



July 26, 2019

ANNUAL REPORT: May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019

I. OFFICERS/COMMITTEES

OFFICERS

| | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| President | Silvia Barros | Ranulfo Lemus-Olalde |
| Vice President | Ranulfo Lemus-Olalde | Enrique Fuentes-Mattei |
| Vice President-Elect | Enrique Fuentes-Mattei | Aline DeConti |
| Secretary | Julieta Martino | Julieta Martino |
| Treasurer | Nilsa Rivera | Vinicius de Paula Venancio |
| Past President | Robert P. Casillas | Silvia Barros |
| Councilors | Mariana Cardenas-Gonzalez | Dania Bacardi Fernandez |
| | Aline DeConti | Teresa Palacios-Hernandez |
| | Teresa Palacios-Hernandez | Michelle Hernandez |
| | Dania Bacardi Fernandez | Carmen Rubio Armendariz |
| PDA Representative | Vinicius de Paula Venancio | Maria Beatriz Monteiro |
| GSLC Representative | Yanelli Nuñez | Yanelli Nuñez |

COMMITTEES

Awards Committee

The main task for the Awards committee is to nominate, select and announce candidates for HOT Awards. Historically, HOT has awarded Hispanic Travel Awards to students

and postdoctoral trainees based on the scientific merits of the abstracts they will present at the SOT meeting, as well as Recognition Awards for service to the HOT and SOT.

A “Distinguished Hispanic Toxicologist Award” is given each year to a toxicologist of Hispanic origin whose work exemplifies the mission of the HOT-SIG by contributing to the advancement of the field of toxicology. Historically, a Councilor chairs the committee and the Vice-president serves as co-chair. Other HOT members are recruited to serve as judges for the awards. **Members:** Aline DeConti (Chair); José F Delgado (Co-Chair); Enrique Fuentes-Mattei (Volunteer).

Bylaws Committee

This committee reviews the bylaws every year and proposes changes according to the needs and evolution of the HOT. Historically, a Counselor, Vice-president or Vice-president Elect chairs the committee and recruits other HOT members to advise the Executive Committee as needed. **Members:** Silvia Barros (Chair); Robert P. Casillas (Co-Chair). During the 2018-2019 term our bylaws were modified to better define what “Hispanic” means to HOT and to represent more accurately the diversity of our membership,. In our updated Bylaws “Hispanic” is defined as a person that self identifies as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, Ibero-American, Brazilian, Spanish or Portuguese.

Communications Committee

This committee is responsible for coordinating all communications issued by the Executive Committee to the HOT membership, including email alerts, publications and posting to ToXchange and Facebook. Historically, the President and Secretary co-chair this committee and recruit talented HOT members (often not Executive Members) to lead key initiatives. The Website Coordinator will interact with SOT Headquarters staff to maintain the HOT/SOT website information (including ToXchange) current and useful as a repository of information for future Executive Committees. **Members:** Julieta Martino (Chair); Silvia Barros (Co-Chair).

- **Website Subcommittee:** The chair acts as Website Coordinator and interacts with SOT Headquarters staff to maintain the HOT/SOT website information current and useful as a repository of information for future Executive Committees. **Members:** Julieta Martino (Chair).
- **Toxenlaces Editorial Subcommittee:** This subcommittee of the Communications Committee is responsible for the bimonthly electronic publication of the HOT newsletter Toxenlaces by the third week of the second month in which is due for publication. Issues for electronic publication are April-May, June-July, August-September, October-November, and December-January. Historically, the Toxenlaces Editor works with HOT members to create content and produce the publication, and the Secretary facilitates publication by interacting with HOT Headquarters staff. **Members:** José F. Delgado (Chair);

Alejandro Ramírez Lee (Co-Chair). Toxenlaces was regularly published during the 2018-2019 period.

- **Social Media Subcommittee:** This subcommittee of the Communication Committee is responsible for the maintenance and updating of social media accounts held by the organization, including Facebook and LinkedIn. **Members:** José F. Delgado (Chair).

Education Committee

The Education Committee proposes various means to make education materials accessible to HOT members and the Ibero-American community. Education materials should be presented in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. The committee will coordinate efforts with the Communications Committee for posting these education materials in the HOT web page and with the Toxenlaces Editor for announcing events in the newsletter. Historically, a Councilor chairs the committee and recruits talented HOT members (often not Executive Members) to lead key initiatives. **Members:** Teresa Palacios-Hernández (Chair); Aline DeConti (Co-Chair); Nilsa Rivera (Volunteer).

