Women in Toxicology

ANNUAL REPORT: 2017–2018
May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018

I. Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>2016–2017</th>
<th>2017–2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President:</td>
<td>Sharmilee Sawant</td>
<td>Laurie Haws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect:</td>
<td>Laurie Haws</td>
<td>Betina Lew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President:</td>
<td>Betina Lew</td>
<td>Janis Hulla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary/Treasurer:</td>
<td>Brittany Baisch</td>
<td>Brittany Baisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Tao Wang</td>
<td>Sharmilee Sawant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councilors:</td>
<td>Marie Fortin</td>
<td>Nadia Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nadia Moore</td>
<td>Jennifer Cohen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDA Representative:</td>
<td>Alison Sanders</td>
<td>Alison Sanders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSLC Representative:</td>
<td>Lauren Walker</td>
<td>Lauren Walker</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

II. Committees:

2017-2018 SOT Awards Nomination Committee: Betina Lew (chair), Janis Hulla (co-chair), Virunya Bhat, Mary Ellen Cosenza, Alison Sanders, Sharmilee Sawant, Angela Slitt, Phoebe Stapleton

2017-2018 WIT Program Committee: Betina Lew (chair), Janis Hulla (co-chair), Kelly Almond, Brittany Baisch, Colleen McLoughlin, Daniella Pizzurro


III. Activities

WIT had a very productive year, and the Executive Committee is pleased to report our numerous accomplishments (see below).

2018 SOT Annual Meeting Reception

The 2018 WIT Reception was held in the Lone Star Ballroom at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, on March 14, 2018, during the SOT Annual Meeting. The reception was well attended, with approximately 250 people present. Dr. Leigh Ann Burns Naas, SOT Vice-President, opened the Business Meeting portion of the WIT Reception by welcoming WIT members. Dr. Betina Lew (President-Elect, WIT) then called the Business Meeting to order at 5.30 pm. Business Meeting speakers included Dr. Betina Lew (President-Elect, WIT), Dr. Jan Hulla (Vice President, WIT), Dr. Nadia Moore (Senior Councilor, WIT), Dr. Jenny Cohen (Junior Councilor, WIT), and Dr. Sharmilee Sawant (Past-President, WIT). MPI Research sponsored the wine at the WIT reception again this year, and Charles River was also a repeat sponsor of the WIT Mentoring Award.

Awards

A total of 25 award application packets were submitted for review by the WIT Awards Committee, and the following winners were announced at the WIT Reception.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>No. Applications Received</th>
<th>Award Winner</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring Award</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dr. Laura Van Winkle University of California, Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith and Hook Distinguished Service Award</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dr. Katie Sprugel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Young Investigator Award</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vera W. Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Student Scholarship Award</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Saniya Rattan University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Achievement Award</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dr. Karilyn Sant University of Massachusetts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>No. Applications Received</td>
<td>Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Celebrating Women in Toxicology | 10                        | Graduate Student: Jessica Murray  
                                  University of Pennsylvania  
                                  Postdoctoral Student:  
                                  Dr. Samantha Snow  
                                  U.S. EPA  
                                  Postdoctoral Student:  
                                  Dr. Suang Supasai  
                                  University of California, Davis |

Reviewed 25 applications for the 2018 WIT student and later stage career awards.

**2018 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/ Sessions**

- Workshop: Mechanisms of Ocular Sulfur Mustard Toxicity and Potential Therapies  
  (WIT-endorsed session)
- Workshop: Deliberations in Regulatory and Safety Assessment of Food Substances in Early Life (WIT-endorsed session)

**Endowment Fund Details**

The Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award Endowment Fund was established in 2015, initiated by generous donations from the estate of Ms. Anne Wolven Garrett by Mrs. Shawn Lamb, and from Drs. Jacqueline Smith and Jerry Hook. In 2017, WIT received $1200 in donations, which was matched by SOT. Revenues/dividends of the Fund total $7325, of which $3000 was used for the Celebrating Women in Toxicology (CWIT) Award.

The Vera W. Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Scholarship Fund was established in 2007 by a generous donation from Elizabeth K. Weisburger, in memory of her longtime friend Vera W. Hudson. In 2017, WIT received $900 in donations, which was matched by SOT. Revenues/dividends of the fund total $5880, of which $1000 was used for the Celebrating Women in Toxicology (CWIT) Award.

**Newsletters**

WIT published three newsletters (2017 summer, 2017 fall, and 2018 spring).
Teleseminars

WIT hosted two highly successful, well-attended webinars:

- “Communicating the Sciences of Toxicology,” on August 3, 2017 (Speakers: B. Paige Lawrence and Jay Ansell)
- “Tailoring the Resume Across Sectors,” on February 20, 2018 (Speakers: Ron Hines and Terry Leyden).

Contributions to SOT Website

The WIT website was updated periodically throughout 2017 and 2018. The primary website updates during this period were the following:

- Updated WIT award deadlines and contacts
- Added WIT Annual Meeting Reception Photo Gallery
- Added List of Previous WIT Award Recipients

Other Special Interest Group 2017–2018 Activities

- Supported the nomination of a number of women for prestigious SOT national awards in both 2017 and 2018. This included identifying potential candidates and providing them with assistance with preparing award application materials.
  - Three women won SOT national awards in 2017: Dr. Linda Birnbaum (Distinguished Toxicology Scholar Award, nominated in 2014), Dr. Meryl Karol (Founders Award, nominated in 2015), and Dr. Debra Laskin (Education Award, nominated in 2016)
  - Three additional women won SOT national awards in 2018: Dr. Dana Dolinoy (SOT Achievement Award), Dr. Judith Zelikoff (SOT Education Award), and Dr. Ruth Roberts (SOT Founders Award).
- Developed guidance document on delivering an impactful seminar for use by the WIT membership
- Initiated cluster site to share WIT members’ activities, including participation in the 2017 March for Science and work/life balance hobbies
- Drafted educational materials related to sexual harassment in the workplace and how to empower bystanders and victims to take action; working with SOT Council to roll out to WIT membership
• Won the ToXchange Photo Contest again in 2018; winnings ($500) were used as travel support for the WIT Postdoctoral Representative (Alison Sanders) to attend the SOT Annual Meeting

• Conducted pre-review of ten scientific session proposals for the 2017 annual meeting (five were endorsed by WIT, two were rejected, three were ultimately accepted for the annual meeting)