

SOT Student eLetter



WINTER 2014-2015 EDITION

PUBLISHED BY THE GRADUATE STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

A MESSAGE FROM THE GSLC

Dear Students,

Welcome to the Winter Edition of the SOT Student eLetter! This annual newsletter is published by the SOT Graduate Student Leadership Committee (GSLC) for graduate students. This edition of the newsletter contains important information about the upcoming 54th SOT Annual Meeting in San Diego, including the wide range of opportunities for students to network and get involved. It also contains information on where to find updates on the SOT website and links to websites where you can learn more about the SOT component groups.

-The Graduate Student Leadership Committee

ABOUT THE GSLC

Each Regional Chapter (RC), Special Interest Group (SIG), and Specialty Section (SS) elects one graduate student member to represent their group in the GSLC. The GSLC *Executive Board* oversees the committee. GSLC officers include three Subcommittee Secretaries, although they do not serve on the Executive Board. The GSLC was created to provide student leadership at the national SOT level. Our job is to address the needs of students in the Society and to promote student participation and membership. If you are interested in learning more about the GSLC, please visit us at the [graduate student page](#) on the SOT website or just [get in contact with one of us!](#)



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Commonly Used Acronyms

SOT – Society of Toxicology

GSLC – Graduate Student Leadership Committee

RC – Regional Chapter

SIG – Special Interest Group

SS – Specialty Section

2015 Annual Meeting News



GET UP-TO-THE-MINUTE DETAILS AT:

[HTTP://WWW.TOXICOLOGY.ORG/AI/MEET/AM2015/INDEX.ASP](http://www.toxicology.org/ai/meet/am2015/index.asp)

AND DOWNLOAD THE SOT 2015 APP IN FEBRUARY

FIVE SCIENTIFIC THEMES

The 2015 Annual Meeting will feature five scientific themes covering the following topics:

- **Advancing Clinical and Translational Toxicology**
- **Approaches for Protecting Vulnerable Populations**
- **Epigenomic Influences in Toxicological Responses**
- **Safety Assessment Approaches for Product Development**
- **Strategies for Exposure and Risk Assessments**

Many of the scientific sessions, including symposia, workshops, and roundtable discussions, will highlight these themes and how they relate to toxicological research.

GSLC Communications Update

The Communications Subcommittee of the GSLC has been working to improve communication with student members by reducing the length of the winter ELETTER and sharing the extra information in the form of short updates posted throughout the year. These short updates can be found as [ToXchange posts](#) which are titled “**GSLCorner**.” The updates should be sent to the email address that you have registered with SOT. If you miss any of the email updates, they are stored in ToXchange on the [graduate student page](#) under “Graduate Student Announcement Topics.” Updates that have been posted already this year include announcements of award winners and notable seminar topics/events from RC, SS, and SIG fall meetings, YouTox video contest announcements, upcoming travel award deadlines, continuing education opportunities, toxicology conferences of interest, and annual meeting alerts.

Student Membership Information

Being a student member at the national level provides excellent opportunities to interact with other student members and toxicology experts in SOT. You are permitted access to ToXchange, the SOT Online Job Bank, and student awards. Most importantly, you have the opportunity to be a part of a larger community of scientists and gain eligibility for student leadership positions. Membership in SOT facilitates communication that could open the door for new research collaborations. It is also a great way to network with future employers!

Not a Member? [Apply today!](#) Already a student member of SOT, [then renew your dues online.](#)

BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR REGIONAL CHAPTER

There are 18 RCs within the SOT whose purpose is to foster scientific exchange at the local level. These chapters sponsor regional meetings throughout the year that offer exceptional scientific programs, renowned speakers, and opportunities for student involvement in poster and seminar sessions. Though students can join RCs and enjoy the benefits without becoming members of the national SOT, there are many advantages to belonging to both SOT and a RC! Visit the SOT website for complete information ([Regional Chapter section](#) on the right side of the page).

PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SOT has established 6 SIGs to promote the recruitment of toxicologists who share a common interest in toxicological research with a common country of origin, ethnicity, or gender. The goals of these groups are to develop and conduct programs and opportunities that promote career development and recognize accomplishments of the toxicologists in each SIG.

JOIN A SPECIALTY SECTION

There are 27 SSs within the SOT designed to bring together scientists of similar interests, expertise, and experience. The SSs are primary sponsors of many of the programmatic sessions during the SOT Annual Meeting. Students are encouraged to join a SS because such groups provide students with opportunities for future employment and collaborations, as well as provide a platform for students to suggest scientific sessions and symposia for the Annual Meeting. The SSs encourage student involvement by providing funds for competitive **student travel awards and best abstract awards** that recognize your accomplishments. Visit the SOT website for complete information ([Specialty Section](#) listing on the right side of the page).

