

## Drug Discovery Toxicology Specialty Section

### **ANNUAL REPORT: 2011-2012**

May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012

#### **I. Officers/Committees:**

<b>Officers:</b>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>
President:	Craig Thomas	John Wisler
Vice President-elect:	Yvonne Will	Andrew Olaharski
Vice President:	John Wisler	Yvonne Will
Secretary/Treasurer:	Donna Mendrick	Donna Mendrick
Councilors:	Michael Breider	Eric Harstad
	Stefan Ruepp	Stefan Ruepp
<i>Past-President</i>	Cynthia Afshari	Craig Thomas
SAC Representative:	Rachel Tanos	Vince Ramirez
PDA Representative:	Li Zhan	Li Zhan

#### **II. Activities**

**2012 SOT Annual Meeting Reception** was held March 12, 2012 in San Francisco and was reasonably well attended by the membership. Craig Thomas, the President and Master of Ceremonies, gave the opening and closing remarks. Donna Mendrick gave the membership an overview of our current budget. The top three DDTSS Emil Pfitzer Student Awards for students were presented by Mike Breider and Stefan Ruepp presented Pfitzer awards for the top three postdoctoral fellows. These awards are funded by the Emil Pfitzer Student Award Fund within the SOT Endowment Fund. Yvonne Will recognized our new and outgoing officers. John Wisler presented ideas for DDTSS-sponsored symposia, workshops, continuing education courses and new letters for the upcoming 2013 SOT Annual Meeting.

#### Graduate Student winners

##### **First place (\$1000)**

Rhiannon Hardwick (University of Arizona). “Increased susceptibility to drug-induced toxicity in nonalcoholic steatohepatitis.”

##### **Second Place (\$600)**

Michael Rouse (University of Southern Carolina School of Medicine). “Indoles alleviate the development of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE) by activation of aryl hydrocarbon and estrogen receptors leading to altered micro-RNA regulation and suppression of Th17 activation.”

##### **Third Place (\$300)**

Rachel Tanos (Pennsylvania State University). “The Ah receptor exerts a regulatory role in homeostatic control of cholesterol synthesis.”

## Postdoctoral Award winners

### **First place (\$1000)**

Jennifer Foreman (Penn State Univ). "Developmental and species-specific sensitivity to PPAR $\alpha$  agonist-induced hepatic effects."

### **Second Place (\$600)**

Aik Jiang Lau (Univ British Columbia). "Functional analysis of the SV23, SV24, and SV25 splice variants of human constitutive androstane receptor (CAR): Comparison of *Ginkgo biloba* extract with other known activators of CAR."

### **Third Place (\$300)**

Xi Yang (FDA, NCTR). "Acetaminophen and carbon tetrachloride induced changes in rat: Urinary microRNA profiles."

**Emil A. Pfitzer Student Award Endowment Fund Details:** The Emil A. Pfitzer Drug Discovery Student Award Fund proceeds support our Specialty Section by providing student awards to outstanding students that apply modern toxicologic science in the field of drug discovery. The Pfitzer Fund was created by the initial generous contributions from Hoffmann-LaRoche, the Research Institute for Fragrance Materials (RIFM) and the family and friends of Emil Pfitzer. Dr. Pfitzer worked at Hoffman-LaRoche for 22 years serving as Vice President of Toxicology and Pathology where he championed the use of mechanistic toxicology. After retiring from Roche, he served five years as the President of RIFM. Dr. Pfitzer also served as President of the Society of Toxicology in 1985-1986. The balance of the fund as of March 31, 2012 was \$69,780 (prior to deductions for payouts to 2012 award winners).

**Newsletters:** The Summer 2011 newsletter was submitted to the DDTSS website and the 2012 letter is in progress.

### **Other Specialty Section 2011-2012 Activities:**

Date	Topic	Location
March 2012	Annual specialty section meeting	SOT Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA)
March 2012	Primary sponsor of 3 accepted sessions and endorser of 6 accepted sessions	SOT Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA)
March 2012	Student/Postdoc Poster Awards	SOT Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA)

April- May 11, 2012	Review of 2013 Annual meeting submissions	Final review via Teleconference
November-December, 2011	Reviewed and commented on RFI-National Bioeconomy Blueprint; submitted SOT HQ	Via Email threads
May, 2011- May-2012 (Quarterly)	Teleconferences – newsletter, scientific sessions, poster competition, and website planning	Teleconference