



Southern California Chapter of Society of Toxicology

NEWSLETTER

February 18, 2025

President's Message

As we reflect on this past year, it's incredible how quickly time has flown and how much we've accomplished together as a chapter. There is so much to celebrate and be proud of!



First, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our phenomenal team for their unwavering commitment and hard work:

- Tejas Lahoti, Vice President
- Christine Hoffmaster, Vice President-Elect
- Amy Tran-Guzman, Secretary
- Dale Baker, Treasurer
- Gina Yanochko-Hoffman, Past President
- Hemraj Dodiya and Sabitha Papineni, Councilors
- Stacy Schkoda, Postdoctoral Representative
- Rajat Gupta and Allen Louie, Graduate Student Representatives

We kicked off the year with our Fall Meeting, Modern Perspectives in Toxicology, held on October 3, 2024, at Edwards LifeSciences Corp in Irvine, CA. The event featured an exceptional lineup of speakers from academia, government and industry:

- Valerie Hanley (Cal EPA)
- Marina Seme Nelson (LabCorp)
- Grantley Charles (Edwards LifeSciences)
- Andrea De Vizcaya Ruiz (UC Irvine)

A heartfelt congratulations to all our student and postdoctoral awardees for their outstanding posters and presentations (details available in this newsletter). A special thanks to Rajat Gupta and Amy-Tran Guzman for organizing a highly successful mentoring event. The insights and energy shared by our mentors are pivotal in supporting the next generation of scientists. We also owe heartfelt thanks to our sponsors—your support and trust make it possible to host scientific meetings and provide opportunities for trainees.

This year, we made significant strides in expanding our social media presence, thanks to the enthusiasm and dedication of Allen Louie and Christine Hoffmaster. If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on LinkedIn to stay updated on exciting chapter activities, including webinars, awards, and scientific events.

Don't forget to apply for the trainee travel awards to the Annual Meeting! This is a fantastic opportunity for trainees to gain visibility, showcase their exceptional work, and offset travel costs. Be on the lookout for an email from the membership team with details—applications are due by February 28.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to invite you to the NESOT/SCCSOT Joint Annual Reception on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:00 PM at [The Pub, Orlando](#). This event promises an evening of networking, delicious food, drinks, and engaging conversation with fellow scientists. For those preparing for the ABT exam, this is a perfect opportunity to connect with others and form study groups. Additionally, we're extending our mentoring initiative—whether you're interested in being a mentor or a mentee, we'd love to see you participate. Above all, let's come together to share ideas, build connections, and have fun!

If you have suggestions for the chapter, are interested in sponsoring an event, or would like to get involved, please reach out to us at southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com. Also, don't forget to encourage your colleagues and students to join SCCSOT. As the saying goes, Together Everyone Achieves More—and our strength lies in our TEAM. We can't wait to see you at the Annual Reception!

Warm regards,

Mamta Behl
President, SCCSOT



2024 - 2025 SCCSOT Executive Committee

36th Annual Fall Symposium Highlights

Congratulations to all of our presenters and poster and raffle winners!

1st Place

Adam Filipowicz



2nd Place

Alejandro Martinez Santos



3rd Place (Tie)

Ashley Schwartz



3rd Place (Tie)

Nicholas Jimenez



Certificate of Appreciation
Jeanette Sullivan



Raffle Winners
Russell Moralez Rubio and José Arturo Jiménez Chavez



We had some wonderfully insightful talks (not all presenters are shown but we appreciate you all)!



Mentoring Event



Mentors and mentees had lunch together to discuss career goals and science!



Thank you Mentors!

Patrick Allard, PhD

UCLA

Nicole Sparks, PhD

UCI

Michael Boyle, PhD, DABT

Stealth Biotech

Jason Pinkstaff, PhD, DABT, ERT, RAC

Pfizer

Caitlin Murphy, PhD, DABT

Kumquat Biosciences

Andrea De Vizcaya-Ruiz, PhD

UCI

Marina Seme Nelson, PhD

Labcorp Drug Development

Ying Huang, PhD

Western University

BIG Thank You to Our Sponsors!

