A Message from the President of NESOT

The Northeast Chapter of the Society of Toxicology (NESOT) is a dynamic chapter with membership from diverse sectors including academia, government, chemical, environmental, and pharmaceutical industries. We strive to promote continued learning and scientific excellence, in addition to networking and collaboration opportunities, for regional toxicologists and students through our Annual Regional Chapter Meeting in the fall and through sponsored events at the Annual SOT Meeting in the spring.

In planning the NESOT annual meeting, I am pleased to announce that the meeting will be held virtually on both Tuesday, December 1, and Thursday, December 3. We will have a keynote address from Dr. Elias Oziolor (Principal Computational Toxicologist, Pfizer), a graduate student oral presentation, a poster session for trainees, and a mentoring panel for undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral fellows. The NESOT Executive Committee is also excited to announce three awards—Regional Chapter Research Award (undergraduates), Graduate and Undergraduate Research Award, and NESOT Paper of the Year (graduate students and postdocs). In addition, our newly launched virtual Northeast SOT Mentoring Program (NESOT-MP) is also planned to enhance the networking of our members and better serve the next generation of toxicologists. During this six-month mentoring program, we will match mentors (professionals in the field of toxicology) with mentees (i.e., undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees) to develop professional relationships and promote the toxicology sector as a potential career path.

The NESOT Executive Committee is thankful for the support from our sponsors. Their support helps with our outreach and scientific programs. We appreciate new sponsors, and please contact our Secretary/Treasurer Swetha Rudraiah if you are interested in becoming one.

We’re looking forward to meeting you in the virtual annual meeting and we’re preparing for a virtual event in the virtual SOT annual meeting, please don’t hesitate to reach out and get involved or let us know if you have more ideas for events and outreach. We want to hear from you!

Hungyun “Hank” Lin, MSc, PhD, DABT, MBA
President, Northeast Society of Toxicology Regional Chapter
NESOT 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting

Held on both Tuesday, December 1 and Thursday, December 3 from 11 am-1:30 pm on WebEx, we will have a keynote address from Dr. Elias Oziolor (Principal Computational Toxicologist, Pfizer), graduate student oral presentations, a poster session for trainees, and a mentoring panel for undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral fellows.

Day 1 (Tuesday):
- NESOT President's welcome and intro (5 mins)
  11 am
- Graduate student oral presentation (55 mins)
  11:05 am–12 pm
- Poster presentations (1.5 hrs)
  12 pm–1:30 pm

Day 2 (Thursday):
- NESOT President's welcome and intro (5 mins)
  11 am
- Keynote presentation by Dr. Elias Oziolor (55 mins)
  11:05 am–12 pm
- Expert Panel and breakout sessions (60 mins)
  12 pm–1 pm
- Awards ceremony (15 mins)
  1 pm–1:15 pm

To register for the meeting, please visit the following link by November 20. All trainees (defined as an undergraduate, graduate student, or postdoctoral fellow) will be free and members and nonmembers who are not trainees will be charged $10 to cover the cost of student awards.

1. Graduate and undergraduate research award - Our student research awards are available to NESOT student members and due by December 11, per information on our website.
Introduction of New Awards!

Regional Chapter Research Award (undergraduates) - For this award, undergraduate students submit an abstract of the project, a ‘statement of purpose’, and a letter of support from the mentor in October to the NESOT executive committee email. The executive committee will then write a letter of support for the strongest applicant and submit the application to the RC4 group at SOT. Students were evaluated based on the strength of their abstract, statement of purpose, and mentor letter as outlined in the award information. This year’s winners will be announced by SOT. We encourage those who can apply next year!

NESOT Paper of the Year (graduate students and postdocs) - To highlight the outstanding work of our NESOT trainees, we have a new Paper of the Year award. It has a December 11 deadline; please see our website for more information

Mentoring Opportunities

Mentoring from the greek word meaning "enduring" is defined as a sustained relationship between two individuals. Through our NESOT-MP we hope to pair a toxicologist with a trainee mentee in order to support that trainee in their toxicology goals. Additionally, mentorship not only should benefit trainees, but can be an enriching experience for mentors by improving their leadership and communication skills and can further engage them in their toxicology community.

Northeast SOT Mentoring Program (NESOT-MP). - During this six-month mentoring program, we matched mentors (professionals in the field of toxicology) with mentees (i.e., undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees) to develop professional relationships and promote the toxicology sector as a potential career path. Both mentors and mentees will commit to meeting for 1 hour, at least four times during the entirety of the program, and we encourage additional meetings based on interest. The program deadline for signup was October 16th. While the deadline has passed, we would like to encourage applications for next year's event. Please contact the NESOT executive council at nesot.council@gmail.com if you have questions, or if you would like more information on this program.

ToxScholar - The Society of Toxicology (SOT) solicits requests for funding for toxicologists to expand the awareness of toxicology and promote toxicology careers through the interaction of toxicologists with students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to learn about the discipline.

Presenters may select from the SOT Introduction to Toxicology slide sets and SOT can provide career brochures. A ToxScholar submits a report, and writes a post for the Communiqué detailing his or her experiences to help SOT track the impact of the program and to encourage others to carry out ToxScholar visits.

Domestic ToxScholar applications are accepted at any time as long as funds remain. We encourage you to apply early in the SOT budget year as funds are limited.
Apply to be an NESOT officer!

It is also time to start thinking about officer elections for 2021-2022! We currently have 300 members in the NESOT community and we are continuing to grow! Joining the leadership is a fantastic opportunity to get involved and develop your professional connections!

Beginning in May 2021, the following positions will be available:

- **Vice President-Elect (3-year term, including President and Past President)**
- **Councilor (2-year term)**
- **Student Representative (1-2 years, depending on status)**

Please remember that candidates in the President or Secretary/Treasurer Chain must be Full, Associate, Retired, or Emeritus members of SOT.

Please submit a candidate bio sketch (self-nominate or nominate a colleague) to Hank Lin on or before **Monday, December 28th, 2020**. Early submissions are welcome! Ballots will be sent to the NESOT Members for voting in January and results will be available in February. A sample bio sketch is included below: This is a guideline – you may revise at your discretion.

**[Full Name, including degrees and affiliations]**

Dr. [Last Name] is a/the [Current position] at [Place of employment], where he/she [Summary of work]. He/She received his/her doctorate in [Field] from [School/University] in [Year] and was a postdoctoral fellow at [Institution] from [Years, i.e. 1995-1998]. Dr. [Last Name] has served on the [Study sections, Panels, etc.] at the [Organization, i.e. NIH, EPA, etc.]. He/She is author/co-author of [Number] [Publications including peer-reviewed articles and/or book chapters, etc.]. He/She has been a member of the SOT since [Year] and has served the SOT in the following capacities: [Offices/positions held].

We would also like to thank last year’s officers for their hard work and dedication to NESOT!