Dear Students,

Welcome to the winter 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 the upcoming SOT Annual Meeting in Baltimore, as well as important updates from Regional Chapters, Special Interest Groups and Specialty Sections.

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.

The SAC was created to provide student liaisons to the 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 our web site at www.toxicology.org/AI/SPD/SACdes.asp, or you can just get in contact with one of us! See page 18 for SAC contact information.

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Commonly Used Acronyms

SAC – Student Advisory Council
PDA – Postdoctoral Assembly
RC/SIG-GC – Regional Chapter/Special Interest Group Graduate Committee
SS-GC – Specialty Section Graduate
**BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR REGIONAL CHAPTER**

The 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 on joining can be found at [http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/regionalchapters.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/regionalchapters.asp). Students can join Regional Chapters and enjoy the benefits without becoming members of the national Society.

**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, and gender. The goals of these groups are to develop and conduct programs and opportunities that promote career development and recognize accomplishments of the toxicologists from within each SIG. For more information on SIG, please visit [http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/sig.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/sig.asp). Students and postdoctoral fellows receive membership into their first SIG at NO COST!

**JOIN A SPECIALTY SECTION**

The Specialty Sections of the SOT provide an invaluable opportunity for networking and interaction with scientists and professionals from various specialties within Toxicology. Specialty Sections (SS) are primary sponsors of many of the programmatic sessions during the SOT Annual Meeting. Students are highly 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. 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](http://www.toxicology.org). Once you log in to the site, navigate to the Membership Renewal On-line under Membership, and indicate which Specialty Section you would like to join. You can register for SS membership at any time during the year. And, while student membership is a steal at $20 a year, as an extra bonus, your student membership dues for one SS per year are free!

**TOXICOLOGY OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

SOT sponsors two programs that promote awareness of toxicological science as well as careers in toxicology. The **Toxicology Scholar** Program provides funding for a professional toxicologist or advanced graduate student to visit the campus of an undergraduate institution which does not offer toxicology in their curricula. These visits would require cooperation of a faculty person at the campus to be visited (campus host) so that arrangements can be made for the appropriate student audiences. Liberal arts colleges and regional universities are examples of appropriate campuses for these visits. The **Guest Lecturer in Toxicology** program provides funding for a toxicologist to visit an undergraduate institution in which the students are underrepresented in the sciences. The speakers will give a one-hour lecture on their research topic or a general toxicology talk. SOT provides informational slides and brochures to hand out to the audience for both of the programs.

These programs can promote participation in the Regional Chapter Meetings and the Undergraduate Education program at the Annual Meeting. Advanced **graduate students** are encouraged to apply for these programs!
Deadlines for proposals are due **January 1, May 1, and September 1.** More details are available at [http://toxicology.org/ai/ev/toxscholar.asp](http://toxicology.org/ai/ev/toxscholar.asp). These programs are sponsored by the Education Committee and the Committee on Diversity Initiatives.

**MENTOR MATCH**

The Society of Toxicology (SOT) recognizes the importance of mentoring in the scientific and professional development of its members. Thus, SOT’s Career Resource and Development (CRAD) Committee has launched an on-line mentoring program as a new benefit of membership in the Society. The objective of this program is to provide a service that matches mentees with potential mentors from the SOT membership to provide advice on career path selection and success and life/work balance issues. For additional information and to register for this program, please visit the Web site at [www.toxicology.org/ai/newcrad/mentormatch.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ai/newcrad/mentormatch.asp).

**CAREER RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (CRAD)**

*Submitted Supraja Narasimhan, Student Representative to CRAD*

Career Resource and Development Services provides members with a year-round on-line service linking job candidates with employers and positions in toxicology and related biological sciences and the Service at the Annual Meetings. If you are a candidate attending the Annual Meeting, you are encouraged to post your resume within the system for download and bring multiple copies of your personal resume for interested interviewers. Although on-line pre-registration is encouraged, registrations will also be accepted during the Annual Meeting. All SOT members can do job searches through the Job Bank at no charge as a member benefit.

The SOT Job Bank allows you to:

- Post employment positions
- Register as an employer or candidate
- Search the Job Bank database
- Contact candidates or employer

The system stores information submitted by its users and permits searches in categories such as: years of experience, types of experience, areas of expertise, type of position, type of employer, salary, and geographical location. For more information please check out the Web site [http://www.toxicology.org/ai/crad/crad.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ai/crad/crad.asp) and take advantage of the facilities!

Students benefit most from these opportunities offered by the Society so please spend some time visiting these links and visit the CRAD booth during the Annual Meeting to find out more. Also keep an eye out for the CRAD Banner at Baltimore!
FIVE SCIENTIFIC THEMES

The 2009 Annual Meeting will have five themes, including Biomarkers, Epigenetics, Inflammation and Disease, Nanotechnology, and Neurodegenerative Disease. Many of the scientific sessions, including symposia, workshops, and roundtable discussions will highlight these themes and how they relate to toxicological research.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR FIRST CONFERENCE
Submitted by Jamie O’Brien, Lake Ontario RC Student Representative

The SOT Annual Meeting is an amazing opportunity for graduate students to learn more about the field of toxicology. There are numerous networking events that allow students to interact with senior toxicologists from academia, government and industry, as well as graduate students from other academic institutions. This provides a great opportunity to discuss your research with new people and gain a new perspective, as well as make connections that will last throughout your career. For more information on the student events, read on below!

