

Letter from the President

We have several activities planned for the SOT meeting in San Antonio. I cordially invite you to attend this year's AACT business meeting and reception, on Monday, March 11 at 6:00 pm at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas Ballroom, Salon D. We will be presenting the Best Abstracts and Jean Lu Student Scholarship Awards, and we plan to have a nice array of delicious food thanks to all of our Sponsors. Just before the reception at 5:00 pm, we will be honoring Dr. Jia-Sheng Wang, this year's recipient of the Distinguished Chinese Toxicologist Award. Also, in conjunction with the Korean Toxicologists Association of America (KTAA), we will again be providing a Career Development Workshop for our students, postdocs and junior scientists.



I was very happy to see that the Election and Awards committee had a plethora of volunteers, several of whom are new volunteers to AACT. The Election committee consisted of: Jia-Sheng Wang, Lu Cai, Tim Lam, Gin Chuang, Shawn Deng, Li Li, Matt Liu, Zemin Wang, and Xiaozhong Yu. The Student Awards committee consisted of: Tongde Wu, Alexandria Lau, Janet (Yu) Zang, Xun Zhang, Li Zhan, Tim Lam, and Li Li. The Lectureship Award Committee consisted of: Charles Tong, Gene Hsu, Yi Jin, Tao Chen, Lu Cai, Shawn Deng, Jiaqin Yao, and John (Zhihua) Zhang. Thanks to all of you!

I want to also thank the current members of Board for their hard work and dedication to AACT. Being President of this great organization the past two years has been an honor and I hope I have served the membership well. I have been fortunate to get to know and become good friends with many of you over the years. As Past President, I look forward to working with the incoming President, Edward Chow, please give him the support that I have enjoyed.

I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

Best Regards,

Diana J. Auyeung-Kim
AACT President

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**Please join us in
2013 SOT @ San
Antonio, TX!**

March 11, 2013

5pm: Distinguished
Chinese Toxicology
Lecture

Dr. Jia-Sheng Wang

6pm: AACT Annual
Business Meeting and
Reception

March 12, 2013

7:45 am AACT/KTAA
Career Development
Workshop



2012-2013 Board: Edward Chow (President-Elect), Weimin Gao (Councillor), Diana Auyeung-Kim (President), Xi Yang (Postdoc Representative), Lu Cai (Treasurer), Jia-Sheng Wang (Past President), Weimin Chen (Student Representative), Ching-Hung (Gene) Hsu (Councillor). Not pictured: Tim Lam (Secretary)

Welcome New AACT Board Officers 2013-2014



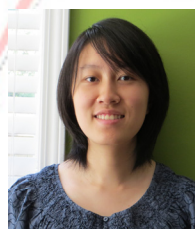
President – Elect:
Yi Jin, PhD, DABT
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
dryi.jin@novartis.com



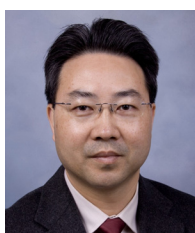
Postdoctoral Representative:
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xianai-wu@uiowa.edu



Councillor:
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Student Representative:
Kathy S. Xue, BS
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Councillor:
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(www.toxchange.org)



Subscribe to AACT forum Discussions Today! It's easy:

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- 2) Click on "Special Interest Groups", then select "AACT".
- 3) In the Forum section, click on our Discussions headline.
- 4) Click on the "Subscribe" button on the right-hand side of the page.
- 5) Choose your discussion topic and begin posting, commenting, and browsing!



