

# FOOD SAFETY

Specialty Section | Society of Toxicology | Spring 2020

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## Letter from the President

Dear SOT FSSS members,

As we all get ready for SOT 2020 Annual Meeting, I'd like to share with you some recent highlights and upcoming events, and sessions supported by the FSSS at the Annual Meeting. This past year, we re-initiated our webinar series and hosted a webinar on "***Microbiome: the Missing Piece in the Diet/Health Puzzle***" ***which was very well received.*** I'd like to congratulate the FSSS Webinar Subcommittee for developing and hosting a successful webinar on an emerging food safety topic selected by FSSS members. If you have suggestions for a future webinar topic, please share it with us.



On behalf of FSSS, I would like to invite undergraduate and graduate students, post doctoral fellows, and early career scientists interested in pursuing a career in food safety to register and attend the ***FSSS Mentoring Event on Monday 16 March from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Anaheim Convention Center Room 207 A.*** It will be a great opportunity for you to meet food safety experts (mentors) from different sectors and learn about different career paths in food safety. Some interesting sessions endorsed by FSSS have been selected for presentation at SOT 2020 Annual Meeting. Please see the list of FSSS endorsed sessions below. Also, we encourage you to start thinking about food safety topics to develop into session proposals for SOT 2021.

This year, FSSS has introduced a new award "***Frank C. Lu Early Career Scientist Award, Food Safety Specialty Section***" to recognize early career scientists and post docs for their scientific contributions in food safety. The award winners for Frank C. Lu Early Career Scientist Award, Frank C. Lu Graduate Student Award and the Burdock Student Award along with new incoming FSSS officers will be announced at the ***FSSS reception on Tuesday 17 March from 6:00 pm to 7:30pm at Anaheim Marriott Platinum 2.*** It will be a great opportunity to network and will include some updates on FSSS activities.

Also, this year, the FSSS Executive Committee has planned something new—***an informal short debate on "Traditional Toxicity Testing versus Alternatives to Animal Testing" at the FSSS reception!*** We look forward to seeing everyone there! If you are new to FSSS and would like to learn about our specialty section, please ***stop by our poster, developed and presented by our senior Graduate Student Representative, Sumira Phatak.*** The poster will be displayed together with other Specialty Section posters throughout the Annual Meeting. It has been an honor to serve as the President of FSSS this year. I would like to thank the FSSS executive committee for their commitment, enthusiasm, and contributions. Also, special thanks to SOT staff who have helped us out with a variety of questions and logistics. Thanks to FSSS members, and sponsors for their continued support. I look forward to seeing you in Anaheim in a few days.

Mansi Krishan, PhD  
FSSS President, 2019-2020



59th Annual Meeting &amp; ToxExpo

Anaheim, California • March 15-19



## FSSS Events at SOT 2020

### Mentoring for Trainees & Early Career Scientists.

Monday 3/16

11:30am to 1:00pm

Anaheim CC Room 207 C

Please Join us at **FSSS Reception**  
on Tuesday 3/17 6:00pm - 7:30pm  
Anaheim Marriott Platinum 2  
OPEN to ALL SOT attendees

### Informal Debate during FSSS Reception,

Tuesday, 17 March, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

### Traditional Toxicity Testing vs Alternatives to Animal Testing

Traditional animal testing has long been used to assess safe levels of food ingredients. However, this *in vivo* approach cannot address the data needs for new and existing chemicals in commerce today because traditional animal testing can be expensive, slow, and sometimes not ideal or relevant for human extrapolation. In light of the broad ongoing effort to modernize toxicity testing based on advances *in vitro* technologies and computational toxicology, this debate topic is aimed at stimulating discussions among FSSS members on what the future will look like in terms of assessing the safety of food ingredients. What type of animal toxicity data currently allow us to say “this ingredient is safe at these levels for this particular intended use”? What type of alternative data (*in vitro*, *ex-vivo*, computational modeling, etc) would allow us to equally meet the same standard of safety? What are some of the pitfalls we need to watch out for with alternative data?”

