



## Spring 2012 Newsletter

### The Clinical and Translational Toxicology Specialty Section Inaugural Meeting



#### **Professor Ken McMartin, Vice-President speaking on *Translating mechanistic studies into clinical applications***

The inaugural meeting of the CTTSS began at 6 pm on 14 March 2012 with refreshments. There was a very good turnout of members and prospective members.

Interim President Allister Vale welcomed all to the meeting and invited Interim Vice President, Ken McMartin, to speak on *Translating mechanistic studies into clinical applications*.

Allister Vale paid tribute to Kimberly von Brook, SOT Headquarters, who had been so supportive of the Officers

during the establishment of the CTTSS.



#### **Kimberly von Brook and Allister Vale at the Inaugural Meeting**

In late January 2012, the CTTSS acquired its 50th member and so was in a position to be launched formally as a Specialty Section! The SS now has 60 members. As a result there was insufficient time for a ballot for Officers to be organized by the SOT.

It was agreed by acclamation that the interim President (Allister Vale), Vice President (Ken McMartin) and Secretary/Treasurer (John Benitez) should continue in office until May 1 2013. A formal ballot will be conducted by the SOT prior to the 2013 Meeting.

The slate of other Officers was presented. Nominations for two Councilors and a student representative had been received and all three candidates were elected (see below).

Ideas for future awards from the CTTSS were requested as well as ideas for future SOT conference proposals. Allister reminded all of the members of the short time line for the CTTSS to develop and review proposals for SOT 2013: Due end of April 2012. He requested that members contact him directly. Two proposals were already being worked up.

He also requested nominations for CTTSS sub-committees such as endowment, newsletter and membership.

### **Meet our newly elected Councilors and Student Representative**

During the Business Meeting members interested in running for the following positions were introduced, nominated and elected! Congratulations to Rick Wang and Raymond Singer on being elected Interim Councilors and to Greg Landry on being appointed the Interim Student Representative. We look to your participation and help in making this the best SS ever!

#### **Rick Wang**



Dr. Richard Wang is a senior medical officer at the Division of Laboratory Sciences/National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He received his medical degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury, NY, and completed residency training in emergency medicine at Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. Dr. Wang went on to complete a fellowship in medical toxicology at Bellevue Medical Center, New York University School of Medicine and New York City Poison Control Center, New York, NY. He is board certified in emergency medicine and medical toxicology.

Dr. Wang provides medical interpretation of biomonitoring data, and consultation with others in the field to enhance the understanding of human toxicology. Dr. Wang served as the principal investigator for the U.S. component of the Third World Health Organization-Coordinated Survey of Human Milk for Persistent Organic Pollutants and for studies on sampling and analytical detection of environmental chemicals in human milk, the distribution of chemicals from blood into milk, and the concentration of selected chemicals in unique populations. Also, he serves as the chairperson of the Division of Laboratory Sciences Safety Committee at CDC.

Dr. Wang received the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service for his responses to the World Trade Center event and Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. He has held the elected position of Chair of Toxicology Section of American College of Emergency

Physicians and been named a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and of the American College of Medical Toxicology.

### **Raymond Singer**

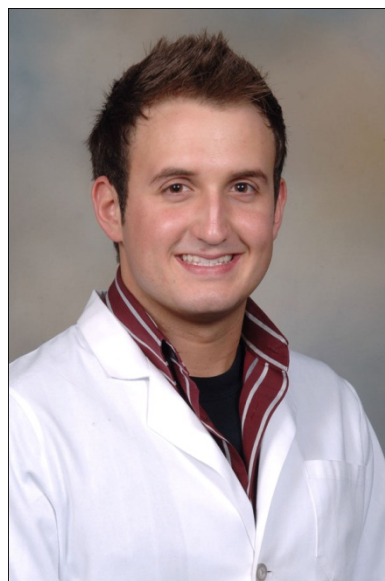


Dr. Raymond Singer is a neuropsychologist certified by the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology, with added Forensic Qualifications, and a neurobehavioral toxicologist. He earned a doctorate in Psychology from Washington State University in 1978, and was a Postdoctoral Fellow in Biological Psychiatry at New York University Medical School in 1978.

