



Winter 2014 Newsletter

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PRESIDENT's CORNER:

Miriam C Poirier, PhD



Dear CSS Members

In this issue of the newsletter we are proud to honor our Postdoctoral and Graduate Student awardees who will present their posters and receive their awards at the CSS reception (SOT 2014 Annual meeting) on Monday evening March 24, at the Sheraton Hotel Downtown Phoenix (340 N. 3rd Street, Phoenix), starting at 6PM.

Also at the annual meeting don't forget the two major symposia sponsored and organized by CSS Officers:

- **“Perinatal Exposures and Children's Health Outcomes” – Mon. 3/24 at 2PM**
- **“Mechanisms of Metal-Induced Disruption of DNA Rrepair” – Wed 3/26, 9AM**

Acceptance of a proposed symposium is an honor but involves hard work and evaluation by the Program Committee. Now is a good time to start thinking of topics for the 2015 meeting as applications will likely be solicited in March.

I would like to thank our dedicated CSS Officers, John Wise (Secretary/Treasurer), Yvonne Dragan (Councilor), Esra Mutlu (Postdoc representative) and Chad Walesky (Grad student representative) who will rotate off in May. I wish to welcome the newly-elected officers, Robert Schiestl, Joseph Landolph and Sandra Wise. Also, in May I will become the Past President, Elaine Faustman will rotate to the Presidency and Jim Klaunig, the VP Elect, will rotate to VP.

It has been my great pleasure to be CSS President during this period of growth and achievement. I thank the Officers for their excellent ideas and hard work (especially the conference calls and volunteering), and the membership (especially the students and postdocs) for showing us that carcinogenesis research has a bright future. See you all at the reception in Phoenix!

Current CSS Officers and Representatives

President: Miriam Poirier (poirerm@exchange.nih.gov)

Vice President: Elaine Faustman (faustman@u.washington.edu)

Vice President-elect: James Klaunig (jklauni@indiana.edu)

Past President: Helmut Zarbl (zarbl@eohsi.rutgers.edu)

Secretary/Treasurer: John Wise (john.wise@usm.maine.edu)

Councilor: Yvonne Dragan (Yvonne.Dragan@hotmail.com)

Councilor: Margaret Pratt (Pratt.Margaret@EPA.gov)

Student Representative:.....Chad Walesky (cwalesky@kumc.edu)

Postdoc. Representative:.....Esra Mutlu (esramutlu@hotmail.com)

Miriam



Elaine



Jim



Helmut



John



Yvonne



Margaret



Esra



Chad

Election of New Officers!

We are delighted to announce the results of our recent elections. In **May of 2014** there will be a turnover of Officers, as follows:

Vice-president Elect - Robert Schiestl Ph.D., (University of California Los Angeles School of Medicine) will replace James Klaunig, who will rotate to Vice-President.

Secretary/Treasurer - Joseph Landolph Ph.D., (University of Southern California, Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles) will replace John Wise.

Councilor - Sandra Wise Ph.D., (University of Southern Maine) will replace Yvonne Dragan as Councilor.

The President and Vice-President will each move up to the next highest position (Past-President and President, respectively), and the Graduate Student and Postdoc positions will be taken by our Dharm Singh and Postdoc awardees, Chrystal Lewis and Tetyana Kobets, respectively.



Robert Schiestl

Joseph Landolph

Sandra Wise

Student and Postdoc Awards to be presented at the Sheraton Hotel in Phoenix – March 24, 2014, at 6PM

Dharm V. Singh Carcinogenesis Endowment Graduate Student Award (\$500):

Christal Lewis (Rutgers University). Abstract entitled: “*In utero* exposure of F-344 rats to low levels of dietary zearanol induces transgenerational effects on sexual development and susceptibility to chemically-induced mammary carcinogenesis”

CSS Graduate Student Awards:

First Place - \$300 – Gayathri Balandaram (Penn State University). Abstract entitled “Ligand activation of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- β/δ attenuates liver tumorigenesis in HBV transgenic mice”

Second Place \$200 – Samira Brooks (University of North Carolina). Abstract entitled “Regulation of gene expression profiles in clear cell renal cell carcinoma by cadmium exposure”

Third Place \$100 – Surendra Singh (University of Colorado). Abstract entitled “ALDH1B1 is required for colon tumorigenesis by modulating WNT-signaling and metabolizing retinaldehyde”

CSS Postdoctoral Award: \$500 - Tetyana Kobets. Abstract entitled “Epigenetic alterations in the livers of Fisher 344 rats exposed to furan”

Student/Postdoc Corner

Career Development

- **Job Bank:** SOT provides an online job bank that allows potential job candidates easy access to available job openings. Further, many employers post job openings at the Career Resource and Development booth at the Annual Meeting. The Job Bank can be found at <https://www.toxicology.org/ai/newcrad/>.
- **Mentor Match:** SOT has a **Mentor Match** program designed to “provide a service that matches mentees with potential mentors from the SOT membership to provide advice on career path selection and success and life/work balance issues”. This service can be found at <http://www.toxicology.org/ai/newcrad/mentormatch.asp>.

