HOT NEW BOARD
2021-2022
Dear HOT members,

We hope you all and your families are well and safe! Again, our most sincere condolences to those who have lost any family member, friend or colleague to the CoViD-19 pandemic.

This past year was a year of unexpected challenges that has impacted us all, directly, or indirectly. However, we continued moving forward stronger as one diverse and inclusive family, sharing our passion in toxicology. As a result of the CoViD-19 pandemic, the online virtual resources became more available. Therefore, these resources gave us the great opportunity to bring our toxicology outreach activities to your doorsteps as well as the possibility to connect and participate in outreach activities from our sister organizations.

Our HOT EC Board members have been an exceptional team above and beyond all expectations, always promoting the goals and mission of HOT. I personally want to thank the 2020-2021 HOT EC Board members for their outstanding and continued support and guidance, Dr. Aline de Conti, Dr. Julieta Martino, Dr. Teresa Palacios, Dr. Vinicius de Paula Venancio, Dr. Carmen Rubio, Dr. Michelle Hernández, Dr. Patricia Ruiz, Dr. Mercedes Salvador-Siva, Dr. Henry Lujan, Dr. Ranulfo Lemus Oalde and Julia Rezende da Silva (ToxEnlaces Editor & Social Media Outreach). Our special thanks to Dr. Luval DePass for his ongoing help on asking for donations in HOT’s behalf, and to all the Past Presidents, who are still participating in the Advisory Committee. Our Councilor for Sister Organizations, Dr. Carmen Rubio Armendáriz, continued reinforcing our current bridges and adding new bridges with sister organizations. Moreover, with the outstanding leadership of Julia Rezende da Silva, we keep increasing our global presence by reaching you all via ToxEnlaces and Facebook with 1,164 followers and increasing.

This year we had 185 HOT active members, both trainees and professionals from over 10 counties representing academia, industry, government, and other sectors in the field of toxicology. HOT actively participated in the “SOT Focus Group with Latinx Members” to promote inclusion and was represented by Dr. Teresa Palacios in the SOT Annual Virtual meeting Session entitled “Diversity and Inclusion at SOT-Past and Future”. HOT also offered the virtual mentoring workshop “Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists Mentoring Workshop: Mentoring Success Stories”, and the virtual SOT Annual Meeting Informational Session on Strategies to Increase Global Awareness of Toxicology: Focus on Developing Countries. I personally want to take the time to thank our HOT membership for your participation in all the HOT initiatives and related virtual activities. We had a successful 2021 SOT Virtual Annual Meeting, the 2021 HOT Annual Awards Ceremony & Reception, with virtual dancing lesson at the end.

We are very confident that the HOT 2021-2022 EC Board led by the President Dr. Aline de Conti will continue with HOT’s goals and mission. However, they need your help and a donation of time and/or money (within your means) is always welcome. Please contact me (I will be the 2021-2022 HOT’s Nominating Committee Chair) or any of the HOT EC Board members if you want to nominate a candidate for EC positions, and remember there is nothing wrong with nominating yourself.

A special thanks to our donors whose contributions help us keep promoting the career development of trainees/scientists. It is very important to mention that our recent established HOT Award Endowment Fund will play an important role in promoting the career development of Ibero-American trainees/scientists (Hispanic, Latinx, Brazilian, Spanish or Portuguese) in toxicology by providing the funds for HOT awards. We strongly encourage you to donate (any amount will help) by visiting the SOT’s endowment fund website (https://www.toxicology.org/endowment/contribute/donate.asp). We really need your help to raise approximately $20,000 to reach the $50,000 milestone by 2022. This will allow our HOT Award Endowment Fund to become a Permanently Restricted Net Asset Fund and as such, will offer perpetual support that can impact the career development of Ibero-American scientists in Toxicology.

I am looking forward to seeing you in person at the 2022 SOT Annual Meeting events! Stay safe and continue working hard to create a safer and healthier world by advancing science and increasing the impact of toxicology. And remember, together we can continue building bridges with toxicity!

