



Southern California Chapter of
Society of Toxicology

NEWSLETTER

July 27th, 2026

President's Message



Dear SoCal SOT Members,

I am honored and excited to be stepping into the role of President for our Southern California Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology for the upcoming term. It is a true honor to lead this community and to work alongside such a talented, generous, and committed group of colleagues.

Having already served on Executive Committee, I've seen firsthand just how passionate and creative this team is. I'm continually inspired by how willing everyone is to roll up their sleeves, share ideas, and push together toward our shared goals: growing our chapter, hosting impactful scientific sessions, and—of course—continuing our legendary mixers at the SOT Annual Meeting. These moments of connection and collaboration are what make SoCal SOT feel like a true home for toxicologists across our region.

Over the past several years, your Executive Committee has placed special emphasis on two key areas that I am eager to build on this year:

- Sustainable fundraising, ensuring we remain the only dues-free SOT chapter while continuing to deliver high-quality scientific and networking events.
- Mentoring and professional development for trainees, including students and postdoctoral fellows, so we can nurture the next generation of toxicology leaders and help them find their path in our field.

This focus has enabled us to expand opportunities for engagement across all career levels—whether you are a trainee presenting your first abstract, an early or mid-career toxicologist looking to broaden your network, or a seasoned member eager to give back through mentoring, leadership and sponsorship.

As we look ahead, I am more than excited to see what this new year will bring and what our new Executive Committee can accomplish together. We will be working hard to:

- Curate scientifically rich meetings and webinars that showcases the true breadth and diversity of toxicology in Southern California.
- Create welcoming spaces for trainees, with mentoring events, career panels, and award opportunities.
- Host dynamic networking events and mixers that make it easy and fun to connect across sectors, institutions, and career stages.

You will hear more from us soon about our Annual Fall Meeting and other chapter activities. I encourage you to get involved however you can: attend events, submit abstracts, volunteer to mentor, or simply help spread the word about SoCal SOT to colleagues and trainees who may not yet be members. Your enthusiasm, ideas and participation are what make this chapter vibrant and welcoming community.

Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our outgoing President and Executive Committee members for their leadership and hard work over the past year, as well as to our sponsors & partners whose generous support makes it possible for us to remain dues-free and still deliver outstanding programming. We truly could not accomplish all that we do without you.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you and incredibly excited for the year ahead. Let's make this a year of growth, connection, and memorable science—together.

Warmly,

Christine Hoffmaster, BS, DABT

President, Southern California Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology



Past and present Executive Committee members at SOT 2026 in San Diego, California! From left to right: Allen Louie, Patrick Allard, Adam Filipowicz, Amy Tran-Guzman, Dale Baker, Christine Hoffmaster, Tejas Lahoti, and Sabitha Papineni.

Welcome!

New Executive Committee Members



Cortni Newsome
VP-Elect



Kristen Holbrook
Councilor



Heather Estrella
Treasurer



Rajat Gupta
Postdoc Rep



Jocelyn Castellanos
Grad Rep

New SCCSOT Members

On behalf of the members of the Southern California Regional Chapter, we are thrilled to welcome 40 new members to our sunny SoCal toxicology community! Our regional community is now 251 members strong. As a new Regional Chapter member, you'll find plenty of opportunities to connect, communicate, and collaborate with fellow regional chapter members. Check out the Southern California SOT website for exciting new updates on the Annual Fall Meeting, newsletters, awards, and networking events!

Welcome to the Chapter and we look forward to seeing you at our Annual Fall Meeting!

Jeremy Alexander - USC

Jennifer Arca - University of Hawaii

Piunik Babakhanins - UC Riverside

Camille Baker - University of San Diego

Alexa Canchola - UC Riverside

Caroline Cherry - UCLA

Elizabeth Choy - UC Irvine

Samiksha Deme - UCLA

Jenielle Domoal - University of Washington

Maggie Drelichman - SDSU

Jesse Goodrich - USC

Kristen Holbrook - J&J

Angela Huang - Tempo Bioscience

Taehee Kim - UCLA

Elysse Lai - UC Irvine

Grace Lee - Elevar Therapeutics

Max Levenson - UCLA

Ting-An Lin - UC Riverside

Xiaomeng Lin - UC Irvine

Jesse Manzano - UC Davis

Penny Melquist - Labcorp

Desiree-Gift Mills - UC Irvine

Molly Morgan - J&J

Courtnei Newsome - J&J

Norah Nguyen - University of Massachusetts

Rattapol Phandthong - UC Riverside

Marie Piazza - Concept Life Sciences

Aarushi Pore - UC Irvine

Margaret Rabotnick - ToxServices LLC

Gabriel Romo - SDSU

Subhajit Roy - UC Irvine

Catherine Schrankel - SDSU

Roselyn Tanghal - USC

Danielle Thomas - Elsevier

Ance Trapse - SDSU

Ayushi Trivedi - UC Irvine

Awot Ukbamichael - UC Riverside

Xiaowen Wang - UC Riverside

James Wise - University of Hawaii

Dorothy You - J&J

BIG THANK YOU To Our Sponsors!

