



Central States

Spring 2008 Newsletter

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CS-SOT 2007 Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting of the Central States regional chapter of the Society of Toxicology (CS-SOT) was held September 20-21, 2007 at the University of Iowa (UI) in Iowa City, Iowa. The meeting began Thursday Sept. 20 with a sit-down dinner in the wonderful glass-paneled atrium of the Medical Education and Research Facility. After dinner and dessert it was time for a first hour of poster viewing. Most of the 52 excellent posters were from students and post doctoral fellows who competed for one of the six travel awards for best poster presentation. Not surprisingly, the discussions were very lively, and the enthusiasm of the students and post-docs vibrated throughout the atrium. This did not end the event, at least not for the students and post docs, who met for a mixer in the Old Capitol Brew Works, organized by **Jennifer Rees** (the student representative of the regional chapter), to get to know peers in our regional chapter.



Student poster presentations

The next day started early with breakfast for the participants and an officer's meeting. This was followed by a welcome note from the UI Vice President of Research, **Dr. Meredith Hay**. Knowing that **Dr. John Doull and his wife Vera** were in the audience she came prepared with her copy of the Casarett and Doull's Toxicology, which Dr. Doull gladly autographed for her. The first speaker, UI alumnus and former president of the SOT **Dr. Kendall Wallace**, could not participate due to weather-related problems. His lecture, "*Resurrecting the Central States Regional Chapter – A larger step from a large footprint*", will be presented at another occasion. The lectures began with another UI alumnus, **Dr. John Bucher**, Associate Director of the National Toxicology Program (NTP). He gave a truly eye-opening lecture about "*The NTP and Toxicology of the 21st Century*".



Drs. Bucher and Ludewig

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CS-SOT 2007 Annual Meeting continued...

Next speakers were **Dr. Patrick Hannah** (U of MN): *Arylamine N-Acetyltransferase: Inactivation by Reactive Oxygen Metabolites of Environmental Arylamines*, **Dr. Grace Guo** (KUMC): *Interaction of the flame retardants, PBDEs, with xenobiotic nuclear receptors and transporters*, and **Dr. Jon Doorn** (UI): *Impairment of Dopamine catabolism via production of oxidative stress yields elevated levels of a reactive and toxic intermediate*. These lectures were followed by a pasta lunch buffet and more poster viewing.



The audience filled the lecture hall



Later, the students Jennifer Rees (UI) and Scott Reisman (KUMC) moderated the six student talks, which were presented by Bingxuan Wang (UI), Pengli Bu (KUMC), Matt McNeill (UI), Yui Cui (KUMC), Leena Chaudhuri (UI), and Zhong Ye (ISU). The afternoon break gave our judges, Drs. Michael Duffel and Hans Lehmler (UI), Lora Arnold and Jason Glanzer (UNMC), and Bryan Copple and Hong Lu (KUMC) the opportunity to discuss the very difficult decision of the poster and the lecture awards.

The afternoon session continued with the awarding of this year's **John Doull Award** to **Dr. Larry W. Robertson** (UI) for his achievements and contributions to toxicology and the Society. Dr. Robertson was honored for his many years of research, which he described in his talk "*Toxicity of halogenated hydrocarbons: signaling or metabolism, or both?*", and for his service in toxicology previously at the University of Kentucky Graduate Center for Toxicology and Ohio-Valley SOT regional chapter. In addition, he was honored for his work in recent years as professor in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health at UI, where he resurrected the historic toxicology program by creating the new "Interdisciplinary Graduate Program In Human Toxicology" with the support of the College of Public Health and the Graduate College.



Drs. Doull and Robertson

2007 Student and Postdoctoral Award Winners

Travel awards were provided for the top poster and oral presentations at the CS-SOT Annual Meeting. The 2007 winners (top 6 out of 52) were the following.

Best Poster Presentation Award (\$300)

Yue Cui (KUMC), Erin M. Gagan (UI), Maxwell A. Gyamfi (KUMC), Venkatesha Venkatasubbaiah (UI), Li Yang, (UNMC) and Yueming Zhu (UI)

Best Oral Presentation Award (\$200)

Yue Cui (KUMC)

Congratulations to all the winners!



Winners of the 2007 poster and oral presentation awards and the judges

CS-SOT Reception at the National SOT Meeting



A CS-SOT Luncheon/Reception was held March 18, 2008, from 12:30 – 2:00PM, in the Sheraton Seattle Hotel during the National SOT meeting in Seattle, WA. About 45 CS-SOT members were present for this enjoyable event during which student and postdoctoral award winners from the 2007 Annual Meeting received their cash prizes and plaques.



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Pictured (L to R): Rick Pleus, Yu-Jui Yvonne Wan, Jon Doorn, Annelise Nguyen, Deon van der Merwe, Gabi Ludewig and Hartmut Jaeschke. **Not pictured:** Grace Guo, Jennifer Rees.

News from the CS-SOT Community

At the recent Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting held March 16-20, 2008, **Dr. John Doull** (Professor Emeritus, University of Kansas Medical Center) received the SOT Founders Award complete with a standing ovation from the audience.

The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics honored **Dr. Curtis Klaassen** (University Distinguished Professor and Chair, University of Kansas Medical Center) with the 2008 Bernard B. Brodie Award in Drug Metabolism for his outstanding achievements in research.

At the recent Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting, **James Jacobus**, Ph.D. Candidate, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Human Toxicology, was recognized for his contribution “The End Draws Near: Telomere Shortening Induced by a Quinone Metabolite of PCB3” with the Student Competition Second Place Award of the Carcinogenesis Specialty Section of the SOT on March 19th, 2008.

Dr. Wei Xie, Department of Occupational & Environmental Health at the University of Iowa, was recognized by the Carver College of Medicine, College of Public Health and The VA Iowa City Health Care System for “presenting research of the highest caliber” (Best Poster Presentation), for his presentation entitled “Investigation of Mechanism(s) of DNA Damage Induced by 4-Monochlorobiphenyl (PCB3) Metabolites” in the 2008 Research Week, April 2, 2008.

News from the CS-SOT Community continued...

Both **David Anderson** and **Erin Gagan** (graduate students in the University of Iowa Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry program) recently were awarded Pre-doctoral Fellowships from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education.

Ian Lai, Ph.D. student in the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Human Toxicology, “The Low Dose Effects of PCB126 on Rat Liver Metabolism in Rats given a Controlled Dietary Level of Selenium” and **Yang-won Suh**, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Occupational & Environmental Health “Free Radical Formation by UV Irradiation of Deca-Bromodiphenyl Ether (DECA-BDE)” received travel awards from the SOT and the Graduate Student Senate of the UI to present their exciting research at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology, in Seattle WA in March, 2008.

Announcements

Fifth PCB Workshop: New Knowledge Gained From Old Pollutants

Date: May 18-22, 2008

Location: Iowa City, Iowa

<http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/sbrp/events/index.cfm?id=303>

On this page you can find links to registration and to the hotel.

Support

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for their generous support of CS-SOT:

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