Dear Students,

Welcome to the Fall Edition of the SOT Student e-Letter! This biannual newsletter is published by the SOT Student Advisory Council (SAC) for graduate students. This newsletter contains information about important updates about Travel Awards from Regional Chapters, Special Interest Groups, and Specialty Sections, as well as information about the upcoming SOT Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, this spring.

The Student Advisory Council

ABOUT THE SAC

Each Regional Chapter and Special Interest Group elects one graduate student member to represent their group in the Regional Chapter/Special Interest Group Graduate Committee (RC/SIG-GC). In addition, each Specialty Section elects a graduate student to serve on the Specialty Section Graduate Committee (SS-GC). The officers from the RC/SIG-GC and SS-GC form the SAC. See Pages 6 and 15 for officer contact information.

The SAC was created to provide student leadership at the National SOT level. 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 our Web site at www.toxicology.org/AI/SPD/studentservices.asp#SAC, or you can just get in contact with one of us!
BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR REGIONAL CHAPTER

SOT has 18 Regional Chapters whose purpose is to foster scientific exchange at the local level. These chapters sponsor regional meetings throughout the year that offer exceptional scientific programs, renowned speakers, and opportunities for student involvement in poster and seminar sessions. A list of the Regional Chapters and information about joining can be found at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/regionalchapters.asp. Students can join Regional Chapters and enjoy the benefits without becoming members of the national Society of Toxicology (of course there are many advantages to belonging to both SOT and a Regional Chapter!).

PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SOT has established six Special Interest Groups (SIG) to promote the recruitment of toxicologists who share a common interest in toxicological research with a common country of origin, ethnicity, or gender. The goals of these groups are to develop and conduct programs and opportunities that promote career development and recognize accomplishments of the toxicologists in each SIG. Please visit http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/sig.asp for more information on SIG. Students and postdoctoral fellows receive membership in their first SIG at NO COST!

JOIN A SPECIALTY SECTION

SOT has 24 Specialty Sections (SS) designed to bring together scientists of similar interests, expertise, and experience. These Specialty Sections provide an invaluable opportunity for networking and interaction with scientists and professionals from various specialties within toxicology. Specialty Sections are primary sponsors of many of the programmatic sessions during the SOT Annual Meeting. Students are encouraged to join a SS because not only can these groups provide students with opportunities for future employment and collaborations, but they also provide a platform for students to suggest scientific sessions and symposia for the Annual Meeting. Please visit www.toxicology.org/ms/specsection.asp for more information on these SS.

Specialty Sections encourage student involvement by providing funds for competitive student travel awards and best abstract awards that recognize your accomplishments and hard work. Joining a Specialty Section is easy! First, point your web browser to www.toxicology.org. Once you log in to the site, navigate to the Membership Renewal on-line option under Membership, and indicate which Specialty Section you would like to join. You can join a SS at any time during the year and, while student membership is a steal at $20/year, as an extra bonus, your student membership dues for one SS per year are free!

NIH LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

NIH sponsors a Loan Repayment Program (LRP) to encourage clinical research. To qualify for the LRP, applicants must possess a doctoral-level degree (except for the Contraception and Infertility Research LRP); devote at least 20 hours per week to research funded by a domestic nonprofit organization or federal, state, or local government entity; have educational loan debt equal to or exceeding 20 percent of their institutional base salary; and be a U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident. They must also be willing to commit to two years of clinical research in the areas of Clinical Research, Pediatric Research, Health Disparities Research, Contraception and Infertility Research, and Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds. For more information, please visit http://www.lrp.nih.gov/index.aspx. All applications must be completed by 8:00 PM Eastern Time, December 1, 2009.
PDA Hosts a Webinar for Graduate Students

“From Grad Student to Postdoc: Insight Across Career Paths” is a webinar that is aimed at graduate students who are beginning to consider their career path after graduation. Postdocs who are now working for governmental agencies, academia, industry, and nonprofit organizations will share their experiences. These insights will be followed by a panel discussion and answers to submitted questions. The webinar will take place in mid-November. Date, time, and registration details will be announced later this fall!

The National Academy of Sciences Calls for Applicants!

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) is in search of well qualified applicants for the Graduate Fellowship Program of the National Academies. The program is designed to engage its Fellows in the analytical process that informs U.S. science and technology policy, broaden their experience related to science, and provide experience within a unit of the National Academies. Fellows develop basic skills essential to working or participating in science policy at the federal, state, or local levels.

Eligible applicants include graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and those who have completed graduate studies or postdoctoral research in any social/behavioral science, medical/health discipline, physical or biological science, any field of engineering, law/business/public administration, or any relevant interdisciplinary field within the last five years. The program takes place in Washington, D.C. and is open to all U.S. and non-U.S. citizens who meet the criteria. However, non-U.S. citizens must be currently enrolled in a U.S. university and have proof of holding a valid J-1 or F-1 status. There are two sessions upcoming in 2010, Winter/Spring (February-April) and Fall (August-November), and a stipend grant award will be provided to offset expenses.

Please visit www.national-academies.org/policyfellows for details on criteria, application instructions, and access to the online application and reference forms. The deadline for receipt of application material is November 1 for the winter/spring program and May 1 for the fall program. Candidates may apply for both sessions concurrently.

AAAS Seeks Candidates for Science & Technology Policy Fellowships

For 36 years, the AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships have provided scientists and engineers with a unique opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to national and international issues in the federal policy realm, while learning first-hand how to craft policy in Congress and implement policy in more than 15 federal agencies.

AAAS seeks candidates from a broad array of disciplines, ethnicities, and disability status. Fellows represent a spectrum of career stages and come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, non-profits, and government labs. To learn more about the fellowships application, selection, and placement processes and ask questions of former Fellows, attend a webinar on October 2, 2009 at 12:00 PM EDT. For more information, please go to http://blogs.sciencemag.org/sciencecareers/2009/09/ and follow the link to RSVP under the title “Apply Your Science to Serve Society.”

SAC Surveys Student Membership

Shortly after the Annual Meeting, SAC surveyed the student members of SOT to gather their opinions on the current programming available to students. We learned that many students are not aware of the large number of awards available to support student research and travel! Many students also stated that it is difficult to find the awards using the current awards database. As a result, a complete updated listing of available awards as a pdf has been posted on the SOT Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ai/af/awards.aspx
We also learned that many students would like more non-scientific and career-related programming available at the meeting and throughout the year in the form of web-based seminars. Some of the suggested topics include networking skills, teaching techniques, and preparing effective oral presentations. Many students were interested in job search information, such as how to find postdoctoral fellowships, non-traditional careers in science, and how to transition from student to professional. We are working with these ideas and hope to offer more programming to students throughout the year!

We’d like to thank you for the time you spent to take the survey and all of your thoughtful suggestions.

2010 Annual Meeting News

Get up-to-the-minute details at www.toxicology.org/2010!

See you in Salt Lake City!

Six Scientific Themes

The 2010 Annual Meeting will feature six scientific themes covering the topics Cell Signaling, Gene-Environment Interactions, Metabolic Disease, Mitochondrial Basis of Disease, Toxicity Testing in the 21st Century, and Translational Toxicology. Many of the scientific sessions, including symposia, workshops, and roundtable discussions, will highlight these themes and how they relate to toxicological research. In addition, Continuing Education courses will highlight two target areas, Biologicals and Cytokine Biology.

SOT Awards for 2010

SOT provides many opportunities for its graduate and postdoctoral 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 these 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 Saturday, October 9, 2009. In addition to these travel awards, many Regional Chapters and Specialty Sections provide travel support for students as well! Check out the descriptions in this newsletter under Regional Chapter and Specialty Section updates for more information.
The SAC sponsors a number of programs and events among others at the SOT Annual Meeting, each designed to add to your experience. These programs, described below, 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 2010 Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City!

