Message from the President

Dear WIT members,

Cheers and a happy 2015 for each of you! The 54th Annual SOT meeting in San Diego is just a few weeks away already. The WIT Executive Committee (EC) is looking forward to seeing many of our WIT colleagues at this year’s meeting. There will be many sessions and activities throughout the annual meeting that will provide opportunities to highlight WIT and bring our members together (see pages 3-4 for a summary of events of particular interest).

On behalf of the entire WIT EC, I would like to cordially invite you to the WIT reception on Wed., 25 March 2015 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm in the Marriott Marquis Marina D Ballroom. Come enjoy snacks and beverages while reconnecting with colleagues and networking with WIT members from across the globe. Members of the WIT EC will update you with all the WIT accomplishments since our term began and, we will introduce you to the newly elected EC members whose term begins on 01 May 2015. The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of awards including the Mentoring Award (funding provided by Charles River this year…THANK YOU CRL!), Graduate Student Award, Postdoctoral Award, and the Hudson and Weisburger Scholarship Fund Award.

Our efforts to raise funds for the Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award Fund have been met with great success, with over $6000 in contributions having been made since the fund was officially announced in June 2014 (see page 5 for more information). With your help we can reach our goal of $25,000 very soon! The newly formed WIT SOT Award Nomination Committee did such a fabulous job of supporting the applications of several outstanding women for various SOT awards that it has now become a standing committee per the amended bylaws passed in November. Our amended bylaws now extends WIT membership to undergraduates; please help us spread the word of this great opportunity to undergraduates in your networks. As we gear up and get our travel plans set for the 54th annual meeting, remember that it is never too early to also start planning your proposal for a scientific session or CE course at the 55th annual meeting (see page 5 for details).

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of the outstanding ladies whom I have had the privilege and honor to serve with on the WIT EC this term. The dedication and enthusiasm of each of these women has been an inspiration to me and hopefully to each of our WIT members as well. To the several WIT members who volunteered to serve on various WIT committees throughout the year, a big Thank You! I want to also thank the entire WIT membership for your support of me to serve as your President. Serving as the WIT President is a demanding role and has been personally challenging and rewarding on many levels. The entire EC and I hope that our hard work has positioned WIT to lead, educate, mentor and make visible the many talented and intelligent women studying and working in the field of toxicology. Thank you for your continued support and interest in WIT and see you in San Diego!

Sincerely,

Brenda Faiola, PhD, DABT
President, Women In Toxicology SIG
mailto:Brenda_Faiola@BD.com

March 2015
Editors: Courtney Horvath, Linda Rausch, Margaret Pratt

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WIT Officers 2014-15:

President
Brenda Faiola

President –Elect
Tao Wang

Vice President
Sharmilee Sawant

Secretary/Treasurer
Courtney Horvath

Past President
Prathiba S. Rao

Councilors
Laurie Couture Haws
Alexandria Lau

Postdoctoral Representative
Phoebe Stapleton

Student Representative
Jessica Sapiro
Networking at conferences can be challenging. Introducing yourself and knowing what to say at the right moments can be very uncomfortable. The WIT reception will provide you with a friendly environment to establish new connections, seek advice, and perhaps make potential collaborations. Upon entering, you will be given a colored sticker based on your sector of employment (Academia, Industry, Government, CRO/Consulting). Wear it on your name badge and make it a goal to expand your WIT network by at least four. You can meet one member from each category or multiple from the same sector but from a different institution or company. Enjoy refreshments and engage in a casual conversation in a relaxed environment prior to the officers beginning the meeting! Some possible topics for discussion include:

- **Career** - How did you become interested in Toxicology? Have you worked at multiple institutions or companies? How did you decide on a career path?
- **WIT** - How long have you been a member of WIT? Are you a new member and is this your first reception? Have you served as an officer or on a committee? Do you participate in the SOT Mentoring Program as a mentor or mentee or another mentoring initiative? Have you held SOT leadership positions? Do you engage in K-12 outreach activities?
- **Scientific interest** - What are your research interests? What specialty sections are you a member of? Have your research interests changed over the years in your career?

Don’t be shy! More established toxicologists, further your leadership and mentoring skills and initiate conversations with our budding toxicologists. We are all very welcoming and everyone will be participating. Remember to exchange business cards. Students, many universities can provide business cards at printing services on campus and they are also available online at sites such as Vista Print, with some even having last minute delivery options. Blank index cards will be placed on the tables for those that need to write down contact information.

