

For Immediate Release

U.S. EPA Official Receives Prestigious Science Award from The Society of Toxicology

Reston, VA (January 19, 2010)—The Society of Toxicology (SOT) is pleased to announce that the 2010 Arnold J. Lehman Award will be presented to Dr. Edward Ohanian of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Dr. Ohanian was selected by the Society for his many contributions to human health risk assessment essential for safeguarding public health from drinking water contaminants.

Dr. Ohanian is the Director of the Health and Ecological Criteria Division at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Office of Water. He is responsible for conducting human and ecological risk assessments of national and international importance. His expertise, experience and broad knowledge have helped to shape regulatory science within U.S. EPA's Office of Water and across the entire Agency. He helped to guide U.S. EPA through highly contentious scientific debates associated with potential health effects of drinking water contaminants, including microbial contamination, lead, fluoride, chromium, arsenic, and perchlorate to name just a few. His technical leadership and influence is also highly respected by the international community. He shares his expertise on the world stage by helping the World Health Organization (WHO) design Drinking-Water Guidelines, and capacity-building approaches for lesser developed countries to safeguard their drinking water supply. His technical contributions to WHO toward addressing emerging water contamination problems and establishing international guidelines for chemical and microbial contaminants in drinking water promise major safeguards for countless numbers of people throughout the world. He chairs the U.S. EPA Risk Assessment Forum, where difficult risk assessments and toxicology problems are addressed. As co-founder of the Federal-State Toxicology and Risk Analysis Committee, he has been instrumental in fostering partnership to improve risk assessment, management, and communication approaches. He also chairs the Health Advisory Board of NSF International, which is responsible for developing allowable concentrations for drinking water treatment chemicals and system components.

Dr. Ohanian received a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from Columbia University and his masters degree from the New York Medical College. He received his doctorate in Biomedical Sciences from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He has authored or contributed more than 60 articles and chapters dealing with new and improved methods to evaluate the potential effect to human health from contaminants in drinking water. He is a member in good-standing of several professional organizations including the Society of Toxicology. Dr. Ohanian will be honored in a formal award ceremony during the Society's 49th Annual Meeting and ToxExpo™, on Sunday, March 7 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Society of Toxicology is a scientific not-for-profit organization for professionals from around the world who are involved in the study of toxicology. With more than 6,000 members, the Society is creating a safer and healthier world by advancing the science of toxicology. SOT is a forum for novel discoveries and approaches related to toxicology, fosters integration of sub-disciplines that support the evolution of toxicology, and, among other things, increases the impact of toxicology on human health and disease prevention. For additional information about the 2010 Annual Meeting and ToxExpo™ visit, <http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2010/>.