

Biological Modeling Specialty Section

ANNUAL REPORT: 2024–2025
May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

I. Officers:

<u>2024–2025</u>	<u>2025–2026</u>
President: John Wambaugh Vice President: Stephen Edwards Vice President-Elect: Dustin Kapraun Secretary-Treasurer: Matthew Linakis Past President, Councilor: Zhoumeng Lin Councilor: Xiaoqing Chang Councilor: Wei-Chun Chou Postdoctoral Representative: Qiran Chen Graduate Student Representative: Xue Wu	President: Stephen Edwards Vice President: Dustin Kapraun Vice President Elect: Wei-Chun Chou Past President, Councilor: John Wambaugh Secretary-Treasurer: Matthew Linakis Councilor: Xiaoqing Chang Councilor: Celia Schacht Postdoctoral Representative: Xuelian Jia Graduate Student Representative: Xue Wu

Committees:

II. 2025 Membership total: 136

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2024–2025:

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

- In-person meeting/mixer
- Virtual meetings
- Sponsored session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Endorsed session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Mentoring/career development events
- Trainee awards conferred
- Scientist investigator awards conferred
- Paper of the year award
- Newsletter(s)
- Webinars
- Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

- Risk Assessment

V. Communication Methods:

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

- Emails through SOT Headquarters
- Newsletter(s)
- Through Graduate Student/Postdoc Representatives
- LinkedIn
- Other Social Media (Facebook, X, etc.)

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

- Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
- Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
- Utilize virtual meetings for convening Specialty Section leadership
- Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
- Highlight trainee research

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Speed mentoring
- Mentoring luncheon/reception

VIII. Awards Given:

Trainee	24
Early Career	3
Mid Career	0
Late Career	0

IX. Strategic Plan:

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
- Effectively communicate scientific advances
- Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
- Develop a talent pool of toxicologists for the future
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities for all career levels

X. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Biological Modeling Specialty Section is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

- Quantitative Systems Pharmacology

XI. Feedback to the Society:

- A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Specialty Section?

BMSS appreciates the continued support of the student awards, webinars, and preparations for the annual meeting. The current process to send messages to our members (that is, through the SS Coordinator as an intermediary) introduces a delay in our communications. However, the Coordinator has been very responsive. It was very difficult to anticipate the financial impact of holding a reception at the annual meeting. We believe that we receive at most \$25 per member in dues, but the cost was \$40 per member attending the annual meeting, split between their member societies. Given the decreasing membership, we would like to hold social events, but doing so officially through the convention center may be too expensive to be realistic. Finally, the financial statements that are provided to BMSS officers through ToxExchange, which describes the operating funds (“general ledgers”) and the endowment funds that support BMSS awards, are often difficult to interpret.

- B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Specialty Section that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

SOT no longer shares profits from Annual Meeting revenues with specialty sections. This has had a significant impact on the financial health of BMSS. Perhaps SOT can consider reintroducing profit sharing when and if financial circumstances make this possible. BMSS members have organized and taught numerous Continuing Education courses at SOT meetings. Perhaps some revenue sharing based upon CE courses could be considered.