



SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY EXPOSURE SPECIALTY SECTION

Fall 2025 NEWSLETTER

Happy Fall! This newsletter includes a call for nominations for the executive committee, important information about the Annual Meeting, and opportunities for members to engage via the member survey and donations. We looking forward to hearing your feedback and seeing you at the Annual Meeting!

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2025-2026 ESS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Neha Sunger
Past President



Esra Mutlu
President



Marie Bourgeois
Vice President



Dan Conklin
Vice President-Elect



Paul DeLeo
Secretary/Treasurer



Alison Pecquet
Senior Councilor



Claire Hamaji
Junior Councilor



Elise Hickman
Postdoc Rep



Zakiyah Henry
Vice Postdoc Rep



Antonio Saporito
Grad Student Rep



Chloe Chou
Vice Grad Student Rep

OPEN POSITIONS FOR 2026-2027!

Call for nominations!

The Exposure Specialty Section is seeking nominations for officers for 2026–2027. Please consider running for a position. It is a great way to impact exposure science at SOT and to meet new colleagues! To self nominate, please send a note to the current Past President, Neha Sunger (neha.sunger@chemours.com) and ESS (exposuresot@gmail.com) by **November 14, 2025**.

The open positions include:

Vice President-Elect

Junior Councilor

Vice Postdoctoral Representative

Vice Graduate Student Representative

SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW

ABSTRACT DEADLINES

General abstract deadline:
November 13, 2025 at 11:59PM EST.

Late-breaking abstract submission period:
December 11, 2025–January 20, 2026.

EVENTS



ESS will host its Annual Business Meeting virtually in February before the SOT 2026 Annual Meeting in San Diego. Stay tuned for a forthcoming announcement for the date and time.



The ESS Luncheon during the Annual Meeting in San Diego is scheduled for [Monday, March 23, 2026](#). We look forward to this opportunity for members and nonmembers to network and engage with colleagues. Please consider attending if you would like to learn more about ESS and other opportunities.



Please join ESS at the SOT Career Advancement, Mentoring & Networking (CAMAN) Committee NetworX Night event on [Monday, March 23 from 7:30-9:00 pm](#) with several other Specialty Sections and Special Interest Groups. Don't miss this amazing opportunity to socialize with your fellow SOT attendees!



SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW

ACCEPTED SESSIONS

We received and endorsed 9 proposals, 6 of which were accepted.
Please see below for more information about the sessions

Session Title	Session Day	Session Time (PDT)
Wildland Urban Interface Fire: Beyond the Smoke: Exploring the Broader Environmental and Health Impacts	Monday	9:15 AM – 12:00 Noon
Chemical Exposures and At-Risk Populations in California	Monday	2:00 PM – 4:45 PM
Milk Matters: Assessing Breast Milk Through an Environmental Health Perspective	Tuesday	8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
New Frontiers in Reproductive Toxicology: Emerging Contaminants and Novel Mechanisms of Toxicity	Wednesday	8:00 AM – 10:45 AM
Optimizing Chemical Risk Assessment for Medical Device Biological Safety: Challenges, Progress, and Collaborative Opportunities	Wednesday	1:30 PM – 4:15 PM
Advancing Risk Communication: Strengthening Collaborations Between Toxicologists and Exposure Scientists in the Face of a Changing Regulatory Landscape	Wednesday	1:30 PM - 4:15 PM

SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW

AWARDS

The Exposure Specialty Section (ESS) is soliciting applications for awards and recognitions! Winners will be presented at the 2026 Annual Meeting. ESS sponsors individual Graduate Student and Postdoc Travel Awards (\$500 each). Applications are due by January 15th, 2026 and can be submitted using the SOT Apply platform. See below and [on our website](#) for more information about each award.

ESS BEST OVERALL ABSTRACT RECOGNITION

Eligibility: Any poster abstract accepted by SOT for the Annual Meeting which indicates an application of exposure science with regards to toxicology. Abstracts will be evaluated based on the exposure assessment or methodology focus, scientific quality and significance of the research project, impact and/or novelty of the findings and written quality of the abstract. Submissions do not need to be from members of the Exposure SS, but must be submitted for the Best Abstract Award if being presented in a session that is not exposure focused.

To apply: Self-nominate any accepted poster abstracts, especially those being presented in non Exposure-specific sessions, by January 15, 2026. ExpoSS will use keyword search terms to identify additional candidates from the SOT accepted abstract database from Exposure-related sessions.

ESS BEST PUBLICATION RECOGNITION

Eligibility: All publications by an SOT member (first and/or last author) accepted by a peer-reviewed journal from December 1, 2024 through December 1, 2025. Nominations for the Exposure SS Best Publication recognition in the field of exposure science with regards to toxicology are now being accepted. Publications will be evaluated based on the exposure assessment or methodology focus, scientific quality and significance of the research project, impact and/or novelty of the findings and written quality of the publication. Submissions do not need to be from members of the Exposure SS, but either the first or last author should be SOT members.