From 1979-1981, he was a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Post-Doctoral Fellow in Environmental Epidemiology, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York City, and a Department of Community Medicine Fellow (1981-1982) under the direction of Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, where he specialized in applied neurotoxicology. His research has been presented in various venues, including peer-reviewed publications, presentations, and courses at professional seminars. He has been a consultant in neuropsychology and neurotoxicology since 1983, and testified as an expert witness in civil and criminal cases in numerous state

and federal courts in matters pertaining to his areas of expertise. He has been a member of the Society of Toxicology (SOT) since 1985 and has served as a Councilor of the Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues Specialty Section, 2011-2013. He was the President, Vice-President and Treasurer for the Roundtable of Toxicology Consultations, an SOT affiliate group of professional toxicologists from 1993-1999. He has been designated as a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and the National Academy of Neuropsychology for distinguished professional contributions.

### **Greg Landry Student Representative**



Greg Landry is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology, & Neuroscience at LSU-Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, LA. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, LA. His interests in toxicology are very broad, but his main interest is in

translating mechanistic toxicological data into possible treatment strategies for various types of poisonings. He believes his interests and research as a graduate student in transitioning laboratory data to clinically effective interventions are a perfect addition to the Clinical and Translational Toxicology Specialty Section.

### **Other CTSS Officers**

Biographies of Allister Vale, Ken McMartin and John Benitez were published in the December 2011 Newsletter.



**Allister, Ken and John**

### **A word on student membership from Greg Landry**

Any student who is a member of SOT, and has an interest in any aspect of clinical, translational, and/or mechanistic toxicology is strongly encouraged to become a member of the CTSS. Benefits of student membership include excellent networking opportunities within the academic, clinical, and industrial sectors, meeting future colleagues, collaborators, and mentors, as well as having the opportunity to present and discuss your research with practicing clinical and basic toxicologists from a wide range of disciplines. CTSS is considering offering a student award in 2013.

**Do you know SOT members who might be interested in joining the new Specialty Section for Clinical and Translational Toxicology? If so, please pass this Newsletter on to them.**

All SOT members are invited to join the new Clinical and Translational Toxicology Specialty Section (CTSS). The CTSS will provide a forum within the SOT where members interested in the impact of pharmaceuticals, chemicals, plants, fungi, toxic terrestrial and marine animals on human health can share their state-of-the-art knowledge and propose new approaches for the treatment of these exposures, based on an understanding of their mechanisms of toxicity.

The CTSS is committed to improving the management of human poisoning by using a translational approach that links molecular mechanisms to rational therapy and then stimulates clinicians to make novel observations about the nature of poisoning, which in turn will lead to further molecular or cellular studies. In addition, the CTSS will stimulate discussion on the optimal regimens for treatment based on a detailed understanding of the toxicokinetics and toxicodynamics of the agent involved and the pharmacology and adverse effects of the proposed treatment. The CTSS will provide a unique nexus at the SOT meetings for presentations and discussions on human toxicology. The SS also will strive to assist the Society in giving voice to those issues in human toxicology that are deemed to deserve greater recognition and attention among the collective membership and beyond.

## Photos from Business Meeting



See more photos at:

<http://www.bluelightphoto.org/p1010246743>



**CTSS website**

This can be found at:

[www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/CTSS/index.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/CTSS/index.asp)



**CTSS banner**

The background is a photomicrograph of calcium oxalate crystals found in ethylene glycol poisoning. The chemical structure is the antidote fomepizole (4-methylpyrazole). The stethoscope implies the translational application of research into the clinical realm.



**Contact the Officers**

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