Dear Colleagues,

Feliz Año Nuevo and best wishes for another successful year for you and your families. HOT officers are working hard towards a successful meeting at Salt Lake City. As usual, our **Reception and Dinner Night** will be on Tuesday March 9th; please mark your calendar to share with us an exciting evening.

We would like to give you an update of planned activities and request your help to make our Reception and Dinner Night bigger and special this year.

**HOT will have its own booth at the Pavilion.** Please join us during the day for casual conversation, input of ideas and to meet other members.

**Toxenlaces** special annual meeting issue will circulate both electronically and as hard copies at our booth in the Pavilion during the SOT annual meeting.

**We have reached out to different organizations in Ibero-America** with a defined plan for mutual interaction (see our web page). Their names, logos and web links will be displayed in *Toxenlaces*, HOT web page, and in our booth at the Pavilion. In reciprocity, they will do similarly with their activities and web sites.

There is still time for students and postdocs to apply for **HOT Travel Awards (due date February 5)**. For more information see our web page.

To make all of these activities possible, we need your help with one or more of the following:

1. **Ask your company, if permitted, to financially support our organization.** The sponsorship plan is already available at our website. It is critical to get all the support we can. We thank you if you have already obtained support for our Organization.

2. **Do you like to draw?** Would you like free HOT membership for the next two years? If so, participate in the still open logo contest. See page 3 for more info. We need a logo so other organizations in Ibero-America can display it in their web pages, newsletters, and events.

3. **Is your student/postdoc presenting a poster at this year SOT meeting?** Please encourage your mentee to apply for one of the Travel Awards.

4. **HOT has its own online discussion network** and would like to invite you to participate. If too busy, you can sign up to receive automatic updates by email, thus keeping informed of opportunities posted on by other HOT members. Since this is a private group, contact Minerva at mercadofelicim@niehs.nih.gov to be granted access). Continues on page 2.
5. Please send us your name, time and date if you are presenting a poster, platform, acting as chair of a session etc. Especially important: we will like to know if you or a colleague or mentee are receiving any award or other honor at the SOT meeting. We would like to include this info in our *Toxenlaces* special annual meeting issue to help promote our organization, the activity and its members.

We thank you in advance for all your support. Please include the $15 HOT membership dues in your SOT renewal and do not hesitate to raise your voice, send us your questions, and pass this info to other candidates, potential members or send us their names (email) and we will contact them. We are all active recruiters for our HOT. This is your organization feel yourself part of it.

Un saludo fraternal.

Braulio Jimenez, President
Pedro L. Del Valle, Vicepresident

---

**Call for Nominations**

We need to conduct elections for HOT council members and will be requesting your votes soon. The following positions need to be filled this year:

- Vice-President
- Post-Doctoral Representative
- Councilor
- Student Representative
- Secretary-Treasurer

Please consider running for, or nominate you colleagues for any of the positions previously mentioned. Send nominations to Dr. Braulio Jimenez and/or Dr. Pedro del Valle. Refer to our current by-laws for more information about these positions.

---

**Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Seeks Applicants for 2010-2011 Graduate and Young Professional Fellowship Program**

**Deadline: February 19, 2010**

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI), the nation’s premier Hispanic educational and youth leadership development organization, is seeking applicants for its Graduate and Young Professional Fellowships. The Graduate & Young Professional Fellowship Program offers exceptional Latino graduates and young professionals unparalleled exposure to experiences in the underserved public policy areas of health, housing, law, international affairs, and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

The fellowship is open to applicants who have earned a graduate degree from an accredited educational institution in the last three years. This competitive program is comprised of a nine-month fellowship in Washington, D.C. including a substantive work placement at a congressional office or federal agency. The International Affairs Fellowship includes three months abroad in Mexico.

Travel, health insurance and a $2,700 monthly stipend is provided. Details on how to apply can be found at: [http://www.chci.org/fellowships/](http://www.chci.org/fellowships/)
Dear colleagues,

We reserve space in every Toxenlaces issue to feature communications from our members. Please send us news from your workplace or school, or comments and opinions on recent toxicology news and issues.

Sincerely,

Toxenlaces Publishing Committee

Send your letters to mercadofelicim@niehs.nih.gov

For this issue, our featured trainee (pictured on page 1) is Karla Davila, a second year medical student at the University of Texas Health Science Center. We asked Karla to tell us about her recent and current work, and about her future plans:

“For the past two summers I participated in the Introduction to Cancer Research Program where I worked under the supervision of Dr. Ofelia Olivero at the National Cancer Institute on centromodal amplification induced by NRTIs on cultured human breast epithelial MCF-10A cells.”

“Last October I was able to participate in the 40th annual Environmental Mutagenesis Society meeting where I presented a poster and also gave an oral talk. At this meeting I was also awarded the “Alexander Hollaender Travel Award.”

“Currently, I am finishing up my second year at the School of Medicine in San Antonio, TX, preparing to take the USMLE Step 1 licensing exam to continue my medical education. In the future I plan to work in Academic Medicine and hopefully continue my research in mutagenesis.”

Send a picture and short bio of your outstanding trainee(s) to mercadofelicim@niehs.nih.gov for inclusion in an upcoming issue of Toxenlaces.

The HOT Board of Directors is extending our logo design contest.

A visually compelling logo will help generate public recognition and familiarity with HOT and provide an identifying graphic to be used in printed and electronic communications. The logo should reflect our organization’s commitment to scientific excellence, leadership, emphasis in outreach to the global Hispanic population and to engage in the search of relevant toxicological information on issues related to the Hispanic community inside and outside the U.S. For more information on HOT’s goals and objectives as an organization, please visit our website: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/hot/.

The winner of the HOT Logo Contest will receive two years free membership to HOT. Submissions should be sent to mercadofelicim@niehs.nih.gov by January 31st 2010. The winner will be announced in the February-March issue of Toxenlaces.