Dress Code
The dress code for the Annual Meeting is business casual, yet you should consider professional attire when you are presenting. You should also plan for temperature changes, as some of the meeting rooms are cold. The weather in Baltimore averages from the mid-30’s to mid-50’s, so be sure to pack accordingly!

Scientific Session Type Legend

Education-Career Development Sessions – Provide tools and resources to toxicologists that will enhance their professional and scientific development (80 minutes)

Exhibitor Hosted Sessions – Informative sessions developed by an exhibiting company

Featured/Special Sessions -- Special lectures such as the Medical Research Council (MRC) lecture, Informational sessions, Issues sessions, etc., generally featuring a moderator and 1-2 speakers, and slide presentations

Historical Highlights -- Review of a historical body of science that has impacted toxicology

Informational Sessions -- Scientific planning or membership development, style varies, timed at 80 or 105 minutes

Platform Sessions -- Oral presentations of individual research arranged by topic, lasting 3 hrs (AM and PM), featuring slide presentations

Poster Sessions -- Individual research displayed in designated area arranged by topic, lasting 3.5 hrs (AM and PM), featuring a poster display: informal and interactive presentations with individual researchers

Regional Interest Session – Central topics of relevance that describe public health and/or ecological problems of a particular region

Roundtable Sessions -- Presentation and discussion of controversial topics in Toxicology, lasting 1.5 hr; featuring a moderator and 1-2 speakers, and slide presentations

Symposium Sessions -- Overviews most of the recent breakthroughs within the subfields of Toxicology, generally 3 hrs or less (AM and PM), with a chairperson and 4-5 speakers, featuring slide presentations

Thematic Session -- Timely topics of relevance to Toxicology selected by the program committee

Workshop Sessions -- Emphasis on state-of-art knowledge in Toxicology, typically 3 hrs or less (AM and PM), 1-featuring 5 speakers and informal and interactive presentations with emphasis on discussion

STUDENT EVENTS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

The SAC sponsors a number of events at the SOT Annual Meeting, each designed to add to your experience. These programs are excellent venues to network with your peers and with other attendees. We hope you will take advantage of these opportunities. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Baltimore!
Awards Ceremony  
Sunday, March 15, Time: 5:15 PM–6:30 PM  
Room 321 Baltimore Convention Center  
Join us as SOT honors our prestigious award winners at the SOT Awards Ceremony. Please refer to the Awards and Fellowships section of the SOT Web site for complete details about the awards and submitting the nominations for the next year.

Welcoming Reception  
Sunday, March 15, Time: 6:30 PM–7:30 PM  
Ballroom Baltimore Convention Center  
Continue the celebration by attending the Welcoming Reception following the Awards Ceremony. The Welcoming Reception is a great opportunity to renew old friendships and to make new acquaintances. Please join the Society in this kick-off of the Annual Meeting.

Student/Postdoctoral Fellow Mixer  
Sunday, March 15, Time: 7:30 PM–8:30 PM  
Camden Lobby Baltimore Convention Center  
This event is great for students and postdoctoral fellows to gather, to meet new colleagues, and to re-establish relationships in an informal atmosphere. SAC representatives from the Regional Chapters and Specialty Sections will also be on hand to answer any questions you might have about membership or events, and we will be giving out door prizes! Tickets are obtained at no cost by registering for this event on the Annual Meeting Registration Form. Ticket and meeting badge are required. Complimentary refreshments and a cash bar will be available.

In Vitro Toxicology Lecture and Luncheon for Students  
Monday, March 16, Time: 12:15 PM–1:30 PM  
Room 339 Baltimore Convention Center  
Sponsored by: The Colgate-Palmolive Company  
Ticket Required  
Graduate students, undergraduates, postdoctoral scholars, and recipients of Colgate-Palmolive awards are among the guests at the In Vitro Lecture and Luncheon. The goal of the In Vitro Lecture series is to feature important research using in vitro and alternative techniques to study basic mechanisms and to illustrate how these test methods benefit animal welfare by refining and reducing animal use. Students and postdocs can reserve a ticket for the luncheon with a $5 deposit when they register for the SOT Annual Meeting.

Postdoctoral Assembly Luncheon  
Tuesday, March 17, Time: 12:00 Noon–1:15 PM  
Room 399 Baltimore Convention Center  
Ticket Required  

Joint PDA and SAC Symposium Session  
"Gene-Environment Interactions: Epigenetic Pathways in Chronic Disease Promotion and Progression"  
Wednesday, March 18, Time: 12:00 Noon–1:20 PM  
Room 307 Baltimore Convention Center  
This session is a collaborative effort of the Postdoctoral Assembly and the Student Advisory Council to highlight work by trainees. Presentations will focus on toxicologically relevant epigenetic alterations with accompanying disease states. For details on the presentations please see your Preliminary Program and full-length Program.

Lunch with an Expert  
Date and time varies by group (Meet at Bulletin Board in Registration Area)  
This event is an informal gathering of a small group of students and a Toxicology Expert. Sign up via the Student Services section of the SOT Web site. The groups are matched by research interests and the Expert for each group identifies a time and place to assemble. Details for the group meeting will be sent advance of meeting. You can also sign up at the Student Mixer!

