Dear Students,

Welcome to the fall edition of the SOTudent e-Letter! This biannual newsletter is published by the SOT Student Advisory Committee for graduate students. This newsletter contains information about the upcoming 2007 SOT Annual Meeting, important Regional Chapter updates, important Specialty Section updates, Travel Award information, and other important news for student members.

The Student Advisory Committee

About the SAC:

Each SOT Regional Chapter selects one graduate student member to represent their Chapter on the Student Advisory Committee. In addition to the Regional Chapter representatives, each Specialty Section elects a graduate student to serve on the Student Specialty Section Representative Committee (SSSRC). The SSSRC is currently a subcommittee of the SAC.

The SAC was created to provide student liaisons between the Regional Chapters and National SOT. Our job is to address the needs of students in the Society and to promote student participation and membership. If you are interested in learning more about the SAC, you can access the SOT Web site http://www.toxicology.org/AI/SPD/SACdes.asp or just get in contact with one of us! See page 19-20 for SAC and SSSRC contact information.
JOIN A SPECIALTY SECTION

The Student Advisory Committee would like you to consider joining one of the many Specialty Sections. A Specialty Section is a group of scientists who are interested in a specific area of toxicology. Joining a Specialty Section is a great way to stay informed on toxicological issues, foster professional connections, and to meet fellow students interested in the same area of research as you are. Specialty Section descriptions and information on joining can be found at www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/specsection.asp. The best part about joining a Specialty Section is that membership to the first one is FREE!

SOT AWARDS FOR 2007

The SOT provides many opportunities for its graduate and post-doctoral members including awards for travel support, research and recognition of outstanding achievements by young investigators. The SAC would encourage all student members of SOT to apply for the SOT Awards. A full listing and description can be found on the SOT Web site at www.toxicology.org/ai/af/awards.aspx. The deadline for applying is October 9, 2006.

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD FOR ICT-XI IN MONTREAL

The Toxicology Education Foundation announces the availability of the 2007 Robert L. Dixon International Travel Award, which provides $2,000 for travel support to the International Congress of Toxicology XI in Montreal, Canada, July 15-19, 2007 (www.ictx.org). The Award was established in memory of Robert L. Dixon (Society of Toxicology President 1982-1983) as a tribute to his dedication to the field of toxicology and student training. This award is offered every three years. Applicants must be enrolled in full-time Ph.D. study in the area of reproductive toxicology and a student member or pending member of SOT. Details and the application are found at www.toxedfoundation.org/dixon_award.html.

REORGANIZATION OF THE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In order for the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) to better serve the student members of SOT, it has undertaken several initiatives this year. The initiative that the SAC has been primarily focused on is the reorganization of the SAC. The current structure of the SAC is comprised of student representatives elected from the SOT Regional Chapters (RC) with the executive positions of Chairperson, Co-Chairperson and Secretary elected from among its membership. Three years ago, the SAC instigated the creation of a subcommittee consisting of student
representatives from each of the Specialty Sections. A member of SAC serves as the coordinator for the Student Specialty Section Representative Committee (SSSRC).

The initial SSSRC was comprised of only five representatives from the Specialty Sections and has since grown to include a near full complement of 16 student representatives. The expansion of the SSSRC and the creation of the Special Interest Groups (SIG) have lead to several difficulties inherent in any large governing body. To resolve these issues, the SAC is proposing that both the SAC and SSSRC be replaced with a Regional Chapter Graduate Committee (RC-GC) and a Specialty Section Graduate Committee (SS-GC). The formation of these two groups will afford greater latitude to the RC-GC and SS-GC to pursue programs tailored to their specific student membership’s needs.

In logistical terms, both graduate committees will function in a similar manner as the current SAC and will elect members to the executive positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary. These two graduate groups will be coordinated by an oversight body composed of the six executives from the RC-GC and the SS-GC. The oversight group, the Student Advisory Council, will ensure that the two groups work in unison to serve the student members of SOT.

The SOT Council reviewed SAC’s initial proposal at the August 2006 meeting. The reorganization proposal was enthusiastically approved. In the upcoming months, several members of the SAC and SSSRC will be working on drafting the by-laws for the proposed SAC, RC-GC and the SS-GC.

If you have any further questions or comments regarding student events, student initiatives, or student membership, please contact your SAC Regional Chapter or Specialty Chapter Representative or contact SOT headquarters.