Finance Committee

The main function of the Finance Committee is to ensure the long-term financial stability of the HOT through organizing fund-raising activities based on the Executive Committee's directions. This committee will be responsible for fund-raising for special programs, awards, and the annual HOT meeting/reception. The committee will identify and seek sponsorship from individuals and business to support the annual HOT meeting and travel awards. In addition, this committee will serve as a task force to study the issues of business membership of HOT, to establish rules and procedures with a goal to increase business membership, and to establish an Endowment fund for the HOT. Historically, the Treasurer or immediate Past President chairs this committee and recruits additional Past Presidents and other talented HOT members to lead key initiatives. **Members:** Nilsa Rivera (Chair), Ranulfo Lemus Olalde (Co-Chair).

Sponsorship Subcommittee. Members: Linval DePass (Chair), Robert Casillas (Co-Chair), Aline DeConti and Enrique Fuentes-Mattei (Volunteers).

Global Outreach Committee

The Global Outreach committee will search, identify, and establish collaborations with other societies, organizations, and universities involved in all areas of toxicology in Hispanic/Latino countries (Latin-America, Brazil, Spain, and Portugal). Historically, the immediate Past President chairs this committee working closely with the Councilor to Sister Organizations. **Members:** Robert P. Casillas (Chair); Mariana Cárdenas-González (Co-Chair).

Graduate Student Committee

This committee encourages involvement of Hispanic/Latino graduate students in the HOT and SOT, as well as facilitating the scientific and professional development of Hispanic and Ibero-American graduate students through networking, scientific programs, and other SOT activities. The task of this committee includes the development of e-mail and other communications directed toward informing and increasing the student base at the HOT-SIG and SOT. The student leadership provides important direction through representation on SOT committees and alignment of their programs with SOT national strategic objectives. Historically, the Student Representative chairs this committee and recruits other talented HOT student members for key initiatives. This committee works very closely with the Postdoctoral Committee. **Members:** Yanelli Nuñez (Chair), Vinicius de Paula Venancio (Co-Chair), Julieta Martino (Volunteer).

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is charged with proposing membership eligibility criteria, benefits and other strategies to the Executive Committee with the goal of increasing membership level. Historically, a Councilor chairs this committee and recruits other talented HOT members for key initiatives. **Members:** Julieta Martino (Chair), Teresa Palacios (Co-Chair).

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is responsible for annual elections. According to the by-laws, a Nominating Committee consisting of not less than five members who are not seeking re-election or election for any positions in the Executive Committee, including the last two Past Presidents, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Special Interest Group within two months following installation of officers. The Committee shall provide a slate of candidates for each election. Historically, the immediate Past President chairs this committee. **Members:** Robert P. Casillas (Chair), Elena Hernández-Ramón Minerva Mercado-Feliciano, Linval DePass, Betina Lew, Leslie Recio, Ofelia Olivero, Pedro Del Valle, Braulio Jiménez, Mari Stavanja (Assistants).

Postdoctoral Committee

This committee encourages involvement of Hispanic/Latino postdoctoral fellows in the HOT and the SOT and facilitates the scientific and professional development of Hispanic postdoctoral fellows through networking, scientific programs, and other SOT activities. The task of this committee includes the development of e-mail and other communications to serve as a great resource for HOT postdoctoral members. Historically, the Postdoctoral Representative

chairs this committee and recruits other talented HOT postdoctoral members for key initiatives. This committee works very closely with the Graduate Committee. **Members:** Vinicius de Paula Venancio (Chair), Yanelli Nuñez (Co-Chair), Julieta Martino (Volunteer).

Program Committee

The Program Committee consists of several HOT members who are willing to serve as liaison between the Executive Committee, members, and other program committees within the SOT. Program committee focuses on service to the HOT members. Historically, the Vice President is the chair of this committee. **Members:** Ranulfo Lemus Olalde (Chair); Silvia Barros (Volunteer). The activities and responsibilities include among others:

- ✓ Assisting the preparation of the Annual SOT/HOT Meeting
- ✓ Mentorship program
- ✓ Assisting HOT members to develop SOT annual meeting program proposals
- ✓ HOT endorsement procedures and SOT program endorsement
- ✓ International meetings in toxicology and related fields

Strategic Planning Committee

The strategic planning committee will provide advice to the Executive Committee for developing the organizational plan and long-term financial plan. Members of the Advisory Committee will actively participate in this committee. Historically, the President is the committee chair. **Members:** Robert P. Casillas (Chair), Enrique Fuentes-Mattei (Co-Chair).