Regional Chapter, Specialty Section, and Special Interest Group Receptions  
Monday, March 16 through Wednesday, March 18, Various Times  
Many of the SOT Regional Chapters, Specialty Sections, and Special Interest Groups meet during the SOT Annual Meeting. A list of receptions will be listed in the Program Event Calendar.
Regional Chapter/Special Interest Group Officers

Kristina DeSmet, Chair
Erica M. Sparkenbaugh, Chair-Elect
Melanie B. Weed, Secretary

HOW CAN YOU BECOME A REGIONAL CHAPTER AND A NATIONAL SOT MEMBER?

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!

Applications for student membership are available via the Society of Toxicology Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/dotnet/membership_app.aspx. You can also renew your national or Regional Chapter dues online at www.toxicology.org/membership.asp?page=dues.

ALLEGHENY-ERIE CHAPTER

2008-2009 Student Representative: Antonia A Nemec

The Allegheny-Erie Chapter of Society of Toxicology held its Fall Meeting on September 26th, 2008. The topic was Pharmacogenetics and Drs. Robert W. Sobol and Robert A. Branch were the invited speakers. There is no date set for our Spring Meeting, but it will be held in West Virginia and will include a poster section where awards will be given for Best Methodology and Best Overall. Last year’s winners were James P. Fabisiak, Cory Mathias, Kelly Brant, and Randy Stalter for "Use of a Fibroblast/Endothelial Cell Co-Culture In Vitro Assay to Assess the Effects of Chemical and Microbial Toxins on Angiogenic Capillary-Like Tubule Formation" for Best Methodology and A.Erdely, T. Hulderman, R. Salmen, A. Liston, P. Zeidler-Erdely, and P.P. Simeonova for "Crosstalk Between the Lung and Blood Following Carbon Nanotube Exposure; Potential Biomarkers and Implication for Cardiovascular Disease" for Best Overall.

To join our Regional Chapter or for information regarding our Spring Meeting, you can contact me directly at aan3@pitt.edu or visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/allegheny/index.asp.

GULF COAST CHAPTER

2008-2009 Student Representative: Natalie Malek Johnson
Our Regional Chapter meeting which was scheduled to be held November 6-7 at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Ike. Since student awards are given based on the poster and platform presentations given at the Regional Chapter meeting, we cannot announce any student awards at this time. Although we did not get to meet in the fall, our chapter is looking forward to our annual chapter meeting in Baltimore to be held in conjunction with the South Central Chapter. In addition to presenting their research in Baltimore, many Gulf Coast SOT student members plan to participate in the Undergraduate Education Program sponsored by the Committee for Diversity Initiatives as peer mentors. If you have any questions or are looking for ways to get involved this year at SOT do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at njohnson@cvm.tamu.edu.

MICHIGAN CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Erica M. Sparkenbaugh (Chair-Elect)

The Michigan SOT held its fall meeting on November 14, 2008 at NSF International in Ann Arbor, MI. The theme of the meeting was “Epigenetics in Toxicology” and included seminars from Dr. Jay Goodman (Michigan State), Dr. Doug Rouden (Wayne State), Dr. Howard Hu (University of Michigan), and Dr. Dana Dolinoy (University of Michigan), who presented on topics including DNA methylation in human cancers, nutrigenomics, and gene-environment interactions. We had a lively poster competition featuring 20 posters presented by undergraduates, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Three awards for best poster presentation, worth $500 each, and one honorable mention, worth $250, were given to Dr. Patrick Shaw (Michigan State University) in the Postdoctoral Fellow/Research Associate category, Ania Kopek (MSU) in the Graduate Student category, with Wei Zou (MSU) as honorable mention, and Esha Kuma (MSU) in the Undergraduate Student category.

We are planning a Member’s Reception at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore, and details regarding the time and location will be distributed to members in February 2009. We are also actively planning our Spring Meeting, to be held in May. To join MISOT, please visit http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/michigan/misot.html for an application form. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at sparkenb@msu.edu.

MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representatives: Patricia Gillespie

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SOT (MASOT) encourages you to attend our annual spring scientific meeting. It is scheduled to be held May 7th, 2009, at the Woodbridge Hilton in Iselin, NJ. This year’s topic will feature prominent scientists from diverse backgrounds, who will discuss “Toxicants in the News.” During the spring meeting, MASOT will also be holding its annual student poster contest. Last year’s winners were: 1st place -- Jacquelin Grabowski, NYU School of Medicine; 2nd place -- Sheung P. Ng and Lauren Tarantino-Hutchison, NYU School of Medicine. We ask that you mark your calendars now and plan to present a poster. This year’s meeting promises to be a success! If you are not a member of the Mid-Atlantic chapter and would like to join, the application process is very affordable and easy! Membership dues are only $10 and the less than one page application can be obtained from our SOT Web site: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/midatlantic/. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the MASOT student representatives, Patricia Gillespie (pag286@nyu.edu).

MIDWEST CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Ofek Bar-Ilan

The MRC-SOT Fall 2008 meeting was held on November 7 at Midwestern University, which focused on “Regional Issues in Environmental Toxicology” and was a great success. Our next chapter meeting featuring biomarker research will be held on May 1, 2009, at the Marriott Hotel in Lincolnshire, IL. At the Spring 2008 meeting, Sandeep Gopalakrishnan (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) was the Victor A. Drill Award winner (paid trip to 2009 national SOT meeting) and Ofek Bar-Ilan (University of Wisconsin-Madison) was named the Young
Investigator Award recipient ($1500 for research). A new set of winners will be named at this year’s spring meeting and applications are due April 1.