SOT Regional Chapter News

Gulf Coast Chapter

2006-07 Student Representative: Courtney Hill

The regional Gulf Coast Chapter of the Society of Toxicology meeting will be held October 27-28 at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Registration fees are $60 for post-docs and $50 for students. Registration includes all presentations, posters, BBQ dinner on Friday night, continental breakfast on Saturday morning, and a continuous break service throughout the day. You may submit a 300 word abstract for either a poster or platform presentation. The posters and platforms will be judged and there is a monetary award! The deadline for registration and abstract submission is October 7th.
Information regarding the GCSOT meeting can be found at the conference Web site (www.baylor.edu/gcsot/). A link is available to download the registration forms. In addition, housing and travel information is posted. If you have any questions regarding the meeting or abstracts, please email the program chair, Bryan Brooks at Bryan_Brooks@Baylor.edu.

**Midwest Chapter**

**2006-07 Student Representative: Kristina DeSmet**

The spring 2006 meeting was held on Friday, May 12th in Lincolnshire, IL, and was a joint meeting with the Midwest Teratology Association. The focus was “Exogenous Disruption of Endocrine Function: Thyroid and Testicular Toxicity.” Following the meeting students presented their work at a poster session. The student who presented the best poster was awarded the Victor A. Drill Award, which entails a paid trip to the following year’s national SOT meeting. This year’s recipient was Kristina DeSmet from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her work was titled “Near-Infrared Light Therapy Increases Cell Viability in an *In Vitro* Model of Parkinson’s Disease.” Ronnie Yeager from Indiana University placed second and received a text focusing on toxicology. His work was titled “Near-Infrared Light Therapy Attenuates Dioxin-Induced Embryo Mortality.”

The Young Investigator Award was also announced at the 2006 spring meeting. This award consists of $1500 to be used at the discretion of the student towards costs that are associated with toxicological training, education, and research. This year’s recipient was Sara Lovern from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her proposal was titled “Uptake and Retention of C60 and TiO2 Nanoparticles in Zebra Mussels.”

The fall 2006 meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 20th at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. This meeting will focus on P450. The spring 2007 meeting will be held on May 18th in Lincolnshire, IL, and will focus on nanotechnology.

If you have any questions regarding the Victor A. Drill Award, the Young Investigator Award, or about becoming involved in the Midwest Regional Chapter, please contact Kristina DeSmet at kddesmet@uwm.edu.

**Mountain West Chapter**

**2006-07 Student Representative: Karen Thomas**

Mountain West’s fall meeting was held September 8th and 9th at the Millennium Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. The main focus of this meeting was “Pharmaceuticals in Wastewater: Biological Impact of Endocrine Disruptors and Other Compounds.” The two day meeting featured talks from academic and industry experts, as well as student presentations and a poster session. Student awards went to Amanda Ashley (Colorado State University), 1st place oral presentation, and Andy Lickteig (University of Arizona), 2nd place oral presentation. The poster
award recipients were Kylee Eblin (University of Arizona), 1st place, and Julie Buffington (Colorado State University), 2nd place. The meeting was a success and we look forward to next year.

Next year’s meeting will be held in beautiful Breckenridge, Colorado, on September 6 & 7th, 2007. The topic will be related to metabonomics. Student travel awards will be available for students from visiting states. Visit the Mountain West Web site for more information at www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/MtWest/MWSOTHome.htm.

**National Capital Chapter**

2006-07 Student Representative: Devon Graham

This year is proving to be an exciting one for the National Capital Area Chapter (NCAC). We will be holding our annual Student Day during the spring semester (date TBA). This year’s program, entitled “Life After Grad School: Career Options for Toxicologists,” will be held on the campus of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Speakers from a wide range of career paths, including government, the pharmaceutical industry, consulting firms, academia and more, will be featured. Details regarding registration are forthcoming on our Web site, www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/ncac/Default.htm.

Additionally, the NCAC’s Fall Symposium will take place on 11 December 2006 at NIH’s Lister Hill Auditorium in Bethesda, MD. “Computational Toxicology” is the topic for this year, and the event is open to anyone. Registration and further information can also be found on our Web site.

**North Carolina Chapter**

2006-07 Student Representative: Beth W. Cooper

The North Carolina Regional Chapter is gearing up for our annual fall meeting to be held on October 30th, 2006, at the NIEHS Main Campus in Research Triangle Park, NC. The topic for this year’s meeting is *Environmental and Drug-Induced Cardiovascular Toxicity* and will feature presentations from Kenneth S. Ramos, PhD, Professor and Chairman, Dept. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Louisville, and Brian R. Berridge, DVM, PhD, DACVP, Director of Regulatory and Discovery Pathology, GlaxoSmithKline. There will also be a brief presentation from the post-doc award winner (TBA) for the President’s Award for Research Competition (PARC), followed by a casual reception with light refreshments.

