Dear WIT Members,

The SOT 57th Annual Meeting is just a little over a week away. With that, I look forward to welcoming many of you to my home state of Texas. You will find San Antonio to be an exciting and welcoming city, and the Tex-Mex food is truly the best in the land. In addition to an incredible city and amazing food, there will be many sessions and activities throughout the Annual Meeting that will provide opportunities to bring WIT members together. The most notable activity is the WIT Reception which will be held on Wednesday March 14th from 4:45-7:00 pm in the Grand Hyatt Lone Star Ballroom (DEF). On behalf of the WIT Executive Committee (EC), I cordially invite you to come enjoy snacks and beverages, while networking with WIT members from across the globe. We will also use this time together to update our members on WIT’s accomplishments over the past year and to introduce the incoming EC members, whose terms will begin on May 1st. The highlight of the WIT Reception will be the recognition of the winners of the Mentoring, Postdoctoral Fellow Achievement, Celebrating Women in Toxicology, Smith and Hook Distinguished Service, and Vera W. Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Scholarship Fund Student Awards. I would like to extend a special thanks to Charles River for funding the Mentoring Award and to MPI Research for sponsoring the wine at the WIT Reception again this year.

As this will be the last President’s Message that I will write, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the incredibly talented and committed women on the WIT EC with whom I’ve had the privilege of working. You’ve all led by example and your dedication and service has truly been inspirational. I want to extend a special thank you to our outgoing officers – Sharmilee Sawant (Past President), Brittany Baisch (Secretary/Treasurer), Nadia Moore (Senior Councilor), Alison Sanders (Postdoctoral Rep), and Lauren Walker (Graduate Student Rep). There are no words to capture all that each of you have done to contribute to WIT. I’ve thoroughly enjoyed working with each of you and you will truly be missed! I would also like to thank all of the WIT members who volunteered throughout the year. We are fortunate to have so many individuals who are willing to step up and serve.

I would like to continue to encourage our membership to volunteer, partnering with the WIT EC to further strengthen and enhance the WIT mission of promoting the visibility, leadership, education, and mentoring of women within SOT. Finally, I would like to thank you for electing me to serve as your president. This has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional career and I so am grateful. I look forward to seeing “y’all” (as they say here in Texas) in San Antonio!

Sincerely,

Laurie C. Haws, PhD, DABT
President, Women in Toxicology SIG
Women in Toxicology

Annual WIT Reception

Wednesday March 14th
Grand Hyatt San Antonio
600 E Market Street
Lone Star DEF

4:45 - 5:30 pm  Meet the EC, networking, volunteer sign-up and enjoy the food and beverage!
5:30 - 6:30 pm  WIT Presentation: updates and awards
6:30 – 7:00 pm  Meet the EC, networking, volunteer sign-up and enjoy the food and beverage!

Special thanks to MPI Research Lab for supporting the reception, and Charles River Labs for sponsoring the Mentoring Award

Annual Meeting Announcements

Child Care

Although many of us will be bringing children along 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 by SOT during the Annual Meeting, but we suggest contacting the concierge desk at your hotel for assistance with child care arrangements.

Nursing Mothers’ Rooms

Two nursing mothers’ rooms are available at the convention center:
Room 1212, near the Main Lobby
Room 2137, on backside of the building

The rooms lock from the inside, have a few comfortable chairs and electrical outlets. Keys are not required for access, and therefore the rooms should be accessible during all regular hours of the Annual Meeting.

WIT Wins Annual Profile Picture Contest!

As a component group, WIT had the highest proportion of its members upload or update a profile picture to their ToXchange Page. As a prize for having won the contest, WIT received $500 to be used as a travel award at the discretion of the WIT EC. The WIT EC is proud to announce that the funding will go toward travel support for our postdoctoral representative, Dr Alison Sanders. Allie has been a dedicated WIT EC member and was instrumental in planning our webinars, raising the topic of sexual harassment for discussion amongst WIT and ultimately SOT Council, as well as serving on our Newsletter, SOT Award Nomination and WIT Awards Committees.
### WIT Events of Interest at the 2018 Annual Meeting!