MRC-SOT will host a Member’s Breakfast at the Annual Meeting, on Wednesday, March 18 (7:00 – 8:30 AM) at the Marriot Inner Harbor, Grand Ballroom Salon B and C. If you have any questions, please contact me at barilan@wisc.edu, and visit the MRC-SOT Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/midwest/.

MOUNTAIN WEST CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Ebany J. Martinez-Finley

The Mountain West chapter encompasses the beautiful states of Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Southern Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, and Wyoming. The 2008 MWSOT regional meeting was held in Utah in October. The 2009 MWSOT meeting will likely be held in Albuquerque, NM in the fall. Mountain West SOT will co-host a reception with Southern California SOT at the National Meeting on Monday, March 16th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the Phillips Harborplace Restaurant, at 301 Light Street, Baltimore, MD. Please visit our Web site: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/MtWest/MWSOTHome.html for application and more information!

NORTH CAROLINA AREA CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Melanie B. Weed (Secretary)

On October 23, 2008, NCSOT’s fall meeting was held at the NIEHS in Research Triangle Park, focusing on Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in the Environment. Again this year a pizza lunch, followed by a panel discussion on careers in toxicology was held prior to the fall meeting with approximately 20 students and postdocs in attendance. The postdoctoral fellow winners of the President’s Award for Research Competition (PARC) at the fall meeting were: 1st - Dr. Erik Tokar (NCI at HIEHS); 2nd - Dr. Scott Auerbach (NTP, NIEHS) and 3rd - Dr. Brante Sampey (UNC). The Spring NCSOT meeting will be held on February 26, 2009, at US EPA from 12:00 to 5:00, with the meeting topic “Stem Cells and Tissue Engineering: Applications to Toxicology.” All current NCSOT student members please consider entering the undergraduate/graduate student poster competition to be held at the meeting. Registration and abstract submission deadlines for this meeting are February 16, 2009. Please see our Web site for registration form and more details. Graduate Students should consider becoming an NCSOT member! Membership in NCSOT is a great way to learn about the area’s current research opportunities in toxicology. Membership is open to all graduate students as well as undergraduates studying in the field of toxicology or related fields. Please see our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/nc/index.asp for more details, or contact me at mweed@med.unc.edu;

NORTHEAST CHAPTER
2009-2010 Student Representative: Sandra Wise

On October 24th, 2008, the Annual Meeting of the Northeast Chapter was held at Charles River Laboratories in Shrewsbury, MA. Attendance was very strong; 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.

The NESOT Executive Committee invites all 2009 NESOT Student Travel Award applicants to attend a luncheon at the Annual SOT Meeting in Baltimore on March 16, 2009. The 2009 NESOT Student Travel Award will be presented to the top 3 applicants during this event. Details regarding the location of this luncheon will be distributed to applicants in February 2009.

The NESOT Executive Committee would like to invite any interested students/postdocs to meet with FDA officials and industry and academic representatives for a meet and greet Q & A session about careers in toxicology and
pharmacology, to be held on April 27th, 3:00 – 6:00 PM at Genzyme Center in Cambridge. To RSVP please e-mail Laura.Andrews@genzyme.com. A small reception at Genzyme will follow.

If you have any questions about participating in SOT or joining NESOT, please e-mail swise@usm.maine.edu or visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/northeast/.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Susanne M. Brandt

This past year has been one of a lot of activity for the Northern California chapter of SOT. We have held two local meetings, one this past April which was a symposium focusing on “Developmental Neurobehavioral Toxicology,” and another in October which covered the topic of “Safety Pharmacology.” The meetings were hosted by SRI International and Roche and were well attended. The board is planning its next meeting for this coming April on “Organ Toxicity,” which will be held at Amgen, Inc, and the chapter will also be co-hosting a reception at the Annual Meeting.

NORTHLAND CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Sarah J. Gilpin

Our Fall NL Chapter SOT meeting was held in St. Paul on November 7th, 2008. The focus of the meeting was exploring food safety issues. Four experts from the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Beef Council, the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture examined issues such as global food safety, irradiation and food outbreaks, contaminations and recalls. No student awards have been given out but students were subsidized to attend the Fall NL meeting for free. The same will be true of our upcoming spring meeting. We also have a student award committee that is meeting to determine award and travel opportunities for our chapter. If you have any questions about participating in SOT or joining NL-SOT, please contact me at gilp0004@tc.umn.edu or visit the Chapter Web site is at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/RC/northland/Index.htm.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Sumitra Sengupta

The 25th Annual Meeting of The Pacific Northwest Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology (PANWAT) at Oregon State University CH2M Hill Alumni Center in Corvallis OR was a success with a large turnout of students and scientists from diverse backgrounds. The meeting covered all aspects of modern toxicology ranging from environmental to molecular toxicology with prime focus on human health. The student award winners from the fall meeting poster competition include first place, Ed O’Donnell (OrSt), second place David Castro (OrSt) and third place was Jenna Benson (U of Montana). Student winners of the platform presentations were first place, Nikki Marshall and Katerine Saili (both OrSt), second place Kerri Stanley (OrSt) and third place Christine Larsen (OrSt).

PANWAT will host a reception on March 17th at the Hilton Inn in Baltimore. Please see the Program for detailed location information. If you have any questions, please contact your student representative Sumitra Sengupta sengupts@onid.orst.edu or visit the PANWAT Web site at www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/panwant.index.asp.