Click [here](#) for more information on how to apply for the following [Awards Next Year](#):

Burdock Group Travel Award

Frank C. Lu Student Award

and the

[NEW Frank C Lu Early Career Scientist Award](#)

Stop by the Food Safety Specialty Section Poster!

Representative attended

with Sumira Phatak

RC, SIG , SS poster Session





## *FSSS Endorsed Sessions at SOT 2020*

**Monday, March 16, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, CC Ballroom C**



**Workshop Session: Globally Harmonized Guidance for Dose-Response Analysis and Derivation of Health-Based Guidance Values for Chemicals in Food—Part I: What's New?**

**Chair(s):** Janet Yu Zang, US FDA; and Virunya Bhat, ToxStrategies Inc.

**Primary Endorser:** Food Safety Specialty Section

**Other Endorser(s):** Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section; Women in Toxicology Special Interest Group

**Monday, March 16, 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM, CC Ballroom C**



**Workshop Session: Globally Harmonized Guidance for Dose-Response Analysis and Derivation of Health-Based Guidance Values for Chemicals in Food—Part II: Intuitive Demonstrations**

**Chair(s):** Virunya Bhat, ToxStrategies Inc.; and Yu (Janet) Zang, US FDA.

**Primary Endorser:** Food Safety Specialty Section

**Other Endorser(s):** Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section; Women in Toxicology Special Interest Group

## *Food Safety Related Continuing Education Course*

**Sunday, March 15, 1:15 PM to 5:00 PM, CC Level Three**



**Continuing Education Course PM10: An Introduction to New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) and Understanding Their Potential to Support Regulatory Decisions**

**Chair(s):** Mansi Krishan, Danone North America; and Suzanne Fitzpatrick, US FDA/CFSAN.

**Primary Endorser:** Risk Assessment Specialty Section

**Other Endorser(s):** Drug Discovery Toxicology Specialty Section





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## Food Safety Related Sessions

**Tuesday, March 17, 11:00 AM to 12:20 PM, CC Ballroom C****Informational Session: Communicating Risk in a (Mis)information-Rich World****Chair(s):** Alison Bernstein, Michigan State University; and Christina Baghdikian, US EPA.**Primary Endorser:** Women in Toxicology Special Interest Group**Other Endorser(s):** Occupational and Public Health Specialty Section; Postdoctoral Assembly**Wednesday, March 18, 8:00 AM to 10:45 AM, CC Room 303C****Workshop Session: Applying Modern Toxicology to Dietary Supplements with Ancient Roots: Botanical Safety in the 21st Century****Chair(s):** Cynthia Rider, NIEHS/NTP; and Michelle Embry, HESI.**Primary Endorser:** Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section**Other Endorser(s):** Mixtures Specialty Section**Thursday, March 19, 8:30 AM to 11:15 AM, CC Room 304A****Symposium Session: Application of RISK21 Framework in Regulatory-Based Decision-Making: From Business Decisions to Prioritization to Risk Assessment****Chair(s):** Michelle Embry, HESI; and Douglas Wolf, Syngenta.**Primary Endorser:** Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section**Other Endorser(s):** Exposure Specialty Section; Risk Assessment Specialty Section



## Food Safety Related Poster Presentations

Tuesday, March 17

**9:00 to 10:45am \*Author attended**  
 Food Safety/Nutrition Poster Session  
 Poster Board #: P659-P693  
 Abstract #: 2258-2292

Tuesday, March 17

**9:00 to 10:45am \*Author attended**  
 Natural Products Poster Session  
 Poster Board #: P695-P710  
 Abstract #: 2293-2308

## Trainees and Early Career Scientists

Monday, March 16

**6:15 AM to 7:45 AM**  
 SOT Mentoring Breakfast (Ticket Required), 207 C

**3:00 – 4:30pm**

Funding 101—Multiple Perspectives on the NIH Grant Process, Room 207C

Tuesday, March 17

**12:00noon – 1:00pm**  
 Postdoctoral Assembly Luncheon  
 Room 201B  
**1:30 – 2:50pm**  
 Career Exploration through Speed  
 Informational Interviews  
 (Ticket Required) Room 201B

