

Endowment Fund Name: *The Legacy Travel Award Fund*

Sponsoring Special Interest Group: Toxicologists of African Origin (TAO)

Purpose: The goal of *The Legacy Travel Award Fund* is to encourage the continued collaboration, education and training of toxicologists and scientists in toxicology-related fields. The fund will be used to recognize and assist travel for scientists of African ancestry to SOT-affiliated meetings.

Management: A committee to manage the award will be appointed by the TAO Executive Board. The proceeds of the fund will be used to provide annually, one or more travel award stipends to domestic and/or international graduate students or postdoctoral scholars demonstrating interest and/or expertise in toxicology and related fields.

The awards will carry the designation “*The Legacy Travel Award.*”

Background: TAO is a multicultural Special Interest Group established to support and expand the diversity and inclusivity initiatives of the Society of Toxicology (SOT) among scientists of African ancestry that reside within the United States of America (USA) and globally. To accomplish this ideal, TAO has continued to (1) Encourage participation of scientists of African ancestry in various SOT-related programs and meetings; (2) Increase the SOT recruitment of scientists and retention of members of African ancestry through exposure to training, mentoring and collaboration and; (3) Facilitate and acknowledge the scientific growth and professional accomplishments of TAO members as well as other toxicological scientists of African ancestry. For the last four years, TAO has focused its efforts to support the next generation of scientists through annual award recognition and mentoring. Now, we are determined to continue this effort through establishment of an endowed fund.

Funding: Growth of the fund will depend on individual contributions. It is anticipated that these contributions will easily reach the \$50,000 threshold required for the fund to become a permanent one, given the level of interest expressed as consideration was given to creating the fund. However, if the fund does not reach the \$50,000 threshold within three years of establishment of the fund, it is acknowledged that the fund will become a Temporary Restricted Net Asset Fund, and the funds will be disbursed completely over a period of years specified by the Endowment Board.

Leadership for Fundraising: TAO Endowment Committee along with the Endowment Fund Stewards will lead the fundraising efforts.

Termination: In the unlikely event that the Toxicologists of African Origin Special Interest Group should cease to exist or if it should no longer wish to be aligned with the Fund, the SOT Endowment Board shall recommend to SOT Council for ratification the transfer of the remaining

assets of the Fund to a new or existing fund having a purpose or purposes consistent with those of the Fund.

Approved by the Endowment Fund Board: May 21, 2018

Ratified by Council: July 11, 2018