

Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter

ANNUAL REPORT: 2024–2025

May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

I. Officers:

<u>2024–2025</u>	<u>2025–2026</u>
President: Ivan Olfert Vice President: Todd Stueckle Secretary: Robin Gandley Treasurer: William Mackay Past President, Councilor: Elaine Freeman Councilor: Adams Amantana Councilor: Aaron Barchowsky Councilor: Britt McAtee Councilor: Julie Miller Councilor: Timothy Nurkiewicz Councilor: Winnie Wan-yee Tang Postdoctoral Representative: Russell Hunter Graduate Student Representative: Amber Mills Senior Student Representative: Beethi Sinha	President: Alison Sanders Past President: Ivan Olfert Secretary: Robin Gandley Councilor: Adams Amantana Councilor: Julie Miller Councilor: Winnie Wan-yee Tang Postdoctoral Representative: Russell Hunter Graduate Student Representative: Amber Mills

Committees:

No specific committees noted.

II. 2025 Membership total: 70

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2024–2025:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

Social event at SOT Annual Meeting
Mentoring/career development events
Trainee awards conferred
Bylaws changes
Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)
Website redesign with SOT HQ

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

Lake Ontario
Michigan

V. Communication Methods:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

Emails through SOT Headquarters

Regional Chapter website
Through Graduate Student/Postdoc Representatives

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
Utilize virtual meetings for convening Regional Chapter leadership
Rotate locations for meetings across sites
Ensure accessibility of meeting locations
Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
Prioritize diversity in selection of speakers/panelists
Highlight trainee research

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Chat with an expert
- Actively recruit members to be part of the SOT Mentor Match system
- Outreach to local universities that lack a formal toxicology program

VIII. Activities Supporting Undergraduate Students:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter engaged undergraduate students with the following activities:

Attendance at Regional Chapter meeting
Attendance at webinars

IX. Awards Given:

Trainee	2
Early Career	0
Mid Career	0
Late Career	0

X. Key Outcomes and Improvements:

- A. We substantially updated the website, including a vote for new logo. We updated our bylaws to better reflect operations.

XI. Strategic Plan:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
Support the development and application of tools that advance toxicology
Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
Develop a talent pool of toxicologists for the future
Provide training and education that reflects the needs of members

XII. Regional Chapter Meeting Highlights

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter had the following highlights from their Annual Meeting:

Unfortunately we do not have highlights yet, we had to postpone our traditionally Spring annual meeting. This was a challenging decision by our executive board in response to federal elimination of NIOSH which affected a substantial portion of our membership. The annual meeting will now be held October 29-30, 2025.

XIII. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Allegheny-Erie Regional Chapter is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

Toxicology with organoid models
Toxico-exposomic science and policy
Translational toxicology of chemicals across biological domains (dsRNA, microbial, proteins/peptides)
Geospatial trends in toxicology

XIV. Feedback to the Society:

- A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Regional Chapter?

Providing speaker lists for local and regional meetings or webinars; making the mechanisms more clear for how two chapters could co-host an in-person meeting or joint career development webinar. The smaller-scale /regional meetings are effective we have found for trainees and early career scientists and networking. Particularly due to federal staffing cuts at NIOSH has led to a reduction in a substantial proportion of our membership. A regional meeting with other nearby RCs would help address this.

- B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Regional Chapter that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

Reduced funding for annual meeting events.