Special Events for Students at the 2014 Annual Meeting:

Sunday, March 23: Student/Post Mixer, 7:30 pm – 9 pm, Room 301C West – The Graduate Student Leadership Committee (GSLC) hosts this networking event, and tickets are free – just register on the Annual Meeting Registration Form.

Monday, March 24: SOT Mentoring Breakfast, 6:15 am – 7:45 am, Room 221A - This is for SOT members at any career stage who are seeking a mentor. Brief presentations will be followed by small group discussions. Facilitators will work to match participants with compatible mentors.

Tuesday, March 25: Postdoctoral Assembly Luncheon, 12 pm – 1:15 pm, Room 105B West - All postdoctoral fellows are invited to a casual luncheon organized by the Post Doctoral Assembly (PDA). A Best Postdoctoral Publication Award will be conferred, and postdoc award recipients from SOT Regional Chapters, Special Interest Groups, and Specialty Sections will also be recognized. Reserve a ticket for \$10 when you register for the Annual Meeting.

Tuesday, March 25: Tox ShowDown, 7:30 pm – 9 pm, Sheraton Hotel Encanto Room – The GSLC-sponsored *Tox ShowDown*, is a quiz game patterned off the quiz show “*It’s Academic*”. Three teams compete at answering questions concerning all aspects of toxicology, from the science to the influence on society, history, and arts. The winning team will receive prizes. To become a contestant on one of the teams, email the [GSLC Secretary](#) or [SOT Headquarters](#).

Monday, March 24 through Thursday, March 27: Chat with an Expert. Times will vary, but you will meet at the “Chat with an Expert Bulletin Board” in the Registration Area. The purpose is to provide students and postdocs the opportunity to network informally with well-established toxicologists, while obtaining career advice and meeting new colleagues. So – go to the registration area and check it out.

The Environmental Carcinogenesis Research Fellowship Endowment Fund (by Helmut Zarbl, Ph.D., ATS, CSS Past President)

Last year we launched a new named endowment fund that will provide stipends for research, travel to scientific meetings, and special training courses for students and postdoctoral fellows who are recipients of awards given for excellence in carcinogenesis research. The first award(s) from the fund will be given when the Fund has assets in excess of \$50,000. Although this seems like a daunting and lofty goal, SOT has just made it a whole lot easier.

Between June of 2013 and June of 2016, SOT will provide matching funds, \$ for \$ on all donations to named funds!!! Matching will continue (on a first come, first served basis) until the \$400,000 they have allotted to this cause has been expended.

The current balance in the fund is \$2556, which includes the matching funds. If you have been thinking about donating, please do it ASAP to get the most BANG for your buck!!! In my final newsletter as CSS President, I appealed to all senior members to consider making a contribution towards this worthy cause. We have about 300 CSS members... so if all donate just

\$100..... we can exceed our required \$25,000 target, which will be matched by SOT to activate the fund. Many of the CSS leadership have already donated and/or pledged contributions in excess of \$100, so we are well on our way. Please do your part and enjoy the pride of supporting something important. **Other Sections have already benefitted from matching funds. Let's not miss the boat. See you in Phoenix!**

The live Web Link for the Donation Form is:

http://www.toxicology.org/ai/csot/Endowment_Donor_form.pdf

Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) Meetings: Opportunities for the Carcinogenesis Specialty Section

(by Elaine Faustman, PhD, Vice-President)

The CSS will welcome **Ruth Roberts** to our March 24th reception to talk about **Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology (CCT)**. These are meetings sponsored by a Specialty Section, which focus on special topics of interest to the members. Ruth will encourage us to think about what topics would excite and challenge the CSS membership. Cancer related topics, which have been a frequent focus, have particular relevance for our group. If you are interested in suggesting a topic please come to our reception, and/or contact Ruth or Elaine M. Faustman (incoming CSS president).

SOT conducts CCT meetings to achieve the SOT Strategic Objective of providing tools and resources to members that will enhance their professional and scientific development, as well as to provide an opportunity for building improved understanding of, and dialog around, emerging science critical to advancing the practice of toxicology. There have been 15 CCT meetings over the past 15 years, with 1 planned for September 2014.

Examples of past CCT Meetings of particular interest for cancer researchers include:

- [Hemangiosarcoma in Rodents: Mode-of-Action Evaluation and Human Relevance Workshop](#)
December 4–5, 2008
- [Perfluorinated Alkyl Acids and Related Chemistries: Toxicokinetics and Mode-of-Action Workshop](#)
February 14–16, 2007

Prior to 2001 there were two CCTs, one on “Harmonization of Cancer and Non-Cancer Risk Assessment” and one on “Mechanisms of Nephrotoxicity and Nephrocarcinogenicity”. In addition, numerous CCTs have focused on *Tox21* and *In Silico* data. **We look forward to Ruth's presentation and some new ideas from the CSS membership.**