

## Comparative and Veterinary Specialty Section

### ANNUAL REPORT: 2007-2008

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

#### I. Officers/Committees:

	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>
<b>Officers:</b>		
President:	Daniel K Ness	Jim Riviere
Vice-President:	Jim E Riviere	Mike Murphy
Vice President-elect	Mike Murphy	Kathleen Gabrielson
Sec/Treas:	Jay Harriman	Jay Harriman
Councilors:	Ramesh Gupta Kathleen Gabrielson	Ramesh Gupta Jacqueline K Akunda
<i>Past-President</i>	Wilson K Rumbeiha	Daniel K Ness
SAC Representative:	Wei Zou	Wei Zou

**Committees:** A CVSS Program Committee is chaired by Jim Riviere, with Dan Ness, Kathy Gabrielson, and Mike Murphy as members.

#### II. Activities:

##### 2008 Annual Business Meeting/Reception

**2008 SOT Annual Meeting Reception** was held on March 19<sup>th</sup> in the Sheraton Willow Room in Seattle, WA. There were 32 people in attendance.

The meeting was called to order and the agenda was presented by the President, Dr. Dan Ness. The Secretary/Treasurer's Report was given by Dr. Jay Harriman. The financial status of the Specialty Section was reviewed, including revenues and expenditures for the past year. The report was accepted as presented.

Roger McClellan discussed the SOT Endowment Fund, which was reported to have \$190,000 in contributions this year, for a total of \$600,000 in total assets. Matching funds are provided by the SOT. The Endowment Funds are comprised of 4 general purpose funds and ten specific funds. One of the specific funds is the McClellan fund, intended to provide an annual award to a DVM student in the field of toxicology. At the time of the meeting, the fund has approximately \$53,000. The annual award will be administered jointly by the CVSS and TEPSS, with details to be worked out jointly between the two specialty sections.

Dr. Charles Capen was a long-time supporter of the CVSS, and was a pioneer in the veterinary toxicology and pathology fields. Dr. Capen recently passed away. Roger McClellan was a close friend of Dr. Capen, and spent a few moments reflecting on Chuck's life and sphere of influence.

Following Dr. McClellan, Dr. Dan Ness initiated an open discussion with regards to a potential merger with the TEPSS. Early in 2008, Dan Ness was approached by Pat Haley, current president of the TEPSS, to discuss if a merger between the two specialty sections would be beneficial. Opinions were shared regarding potential favorable and less favorable

outcomes of a merger. A decision was not made at the meeting, but the specialty section will continue to evaluate its effectiveness in achieving its stated objectives and will be open to discuss opportunities to improve membership and program offerings.

The CVSS Student Awards were presented by Dr. Dan Ness. The first place award of \$500 and a plaque was presented to Patrick Shaw, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Center for Integrative toxicology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. The poster was entitled “Trovaflaxacin enhances the inflammatory response to a gram-negative or a gram-positive stimulus, resulting in neutrophil-dependent liver injury in mice”. The second place award of \$300 and a plaque was presented to Wei Zou, also from Michigan State University. His poster was entitled “Inflammation-mediated Liver Injury in Rats Cotreated with Sulindac and Lipopolysaccharide”. A runner-up certificate was presented to Snehal Tawde from Kansas State University for his poster entitled “Nitrate Toxicity Risk Assessment: From Field Sampling to Remote Sensing and Beyond”.

Dr. Jim Riviere presented highlights of the program committee. In 2008, CVSS endorsed the Sunrise CE course “Mini-Pigs as an alternative non-rodent species in toxicology and safety studies”, was a primary sponsor of “Introduction to pathology for toxicologists and study directors” for both a morning and afternoon session, and “The use of transgenic animal technology in toxicological research”, and was the primary sponsor of the very popular roundtable session “The 2007 pet food related toxic nephropathy in dogs and cats”, chaired by Jim Riviere and Ramesh Gupta. Many proposals for the 2009 and future annual meeting were brought forth and discussed, including a session entitled One Medicine: to include topics such as PAHs impact from fish to humans, prions-toxins or infectious agents, syndromes in frogs that may impact humans, immunomodulators on humans and wildlife, metal toxicology, and beluga whales as sentinels of toxicity in the St. Lawrence Seaway. Heat Shock Proteins, Novel Biomarkers of Organophosphate and Carbamate Toxicity, and Animal Models in Dermal Absorption were also discussed as proposals for 2009.

Recognition of outgoing officers and the introduction of new officers followed. Outgoing officers included the president Dan Ness, who now takes the Past President role, and Cathy Gabrielson, who is now elected the new Vice President Elect. Jim Riviere takes the President’s role and Mike Murphy takes the Vice President’s role, while Jacqueline Akunda is elected as a Councilor for 2008-2009. Dan Ness received a gavel plaque and Cathy Gabrielson received a certificate for their hard work in their 2007-2008 roles of President and Councilor, respectively.

The CVSS newsletter and website updates were presented by Dr. Kathy Gabrielson and Dr. Ramesh Gupta. A request was made for comments and ideas to include new content for these important specialty section communication tools.

### **III. Financial Report**

Net Asset Balance as of 3/31/07:	\$ 224
Net Asset Balance as of 12/31/07:	\$1757
Net Asset Balance as of 3/31/08:	\$-2987

Expenditures for the July 2006 through June 2007 fiscal year totaled \$4419.51 and revenues totaled \$2,341.01.

#### **Scientific Sessions Endorsed by CVSS 2008**

The 2007 pet food related toxic nephropathy in dogs and cats

**CE Courses Endorsed by CVSS 2008**

SR1: Mini-Pigs as an alternative non-rodent species in toxicology and safety studies

AM2 and PM8: Introduction to pathology for toxicologists and study directors

AM5: The use of transgenic animal technology in toxicological research