Don’t forget, student membership in NCSOT is a great way to learn more about the region’s current research in the field of toxicology. Membership is inexpensive and can serve as a positive mark on your CV. There are two annual local meetings sponsored by NCSOT, which provide great networking opportunities as well as a chance to share your research with others and possibly win a merit award. Student membership is open to all local graduate students as well as
undergraduates studying in the field of toxicology or any related fields. If you would like to
become a student member please visit the North Carolina SOT homepage at
www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/nc/ncsot.htm for more information.

We are all very excited that the 46th Annual SOT Meeting will be held right here in our very own
Charlotte, NC! NCSOT is busy planning a regional chapter reception to be held during the
meeting so stay tuned for more information and we’ll see you in Charlotte!

Northland Chapter

2006-07 Student Representative: Lisa Schmidt

The Northland Chapter’s fall meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28, 2006, in St.
Paul, MN. This year’s fall meeting is a workshop on Benchmark Dose (BMD) Modeling. It is
designed to give an overview of benchmark modeling software for cancer and non-cancer dose-
response assessment and provide hands-on experience in using the US EPA’s BMDS software.
The workshop will be by staff from Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA) and is
sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Health and 3M Company.

For up to date information about the chapter’s activities and membership, please check our Web
site at www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/northland/Index.htm

Southern California Chapter

2006-07 Student Representative: Erin Hsu

The Southern California SOT Regional Chapter has been heavily involved this year in outreach
programs. SCCSOT was an active participant in the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering
Fair, held on March 29th at Balboa Park, where three high school students were presented awards
for outstanding scientific projects in toxicology. Additionally, our “Tox in a Box” lecture
program continues to contribute to the education of our local community, with seminars
generously presented by SCCSOT members. Our local chapter also contributed to a successful
and exciting K-12 outreach event at the 2006 annual meeting in San Diego, where a program
titled, “Paracelsus Explores the Genome: Toxicology Advances Health,” took place at the San
Diego Museum of Natural History. Our volunteers contributed to the education of nearly 2500
interested teachers, students, and parents on the basics of toxicology and careers in toxicology.

Also at the 2006 annual meeting, SCCSOT held a joint reception with the Mountain West
Regional Chapter. This fantastic reception was held at a local Thai restaurant and drew nearly
200 attendees. A SCCSOT reception is currently in the works for the 2007 SOT Annual Meeting
in Charlotte, NC; we hope this event will serve as another chance for our students to socialize as
well as make and maintain valuable contacts!
Our annual regional chapter meeting will take place on Oct. 12 at Allergan, Inc., in Irvine, CA. The topic this year is “Innovative Technologies in Toxicology: Markers and Models.” The meeting will include presentations by several speakers, lunch, and a graduate student poster session/competition. We anticipate a large number of entries in the student poster competition, the best of which will be awarded cash prizes of $500, $250, and $100.

Finally, if you are an SOT member in the Southern California area, we hope you will consider joining our regional chapter...membership is free, and the application process is easy! [www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/SouthernCal/SCALMembAp2005.pdf](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/SouthernCal/SCALMembAp2005.pdf)

**South Central Chapter**

2006-07 **Student Representative:** Prajakta Palkar

In response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita the South Central Chapter, in partnership with Society of Toxicology, offered $750 awards to support temporary residency of affected toxicologists at host laboratories of SCC members. The chapter awarded Hurricane Relief Award to Mr. Kan Chen, a graduate student at the University of New Orleans. He continues his research in LSU-Health Science Center in Dr. Tammy Dugas’s laboratory.

The South Central Chapter welcomes you to the Fall Meeting to be held at The University of Louisiana at Monroe on October 12 and 13, 2006. Students can submit their abstract by September 27, 2006. Students presenting their work will be eligible for Best Platform or Poster awards. There will be a separate award for non-student/non-faculty (includes post-doctoral fellows and research associates) for Best Platform and/or Poster presentation. Students could also apply for Technology Transfer awards ($750 each, maximum of two awards) by September 21, 2006. This award enables graduate students to visit another laboratory and learn techniques not available in the present laboratory or university. The award may also fund the necessary laboratory supplies. The SCC-SOT Travel award partially supports the travel to the Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. The deadline for this award will be announced at later date.

