

SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

Fact Sheet

The **Society of Toxicology** is a scientific and professional organization of individuals from universities, government, industry and other organizations. They represent an expansive spectrum of professional activities in both the United States and abroad.

The 5800-member organization is dedicated to supporting the use of sound science in advancing the health of humans, animals, and the environment by reducing uncertainties in the assessment of risk. This results in improved decision making to achieve this goal.

The Organization

SOT was founded in 1961 as a not-for-profit scientific society. It is governed by an 11-person elected council and managed by administrative offices in the Washington, D.C. area. There are over 5,800 members from 45 countries. The activities of SOT are diverse and carried out by over 25 elected and appointed committees and task forces. The Society has more than 20 Specialty Sections focusing on specific areas in toxicology such as metals, inhalation, reproductive effects, and foods. There are also 18 Regional Chapters that foster the scientific exchange of ideas at both the national and local levels throughout the year.

Outreach

SOT members communicate their research findings to scientific and lay audiences throughout the world. They publish their results in leading scientific journals and present their findings at national and international meetings and conferences. They serve as advisors to governmental agencies in the U.S. and worldwide on matters pertaining to human, animal, and environmental health.

Scientific Publications

The SOT peer-reviewed journal, *Toxicological Sciences*, is a leader in disseminating important new findings globally and is a definitive resource for results of cutting edge research. *The Toxicologist* features the abstracts of presentations at the SOT Annual Meeting. Both are available on-line.

Scientific Meetings

Scientists at the annual meeting held each March exchange ideas and present their groundbreaking research findings in toxicology as well as participate in continuing education courses, workshops, and symposia. The annual meeting, which attracts over 6,000 participants, also serves as a vehicle for exhibitors offering the latest in instruments, equipment, supplies, and services. SOT also participates as a sponsor or partner with other scientific societies in a multitude of scientific programs throughout the world.

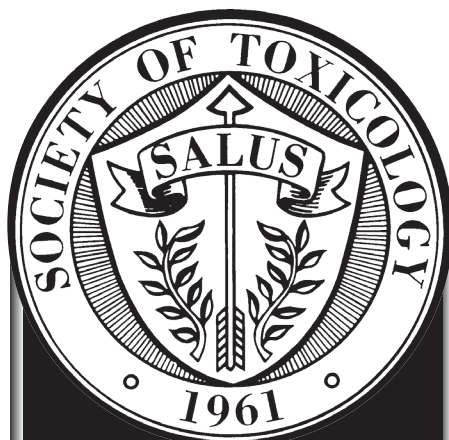
Professional Training & Public Education

SOT has a strong commitment to professional and public education through its publications, annual meeting, other scientific meetings, and its Web site. Programs are offered to attract undergraduate students into toxicology. Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows actively participate in SOT activities. A high priority is placed on the recruitment of under-represented minorities. Special efforts are made to provide the public with a better awareness of what toxicology is and how it can assist them in understanding the health issues associated with exposures to chemicals in a variety of situations. SOT coordinates several community outreach programs including training programs for teachers in K-12 grades.

Expert Resources

SOT members are recognized nationally and internationally for their expertise in a variety of areas within toxicology. As such they are able to offer assistance to congressional offices including briefings to members and staff, government agencies seeking expert input on complex scientific issues, journalists in search of authoritative information on critical health issues and the public at-large with questions related to the potential risks from chemical exposures.

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



Facts You Should Know About Toxicology

Toxicology is the study of the adverse effects of chemical, physical or biological agents on living organisms and the ecosystem, including the prevention and amelioration of such adverse effects.

Toxicology research advances the health of humans, animals and the environment.

Toxicology studies ensure the safety of therapeutic agents, pesticides, household chemicals, industrial compounds, food additives, and natural chemicals to which humans and animals are exposed.

Toxicology research provides the basis for assessing the risks associated with exposure of humans to pollutants in air and water.

Toxicology research provides an understanding of the modes of action by which chemicals cause injury. Such studies provide information on the extrapolation of the data from animal studies to humans and serve as the basis for developing antidotal therapies used in the treatment of poisonings.