#### SUNDAY
- **Awards Ceremony and Welcome Reception**: 5:15-7:30pm
- **Student/Postdoctoral Mixer**: 7:30-9:00pm

#### MONDAY
- **SOT mentoring breakfast (registration required)**: 6:15-7:45am
- **IUTOX Global Collaboration Coffee**: 9:30-11:30am
- **In Vitro Toxicology Lecture and Luncheon (ticket required)**: 11:30am-1:00pm
- **Distinguished Toxicology Scholar Award Lecture**: 12:30-1:30pm

#### TUESDAY
- **Postdoctoral Assembly Luncheon (ticket required)**: 12:00-1:15pm
- **Merit Award Lecture**: 12:30-1:30pm
- **Career Exploration through Speed Informational Interviews (ticket required)**: 1:25-2:45pm
- **Symposium/Innovations in Toxicological Sciences: Stressors from Within: Neuroendocrine Regulation of Air Pollution-Induced Pulmonary and Systemic Health Effects**: 1:30-4:14pm
- **Education-Career Development: Perfecting Your Elevator Speech**: 4:30-5:50pm
- **Tox ShowDown**: 7:30-9:00pm

#### WEDNESDAY
- **Workshop: Mechanisms of Ocular Sulfur Mustard Toxicity and Potential Therapies (WIT-endorsed session)**: 8:00-10:45am
- **EUROTOX Bo Holmstedt Memorial Award Lecture**: 11:00am-12:00pm
- **Regional Interest: Toxicology and Public Health Solutions for Environmental Emergency-Related Contamination Events**: 1:30-4:15pm
- **WIT Reception**: 4:45-7:00pm

#### THURSDAY
- **Workshop: Deliberations in Regulatory and Safety Assessment of Food Substances in Early Life (WIT-endorsed session)**: 8:30-11:15am
- **Late Breaking Poster Session**: 8:30-11:30am

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### Undergraduate Students are Encouraged to Join WIT!

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

- Mentoring and networking opportunities with established toxicologists, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows
- Receive the WIT newsletter containing articles on leadership, education, mentoring and visibility
- Access to WIT webinars throughout the year
- Eligibility to apply for the Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award

To join, fill out the [Non-SOT WIT Membership Application](#), and mail it into SOT HQ. Please email the WIT Graduate Student Representative, Lauren Walker, if you have any questions about WIT.
WIT Webinar Recap: Tailoring the Resume Across Sectors

By Jennifer Cohen, PhD, DABT – Takeda California, Inc and Betina Lew, PhD, DABT, ERT – Reckitt Benckiser

In February, WIT hosted another well attended and successful webinar. This time, we focused on the career development of our junior toxicologists that are planning their job hunting and life after their thesis defense. The webinar provided insights on how to successfully proceed with the job applications by tailoring an appealable CVs/resume for submission to private industry or government/academia. It also touched on aspects of the job application itself. Further, tips on how to prepare for an interview were provided. The webinar proved to be insightful for toxicologists with more experience as well, who were looking to improve their resumes, CVs and better prepare for their next job opportunity.

We had two fantastic speakers, Terry Leyden, President of the Leyden Group, who presented on industry resumes, and Dr Ronald Hines who is Associate Director for Health at the US EPA and spoke to tailoring CVs for both academic and government positions.

Terry highlighted critical versus optional resume content, job search resources, the importance of making contact with the hiring manager, and having a strong follow-up on every inquiry. Dr Hines provided an overview of the application packages and recruitment process for academic and government positions, and his recommendations for how to tailor the cover letter to the job description. The webinar hosted over 120 participants and included a Q&A session following the presentations. Additional resources were posted to the WIT Resource webpage, including a mock CV & resume, tips on presenting scientific seminars, and an interview questionnaire guide. A recording of the webinar is also on the WIT website. WIT will be preparing another webinar in the coming months in response to the interests of our membership.

Tenure Track Assistant/Associate Professor Positions Open at Michigan State University

By Cheryl E Rockwell, PhD – Michigan State University

The Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology at Michigan State University seeks to fill two academic-year, tenure-system Assistant/Associate Professor positions. (Both positions are available at the Assistant or Associate Professor rank depending on qualifications and experience.)

For one position, applicants with expertise in toxicology or a related research area are particularly encouraged to apply. For the other position, the ideal candidate will have expertise in one of the broad areas of current research in the department, including, but not limited to neuropharmacology, neurotoxicology, cardiovascular pharmacology, inflammation, cancer, and drug discovery. For both positions, mechanistic research that utilizes cutting-edge molecular methodology, e.g., gene editing and/or genetic manipulation by viral vectors, epigenetic analyses and single-cell approaches is highly desirable.

The successful applicant will be expected to maintain an extramurally-funded research program, engage in MSU’s highly collaborative research environment and contribute to the teaching mission of the department.

