

Southern California Regional Chapter

ANNUAL REPORT: 2024–2025

May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

I. Officers:

<u>2024–2025</u>	<u>2025–2026</u>
President: Mamta Behl Vice President: Tejas Lahoti Vice President-Elect: Christine Hoffmaster Secretary: Amy Tran-Guzman Treasurer: Dale Baker Past President, Councilor: Gina Yanochko-Hoffman Councilor: Hemraj Dodiya Postdoctoral Representative: Stacy Schkoda Graduate Student Representative: Rajat Gupta Graduate Student Representative: Allen Louie	President: Tejas Lahoti Vice President: Christine Hoffmaster Vice President Elect: Patrick Allard Past President, Councilor: Mamta Behl Secretary: Amy Tran-Guzman Treasurer: Dale Baker Councilor: Elana Elkin Postdoctoral Representative: Adam Filipowicz Graduate Student Representative: Jeanette Sullivan

Committees:

NA

II. 2025 Membership total: 223

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2024–2025:

The Southern California Regional Chapter accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

In-person Regional Chapter meeting/mixer
Social event at SOT Annual Meeting
Mentoring/career development events
Poster session for trainees
K-12 outreach activities
Trainee awards conferred
Member highlights
Newsletter(s)
Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)
Created a LinkedIn page to post updates related to the society

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Southern California Regional Chapter collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

Northeast

V. Communication Methods:

The Southern California Regional Chapter stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

Emails through SOT Headquarters
Regional Chapter website
Newsletter(s)
Through Graduate Student/Postdoc Representatives
LinkedIn

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Southern California 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
Rotate locations for meetings across sites
Ensure accessibility of meeting locations
Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
Include inclusive descriptions of Awards
Prioritize diversity in selection of speakers/panelists
Waive fees for meetings or membership due to financial hardship
Highlight trainee research
Solicit member feedback for development of Regional Chapter activities (such as webinar topics)
Provide volunteer activities for the membership to be engaged
Use multiple approaches to communicate with membership

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Southern California Regional Chapter hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Career panel(s)
- Chat with an expert
- Mentor-mentee program within the Regional Chapter
- Mentoring luncheon or reception

VIII. Activities Supporting Undergraduate Students:

The Southern California Regional Chapter engaged undergraduate students with the following activities:

Attendance at Regional Chapter meeting
Poster session and short talks at annual regional meeting

IX. Awards Given:

Trainee	6
Early Career	0
Mid Career	0
Late Career	0

X. Key Outcomes and Improvements:

- A. - Expanded mentoring initiatives by introducing opportunities at both regional chapter meetings and the annual meeting. - Integrated mentors from biotech and pharma in response to student feedback and prior requests. - Launched earlier planning processes for the regional

chapter annual meeting. - Enhanced committee communication to strengthen the team and increase membership engagement

XI. Strategic Plan:

The **Southern California** Regional Chapter supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
- Support the development and application of tools that advance toxicology
- Effectively communicate scientific advances
- Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
- Provide training and education that reflects the needs of members
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities for all career levels
- Enhance member recognition and visibility at all levels

XII. Regional Chapter Meeting Highlights

The Southern California Regional Chapter had the following highlights from their Annual Meeting:

- SoCal SOT student rep received the GSLC Award, recognizing dedication and commitment to the chapter and society.
- Launched a LinkedIn page to enhance member communication and highlight chapter accomplishments.

XIII. Scientific Topics of Interest:

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

Impact of new FDA/NIH NAMs guidance on the pharmaceutical industry, including challenges and FDA recommendations for approving alternative methods in submissions.

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?

- Regional level: Plan to co-host webinars with other regional chapters and increase the number of awards.
- SOT level: Explore co-hosting webinars with other societies, such as ACT, to provide SOT members with opportunities to leverage educational topics from related organizations.

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.)?

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