See you in sunny San Diego!
WIT Events of Interest at the 2015 SOT Annual Meeting

Monday, March 23rd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:15-7:45 am</td>
<td>Mentoring Breakfast (ticket required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15-12:00 pm</td>
<td>Toxicological Epigenomics: The Interface between the Environment and Human Health (WIT Endorsed Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-12:15 pm</td>
<td>Meet the WIT Officers at the Representative Attended Poster Session near the SOT Pavilion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Adaptive Leadership: Anticipating, Initiating, and Responding to Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-4:45 pm</td>
<td>Infant Formula Nutrition: Regulatory and Safety Evaluation of Ingredients (WIT Endorsed Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-4:45 pm</td>
<td>Challenges in the Life Cycle of a Toxicologist (WIT Endorsed Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>Meet the WIT Officers at the SOT Pavilion</td>
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Tuesday, March 24th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Past Presidents’ 5k Run/Walk – Embarcadero Marina Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>Meet the WIT Officers at the SOT Pavilion</td>
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Wednesday, March 25th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00-8:00 am</td>
<td>Special Interest Group Global Hot Topic Event: Global Drug Development and Natural Products, End of an Era or an Endless Frontier?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>Meet the WIT Officers at the SOT Pavilion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-6:30 pm</td>
<td>WIT Reception</td>
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</table>
WIT Events of Interest at the 2015 SOT Annual Meeting—Students and Post docs

Sunday, March 22rd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-9:30 pm</td>
<td>Student/Postdoctoral Scholar Mixer (ticket required)- Meet the WIT Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Representatives</td>
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</table>

Monday, March 23rd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:15-7:45 am</td>
<td>Mentoring Breakfast (ticket required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-1:20 pm</td>
<td>In Vitro Toxicology Lecture and Luncheon for Students (ticket required)</td>
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Tuesday, March 24th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-11:45 am</td>
<td>GSLC/PDA Symposium - Alternative Models to Study Classical Toxicants: A Mechanistic View</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-1:15 pm</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Assembly Luncheon (ticket required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Undergraduate Student Meeting</td>
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Wednesday, March 25th

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30-5:30 pm</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Assembly Sponsored Career Development Session - Crafting High-Impact Manuscripts: The Process from Hypothesis through Review and Publication (NOTE: time conflicts with WIT reception)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Ongoing Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Sign-up</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chat with an Expert</td>
<td>Through GSLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poster tour for Trainees</td>
<td>Through PDA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Undergraduate Students are Invited to Join WIT!

Undergraduate students can join WIT for free! Why become a WIT member as an undergraduate?

- Become engaged in the toxicological community year round
- Mentoring and networking opportunities with established toxicologists, graduate students, and post docs
- Receive the WIT newsletter containing articles of interest to the WIT mission (Leadership, Education, Mentoring, Visibility)

To join, fill out the Non-SOT WIT Membership Application form found on the WIT website in the join WIT section and mail into SOT Headquarters. Questions about WIT, email Jessica Sapiro, WIT Graduate Student Representative.
Call for Proposals for 2016 SOT Annual Meeting

While we are making travel arrangements to attend the 54th SOT annual meeting, it is also time to start working on proposals for the 2016 annual meeting. The time to submit Scientific Session Proposals, Continuing Education Proposals, and Continuing Medical Education proposals for the 2016 annual meeting is from mid-February to April 30, 2015. The WIT Executive Committee encourages you to submit a proposal and to seek WIT endorsement! On the SOT website, under “Events & Meetings”, please click “Submit to the Scientific Program”, and you will find the information for submitting a proposal. WIT’s Program Committee will be happy to review your proposal prior to the formal submission and provide feedback to strengthen the proposal. You may email the draft proposal to the Chair of WIT’s Program Committee, Sharmilee Sawant (sharmileesawant@hotmail.com).

The Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award Fund

Our new endowment fund, the Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award Fund (approved in March 2014, established in May 2014, and officially announced in June 2014), was inspired by the generosity of Ms. Anne Wolven Garrett, one of the early leaders in the SOT. We are thankful to all who have donated to date!! We are well on our way to reaching our goal of $25,000. When we reach this goal, the matching funds from SOT will allow WIT to offer another award in perpetuity to recognize and reward WIT members in the early stages of their career. Please consider making a donation to this endowment fund. For more information and to download the donor form, go to: http://toxicology.org/ai/csot/specific_funds.asp#cwit

Annual Meeting Announcements

Child Care

A child care reminder: Although many of us will be bringing children along for the experience as we travel to the SOT annual meeting, please note that it is a safety policy of SOT not to admit children under 15 years of age in the exhibit halls or scientific sessions (unless the session chair has provided consent).

Note: Child care services will not be provided during the Annual Meeting, but arrangements can be made by contacting the concierge desk at your hotel.

Lactation Room

A lactation room will be accessible through the women’s restroom behind the Lobby E Starbucks, near Hall D. The restroom will have extra signage to indicate there is a lactation room. It will not have separate cubicles, but it will have several chairs, couches, electrical outlets, and tables available.
In October of this past year the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) program at the University of Arizona (UA) hosted their Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Conference. The EYH Conference targets teenage students (particularly girls and under-represented minorities) in response to research showing that students often disengage from science, math and technology at this age. The EYH Conference features workshops and career panels intended to excite participants about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

As volunteers for this event, Jessica Sapiro and I (both WIT members) were tasked with presenting a hands-on activity designed to pique students’ interest in a STEM field. In order to promote careers in Toxicology we chose a salt-water dose-response curve demonstration following the format that Courtney Horvath had previously created for a Girl Scouts STEM outreach event in March 2014. Our workshop consisted of an interactive 15-minute slide presentation introducing the field of Toxicology that culminated with an explanation of a dose-response curve. Students then participated in sampling varying doses of salt water including a concentration equivalent to seawater. The students were asked to report the concentration at which they detected salt using a dot sticker. A dose-response curve was built from the reported data.

This was the first time that the WISE program moved the EYH Conference from the UA campus to a local school (Amphitheater Middle School, Tucson, AZ). This conference was the pilot in a plan to offer several smaller conferences throughout the year across the larger Tucson metropolitan area instead of a larger biannual conference held at UA. The strategy behind moving the EYH conferences to local school campuses is to reach populations that normally might not attend. As a result, our two workshops had a smaller number of participants (approx. 5-10) that allowed for a very interactive and engaging event. The participants appeared to enjoy the dose-response exercise very much. Because of the smaller group sizes we had time following the salt-water demonstration to talk about our path to a career in Toxicology as well as talk with the girls about their career aspirations. At the end of each workshop we offered the attendees handouts and pens provided by SOT and the UA Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center.

I highly recommend the salt-water dose-response workshop to any WIT member that is considering STEM outreach. Courtney Horvath supplied us with excellent slides to present and suggestions for how to best facilitate the workshop. If you have any questions about how you can implement this workshop for yourself please contact Cara Sherwood (caras@email.arizona.edu) or Courtney Horvath (Courtney.Horvath@novartis.com) for more information.
Women in Toxicology

Celebrating YOUR Success!
By Sharmilee Sawant and Brenda Faiola

WIT is pleased to continue this new feature in our newsletter that we introduced for the first time in the fall 2014 newsletter…Celebrating Your Success! This is a great way for our membership to “toot their own horns” and recognize the achievement and advancement of WIT members in the field of toxicology.

This information was gathered from the online survey that was announced via email to all WIT members in January 2015. Several weeks prior to each newsletter, WIT will issue a new survey to allow you the chance to share your career success with others. Please take action to fill out the survey the next time it is announced (summer 2015). WIT wants to help you celebrate your achievements!

For those who know of WIT colleagues who might be reluctant to share their achievements, please send them the email and link to the survey and encourage them to fill it out. All accomplishments entered into the survey will be published in our newsletter. The accomplishments below were earned between July 2014 and February 2015. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Awards (Employer)
Jennifer L Freeman, PhD
School of Health Sciences, Purdue University
Early Career Research Achievement Award; Exceptional Early Career Teaching Award

Gloria B Post, PhD, DABT
NJ Dept of Environmental Protection
Annual award for outstanding performance & lasting contribution to NJDEP Office of Science

Awards (Non-Employer)
Melissa Ann Badding, PhD
CDC/NIOSH
Best Poster Award, 8th Conference on Metal Toxicity & Carcinogenesis