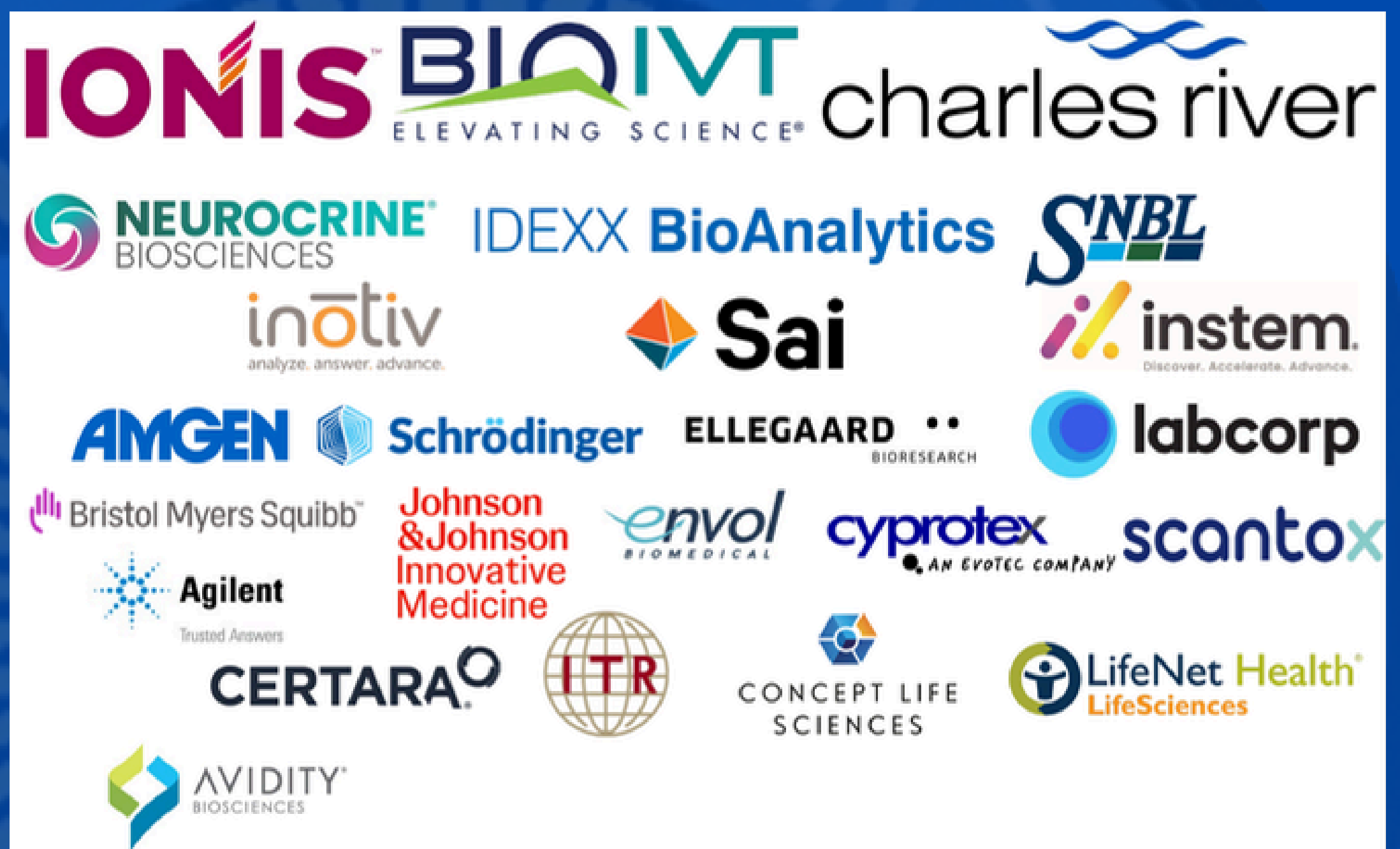
2025-2026

PLATINUM

GOLD

SILVER

BRONZE



Thank you to our **FANTASTIC SPONSORS!**
Without your generous donations, we
would not be able to host our events!

If you would like to sponsor our chapter,
please see below for more information.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

ATTENTION



Southern California Regional Chapter
OF THE SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

Call for Sponsors!

SCCSOT is looking for Sponsors to help fund the fall Regional Chapter meeting.

Thanks to our many loyal Sponsors, the SCCSOT Chapter remains the only dues-free SOT organization.

- Bronze: ≥\$1000 (1 attendee)
- Silver: ≥\$2000 (1 attendee plus display table)
- Gold: ≥\$3000 (2 attendees plus display table)
- Platinum: ≥\$5000 (3 attendees plus display table)



Please contact:
southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

SCCSOT ANNUAL FALL MEETING *AI-Enabled Toxicology:* *Opportunities, Challenges, and Best Practices*

OCTOBER 7, 2026



**Location: Ionis
Pharmaceuticals**

Carlsbad, CA

Agenda TBD



**We hope to see you all
there!**

SCCSOT-NESOT Joint Mixer Highlights



The SCCSOT-NESOT Joint Mixer at The SHOUT! House in San Diego was a phenomenal success, bringing together a fantastic crowd of both familiar and new faces. The high-energy dueling pianos show created a wonderful, interactive atmosphere that had everyone laughing and singing along, making it the perfect backdrop for building new professional connections.



