



# Society of Toxicology Southern California Chapter NEWSLETTER

**Vol. 12 No.1**

**Summer 2003**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am pleased to be involved with a great chapter. The Southern California Chapter of the Society of Toxicology (SCCSOT) has been going strong for 15 years and has recently had the most successful meeting in its history with over 100 attendees (see article below). The Spring 2003 meeting had attendees from Northern and Southern California regions, several students, and numerous academic and industrial scientists. The currently hot topic of Immunotoxicity presented by several excellent speakers fueled attendees interest; this combined with a great central location in the Southern California Region at Allergan in Irvine, CA. provided the right scenario for our recent meeting. But ultimately it's you, the chapter members, who enable us to have a successful regional chapter of the SOT. Thanks to you all for making this an excellent regional SOT Chapter.

The National SOT Headquarters (SOT HQ) is extending considerable interest in its Regional Chapters and recent conference calls with Regional Chapter (RC) Council Members have provided the RC with updates on the resources available to SOT RC. SOT HQ now maintains RC membership databases and websites and also collects RC membership dues. I look forward to interacting with other RC council members to share information to improve our own RC.

Speaking of membership dues, I'm happy to remind you the SCCSOT has been very successful and is a 'dues free' society. We rely on the generosity of our Sponsors and local Hosts to keep our meeting registration fees minimal, yet still provide our members with exceptional meetings.

Over the course of the next year, the SCCSOT will continue to be active. We are planning our yearly social event at the National SOT meeting in Baltimore, MD, planning for our next successful meeting in 2004, staying active in regional activities (San Diego Science Fair, K-12 activities), pursuing potential joint activities with other RC chapters, and reviewing our current practices to align ourselves with SOT HQ and other RC.

For our chapter to maintain its success, we look for involvement and suggestions from our members. If you have ideas for upcoming meetings, for activities the chapter can be involved in, or have any general comments, please contact me at [swild@amgen.com](mailto:swild@amgen.com)

Finally, I would like to thank the SCCSOT Executive Council and Program Committee for their continued interest in our chapter and their involvement in planning meetings, aiding student involvement, and obtaining Sponsorship for our meetings. Their time and effort will allow us to maintain an active chapter in future years.

*Thank You,*  
*Stacie Wild*  
President SCCSOT

## Highlights of the Spring 2003 SCCSOT Meeting

MPI RESEARCH was a proud Sponsor of the Spring 2003 SCCSOT Meeting. SCCSOT gives a special Thanks to ALLERGAN for hosting the Spring Meeting entitled:

### “Current Concepts in Immunotoxicology”

The 2003 Spring meeting was well attended with over 100 participants from academia, industry, and consulting firms. The day opened with a brief presentation by James Laveglia from the meeting sponsor, MPI Research. SCCSOT also presented Marwa Kaisey an award of \$100 from the SCCSOT for her recent poster at the San Diego Science Fair.

Dr. Leigh Ann Burns-Naas from Pfizer started off the presentations by reviewing the regulations concerning immunotoxicity and what the current expectations of the FDA, EMEA, and Japan Regulators are regarding testing of pharmaceuticals. Dr. Jack Dean from Sanofi provided an excellent review of immune function and examples of testing paradigms for assessing immune system effects. During our morning break, the students exhibited their posters prior to the discussion session held later in the afternoon (see Karen’s Korner for more details). Dr. Jeanine Bussiere from Amgen focused her talk on the use of primates to assess immune function, an important consideration for testing biological products in primates. After a delightful lunch on the patio, Dr. Scott Burchiel from University of New Mexico discussed preclinical applications of immune function testing and provided examples of immune modulating chemicals such as polyaromatic hydrocarbons. Dr. Waxdal (“Waxy”) from FAST systems (now part of MPI Research) concluded the session with a review of flow cytometry and its use to assess immune cell populations.

The day concluded with a wine and cheese reception during which Diana Johnson offered a 90 minute K-12 Mentor Orientation for any program attendees interested in learning more about

participating in local K-12 outreach activities. Seventeen scientists feasted on fruit, cheese, crackers and wine and learned more about how SOT and the NIEHS have promoted scientist involvement in K-12 science over the past few years. Several K-12 classroom veterans shared success stories. Solutions were discussed for overcoming some of the barriers they have faced, including finding suitable classroom-ready materials. Examples of NIEHS-sponsored materials collected from SOT annual meeting exhibit booths and other sources were on display for review. Brian Short reported having purchased “Tox-in-a-Box” for use by Allergan employees. Ideas for linking up with classrooms and other K-12 activities included registration of the SCCSOT with local science fair organizers eager to have professional societies presenting special awards on a regular basis, and maintaining the SCCSOT as a K-12 resource on the San Diego Science Alliance website.