Un fuerte abrazo! #IamHOT
Contents

4  HOT at SOT

6  HOT Officers

10  Interviews

EDITORIAL BOARD

Julia Rezende da Silva
Julieta Martino
Aline de Conti
Teresa Palacios-Hernández
Carmen Rubio Armendáriz

15  Support HOT

16  Sponsors & Sister Organizations
Dr. Silvia Barros, HOT Past President and Professor at University of São Paulo, Brazil, participated as panelist in the roundtable session “The Future of Uncertainty Factors with In Vitro Studies Using Human Cells”, together with other notable colleagues from SOT (Michael Dourson, PhD; Lorna Ewart, PhD; Suzanne C. Fitzpatrick, PhD, from US FDA; and Brinda Mahadevan, PhD, from Abbott, India). This session was held on Thursday, March 18th 2021, from 2:45-4:05 PM. The roundtable session focused on the “New Approach Methodologies” (NAMS) that are currently used as in vitro toxicology methods to provide information on chemical hazard and risk assessment, and the discussion about the applicability of uncertainty factors when NAMs, such as organ-on-a-chip models using human cells are employed.

Dr. Teresa Palacios, HOT Vice President and Lead Reviewer at US FDA, participated as speaker in the SOT Component Group Event “Special Interest Group Collaboration Group: Diversity and Inclusion at SOT—Past and Future”, which was held on Monday, March 22nd 2021, from 4:15-7:30 PM. In this meeting, Dr. Palacios presented the current activities that HOT is performing to promote the participation of our Hispanic/Latino scientific community in different initiatives proposed by our group, and emphasize the effort made to continue involving all our members in events and activities performed during the year (mentoring activities, sister organization interactions, participation in Toxenlaces supplement, development of scientific webinars, etc). This meeting involved all the representatives from the different SOT Special Interest Groups. Additionally, there was a final discussion during this session where it was emphasized that more effort needs to be made to continue promoting the diversity and the inclusion of underrepresented communities in science in the activities performed by SOT.
Our HOT Reception during the 2021 SOT Meeting (March 25) was a HUGE SUCCESS! Thanks to all HOT Members that support this great community! #WeAreHOT And yes, we had our traditional SALSA DANCING! Virtual! Thanks to everyone that enjoyed this! #CelebrateWithHOT
HOT Sponsors
HOT Advisory Committee
HOT Officers Recognition
HOT Officers 2021-2022

We are very grateful for the work of our HOT officers 2020-2021! Thank you all! Also we would like to welcome our new board 2021-2022!
HOT SPONSORS

SPECIAL ARTICLE

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UES Excellence in Science & Technology

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HOT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Councilor

Henry Lujan  
Student Representative

Vinicius de Paula Venancio  
Treasurer

SPECIAL HOT Officer Award

ToxEnlaces Editor

Alejandro Lee, PhD  
National Center for Toxicology Research - FDA

Julia Rezende da Silva  
University of Sao Paulo, Master Student
With Presidents of two HOT Sisters Organizations

BY CARMEN RUBIO ARMENDÁRIZ

HOT is continually strengthening ties with our sisters organizations. Therefore, we would like you to know more about two HOT Sisters Organizations: ALAPTE (Associação Latino-Americana de Patologia Toxicológica e Experimental-Latin American Society of Toxicological and Experimental Pathology) and The IberoAmerican Network of Toxicology and Chemical Safety (RITSQ) by interviewing their presidents. Enjoy!
Interview to Luiz Carlos de Sá Rocha, DVM
Associação Latino-Americana de Patologia Toxicológica e Experimental

Luiz Carlos de Sá Rocha, DVM, MSc, PhD, is a Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neuropharmacology at the Department of Pathology, School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of São Paulo. Member of the National Institute of Science and Technology (INCT) and Institute for Research in Immunology. Member of Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD), Rockefeller Foundation, New York, USA. He is President (2020-2021) of ALAPTE (Associação Latino-Americana de Patologia Toxicológica e Experimental-Latin American Society of Toxicological and Experimental Pathology).

