The Founding of the Society

The Society of Toxicology was founded on April 15, 1962, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. There were 180 Charter Members and 3 Honorary Members by that time. This meeting followed organizational meetings in Atlantic City, New Jersey (FASEB), Detroit, Michigan (AIHA), Meriden, New Hampshire (Gordon Conference), and Rochester, New York (ASPET).

On Saturday, March 6, 1961, a small group met in Washington, D.C., to talk about the need for providing a forum where toxicologists could meet and share their research findings. By the end of their day-long meeting the Founders had concluded that the advantages of forming a society outweighed the disadvantages. They had even suggested a name, “The Society of Toxicology” and it was to be an international learned society drawing together persons trained in the various disciplines related to toxicology.

The follow-up work from this organizational meeting required preparation of a draft constitution, by-laws, scheduling of meetings, and notifying key people in the field of their plans. To finance all this, each attendee at the first meeting contributed $5 to the treasury. Accordingly, the Society of Toxicology was launched with assets of $35.