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## SCCSOT CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Introduction of [SCCSOT Executive Council](#) for 2003-2004:

### Officers:

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| President:            | Stacie Wild                      |
| Vice President:       | John Wisler                      |
| Vice President-Elect: | Drew Badger                      |
| Secretary:            | Julie Doerr-Stevens              |
| Treasurer:            | Tina Leakakos                    |
| Councilors:           | Daniel Schlenk<br>Anthony Ndifor |
| Past President:       | Charley Lapin                    |

**Student Representative:** Karen Riveles

**Program Committee:** Steve Harris  
Ann de Peyster

The Executive Council welcomes the new VP Elect Drew Badger, PhD from Allergan, Inc. and Councilor Tony Ndifor, PhD from Amgen Inc. Also, our new Student Representative is Karen Riveles from UC Riverside. We thank Charley Lapin for his contributions as President and look

forward to his continued involvement in the committee.

### Karen's Korner

Karen Riveles, SCCSOT Student Representative



*Interested in being involved with the Southern California Chapter of SOT?? We are looking for motivated individuals to act as:*

◆ K-12 Liaison: coordinate regional K-12 activities and interact with SOT HQ.

◆ WWW Web Liaison: maintain the SCCSOT website. No web skills necessary, just the motivation and reliability.

*Please contact Stacie Wild [swild@amgen.com](mailto:swild@amgen.com) if you are interested in either of these positions.*



Congratulations to this years **SCCSOT Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair winners** **Marwa Haisey** (Poster: Brittlestar Bioluminescence: An Indicator of the toxicity of San Diego Bay) and **Jeannie Louise Higbee** (Poster: Effects of Insecticidal Soap on Lumbricus terrestris). SCCSOT coordinates judging by local toxicologists at this annual event as part of the K-12 SOT Outreach Program. If you are interested in participating in this half day event in April 2004, please contact Stacie Wild ([swild@amgen.com](mailto:swild@amgen.com)).

**Graduate Student Poster Discussion Forum** – The SCCSOT 2003 Annual Spring Meeting on May 2, 2003 had a very successful Graduate Student Poster Discussion Forum. Graduate students representing UC San Diego, San Diego State, UC Irvine, and UC Riverside turned out to present their research on a wide variety of toxicology-related topics. The students were well-represented with 10 posters presented. A forty-five minute morning Poster Session allowed the students an opportunity to share their current research with SCC SOT members and other attendees. Later in the day, a Poster Discussion Session was held and each student gave a 5-minute presentation highlighting their work including the objective, general experimental approach, major results and overall conclusions. First (\$200), second (\$100) and third (\$50) place prizes were awarded to outstanding student presentations. Congratulations go to:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: **Jessica Bonzo (UC San Diego)** – for her poster entitled “Arsenite initiates G2/M arrest and AHR-independent blockage of CYP 1A1 induction”
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: **Karen Riveles (UC Riverside)** – for one of her 2 posters presented entitled “Pyridines that inhibit diverse biological processes are more concentrated in sidestream than mainstream smoke solutions from commercial brand cigarettes.”
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: **Kamran Ghoreishi (San Diego State University)** –for his work on “Effects of methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) on immune function of rats”

Overall, the Graduate Student Poster Discussion Forum was a nice addition to the meeting: affording graduate students the opportunity to interact and network with SCCSOT members; giving SCCSOT members the opportunity to see the types of research projects the graduate students in Southern California SOT are working on; and increasing graduate student attendance at the meeting.

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### Interested in Co-teaching a GLP Course?

San Diego State University offers a Master of Science degree in Regulatory Affairs ([www.cbbd.sdsu.edu/regaffairs](http://www.cbbd.sdsu.edu/regaffairs)). An Adjunct Instructor in that program, Ajit-Simh, wishes to design an online Good Laboratory Practices course as an elective for this program. He is looking for a trained toxicologist to act as a co-instructor for this course. If you are interested, please contact Ajit at [ajitsimh@hotmail.com](mailto:ajitsimh@hotmail.com) with a copy to Larry E. Gundersen, the Director of this degree program ([lgunders@sciences.sdsu.edu](mailto:lgunders@sciences.sdsu.edu)).