The Student Advisory Council

**SAC and PDA Will Co-Sponsor a 2010 Scientific Symposium Session**

The SAC and PDA will co-sponsor a symposium session at the 2010 Annual Meeting. The session is entitled “MAP Kinase Signaling: A Common Target in Different Tissues.” This session will fit well in the SOT scientific theme “Cell Signaling.” The symposium has been tentatively approved during the initial review! This symposium session is co-chaired by Haitian Lu, the President-elect of SAC, and Sarah Campion, the Chairperson of PDA. One of the goals of this session is to highlight the scientific achievements of students and postdocs, as well as contributing to the overall scientific program. Three graduate students and two postdoctoral fellows will present their most recent data to further our understanding of environmental toxicant-induced alterations to MAP kinase signaling, and how these alterations may contribute to toxicity and/or pathogenesis in different tissues. Please stay tuned as there will be more details in our winter newsletter! This symposium will continue our previous success as a co-sponsor of a symposium at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

**Lunch with an Expert**

The SS-GC is sponsoring Lunch with an Expert (LWAE). The LWAE program provides a special opportunity for small groups of students and postdoctoral fellows to meet with Associate or Full SOT member Experts to network and gain insight into the field of toxicology during an informal meeting. After completion of student and Expert matching during the month of February, Experts will receive a list of three to six student e-mail addresses and a list of recommended questions to send to participants prior to the Annual Meeting. Students and postdoctoral fellows may sign up to participate in the LWAE program by indicating their interests on the registration form at [http://toxicology.org/ai/spd/lunchexpert.asp](http://toxicology.org/ai/spd/lunchexpert.asp).

**Student Mixer**

Every year, the SAC hosts the Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Mixer for students and postdoctoral fellows to gather, meet new colleagues, and re-establish relationships in an informal atmosphere. The Mixer will be held Sunday night, March 7, 2010, from 7:30-8:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to network with students from across the nation, as well as learn more about the different Special Interest Groups and Specialty Sections of SOT. Tickets are FREE and can be obtained by registering for this event on the Annual Meeting registration form. Ticket and meeting badge are required for entry. Complimentary refreshments and a cash bar will be available.

**In Vitro Luncheon**

The annual In Vitro Student Luncheon will be held on Monday, March 8, 2010, at the Annual Meeting. This luncheon, sponsored by the Colgate-Palmolive Company, provides an opportunity for students and postdocs to learn more about research methods that reduce, replace, or refine current animal-based experiments. Tickets can be obtained by registering on the Annual Meeting registration form and paying a $5 deposit, which will be returned to you upon entry to the luncheon.
Being a student member at the National and Regional level 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 gain 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

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. Invite your colleagues to join SOT!

**GULF COAST CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Mike Berg (MBerg@cvm.tamu.edu)

The most recent meeting of the Gulf Coast Society of Toxicology (GCSOT) in October 2007 focused on the epigenetic mechanisms of gene-environment interactions and was held at Texas A&M University. The annual meeting in 2008 was cancelled due to hurricane Ike.

On November 12-13, 2009, in Austin, TX, GCSOT will sponsor a cell metabolism and autophage meeting tentatively titled “Environmental Regulation of Autophagic and Metabolic Signaling.” The abstract submission deadline will be announced as the meeting approaches. The Regional GCSOT meeting allows students the benefit of entering poster and abstract competitions, networking with fellow peers, and practicing for subsequent presentations at national meetings. Award opportunities are given based on abstract quality for both poster and platform presentations. These awards facilitate funding for the student to attend the National SOT meeting. For up-to-date information, please visit the Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/gulfcoast/gc-info.html. Hope to see everyone there!

To become a member please visit the GCSOT Web site listed above and click on the link to the word document for the membership application.
**MICHIGAN CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Aaron M. Fullerton ([fuller22@msu.edu](mailto:fuller22@msu.edu))

The next Michigan Regional Chapter meeting will be held at the Hanna Community Center in East Lansing, MI, on Friday, November 6th, 2009. The topic for this meeting is “Water Quality/Aquatic Toxicology for the 21st Century in the Great Lakes Region.” Featured presentations include Dr. Nil Basu (University of Michigan School of Public Health), “Mercury in the Great Lakes and Toxicity,” Dr. Jim Lazorchak (U.S. EPA), “Pharmaceuticals in the Great Lakes,” and Dr. Rick Rediske (Grand Valley State University), “Microcystin Toxicity.” In addition, there will be a student poster presentation session. For more information, visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/michigan/misot.html](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/michigan/misot.html).

**MID- ATLANTIC CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Jessica Rose Placido ([jessica.placido1@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.placido1@gmail.com))

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology (MASOT) held their spring meeting on May 7, 2009, entitled “Toxicology in the News.” This meeting, both successful and interesting, was the first time that the entire program was devoted to recent developments in science and toxicology appearing in national news. Topics included doping agents and steroid use, melamine, and bisphenol-A.

The Fall 2009 MASOT meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2009, at the Rutgers EcoComplex in Bordentown, NJ. Time, topics, and speakers have yet to be determined. At the fall meeting, the Program Committee creates a career panel of toxicologists from academia, industry, and government, including senior graduate students from St. John’s University, Rutgers University, and New York University. The career panel is always very helpful and informative, providing advice for newer graduate students, job applications, degrees needed for jobs in the field, and how to improve resumes. Student response to the panel is always very positive, and it has been a staple at the Fall MASOT meeting for many years. Please join us!

Please visit the MASOT Web site at [www.masot.org](http://www.masot.org). For membership information and application, please visit the Web site and click on the “Membership” tab, and then “Application.” The application can be directly downloaded at [http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/midatlantic/MASOT_MemberApp.pdf](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/midatlantic/MASOT_MemberApp.pdf). Both undergraduate and graduate members attend the fall and spring meetings each year, and membership is necessary to participate in the Student Poster Contest at the spring meeting. Monetary rewards are available for the best student posters! Also, membership is necessary to attend the MASOT luncheon at the National SOT meeting, a great time to network with toxicologists all over the country. We look forward to meeting new members!

**MIDWEST CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Ofek Bar-Ilan ([barilan@wisc.edu](mailto:barilan@wisc.edu))

The Spring 2009 Midwest Regional Chapter Meeting ("Biomarkers of Toxic Injury and Therapeutic Responses") was held on May 1, in Lincolnshire, IL, and featured speakers Drs. Vishal S. Vaidya, Walter C. Prozialeck, Adnan Elfarra, and the 2009 Young Investigator Award recipient, Ofek Bar-Ilan. The Victor A. Drill Award for best poster, which grants a paid trip to the 2010 National SOT meeting, went to Qing Liu for a poster entitled, “Time and Dose-Dependent Effects of Dietary TCDD in Juvenile Rainbow Trout.” Second place was awarded to Sonya Volker ("Enrichment of Broccoli and Tomato with Bioactive Components: Effects on Bioactivity Markers In Vivo"), who received $100. The 2010 Young Investigator Award consists of $1500 to be used at the discretion of the student towards costs that are associated with toxicological training, and was presented to Erin Shanle ("The Impact of BPA on Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Therapy"); she will present her work at the 2010 Annual Meeting next spring.
The Fall 2009 Midwest RC Meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2009 (9 AM–3 PM) at Covance Laboratories (3301 Kinsman Boulevard, Madison WI, 53704) in Madison, WI. This meeting’s focus is “New Frontiers in Cardiovascular Toxicology,” and will feature the following speakers: Drs. Dusty Sarazan (Covance), Craig January (UW-Madison), Jerome Dempsey (UW-Madison), Timothy Kamp (UW-Madison), and Brian Berridge (GlaxoSmithKline). The Spring 2010 Midwest RC Meeting will be held in Lincolnshire, IL, on May 21, 2010. At this meeting, the recipients of the Victor A. Drill Award and the Young Investigator Award will be announced. Applications are due on April 1, 2010 and are available at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/midwest/.

If you have any questions regarding upcoming awards, meetings, or about becoming involved in the Midwest Regional Chapter, contact Ofek Bar-Ilan at barilan@wisc.edu or go to: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/midwest/.

MOUNTAIN WEST CHAPTER

2009-2010 Student Representative: Michael Holt (michael.holt@ucdenver.edu)

The Mountain West Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology (MWSOT) held its 26th Annual Meeting on October 2-3, 2008, in Salt Lake City, Utah, hosted by the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Utah. The theme of the meeting was “Epigenetics in Toxicology.” In addition to the plenary session, which detailed DNA methylation alterations in cancer, the meeting also included an Industry Education Workshop as well as two student platform sessions and a poster session.

