If you wish to submit a proposal for consideration, please begin working with your Specialty Section, Special Interest Group, or the appropriate SOT Committee. Be advised that all intended proposal sponsors should be contacted in advance of your submission and provided with a copy of the submission. This is an important step that will allow these review groups the opportunity provide to you any comments, suggestions, or recommendations to strengthen the proposal before it is entered online, and forwarded for the final score and rank before they are sent to the Scientific Program and Continuing Education Committees for deliberation.

Proposal organizers are encouraged to be creative and to focus on the uniqueness and interdisciplinary nature of the Annual Meeting. Successful proposals are characterized by interesting, topical subjects that are thoughtfully developed and include capable and articulate presenters from a broad range of institutions who are representative of the diversity of science and society. Authors are also asked to carefully follow the instructions for submitting their proposals, which will be scored for completeness and clarity during the review process.

Sincerely,

Jon C. Cook, Ph.D., D.A.B.T.

2011 Annual Meeting Scientific Program Committee Chair  
SOT Vice President-Elect