Candidates must have a doctoral degree (PhD in pharmacology/toxicology, ScD, DVM, DO, MD or equivalent) with relevant, productive research experience. Candidates with a record of outstanding scholarship and extramural funding are encouraged to apply. Applications are currently under review until suitable candidates are identified.

Michigan State University has an on-line, centralized application procedure and all candidates should submit a package including letter of intent/application, curriculum vitae, a statement of research goals, up to five relevant reprints, a statement of teaching philosophy as well as full names and contact information (phone numbers, e-mail, postal address) of three individuals acting as references.

Questions can be directed to Dr Cheryl E Rockwell, Search Committee Chairperson.
Supplemental Training for Education Program (STEP)
Applications due May 1st!

By Pamela J Lein, PhD – University of California, Davis

The SOT Subcommittee on Graduate Education manages the SOT Supplemental Training for Education Program (STEP). This program enables outstanding PhD graduate students to pursue training in identified areas of professional and scientific development that are necessary for them to achieve their career goals, but outside the immediate scope of their graduate training and research program.

Awards of up to $1,000 each will be given this year to support travel and registration of exceptional applicants to participate in a workshop or event that addresses the applicant’s needs toward achieving goals on their career track. Options and examples of courses and trainings are posted on the STEP website.

Eligible applicants must: (1) Be enrolled in a PhD program in toxicology or related field at the time of application and have completed at least 4 semesters or 6 quarters in the program and successfully passed the comprehensive examination (or equivalent); (2) Be an SOT student member at the time of application and an SOT student or postdoctoral member at the time of the experience (note that members may retain student member status for twelve months after completing their PhD); (3) Designate an activity that begins no sooner than a month following the application deadline; and (4) Complete the experience no later than a year after the deadline for which the application was submitted.

STEP will be soliciting applications for the May 1st deadline. Applications will be evaluated based on academic performance, a written personal statement on the relevance of the proposed professional activity to one’s career goals, and an advisor’s supporting recommendation. Priority will be given to applicants who propose activities or courses that are distinct from those offered by their home institution.

Call for Proposals for the 2019 SOT Annual Meeting

By Janis Hulla, PhD, DABT, ATS, ERT – US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento

It is time to start working on proposals for the Annual Meeting that will be held March 10–14, 2019 in Baltimore, Maryland. The WIT EC encourages you to submit a proposal for WIT review and endorsement, from now until April 30th. Final submissions to the SOT must be made by May 15, 2018. Start by visiting the SOT website proposal guidelines page to find information about preparing proposals including instructions and the link to the Proposal Submission Site. Please also consider submitting a proposal for a 90-minute session, which is a new option for 2019!

WIT’s 2019 Program Committee will be happy to review and provide feedback on your proposal prior to the formal submission. Just email the draft proposal to the Chair of WIT’s 2019 Program Committee, Jan Hulla, prior to April 30th.

Continuing to be Awesome!

By Lauren Walker – University of California, Riverside

Our WIT membership is persistent in their achievements! See below for updates on what some of our 2017 WIT Award Recipients have been up to since the last SOT Annual Meeting.

Jodi Flaws, PhD – 2017 Mentoring Award Recipient
Since receiving the Mentoring Award, Dr. Flaws has continued to train students at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Several of her students have published manuscripts in top journals, won numerous travel awards and fellowships, and successfully defended their PhDs in the past year. Dr. Flaws emphasizes how honored she is to have received this recognition from WIT.

Dana Dolinoy, PhD - Outstanding Investigator Award Recipient
On December 1, 2017, Dr Dolinoy was named the NSF International Chair of Environmental Health Sciences at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. She currently serves as vice president-elect of the Molecular and Systems Biology Specialty Section, and at the 2018 Annual Meeting Dr Dolinoy will be awarded SOT’s Achievement Award. WIT assisted with submitting her SOT Achievement Award application, and the committee was pleased to learn she will be receiving this very well-deserved recognition from SOT.
Carol S Auletta, MBA, DABT - Smith and Hook Distinguished Service Award Recipient
Ms Auletta continues to actively serve in professional organizations such as SOT and American College of Toxicology (ACT). In the fall of 2017, she was honored with the ACT Service Award. Ms. Auletta is also working on her first toxicology-themed National Parks murder mystery book and looking forward to other exciting retirement opportunities (e.g., travel, volunteering, and mentoring) in 2018.

Lisa Weatherly, PhD - Vera W Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Scholarship Fund Student Award Recipient
After receiving her award, Dr Weatherly defended her PhD thesis entitled, “Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Effects of Antibacterial Agent Triclosan on Cellular Signal Transduction and Mitochondrial Function.” She is now a postdoc in Stacey Anderson’s lab at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) studying the role of occupational chemicals in allergic disease development.

