Women in Toxicology (WIT) - Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Society of Toxicology

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Teleconference Call
20 August 2018
1:00 pm (EDT), 12:00 pm (CDT), 11:00 am (MDT), 10:00 am (PDT)

Attendees: Betina Lew (BL, President)
Janis Hulla (JH, President-elect)
Virunya Bhat (VB, Secretary/Treasurer)
Jessica Sapiro (JS, Junior Councilor)
Susan Emch Hart (SEH, Vice President)
Lauren Lewis (LL, Student Rep)
Jenny Cohen (JC, Senior Councilor)
Samantha Snow (SS, Postdoc Rep)

Regrets: Laurie Haws (LH, Past-President)

Tentative Agenda:
1. Welcome (BL)

2. WIT SOT Awards Nomination Committee (BL and JH)
   JH indicated that the 10-member committee deliberated and came to a consensus on potential nominees and also wanted to increase diversity.
   BL - Some of the suggested nominations/alternates only minimally meet eligibility criteria as they are fairly early or only mid-way into their careers; whereas WIT should strive to nominate candidates that unequivocally surpass criteria. Most of the awards are intended for very senior level candidates. BL indicated that the spreadsheet (emailed today to WIT EC) may have additional candidates to consider; BL asked JH to provide the strongest/major 3 bullet points regarding two potential nominees for which there was not consensus between the WIT EC and the Nomination Committee.
   BL indicated that the committee suggestions are not final, and the WIT senior leadership should be given adequate time to review and agree with the proposed candidates. Also, some of the proposed nominees have been recently nominated thus are still in the 3-year eligibility window.
   SS: Since some of the disagreement involves alternate candidates, only if the primary candidate declines, could the committee reach out to the primary candidate in the specific instance, because if the primary candidate is willing to be nominated, then no conversation regarding an appropriate alternate is needed.
   SEH will be chairing the nomination committee next year.
   ALL: Due to time constraints, the conversation to achieve consensus on potential nominees/alternates will be continued offline soon in the coming days given the early October application deadline.

3. WIT fall Webinar (JC and JS)
   The final date and time is Oct 23 at 8 am PST/11am EST/4pm UK time. Finalizing a date and time was exceedingly difficult given the multi-national (transatlantic) spread of speakers and their busy schedules.
ALL: after the Labor Day weekend, help publicize on social media, including JS will post on WIT’s Linkedin page and others can “share” it.
SS will reach out to PDA to publicize after Labor Day weekend.
LL will reach out to GSLC to publicize after Labor Day weekend.

4. Moving the teleconference times up 30 minutes earlier (given conflict of one member) (BL)
All were OK with the proposal to move the recurring call to 12:30 pm (EDT), 11:30 pm (CDT), 10:30 am (MDT), 9:30 am (PDT). VB had AB change Webex details accordingly.

5. Timeline for WIT EC response for feedback (BL)
For important WIT EC issues, please allow WIT EC at least one weekend for a response. For example, if the request falls on a Monday, please allow until the following Monday to receive a response.

6. WIT nomination for AAAS Mentoring Award update (Brittany Baisch, via email), Brittany indicated that the application was submitted on July 31.

7. 2019 SOT Session committee update (JH/SEH)
JH gave a recap of the committee activities that resulted in the acceptance of one WIT-endorsed session and reminded ALL to think about possible sessions as WIT has a guaranteed acceptance for 2020 SOT.
VB indicated that the SPC accepts only up to 4 Education-Career Development (ECD) sessions per meeting. Some component groups have asked whether the number of ECD sessions could be increased for 2020 SOT and beyond, given that the overall number of accepted sessions increases if SOT adopts the 90-min workshop format.

8. The next WIT EC meeting will be Monday, September 17th at 12:30 PM EDT.
ALL: Please let VB know if you will not be available.