

Southern California Chapter of  
Society of Toxicology

# NEWSLETTER

July 14th, 2025

## President's Message

Dear SoCal SOT Members,

As we start another productive year for our regional chapter, I'm humbled and honored to serve as the President of this Chapter for the 2025-2026 term.

It is my pleasure to first introduce our Executive Committee:



- Christine Hoffmaster, Vice President
- Patrick Allard, Vice President-Elect
- Amy-Tran Guzman, Secretary
- Dale Baker, Treasurer
- Mamta Behl, Past President
- Sabitha Papineni and Elana Elkins, Councilors
- Adam Filipowicz, Postdoctoral Representative
- Allen Louie and Jeanette Sullivan, Graduate Student Representatives

The committee is excited to continue advancing our core mission: To bring together everyone with interest in toxicology across Southern California!

As I take on this role, I want to first extend my sincere gratitude to Mamta Behl, for her outstanding leadership in 2024-2025, as well as our outgoing team members: Gina Yanocho-Hoffman, Hemraj Dodiya, Stacy Schkoda and Rajat Gupta. Your hard work and dedication contributed to an extremely successful and fun-filled 2024-2025 term. Additionally, as the Society of Toxicology's only DUES FREE chapter, I want to express my sincere gratitude to our sponsors. Your continued support makes our chapter's activities possible as we strive to connect local Toxicologists from diverse sectors, including government, academia, and industry. Your support allows us to encourage meaningful interactions and collaboration through our events such as our Annual Fall Meeting, networking and mentoring events, and our Chapter reception at the SOT annual meeting!

As we embark on the upcoming year, I am thrilled about the opportunities ahead, starting with the announcement of our 37th Annual Fall Meeting. This year, we are excited to host our Annual Fall Meeting at Ionis Pharmaceutical, Inc. in Carlsbad, CA on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for further details over the next couple months. A key component of our Annual Fall Meeting is to provide a strong foundation for emerging Toxicologists, and particularly for students and postdoctoral fellows, through initiatives that foster education, networking and career development. These events serve to create pathways that support both individual and collective growth, so we encourage all members to engage with these initiatives, be it as a mentor or mentee as your contributions help to shape the next generation of Toxicology leaders. Students and postdocs, please keep an eye out for information on mentoring events and awards. We highly encourage you to submit an abstract and apply for our Annual Fall Meeting awards.

Lastly, we welcome new energy, ideas, and volunteers. If you would like to get involved in our activities throughout the year, please reach out to any officer to find out how you can contribute. Let's come together and collectively work to improve the visibility of our chapter at both the regional and national levels.

Kind regards,

Tejas Lahoti, PhD, DABT

President, Southern California Regional Chapter of the Society of Toxicology



Past and present Executive Committee members at the SCCSOT-NESOT Joint Mixer at SOT 2025 in Orlando, Florida! From left to right: Rajat Gupta, Adam Filipowicz, Allen Louie, Tejas Lahoti, Mamta Behl, Sabitha Papineni, Christine Hoffmaster, Dale Baker.

# Welcome!

## New Executive Committee Members



Patrick Allard  
UCLA  
VP-Elect



Elena Elkin  
SDSU  
Councilor



Adam Filipowicz  
UCLA  
Postdoc Rep



Jeanette Sullivan  
UC Irvine  
Grad Rep

## New SCCSOT Members

On behalf of the members of the Southern California Regional Chapter, we are thrilled to welcome 25 new members to our sunny SoCal toxicology community! Our regional community is now 211 members strong. As a new Regional Chapter member, you'll find plenty of opportunities to connect, communicate, and collaborate with fellow regional chapter members. Check out the Southern California SOT website for exciting new updates on the Annual Fall Meeting, newsletters, awards, and networking events! We are excited to have you join us and encourage you to get involved and become an active participant in the Southern California Regional Chapter.

Welcome to the Chapter and we look forward to seeing you at our Annual Fall Meeting!