SOUTH CENTRAL CHAPTER
2008-2009 Student Representative: Ronald B. Pringle

The 26th Annual Meeting of the SCCSOT was held September 18-19th. A reception was held at the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock on Thursday evening, followed by oral and poster presentations at NCTR in Jefferson, AR on Friday. The award winners were Graduate Student Platform Presentation: Zeng Wang, UAMS; Graduate Student Poster Presentation: Shankar Munuswamy, UAMS; Undergraduate Presentation: Dallas Krentzel, Centenary College; and Non-Student Poster Presentation: Cammi Thornton, University of Mississippi. The annual SCCSOT meeting at the national SOT meeting in Baltimore will be Monday, March 16th from 5:00 -
6:00 PM at Tir Na Nog Bar and Grill in the Inner Harbor. The reception will be co-hosted with the Gulf Coast Regional Chapter. If you have any questions about participating in SOT or joining SC-SOT, please contact Ron Pringle, Mississippi State University, rpringle@cvm.msstate.edu or visit the South Central Chapter SOT Web site: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/southCentral/index.asp

**SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Melinda S. Prucha*

The most recent SESOT Regional Chapter meeting was held in Nashville, TN, in October 2005. SESOT is working to organize the next meeting somewhere convenient, as we are hoping for a good turnout. If there are any questions or inquiries about the Southeastern Regional Chapter, feel free to contact me via e-mail at mprucha@ufl.edu.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Sudheer Reddy Beedanagari*

The Southern California Chapter of SOT has been actively involved this year with several outreach programs. At the 2008 SOT Annual Meeting, SCCSOT held a joint reception with the Mountain West Regional Chapter. This reception was held at a banquet hall in Hilton Hotel, Seattle, WA. The reception was attended by 150 people, and was immensely valuable in helping students to interact with people and to make contacts.

Our annual Regional Chapter meeting took place on Oct 2nd, 2008 at UC San Diego Faculty Club, San Diego, CA. The topic for this year was “Cardiotoxicity: A Mounting Concern for Novel Therapeutics.” The meeting included presentations by several speakers pioneering in the field from academia and industry, lunch and graduate student poster session. This year three students were invited to give oral presentations, and received cash prizes for both best student poster and oral presentations.

Finally, if you are an SOT member in the Southern California region, please consider joining our Regional Chapter SCCSOT. The membership is free for all the applicants. For more information about application process please contact me at sudheer@ucla.edu or visit http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/SouthernCal/SCALMembAp2008.pdf.

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**Special Interest Group News**

For Officers, see above

**WOMEN IN TOXICOLOGY**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Jennifer D. Cohen*

The mission of the Women in Toxicology (WIT) is to promote the recruitment and retention of women to a profession in the toxicological sciences, to provide leadership for career development opportunities for women toxicologists, and to promote and recognize the accomplishments of women toxicologists. 2009 Student Award Winners include: Elizabeth Vancza (Student Award), Courtney Kozul (Hudson-Weisburger Award) and Betina Lew (Postdoc Award). At the Annual Meeting WIT will hold a reception on Wednesday, March 18, 4:30 - 6:00 PM at the Hilton in Holiday Ballroom 3.
WIT is sponsoring a variety of sessions at the Annual Meeting, including National Children's Study: Opportunities and Challenges for Toxicologists (Roundtable) on Tuesday March 17, 2009, from 12:1-2:0; Setting a Safe Starting Dose in Initial Clinical Trials with Biotherapeutics: Do I use the NOAEL or the MABEL? (Roundtable) on Tuesday March 17, 2009, from 12:00 - 1:20; and Lead: Children's Exposures and Current Regulatory Standards (Informational Session) on Thursday March 19, 2009, from 7:30 - 9:15. Refer to the Program for locations. If you have any questions about WIT, please contact the student representative at jdcohen@email.arizona.edu or visit the Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/wit/index.asp

REGIONAL CHAPTER/SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP GRADUATE COMMITTEE

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Specialty Section News

Specialty Section Graduate Committee Officers

Thomas Kannanayakal, Chair
Shepard Martin, Chair-Elect
Daniel Hochman, Secretary

CARCINOGENESIS
2008-2009 Student Representative: Supraja Narasimhan

The Carcinogenesis Specialty Section (CSS) is proud to sponsor and endorse a number of Symposia, CE, Workshop and Roundtable discussions this year at Baltimore. The Sponsored Symposia are 1) Nitrative and Oxidative Stress in Toxicology and Disease and 2) Epigenetic implications for Toxicology. This year CSS is
endorsing a number of very interesting symposia. They are 1) MicroRNAs in Biology and Toxicology, 2) Genomic, Non-Genomic and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Nuclear Hormone Receptor Action and, 3) Mammalian Retrotranspositional Elements: Epigenetic Regulation, Species Differences and Potential Roles as Mediators of Cellular Responses to Toxic Stress. The Workshop session that CSS is endorsing this year is Safety of High-Intensity Sweeteners: Bittersweet controversy. The CE session is AM03 Characterizing Modes of Action and their Relevance in Assessing Human Health Risks. The CSS reception will be held on Tuesday, March 17th, 2009, 6:00-7:30 PM. Please be sure to attend! Become a Member of CSS! To find out more information check out the Web site http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/carc/home.html. If you have any questions regarding CSS and how to become a member or any other enquiries please feel free to contact the student representative
nsupraja@bu.edu.