The winners in 2006 were Vijay Kale, University of Louisiana at Monroe, Best Student Poster Presentation; Sonia Miranda, University of Louisiana at Monroe, Best Platform Presentation; Amit Choudhary, Technology Transfer Award; and Prajakta S. Palkar, University of Louisiana at Monroe, SCC-SOT Travel Award.

If you are interested in joining or becoming involved in the Chapter activities, contact Dr. Heather Kleiner [hklein@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:hklein@lsuhsc.edu). If you have any other questions about the South Central Regional Chapter, contact Prajakta S. Palkar at [palkarps@tribe.ulm.edu](mailto:palkarps@tribe.ulm.edu).
Being a student member at the National and Regional levels provides excellent opportunities for you to interact with other student members and toxicology experts in SOT. You are permitted access to the SOT On-line Job Bank and student awards and recognition, and you have the opportunity to be a part of a larger community of scientists and eligibility for student leadership positions. Membership in SOT gives you the opportunity to network at the National and Regional SOT meetings and facilitates communication that could open the door for new research collaborations. It’s also a great way to network with future employers! Don’t miss out on this great opportunity!

**How to apply to be a student member:** Apply today! Application information is available online at [http://www.toxicology.org/dotnet/membership_app.aspx](http://www.toxicology.org/dotnet/membership_app.aspx)

**Already a student member of SOT?** Renew your dues online! To renew your National or Regional SOT membership, go to [www.toxicology.org/membership.asp?page=dues](http://www.toxicology.org/membership.asp?page=dues)

### Regional Chapter student member tallies

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**FALL 2006 TOTAL** 450

### Total number of National SOT student/post-doctoral members

- **1,136**
  - Graduate Students = 62%
  - Post-Doctoral Fellows (434) = 38%

351 National SOT student/post-doc members are members of Regional Chapters; 6 are members of more than one.
Carcinogenesis

2006-07 Student Representative: Pamela Brown

The Carcinogenesis Specialty Section serves as a focal point for interaction of SOT members with interest and/or expertise and/or responsibilities in carcinogenesis such as molecular mechanisms of carcinogenesis, genetic toxicology, testing strategies for carcinogens, chemoprevention and cancer risk assessment. The Section sponsors symposia, workshops and Section meetings at the SOT Annual Meeting to provide opportunities for discussion of the latest developments in carcinogenesis.

The Section would like to recognize the graduate student award winners from the San Diego Annual Meeting: Pamela Brown (first place), Jennifer Philips and Stephanie Smith-Roe (tie for second place) and Mary Hassani (third place). Each individual received a monetary award through generous funding by Merck & Co. and a recognition plaque. We plan to continue graduate student awards at the next annual meeting in Charlotte, NC, and I am pleased to announce that we will also present post-doc awards for best poster(s). Post-docs should submit abstracts to Dr. Mark Miller for consideration for best poster awards. This award will also consist of a cash prize and a plaque given at the annual meeting. We will also include a post-doc on the board of officers, so any post-doc wanting to get experience on a specialty section operating board should apply when submitting an abstract for the best presentation award.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--Volunteers are needed to provide a short summary of their recent paper to highlight in the next Specialty Section newsletter. Students and post-docs can use this as a networking opportunity to show some of your recent work. If interested, send submissions to Dr. Michael Cunningham.

Dermal Toxicology

2006-07 Student Representative: Adrienne Black

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section provides an opportunity for interactions between scientists involved in skin toxicology, pharmacology and basic skin biology. The areas of research encompassed by Dermal Toxicology include both the mechanistic studies of toxicity to the skin itself as well as toxicity to other organs due to absorption through the skin. Of particular interest is the application of these results to the production of risk assessment models for cutaneous exposure to a wide range of potential toxicants from environmental agents to cosmetics. As a result, research within Dermal Toxicology has broad applications in such areas as carcinogenesis, alternative model systems, pharmacokinetics, and regulatory issues. In order to promote research within the field, the Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section offers student and post-doctoral awards at the SOT Annual Meeting for accepted abstracts as recognition for
exceptional research involving skin toxicology and pharmacology. A generous contribution from the publishing company Taylor and Francis supplements these awards.

**Drug Discovery Toxicology**

*2006-07 Student Representative: Kristian Fried*

A dedicated group of SOT members founded the Drug Discovery Toxicology Specialty Section (DDTSS) in 2004 in response to the constant need for faster, economical, integrative and especially more predictive toxicology in drug discovery. DDTSS has been committed to providing a forum for promoting the broad acceptance and understanding of new technologies and models that impact predictive toxicology. DDTSS rapidly exceeded the 200 member mark, with approximately 10% student members. The diversity of people and areas of expertise within DDTSS makes an especially nurturing environment for students who aspire to a career in the pharmaceutical industry, CROs, toxicological consulting, drug-oriented academia or related fields. DDTSS has organized several scientific sessions for the next national meeting in Charlotte.