CONGRATULATIONS!

SCCSOT Travel Award

Recipients

1st Place (Postdoc)

Luisa Bertotto

UC Irvine



1st Place (Predoc)

Ayushi Trivedi

UC Irvine



2nd Place (Postdoc)

Adam Filipowicz

UCLA



2nd Place (Predoc)

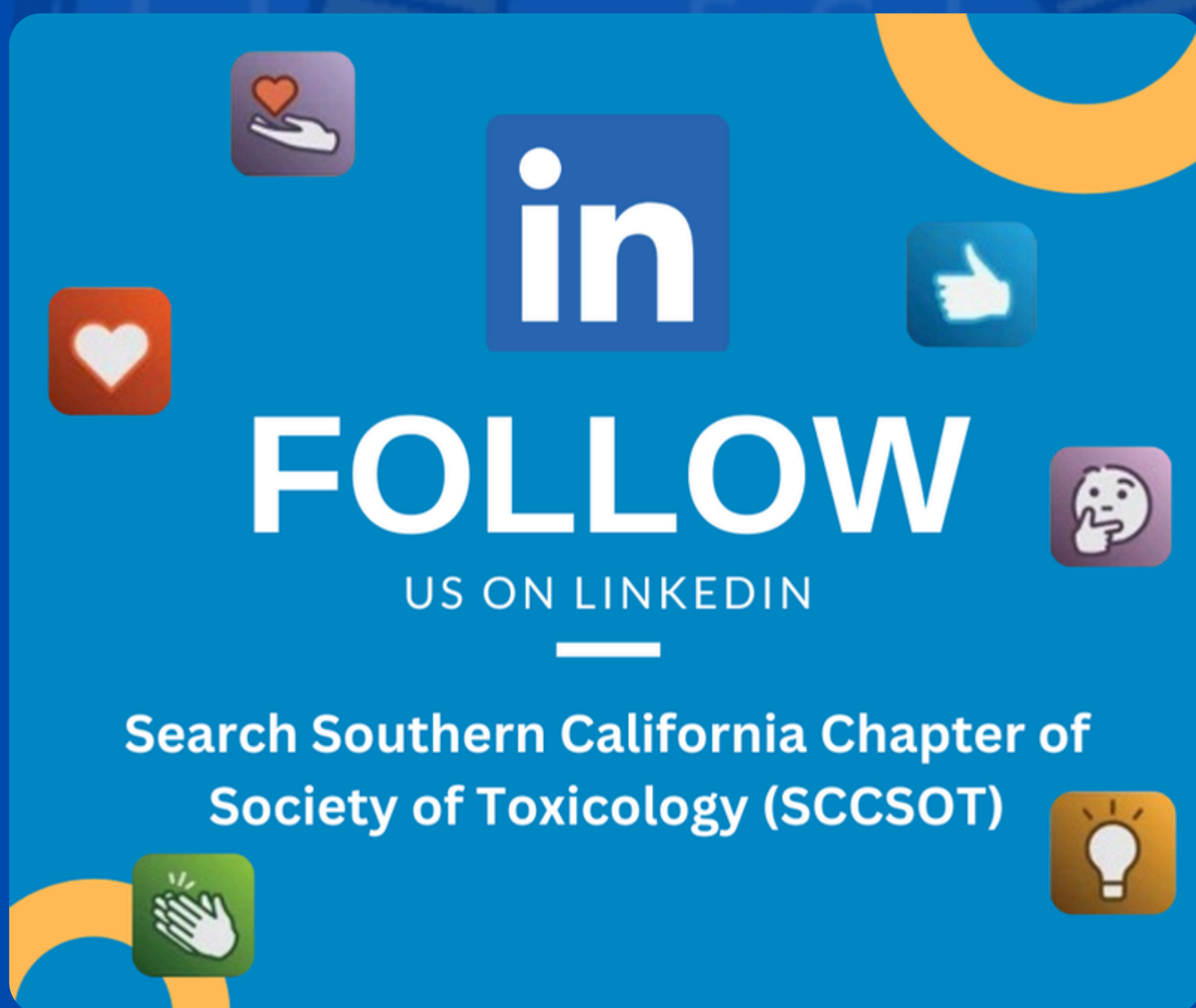
John Hoang

UC Riverside



DON'T MISS OUT

Follow us on
LinkedIn by Scanning the QR
Code or
Searching for SCCSOT.



SCAN ME



REMINDERS

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

Become a Member of Our
Chapter

Why become a member?

- Mentorship & Career opportunities
- Awards and Recognition
- Networking and Relationship building
- Leadership opportunities
- Access to webinars

How to become a member?

When paying SOT membership dues, click
Southern California Regional Chapter –
Chapter membership is FREE

Questions? Contact us @
southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com