



## NCAC-SOT Welcomes Our New Officers!

### **VICE PRESIDENT - Frances R. Belmonte, PhD, DABT**

Senior Toxicologist, SRC, Inc.

Dr. Belmonte is a board-certified Senior Toxicologist at SRC, Inc., where she conducts toxicological risk assessments on behalf of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). She has extensive basic science and laboratory experience as well as consulting experience in food, flavor ingredient, and fragrance safety. Dr. Belmonte received her master's degree in Environmental Health Sciences from New York University and her doctorate in Toxicology from Johns Hopkins University. She subsequently completed her postdoctoral training at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine and at the Research Institute for Fragrance Materials. Dr. Belmonte has been a member of the Society of Toxicology since 2011 and has engaged with member-related activities with both the MASOT and NCAC regional chapters.



### **COUNCILOR-NEWSLETTER - Sam VanEtten, PhD**

Toxicologist

Dr. Samantha "Sam" VanEtten is a Toxicology Reviewer in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) of the US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA), where she reviews notices for GRAS (Generally Recognized as Safe) ingredients in the Office of Food Additive Safety. Dr. VanEtten joined the US FDA in 2020 and spent three years as a Toxicology Reviewer in the Center for Tobacco Products before joining CFSAN in 2023. Dr. VanEtten received her doctorate in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University at Buffalo in 2021, where her work focused on biomarkers of exposure to environmental contaminants. She also received her BS and MS from the University at Buffalo. Dr. VanEtten has been a member of the Society of Toxicology since 2016.



## **POSTDOCTORAL REPRESENTATIVE - Mohammad Siddiqi, PhD**

Postdoctoral scholar, VCU

Mohammad Siddiqi is a Postdoctoral scholar at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), investigating the toxic effect of particulate matter on brain health, particularly neurodegeneration. He received his doctorate in Biotechnology from Aligarh Muslim University, India and was postdoctoral fellow at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) from 2019-2023. Dr. Siddiqi serves as Editorial board member of five international journals. He has received various awards, including the 2024 Outstanding Postdoctoral Award from Nanoscience and Advanced Materials Specialty Section (NAMSS), 2024 Bern Schwetz Travel Award from National Capital Area Regional Chapter (NCAC) and Training Professional Development Award from the Society of Neuroscience. Dr. Siddiqi has served as Chair of the Professional Development Committee for the Postdoctoral Association (PDA) at CWRU and currently serves as the Vice President of the PDA at VCU. He is also Postdoctoral Representative (2024-2025) for NAMSS. He is a member of NCAC - SOT, member of NAMSS and Postdoctoral Member of SOT and Society of Neuroscience.



## **VICE-GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - Jose Francisco Delgado**

PhD Candidate, UMD/NIH

Jose F. Delgado is currently a PhD student in Bioengineering at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical Center and the University of Maryland, College Park. He obtained a BS in Nanotechnology and Molecular Engineering at Universidad de las Américas Puebla in Mexico.. His current research focuses on the *ex vivo* and *in vivo* characterization of imageable hydrogels for percutaneous delivery in solid tumors using ultrasound and X-ray image guidance. He was awarded postbaccalaureate fellowships at the National Cancer Institute and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, where he worked for one year each before beginning graduate school. Mr. Delgado served for two years as Editor-in-Chief of *Toxenlaces*, the magazine of the Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists (HOT), and for one year as a Graduate Student Representative at HOT. Mr. Delgado has been a member of SOT since 2011.