**Awards:** Another highlight of the 2007 meeting will be the annual student poster award competition followed by the award ceremony. All students presenting a poster in Charlotte which relates even peripherally to drug discovery toxicology are encouraged to apply. First ($600), second ($300), and third (gift certificate) prizes will be awarded.

**2007 SOT Reception:** DDTSS members will gather on a designated evening during the national meeting to share insights in real-life problem solving, new technologies, and the status of the field as seen by experts. We will also announce the student poster award winners. The social mixer that follows will provide an excellent opportunity for students to ask questions, get involved in discussions, learn more about the field and career opportunities, and to network with experts as well as fellow students. Guests are welcome to attend. Details of this meeting will be found in the Program and on the SOT Web site ([www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS)).

If you would like to learn more about DDTSS from a student’s perspective, contact the student representative Kristian Fried (kfried@kumc.edu). For information on the 2007 DDTSS student poster award competition, please contact Dr. John Davis II (john.w.1.davis@pfizer.com). For general information on DDTSS, feel free to contact the DDTSS president Dr. Drew Badger (badger_drew@allergan.com).

**Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues**

*2006-07 Student Representative: Rachel Murrell*

**What’s ELSI All About?**

The Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI) Specialty Section provides a forum in which to discuss the ethical implications of results from our science as well as the resulting legal and
social implications. In addition, this Specialty Section can serve as a forum for discussing issues related to research integrity and the conduct of research with animals and humans. We are often required to make ethically based decisions in our personal and professional lives. Academia, industry, contract laboratories, governmental and nongovernmental organizations share a responsibility in the ethical generation and/or use of data. Results from toxicological research are widely used by policy makers, regulatory agencies, lawyers, non-governmental organizations, and the public to establish legal rules and public policy. The Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues Specialty Section will be of interest to students concerned about the broader impact of our research on bioethical and societal decision-making as well as the conduct and application of toxicology based research. Specific objectives of the ELSI Specialty Section can be found on the SOT Web site (www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ELSI/index.html).

**Student Awards**

Any current pre- or post-doctoral student giving a poster or platform presentation at the Annual Meeting is eligible to compete for the ELSI Student Awards (membership in ELSI SS is NOT required). Submission requirements include a copy of the presentation abstract submitted to SOT, a one-page long discussion of the ELSI aspects of the research, and a letter of support from the advisor outlining the student's role in the research as it relates to ELSI considerations. Students may be contacted by the review committee for a brief discussion of the submission.

Recognition plaques and monetary prizes will be awarded for both pre- and post-doctoral student categories, including the 1st prize of $500 plus a Taylor and Francis gift certificate and 2nd prize of $300 plus a Taylor and Francis gift certificate. Awards can be presented at a Specialty Section meeting selected by the student or at the ELSI meeting. Additional information on principles and criteria are available from the SOT Awards Web site (www.toxicology.org/AI/AF/awards.aspx). The deadline is February 27, 2007.

For additional information contact: Tom McHugh (temchugh@gsi-net.com).

**SOT 2007 Meeting ELSI Events**

The ELSI events will include a roundtable, “Approaches to Manage Ethical Conflicts in Research,” an issues session, “Scientific and Ethical Considerations in Human Exposure Studies,” and a historical highlights session, “Fluoridation: Science Meets Policy: An Historical Perspective.” Full descriptions are found in the SOT Annual Meeting materials.

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**Food Safety**

**2006-07 Student Representative: Shashikiran Donthamsetty**

The Food Safety Specialty Section is a multidisciplinary group with research interests that include many aspects of other Specialty Sections ranging from molecular mechanisms of action of food borne chemicals to regulatory issues that impact our food supply from field to fork. The Food Specialty Section presents several awards yearly which recognize outstanding presentations made by graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the area of Food Safety/Food Toxicology at the annual Meeting of SOT. These include: 1) Burdock Group Travel Awards, 2) Frank C. Lu
Award, and 3) Taylor and Francis Award. To further learn about our Specialty Section please visit www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/foodsafef/s3.html or contact Shashikiran Donthamsetty, Student Representative, MemberServices@toxicology.org.