The 27th Annual Meeting of the MWSOT will be held September 24-25, 2009, in Albuquerque, NM, at the Hyatt Tamaya. The plenary topic is toxicology in the development of countermeasures for radiation, chemical, and biological threat agents. Dr. Lance Simpson of the Thomas Jefferson Medical School will provide the keynote address on the “Life Cycle of a Botulinum Toxin Molecule.” An additional focus area will include a systems biology approach to toxicology from an academic, industrial, and applied research perspective. Students will present their research in platform and poster formats, and winners of both sessions will receive small cash prizes. Travel awards will also be available for students outside New Mexico.

To learn more about the Mountain West SOT Regional Chapter, including meeting information and registration as well as information for student membership, please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/MtWest/meetinginfo.html.

NORTH CAROLINA AREA CHAPTER

2009-2010 Student Representative: Katie Paul (kbpaul@e-mail.unc.edu)

The Spring 2009 Meeting of the North Carolina Regional Chapter of SOT (NCSOT) was held at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in Research Triangle Park. The session, “Stem Cells and Tissue Engineering: Applications to Toxicology,” included three exciting speakers on the use of stem cells as indicators of tissue health, and as screening tools for toxicology and drug development. The meeting also highlighted graduate student work with a poster session. Miyuki Breen (NCSU) and Katie Paul (UNC) tied for 1st place, and Nick Manzo (NCSU) and Dave Szabo (UNC) tied for 2nd place. Congratulations to the winners!

The Fall NCSOT Meeting, “Translational Medicine and Biomarkers,” will be held at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park on October 13th, 2009. The meeting will feature Dr. Paul Watkins, who will speak about predicting drug-induced liver toxicity, and Dr. Matt Martin, who will discuss using the ToxCast program to predict toxicity of environmental chemicals. The postdoctoral winner of the President’s Award for Research Competition will also present their research. The Fall Meeting will include the popular student and postdoctoral luncheon followed by a career panel session where students are encouraged to ask questions pertaining to industry, academic, and government jobs in toxicology. Please look for the official meeting notice and registration forms coming in early fall!
Student membership is inexpensive, looks great on a CV, and provides access to toxicology professionals throughout the state. Membership is open to all graduate students as well as undergraduates studying in the field of toxicology or related fields. If you would like to become a member please visit the NCSOT webpage at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/nc/ncsot.htm.

**NORTHEAST CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Sandra Wise (swise@usm.maine.edu)

On October 24th, 2008, the Annual Meeting of the Northeast Chapter (NESOT) was held at Charles River Laboratories in Shrewsbury, MA. Attendance was very strong, with 125 people registered for the meeting. The meeting’s theme was “Biologics – Past, Present, and Future.” NESOT annual meeting poster awards were given for scientific content, presentation, and ability of the presenter to convey the scientific material. First place was awarded to Xinyuan Yu of the University of Rhode Island; second place was presented to Natasha Caitlin of Salve Regina University; and third place went to Gregory Marusov of the University of Connecticut.

Each year, the NESOT Executive Committee invites all NESOT Student Travel Award applicants to attend a luncheon during the Annual SOT Meeting. The 2010 NESOT Student Travel Award will be presented to the top three applicants during this event. Details regarding the location of this luncheon will be distributed to applicants in February 2010.

Lastly, the NESOT Executive Committee would like to invite any interested students and postdocs to meet with FDA, industry, and academic representatives for a meet-and-greet Q & A session about careers in toxicology and pharmacology. This event will take place at Genzyme Center in Cambridge, MA, on Monday, April 27, 2010, from 3:00–6:00 PM. A small reception at Genzyme will follow. To RSVP, please contact Laura Andrews at Laura.Andrews@genzyme.com.

For more information and details on how to become a member of NESOT, please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/northeast/index.html

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Heather Bolstad (hmbolstad@ucdavis.edu)

The Northern California (NorCal) Regional Chapter held their Spring Symposium on “Target Organ Toxicity with an Emphasis on Hepatotoxicity” on April 23, 2009, at Amgen in South San Francisco. The symposium was a huge success, with 133 attendees, including seven wonderful speakers, 22 generous sponsors (a big thanks to Amgen for hosting the event and providing meals, and sincere thanks to BioReliance, Frontier BioSciences, Comparative BioSciences, Pacific BioLabs, Charles River, SRI, and ITR for sponsoring the event), and 27 students who presented 12 posters. The poster award went to Christopher Carosino of UC Davis.

The NorCal Chapter’s Fall Symposium is October 8, 2009, at the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in Oakland, California. The topics are 1) The Risks and Benefits of Nanoparticles, and 2) Biological Equivalents in Predicting Toxic Doses to Humans. Speakers will include Martin Philbert of the University of Michigan and graduate students from UC Davis and UC Berkeley.

If you are a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow, consider applying for the 2010 NorCal SOT Young Investigator Award. To participate, membership in NorCal SOT is required (membership is free for students and postdocs). Each award winner will receive a $500 cash award from the NorCal SOT Regional Chapter. To be considered, each candidate, whose abstract has been accepted by the SOT for presentation at the 2010 Annual Meeting must submit: 1) a copy of the abstract, 2) a letter (1 page maximum) discussing the significance and potential impact of the work on toxicology, and 3) a letter of support from your major advisor. The deadline for submission of applications will be December 15, 2009. We encourage all interested graduate students and
postdoctoral fellows to consider submitting their abstract for consideration. Full applications should be submitted to Tao Wang at tao.wang@novartis.com. Last year’s winners include: Drs. Zhiying Ji (UC Berkeley), Xuefeng Ren (UC Berkeley), and Matthew North (UC Berkeley).

To learn more about the NorCal Chapter, please visit http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/NorthernCal/index.asp. Membership to students is free just by filling out the form on the Web site and e-mailing it to Kristen Meletti at kristen@toxicology.org.

**NORTHLAND CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Sarah Gilpin (gilp0004@tc.umn.edu)

The 2009 Northland (NL) Regional Chapter SOT Spring Meeting was held in St. Paul, MN, on April 22nd, 2009. Fifty people attended. The focus of the meeting was nanotechnology. Five experts from the University of Minnesota, the University of Michigan, and 3M Corporation examined issues such as nanoregulations, engineered nanoparticles and health risk assessment, and nanotoxicology in regards to occupational and consumer exposures.

Our fall meeting date has not been announced yet, but will be in October in Duluth, MN. The topic will be “Asbestos and Mesothelioma,” with speakers potentially from the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Health, and the U.S. EPA. No student awards were given out in the past year, but students were subsidized to attend all of the past year’s meetings and joint seminars for free or for a reduced rate. We also have a newly organized student award committee that will implement a new $500 student travel award to be awarded in January 2010. This will be an annual award to help offset student travel to the National SOT meeting. We will be accepting student entries for the new travel award at the October meeting.

If you have any questions about the Northland Chapter please contact Sarah Gilpin at gilp0004@tc.umn.edu or visit the Northland Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/northland/Index.html for more information.

**OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Erica N. Rogers (enroge01@gwise.louisville.edu)

The Ohio Valley Regional Chapter of SOT (OVSOT) continues to emphasize the importance of supporting our student members in their professional endeavors and giving them an opportunity to present their research. As a seminal part of this OVSOT outreach, a Summer Student meeting was hosted at the University of Louisville this past August. Graduate students from Wright State University, the University of Kentucky, and the University of Louisville attended this day-long event. Activities included oral presentations from a number of the attendees pertaining to research in their respective labs, a “Lunch with an Expert,” and an informational session regarding OVSOT membership. This meeting served as an opportunity for OVSOT student members to network with one another and an invited expert, and practice oral presentation skills.