Abdulla Abu salah – CSU, Sacramento

Sarah Avila-Barnard – UC Los Angeles

Luisa Bertotto – UC Irvine

Jocelyn Castellanos – UC Los Angeles

Russ Ergood – Instem

Adam Filipowicz – UC Los Angeles

Trevor Fish – Edwards Lifesciences

Feng Gao – UC Los Angeles

Sarala Gopala – UC Riverside

Jessa Mae Guanga – San Diego State University

Dylan Hatai – UC Los Angeles

Jose Jimenez Chavez – UC Irvine

Siri Langmo – UC Los Angeles

Shiwen Li – University of Southern California

Tingting Liu – Kyowa Kirin

Emily Nguyen – UC Los Angeles

Andrea Nguyen – University of South Florida

Alexia Perryman – UC San Diego

Asis Sarkar – AnaptysBio

Marlowe Schneidkraut – Astellas Pharma Inc

Manindra Singh – Pharmaron

Ryan Weiss – Insmad Inc

Hangyu Wu – University of Connecticut

Gina Zhang – Medtronic Diabetes

Rui Zhang – Vertex Pharmaceutical

# BIG THANK YOU To Our Sponsors!

2024-2025

PLATINUM

IONIS



GOLD

BIQIVT  
ELEVATING SCIENCE

NEUROCRINE  
BIOSCIENCES

inōtiv  
analyze. answer. advance.

SILVER

Bristol Myers Squibb

Schrödinger

Velocity Labs



abbvie

cyprotex  
AN EVOTEC COMPANY

IDEXX BioAnalytics

Molecular Instruments

labcorp

ELLEGAARD  
BIORESEARCH

LOVELACE  
BIOMEDICAL

BRONZE

AVIDITY  
BIOSCIENCES

charles river

Thank you to our **FANTASTIC SPONSORS!**

Without your generous donations, we would not be able to host our events!

If you would like to sponsor our chapter, please see below for more information.



# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**ATTENTION**



Southern California Regional Chapter  
OF THE SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

## Call for Sponsors!

SCCSOT is looking for Sponsors to help fund the fall Regional Chapter meeting.

Thanks to our many loyal Sponsors, the SCCSOT Chapter remains the only dues-free SOT organization.

- **Bronze:** ≥\$1000 (1 attendee)
- **Silver:** ≥\$2000 (1 attendee plus display table)
- **Gold:** ≥\$3000 (2 attendees plus display table)
- **Platinum:** ≥ \$5000 (3 attendees plus display table). In addition, for the highest level sponsors, a 20-minute Sponsor-led scientific talk. *\*Talks must be scientific in nature.*



Please contact:  
[southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com](mailto:southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com)

# SAVE THE DATE!

## SCCSOT FALL MEETING

**OCTOBER 15, 2025**



**Location: Ionis  
Pharmaceuticals**

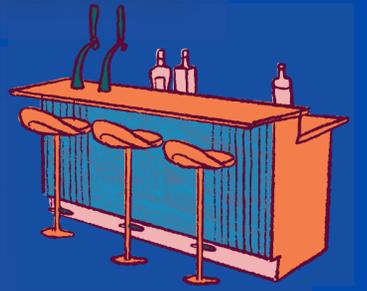
Carlsbad, CA

Agenda TBD

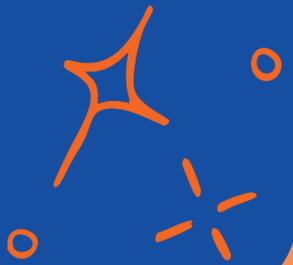
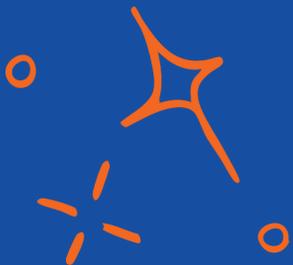


**We hope to see you all  
there!**

# SCCSOT-NESOT Joint Mixer Highlights



This year, we had our SCCSOT-NESOT Joint Mixer at The Pub in Orlando! There was a huge turnout with new and old faces. We hope that everyone had a wonderful time catching up and making new connections!



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## SCCSOT Travel Award

### Recipients

1st Place (Postdoc)

Jose Arturo Jimenez Chavez  
UC Irvine

1st Place (Predoc)

Allen Louie  
UCLA



2nd Place (Postdoc)

Alexa Canchola  
UC Riverside

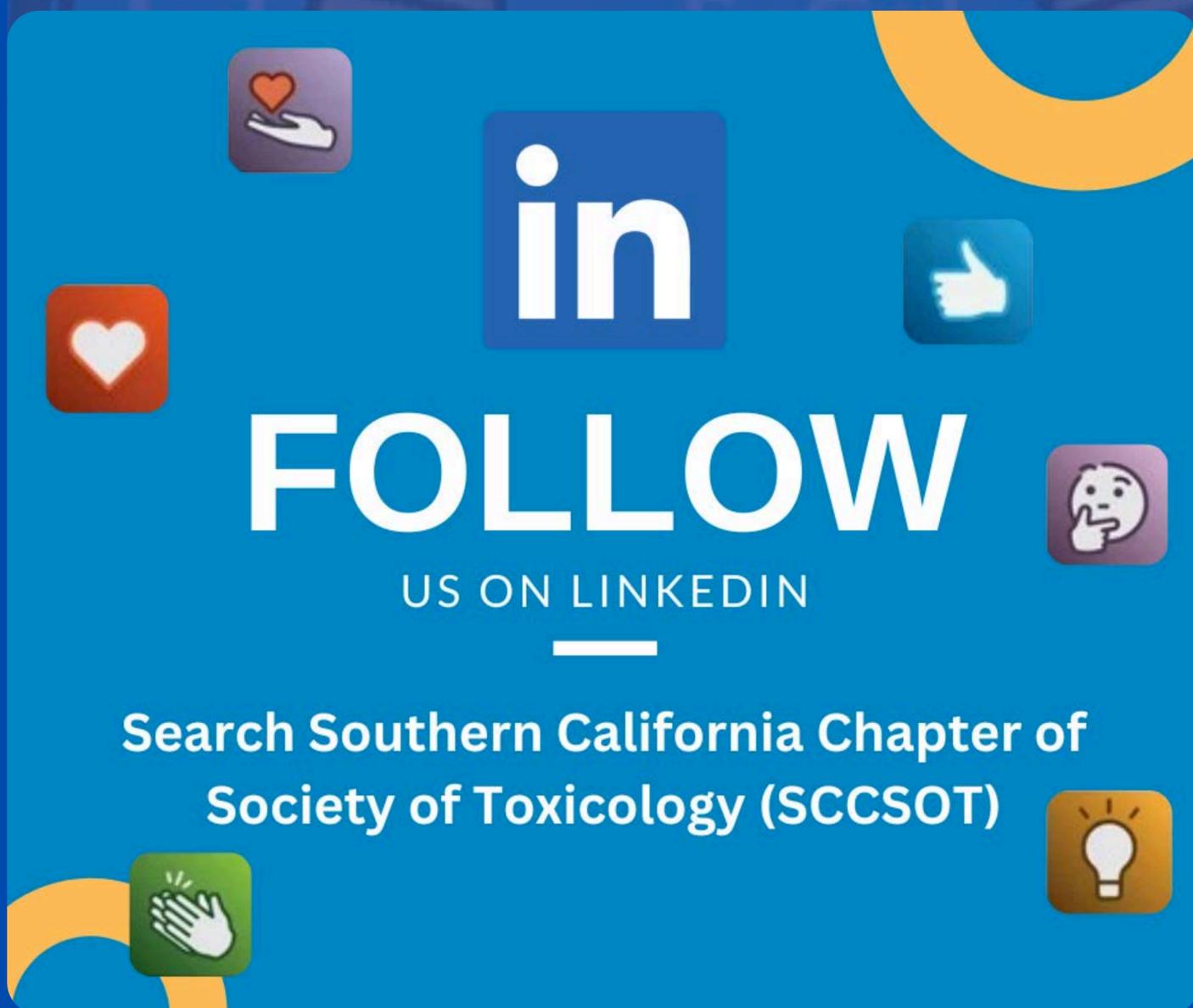
2nd Place (Predoc)

Ingrid Cely  
UCLA



**DON'T MISS OUT**  
DON'T MISS OUT

Follow us on  
LinkedIn by Scanning the QR  
Code or  
Searching for SCCSOT.



A blue graphic with rounded corners. At the top center is the LinkedIn logo (a blue square with 'in' in white). Below it, the word 'FOLLOW' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Underneath 'FOLLOW' is the text 'US ON LINKEDIN' in smaller white capital letters, followed by a horizontal line. At the bottom, the text 'Search Southern California Chapter of Society of Toxicology (SCCSOT)' is written in white. The graphic is decorated with several icons: a hand holding a heart, a heart, a thumbs up, a thinking face, a hand clapping, and a lightbulb.

**in**

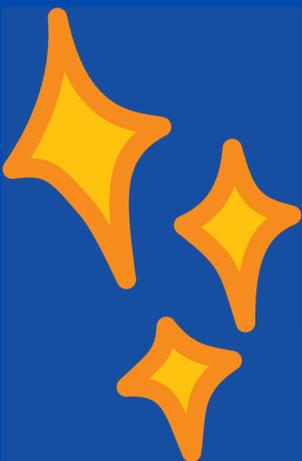
**FOLLOW**

US ON LINKEDIN

Search Southern California Chapter of  
Society of Toxicology (SCCSOT)



**SCAN ME**



# REMINDERS



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# TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

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](mailto:southerncaliforniasot@gmail.com)