**Immunotoxicology**

**2006-07 Student Representative:** Sheung Ng

Greeting students and post-docs!
I would like to remind all SOT student / post-doctoral members that the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section (ISS) provides useful information for immunotoxicologists around the world (www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/immunotox/Index.html). Our aim is to present cutting edge immunotoxicological research, provide educational materials to scientific community, update regulatory agencies, the media, and the public on the latest immunotoxicological information, and provide a medium for sharing information on methods and recent publications in immunotoxicology, as well as to recognize the current and upcoming leaders in this field through awards and presentations.

ISS now has both a graduate student and a post-doc representative, each serving a two-year term with a one-year overlap. Jamie DeWitt is serving as post-doc representative through April 2007 and another representative will be appointed to serve with me at that time. If you have any questions about ISS, please do not hesitate to contact me at ng@env.med.nyu.edu. I look forward to seeing you at the mixer in Charlotte.

**Inhalation Toxicology**

**2006-07 Student Representative:** Elizabeth Vancza

The Inhalation Specialty Section (ISS) provides a focus for members of the Society of Toxicology dealing with the impact of airborne chemicals and particles on the body. Issues of interest to ISS include indoor and outdoor air pollution, occupational exposure to airborne contaminants, therapeutic drug delivery by inhalation, deposition and pharmacokinetics of agents delivered by the inhalation route, and interactions between inhaled materials and infectious allergic stimuli. Committees within the Section meet regularly to write issue papers and discuss topics for symposia, workshops and continuing education courses. Elected officials consist of a President, Vice-President, Vice-President Elect, two Councilors, a Secretary/Treasurer and a Student Representative. The Section meets regularly at the SOT Annual Meeting to discuss current issues within the field, to promote a better understanding of inhalation toxicology, and to recognize colleagues for notable contributions to inhalation research with a Post-Doctoral Award, a Paper of the Year Award, the Young Investigator Award, and an Achievement Award.

In addition, the Section places a high value on student representation and involvement and encourages student participation by sponsoring a special student poster session/mixer as well as two generous Student Awards, also presented at the annual meeting. The Inhalation Student
Award and the Mary O. Amdur Award are given to students submitting the best abstracts for the year and each one consists of a cash prize and engraved plaque. Several travel awards for outstanding students are also awarded every year. For more information about student participation and membership, awards, or if you have any questions or suggestions, please visit the SOT Web site or feel free to contact any of the Executive Board members or your student representative (currently Elizabeth Vancza, emv207@nyu.edu).

**Metals**

*2006-07 Student Representative: Kylee Eblin*

The Metals Specialty Section (MSS) is an active chapter throughout SOT, especially at the Annual Meeting. The MSS contributes to symposia, workshops, and continuing education courses every year. Last year (2006), the MSS contributed to 6 of the programs offered! The MSS will hold its yearly meeting at the SOT Annual Meeting, March 2007, in Charlotte, NC. All interested students are invited to attend. It will consist of the business meeting and announcements, as well as the awards ceremony for students and post-doctoral fellows.

Current pre- or post-doctoral students attending the 2007 Annual Meeting are encouraged to compete for Student Awards. Students must be members of the MSS, or show evidence of application for membership. Winners receive recognition plaques and monetary prizes for both Post-Doctoral and Student categories, including First Place Award of $250, Second Place $100, and Third Place Award of $50.

Student members are very important to the future and success of SOT and the MSS. The MSS provides students an invaluable opportunity for networking and interaction with a wide array of different scientists, not to mention recognition through our student awards. If you have any questions about these awards, application deadlines/specs, or how to become a member of the Metals Specialty Sections, please contact Kylee Eblin at eblin@ pharmacy.arizona.edu.

**Molecular Biology**

*2006-07 Student Representative: Edward Dougherty*

Since its establishment in 1988, the Molecular Biology Specialty Section has been, and will continue to be, an active subgroup of the Society of Toxicology. The Molecular Biology Specialty Section is an organization integrating members of the Society that are using or interested in applying the varied approaches of molecular biology in their research programs. Molecular toxicology has become an increasingly important focus of the academic, industrial, and regulatory arena. Tools ranging from transgenic technologies to reporter gene assays in single cells are providing exciting opportunities for studying the effects of toxic agents at their molecular targets, and for understanding the regulation and mechanisms of these interactions.
The MBSS is pleased to announce the opportunity for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows to compete for research awards in molecular toxicology. Three awards will be made: 1st place will receive $500, 2nd place will receive $300, and 3rd place will receive $100. All awardees will receive a plaque at the annual meeting of the SOT, and will present a 5-minute synopsis of their research at the MBSS meeting. Details of the application submissions for the awards can be found at www.toxicology.org/AI/AF/awards.aspx.