Advisory Committee

Per HOT by-laws, this committee is made of all past presidents of HOT with the exception of the immediate past president. They attend HOT Executive Committee meetings to provide relevant information, guidance and perspective regarding HOT issues and activities. Each past president serves in this committee for 5 years. **Members:** Elena Hernández-Ramón (Chair), Minerva Mercado-Feliciano, Linval DePass, Betina Lew, Leslie Recio.

II. ACTIVITIES

a) 2019 HOT Annual Meeting Reception

The 2019 HOT Annual Meeting and Reception was held in Baltimore, MD at Hotel Marriott on March 13th, 2019, with approximately 90 attendees. Dr. Silvia Barros called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM. Dr. Ranulfo Lemus started the meeting thanking our sponsors for this year: MRI Global, Alturas Analytics, Inc., Charles River, Krishan and Vicky Joshi Foundation, Dr. Ofelia Olivero, UES Inc, LeTox World LLC, Dr. Silvia Barros and HOT. Afterwards, Dr. Lemus discussed the number of HOT members (n=154) coming from at least 17 different countries and recognized the 17 Sister Organizations that collaborate with HOT. Dr. Lemus then introduced the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 HOT Executive and Advisory Committees and HOT Achievements for 2018-2019. The HOT Travel Awards were presented by the Vice President, Dr. Ranulfo Lemus and were as follows:

1. Yael Escobar (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) – Sponsor MRI Global
2. Eduardo Gonzalez (University of California, Davis) – Sponsor LeTox World LLC
3. Henry Lujan (Baylor University) – Sponsor Charles River & HOT
4. Lyda Yuliana Parra Forero (CINVESTAV, México) – Sponsor HOT

The HOT meeting Keynote speaker was Dr. Pedro del Valle, winner of the 2019 HOT Distinguished Toxicologist Award. An outstanding HOT Officer award was given to Dr. Julieta Martino for her role as HOT Secretary, and a special recognition was given to Jessica Alejandra Jimenez for winning the 2019 Perry J. Gehring Student Travel Award. Dr. Lemus finished his presentation by asking the audience for donations and acquisition of HOT's new pin. The meeting was followed by a reception with food and dancing until 9 pm.

b) 2019 HOT Annual Meeting Awards

For the 2019 SOT 58th Annual Meeting, HOT awarded one Distinguished Toxicologist Award, three Graduate Student Travel Awards, one Graduate Student Travel Award (Special Category: Members living outside the USA) and one Outstanding HOT Officer Award.

Graduate Student Travel Awards

- Yael Escobar, The University of North Carolina – “Analyzing the Cellular Stress Response in Airway Epithelial Cells to Vaporized Propylene Glycol and Glycerol”. Sponsored by MRI Global - \$750.
- Henry Lujan, Baylor University – “Differential Mitochondrial Perturbations among Primary, Cancerous, and Asthmatic Lung Cell Types after Exposure to Engineered Nanomaterials”. Sponsored by Charles River and HOT - \$750
- Eduardo González, University of California – “Acute Intoxication of Juvenile Rats with Diisopropylfluorophosphate (DFP) Causes Sex-Specific Seizure Behavior and Neuropathology”. Sponsored by LeTox World - \$750.

Travel Award Special Category: HOT members living outside US – Lyda Yuliana Parra Forero, Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados del Instituto Politécnico Nacional,

Mexico – “Di 2 Ethylhexyl Phthalate, Dehp, Decreases The Extrusion Of The First Polar Body In Murine Oocytes At Different Reproductive Ages”. Sponsored by HOT - \$750

HOT Outstanding Officer Award – Julieta Martino, Ph.D., for her role as HOT Secretary.