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## **TOXICOLOGY AT SDSU**

The Graduate School of Public Health at San Diego State University offers the Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a concentration in Toxicology. Coursework and thesis research provide opportunities to build a career in a variety of settings employing toxicologists. Recent graduates are now working in private industry, contract testing, clinical and forensic toxicology laboratories, environmental consulting firms, and regulatory affairs in government agencies. Further pursuit of doctoral studies in Toxicology and related fields is very strongly encouraged. After their experience at SDSU, Toxicology M.S. graduates receive many offers to enter doctoral programs throughout the U.S.

Why wait to advance your career in toxicology? Perhaps you know of someone else who might benefit from having a degree in toxicology that they could work toward while enjoying beautiful

San Diego! **December 1 (Spring admissions)** and **May 15 (Fall admissions)** are the deadlines for priority review.

For an admissions packet or general information on requirements of all Graduate School of Public Health programs, contact [brenda.fass-holmes@sdsu.edu](mailto:brenda.fass-holmes@sdsu.edu), (619) 594-4492. For additional specific information on the Toxicology program, contact Ann de Peyster, Ph.D., Program Director, [adepeyst@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:adepeyst@mail.sdsu.edu), (619) 594-3690.

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## **SOUTHERN CAL SOT HAPPY HOUR AT THE NATIONAL MEETING IN BALTIMORE**

The SCCSOT executive council is currently organizing next years 2004 SOT meeting in Baltimore. Any ideas or suggestions for this years happy hour social should be sent to Stacie Wild, Ph.D. at [swild@amgen.com](mailto:swild@amgen.com). We will inform you of the date, time, and location as those details become available.

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### *Upcoming Conferences*

#### **Fifth Annual UC Davis Conference for Environmental Health Scientists**, in Napa, Monday, August 25th.

This year's theme is "Nutritional Toxicology and Advances in Metabolomics." Registration is open to everyone and is free to UC faculty and students. The conference will feature a keynote presentation by Bruce Ames (renowned scientist and inventor of the "Ames Test"), and will be held at the beautiful Embassy Suites in Napa where delicious food will be provided to you all day long. You may register on [UC Davis' Web site](http://UCDavisWebSite). If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Gaea Schwaebe at (530) 752-4251 or via Email: [gjschwaebe@ucdavis.edu](mailto:gjschwaebe@ucdavis.edu).

#### **2003 Protein Biomarkers Conference and Call for Papers**: Presented by Cambridge Healthtech

Institute, August 25-26, 2003, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Contact: Julia Boguslavsky, Tel: (617) 630-1382; E-mail: [juliab@healthtech.com](mailto:juliab@healthtech.com); Web site: [www.healthtech.com](http://www.healthtech.com). Deadline for submissions: March 7, 2003.

#### **EUROTOX 2003—the 41st Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology**, September 28–October 1,

2003, Florence, Italy. Abstract submission deadline: April 7, 2003. Contact: Eurotox 2003, Fondazione Giovanni Lorenzini Medical Science Foundation, Tel: (+39) 02 29006267; Fax: (+39) 02 29007018; E-mail:

[info@eurotox2003.org](mailto:info@eurotox2003.org); Website: [www.eurotox2003.org](http://www.eurotox2003.org)  
 Contact (USA and Canada): Eurotox 2003,  
 Giovanni Lorenzini Medical Foundation, Tel: (713)  
 797-0401; Fax: (713) 796-  
 8853; Email: [eurotox2003@bcm.tmc.edu](mailto:eurotox2003@bcm.tmc.edu) For more  
 information about the [EUROTOX 2003 Advanced  
 Program](#), follow the link provided.

**12th North American ISSX Meeting**, October 12-16,  
 2003, Providence, Rhode Island, USA. Info: ISSX,  
 P.O. Box 3, Cabin John, MD 20818, USA; E-mail:  
[nholahan@issx.org](mailto:nholahan@issx.org). Web site: [www.issx.org](http://www.issx.org).