Kristal Richlyk, PhD - Vera W Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Scholarship Fund Student Award Recipient
In the spring of 2017, Dr Richlyk defended her dissertation and graduated with her PhD in Toxicology from Texas A&M University. Shortly after, she began her postdoctoral fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, under the advisement of Dr. Fenna Sillé. She is currently studying the effects of prenatal arsenic exposure on the immune system and will present preliminary results at this year’s Annual Meeting.

Katelyn Lavrich, PhD - Vera W. Hudson and Elizabeth K. Weisburger Scholarship Fund Student Award Recipient
Since the previous SOT meeting, Dr Lavrich successfully defended her PhD. Dr Lavrich also participated in the AAAS CASE (Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering) Workshop, where she received science policy training and spent a day advocating for predictable and sustained federal research funding on Capitol Hill.

Priyanka Trivedi, PhD - Postdoctoral Achievement Award
Dr. Trivedi concluded her postdoctoral work at the Harvard Medical School in 2017. She now continues her work in toxicology at Pfizer, where she supports drug safety research and development by delivering safety translational biomarkers. Dr. Trivedi appreciates the recognition her work received in winning the WIT Postdoctoral Achievement Award.

Alison Sanders, PhD - Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award Recipient
Dr Sanders was recognized for her highly productive research in the form of a NIEHS K99/R00 grant. She also received several pilot grants from the Mount Sinai P30 Core Center and Burroughs Wellcome Fund totaling more than $100,000. In 2018, she will transition to a faculty position, where her laboratory will specialize in molecular and epigenetic epidemiology to determine the developmental origins of kidney dysfunction.

Jessica Sapiro, PhD - Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award Recipient
Dr Sapiro successfully defended her dissertation in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Arizona before starting as a Scientist in the Nonclinical and Translational Sciences department at Allergan. In her current role, she monitors external toxicology studies across a diverse portfolio. Dr Sapiro is appreciative of the opportunities and visibility WIT has provided her during her graduate training.
Thanks to the 2017-2018 WIT Volunteers!

**WIT Awards Committee:** *Chaired by Nadia Moore and Jennifer Cohen*
- Kelly Almond
- Navatha Alugubelly
- Ellen Baker
- Manushree Bharadwaj
- Angelique Braen
- Allison Ehrlich
- Jodi Flaws
- Michelle Horner
- Katelyn Lavrich
- Pamela Lein
- Kristin Licko
- Colleen McLoughlin
- Jaime Mirowsky
- Marisa Pfohl
- Amy Mihalchik-Burhans
- Daniella Pizzurro
- Lisa Prince
- Diane Re
- Meghan Rebuli
- Alison Sanders
- Jessica Sapiro
- Jennifer Shing
- Arya Sobhakumari

**WIT SOT Awards Nomination Committees:** *Chaired by Betina Lew and Jan Hulla*
- Virunya Bhat
- Mary Ellen Cosenza
- Alexandria Lau
- Alison Sanders
- Sharmilee Sawant
- Phoebe Stapleton

**Program Committee:** *Chaired by Betina Lew and Jan Hulla*
- Kelly Almond
- Brittany Baisch
- Daniella Pizzurro
- Colleen McLoughlin

**Newsletter Committee and Contributors:** *Chaired by Brittany Baisch and Lauren Walker*
- Lauren Aleksunes
- Mary Ellen Cosenza
- Maria Pfohl
- Phoebe Stapleton
- Ellen Baker
- Peter Goering
- Sumira Phatak
- Karen Stine
- Jamie Bernard
- Alison Harrill
- Maruisa popovech
- Cecilia Tan
- Manushree Bharadwaj
- Laurie Haws
- Lisa Prince
- Laura Van Winkle
- Leigh Ann Burns Naas
- Jan Hulla
- Johanna Rochester
- Tao Wang
- Grace Chappell
- Katelyn Lavrich
- Lynette Rogers
- Candace Wong
- Elyse Carin-Beaudoin
- Betina Lew
- Monika Roy
- Elissa Wong
- Jennifer Cohen
- Lauren Lewis
- Alison Sanders
- Dorothy Colagiovanni
- Nadia Moore
- Sharmilee Sawant
- Elizabeth Corteselli
- Alicia Paini
- Marissa Sobolewski

**Interested in volunteering for a 2018 WIT committee?**

Outside the front doors of our Annual WIT Reception, a current and incoming WIT EC member will greet you and offer to scan your badge. Be sure to get your badge scanned if you are interested in volunteering on any of the WIT committees in 2018! No need to waste time by signing up on hardcopy sheets! After the annual meeting, WIT will email a survey to you with details about when each committee is most active during the calendar year. Simply check the boxes in the survey for which committee is most interesting to you. A WIT EC member will then contact you when the time is right and if they have open slots on their committees.