The 2009 OVSOT Meeting will be held November 6th at Procter & Gamble, Mason Business Center in Mason, Ohio. This year’s plenary lectures will focus on topics in Risk Assessment. Dr. John Lipscomb of the U.S. EPA and Dr. Karen Blackburn, Research Fellow at Procter & Gamble, will be the featured speakers. In addition to a plenary, the morning sessions will once again include platform and poster presentations by graduate students competing for a number of awards. The Ph.D. student platform competition winner will become the student representative on the OVSOT executive council and represent OVSOT at the National SOT meeting. To be eligible for the Ph.D. category platform competition or the Battelle Minority/Women Student SOT Travel Award, the student must have submitted an abstract to the National SOT meeting and be available to attend. The abstract deadline for both the OVSOT and the National SOT meeting is October 3rd.
You do not have to be a member of the SOT to become a member of the OVSOT. Please visit the OVSOT website for an application form: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/ohiovalley/Default.htm.

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Sumitra Sengupta (sengupts@onid.orst.edu)

The 25th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology (PANWAT), held at Oregon State University, was a great success. The meeting covered a wide range of topics from environmental to molecular toxicology with key focus on human health. Our most recent Annual Meeting was held in Seattle, Washington, on September 17-18th, 2009. The theme of the conference was “Pursuing Mechanisms in Drug Safety Assessment” and focused on the use of mechanistic information to guide drug safety testing, from research and development through the clinical and post-market experience. The keynote speaker of the meeting was Dr. Thomas Baillie, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of Washington. Besides the student and postdoc awards for poster and platform presentation, an additional attraction of the meeting was a special continuing education course on September 17, “Primer in Pathology: Interpreting and Integrating Nonclinical Study Results,” which was free with conference registration. PANWAT has always encouraged the presence of undergraduate and graduate students at the annual meeting and will continue to do so. Please feel free to contact Sumitra Sengupta (student representative for PANWAT) at sengupts@onid.orst.edu for more information. Information regarding conference registration and PANWAT membership is available at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/panwat/index.asp.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Parrisa Solaimani (psolaimani@mednet.ucla.edu)

The most recent SoCal Chapter Meeting titled “Safety Biomarkers: Recent Progress and Current Initiatives” was held October 1, 2009, at Allergan, Inc., in Irvine, CA. The presentations included:

- "Acute Kidney Injury Network (AKIN): Advancing Clinical Applications of Promising Renal Biomarkers," Ravindra Mehta, UCSD
- "New Biomarkers of Liver Injury: Where We Are and Where We Are Going: A Perspective from the Predictive Safety Testing Consortium," Jeff Lawrence, Amgen
- "Cardiac Safety Biomarkers: Translational Strategies for Improving Pre-clinical Predictions to Better Clinical Outcomes in Drug Development," Kamala Maddali, Huntingdon Lifesciences
- "Use of Biomarkers to Assess Toxicity to the Immune System," Christina Satterwhite, Charles River Labs
- "Overcoming the Problems of Species: Specific Proteins and Peptides in Assay Development," Jennifer Colangelo, Pfizer
- "ISLI-HESI Kidney Biomarker Activities," Jack Dean, University of Arizona
- "Biomarkers, A New Look at Something Familiar," Marie Rock, Midwest Bioresearch

Students are invited to submit abstract and participate in a poster/presentation sessions at these meetings. Prizes will be awarded to outstanding entries with a monetary compensation.

Students can become members by submitting the application found online at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/SouthernCal/index.asp. SoCal Regional Chapter membership is the only dues-free Regional Chapter since 2000 and has a broad diversity of membership including academia, biotechnology, the pharmaceutical industry, and more.
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE TOXICOLOGY

2009-2010 Student Representative: Li Xu (susanxu@uga.edu)

The American Association of Chinese in Toxicology (AACT) is an organization that consists of scientists with Chinese ethnic background in toxicology and related fields. Our group is dedicated to foster interactions among professionals of Chinese ethnic background and bridges the toxicological sciences between the Eastern and Western world. All SOT student members are welcome to become the member of our organization. For detailed information on how to submit an application, please visit: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/aact/join.asp.

Four student awards (three AACT-SIG and Charles River Best Abstract Awards, one AACT-SIG and Jean Lu Student Scholarship Award) will be given in 2010 SOT Annual Meeting. The application deadline is January 1st, 2010. All AACT-SIG student members are encouraged to submit an application. More information is available online at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/aact/criteria.asp. You can find more information about our organization on our official Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/aact/index.asp.

HISPANIC ORGANIZATION OF TOXICOLOGISTS

2009-2010 Student Representative: Enrique Fuentes-Mattei (enrique.fuentes@upr.edu)

The Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists (HOT) was founded in 2004 and became a Special Interest Group of the Society of Toxicology in 2006. It is an organization of professionals with expertise in scientific areas associated with toxicology, and serves as a focal point for interaction among Hispanic toxicologists in the United States and international Spanish and Portuguese-speaking scientific communities, with emphasis on outreach to the Hispanic population. Its main objective is to provide a forum for the awareness and dissemination of toxicological information and issues as they relate to the Hispanic community. It also provides specific and special support to SOT on its outreach in global toxicology. One of the organization’s key objectives is to stimulate discussion, increase general awareness, and engage in the search of relevant toxicological information on issues related to the Hispanic community inside and outside the U.S. Other objectives are listed in the HOT-SIG Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/hot/index.asp.

The Hispanic Organization for Toxicologists will provide a travel award for $750 this year to Hispanic graduate and post-graduate students working in the area of toxicology. To qualify, the applicant must be a current graduate student or postdoctoral fellow, first author presenting at the SOT Annual Meeting, and of Hispanic origin or working on a project related to a Hispanic health issue. The organization welcomes applicants from all Hispanic countries and the U.S. For more details, visit http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/hot/awards.asp, the HOT-SIG Web site. Graduate students of Hispanic origin can become members of the HOT-SIG (http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/hot/index.asp). Membership is free for Postdoctoral and Student SOT members (as their first SIG only).

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Special Interest Group</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>AACT</td>
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</table>
ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN AMERICA

2009-2010 Student Representative: Prasad Krishnan (prasadkrishnan@hotmail.com)

The Association of Scientists of Indian Origin in America-Society of Toxicology (ASIOA-SOT) is a branch of the National ASIOA that promotes fellowship among scientists of Indian origin living in North America. It acts as a scientific and educational society and establishes open channels of communication among all scientists. It honors and recognizes senior scientists who have made an impact in science as well as provides awards to outstanding postdoctoral fellows and graduate students for their research. The mission of ASIOA-SOT is to enhance the collegiality, fellowship, networking, and professional development of all associated with this group and engaged in the active learning and practice of toxicology. The members meet every year at the SOT Annual Meeting and otherwise keep in contact with each other through networking and newsletters in order to facilitate and augment professional development individually and collectively.

Students can become members if they are members of SOT. The membership is free for students and postdocs if they join ASIOA as their first Special Interest Group. Additional Specialty Sections and Special Interest Groups can be joined at the price of $15 per year.

For more information on ASIOA and how to join, please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/ASIO/index.asp.

WOMEN IN TOXICOLOGY

2009-2010 Student Representative: Courtney Kozul (courtney.d.kozul@dartmouth.edu)

The Women in Toxicology (WIT) Special Interest Group of SOT is invested in promoting the recruitment and retention of women to a profession in the toxicological sciences. The group provides leadership and mentoring for career development opportunities for women toxicologists. In addition, WIT also promotes and recognizes the accomplishments of women toxicologists. This SIG is also responsible for sponsoring scientific and educational programs including symposia, poster and platform sessions, workshops, and continuing education courses on current scientific information and scientific policy issues that advance the science of toxicology. At the 2009 SOT Annual Meeting in Baltimore, the WIT Reception was a grand success. The 2009 Student Award winners included: Elizabeth Vancza of NYU (Student Award), Courtney Kozul of Dartmouth Medical School (Hudson-Weisburger Award), and Betina Lew of the University of Rochester (Postdoc Award).