**Twenty Fourth Annual Meeting of the American  
 College of Toxicology** to be held November 2-5,  
 2003 at the Renaissance Washington DC Hotel,  
 999 9th Street, NW Washington, DC 20001.  
 Registration information can be received by calling  
 Eve Kagan at the ACT office (301)571-1840 or via  
 email [ekagan@act.org](mailto:ekagan@act.org)

**54th Annual Meeting of The American College of  
 Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP)**, November 15-  
 19, 2003, Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff,  
 Alberta, Canada. For more information, please  
 contact the American College of Veterinary  
 Pathologists at 7600 Terrace Ave., Suite 203,  
 Middleton, WI 53562; Phone: (608) 833-8725 ext.  
 145; Fax: (608) 831-5485; E-mail:  
[meetings@acvp.org](mailto:meetings@acvp.org); Web site:  
<http://www.acvp.org/meeting> click on the links  
 provided for exhibitor information [Exhibitor  
 Announcement \(PDF\)](#), [Exhibitor Application](#).

**38th Annual Meeting of The American Society for  
 Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ASVCP)**,  
 November 15-19, 2003, Fairmont Banff Springs  
 Hotel, Banff, Alberta, Canada. For more  
 information, please contact the American College  
 of Veterinary Pathologists at 7600 Terrace Ave.,  
 Suite 203, Middleton, WI 53562; Phone: (608) 833-  
 8725 ext. 145; Fax: (608) 831-5485; E-mail:  
[meetings@acvp.org](mailto:meetings@acvp.org); Web site:  
<http://www.acvp.org/meeting> click on the links  
 provided for exhibitor information [Exhibitor  
 Announcement \(PDF\)](#), [Exhibitor Application](#).

**43rd Annual SOT Meeting**: March 21-25, 2004,  
 Baltimore, MD. For more details refer to  
[www.toxicology.com](http://www.toxicology.com)

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## FYI...Some Important Facts Concerning Your SCCSOT Membership

Although the SCCSOT is a 'dues-less' chapter, don't  
 become too complacent! Your name on our SCCSOT roster  
 is not handled all that differently from membership in a

chapter requiring dues, but we need your continued  
 cooperation and attention to a few simple things to keep your  
 membership information accurate within the database.

A few years ago all regional chapter (RC) member lists were  
 submitted to SOT HQ to create the master database. Soon  
 after our list was turned over, SCCSOT 'went dues-less', which  
 does make the SCCSOT a little different, although not  
 substantially so. In addition to maintaining the RC website  
 now, SOT provides all member database management support  
 for the SCCSOT and the other 16 RCs.

Here are some other important facts we think you should know  
 to avoid any confusion about your SCCSOT membership:

- ✓ Normally the only way to remain on a RC roster for  
 more than 1 year is to pay dues regularly. Just  
 because we do not pay dues to be members of the  
 SCCSOT, you should be aware of the fact that the  
 SCCSOT officers must cause renewal of all of the  
 SCCSOT membership to happen to keep you in the  
 official database. SCCSOT has chosen to do this  
 administratively through SOT headquarters (HQ),  
 which saves each of you the trouble of renewing  
 individually. Please remember that someone needs  
 to do this, however, and if you join another chapter,  
 don't expect the same automatic renewal process  
 there. Normally all members of dues-requiring  
 chapters are dropped from SOT RC lists after 1 year  
 of nonpayment of dues.
- ✓ As has always been the case, you decide which of the  
 17 regional chapters you wish to be affiliated with.  
 Your zip code is not an automatic determining factor.  
 If you wish to add (or drop) membership in one or  
 more chapters then you must contact SOT HQ to  
 make this happen.
- ✓ It is easy to forget your member ID number, especially  
 if you do not need to access any SOT members-only  
 locations on the SOT website regularly and do not  
 need to remember to pay dues on-line. This can be a  
 problem especially for SCCSOT members who are  
 not also national SOT members, since you may be  
 relying on the SCCSOT to be your connection to the  
 national SOT. Please remember that your member  
 number is needed to access certain helpful and  
 important parts of the SOT website  
 (<http://www.toxicology.org/>), including the absolute  
 best way to update your own contact information! **We  
 need you to maintain up-to-date contact  
 information in the SOT database via the website  
 or we risk losing you!!** This is one downside to our  
 essentially automatic membership renewal process  
 that does not require a member to check in regularly.

Contact Rita Rose at SOT HQ ([sothq@toxicology.org](mailto:sothq@toxicology.org)) if you've misplaced your SOT member ID number and please keep your contact information up to date via the SOT website.