PLATINUM

GOLD

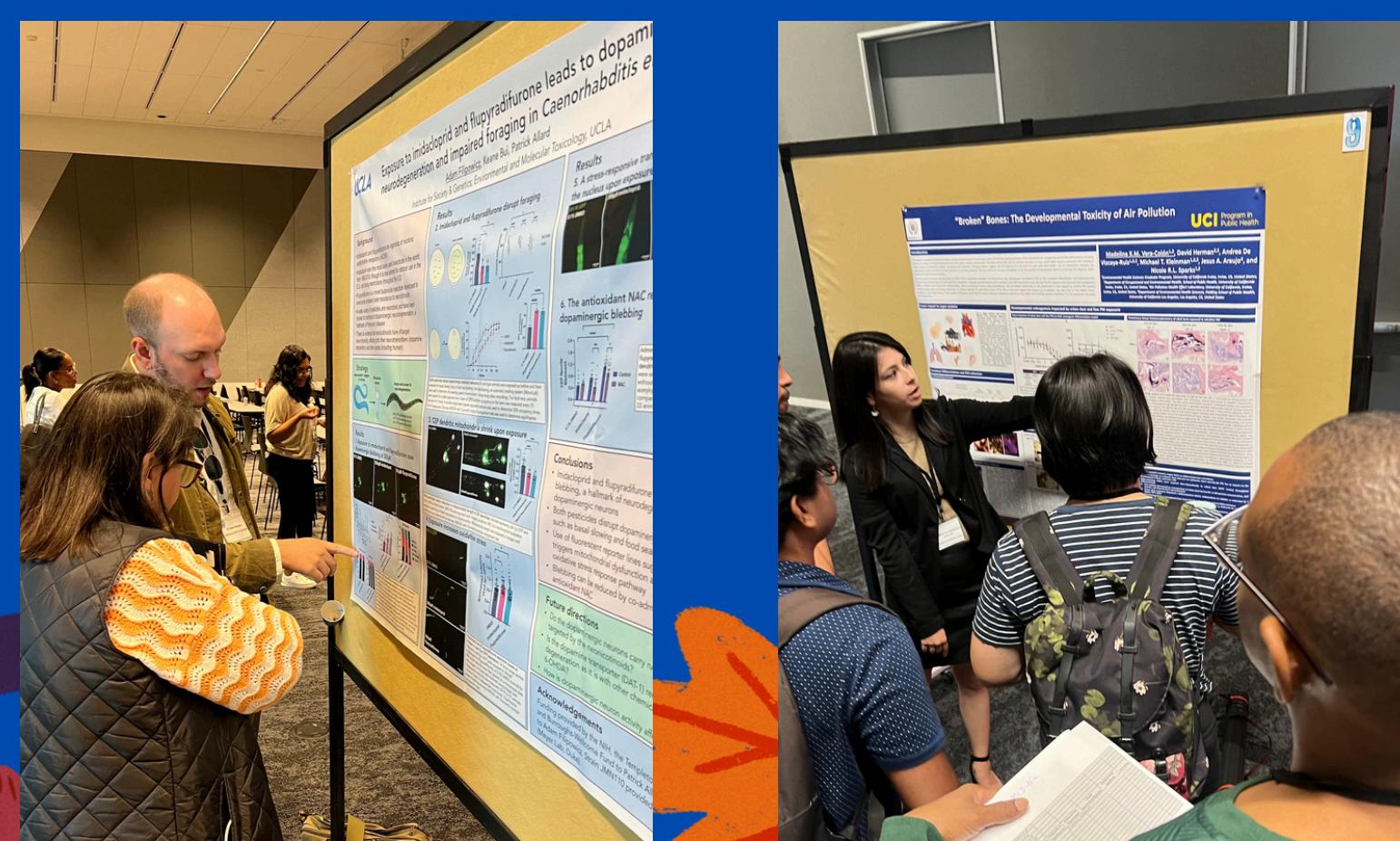
SILVER

BRONZE



Symposium Reception

SCCSOT hosted a fun reception after the symposium! Trainees from all over the SoCal region presented posters while other SCCSOT members caught up with colleagues and enjoyed delicious food.



REMINDERS

Follow us on
LinkedIn



SCAN ME



Southern California Regional Chapter
OF THE SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY



**Are you preparing for
the ABT exam?**

SCCSOT would like to help you
connect with others. This is a great
opportunity to form study groups
and increase your chances of
success!

REMINDERS

Become a Member of Our
Chapter

Why become a member?

- Mentorship & Career opportunities
- Awards and Recognition
- Networking and Relationship building
- Leadership opportunities
- Access to webinars

How to become a member?

When paying SOT membership dues, click
Southern California regional chapter -
Chapter membership is FREE

Questions? Contact us @
southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com