Please consider joining WIT and applying for a WIT award at the 2010 Annual Meeting. The WIT-SIG Student Achievement Award will be given to a SOT student member who has demonstrated academic achievement in the field of toxicology and who has provided leadership and service in their chosen field and/or their community. This award consists of a plaque and $300 cash. Vera W. Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Scholarship Fund Student Award will be given to a SOT graduate student member (current or pending member) engaged in full-time graduate study towards a Ph.D. degree in toxicology. The Award Committee's evaluation is based exclusively on scholastic achievement, demonstration of leadership, relevance of thesis to toxicology, and letters of recommendation. This award consists of a plaque, and a $2000 cash stipend to be used for tuition payment, and/or other education and research-related expenses, including travel. All applications must be submitted electronically to Leigh Ann Burns Nass (leighann.burns@pfizer.com) by January 11, 2010. For details on these and other awards, please visit our webpage at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/wit/index.aspx. As you renew your SOT membership, don't forget to join WIT-SIG and existing members renew your membership as we plan for exciting opportunities and activities at the SOT meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, 2010. Information about how to join WIT is available on our Web site. Student membership is open to all graduate students.
## Regional Chapter/Special Interest Group Graduate Committee Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Chapter</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>E-Mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Erica Sparkenbaugh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sparkenb@msu.edu">sparkenb@msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allegheny-Erie</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sothq@toxicology.org">sothq@toxicology.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central States</td>
<td>Hhariharan Saminathan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:haris@iastate.edu">haris@iastate.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf Coast</td>
<td>J. Michael Berg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mberg@cvm.tamu.edu">mberg@cvm.tamu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Ontario</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Aaron Fullerton</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic</td>
<td>Jessica Placido</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain West</td>
<td>Michael Holt, Jr.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>Ofek Bar-Ilan (Chairperson-Elect)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:barilann@wisc.edu">barilann@wisc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Capital Charter Area</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sothq@toxicology.org">sothq@toxicology.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Katie Paul</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kbpaul@e-mail.unc.edu">kbpaul@e-mail.unc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern California</td>
<td>Heather Bolstad</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hmbolstad@ucdavis.edu">hmbolstad@ucdavis.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Sandra Wise</td>
<td><a href="mailto:swise@usm.maine.edu">swise@usm.maine.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northland</td>
<td>Sarah Gilpin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gilp0004@umn.edu">gilp0004@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Erica Rogers (Secretary)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:enroge01@wwise.louisville.edu">enroge01@wwise.louisville.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Northwest</td>
<td>Sumitra Sengupta</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sengupts@onid.orst.edu">sengupts@onid.orst.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sothq@toxicology.org">sothq@toxicology.org</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern California</td>
<td>Parrisa Solaimani</td>
<td><a href="mailto:psolaimani@mednet.ucla.edu">psolaimani@mednet.ucla.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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### Special Interest Group Representatives

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Interest Group</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>E-Mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Association of Chinese in Toxicology</td>
<td>Li (Susan) Xu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:susanxu@uga.edu">susanxu@uga.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association of Scientists of Indian Origin</td>
<td>Prasad Krishnan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:prasadkrishnan@hotmail.com">prasadkrishnan@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Organization for Toxicologists</td>
<td>Enrique Fuentes Mattei</td>
<td><a href="mailto:enrique.fuentes@upr.edu">enrique.fuentes@upr.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean Toxicologists Association in America</td>
<td>Narae Lee</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nlee8@wisc.edu">nlee8@wisc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toxicologists of African Origin</td>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sothq@toxicology.org">sothq@toxicology.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women In Toxicology</td>
<td>Courtney Kozul</td>
<td><a href="mailto:courtney.d.kozul@dartmouth.edu">courtney.d.kozul@dartmouth.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Liaison</td>
<td>Patti Ganey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ganey@msu.edu">ganey@msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOT Staff</td>
<td>Dylan Amerine</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dylan@toxicology.org">dylan@toxicology.org</a></td>
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</table>
The mission of the Biological Modeling Specialty Section (BMSS) is to 1) serve as the focal point for interaction of members of SOT interested in biological modeling toxicology; 2) develop, propose, and conduct programs and educational activities that emphasize the latest developments in biological modeling toxicology; 3) relate those developments to the activities of SOT and stimulate new growth in biological modeling as it relates to the science of toxicology; and 4) act as a resource to the Society in the area of the Section’s interest. For more information about BMSS, please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/BMSS/.

BMSS is again sponsoring the Biological Modeling SS Perry J. Gehring Student Award for Meritorious Poster/Platforms that are focused on all aspects of biologically-based modeling in toxicology. The Student Awards will be presented at our BMSS Business Meeting and Reception in Salt Lake City. Each award will consist of a plaque and a cash award. The competition is open to any current graduate and postdoctoral student. Each candidate, whose abstract has been accepted by SOT for presentation at the 2010 Annual Meeting, must submit 1) a copy of the abstract, 2) a letter (2 pages maximum) discussing the significance and potential impact of the work on toxicology and biological modeling, and 3) a letter of support from their major advisor. The application should be submitted as a single PDF file containing all supporting documents. To participate in the BMSS Student Award competition, membership in SOT and/or BMSS is not necessary. Research areas of interest include all aspects of biologically-based modeling and simulation. Issues of interest may include, but are not limited to, models of complex biological systems, biological insights gained through model development, model validation, and mathematical/statistical/computational approaches to modeling. The deadline for submission of applications is early January. We encourage all interested graduate and postdoctoral students to submit their abstract for consideration. Full applications should be submitted to Craig Zwickl at zwickl@lilly.com.
CARCINOGENESIS

2009-2010 Student Representative: Michael Borland (mgb149@psu.edu)

The Carcinogenesis Specialty Section (CSS) is a multidisciplinary group of SOT members that include members from academia, industry, and government. Our research interests also vary from mechanistic carcinogenesis to population level carcinogenesis. Our diversity leads to excellent exposure to a vast number of world leaders in carcinogenesis and provides an excellent opportunity for networking. You can join CSS when you renew your SOT student membership.

The primary award for students is the Carcinogenesis SS Graduate Student Award (First, Second, Third place). Application deadline is November 16, 2009. More detailed application information can be found at CSS Web page under the CSS “Awards” tab.

In addition, CSS will sponsor the “ICH Initiatives for Conducting Pharmaceutical Preclinical Safety Studies: New and Revised Guidelines and Challenges” Continuing Education course at the 2010 SOT Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

To find out more about the Carcinogenesis Specialty Section, please visit our Web site at http://209.183.221.234/ISOT/SS/carc/home.html

COMPARATIVE AND VETERINARY

2009-2010 Student Representative: To Be Determined

The objectives of the Comparative and Veterinary Specialty Section (CVSS) are to 1) promote the diverse application of in vivo animal models in toxicologic research, comparative and clinical toxicology, environmental toxicology, and to explore effects of animal disease, nutrition, and other physiological confounding factors that affect toxic endpoints; 2) serve as the focal point for interaction of members of SOT who are interested in veterinary toxicology and in the use of in vivo animal models in toxicology; 3) conduct cutting edge programs and educational activities which emphasize current developments and issues of interest to CVSS members, relate those developments to the activities of SOT, and stimulate interest and growth in use of in vivo models and veterinary toxicology in relation to the general science of toxicology; and 4) act as a resource to the Society in the area of veterinary toxicology and in vivo animal models.

CVSS encourages student membership and offers a Graduate Student Award for an outstanding poster presentation at the SOT Annual Meeting. Any current graduate student whose abstract has been accepted by SOT for presentation at the 2010 Annual Meeting may apply by submitting the following by late November: 1) a copy of the abstract, 2) a brief discussion of the significance of the findings, and 3) a letter of support from their major advisor describing the role of the student in the study. For questions and submissions, please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/CVSS/index.asp.

DERMAL TOXICOLOGY

2009-2010 Student Representative: Lauren M. Markell (lkm162@psu.edu)

The objectives of the Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section (DTSS) are to provide a forum for the interaction of individuals involved in risk assessment, pharmacokinetics, dermal penetration/absorption, hypersensitivity and dermal toxicity, regulatory issues, basic skin biology, and for other professionals working in the field of dermal research. Please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/dtss/membership.html for more information about becoming a member.
DTSS also provides many opportunities for students interested in dermal toxicology through several awards. The Paper of the Year Award is given in recognition of an exceptional recent publication in the field of skin toxicology and pharmacology. The award will consist of a plaque and a $500 honorarium. The deadline for submission of nominations is **December 15, 2009**.