**Comparative and Veterinary**

2008-2009 Student Representative: Wei Zou

CVSS is sponsoring two programs at the Annual Meeting, including Heat Shock Proteins and the Toxicological Response (SP-31) and the CE course, How Similar is Similar and How Relevant is Relevant? Considerations in the Design of a Predictive Development Program for Biotherapeutics (PM11). CVSS is also endorsing a variety of programs, including Workshop: Improved Safety Biomarkers for Monitoring Kidney Injury (SP-21), Advanced CE course: Translational of safety Biomarkers in Drug discovery and development (AM07), which are both sponsored by Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section, and the Basic CE course: Evaluation of Toxicity to Male and Female Reproductive Systems: Biology, Study Design and Data Interpretation (AM04), sponsored by Reproductive and Developmental Specialty Section.

The CVSS will be hosting a reception on Monday March 16 from 12:00 – 1:30 PM. Please see the Program upon arrival in Baltimore for locations and times. As always, the student representative will be at the Student Mixer on Sunday evening to answer any questions you may have about CVSS. You can also contact Wei Zou via e-mail (zouwei@msu.edu) or visit the CVSS web site at www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/cvss/index.asp.

**Dermal Toxicology**

2008-2009 Student Representative: Michael G. Borland

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section (DTSS) is sponsoring a Roundtable Session entitled Phototoxicology: A Passing Fancy or Enduring Concern, on Thursday, March 19, at 7:30 AM in Room 308 at the Convention Center. The student award winners will be announced at the DTSS Reception on Tuesday, March 17 from 6-7:30 pm in Room 343. If you have any questions, please contact the student representative at mgb149@psu.edu or visit the DTSS Webpage is http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/dtss/index.html. Also stop by our poster at the Student Mixer on Sunday night!

**Drug Discovery Toxicology**

2008-2009 Student Representative: Kimberly Henderson

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. We are sponsoring a variety of sessions at the Annual Meeting, including the following:

- The Impact of Transcript Profiling on Drug Safety Assessment – Workshop
- Leveraging Non-Clinical Disease Models for Early Perspective on Safety and Risk During Drug Discovery – Roundtable
- Biomarkers of Cardiac Hypertrophy and Skeletal Muscle Toxicity - Successes and Challenges Related to their Implementation in Drug Development – Roundtable.
Please check the Program upon arrival in Baltimore for times and locations. The DDTSS Reception will be held on Wed., March 19, 6:00-7:30 PM, location will be listed in the Program. If you have any questions or comments, please contact your student representative Kim Henderson athndkim@ucla.edu or visit the Drug Discovery Web site: http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/DDTSS/#gs.

**FOOD SAFETY**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Li Xu*

The Food Safety Specialty Section is sponsoring the following sessions at the Annual Meeting: *Role of Regulatory Cooperative Efforts in Food Protection* on Monday, March 16, at 4:35 PM-5:55 PM (Room 308) and *Safety of High-Intensity Sweeteners: Bittersweet*, on Tuesday, March 17, at 1:30 PM-4:15 PM in Room 327. FSSS is also endorsing *The Use of Engineered Nanomaterials in Food and Food-Related Products: Is this a Concern for Human and Environmental Safety?* (Monday, March 16, 12:10 – 1:30 PM, room 308), *Immunomodulation During Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Therapy: Risks and Benefits* (Tuesday, March 17, 9:00 -11:45 AM in Ballroom IV) and *Food Allergy - Basic Mechanisms and Applications to Identifying Risks Associated with Plant Incorporated Pesticides and Other Genetically Modified Crops* (Wednesday, March 18, 1:30 - 4:15 PM in Room 314). The FSSS Reception will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 6:00 - 7:30 PM in room 342. Everyone is welcomed, and student award winners will be announced! For more information or suggestion, please visit the Web site at: http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/foodsafe/fs3.asp or contact Li Xu at susanxu@uga.edu.

**IMMUNOTOXICOLOGY**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Haitian Lu*

All students who are interested in catching up with the cutting-edge immunotoxicological knowledge and research are welcome to the scientific sessions sponsored by the immunotoxicology Specialty Section in the national meeting of 2009 at Baltimore as listed below:

**Symposia**
- Superantigens, Cytokine Storm and Toxic Reactions;
- The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Toxicant-Induced Pulmonary Inflammation;
- Immunomodulation During Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Therapy: Risks and Benefits;
- Transcriptional Changes in Immunotoxicology: Transcription Factors, Signal Transduction and Epigenetics

**Workshops**
- Food Allergy - Basic Mechanisms and Applications to Identifying Risks Associated with Plant Incorporated Pesticides and Other Genetically Modified Crops;
- Is Modulation of the Immune System by Perfluoroalkyl Acids a Human Health Concern?

**Continuing Education Courses**
- Immunology for Toxicologists;
- Free Radicals for Toxicologists - From the Basics to Inflammation and Disease

All students are cordially invited to attend the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section Reception that will be held 6:00 pm – 7:30 PM, Tuesday, March 17, 2009; 310 Convention Center. Free food and a great opportunity to network with immunotoxicologists! Any questions and suggestions, please contact Haitian Lu at luhaitia@msu.edu. For more information please go to our Web site http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/stu_info.asp
MECHANISMS

2008-2009 Student Representative: Emma-Jane Poulton

The Mechanisms Specialty Section is sponsoring a number of sessions at the 2009 Annual Meeting, including Regulation of Drug Transporters in Different Disease States and Its Toxicological and Clinical Implications (Monday March 16th 1:40-4:25 PM), and the Molecular Mechanism of Alpha, Beta-Unsaturated Carbonyl Toxicity – Getting in Touch with the Soft Side of Chemistry (Thursday March 19th, 9:00-11:45 AM), it is also endorsing a number of other workshops and roundtables.

