

ANNUAL REPORT: 2024–2025
 May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

I. Officers:

<u>2024–2025</u>	<u>2025–2026</u>
President: Amy Roe Vice President: Kevin Boyd Vice President-Elect: René Viñas Secretary-Treasurer: Heather Burleigh-Flayer Past President, Councilor: David Szabo Councilor: Kelly Almond-Abbate Councilor: Alexandria Lau Councilor: Deval Patel Councilor: Christine Thiffault Senior Student Representative: Cassandra Winz Junior Student Representative: Kaylyn Dinh	President: Kevin Boyd Vice President: Rene Vinas Vice President Elect: Laura Markley Past President, Councilor: Amy Roe Secretary-Treasurer: Heather Burleigh-Flayer Councilor: Maresha Charles Councilor: Vivian Lu Councilor: Deval Patel Councilor: Christine Thiffault Postdoctoral Representative: Mohamed Fathi Abdallah Senior Student Representative: Kaylyn Dinh Junior Student Representative: Wagner Tamagno

II. 2025 Membership total: 189

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2024–2025:

The Food Safety Specialty Section accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

- In-person meeting/mixer
- Endorsed session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Mentoring/career development events
- Poster session for trainees
- Trainee awards conferred
- Newsletter(s)
- Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Food Safety Specialty Section collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

- HOT

V. Communication Methods:

The Food Safety Specialty Section stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

- Emails through SOT Headquarters
- Newsletter(s)
- Through Graduate Student/Postdoc Representatives

- LinkedIn

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Food Safety Specialty Section maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

- Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
- Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
- Utilize virtual meetings for convening Specialty Section leadership
- Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
- Include inclusive descriptions of Awards
- Prioritize diversity in selection of speakers/panelists
- Highlight trainee research
- Solicit member feedback for development of Specialty Section activities (such as webinar topics)
- Provide volunteer activities for the membership to be engaged
- Use multiple approaches to communicate with membership
- Our mentoring event was a collaboration with the Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists (HOT)

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Food Safety Specialty Section hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Career panel(s)
- Mentoring luncheon/reception

VIII. Awards Given:

Trainee	2
Early Career	0
Mid Career	0
Late Career	0

IX. Strategic Plan:

The Food Safety Specialty Section supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
- Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities for all career levels

X. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Food Safety Specialty Section is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

- MAHA Report topics, microplastics in food, recycling/sustainability topics, color additive safety assessments, cell culture safety assessments.

XI. Feedback to the Society:

- A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Specialty Section?

Can SOT HQ add a chat, or at least suggestions/comments/ link to the specialty section webpage where we can receive feedback. Is it possible for SOT HQ to help identify students who might benefit from membership in FS3 (i.e., students with a food or food-related interest).

- B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Specialty Section that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

Is it possible for FS3 to become a sponsor/cosponsor of the SOT/FDA Colloquia as they are about food and fits perfectly with the specialty section.