The DTSS Student and Postdoc Award recognizes outstanding candidates for their contribution to advancing the understanding of skin toxicology and pharmacology. Each candidate whose abstract has been accepted by SOT for presentation in the 2010 Annual Meeting must submit a copy of the abstract in electronic form (word doc) and a letter of support from their major advisor. Winners will receive a certificate and cash award of $500. Deadline for submission is **January 31, 2010**.

The DTSS Battelle Student Research Award presents a check for $2500 to each of two students for use in research projects involving dermal toxicology. Applicants for this award must submit to the DTSS the title of the project, the specific aims, the approach to be used, and the anticipated outcome and impact of the project. Deadline for submission is **January 31, 2010**.

The Taylor and Francis Award is presented for the best paper in dermal toxicology published in the *Journal of Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology*. The winner receives a certificate of recognition and a subscription to the *Journal of Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology*. Deadline for submission is **January 31, 2010**.

For more information on these awards visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/dtss/awards.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/dtss/awards.asp). All awards will be presented at the 49th Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology in Salt Lake City, Utah, during the DTSS business meeting. We highly encourage any students or postdocs interested in or currently conducting research in dermal toxicology to join DTSS and discover what our specialty section has to offer!

**DRUG DISCOVERY TOXICOLOGY**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Arunkumar Asaithambi ([akarun@iastate.edu](mailto:akarun@iastate.edu))

The Drug Discovery Toxicology Specialty Section (DDTSS) provides a forum for discussion of emerging technologies, predictive toxicology, safety pharmacology, target validation, and safety assessment in a discovery research environment. Drug Discovery Toxicology is a sub-specialty created to fulfill the growing need for incorporating predictive and integrative toxicological approaches early in drug discovery and development. Early application of these approaches is the key to identifying potential liabilities and providing necessary perspective that helps reduce attrition of drug candidates at later stages of the process. This Specialty Section seeks to foster discussion and provide guidance around appropriate application of technologies and approaches that may refine or compliment traditional animal-based toxicology models. It also aims to identify gaps in novel and emerging technologies that require further development and application. For more information, please visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS/Index.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS/Index.asp).

As of July 2007, we have 305 members comprised of industry, academic, government, and student participants. We are also very excited about the establishment of the Emil A. Pfitzer Student Award Fund, which will provide awards to well-qualified students applying modern toxicology to enhancing the discovery of new drugs and ensuring their safety. DDTSS will also have a poster competition at the 2010 SOT meeting with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. For more information about these awards, please visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS/Index.asp#awards](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS/Index.asp#awards).
ETHICAL, LEGAL, AND SOCIAL ISSUES

2009-2010 Student Representative: Daniel Hochman (gtowndog@hotmail.com)

The Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues Specialty Section (ELSI-SS) will be of interest to toxicologists 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. Academia, industry, contract laboratories, governmental, and non-governmental organizations all share the same responsibility in the ethical generation and/or use of data. In the exercise of their functions toxicologists constantly face a number of situations that may have direct or indirect ethical, legal, and social ramifications. 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.

ELSI-SS sponsors a Student Award to encourage consideration of the ethical, legal, and social implications of toxicologically based research. All current pre- or postdoctoral students presenting a poster or platform presentation at the Annual Meeting are eligible to compete for the ELSI Student Awards (membership in ELSI SS is NOT required). Submission requirements include 1) the presentation abstract, 2) one-page long discussion of the ELSI aspects of the research, and 3) 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. Deadline for submission is early **February 2010**, and applications should be sent to Daniel Hochman at gtowndog@hotmail.com. For more information about ELSI-SS and the student award, please visit [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ELSI/](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ELSI/).

FOOD SAFETY

2009-2010 Student Representative: To Be Determined

The Food Safety Specialty Section (FS3) is one of a few SOT specialty groups specifically dedicated to the needs of a specialized industry. The purpose of FS3 is to provide a communication forum of toxicologists and other professionals involved in food safety. As an active subgroup of SOT, FS3 hosts symposia, workshops, continuing education courses, and roundtable sessions within the format of SOT Annual Meeting. FS3 will hold its annual reception at the SOT Annual Meeting in March 2010. All interested students are welcome to attend.

To recognize outstanding presentations and encourage student participation in the SOT Annual Meeting, FS3 sponsors several awards yearly. These include: 1) Burdock Group Travel Awards, 2) Frank C. Lu Award, 3) Informa Healthcare Award, and 4) Monsanto Company Travel Awards. Current graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the area of Food Safety/Food Toxicology are encouraged to compete for these student awards. Winners will receive a cash prize and recognition plaque at the annual reception. For more information about our Special Section, student membership, awards, or if you have any questions or suggestions, please visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/foodsafe/fs3.html](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/foodsafe/fs3.html).

IMMUNOTOXICOLOGY

2009-2010 Student Representative: Haitian Lu (luhaitia@msu.edu)

The Immunotoxicology Specialty Section (ImTox SS) is a branch of the Society of Toxicology whose members include scientists with training in immunology, toxicology, and risk assessment. Our members have a broad range of research interests, including immunomodulation, hypersensitivity, allergy, asthma, and autoimmunity. To become a member, you can easily select Immunotoxicology as your Specialty Section option when renewing your student membership. Make ImTox your first choice and it will be free!
Please keep in mind that the deadline for applying for the Best Presentation by a Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Fellow Award is early **February 2010**. Application for this award should include a complete written version (all graphs and tables) of an immunotoxicology presentation to be made at the 2010 SOT annual meeting accompanied by a nomination letter from your advisor. Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Winners will receive a plaque and cash award, as well as recognition during the ImToxSS reception at the Annual Meeting! Take some time to let your hard work be rewarded! For more information, please visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/deadlines.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/deadlines.asp).

A great way of making new contacts for students is to get involved in the ImTox SS Committees. Those that are open to student members include the Awards, Communications, Program, and Regulatory Committees, and student participation is greatly encouraged. Descriptions of these committees are available on the ImTox SS Web site. If you are interested, please sign up during the ImTox SS reception at the Annual Meeting, or send your inquiry directly to respective chairmen of the committee.

The ImTox SS will sponsor a host of sessions during the 2010 Annual Meeting. For more information about the ImTox SS and what it can do for you, please contact our student representative or visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/Index.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/Index.asp).

**IN VITRO AND ALTERNATIVE METHODS**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Andrea DeSantis ([sothq@toxicology.org](mailto:sothq@toxicology.org))

The *In Vitro* and Alternative Methods Specialty Section (IVAM-SS) was formed to provide a venue for scientists from academic, government, and industrial backgrounds that have expertise in the application of *in vitro* techniques to address problems of cellular toxicity, with a special emphasis on product safety evaluation. This Specialty Section is interested in studying of the basic cellular processes involved in the induction of adverse outcomes of specific organs to predict toxicity *in vivo*, and for risk assessment purposes. Simply sign up for this Specialty Section when you join SOT, or when renewing your dues.

The IVAM-SS recognizes student research by offering three student awards for outstanding work in the *in vitro* toxicology area at each SOT Annual Meeting. Cash awards are given at a luncheon during the Annual Meeting to students and postdoctoral fellows who present excellent posters. The deadline to apply for these awards is **January 1, 2010**. For more information on these awards or to apply, visit the *In Vitro* and Alternative Methods Web site at [http://toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ivss/index.htm](http://toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ivss/index.htm), click on “awards” and send abstracts through the links provided. For more information about the IVAM Specialty Section, contact the student representative.

**INHALATION AND RESPIRATORY**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Glenn Gookin ([ggookin@uci.edu](mailto:ggookin@uci.edu))

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section (IRSS) is a forum for members of the Society of Toxicology dealing with the impact of airborne substances and particles on the body. Issues of interest to the IRSS 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, particle dosimetry, and interactions between inhaled materials and infectious allergic stimuli. If you are currently a member of SOT you may join the Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section by using the [SOT On-Line Membership Renewal Form](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/deadlines.asp).