To apply: To ensure consideration, nominate papers by submitting citation information. The ExpoSS Executive Committee will identify additional candidates through literature review, as needed.

ESS STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL TRAVEL AWARDS

Eligibility: Any student or postdoc who is the presenting author of an abstract submitted to SOT for the Annual Meeting which indicates an application of exposure science with regards to toxicology. Abstracts will be evaluated based on the exposure assessment or methodology focus, scientific quality and significance of the research project, impact and/or novelty of the findings, written quality of the abstract, and stated need by the candidate. The student award is available to individuals who have completed a bachelor's degree and are enrolled in a post-baccalaureate program leading to second bachelor's, masters, or doctoral degree. Students in programs leading to masters or doctoral degrees and postdoctoral researchers must be members of SOT or show evidence of their application for SOT membership. Students in masters and doctoral programs and postdoctoral researchers who are not already members are strongly encouraged to join the ESS.

To apply: An electronic copy of their submitted 2026 SOT Abstract. Proof of your status as a student or postdoctoral researcher (e.g., letter from their advisor). A 200-word personal statement on how their work advances the field of exposure science within the Society of Toxicology. A short statement (100 words or less) on their travel funding need.

THE MEMBER SURVEY IS OPEN!

Make your voice heard!

Please consider completing our ESS Member Survey, which was sent out via email on October 30th. Your responses to our survey provide extremely important feedback regarding your planned participation at the 2026 SOT meeting in San Diego and the types of programming you'd like to see the ESS offer to its membership both in-person at the annual meeting and virtually.

Please follow [this link](#) to access the survey.

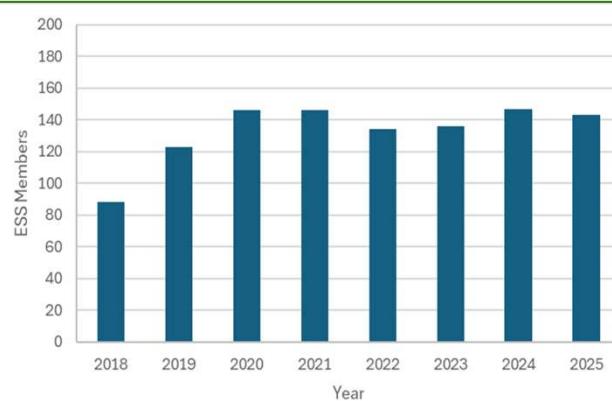
The survey is only 10 questions and will take less than 5 minutes, so please consider completing it.

Thank You!



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership in the SOT Exposure Specialty Section has been stable over the past six years though there was a little dip during COVID (2022–2023). Through your participation, you can help us grow the ESS.



WEBINARS & RECENT NEWS

WEBINARS

Thank you, **Dr. Nancy Hopf** (Associate Professor, Université de Lausanne) and **Dr. Robert Pasanen-Kase** (Scientific Officer, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)) for your October 21st webinar regarding “A Harmonized Methodology for Occupational Biomonitoring Levels (OBL).” The speakers were among those recognized by ESS during the 2025 Annual Meeting for “Paper of the Year”.

The next ESS webinar is scheduled for February 11, 2026 and jointly sponsored with RASS. Dr. Eva Vitucci (Postdoctoral Researcher, Texas A&M University) will discuss her research regarding “The Application of Non-Targeted Mobile Air Monitoring To Assess Volatile Organic Compounds in Fenceline Communities.” She was recognized by ESS for the 2025 Runner-Up “Paper of the Year”.

ESS is anticipating a joint webinar with OPHSS from Dr. John Reichard (Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati) on “A Framework Approach to Evaluate Risk of Drug Degradants During Long-Duration Space Missions” rescheduled from the 2025 Annual Meeting luncheon.

Stay tuned for these and other updates!

Links to slides and webinar recordings can be found [here](#).

GET INVOLVED

For more ESS news and updates, follow our [LinkedIn](#) page.

See SOT efforts in expressing support for science [here](#).

NEW FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

We invite SOT members to help support our growing specialty section via donation. Your contribution directly supports critical initiatives that strengthen our field and develop the next generation of toxicology professionals!

Why We Need You: ESS operates without an endowment fund, making member contributions essential for program sustainability and growth. Your donation directly supports our mission to advance exposure science and strengthen our professional community. We are specifically asking for donations towards the following efforts:

Student & Postdoc Travel Award Program

Provides \$500 to one student and one postdoc to offset the cost of attending the annual meeting. Donations will sustain program funding and expand support for additional awards.

Annual Meeting Enhancement Fund

Provides programming at the annual meeting, including professional development, student mentoring, and research recognition awards

Your support ensures ESS continues to foster scientific excellence, professional development, and community building within the Exposure and Toxicology field. We appreciate your consideration of this investment in our collective future.

How to Contribute: Access the [SOT Component Group Donation Form](#)

Donation Process:

1. Select "Exposure Specialty Section" from the checkbox menu (Item #18)
2. Specify fund allocation preference in additional information field: if nothing is selected the amount will go to general fund
3. Choose recognition preferences (public acknowledgment or anonymous)