Carmen (C): What is the mission and vision of ALAPTE (Latin American Society of Toxicological and Experimental Pathology)?

Luiz (L): Our Mission is to be the Latin American leader in providing a qualified discussion on human, animal, and environmental health, in the light of the knowledge of Toxicological and Experimental Pathology, using an interdisciplinary and multi professional scientific approach. We actively seek out interactions with related scientific and national associations and organizations, as well as with government or corporate institutions, to fulfill our mission. ALAPTE is a scientific association with over 15 years of contribution in its field. We recently incorporated Experimental Pathology because our vision is that both experimentation and toxicological pathology are necessary for the development of new molecules.

C: What are ALAPTE’s strategic goals?

L: ALAPTE aims to be recognized as an authorized resource by legislative decision makers, national and regional regulators, and by the Latin American society in general. We want an Association capable of helping in the assessment of danger, in the analysis of risk, and in the study of different forms of exposure of humans, animals and the environment to chemical substances. Education is also one of our strategic objectives. ALAPTE seeks to be a regional leader in providing educational resources and career development in Toxicological and Experimental Pathology to its active members, organizations related to our area of knowledge, and "stakeholders". To this end, ALAPTE promotes courses, workshops, meetings (national and international), among others, as ways of disseminating knowledge, and to help increase the qualifications of our active members.

C: How is ALAPTE’s board structured?

President: Luiz Carlos de Sá Rocha
Vice-President: Bruno Cogliati
1st Secretary / treasurer: Maria Lúcia Zaidan Dagli
2nd Secretary / treasurer: Carol Ruschi
Advice:
João Lauro Viana Camargo
Luis Fernando Barbisan
Rosy Ribeiro
Shadia Catalano
Fiscal Council:
Lilian Rose Marques de Sá
Natalia Bracci
Ana Paula Gárate
Alternate Fiscal Council:
Guilherme Romualdo Ribeiro
Heidge Fukumasu
C: How would you describe the profile of the members of ALAPTE? How do you recruit and engage them?
L: Our active members are from different university backgrounds (biomedical, medical, pharmacist, veterinary, biologist, among others) and act as Toxicological Pathologists or Experimental Pathologists capable of actively participating, always in a critical way, in regulatory and health issues, at regional levels and with presence, influence, and impact. We have many undergraduate and graduate students involved with ALAPTE as well. Our partners, in this phase of restructuring, are attracted mainly through free training courses, through our websites (www.alapte.com and www.alapte-eventos.com) and we also try to engage them in other activities of ALAPTE (blog, magazines, LIVEs, newsletters, texts, etc.).

C: What are the main activities of ALAPTE, and how do you promote them?
L: Now our main activities have been the holding of LIVEs (2 held in 2020 and 8 proposed in 2021), National Symposia (1 in 2019, 1 in 2020 and 1 proposed for 2021) and International Workshops (1 in 2020 and one proposed in 2021).

C: Is ALAPTE engaged with continuous education and mentoring?
L: Yes, continuing education has been one of our main activities. We are discussing and developing a specialization course right now.

C: How does ALAPTE engage the various stakeholders, including academia, government, and society?
L: In 2021, we are proposing the realization of technical LIVEs and more general LIVEs seeking to discuss topics such as: Economics, Science and Medicine; Job market; Scientific dissemination and Open Science, Scientific policy, and Regulatory agencies, among others. We believe that many technicians already trained and who work in key positions in different institutions (national and international) are more interested in broad themes with political and economic repercussions in addition to exclusive technical themes.

C: How is the field of Experimental Toxicology viewed in Latin America?
L: Toxicologic and Experimental Pathology has evolved a lot in Latin America in the last 15 to 20 years. Many National Scientific Societies have organized to create Latin American Associations, which has boosted congresses, scientific meetings, and many important debates, as well as regional exchanges. There is a lack of continuity in the actions, often due to issues related to scientific and technological financing in many countries in the block. But ALAPTE itself is an example of achievements in the last 15 years that we are immensely proud of despite the difficulties.