HOT Distinguished Toxicologist Award – Pedro L. del Valle, M.S.; PhD, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland.

c) 2019 HOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions

HOT Annual Mentoring Activity

This year in Baltimore, we hosted “A Path to Success: tips and strategies for my professional interview.” By leveraging from the expertise of senior toxicologists, we provided trainees and early career toxicologists with tips and strategies to maximize the success of their professional interviews. The event took place in the format of a panel presentation followed up by small group discussions during which attendees learned about best interview practices and had the opportunity to network and identify mentors within the field of toxicology.

The event was held on Tuesday, March 12th from 12-1pm at the Sheraton Inner Harbor, Camden room located in Inner Harbor Baltimore. The Chair of the event was Yanelli Nuñez, HOT Graduate Student Representative for the 2018-2019 & 2019-2020 terms. There was a total of 36 attendees including graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Our guest panelists were Dr. Betina J. Lew from RB company, Dr. Peter L. Goering from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and Dr. Enrique Fuentes-Mattei from the University of Texas. In addition to the three panelists, 10 toxicology mentors attended the event and participated at the round table discussions with the trainees. The mentors represented academia (nationally and internationally), governmental institutions as well as, a wide range of industrial sectors including CROs, consumer products, pharma, consulting, etc.

Light snacks were provided for the participants and included bagels, a fruit platter, soda, tea, and coffee (catered by the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel). The catering order was estimated for 35 individuals at \$18.60/person (plus tax). There was no charge for reserving the room but there was a service fee. To fund this event HOT applied to the Mentoring Initiative Matching Funds through the SOT Career Resource and Development (CRAD) Committee. The Committee accepted the proposal and approved HOT for a total of \$400 in matching funds for the event.

d) Endowment Fund Details

The HOT Executive Committee started a discussion about HOT organizing an endowment fund. The proposal will be considered again once matching funds are available from SOT.

e) Newsletters

By July 1st 2019, 5 *Toxenlaces* have been published. Particular sections include the Trainee Section with 3 contributions, 3 short Scientific Articles by invited HOT members, and 1 HOT Professional Tip by HOT Councilor Teresa Palacios. Our bi-monthly newsletter *Toxenlaces* was distributed to members and Sister Organizations through email and is available in our website <http://www.toxicology.org/groups/sig/hot/newsLetter.asp>.

f) Webinars

As part of the webinar series "Updates in Toxicology", HOT and Clubes de Ciencia México (CdeCMx) hosted the webinar "Alzheimer Disease: Role of the Brain-Blood Barrier" on June 21st, 2018. The webinar was presented by Dr. Elvis-Yane Cuevas-Martínez, and there were a total of 18 attendees from Mexico, Peru, Guatemala, Spain and US. Besides, on October 16th, 2018, HOT sponsored the webinar "Epigenetics and Toxicology" for the first time for this series together with Clubes de Ciencia Brasil and University of Sao Paulo, and was presented by our HOT Councilor, Dr. Aline DeConti. This webinar beat our audience records, with a total of 78 attendees from 9 countries (Brazil, Peru, Chile, Spain, Mexico, Canada, Germany, Finland and US).

g) White Papers

None.

h) Contributions to SOT website

The HOT Communications Committee successfully maintained updates on the HOT website and increased social media outreach to 1117 followers. Regular updates on information are performed as needed in order to reflect initiatives from SOT, our Sister Organizations, and a variety of academic and other organizations that regularly share information with HOT.

i) Other Special Interest Group 2018-2019 Activities

As it happens every year, during the SOT Annual Meeting, the Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists had a table at the Pavilion where we received our members for exchange of ideas and experiences. Also, many participants of the SOT Meeting approached our space to get information about our SIG and become members.

A meeting of the HOT Advisory Committee was held during the SOT meeting to discuss and propose new ideas to the HOT Executive Board.

Silvia Barros, Ofelia Olivero and Betzabet Quintanilla, HOT members, participated on the Scientific Committee of the XV International Congress of Toxicology to be held in July 2019, sponsored by IUTOX and organized by SOT. Their participation was dedicated to help in the selection of the proposals and abstracts.

HOT 2018-2019 President Silvia Barros and HOT 2019-2020 President Ranulfo Lemus Olalde represented HOT at the Special Interest Group Collaboration Group attending the bimonthly conference calls, as well as the face-to-face meetings held during the SOT 2019 Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

j) HOT Members

Currently, HOT has 248 members. Additionally, HOT has 126 HOT-only members. Our membership is distributed among multiple countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, UK, Uruguay, USA, Venezuela.