AACT Events at 2013 SOT Annual Meeting

Distinguished Chinese Toxicologist Lecture

Dr. Jia-Sheng Wang, PhD

Professor and Department Head

Department of Environmental Health Science

University of Georgia

Lecture Entitled: "Application of Biomarkers: Bridging Toxicology and Disease Prevention"

Monday, March 11 at 5:00 pm at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas Ballroom, Salon D



AACT Annual Meeting and Reception

Monday, March 11 at 6:00 pm at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas Ballroom, Salon D

AACT/KTAA SOT SIG Student/Postdoc Career Workshop

Tuesday, March 12 at 7:45 am at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Lone Star Ballroom, Salon C

Topic: Working for CRO and Pharma in US and China and other General Topics (Networking, hiring managers, and promotions)

Panelists: Charles Wang (GSK China), James Yan (Covance China), Yi Yang (Sanofi China) and Sang-Joon Lee (Korea Institute of Toxicology)

AACT Endorsed Scientific Sessions at 2013 SOT Annual Meeting

- Workshop: Tuesday, March 12 at 1:30 pm Drug Safety Assessment and Regulatory Landscape in Emerging Markets (Peter Mu)
- Symposium: Thursday, March 14 at 9:00 am Translational Methods to Assess the Safety of Natural Health Products, Including Traditional Medicines and Dietary Supplements (James Griffith)

Please consider submitting proposals for AACT to endorse or sponsor in the 2014 SOT Annual Meeting!

Many thanks to our 2012 AACT Meeting Sponsors



Announcement – American Board of Toxicology (ABT) in China

The American Board of Toxicology (ABT) is a non-government, non-profit organization that operates independent of any professional membership organization and certifies toxicologists in general toxicology throughout the world. The mission of ABT is to enhance the practice of toxicology by defining, certifying and maintaining competency in toxicological sciences and to establish a globally recognized credential in toxicology representative of competency and commitment to human health and environmental sciences. Certification by ABT is recognized as a high mark of competency in toxicology world-wide.

The Board of Directors of ABT has given considerable thought to how ABT might best serve the global community of toxicologists and as part of that service has committed to broadening international access to the certifying examination. To accomplish this, the Board has established a Globalization Committee chaired by Board members Bruce Kelman, Ph.D., DABT, FATS, ERT and Deborah Keil, Ph.D., MT(ASCP), DABT. We are pleased to inform the membership of AACT that one of the countries under active consideration for one or more examination sites is China. Committee members Lijie Fu, Ph.D., Cody Wilson, Ph.D., DABT, and Shang-Zhi Xu, Ph.D., DABT, are leading the effort to establish at least one examination site in China.

The Board would like to request the assistance of members of AACT in contacting individuals in China who might be interested in taking the certifying examination. A potential examination site in China is Shanghai. In preparation for the ABT examination, a group of Chinese toxicologists plan to offer a short but intensive preparatory course. If any members of AACT are interested in discussing preparations for the exam or the exam site further, please drop by the ABT booth in ToxExpo during the 2013 Annual meeting of the Society of Toxicology-USA. Anyone interested in discussing preparations for the exam or the exam site in China is invited to contact:

Bruce Kelman: bkelman@veritox.com

Deborah Keil: deborah.keil@montana.edu

Lijie Fu: lijie.fu07@gmail.com

Cody Wilson: CLWilson@scj.com

Shang-Zhi Xu: xushzh@yahoo.com

Career Center

Career Development Workshop: From Participant to Organizer

Wen Zhang, PhD
John Wiley & Sons



I have a confession to make—last year’s AACT/KTAA career development workshop was my first career workshop, ever. I like to use my personal experience as a prime example of what not to do when planning the next step(s) in one’s career. Case in point: rather than attend one’s first career development workshop after securing (through sheer luck) a great full-time job, be proactive and take advantage of others’ experience (mistakes) before entering the market.

Since the last SOT meeting, I’ve attended other career workshops, networking events, and served as an alumni mentor. Through these activities, combined with informal discussion with colleagues and scouring

through science-focused career articles, it's clear that attitudes within academia are shifting. The prospect of graduate students and post-docs moving on to *alternate* careers is increasingly acceptable by PIs and thesis committees; the NIH acknowledges that we have a severe imbalance in supply vs. demand within the Ph.D. workforce; and universities are dedicating more resources to their career services for graduate students. These actions, while commendable, will take years to yield tangible results, and offer little solace for freshly-minted (or soon to be) doctorates and post-docs.

The career challenges faced by Ph.Ds. and post-docs are neither new nor unique, although the scope and magnitude of the issue has increased in the past decade. This is fortunate in many ways, as myriad resources exist whose core lessons apply to the life sciences as well as they would to, say, hotel administration. There are, however, many challenges specific to toxicology—and even more so to toxicologists who are Asian American.