C: What are the most significant challenges facing the field of Experimental Toxicology (development of new drugs, pesticides, cosmetics?)
L: All areas are important in our block, especially in Brazil, but without a doubt the pesticide area was and still is especially important in Brazil with its important, international, and extremely industrialized agricultural activity. In the last 10 to 15 years the development of new drugs, medicines and cosmetics has evolved a lot, but we are still very dependent on imports. Toxicological and Experimental Pathology has contributed a lot in the safe development of new agrochemicals, new drugs and in the field of cosmetics.
Interview to Eduardo de la Peña de Torres
The IberoAmerican Network of Toxicology and Chemical Safety

Carmen (C): What is RITSQ and what is its mission?
Eduardo (E): The IberoAmerican Network of Toxicology and Chemical Safety (RITSQ) was founded in 2006 and has more than 69,874 user members from 144 countries. The RITSQ mission is to: a) coordinate group participation; b) strengthen collaboration and academic exchange; c) support the development of short and long-term essays; d) standardize analytical methods; e) support the use of alternative methods; f) promote the exchange of Toxicology professionals. The participants work in the following fields in toxicology: environmental toxicology (44%), clinical toxicology (17%), food safety (13%), regulatory Science (10%), forensics (8%), reproductive and developmental toxicology (6%) and veterinary (2%) (These data are from the RITSQ Survey conducted in 2017).

C: How would you describe the profile of the members of RITSQ? How do you recruit and engage them?
E: RITSQ is represented by women (41,85 %) and men (54,15 %). Most are academics (33%), researchers and students (26%), consultants (10%), communication organizations (9%), ER medical doctors (7%), toxicology control (5%) and others activities (10%). Most of our members learned about RITSQ as a result of events, conferences, congresses and meetings promoted by the several societies in Ibero-American countries as well as Spanish and other international meetings and events promoted by different societies (ALATOX, EUROTOX, IUTOX, SOT). We have disseminated the activities of the RITSQ by making 112 posters that were exhibited in different countries, 50 of them Ibero-American and others presented in Europe, USA and Canada. All the posters are available on the RITSQ website (http://ritsq.org).

C: What are the main activities of RITSQ and how do you promote them?
E: In addition to the communication activities (i.e., posters and presentations) RITSQ has been collaborating with the following: 1. Universities of different countries such as Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Portugal and Spain. 2. Congresses of Toxicology, Environmental Health, Environmental Mutagenesis. 3. Societies SOTOX Chile, AETOX Spain; ALATOX, EUROTOX, and IUTOX. 4. International Colloquia on Clinical Toxicology. - Hospital Juárez de México, CDMX (5) - Hospital Ángeles, Morelia (1) 5. Technical Inspection Phytosanitary Application Equipment in collaboration with the Machinery Department (to promote Good Agricultural Practice and the correct use of phytosanitary products). 6. Spanish Network of Alternative Methods REMA, Europe ECOPA and ICLAS.

C: How does RITSQ engage the various stakeholders, including academia, government, and society?
E: Whenever possible, we try to promote integration between sectors, and every year new initiatives appear to strengthen ties. In general, scientific societies involve academia and industry. In the Spanish network of alternative methods (REMA) academia, companies or industries, societies and protectionist groups have been involved from the beginning. RITSQ is offered as an appropriate medium and, through its outreach, contributes to the connection and collaboration of groups from Ibero America, Portugal and Spain. Two examples of this collaboration are the one with Dra. Cavieres from the University of Valparaiso in Chile and our mutagenesis group and also with Dr. Gonzalves from Labofarm, Cuba. In 2024, Dr. Cavieres will be organizing the next 12th Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries (CTDC12) in Santiago de Chile. RITSQ will be taking part.
C: What are the RITSQ strategic goals for the next 3 years?
E: RITSQ aims to strengthen the links between academia, administration, societies and the private sector and promote the field of toxicological information in countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Cuba, Panama, Costa Rica, Bolivia, and other Ibero-America Countries which are currently underrepresented.

