Report on Awards Presented at the South Central Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology 30th Annual Meeting

Undergraduate Participation Awards - $150 Awards were presented to undergraduate applicants who submitted their meeting abstract and personal statement regarding their interest in toxicology, along with a letter of reference from their mentor. The $150 is meant to defray costs associated with poster preparation and meeting attendance. The following six individuals received an undergraduate participation award:

Lionel Brown, Southern University and A & M College, Baton Rouge, LA - “Effect of diallyl trisulfide (DATA) on M1EN1 mediated prostate cancer progression.”

Annie Clark, Southern University and A & M College, Baton Rouge, LA - “Evaluation of apoptosis and autophagy induced by novel mTOR and proteasome inhibitors in human renal angiomylipoma cells”

Christina Collins, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, Shreveport, LA - “An evaluation of the PKM2 inhibitors, Compound 3 and Shikonin, in neuroblastoma”

Tess Dupre, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, Shreveport, LA - “Diglycolic acid, the nephrotoxic metabolite of diethylene glycol, inhibits intracellular 14C-succinate uptake in human proximal tubule cells in vitro”

Kia Graham, Southern University and A & M College, Baton Rouge, LA - “Robotic modeling and the enhance of the STEM subjects”

Rohan Prabhu, National Center for Toxicological Research, Jefferson, AR - “Assessment of gene expression levels in the prostate of rats dosed orally with bisphenol A from gestation day 6 until postnatal day 4”

Outstanding Presentation Awards

Outstanding Undergraduate Poster Presentation: Fourteen posters were judged and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners were recognized at the meeting. The first place winner received a $100 check at the business meeting and will receive a plaque from the SCC SOT in recognizing their achievement.

1st Place Christina Collins, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, Shreveport, LA - “An evaluation of the PKM2 inhibitors, Compound 3 and Shikonin, in neuroblastoma”
2nd Place  Carrie Yang, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR - “Soy isoflavone phytoestrogen, genistein, does not protect against alcohol induced osteoporosis in male mice”

3rd Place  Lionel Brown, Southern University and A & M College, Baton Rouge, LA - “Effect of diallyl trisulfide (DATA) on MIEN1 mediated prostate cancer progression.”

Outstanding Graduate Student Poster Presentation: Eight posters were judged and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners were recognized at the meeting. The first place winner received a $150 check at the business meeting and will receive a plaque from the SCC SOT in recognizing their achievement.

1st Place  Pranapda (Katie) Aumsuwan, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS - “Evaluation of wild yam (Dioscorea villosa) root extract as a potential epigenetic agent in breast cancer cells”

2nd Place  Brenda Gannon, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR - “In vivo effects of abused “bath salt” constituent 3,4-methylenedioxyxymethamphetamine (MDPV) in mice: drug discrimination, thermoregulation, and locomotor activity”

3rd Place  Michael Hambuchen, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR - “Efficacy and safety of chronic anti-(+)-methamphetamine MAB7F9 treatment of (+)-methamphetamine (meth) induced locomotor activity in rats”

Outstanding Graduate Student Platform Presentation: Seven platform presentations were judged and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners were recognized at the meeting. The first place winner received a $150 check at the business meeting and will receive a plaque from the SCC SOT in recognizing their achievement.

1st Place  Aril Yurdagul, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, Shreveport, LA - “Matrix composition tunes the endothelial response to oxidized LDL between inflammation and apoptosis”

2nd Place  Naeem Patil, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR - “Early loss of renal manganese superoxide dismutase activity and mitochondrial respiration in the kidney during sepsis”

3rd Place  Greg Landry, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, Shreveport, LA - “Diglycolic acid induces human proximal tubule cell death by inhibition of succinate dehydrogenase and oxidative phosphorylation”
Outstanding Non-Student/Non-Faculty Presentation: Twenty platform and poster presentations were judged. Because of the large size of this category 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place winners were recognized at the meeting. The first and second place winners received a $150 check at the business meeting and will receive a plaque from the SCC SOT in recognizing their achievement.

1st Place  Si Chen, National Center for Toxicological Research, Jefferson, AR - “Silence of SOX2 induces apoptosis through both mitochondria and death receptor signal pathway by activating the RAS/MAPK signals in human lung cancer cells”

2nd Place  Jessica Xuan, National Center for Toxicological Research, Jefferson, AR - “FLIPT1 (SLC22A15) mediates the uptake of the anticancer adenosine analogue, F-ara-A”

3rd Place  Nirmala Parajuli, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR - “Reduced manganese superoxide dismutase in kidney: trigger for disrupted mitochondrial homeostasis”

4th Place  Joshua Kwekel, National Center for Toxicological Research, Jefferson, AR - “Kidney miRNAs show age and sex differences in expression during rat life cycle”