## Food Safety Specialty Section Member News

### Delaney Session at AAAS 2020

FSSS endorsed roundtable session titled '*The Delaney Clause, from 1958 - 2008, Making the Model Relevant*' presented at SOT 2019 Annual Meeting in Baltimore was selected by SOT for presentation at American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) 2020 Annual Meeting to increase collaboration with other professional societies. This session was sponsored by SOT. More details about the session can be found here <https://aaas.confex.com/aaas/2020/meetingapp.cgi/Session/23757>





59th Annual Meeting &amp; ToxExpo

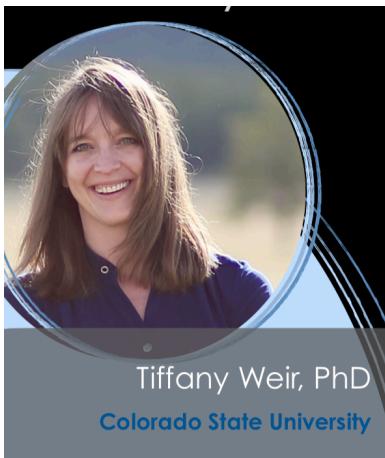
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## Food Safety Specialty Section Member News

### Webinar Report

A webinar subcommittee was formed and potential webinar topics were discussed and prioritized via teleconference and email. Based on feedback from membership and the leadership team, consensus topic "Microbiome: A missing piece in the diet and health puzzle was selected. Leading Scientists in the field were solicited as potential speakers by Jorrell Fredricks. The Webinar Committee invited Dr.



Tiffany Weir, PhD  
Colorado State University

Tiffany Weir of Colorado State University and Dr. Sangeta Khare of FDA/NCTR to present. The webinar was scheduled for Wednesday, January 15th, 2020 11:00am - 12:30 pm EST. In addition to SOT email sent out to SOT membership and Specialty Sections, Logeswari Ponnusamy and Sumira Phatak advertised the webinar on several platforms including LinkedIn. Sumira Phatak was responsible for producing and hosting the webinar. 143 people registered for this webinar and 98 attended.

Registrants were a diverse group representing all sectors of employment (57+

different universities, agencies, companies, etc), US regions (24 states and 13 international locations), and membership levels (handful of new students and nonmembers to 4/10 most senior FS3 members of 25+ years). Attendees were very engaged, asking many thoughtful questions and providing very complimentary feedback. 100% survey responses stated this webinar increased their interest in issues related to food safety. 29% indicated that the material was extremely helpful and relevant, another 57% said it was mostly helpful or relevant. The webinar unfortunately could not be recorded due to last minute speaker release form issues. Slides for Dr. Weir are available here: <[toxicology.org/groups/ss/FSSS/docs/FSSS-Jan-11-Slides-T-WEIR.pptx](http://toxicology.org/groups/ss/FSSS/docs/FSSS-Jan-11-Slides-T-WEIR.pptx)>