Additionally, MBSS is the sponsor or co-sponsor of many enticing tentative symposia at the 2007 Annual Meeting. Specifically, we are the primary sponsors of “Emerging Technologies in Imaging for Toxicology,” “Critical Roles of Coactivators and Corepressors During Transcriptional Activation by Xenobiotic Receptors,” “Application of Humanized Mouse Lines to Toxicological and Pharmacological Studies,” and “Non-classical Mechanisms of Receptor-mediated Transcription.” A detailed list of all of MBSS sponsored scientific sessions will be available shortly in the Preliminary Program. Be sure to check it out!

Not a member and want to be? Sign up for SOT membership at the following link: www.toxicology.org/dotnet/membership_app.aspx. If you are currently a member of SOT, you may join the Molecular Biology Specialty Section by using the SOT On-Line Membership Renewal Form.

Neurotoxicology

2006-07 Student Representative: Chris Curran

The Neurotoxicology Special Section would like to remind graduate students that they can select ONE FREE Specialty Section when they pay their dues each year. Consider the advantages of signing on with NTSS! The Specialty Section offers a Best Abstract Award to all presenters at the annual SOT meeting. Abstracts will be judged for originality, clarity and significance. Your area of research can cover any aspect of neurotoxicology.

The Neurotoxicology SS Student Poster Competition Award offers prizes of $500, $300 and $150 for first, second and third prize with sponsorship from Monsanto. There is one competition for graduate students and another for post-docs. Submission requirements include a copy of the SOT submitted abstract no longer than 1 page and a letter of support from the student’s advisor outlining the student’s independence and role on the research to the Chair of Student Awards Committee. Students should be members of NTSS, or show evidence of application for membership. Submission Deadline is November 13, 2006. More information is available online at www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/neurotox/awards_instruct.html.

The Neurotoxicology Specialty Section consists of members of the Society of Toxicology who are interested in the adverse effects of chemical, biological, or physical agents on the structure and function of the nervous system. Neurotoxicology Specialty Section members have research, regulatory, and/or industrial interests in the field of neurotoxicology as it relates to environmental chemicals and pharmaceuticals. This Section conducts regular meetings at the Annual SOT Meeting.
to promote exchange of information among neurotoxicologists. The Section elects officers, plans
and sponsors workshops and symposia, and fosters the discussion of research topics of mutual
interest to members. The Section also sponsors a number of undergraduate and graduate level
research awards for students who present outstanding research at the national meeting. More
information is on-line at www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/neuro.html.

HOW TO APPLY: On-line applications available at www.toxicology.org. Go to Membership
and select On-line Membership (for new members) or Renewing Membership (for current
members). Select Neurotoxicology under Specialty Section. E-mail the Specialty Section
Secretary/Treasurer to notify her that you have joined.

Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology

2006-07 Student Representative: Chrissy Schilling

The Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology Specialty Section (RDTSS) is a subgroup of
the Society of Toxicology whose members have expertise and/or responsibility for assessment of
toxicology of the reproductive system of developing offspring. The Section brings together
scientists trained and knowledgeable in a variety of disciplines to apply various approaches to the
understanding of the structural, functional, endocrinologic, pathologic, pharmacologic,
toxicologic, and epidemiologic effects of agents on reproduction and development for the
purpose of evaluating hazards and risks for the human population. Included are all areas of male
and female reproduction, developmental biology, teratology, and developmental and
reproductive toxicity risk assessment. The Section holds regular meetings during the Annual
SOT meeting to discuss topics of interest to the membership. In addition, the Section sponsors
travel awards for students who have done outstanding work, and sponsors continuing education
courses and symposia at the SOT Annual Meetings.

