

**Society of Toxicology Special Interest Group
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE IN TOXICOLOGY
(AACT)**

AACT Newsletter
2009 May Issue
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AACT Board

President:	Jia-Sheng Wang
President-Elect:	Diana Auyeung Kim
Past President:	James Kang
Secretary / editor:	Edward Chow
Treasurer:	Yi Jin
Councilor:	Peter Mu
Councilor:	Hanna Ng
Councilor:	John Zhuang
Post-doc rep:	Janet Zang
Student rep:	Li Xu

Message from the President

Dear Colleagues:

It has been the great honor for me to serve as the President of the American Association of Chinese in Toxicology (AACT) for the next two years. As a board member since its formal inception in 2005, I have witnessed that under the leadership of the Past Presidents and Boards, AACT has grown bigger and better each year, not only through the increased number of memberships, but more importantly also through professional and academic accomplishment of our organization. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our contributing members, especially for the past Board members, and to welcome our newly elected Board members.

We had a very successful and exciting annual meeting and reception in Baltimore, Maryland. On behalf of the new Board, I congratulate the 2009 AACT Distinguished Chinese Toxicology Lecturer, Professor Serrine S. Lau, and her excellent lecture presented at the annual meeting. I also congratulate our 2009 AACT-Charles River Best Abstract Award winners, Dr. Yuehui Wang and Ms, Li Yang. Moreover, I would like to thank our annual meeting sponsors for their generous contribution and endorsement.

Looking forward, there are so many challenges ahead of us, especially under the current financial crisis. I am committed to closely work with the Board members to continue to implement our 5-year strategic plan. During and right after the 2009 annual meeting, the Board has met several times to define function for each of our 6 standing committees and reassign chair person for each committee, which is posted in this issue of Newsletter as well as in our website. We will work together to increase numbers of our membership; we will develop more programs for providing better service to our members, such as mentorship program; we will take big steps in our outreaching and collaboration with professional associations, contract research organizations, and industries around the world, especially in China. Furthermore, we will keep our strength for making our organization as an internationally and nationally recognized special interest group at the Society of Toxicology. To achieve these goals, we strongly encourage every AACT member be actively involved.

I am looking forward to your support and working with you all.

Jia-Sheng Wang

Mentoring Opportunity

Dear AACT members:

The AACT mentoring program was launched at the 2009 annual SOT meeting in Baltimore, MD. You may ask “Why should we have a mentoring program?” Life is a mentoring/mentored process. Each of us has been both a mentor or has been the person being mentored at some point in our life. We all have had mentors in our lives, family members, teachers, coaches, friends, or neighbors, who provided support, showed us the ropes, and helped us to become who we are today. I am indebted to many mentors in my life. At the same time, we are also mentors of our children, students, colleagues, or subordinates. During an informal conversation at the SOT, I have learned that several established Chinese toxicologists have developed friendships while being mentored together at the SOT 10-15 years ago. At the AACT annual meeting, I could not help but be reminded that once I was, as a graduate student, shy, insecure and feeling out of place. We definitely can use some helpful guidance and invaluable support and make the most of the network of toxicology resources available to us. I have also talked to many established toxicologists, and they are more than happy to serve as mentors. A mentoring relationship should benefit the mentor and mentee and be a rewarding experience.

SOT has a great mentoring program. We encourage our members to participate. The AACT mentoring program is now available to help our graduate students or junior toxicologist members with mentors of same ethnic background and culture. I therefore strongly encourage our junior members to use this AACT mentoring

program as a sponge, soaking up the wisdom and knowledge to be a better toxicologist. We will carefully match each mentor with a mentee for a minimum of one year. The communication will be mostly through emails or by phone. Since this is a program for the benefit of all of us, we welcome suggestions. Please contact Dr. Hanna Ng at hanna.ng@sri.com if you are interested in participating with the AACT mentoring program as a mentor or a mentee.

I wish you a career with fulfillments and successes.

Hanna Ng

2009 Annual Meeting Photos

Approximately 200 people attended our AACT Annual Meeting & Reception. Many thanks to our Sponsors, Charles River Laboratories-Shanghai, Bridge Laboratories, WuxiAppTec, MicroConstants, Medicilon/MPI Preclinical Research – Shanghai, Covance, and National Shanghai Center for Drug Safety Evaluation and Research, for supporting the reception and awards for another successful meeting.





Other News

Finance Committee Update

With the election of AACT board members, the new finance committee (2009-10) was appointed in March 2009, and currently includes Yi Jin (Board member, Treasurer) and Peter Mu (Board member). The new finance committee will continue its defined functions to seek and raise fund through corporate and individual sponsorships. Despite the global financial crisis, 2009 has been a fruitful year for AACT in terms of seeking corporate sponsorship. AACT received record pledges totaling \$20,000 prior to the 2009 annual meeting. We greatly appreciate all the sponsors for their generous supports and contributions to AACT. A special thanks goes to the past finance committee chair Yun Zhang (YZ) for his leadership and hard work in fund raising. In addition, many individuals provided valuable help in seeking sponsorships, particularly, Diana Auyeung Kim, Peter Mu, James Kang, and Charles Wang. We sincerely express our appreciation to these people for their great contributions to AACT. Financial strength is vital to AACT's objectives and all the planned activities. We strongly encourage each member to provide your help in terms of identifying and facilitating individual and corporate sponsorship. Please send your comments and information to Yi Jin (DrYi.Jin@Novartis.com) or Peter Mu (stone_mu@hotmail.com).

Support AACT

Please support AACT financially through individual or company sponsorship and

through contributions to the Jean Lu Student Scholarship Award Fund (SOT Endowment Fund).

Chinese Society of Toxicology

The 5th National Congress of Chinese Society of Toxicology will be held in August 10-13, 2009 at Hua Xi (Flower Brook) Hotel, Guiyang City, Guizhou, China. The deadline for abstract submission has been extended to June 15, 2009. Please visit the website, <http://www.chntox.org/cst5/cn/index.asp?actionId=1> for detailed information of registration and hotel booking. Please contact 011-86-10-66932387 or -68183899 (Tel) or chntox@yahoo.com.cn if there is any question.

AACT Website

Visit our website at <http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/aact/.asp>

[next website update in mid-/end-June 2009]

Photo of new AACT Board



From L to R: Edward Chow, John Zhuang, Li (Susan) Xu, Yi Jin, Yu (Janet) Zang,

Jia-Sheng Wang, Diana Auyeung-Kim, James Kang, Hanna Ng, & Xueyan (Peter) Mu

Contact for new AACT Board

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John Zhuang (M)	Jzhuang1@its.jnj.com
Janet Zang	zangyu617@hotmail.com
Li Xu	susanxu@uga.edu

- (A) Award committee chairperson
- (F) Finance committee chairperson
- (M) Membership committee chairperson
- (N) Nomination committee chairperson
- (P) Program committee chairperson
- (S) Strategic planning committee chairperson
- (O) Outreach committee chairperson
- (W) Website maintenance

Membership

AACT membership has reached 197 by April, 2009. Many thanks to the people who helped to make this possible. We look forward to even greater growth this year.