ANNUAL REPORT: 2007-2008
May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008

I. Officers/Committees:

President: Maryka Bhattacharyya Stacie Wild
President-elect: Stacie Wild Laura Andrews
Vice President: Laura Andrews Susanne Fitzpatrick
Secretary/Treasurer: Melissa Rhodes Frances Crofts
Councilors: Katie Sprugel Kristina Chadwick
            Kristina Chadwick Melissa Rhodes
Past-President Carol Auletta Maryka Bhattacharyya
Student Liaison: Jennifer Cohen Jennifer Cohen
Post-Doc Liaison: Julie Gosse TBD

II. Activities

2007-2008 Meetings:

1. Annual 2008 SOT Meeting

WiT Meeting/Reception

The 2008 Annual Meeting/Reception was held March 19 in Seattle WA. Approximately 125 meeting attendees joined us in our networking session, business meeting, and mentoring panel discussion. Dr. Wild called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM after a short networking session. The program consisted of the introduction of the 2008-2009 Women in Toxicology Officers, awards, and mentoring panel discussion.
**Awards:** Student Achievement Awards for outstanding achievement in academics, leadership, and community service were presented to:

**Graduate Student Awards:**
- Kylee Eblin (University of Arizona)
- Sheung Ng (NYU Medical Center)

**Post Doctoral Award:**
- Devon Graham (Cincinnati Children’s Research Foundation)

The first Annual WiT Elsevier Award in mentoring woman in the field of Toxicology was presented to:

**Linda Birnbaum, PhD, DSc, ATS (EPA).**

Dr. Birnbaum has demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in mentoring over 30 graduate and/or undergraduate students and WiT is honored to be able to present her with this first-ever award.

The mentoring panel discussion was a recap of the WiT sponsored informational session on mentoring presented during the Wednesday noontime session. This noontime session was well attended with over 70 attendees. Our mentoring experts – Jim Gentile, Katherine Squibb, and Reitha Weeks – gave insightful talks with great ideas around how to be a mentor and how to be mentored. The three speakers joined us for the evening reception and provided a short recap of their mentoring experiences and answered questions from the reception attendees.

**WiT Executive Committee Meeting**

This meeting was held on March 19, 2008 6:45 – 8:00 AM. to review reception plans, introduce newly-elected officers, and discuss program proposals for 2009.

**SIG (Special Interest Group) President’s and Officer’s Meeting**

Executive Committee members Stacie Wild and Laura Andrews attended this meeting. Good exchange of information and suggestions for future activities.

**Graduate Student Poster Session**

WiT presented a poster at the student poster session on Sunday night and encouraged male and female students to join our section.

2. **Activities outside of the SOT Annual Meeting**

   Conference calls every 2-3 months to plan for the annual Meeting, discuss increasing membership, continued mentoring opportunities; and other issues related to WiT’s mission.

   Maryka Bhattacharyya and Melissa Rhodes represented WiT at the annual meeting of Special Interest Groups in Chicago in June 2007. This was a very productive meeting and allowed SOT to hear the suggestions and opinions from the SIGs. We were very pleased that the Society is considering these suggestions and implementing them when possible (e.g. annual meeting funds for SIGs).

   The Mentoring and Monitoring and Visibility committees continued to be active. The Monitoring committee prepared a summary of gender differences in SOT membership and Awards. This was summarized in the WiT Poster prepared for the graduate and post-doctoral student mixer (attached).
3. Proposal for Programs for 2009

WiT suggested 2 topics for the 2009 program,

- Lead: Children’s exposures and Current Regulatory Standards
- National Children’s Study: Opportunities and Challenges for Toxicologists

In addition, WiT was asked to sponsor/endorse a total of 7 proposals – a testament to the value that scientists and other members place on our support and input.