When discussing career development, the importance of communication, for example, is a ubiquitous mantra. To a non-native speaker, the typical advice to simply *practice more* ignores many factors that native speakers take for granted, e.g. fundamental knowledge of cultural norms and core literal fluency. On the other hand, native-born Asian Americans are often raised by first-generation parents within tightly-knit communities of similar status. In these cases, language is not a barrier, but the importance of scholarship is often overemphasized at the cost of developing the less tangible *soft skills* so highly valued in the workplace. Hosting this workshop within the AACT/KTAA helps alleviate these and other, similar considerations.

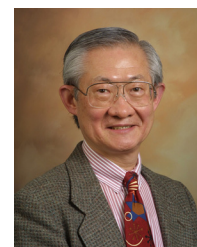
I participated in the 2012 AACT/KTAA career development workshop mainly out of curiosity, and instantly recognized the value of the forum. Every conversation I've had with working professionals inevitably leads to the role of networking, communication, and luck in securing a position, and these themes rang true in every speaker's story. It's difficult to overemphasize the significance of these and similar factors in career development in general; however, it is arguably more valuable when participants hear that Asian American scientists—the presenters and organizers—who successfully transitioned to productive careers are no different than any other demographic. The rules, variables, and decisions that facilitate successful careers are universal. The challenges many Asian American scientists face in improving many non-technical, yet critical skills, though, are often specific—and this is a core focus of the presenters and organizers of the career development workshop. Recognizing this, I hope to contribute in a more meaningful fashion at the 2013 SOT, graduating from participant to organizer (courtesy of the kind invitation by Diana and Tao).

This year's AACT/KTAA Career Development Workshop will be held on Tuesday, March 12 from 7:45 am – 9:00 am at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Lone Star Ballroom, Salon C. To help start the early day, we will serve a light breakfast, courtesy of John Wiley & Sons (my employer) and WIL Research. The time will be split roughly evenly between several guest speakers and open Q&A. Like all career-focused events, the organizers and speakers can provide only as much value as the participants demand. Career planning is an active event, so please prepare well ahead of the workshop, and even the SOT. Feel free to email me (wezhang@wiley.com), or the other primary event organizers (Diana Auyeung-Kim [taedi0611@gmail.com] or Tao Wang [tao.wang@novartis.com]) with questions that you would like us to cover or that we could discuss with you after the workshop.

Much like research, the quality of your career-related questions will improve as you read background information, practice, make mistakes, analyze, and try again. While we're happy to answer any and all questions, you'll likely find our response to *what could I have done better in [this specific] networking scenario* significantly more valuable than if you asked a generic *what is networking* question. The only way you can ask the former question is to immerse yourself in the actual situation—and ample opportunities abound during the first few days of the conference, if nothing else, and after attending the workshop you will still have nearly two full days to implement newly learned lessons! So Students, Postdocs, and new Career Toxicologists, I look forward to meeting you at the 2013 AACT/KTAA Career Development Workshop. The workshop is also open to non AACT/KTAA members, so bring a friend too!

Taiwan Trip Report

From Anna Fan and Ray Yang



Anna Fan and Ray Yang went to Taiwan in Nov 2012 to discuss issues related to the newly established National Environmental Health Research Center (NEHRC), National Health Research Institutes (NHRI). The recently established center was the result of the keen awareness of the government on multiple crises and the panic of the Taiwan public related to food (e.g., dioxin in duck eggs, ractopamine in beef), food additives (e.g., clouding agent [DEHP] in drinks and baby foods) and air pollution (e.g., off shore petro-chemical complex and the resulting problems in Yunlin area), among others. The Director of NEHRC, Dr. Ted Chiang, contacted Anna to consult on the proper ways to conduct risk assessment and the team of Anna Fan and Ray Yang was formed and invited to go to Taiwan to address related issues. NEHRC organized a two-day workshop and invited about 50 senior Taiwan scientists to participate. Anna and Ray each gave two talks in the workshop (titles shown below), followed by discussions with the participants. Discussion panels, consisting mostly of local scientists, also described their experience and expressed their opinions. Our talks went well. Ray took this opportunity and proposed the formation of a “National Crisis Response Team” of young, bright, interdisciplinary Taiwanese scientists with proper Training in Toxicology and Risk Assessment, as well as repeated practices of emergency responses using actual case studies in the U.S. Overall, it was a very nice and successful workshop. We feel that we have achieved the objectives that we started with and hope that the information and experience shared would benefit future activities.