- ✓ E-mail and other addresses for newsletters and other chapter information distribution are most likely extracted from SOT HQ address records--considered the official records--not from SCCSOT chapter records. If you are receiving notices from the SCCSOT that you feel are in error, please take this up with Rita Rose at SOT headquarters so that she can help the SCCSOT officers sort this out.
- ✓ Whether or not a chapter requires dues, all new member applications actually need to be approved by the chapter officers. You may not know this because all new applicants deal directly only with SOT headquarters. That said, please encourage your esteemed colleagues to join the SCCSOT! Refer them to the SOT website for instructions on how to join both the chapter and national SOT

Thank you for your attention to these administrative details! Understanding them will ensure that you should receive all communications from the SCCSOT!

***Fifteen Years of Southern California SOT Regional Chapter Meetings***

*Compiled by Tina Leakakos and Ann de Peyster*



- May 2, 2003 - "Current Concepts in Immunotoxicology" – Allergan Inc., Irvine
- September 26-27, 2002 - "Childrens' Health Issues" - Joint meeting with MWSOT - Treasure Island, Las Vegas, NV
- May 17, 2002 - "Drug Development of Biological Products" - Amgen, Thousand Oaks
- November 27, 2001 - "Application of Panomics to Toxicology" - Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines, San Diego
- July 19, 2001 - "Current Concepts in Safety Pharmacology" - Allergan Inc., Irvine
- November 11, 2000 - "New Perspectives in Environmental Toxicology" - Catamaran Resort, San Diego
- June 6, 2000 - "Combinatorial Chemistry and Technologies in Drug Discovery" - Allergan Pharmaceuticals, Irvine
- November 18, 1999 - "Southern California Toxicology Research Exchange" - GenProbe, San Diego
- June 3, 1999 - "Current Topics in Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology" - Allergan Pharmaceuticals, Irvine
- November 4, 1998 - "In Vitro Approaches and Methods for Biological Testing" - Isis Pharmaceuticals, Carlsbad
- June 10, 1998 - "Hot Issues in Risk Assessment" - Irvine Marriott
- October 26, 1997 - "Southern California Graduate Student Research Symposium" - Newport Beach Marriott
- February 18, 1997 - "Behavioral Pharmacology and Toxicology" - Newport Beach Marriott
- June 10, 1996 - "Amgen: A Look into Product Manufacturing, Environmental Health and Safety, and Toxicology"  
Amgen Inc., Thousand Oaks

***Fifteen Years of Southern California SOT Regional Chapter Meetings  
(continued)***

- November 13, 1995 - "Magnetic Resonance Imaging: Applications in Toxicology" - Newport Beach Marriott
- June 9, 1995 - "Development and Application of Biomarkers of Human Exposure to Carcinogens and Mutagens" - San Diego State University
- February 16, 1995 - "Hormone-Mediated Toxicity" - University of California, Irvine
- September 29, 1994 - "Toxicology of New Biotechnology-Based Pharmaceuticals" - Allergan Pharmaceuticals, Irvine
- January 26, 1994 - "Principles and Applications of Confocal Microscopy" - University of California, Irvine
- November 1993 - "In Vitro Toxicology: New Frontiers" - University of Southern California
- September 14, 1993 - "Toxicology of Benzene" - Long Beach El Torito Restaurant
- March 1992 - "The Dioxin Problem: New Frontiers" - University of California, Irvine
- December 1991 - "EMF: A Cause for Concern?" - UNOCAL Center, Los Angeles
- September 1991 - "Towards the Prevention of Cancer" - UNOCAL Center, Los Angeles
- March 1991 - "The Toxicology of Cocaine and Amphetamine" - University of California, Los Angeles
- January 1991 - "Some Aspects of the Design and Interpretation of Rodent Carcinogenicity Studies" - Allergan Pharmaceuticals, Irvine
- October 1990 - "Solvent Toxicity" - University of California, Irvine
- September 1990 - "In Vitro Alternatives to Animal Procedures" - Allergan Pharmaceuticals, Irvine
- July 1990 - "The Regulation of Air Toxics in the South Coast Basin" - ARCO, Los Angeles
- January 1990 - Third Annual Meeting and Poster Session - University of California, Los Angeles
- January 1989 - Second Annual Meeting and Poster Session - ARCO, Los Angeles
- April 1988 - First Annual Meeting and Poster Session (April 23, 1988) - USC