Risk Assessment

2006-07 Student Representative: Mayurranjan Mitra

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology (SOT) is one of the largest
Specialty Sections in the SOT. Our membership consists of approximately equal representation
from academics, government, industry, and the consulting world. Our goal is to provide a forum
in the world’s most prestigious toxicology organization for those interested in the theory and
practice of risk assessment. Through the Society, we propose sessions for the Annual Meeting,
exchange information via newsletters, present awards, and participate in other scientific
activities. Our Specialty Section provides the Risk Assessment SS Best Student Abstract Award
to recognize outstanding post-doctoral and student scientist presentations at the SOT Annual
Meeting. Please visit http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/RiskAssess/index.asp or contact
Mayurranjan S. Mitra at MemberServices@toxicology.org to further more about our Specialty
Section.
Toxicologic and Exploratory Pathology Specialty Section (TEPSS) is a dynamic group that seeks to apply current advances in experimental pathology to regulatory policy and risk assessment practices. Last year, TEPSS was involved in sponsorship of five scientific sessions and five continuing education courses, spanning diverse topics such as correlating pathological endpoints to toxicogenomics data, investigation of mode of action in hemangiosarcomas, and neuropathology for the toxicologist. Our spring meeting in San Diego was an exciting one, with presentations given by the three (count ‘em - three!) 2006 student travel award winners. Each winner received $1000 and an engraved plaque. Last year, TEPSS officers also instituted a policy of visiting the posters of all student travel award applicants, so everyone had a chance to network with potential colleagues from government, academia, and private industry. The deadline is January 16th to apply for the 2007 student travel award. Application details can be found at www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/awards.html or by contacting Alison Hege (ahege@med.unc.edu).

Specialty Section student member tallies

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<td>RISK ASSESSMENT</td>
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<td>WOMEN IN TOXICOLOGY</td>
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Total: 546
Some Student Members belong to more than one Specialty Section, so 409 SOT Student Members belong to Specialty Sections.
Hello SOT graduate students! This is Jenni Duringer, chair of the Post-Doctoral Assembly (PDA). I am writing to let you know that the Post-Doctoral Assembly exists within SOT to facilitate professional development of the SOT Post-Doctoral Membership in the field of toxicology. Current SOT post-doctoral members are automatically part of the PDA. You will be on the PDA roster if you identify yourself as a post-doctoral fellow when you pay dues or register for the Annual Meeting or have "post-doc" in your title in your SOT member profile. Otherwise please e-mail SOT-HQ (bettye@toxicology.org) to be included in PDA communications.

We have a Web site full of great information for post-docs, from SOT-specific highlights to career resources for those transitioning to young investigators, which is continually updated and refined. Go to www.toxicology.org/ai/spd/PD.asp to check us out!

As you finish your programs and move into post-doctoral positions, I hope that you will consider becoming involved in the PDA. There are many leadership and networking opportunities available and we always need volunteers for the initiatives we are working on. We will be holding our second annual election in February 2007, with a call for nominations going out in November 2006. If you will be in a post-doctoral position by May 1, 2007 and would like to run for one of our three elected positions, please see our website for further details. Please feel free to contact me (Jennifer.Duringer@oregonstate.edu) or any of the Board Members or bettye@toxicology.org if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns. I look forward to meeting each of you and to striving further to meet the needs of post-docs in the Society.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Duringer
The SAC sponsors a number of programs and events at the SOT Annual Meeting. Each event is designed to enhance your experience at the Annual Meeting. These programs are excellent venues to network with your peers and with other meeting attendees. We hope you will take advantage of these opportunities and we look forward to seeing everyone at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Charlotte!

The Student Advisory Committee

LUNCH WITH AN EXPERT

The Lunch with an Expert (LWAE) program is sponsored every year by the Student Advisory Committee. Each year, the SAC pairs up graduate students and post-docs with an Expert in a research field that they are interested in. Each group consists of approximately six students to one Expert. The Expert chooses the venue for the informal discussion with the meal costs being the responsibility of the participating individuals. The LWAE program is an excellent way to network with an Expert in your field of research as well as meet other young scientists in your field. You can register now for LWAE on the SAC Web site www.toxicology.org/ai/spd/lunchexpert.asp.

THE ANNUAL STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE GRADUATE STUDENT AND POST-DOCTORAL MIXER

Every year the SAC sponsors the Grad Student/Post-Doc Mixer. The Mixer is an informal gathering of SOT Meeting attendees to gather, socialize, and maybe even win a door prize. The SAC representatives from the Regional Chapters and Specialty Sections will be on hand to answer any questions you might have about membership or events. The Mixer will be held on Sunday evening, March 25, 2007. Check the SOT Annual Itinerary Planner and watch for future e-mail notices for further details.

SOT 2007 ANNUAL MEETING STUDENT PLANNER

In order to assist our student membership navigate the SOT Annual Meeting, the SAC publishes a Student Planner. The Student Planner contains information and maps of the meeting venue, presentations tips, and other information crucial to having a successful meeting. The student planner will be posted on the SAC’s web page in early 2007. Check it out!
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<td>SAC Chairperson</td>
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This newsletter was produced by the Student Advisory Committee