IRSS sponsors travel awards for outstanding students, including the Mary O. Amdur Student Award, two student and Postdoc awards, and recognition awards for new investigators and those with outstanding career achievements. The student awards are given to the best abstract submitted each year, and consist of an engraved plaque and a $500 cash prize. The deadline for abstract submissions for this year’s awards is
December 18, 2009. For application submission and more information, contact Jim Wagner at wagnerja@cvm.msu.edu.

If you are interested in participating in any additional IRSS duties outside of our normal meetings, please contact our student representative, Glenn Gookin. If you are interested in joining or learning more about IRSS please go to http://toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/inhalation/index.asp#membership.

MECHANISMS

2009-2010 Student Representative: Derek Drechsel (Derek.drechsel@ucdenver.edu)

Mechanisms was the first Specialty Section established by SOT and has among the largest memberships of all sections. The Mechanisms Specialty Section represents a diverse group of members of the Society of Toxicology who have in common interests and expertise in elucidating the cellular, biochemical, and molecular mechanisms of action of toxic substances. Students are strongly encouraged to join and can become members of the Mechanisms Specialty Section when applying/renewing membership for SOT.

The Mechanisms Specialty Section sponsors a Graduate Student Award program for student members of the Section, with awards made annually at the SOT Annual Meeting. The awards include a Merck Postdoctoral Travel Award and the Carl C. Smith Graduate Student Awards. The deadline for these awards is October 10th, 2009. More information can be found on the Mechanisms webpage or the SOT Specialty Section Awards page.

The membership of this section has developed and sponsored many state-of-the-art symposia, workshops, and Continuing Education courses at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT. For more information, please contact our student representative, Derek Drechsel, at Derek.drechsel@ucdenver.edu or visit the Mechanisms webpage at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/mechanisms/index.html.

METALS

2009-2010 Student Representative: Andrew D. Monnot (amonnot@purdue.edu)

The Metals Specialty Section (MSS) is one of the three original Specialty Sections in the Society of Toxicology. Over the years the MSS annual assembly has provided an excellent forum for those who share a common interest in metals health effects. Typically members are involved in the study of the adverse effects of metals on living organisms and the ecosystem. Students can become members by applying through the Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/Metals/Index.asp.

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows may submit their posters or presentations for MSS Student and Postdoc Awards. Awards are given at the Annual SOT Meeting in March. Every year, the MSS confers the prize with a plaque to the top three winners in each category. Please visit our Web site for awards application information, or contact Koren Mann at koren.mann@mail.mcgill.ca if you have questions or to submit your application. Applications are due January 15, 2010. To find out more information about MSS please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/Metals/Index.asp.

MIXTURES

2009-2010 Student Representative: Ron Pringle (rprising@cvm.msstate.edu)

The Mixtures Specialty Section supports the advancement of science-based safety assessment, facilitates the ability for government, industry, and academia to work together, and encourages funding for toxicology-related research from private and federal agencies. This section was inaugurated at the 2006 SOT Annual Meeting. The overall objectives of the Mixtures Specialty Section are to 1) serve as the focal point for the interaction of
members of SOT interested in mixtures toxicology; 2) develop, propose, and conduct programs and educational
activities that emphasize the latest developments in mixtures toxicology; 3) relate those developments to the
activities of SOT and to stimulate new growth in mixtures toxicology as it relates to the science of toxicology; and
4) act as a resource to the Society in the area of the Section’s interest.

Please consider joining the Mixtures Specialty Section. You can contact one of the Section’s officers or simply join
our group when you pay your annual dues on the SOT Web site. For more information, please visit our Web site
at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/Mix/index.asp.

The Mixtures Specialty Section provides an award targeted toward graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. At
the SOT 2010 Annual Meeting, we plan to present the Mixtures Specialty Section Best Student/Postdoc Abstract
Awards. To be eligible, the student/postdoctoral fellow must be first author and the abstract must have been
submitted by the October 3, 2009, abstract deadline, accepted by the Program Committee for presentation, and
must advance the field of mixtures research.

If the applicant meets these requirements, please send 1) a copy of the accepted abstract; 2) one additional page
of information specific to the work covered in the abstract that can contain figures, tables and/or text, and; 3) a
letter of support from their major advisor to Dr. Michael Dourson, Vice-President Elect, (dourson@tera.org)
describing the contribution(s) of the student to the research described in the abstract. The deadline for submission
is 9 pm EST, Friday, January 15, 2010. Additional information may be requested.

**Molecular Biology**

*2009-2010 Student Representative:* Sarah Wilson (sewilson@mail.usf.edu)

Specialty Section meetings are a great venue for students to present and discuss their work, while developing
networks for future collaboration and employment. The Molecular Biology Specialty Section (MBSS) is an
organization integrating members of the Society who 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 extremely
active in organizing continuing education and symposia sessions for the National SOT Annual Meeting and
welcomes student involvement. Students are encouraged to apply for graduate student and postdoctoral fellow
awards that are presented at the SOT Annual Meeting, including those sponsored by MBSS.

For the 2010 Graduate Student Awards, applicants must be full-time students as of October 1, 2009, and
research should be in the general area of molecular toxicology. Three awards will be given: 1st place will receive
$500, 2nd place will receive $300, and 3rd place will receive $100. For the 2010 Postdoctoral Fellow Research
Award, applicants must have completed a Ph.D. and be either a student or postdoctoral member of SOT.
Research should be in the general area of molecular toxicology and a single postdoctoral award of $500 will be
given. Applicants for all awards should submit an electronic version of their abstract, a two-page narrative
describing their research hypothesis, background and significance, and a letter of recommendation from their
advisor. All awardees will receive a plaque and will present a five-minute synopsis of their research at the MBSS
meeting. The deadline for applications is **November 1, 2009**, and applications must be submitted electronically as
a PDF to Dr. Mark Hahn (mhhahn@whoi.edu), including a header with your name on each page. Visit our Web site
**NEUROTOXICOLOGY**

2009-2010 Student Representative: Jason Magby (magby@eohsi.rutgers.edu)

The Neurotoxicology Specialty Section (NTSS) consists of members of SOT who are interested in the adverse effects of chemical, biological, or physical agents on the structure and function of the nervous system. NTSS members have research, regulatory, and/or industrial interests in the field of neurotoxicology as it relates to environmental chemicals and pharmaceuticals. The major aim of this Section is to promote the exchange of information among neurotoxicologists. At the SOT Annual Meeting, the NTSS conducts regular meetings, plans and sponsors workshops and symposia, and facilitates the discussion of research and career topics of mutual interest to members. For more information on NTSS or how to become a member, please visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/index.asp

The NTSS would like to remind students that the Section sponsors two awards for students. The Best Abstract Award is open to all NTSS members presenting at the SOT Annual Meeting. Self-nominated abstracts are judged for originality, clarity, and significance covering any aspect of neurotoxicology. Presenters of the five best abstracts will receive ribbons for display on their poster at the Annual Meeting to acknowledge and commemorate their achievements.

The NTSS Student Poster Award Competition offers up to three prizes at the SOT Annual Meeting. There is one competition for graduate students and another for postdocs. To apply, a copy of the abstract as submitted to SOT and a letter of support from the student's advisor outlining the student's independence and role in the research should be submitted to the Chair of Student Awards Committee. Students should be members of NTSS or show evidence of application for membership. Deadlines for these two awards are **early January**. More information can be found by visiting our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/index.asp.

Neurotoxicology has one of the largest student memberships of all Specialty Sections and provides a great opportunity to interact with experts in the field and become involved in SOT. Please consider the advantages of joining the NTSS!

**OCCUPATIONAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

2009-2010 Student Representative: Adrienne L. King (acl1nrc@uab.edu)

The mission of the Occupational and Public Health Specialty Section (OPHSS) is to advance the integration of exposure, toxicological, and epidemiological principles and research approaches in addressing occupational, environmentally-related, and public health issues. Members of OPHSS work on relevant issues which involve protecting the health of workers and the public. Are you interested in any of these aspects of toxicology? If so, the OPHSS is perfect for you!

