Women in Toxicology (WIT) - Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Society of Toxicology
Executive Committee Meeting - Friday, November 19, 2021
Teleconference Call
12:30 pm (EDT), 11:30 pm (CDT), 10:30 am (MDT), 9:30 am (PDT)

Attendees:
Courtney Sulentic (CS, President)
Brittany Baisch (BB, President-Elect)
Grace Chappell (GC, Secretary/Treasurer)
Susan Emeigh Hart (SEH, Councilor/Past President)
Carmen Rubio Armendáriz (CRA, Junior Councilor Elect)
Judith Zelikoff (JZ, Senior Councilor)
Samantha Goodman (SG, Graduate Student Representative)

Regrets:
Lauren Walker (LW, Postdoctoral Representative)
Annie Jarabek (AJ, Vice President)

Agenda:

1. Welcome/call to order (CS)
   a. The meeting will only be 30 minutes today due to a time conflict for CS

2. Approval of October Minutes (CS)
   a. This item was skipped; October minutes sent too close to the time of the meeting

3. WIT Committee Reports:
   a. WIT Website and LinkedIn group (SG/LW)
      • Action Item: Reach out to OTA about Venus symbol (completed)
        ▪ CS heard back from OTA that using the Venus symbol in the WIT logo was not recommended/supported
        ▪ The website updates will move forward with the new WIT logo without the Venus symbol
        ▪ Action Item (CS): confirm with SOT (completed)
   b. SOT National Awards Nomination Committee (BB/AJ)
   c. WIT Election Committee (SEH)
      • Chair: Past President (SEH)
      • Candidates and bio deadline to HQ 11/15/21
        ▪ Two candidates for all open offices with the exception of Vice President (only one candidate)
        ▪ Several potential candidates for VP have been contacted but have declined for various reasons (primarily not available for the effort commitment)
        ▪ Effort is being placed on recruiting new members; i.e., women who have not served on the EC before, and from organizations/companies that have not been historically represented on the EC. Effort on introducing diversity as well.
        ▪ Outstanding item: still need one (or more) additional candidate for VP
        ▪ SEH sent around candidate list and biosketches to the EC for approval/disapproval for inclusion on the ballot.
        ▪ JZ also will share biosketches for the offices she was in contact with
        ▪ Biosketches can be updated to be in second person, and not include a photo
        ▪ Goal is to have the ballot finished before Thanksgiving
   d. WIT Awards Committee (JZ/CR)
• **Action Items:**
  - Form Review Committee
  - Add members to ToXchange group
  - JZ and CR to meet on Monday 11/22 to discuss path forward. Plan to repeat the same as last year, in which the Sr. Councilor took lead on senior awards, and Jr. Councilor took trainee awards
  - ToXchange: ensure that committee chairs and members understand how to use the platform to upload/download files, set up notifications, etc.
  - SIG-Collaboration Group (JZ/CR)
    - SIG Collaboration group is seeking members of a panel under development regarding scientists’ immigration to the US, being led by HOT under the Title: “Immigration journey of international students and early career post-doctorates toxicologists in the United States” and presented by: Maurice H. Goldman. The webinar attempts to inform international post-doctorates and early career scientist about VISA categories, eligibility, requisites, and processing times. The webinar is not intended to provide legal advice in any of the topics, rather it will serve as a resource information to be used for career planning of international students and by institution/organization staff who wants to open an opportunity to these talented people with unique skills.
      - Action item is for the WIT EC to vote regarding our involvement, which will be conducted via e-mail
  - Poster discussion, need a theme
    - Should we put together a sub-committee for this?
    - Can use content from the newsletter for the poster
  - Newsletter committee (GC)
    - Newsletter is under development and articles are drafted
    - GC to send CS content for President’s message

4. **WIT By-laws review (All EC)**
   - In review at SOT Council

5. **WIT SOT Reception planning (GC/CS)**
   - **Action item:**
     - determine next steps in planning location and date
     - CS to reach out to Mary to see if we have an assigned time for the reception or if we will choose (completed)
       - WIT reception is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30th from 4:45-7pm
     - GC to collect documents from the most recent reception and begin the process of planning the reception

6. **Activities for webinars/annual meeting and member engagement (CS)**
   - **Career Agility Panel Discussion at the SOT Annual meeting – planning and further discussion**
     - **Action Items:** fill out ancillary meeting form (completed)
       - [https://www.toxicology.org/events/am/AM2022/application/ancillarymtg.aspx](https://www.toxicology.org/events/am/AM2022/application/ancillarymtg.aspx)
       - Date, time, room type, participant number, food, etc
       - Sent in a request for Monday, March 28th at 6pm
a. Kjersti Agaard (Leigh Ann’s suggestion; non-member) will be at the meeting on Monday for Leigh Ann’s session.
   ▪ Not sure if noon on Tuesday would be a possibility. It appears to be a blackout time.
   a. Monday 6-7pm, will have hors d’oeuvres, will not charge for attendance

- Summary of email discussion:
  ▪ LW: Career agility may be defined as "self-reflective, incremental career path, guided by response to change, evolving job roles, and designed to optimize creativity, growth, and happiness."
  ▪ Suggestion to include various sectors (academia, government, private, NGO)
  ▪ Panelists suggested so far (not ranked in order of preference but when they were suggested)
    a. Kjersti Agaard (Leigh Ann’s suggestion; non-member but will be at the meeting for Leigh Ann’s session)
    b. Nicole Sparks (early career academia w/kids)
    c. Lauren Alekskunes (academia w/kids)
    d. Marie Fortin
    e. Allison Harrill (career agility w/o kids)
    f. Ofelia Olivero (career agility, minority perspective but already very visible at SOT)
    g. Aline DeConti (career agility, global, minority perspective w/ kids)
    h. Irene Abraham (career agility, minority, Black woman perspective)

7. AOB?