Unable to attend SOT this year? Or perhaps you already know with which committees you have interest? Then fill out the survey today! Thanks in advance for serving WIT in 2018!
Celebrating YOUR Success!

The “Celebrating YOUR Success!” announcements are a great way to recognize the achievements and advancements of WIT members. The accomplishments below were earned November 2017-February 2018. CONGRATULATIONS!

To have your recent accomplishments highlighted in the next edition of this newsletter, please click here and log-in. This link will remain active until May 31, 2018. We look forward to hearing your good news!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earned Degree</th>
<th>Elected/Appointed Leadership</th>
<th>Grants/Funding</th>
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| Nataliia Kovalchuk, PhD  
SUNY Albany  
Earned PhD in Environmental Toxicology | Jane Allen, PhD  
Jane Allen Consulting, Inc  
Completed 8 continuous years of elected service to Roundtable of Toxicology Consultants | Elizabeth Corteselli, MSPH  
UNC Chapel Hill  
Ruth L Kirschstein NRSA (F31) Fellowship from NIEHS |
| Katelyn Lavrich, PhD  
UNC Chapel Hill  
Earned PhD in Toxicology | Lindsay A Holden  
Portland State University  
Early Career Scientist Leadership Program Steering Committee of the Genetics Society of America | Paliavi Kompella  
University of Texas at Austin  
1. American College for Pharmaceutical Education fellowship  
2. Compass Outreach Grant from American Society for Cell Biology |
| Career Advancement /Transitions | Janis E Hulla, PhD, DABT, ERT, ATS  
US Army Corp of Engineers, Sacramento  
Elected to Board of Directors of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences, starting June 2018 | Heather Patisaul, PhD  
NC State University  
1. R01 from NIEHS, and  
2. Department of Defense Autism Research Program Grant, Idea Development Award |
| Nancy Beck, PhD, MS  
US EPA  
Appointed Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) | Brittney Baisch, PhD, DABT  
Henkel  
Earned Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology (DABT) | Logeswari Ponnusamy, DVM, MVSc, PhD  
Zoetis Inc  
SOT International ToxScholar Outreach Grant |
| John Beck, PhD, MS  
University of California, Riverside  
Joined as Principal Scientist, Toxicology | Brinda Mahadevan, MS, PhD, ERT  
Abbott Laboratories  
Earned European Registered Toxicologist (ERT) | Other |
| Jennifer D Cohen, PhD, DABT  
Takeda California, Inc  
Promoted to Principal Scientist | Janis E Hulla, PhD, DABT, ERT, ATS  
US Army Corp of Engineers, Sacramento  
Elected to Board of Directors of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences, starting June 2018 | Vanessa A Fitsanakis, PhD  
Northeast Ohio Medical University  
Contributed interview in “The Scientist” highlighting work with glyphosate-containing herbicides |
| Sherry Ferguson, PhD  
FDA NCTR, Division of Neurotoxicology  
Appointed Acting Director | Certifications | Janis E Hulla, PhD, DABT, ERT, ATS  
US Army Corp of Engineers, Sacramento  
Elected to Board of Directors of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences, starting June 2018 |
| Anne Marie Gannon, PhD  
Health Canada  
Appointed to Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology Research Scientist in the Regulatory Toxicology Research Division | Awards (non-employer) | US Army Corp of Engineers, Sacramento  
Co-lead proposal for the incorporation of Forensic Toxicology into an existing SOT SS, to form the Ethical, Legal, Forensics and Societal Issues Specialty Section (ELFSI) |
| Michelle Hernandez, PhD  
Merck  
Senior Occupational Toxicologist, Global safety and Environmental Team, and Product Stewardship and Science Group | Danielle Hagstrom  
UC San Diego  
Honorable Mention for the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society | |
| Brinda Mahadevan, PhD, DABT, ERT  
Abbott Laboratories  
Scientific Research Fellow, inducted into Volwiler Society, the best of Abbots’ scientists and engineers | Natalie Johnson, PhD  
Texas A&M University  
Outstanding New Environmental Scientist Award from NIEHS | |