DAY 1

Risk Assessment, Risk Communication and Environmental Risk Management Decision-making (A Fan)
The Role of Toxicology in Risk Assessment: From the Early Days of Traditional Animal Toxicity Testing to Toxicology of the 21st Century (R Yang)

DAY 2

Case Study : 離島工業區健康風險評估之案例分析 (A Fan)
Case Study: (1)Selected Scientific Issues on Animal Toxicity Testing; (2)Evolution of Dichloromethane Risk Assessment; (3)Possible Near- and Longer-term NEHRC Effort on Tox 21st Century.

We then went to Taichung at the invitation of IK Ho to visit their Institute of Aging, China Medical University, where Anna gave a seminar on age differences in response to chemical toxicity (infants and children, and persons 65 yrs and older; for environmental chemicals and pharmaceuticals) and related risk assessment issues, and again followed by discussions.

In Taiwan, we were able to visit with IK and Pat Ho and Dennis and Lucy Hsieh, both in Zhunan and in Taichung. It was always nice to see old friends and catch up. IK and Dennis both looked very well and full of energy.

Job Websites in China

中华英才网: www.chinahr.com

智联招聘: www.zhaopin.com

前程无忧: www.51job.com

AACT Member Accomplishments in 2012– Congratulations to All of You!

- The following AACT members passed DABT exam:

Clara Chan	Sharlene Dai
Bin He	George Hu
Huaina Li	Yunan Tang
Wendy Wang	Lu Yu
Li Zhan	Xun Zhang
Xinrong Chen	
- Diana J. Auyeung-Kim was selected as the Ocular Toxicity Specialty Section Councilor.
- Joan Cheng had a baby in September, 2012.
- Edward Chow was selected as the Ocular Toxicity Specialty Section Vice-President.
- Tao Wang was elected to SOT Membership Committee, appointed to SOT Continuing Education Committee, and appointed to the Editorial Board for International Journal of Toxicology, and she received Novartis Catalyist Award (recognition of outstanding contributions to Novartis accomplished through extraordinary achievement and performance beyond work requirements).
- Li Zhan was elected as postdoc representative of Drug Discovery Toxicology Specialty Section of SOT.
- Janet (Yu) Zang was elected Councilor of Food Safety Specialty Section of SOT.
- Xiao Pan was elected Student Representative of Food Safety Specialty Section of SOT.



Welcome to Join AACT

- To join AACT and SOT, go to: <http://www.toxicology.org/ms/join.asp>
- Already an SOT member and need to add AACT go to: <https://www.aim-hq.com/netFORUMSOT/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=SOT&webcode=AIMOutstandingDuesNew>
- \$15 per annum add-on to your SOT dues
- Free for Postdoctoral and Student SOT members (first SIG only) or \$15 for each additional.
- For non-SOT members, you can still become an AACT member, but will receive limited membership privileges. Application form is available by contacting Lu Cai (lu.cai@louisville.edu) or Edward Chow (chow_edward@allergan.com).

AACT Committees

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or joining any of the committees and working for AACT, please contact the chairs:

- Award Committee: Edward Chow (chow_edward@allergan.com)
- Finance Committee: Ching-Hung (Gene) Hsu (chhsu@ncdser.com)
- Membership Committee: Weimin Gao (weimin.gao@tiehh.ttu.edu)
- Program Committee: Diana Auyeung-Kim (taedi0611@gmail.com)
- Nominating/ Election Committee: Jia-Sheng Wang (jswang@uga.edu)

Please visit our website at

<http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/act/index.asp>