Sangeeta Khare, PhD  
US Food and Drug Administration





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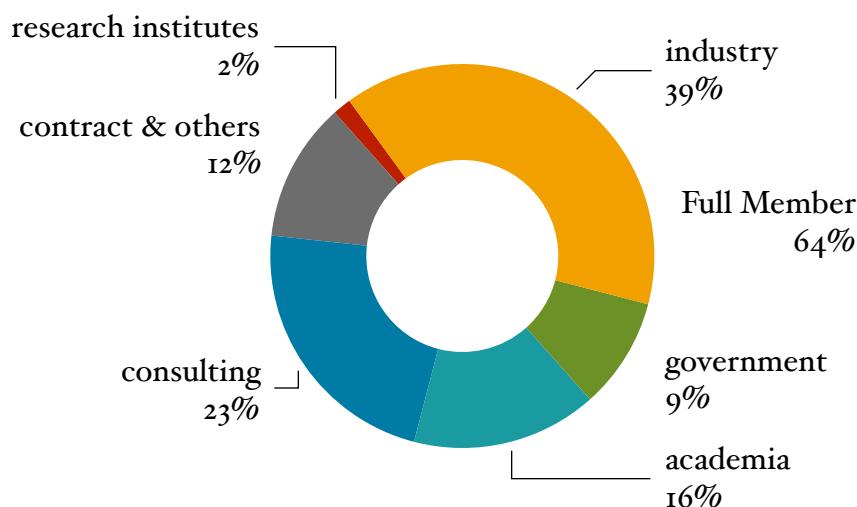
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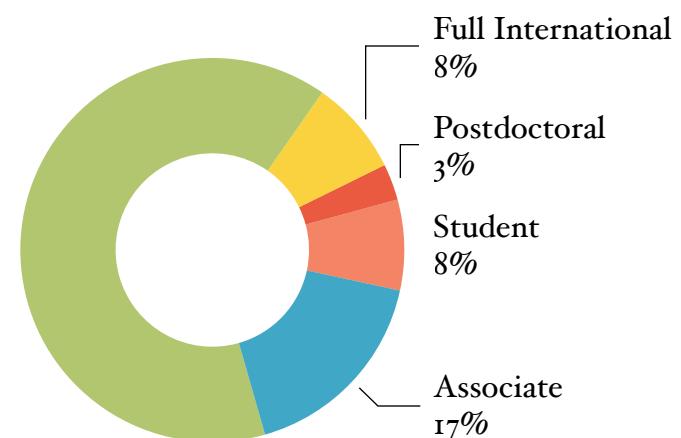
## Food Safety Specialty Section Membership Overview

Total Food Safety Specialty Section membership increased by 7% this year. Our specialty section has experienced a 35% increase this year in the numbers of its members who are students or postdoctoral fellows; they now represent 11% of our section, an 8.4% increase compared to last year. International scientists also contribute significantly to the FSSS membership: 16% of full members, 17% of associate members, and 17% of student or postdoctoral members of our section are from countries other than the USA.

Click [here](#) to join the  
SOT Food Safety Specialty Section!



Food Safety Specialty  
Section Member Sector



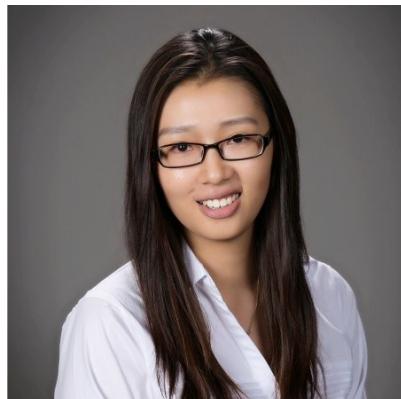
Food Safety Specialty  
Section Membership





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**Member Spotlight****Meichen Wang, MS, PhD**

Texas A&amp;M University

Dr. Wang graduated in December 2019 with a **doctoral degree in Toxicology** from Texas A&M University. She also received an award of the **2019 CVM High Impact Achievement Award** for First Author Publication having published 6 first-author publications in the year 2019 in high impact journals. She was nominated by her mentor Dr. Timothy Phillips.

**Sidney Green, PhD., Fellow ATS,**

Adjunct Associate Professor,

Howard University College of Medicine.

Dr. Green will be awarded the **Society of Toxicology Founders Award** for **outstanding Leadership in Toxicology** at the meeting in Anaheim. Through his more than 50 years as a practicing toxicologist, Dr. Green has made major contributions to academia, industry and government. Dr. Green has been actively involved in SOT since 1974 in appointed, elected and volunteer capacities.

Congratulations!

**Financial Report and FSSS Sponsors**

The last posted ledgers from Nov 2019 give a balance in the FSSS account of **\$23,172**.

The sponsors for 2019-2020 include **ConAgra**, **American Beverage**, **Keller and Heckman**, **Cargill**, **Vanguard VGA LLC** and **PepsiCo**.

The **Frank C. Lu** account has a balance of **\$48,918** with a gain of **\$1163** from interest for the last year.