In addition, the Section sponsors a Best Abstract Award and a Best Manuscript Award for students who have done outstanding work in the field of occupational and public health. The awards, each worth $500, are presented at the SOT Annual Meeting during the Specialty Section luncheon. The deadline for application is **January 15, 2010**, and the contact person is Mike Madden (madden.michael@epa.gov).

Please free to contact Adrienne L. King (aking@ms.soph.uab.edu), the student representative for OPHSS, or take a look at our Web site for more information http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ophss/index.html. Thank you and we look forward to your participation!
**REGULATORY AND SAFETY EVALUATION**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Thomas Simones (thomas.simones@umontana.edu)

The Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section (RSESS) provides a forum for the interaction of SOT members to discuss the impact of regulations and guidelines involving the practice and application of toxicology and the safety evaluation of food additives, neutraceuticals and therapeutic drug products, environmental, industrial, and household chemicals, and other products of concern. One of the highlights of the RSESS reception at the SOT Annual Meeting is the Great Debate, which involves an enlightening debate on emerging issues in toxicology. In conjunction with SOT, RSESS actively coordinates and sponsors scientific forums and workshops aimed at creating awareness and discussion on a scientific topic of interest.

Additionally, to promote student participation at the SOT Annual Meeting, RSESS encourages students to apply for student awards offered by the Specialty Section. The deadline for applying for the Student Travel Award is late January 2010. Students and fellows with abstracts accepted for presentation at the SOT Annual Meeting are welcome to apply. To apply for a travel award, the research topic should be directed at enhancing the evaluation of the safety of any potentially regulated substance. Please visit the SOT Web site for information about the application. The RSESS publishes a newsletter 2 to 3 times every year with information on recent section activities as well as articles on topics of current toxicological concern. For further information on the activities and interests of the RSESS, please contact the officers listed on the SOT Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/regulatorysafety/Index.html.

**REPRODUCTIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** Nick Heger (nicholas_heger@brown.edu)

The Reproductive and Developmental 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 or development of offspring. The RDTSS emphasizes a multidisciplinary approach to examining 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 within the scope of this group are all areas of male and female reproduction, developmental biology, teratology, and developmental and reproductive risk assessment. The objectives of the RDTSS are to serve as a focal point for members interested in reproductive and developmental toxicology and to conduct programs and educational activities to emphasize the latest developments in reproductive and developmental toxicology. Additionally, the RDTSS aims to stimulate new growth in reproductive and developmental aspects of toxicology, while serving as a resource to the Society in the areas of the Section’s interests.

The RDTSS gives three student awards each year for presentations made at the Annual Meeting. The RTDSS also presents an award each year for the best paper published in Toxicological Sciences related to reproductive and/or developmental toxicology. For more information about joining RDTSS, award deadlines, and upcoming events, visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/repdevtox/index.html, or contact the graduate student representative for RDTSS, Nick Heger at nicholas_heger@brown.edu.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

**2009-2010 Student Representative:** David Szabo (szabo@e-mail.unc.edu)

Risk assessment is a dynamic process by which scientists evaluate the potential for adverse health or environmental effects from exposure to naturally occurring or synthetic agents. The Risk Assessment Specialty Section (RASS) is one of the largest and most diverse Specialty Sections at SOT. Our goal is to provide a forum for students, postdoctoral fellows, and professionals interested in the theory and practice of risk assessment. It is
a great place to be as our membership consists of equal representation from academia, government, industry, and the consulting world. Our Annual Meeting has proved to be a rewarding place for student, postdoctoral fellows, and professional members to network over a complimentary buffet and entertainment which highlights a great debate involving emerging issues in toxicology and risk assessment. There is truly something here for everyone and your involvement is encouraged! Cash awards and SOT plaques include the RASS Perry J. Gehring Best Graduate Student Abstract Award and the Perry J. Gehring Best Postdoc Fellow Abstract Award. Additional awards include the Best Published Paper awards and the Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award. We also give a plaque to the Best Overall Risk Assessment Abstract and honor the Top 10 Risk Assessment Abstracts submitted. The deadline to apply for any of these awards is **January 22, 2009**.

We are very proud of last year’s winners Mathieu Valcke for Best Graduate Student Abstract and Scott Auerbach for Best Postdoctoral Student Abstract. Great Job!!! To further learn about our Specialty Section, becoming a member, and the numerous opportunities for students and postdoctoral fellows, visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/RiskAssess/](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/RiskAssess/). E-mail any specific questions, comments, and how we can improve our continually growing SS to meet your interests and needs to David Szabo at szabo@e-mail.unc.edu. We look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City!!!

**TOXICOLOGIC AND EXPLORATORY PATHOLOGY**

**2008-2009 Student Representative:** Lu Wang ([mabelwang21@gmail.com](mailto:mabelwang21@gmail.com))

The Toxicologic and Exploratory Pathology Specialty Section (TEPSS) was established with the goal of encouraging scientific and educational programs that advance the science of toxicology through the tools of pathologists. Our interests include, but are not limited to, the application of morphologic and clinical pathology techniques in new ways, and the use of molecular techniques to increase the understanding of whole animal or tissue toxicologic responses.

Students and postdocs are encouraged to apply for a TEPSS-sponsored travel award to attend the 2010 SOT Annual Meeting. Nominees must be the first author of an SOT-accepted abstract concerning research in toxicology that presents work illustrating the integrated application of pathology (morphologic or clinical pathology) endpoints with other scientific approaches, e.g., molecular or systems biology, imaging, or *in vitro-in vivo* correlations, to enhance the understanding of whole animal or tissue toxicologic responses. To apply, the following must be submitted to the TEPSS Counselor: 1) a copy of the accepted abstract, 2) a letter (maximum two pages) describing their research project and professional goals, and 3) a letter of sponsorship from an academic advisor who is a member of SOT. TEPSS Travel Award winners will present a brief synopsis of their research project at the TEPSS Reception during the SOT Annual Meeting, where they will be recognized for their accomplishment with a plaque and check for $1000.00.

The Roger O. McClellan Student Award is jointly awarded by TEPSS and the CVSS for hypothesis-driven abstracts that exemplify the role of comparative medicine in evaluating the safety/risk of exposure to chemicals or physical agents. Nominees for the award must be enrolled in a program leading to a DVM degree or in post-DVM residency or graduate program, and are a member of SOT or have an application pending. The abstract must be accepted through the regular SOT submission process. The award application must include the following, (1) a letter of recommendation from the mentor, (2) a one page statement of the applicant’s scientific interest, (3) a current CV, and (4) a copy of the submitted abstract. The awardee will present their research either in a poster or a platform presentation at the SOT Annual Meeting, and will receive $2000.

The Charles Capen Student Travel Award is presented by the International Academy of Toxicologic Pathology ([www.IATPFellows.org](http://www.IATPFellows.org)) for the amount of $750, which can be used by the successful student for travel or registration costs to attend the SOT Annual Meeting. The application materials should include a resume (CV), a letter (no more than two pages) from the applicant which describes how their work has demonstrated achievements in the field of toxicologic pathology, and a letter (no more than two pages) from their advisor or
mentor which explains the attributes of the student and how they will contribute to the field of toxicologic pathology as a career path. A certificate and check will be presented at the TEPSS meeting during the SOT Annual Meeting.

The deadline to apply for any of these awards is **January 25, 2010**. Please visit the TEPSS Web site ([http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/awards.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/awards.asp)) for additional requirements and details on how to apply.

Students are encouraged to attend our meetings, and to apply for any awards this group offers. In addition to the travel awards and our luncheon, the biggest opportunity TEPSS can provide is in networking with people who are actively working in the profession and who may be in careers to which graduate students aren't often exposed. This can be done in the form of occasional conversations or more formal, ongoing mentorship relations. TEPSS highly values its student members, and students and postdocs are encouraged to choose TEPSS as their Specialty Section. If you are currently a member of SOT you may join TEPSS for $15 annually by using the SOT on-line Membership Renewal Form. To learn more about the TEPSS please visit our Web site at [www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/awards.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/awards.asp)
# Specialty Section Graduate Committee Representatives

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