JOINING A COMPONENT GROUP IS EASY!

Simply indicate which RC/SIG/SS you would like to join when you renew your national membership on-line. You can join a component group at any time during the year by clicking on "Manage Membership" on the [SOT Members page](#). While student membership is a steal at \$20/year, as an extra bonus **student membership dues for one SS and one SIG per year are free!**

GSLC Contact Information

GSLC OFFICERS:

Alessandro Venosa (GSLC Chair and Programming Subcommittee Chair)

Meghan Cromie (GSLC Secretary)*

Kari Sant (Subcommittee Chair: Communications)*

Monica Langley (Subcommittee Chair: Professional Development)*

Kelly Almond (Subcommittee Chair: Programming)*

Todd Zurlinden (Subcommittee Secretary: Communications)

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*GSLC Executive Board

GSLC STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

REGIONAL CHAPTERS

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

American Association of Chinese in Toxicology	Kathy Xue	ksxue@uga.edu
Association of Scientists of Indian Origin	Prathap Kumar Mahalingaiah	drprathapk@gmail.com
Hispanic Organization for Toxicologists	Federico Sinche Chele	fsinche@g.clemson.edu
Korean Toxicologists Association in America	Hae-Ryung Park	heaven@umich.edu
Toxicologists of African Origin	Melanie Abongwa	mabongwa@iastate.edu
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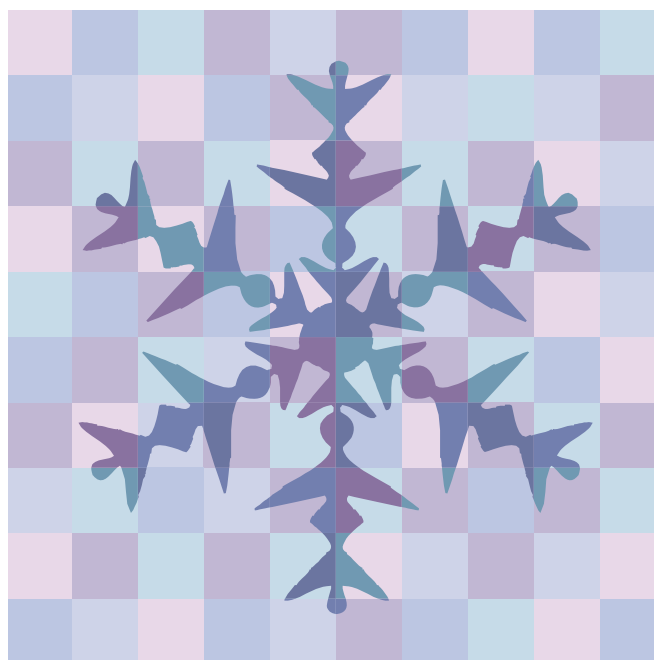
SPECIALTY SECTIONS

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Stem Cells	Sanket Gadhia	sanket212@gmail.com
Toxicologic and Exploratory Pathology	Douglas Snider	miraclemycin@gmail.com

SOT COUNCIL

Council Contact	Ivan Rusyn	mirusyn@cvm.tamu.edu
SOT Staff	David Rossé	davidr@toxicology.org



Student Events at the Annual Meeting

The GSLC hosts a number of programs and events at the SOT Annual Meeting, each designed to add to your experience. These programs, described below, are excellent venues to network with your peers and with other meeting attendees. The events are summarized below, but you can find additional information, as well as a Student Planner PDF document, on the [Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Events page](#) of the Annual Meeting website. We hope you will take advantage of these opportunities, and we look forward to seeing everyone at the 2015 Annual Meeting in San Diego!

-The Graduate Student Leadership Committee

GSLC AND PDA Co-ENDORING A 2015 SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

The GSLC and Postdoctoral Assembly (PDA) have both developed a symposium session at the 2015 Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, March 24** from **9:00-11:45 AM**. The session, entitled “*Alternative Models to Study Classical Toxicants: A Mechanistic View*” fits well with the SOT scientific theme “Safety Assessment Approaches for Product Development.” The symposium session is co-chaired by GSLC Professional Development Subcommittee Chair, Monica Langley, and Kathryn Page of the PDA. The purpose of this session is to highlight alternative methods for toxicity testing and demonstrate how these systems can be used to elucidate mechanisms of classical toxicants. Alternative models are being used in government, industry, and academia to develop systems for screening and prioritization framework. This session covers classical toxicants spanning developmental toxicology, neurotoxicology, and renal toxicology. Presenters will share their data from models including zebrafish, *C. Elegans*, *S. Cerevisiae*, and cell culture using a variety of techniques. The diverse set of toxins to be discussed includes PCBs, DCVC, MeHg, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, ozone, and ToxCast compounds. Attendees will learn of alternative methods with presenters stressing the strengths of these models in studying mechanisms of toxicity, while providing a retrospective look at classic toxicants and where we are now. This symposium continues our previous success as a co-sponsor of symposia at previous Annual Meetings. Please plan to attend and support your student and postdoc colleagues!

