ANNUAL REPORT: 2016-2017
May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017

I. Officers/Committees:

Officers 2015-2016 2016-2017
President: Ronnie Yeager William Bracken
President-Elect: William Bracken Yi Yang
Secretary: Jennifer Olsen Gloria Frost
Treasurer: Yi Yang Lauren Besenhofer
Past President Michael Biehl Ronnie Yeager
Councilors: Niraj Tripathi Don Korte
Tracy Henriques Christina Wilson
Lauren Besenhofer Stephanie Hughes
Stephanie Hughes Paul Eubig
PDA Representative: Shuo Xiao
GSLC Representative: Kirsten Eckstrum

Committees: If applicable.

2017 out-going officers: Ronnie Yeager (Past President), Lauren Besenhofer (Treasurer), Paul Eubig (Councilor), and Jen Olsen (Two-term Secretary), Shuo Xiao (PDA), and Kirsten Eckstrum (GSLC).

Committees (2016-2017 chairs):
Program: William Bracken
Awards: Stephanie Hughes
Nominating: Ronnie Yeager
Membership: Ronnie Yeager

II. Activities:

2017 MRC-SOT Spring Meeting:
The Annual Spring meeting was held on Friday, May 19th, at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in Mundelein, IL. The meeting was attended by about 70 members and students. The meeting theme was “Female Reproductive Toxicity” and included a Career Outreach Workshop “Opportunities in Toxicology” and a Poster Session. The scientific program was delivered Hunter Rogers, PhD candidate, Northwestern Univ; Indrani Bagchi, PhD, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Shahid Parvez, PhD, Indiana University. The 2016 Young Investigator Award winner Jeffery Willy (PhD, Eli Lilly) also presented his research on “Unfolded protein response regulates hepatocellular injury during the pathogenesis of nonalcoholic steatohepatitis”.

2016 Midwest-SOT Fall Meeting
The Fall Meeting was held on Friday, October 28th, at AbbVie, North Chicago, IL. This meeting was presented jointly with the Great Lake Chapter of American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). The meeting theme was “Testicular Physiology and Toxicology” and included a pre-meeting tour of AbbVie R&D laboratories for graduate students and Post Docs. The scientific program was delivered by Katharine Whitney, DVM PhD from AbbVie, Prabhakara Reddi, PhD from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Brian Enright, PhD from AbbVie. The meeting was attended by about 50 members and students.

Awards (2017 Midwest-SOT Spring Meeting Award Recipients):

Kenneth DuBois Award for Outstanding Career Achievement
Dr. Wei Xu, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Early Career Toxicologist Award
Dr. Yongna Xing, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Victor Drill Award (Best Student Poster Presentation)
First Place: Katherine Hatcher, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for her poster Transgenerational Effects of Di-(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate on Behavior and Brain Gene Expression in Male and Female Mice.

Second Place: Saniya Rattan, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for her poster Prenatal Exposure to Di-(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate Impairs Puberty in Female Mice.

Young Investigator Award
Rekha Balachandran, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, for her research proposal Impulsivity and Underlying Neurochemical Interactions Are Affected by Circadian Disruption, an Environmental Factor.

2017 SOT Annual Meeting Reception
- Not held in 2017

2017 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions:
- None

Endowment Fund Details:
- No Updates

Newsletters:
• Newsletters and communication to chapter members were in the Fall (2016) and Spring (2016).

Webinars:
• None were conducted

Contributions to SOT website:
• The Midwest Chapter – SOT website content was updated in Fall 2016 and throughout the year as new information became available.

Other Regional Chapter 2016-2017 Activities:
Career Outreach programs
• A tour to AbbVie Inc.: Oct 28, 2016
  o 20 Graduate students and post-docs toured the preclinical safety and pharmacology laboratories to gain first-hand knowledge on Drug Discovery and Development process.
• Opportunities in Toxicology Workshop: May 19, 2017
  o A panel of speakers from industry and academic shared information and case studies about their expertise, the type of work they do, and how they positioned themselves for their career. The topics include: “Toxicology Study Director and Life in a CRO” by Kevin Williams (Covance); “Toxicology in Drug Development” by Bruce Trela (AbbVie); “Regulatory affairs and FDA” by Bill Bracken (AbbVie); “Investigative Toxicology in Drug Discovery” by Meredith Crosby (AbbVie); Animal Health Products” by Rod Frank (Zoetis); “Occupational Toxicology” by Matt Schmitz (AbbVie); “From Post-doc to Tenure Track in Academia” by Shahid Parvez (Indiana University); and “Lessons Learned: Industry vs. Academia” by Mike Biehl (University of Illinois).