Student award winners will be announced at the Mechanisms Specialty Section reception to be held Tuesday March 17th from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. I can be reached at epoulton@u.washington.edu and more information can be found at the Section’s Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/mechanisms/. I hope to see lots of you in Baltimore!

METALS

2008-2009 Student Representative: Amy L. Albrecht

The Metals Specialty Section (MSS) is a subgroup of the SOT whose members have expertise in all aspects of metal toxicology. This includes mechanisms of action, analytical procedures, regulatory issues, assessment of target organ toxicity. The Specialty Section is sponsoring the following programs at the Annual Meeting (for location and times, see the Program):

- **CE Course-Advanced:** New Frontier in Metal Toxicology: Genetic Susceptibility, Early Diagnosis and Related Biological Indices.
- **Symposium:** Pulmonary Effects of *In Utero* and Early Postnatal Exposure to Arsenic
- **Symposium:** Metals and Nanoparticles in Aquatic Models: Implications of Aquatic Toxicology for Public and Aquatic Health
- **Symposium:** Zinc, Inflammation and Diabetes.

The Metals Specialty Section Reception will be held on Wednesday 6:00 - 7:30 PM, Room 345, where student award winners will be announced. For more information, please contact the student representative Amy L. Albrecht, aalbrecht@medicine.nodak.edu, or the Postdoctoral Representative Erik Tokar, tokare@niehs.nih.gov. We look forward to meeting you and encourage your participation in the Metals Specialty Section! Our Web site is http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/Metals/.

MIXTURES

2008-2009 Student Representative: Marc-André Verner

Mixtures Specialty Section (MSS) is a focal point for those interested in the experimental evaluation, modeling and risk assessment of the combined effects of chemicals. MSS’ evolving membership represents academia, government, industry as well as private sector. The MSS provides a forum within SOT for highlighting scientific advances and current challenges regarding combined action of chemicals (e.g., additivity, synergism, antagonism, potentiation). Mixtures is sponsoring a variety of sessions at the Annual Meeting, including Current Approaches in Mixtures Risk Assessment (CE course, PM10, 1:15 PM-5:00 PM) and Pesticides Mixtures: Experimental Evaluation and Computational Modeling (Room 227, Tuesday, March 17, 9:00 AM-11:45 AM).

The Mixtures Specialty Section Reception will be held on Monday, March 16, 6:00 PM-7:30 PM in Room 330, where student award winners will be announced. Students are encouraged to join the Mixtures Specialty Section (one free membership per year for members of the SOT). See our Web site for membership application http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/Mix/index.asp. For further information, please contact this Specialty Section student representative Marc-André Verner at verner.marcandre@gmail.com.
**MOLECULAR BIOLOGY**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Sarah Wilson*

The Molecular Biology Specialty Section is sponsoring the following Symposia at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Baltimore:

- MicroRNAs in Biology and Toxicology
- Genomic, Non-Genomic, and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Nuclear Hormone Receptor Action
- Mammalian Retrotranspositional Elements: Epigenetic Regulation, Species Differences, and Potential Roles as Mediators of Cellular Responses to Toxic Stress
- From Mechanisms to Biomarkers: Basic and Applied Metabolomics in Toxicology
- Interactomes and Their Application in Toxicology
- New Insights into Skin Homeostasis and Carcinogenesis

In addition to these sponsored symposia, the **MBSS Reception** will be held on Monday March 16\(^{th}\) at 6:00 PM where we will be announcing the winners of the MBSS Graduate Student and Postdoc awards. For further information on the Molecular Biology Specialty Section, please contact the MBSS student representative, Sarah Wilson via e-mail at sewilson@mail.usf.edu, or visit the MBSS Web site at [www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/molecular/mbss.html](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/molecular/mbss.html).

**NEUROTOXICOLOGY**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Derek Drechsel*

The Neurotoxicology Specialty Section is excited to be sponsoring several sessions at the upcoming SOT Annual Meeting in Baltimore in accordance with one of the major scientific theme, the toxicological basis of **Neurodegenerative Disease**. Important areas of research to be highlighted in symposia, workshops, and platform/poster sessions include metal toxicity relating to Alzheimer’s Disease, considerations in the use Neuropathology, developmental brain toxicity, and multiple aspects of Parkinson’s Disease, among others. The NTSS will also be hosting a [reception](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/index.asp) on the evening of Wednesday, March 18\(^{th}\), where student award winners for categories of Best Student and Postdoctoral Fellow Poster will be announced. All SOT members are encouraged to attend to socialize with fellow researchers and colleagues. Details regarding NTSS-sponsored events can be found on the NTSS Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/index.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/index.asp), which can also be easily accessed through the SOT homepage. The NTSS will also be **electing a new student representative** to serve on the executive committee in the coming months. This position is an excellent opportunity to network with members and become involved with both the Specialty Section and SOT. For more information please contact the current NTSS student representative, Derek Drechsel, at derek.drechsel@ucdenver.edu.

**OCCUPATIONAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

*2008-2009 Student Representative: Adrienne L. King*

Are you interested in nanotechnology, occupational asthma, cancer clusters, sick building syndrome, children’s health initiatives, or biomonitoring? Members of the Occupational and Public Health Specialty Section (OPHSS) work on these issues as well as many others which involve protecting the health of workers and the public. One of OPHSS’s goals is to improve and increase student participation in our Specialty Section (SS). At the Annual Meeting during the Student Mixer, our officers will be present to elaborate on the activities of our SS. We will also be sponsoring two great sessions! We have a luncheon on Wednesday 3/18 from 12:00 - 1:30 PM at the Baltimore Convention Center; please contact Angela Harris aharris@cteh.com if you are interested in attending. Student award winners will be announced. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the OPHSS student rep Adrienne King (aking@ms.soph.uab.edu) or visit our Web site at [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ophss/](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ophss/).
REGULATORY AND SAFETY EVALUATION
2008-2009 Student Representative: Jaishree Bankoti

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, therapeutic drug products; and environmental, industrial, and household chemicals; and other products of concern. The RSESS reception will take place on Monday, March 16, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at the Baltimore Convention Center. A major highlight of this reception will be the great debate, which involves an enlightening debate on emerging issues in Toxicology. Come and join us for this year’s great debate entitled “Are the Dog Days of Toxicology Testing Waning? A Debate on the Pros and Cons of Limiting Use of the Second (Non-rodent) Toxicology Test Species.” In a continuous effort to promote student participation, officers of the RSESS will also distribute travel awards to 4-5 graduate students. To apply for these awards offered at SOT Annual Meetings please contact Dr. Jim Lamb at JLamb@Exponent.com or visit our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/regulatorysafety/Index.html. RSESS would also like to remind students that they are eligible for free membership to one Specialty Section at the time of paying their annual dues.

Furthermore, catering to its essential goal of promoting the development of safe governmental policies in compliance with recent scientific data, RSESS is also sponsoring 2 Continuing Education (CE) Courses and 7 Scientific Sessions in the 2009 Annual Meeting. Please register for the RSESS sponsored CE courses! RSESS promotes student participation and would love to get feedback from you! Visit the RSESS poster at the Student/Postdoctoral fellow mixer on Sunday, March 15th and contact RSESS officers with your ideas, questions or comments. Also, get information about the RSESS activities and membership by visiting our Web site at http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/regulatorysafety/Index.html.

RISK ASSESSMENT
2008-2009 Student Representative: Sheppard Martin

The primary goal of RASS 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 of Toxicology, we propose sessions for the Annual Meeting, exchange information via newsletters, present awards, and participate in other scientific activities. RASS provides opportunities for enhancing knowledge and recognition of current issues, challenges and tools for risk assessment as well as facilitating discussions to advance the science of risk assessment.

The events below may be interesting for students hoping to learn about current issues in the field of Risk Assessment:

- Roundtable discussion, “Weight of Evidence Advancements in Risk Assessment,” Monday at 4:35 PM
- Workshop, “Low-Dose Non-Linearity,” Tuesday at 9:00 AM
- Poster Session, “Risk Assessment Applications,” Tuesday at 9:00 AM
- Platform Session, “Advances in Risk Assessment Science,” Tuesday at 1:30 PM
- Roundtable discussion, “PBPK Models in Risk Assessment,” Wednesday at 7:30 AM
- Poster Session, “Risk Assessment Science,” Wednesday at 9:00 AM

Don't miss the Risk Assessment Specialty Section reception at the SOT Annual Meeting on Monday evening from 6:00 to 7:30. There will be food, entertainment, and discussion of the following hot topic in risk assessment: whether low-dose linear extrapolation should be used for all chemicals and all endpoints, both cancer and noncancer. Also, the winners for the Perry J. Gehring Best Student Abstract, Perry J. Gehring Best Post-Doc Abstract, SS Best Abstract, SS Best Published Paper Advancing the Science of Risk Assessment, and SS Best Published Paper Demonstrating an Application of Risk Assessment awards will be announced.

If you have questions, contact your student rep Sheppard Martin at Sam506@gmail.com or visit the SS Web site: http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/RiskAssess/.
The Toxicologic and Exploratory Pathology Specialty Section (TEPSS) will be sponsoring five 5 sessions this year:

- Stress as a Confounding Factor in Toxicology Studies
- The Role of Inflammation During Metabolic Liver Disease and Drug-Induced Liver Toxicity: Novel Insights
- Biomarkers for Assessing the Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome in Toxicology Studies
- Devils Lie in the Details: Practices and Problems in Neuropathology. Significance for Neurotoxicology
- Kinase Inhibitors as Targeted Therapeutics in Inflammation and Oncology: Approaches to Predict and Manage Clinical Toxicities.

The **TEPSS Reception Lunch** will be held on Tuesday March 17, from 12:00 - 1:30 PM, at the Sheraton Hotel, Grand Ballroom D, where student award winners will be announced and will give short presentations on their work. For more information, please see below the link to the TEPSS Web site. One award will be given by TEPSS this year and TEPSS also host another award in conjunction with the CVSS, The Roger O. McClellan Student Award. Information on this second award is available at the TEPSS Web site [http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/](http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/TEP/).

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**Specialty Section Graduate Committee**

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**STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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