SCIENTIFIC SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FOR STUDENTS AND POSTDOCS

The following scientific sessions were organized or endorsed by the SOT Graduate Student Leadership Committee and/or the Postdoctoral Assembly. Some include graduate student and postdoctoral members speakers and all are on topics relevant to trainees. Graduate students and postdocs are encouraged to attend these sessions. For full session descriptions, click [here](#).

- Symposium Session: Alternative Models to Study Classical Toxicants: A Mechanistic View Safety Assessment Approaches for Product Development
- Education-Career Development Session: What Toxicologist Do You Wanna Be? The Role of Toxicologists across Diverse Organizations
- Workshop Session: Increasing Interest and Engagement in Toxicology and STEM Disciplines: The Multiple Modalities and Impact of Research and Internship Opportunities for High School and Undergraduate Students
- Education-Career Development Session: Crafting High-Impact Manuscripts: The Process from Hypothesis through Review and Publication

EXPERT/GRADUATE STUDENT MEET-UPS

The **Chat with an Expert (CWAE)** program provides a special opportunity for small groups of students and postdoctoral scholars to meet with Associate or Full SOT member Experts to network and gain insight into the field of toxicology over an informal meal, coffee, snack, or chat. Student and Expert matching occurs several weeks before the Annual Meeting, based on the interests of the students and the area of expertise of the Experts. After completion of the matching, students will be sent the date and time for their meeting in addition to a brief survey that should be forwarded on to their expert in order to facilitate better discussion.

Groups meet at the CWAE poster board in the registration area of the Convention Center at the appointed time and then proceed to the designated place for an informal discussion. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to network. This program was expanded a few years ago to include Chat with a Postdoc. Information on this program and registration instructions are available on the [SOT website](#).

MENTORING BREAKFAST

Register Now for the 2015 SOT Mentoring Breakfast—March 23 in San Diego

The 4th annual SOT Mentoring Breakfast is an opportunity for those interested in developing relationships with career mentors. Attendees will:

- Gain insights to the successful development of a constructive mentoring relationship,
- Provide us with information about what they are looking for in a mentor, and
- Be personally matched with a mentor who is an SOT member.

The SOT Mentoring Breakfast will be held on Monday, March 23, 2015 from 6:15 am–7:45 am. The event is limited to **50 mentees** on a first-come, first-served basis. An attendance fee of \$10 includes a continental breakfast.

Please note: only mentees interested in being matched with a mentor should register for this event. Matching of the registered mentees with a mentor will take place shortly following the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in being considered as a **mentor**, please sign up through the [SOT Mentor Match website](#).

Interested **mentees** can sign up for the SOT Mentoring Breakfast through the [SOT Online Registration](#).

STUDENT/POSTDOCTORAL MIXER

Every year the GSLC hosts the **Student/Postdoctoral Mixer** for students and postdoctoral fellows to gather, meet new colleagues, and re-establish relationships in an informal environment. The Mixer will be held **Sunday, March 22** from **7:30-9:00 PM**. This is a great opportunity to network with students from across the nation and the world, as well as learn more about the different RCs, SIGs, and Ss within SOT. The mixer includes an interactive game designed to facilitate networking, as well as door prizes. **Tickets are FREE** and can be obtained by signing up for this event when you register for the Annual Meeting [online](#) or via the [print registration form](#). A ticket and meeting badge are required for entry. Complimentary refreshments and a cash bar will be available.

***IN VITRO* LECTURE AND LUNCHEON FOR STUDENTS**

The annual ***In Vitro* Lecture and Luncheon** for Students will be held on **Monday, March 23** from **12:00-1:20 PM**, at the Annual Meeting. This event is supported by an educational grant by the Colgate-Palmolive Company, and hosted by the SOT Education Committee. The goal of the *In Vitro* Toxicology Lecture series is to feature important research using *in vitro* and alternative techniques to study basic mechanisms and to illustrate how these test methods benefit animal welfare by refining, reducing, and replacing animal use whenever it is feasible. Graduate students, undergraduates, postdoctoral scholars, and recipients of Colgate-Palmolive awards are among the guests at the *In Vitro* Toxicology Lecture and Luncheon. Students and postdoctoral scholars register for \$10 (nonrefundable) via the Annual Meeting registration. The event will include a case study conducted by the participants based on a presentation.

