Women in Toxicology (WIT) - Special Interest Group (SIG)
Society of Toxicology
Executive Committee (EC) Teleconference Call
15 May 2017
1:00 pm (EDT), 12:00 pm (CDT), 11:00 am (MDT), 10:00 am (PDT)

Attendees:
Laurie Haws (LH, President)
Brittany Baisch (BB, Secretary/Treasurer)
Sharmilee Sawant (SS, Past President)
Betina Lew (BL, President Elect)
Janis Hulla (JH, Vice President)
Alison Sanders (AS, Postdoc Rep)
Lauren Walker (LW, Student Rep)
Nadia Moore (NM, Senior Councilor)
Jenny Cohen (JC, Junior Councilor)

Agenda:

1. Protocol for approval of minutes (LH, SS, BB)
   a. After discussion, the WIT EC agreed to proceed with approval of minutes as done during the last term:
      i. BB will send a draft of minutes to the EC for their review
      ii. EC will provide any track changes back to BB within 5 business days, or indicate that they do not have any comments
      iii. BB will revise minutes and send to LH for final approval
      iv. BB will finalize as PDF and LW will post the final version to the WIT website

2. Newsletter status update (BB)
   a. BB will follow up with EC after the call to ensure the profile pictures have good resolution
   b. Pending articles/information:
      i. Profile picture of one of the article authors
      ii. President’s Message (LH)
      iii. Endowment funds updates – postponing to Fall newsletter
      iv. Additional pictures for the March for Science should be uploaded within the next few days
   c. Will be provided to Newsletter subcommittee of volunteers for comments, and then shared with WIT EC end of next week (around May 24th) for final comments
   d. BB will then finalize and LH and SOT HQ (Ashley Black) will provide final comments
   e. Issue to membership first week of June

3. Update on review of session proposals (BL)
   a. Pre-reviewed 11 proposals, 2 sets of reviewers and each set pre-reviewed 5-6 proposals
   b. Feedback was sent to the submitters and May 16th should receive final submissions from SOT for review and ranking for sponsorship
c. Subcommittee will provide feedback and ranking prior to the May 26th deadline

d. After discussion on criteria for endorsement, the WIT EC agreed that proposals must first be
of high scientific quality and well put together in order to be further considered. A second
criterion is that WIT members chair/co-chair and/or present during the session, which
supports our mission to increase visibility of our members. Another criterion is that the
science is related to women’s/family health, although this is not a requirement for
endorsement.
   i. The WIT Program Committee and WIT EC agreed that there is not necessarily a final
   number of proposals that WIT will endorse.

4. August webinar update (BL and LW)
   a. Dr. Paige Lawrence (University of Rochester) and Jeff Ansell (Personal Care Product Council)
      will discuss Communicating Toxicology in the context of chemophobia and public perception
      of science from the academic and industry perspectives, respectively
      i. They will discuss how non-scientists get their information on toxicology and how
         toxicologists can shape their story. The goal is to build awareness that
         communicating your scientific story is an important skill to have as a toxicologist.
   b. Recommendation to also consider Toxipedia as a future topic

5. SOT Annual Meeting reception photos (LH, BB, LW)
   a. Are in the gallery on the SOT website
   b. WIT reception photos are on the WIT Leadership Community ToXchange and WIT website

6. SIG-CG update (BL/SS)
   a. SOT trying to reach out to universities that have minority student populations or smaller,
      more rural universities to recruit students for the Undergraduate Peer Mentoring Program, 
      sponsored by CDI. $500 per diem grants are available to recruit members to speak at the
      universities
   b. BL will follow up with CDI to ask for fliers or more details to share that may be of interest to
      our members

7. Endowment Steward appointment (LH)
   a. SS and LH support asking JC to serve as the next Endowment Steward, and JC agreed. JC will
      therefore lead efforts to obtain more support for the Endowment Funds, manage the
      Endowment accounts, especially during Award’s time.

8. Leadership Connection Webinars (LH, BB)
   a. A recording is available for the first Leadership Connection Webinar
   b. NM, JC, JH and BB will attend the second webinar and provide feedback to the EC by email
      and during the next EC call.
   c. The third Leadership Connection webinar will be June 20th at 1pm EDT.

9. Other business (LH)
   a. Contact JH if interested in assisting with funding or in support of a new Specialty Section for
      Forensics.
   b. Contact JH if interesting in assisting with changing the description for GS-0415, Toxicologist
      classification for federal Officer Personnel Management.