

ANNUAL REPORT: 2021–2022
May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022

I. Officers/Committees

Officer

President:
President-Elect:
Vice President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Past President, Councilor:
Councilors:

2021–2022

Britt McAtee
Elizabeth Bowdridge
Julie Miller
Robin Gandley
William Mackay
Vamsi Kodali
Aaron Barchowsky
Timothy Nurkiewicz
Ivan Olfert
Alexander Ufelle
Mark Weisberg

2022–2023

Elizabeth Bowdridge
Elaine Freeman
Ivan Olfert
Robin Gandley
William Mackay
Britt McAtee
Aaron Barchowsky
Bharat Bhushan
Marisa Kreider
Timothy Nurkiewicz
Todd Stueckle
Mark Weisberg
Mackenzie Newman
Albert Pilkington
Julie Griffith
Zachary Clemens

Postdoctoral Representatives:

Avinash Kumar

Graduate Student Representatives:

Mackenzie Newman
Regina Schnegelberger
Julie Griffith

Committees:

Awards: Julie Miller

Communications: Julie Griffith

Education: Aaron Barchowsky

Finance: William Mackay

Membership: Tim Nurkiewicz

Nominating: Elizabeth Bowdridge

Program: Britt McAtee

RC4/FUTURE Representative: Elizabeth Bowdridge

Web Liaison: Mackenzie Newman

II. 2021 Membership total: 76

III. Key Outcomes in 2021–2022:

A. We were able to hold our annual meeting in person this year since 2019!

B. We co-hosted a regional social event with the Michigan and Lake Ontario Regional chapters as a part of the 2022 national SOT meeting in March in San Diego.

IV. Activities

A. SOT Annual Meeting Activities (e.g., courses, scientific sessions, receptions):

The 35th Annual Allegheny-Erie Society of Toxicology Meeting was held May 31st-June 1st, 2022 at the West Virginia University Alumni Center in Morgantown, WV. There were 3 plenary presentations by Dr. Gino Scarano (US Environmental Protection Agency); Dr. Pamela Spencer (ANUGS Chemical Company); and Dr. Jonathan Busada (West Virginia University). The keynote speakers were followed by fifteen-minute oral presentations by undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and young investigators. The meeting was well attended with ~80 attendees each day.

B. 2022 Awards Information:

1. **2022 RC4 Undergraduate Merit Award:** Kallie Schafner, A-E SOT's nominee for the undergraduate SOT Regional Chapter Communication and Collaboration Committee (RC4) award won the 2022 RC4 Undergraduate Travel Award. A-E SOT has been continually working on increasing our undergraduate outreach. A-E SOT has been supporting undergraduate research through various activities including research awards (Maryanne Stock Student Research Award) and provided a platform to present and discuss their research at the chapter's annual meeting. Thanks to this continued outreach. A-E SOT's nominees have won the national RC4 award repeatedly. This is Kallie's second year winning this award.

2. **2022 Maryanne Stock Student Research Award:**

This award provides \$1000 for student research at the graduate or undergraduate level. The winner of the 2022 Maryanne Stock Student Research Award was Yuchen Sun, who is a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh. Yuchen's project is titled "Epigenetic Effects of E-Cigarettes Flavoring Ethyl Maltol on Asthma Risks Using a Co-culture System". Yuchen's mentor is Dr. Wan-ye Tang.

3. 2022 A-E SOT Annual Meeting Awards: At the A-E SOT annual meeting, apart from talks by keynote speakers, we had presentations by undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral, and young investigators. Awards were offered for each category. To offset the cost of the awards, sponsorship was obtained from various local institutions and the awards were named after some of the sponsoring institutions. The award winners were:

Undergraduate Student Award:

Kallie Schafner, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, WVU School of Medicine

Graduate Student Awards:

Julie Griffith, West Virginia University

Nairrita Majumder, West Virginia University

Zachary Clemens, University of Pittsburgh

Postdoctoral Researcher Awards:

Evan DeVallance, West Virginia University

Kelly Fraser, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health

Mackenzie Newman, West Virginia University

C. Other Educational Activities Conducted (e.g., webinars, in-person meetings):

We were able to hold our “Lunch with an Expert” event at our annual meeting in May, and it was well attended by students.

D. Communication Activities:

1. Newsletter publication frequency: In 2013, we discontinued our Newsletter and associated committee. All “news-worthy” communication and announcements are posted on our website and distributed via email and ToXchange. This year is the 21st anniversary of the Maryanne Stock Student Research Award. The history of the award and a listing of previous winners was shared via our website, email, and ToXchange.
 2. Highlights of website enhancements: In addition to the regular updating, we do with information about our annual meeting and awards, we will be receiving an update to the website this year from national and are currently planning what we would like to include!
 3. Additionally, now that the pandemic is essentially over, we plan on participating in the ToxScholar program during this next year.
- E. (*Regional Chapters only*) Activities Supporting Undergraduate Students: We were able to support Kallie Schafer in her application for the RC4 award at the national level, and she won for a second year in a row. We were also able to provide undergraduate students at the meeting with the opportunity to present a poster, attend the meeting (registration fee waived), and have “Lunch with an Expert”.

V. Feedback and Ideas:

- A. In what ways is your group fostering and maintaining an inclusive environment? Please give examples of any current practices used to support inclusion in processes such as 1) leadership selection and promotion, 2) award descriptions and selection, and 3) endorsement of proposals for the annual meetings.

Since the inception of A-E SOT we have always had an open, transparent and inclusive culture. One way in which we are working to foster and maintain an inclusive environment is by putting underrepresented populations, such as women in science, in leadership roles. We currently have a female president, past president, and president-elect.

- B. How might SOT better support your group’s activities (perhaps something the Society should be doing that we currently do not do, or do not do effectively, that would be of importance/benefit to the members of your component group?):

Note: If funding is listed, please provide detail on the membership need that the funding would support.

In order to increase membership, A-E SOT and other regional chapters would benefit if SOT could help provide some funds for membership drives. A-E SOT currently has a student membership drive that covers membership fee for the first year. With the help of SOT, we could extend it to regular members. Through this free 1-year membership drive, we hope to showcase the advantages of being a member. This could increase the membership and reach of SOT.

- C. What is one thing that the Society is currently doing that impacts your component group that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

None

- D. What changes do your component group anticipate making in the way in which it operates in the coming year?

We don’t have any big changes in the works. Our website is due for an upgrade through national this year, which is badly needed, so we’re looking forward to that.

Finally, we have include pictures from our social in San Diego at the national SOT meeting, our mixer from our A-E SOT meeting in May, and some awards that students received during the meeting as well.

2022 A-E SOT Officers at the annual meeting in May 2022



