C: What are the most significant challenges facing the field of Toxicology and Chemical Safety?
E: We are aware that the best knowledge of the toxicological adverse effects and their safety will be an element of utmost importance. RITSQ wishes to contribute to this great aim through multidisciplinary approaches to toxicology to support sustainable development goals. The greatest challenge for researchers in the field of chemicals’ toxicology is to raise awareness among governments about the importance of environmental preservation. We know that preserving the environment and its natural resources is important for the quality of life for all Ibero American inhabitants as well as everywhere else in the world.

Carmen Rubio Armendáriz, Ph.D.
HOT Councilor for Sister Organizations 2020-2021
MAKE A DONATION TO THE HISPANIC ORGANIZATION OF TOXICOLOGISTS ENDOWMENT FUND

The goal of the HOT AWARD FUND is to encourage students of Ibero-America (Latin-Americans countries, Spain, and Portugal) heritage to start a career in toxicology. The fund will be used to provide awards based on scientific excellence and scientific progress to domestic or international Ibero-american students (undergraduate and graduate students) and postdoctoral fellows whose studies and research interests are in the toxicological sciences, or to those individuals with the objective of promoting global outreach by increasing research/academic excellence or leadership. These awards will be given to support the development of students and postdoctoral fellows through various educational and scientific activities, including, but not limited to: attendance at international scientific meetings to support presenters at scientific programs, symposia, workshops, courses, internships, etc.

This contribution is U.S. tax deductible, it will be recognized on our webpage and in Toxenlaces, but most importantly, it will tremendously help students to achieve their goals.

Our Travel Award Endowment needs $21,598.56 to reach permanent status by Sep 2022! Please donate!

To donate online, please click here and select HOT Award Fund from the drop down
SPONSORS & SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

Sponsors

Ofelia A. Olivero

Michelle Hernandez

Sister Organizations

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<th>Website</th>
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If your Hispanic Organization is planning a Toxicology meeting or if you are organizing a Toxicology event intended for a primarily Hispanic audience and want to promote in the upcoming Toxenlaces issues, send an email to Alexandra Maria Moita Antunes (Councilor for Sister Organizations) at alexandra.antunes@tecnico.ulisboa.pt.
ANNOUNCEMENT

HOT wants you to be part of the organization! To make it available to everyone, HOT accepts applications from non-SOT members to become HOT members. Yes, that is right! You only have to have the desire to collaborate with and be part of our great organization.

Your HOT membership provides you with valuable resources throughout your scientific career as for networking through the largest Hispanic toxicologist community, giving you opportunity for Travel Awards or serving as a mentor to the young Hispanic toxicologists; besides you receive the Toxenlaces newsletter!

Download the application by clicking on the following link: Non-SOT Member Application.

So, what are you waiting for? We are looking forward to receiving your application today!

Follow us on Facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/hispanicorganizationoftoxicologists

Don't forget to visit also the SOT Facebook page:

Toxenlaces is the newsletter that informs Hispanic toxicologists in the United States and the international Spanish and Portuguese-speaking scientific communities about important toxicological events and issues occurring in our countries. It is electronically published and distributed to our membership and Sister Organizations in Ibero-America. Toxenlaces disseminates critical dates for events, health perspectives and funding and training opportunities. It serves as a toxicology forum for our members and other partner organizations, engages in educational outreach to the Hispanic communities and provides the essential elements to support networking among Hispanic toxicologists. Toxenlaces is open to receive collaborations from HOT and SOT members and Sister Organizations. You can collaborate with short scientific articles, news or notes related with toxicology. Other ways to collaborate is by nominating your peers or yourself for the HOT Trainee Wall. For more information about collaborating with Toxenlaces send an email to Julia Rezende da Silva (Toxenlaces Editor) at juliarezende@usp.br.

The views expressed in this Toxenlaces issue do not necessarily represent those of the Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists (HOT) or Society of Toxicology (SOT).