TOX SHOWDOWN

Join the GSLC and your peers **Tuesday, March 24**, from **7:30-9:00 PM** for the *Tox ShowDown*, an engaging quiz game patterned off the popular long-running show *It's Academic*. Teams of contestants will compete at answering questions concerning toxicology not only in its scientific context, but as it relates to society, the arts, and culture. Sponsored by GSLC and chaired by Phil Wexler and Dr. Sue Ford, this event is a lot of fun for the audience and contestants both. Everyone is welcome to attend the *Tox ShowDown*; no ticket necessary. Click [here](#) for photographs from the Tox ShowDown in Phoenix; a splendid time is guaranteed for all. For more information on the Tox ShowDown, email [Meghan Cromie](mailto:Meghan.Cromie), the GSLC Secretary (meghan.cromie@tiehh.ttu.edu) or [Phil Wexler](mailto:wexlerp@mail.nih.gov) (wexlerp@mail.nih.gov).

POSTER TOURS FOR TRAINEES

Poster Tours for Trainees will once again provide students and postdoctoral scientists the opportunity to participate in a one-hour guided poster tour with an expert toxicologist. This event will allow trainees to take part in critical evaluation of cutting-edge toxicology methods and research findings, network with an expert, and perhaps even build a long-term relationship with a senior toxicologist. Options to sign up for specific times will be coming soon.

YOU TOX VIDEO CHALLENGE

The **YouTox Video Challenge** is a fun video submission competition where you can compete for cash prizes! Winners will be recognized at the annual meeting during the Graduate student/Postdoctoral mixer. See the [graduate student page](#) on the SOT website for more information. Submissions are due in late January. This is a great opportunity to show everyone why you love Toxicology!

COMPONENT GROUP RECEPTIONS & NETWORKING EVENTS

Be sure to attend your **Component Groups** receptions at the Annual Meeting to meet and network with other students and scientists from your regional chapter, specialty section, or special interest group. Locations are still TBD for most of these events, so please visit the Annual Meeting site or your Component Group's site (links provided) for more information as it becomes available.

Regional Chapter Receptions	Date	Time
Allegheny-Erie	Monday 3/23	4:30 – 6:00 PM
National Capital Area	Monday 3/23	5:30 – 7:30 PM
Central States	Monday 3/23	7:00 – 8:00 AM
Lone Star	Tuesday 3/24	5:00 – 7:00 PM
Michigan	Monday 3/23	4:30 – 6:00 PM
Mid-Atlantic	Monday 3/23	12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM
Midwest	Monday 3/23	5:00 – 6:30 PM
Mountain West	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 9:00 PM
North Carolina	Monday 3/23	5:30 – 7:30 PM
Northern California	Tuesday 3/24	7:30 – 9:30 PM
Ohio Valley	Monday 3/23	5:00 – 6:30 PM
Pacific Northwest	Monday 3/23	5:30 – 7:30 PM
South Central	Tuesday 3/24	5:00 – 7:00 PM
Southeastern	Monday 3/23	6:00 – 10:00 PM
Southern California	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 9:00 PM
Specialty Section Receptions	Date	Time
Biological Modeling	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Biotechnology	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Carcinogenesis	Monday 3/23	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Cardiovascular Toxicology	Tuesday 3/24	12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM
Clinical and Translational Toxicology	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Comparative and Veterinary	Monday 3/23	12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM
Dermal Toxicology	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Drug Discovery Toxicology	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues	Wednesday 3/25	12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM
Food Safety	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Immunotoxicology	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM
In Vitro and Alternative Methods	Wednesday 3/25	12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM
Inhalation and Respiratory	Monday 3/23	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Mechanisms	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Medical Device and Combination Product	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Metals	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Mixtures	Monday 3/23	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Molecular and Systems Biology	Monday 3/23	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Nanotoxicology	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 - 7:30 PM
Neurotoxicology	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 - 7:30 PM
Occupational and Public Health	Tuesday 3/24	12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM
Ocular Toxicology	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM

Regulatory and Safety Evaluation	Monday 3/23	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Risk Assessment	Tuesday 3/24	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Stem Cells	Wednesday 3/25	6:00 – 7:30 PM
Toxicologic and Exploratory Pathology	Monday 3/23	12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM
Special Interest Group Receptions	Date	Time
Association of Scientists of Indian Origin	Monday 3/23	7:00 – 9:00 PM
Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists	Tuesday 3/24	6:30 – 9:00 PM
Korean Toxicologists Association in America	Monday 3/23	7:00 – 9:00 PM
Toxicologists of African Origin	Monday 3/23	5:30 – 7:30 PM
Women in Toxicology	Wednesday 3/25	4:30 – 6:30 PM

This eletter was produced by the Graduate Student Leadership Committee.