Career Advancement / Transitions
Krishna P. Allamneni, DVM, MS/PhD, DABT
Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Inc
Executive Director, Nonclinical Development

Heather V Dowty, PhD, DABT
Pfizer
Associate Research Fellow, Investigative Toxicology

Anna K Engstrom, BS
University of Washington
Completed the General Examination and advanced to candidacy

Alexandria Lau, BS, PhD
The Hershey Company
Manager, Allergens & Toxicology

Judit Marsillach Lopez, PhD
University of Washington
Appointed Acting Instructor, Division of Medical Genetics

Kristini Miles, PhD, DABT
Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Principal Toxicologist

Marusia A Popovech, PhD, MPH
ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences
Advanced Toxicologist

Sharmilee P Sawant, PhD, DABT
Halyard Health Inc.
Associate Director, Global Product Safety

Phoebe Stapleton, PhD
West Virginia University
Research Assistant Professor

Earned Degree
Marusia A Popovech, PhD, MPH
New York University
Ph.D.

Elected / Appointed Leadership
Marion F Ehrich, PhD, DABT, ATS
Virginia Tech
Chair, NAS/NRC Committee for Review of California’s Risk Assessment Process for Pesticides

Susan A Rice, PhD, DABT
Susan A. Rice and Associates, Inc.
Neurobehavioral Teratology Society Liaison Councilor to the Teratology Society

Sharmilee Sawant, PhD, DABT
Halyard Health
SOT Nomination Committee (2015-2017)

Tao Wang, MD, PhD, DABT
Novartis Pharmaceuticals
SOT Council (2015-2018)

Grants / Funding
Kristin Bircsak, BS
Rutgers University
PhRMA Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship in Pharmacology and Toxicology

Mingzhu Fang, MD, PhD, DABT
Rutgers University
Received an Extended International Collaboration Grant from South Korea

Alison Harrill, PhD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Awards $1.2 million contract from the US FDA for translational pharmacogenomics

Jamie Moscovitz, BA
Rutgers University
F31 Individual NRSA Fellowship, NIH/NICHD

Logeswari Ponnusamy, DVM, MVSc
TIEHH, Texas Tech University
International Federation of University Women
International Grant - Daphne Purvis Grant II

Phoebe Stapleton, PhD
West Virginia University
Awarded a K99-R00 to investigate the Gestational Consequences of ENM Exposure

Other
Diana J Auyeung-Kim, PhD, MBA, DABT
Allergan
State of California Proposition 65
Developmental and Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee; Governor Appointment to support the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986

Linda S Birnbaum, PhD, DABT, ATS
NIEHS/NIH
Invited Speaker at the North Carolina State University Distinguished Lecturer Series: Seminar title - Vision of Environmental Health Science in the 21st Century; Invited Speaker at the Yale University Environmental Health Seminar Series: Seminar title - NIEHS and the Future of Environmental Health

Mingzhu Fang, MD, PhD, DABT
Rutgers University
Passed DABT certification exam in Oct 2014; Signed MOU between Rutgers University and Quarantine and Inspection Agency, Republic of Korea

Denise Robinson Gravatt, PhD
Pfizer
Retired from Pfizer after 13 yrs as head of Science & Technology in Drug Safety R&D
SOT Mentoring Breakfast

Monday March 23, 2015 6:15-7:45 AM

The Society of Toxicology recognizes the importance of mentoring in the scientific and professional development of its members. As such, the Career Resource and Development Committee, in conjunction with the Postdoctoral Assembly and Graduate Student Leadership Committee, is pleased to announce the fourth annual Mentoring Breakfast.

The Mentoring Breakfast is for SOT members at any career stage—from graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to senior scientists—who are seeking a mentor. A brief presentation will be followed by small group discussions led by trained facilitators. Facilitators will work to match participants with compatible mentors. Note that mentees will be matched with mentors after the Annual Meeting and only interested mentees should register attend the breakfast.

Registration for this event is required, and interested mentees may register for the Mentoring Breakfast as part of their Annual Meeting Registration. A few spots may still be available!

The committee is also seeking a few more volunteers to serve as Facilitators. Please contact Kevin Merrit for more information if you are interested

The SOT Mentor Match system is available year-round to help match like-minded mentees and mentors.

For more information about the WIT SIG: