President’s Message:

Dear all,

Wow, what a year! For those of us in the food industry, the main topic of discussion has to be the new Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) rules. The most sweeping food safety legislation in over 70 years will have ripple effects across the world. In fact, many other countries are closely watching the roll out of the new rules to see if they should adopt similar requirements. The first parts of the law go into effect on September 19, 2016. No doubt, the impacts will be felt across academia, government, and industry.

Additionally, we are seeing more and more scrutiny around food. Whether we are talking about pesticides, GMOs, or other additives, many individuals are concerned about the safety of food. That is why it becomes increasingly vital to make sure we continue to use sound science to make important determinations around the safety of food ingredients and additives. Equally, we must be able to communicate these conclusions in an effective way to reassure the public that the food supply is safe.

Many of us spend our daily lives making sure our food is safe. Whether you work in academia, government, or industry, we all play an important role in effectively managing the safety of the food supply chain. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans where you can expect great science, weather, and most importantly, food.

Blessings,

Brent Kobielush, President of Food Safety Specialty Section
**2016 Annual Meeting**

**FS3 Officers Meeting:** for current (2015-2016) officers not incoming officers

Monday, March 14, 6:30 – 8:00 am, CC La Nouvelle Orleans Ballroom B

**FS3 Reception:**

Wednesday, March 16, 6:00 -7:30 pm, Hilton Riverside Grand Salon 13

**FS3-Sponsored Sessions:**

Roundtable: Is a “Thresholdable” Carcinogen Still a Delaney Carcinogen? Monday, March 14, 12:30 – 1:50 pm

Workshop: Scientific and Regulatory Advances in Safety Evaluation of Heavy Metals in Food. Tuesday March 15, 9:30 am – 12:15 pm

Informational Session: Updating FDA’s Redbook: The importance of Stakeholder Involvement. Wednesday, March 16, 12:30 – 1:50 pm

**Poster Sessions:**

Monday, March 14, 1:15 – 4:30 pm, Natural Products

Tuesday, March 15, 1:15 – 4:30 pm, Food Safety/Nutrition

Wednesday, March 16, 1:15 – 4:30 pm, Food Safety/Nutrition (2)

**Other Sessions of Interest:**

Workshop: Monday March 14, 9:30 am – 12:15, Dietary Exposures to Heterocyclic Amines as a Potential Risk Factor for Neurological Disease.


Platform Session: Wednesday, March 16, 9:30 am – 12:15, Effects of Food-Associated Agents on Inflammation, Metabolic Disease and Cancer

**2017 Annual Meeting Proposal Deadline:**

April 30, 2016
Highlights from the 2015 Annual Meeting

FS3 President Dr. Brent Kobielush presenting at the FS3 reception

FS3 past President Dr. Nicola Stagg receiving past president award from Vice President Dr. Laurie Dolan

Alexandra Turley (Michigan State University) receiving Frank C. Lu Student Award from Senior Councilor Dr. Jaspreet Gujral

Xiao Xiao (University of Massachusetts) receiving Burdock Group Travel Award from Vice President Dr. Laurie Dolan

Interested in learning more about the FS3 awards? Visit FS3 awards website!
The workshop session titled Infant formula Nutrition: Regulatory & Safety Evaluation of Ingredients was a great success, drawing more than 90 members who attended the SOT meeting held in San Diego, March 2015. The workshop began with a dedication of the session to Dr. Benson Merle Silverman by Dr. A. Wallace Hayes. Dr. Silverman was scheduled to speak; however, his untimely death was a shock to us all. Dr. Silverman, a physician and scientist, was the Director of the Infant Formula and Medical Foods Staff at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Benson was an exceptional person and made a positive impact on all who knew him. After a brief introduction by Dr. Brinda Mahadevan, Dr. Carrie Assar from the FDA shared information dealing with the specific requirements for infant formulas regulated by the FDA, including data needed on the composition, product processing conditions, ingredient safety and clinical data. This was followed by Dr. Claire Kruger who discussed challenges in a risk assessment conducted to evaluate the generally recognized as safe (GRAS) status of an infant formula ingredient by identifying those issues that must be addressed to meet the burden of proof that satisfies regulatory standards. The ingredient must be shown to be reasonably certain to be safe for its intended use. Case studies were presented that illustrated specific examples of the types of documentation needed for different types of ingredients including, issues related to genetic modification, ingredient characterization, allergenicity, anticipated exposure level and metabolic fate, appropriate animal models and clinical studies. Dr. Bjorn Thorsrud then elaborated on one preclinical approach—the neonatal piglet as a research model for infant formula safety assessment. Innovation spurs development of new approaches and Dr. Roger Clemens as the final speaker shared an overview of fundamental research approaches that underlie innovation and advances in the development of new and better infant formula ingredients that should contribute to improved health outcomes among infants and throughout their growing years.
Dr. Brenna Flannery, Food and Drug Administration

Future Tox III

The SOT sponsored meeting ‘FutureTox III: Transforming 21st Century Science into Risk Assessment and Regulatory Decision-Making’ was held over two days in November, 2015 in Arlington, VA. The overarching objectives of this conference were to discuss and explore high-throughput risk assessment with stakeholders, to progress Tox21 in-vitro and in-silico models with the goal of reducing reliance on animal testing, and to explore progress and identify challenges in implementing Tox21 data in risk assessment and regulatory decision making. The first day of the conference included both domestic and international speakers from government, academics and industry, who lectured about why high-throughput risk assessment is valuable and using Tox21 tools and approaches to characterize hazards, exposure and manage uncertainty. Importantly, scientists presented concrete examples of how they used Tox21 tools and data to make decisions. The second day of the conference focused on program-specific (government, academic, industry) considerations for using Tox21 tools and datasets. Breakout groups discussed applying and using high-throughput tools and data sets in four key areas: drug development, using pathways-based approaches for screening and testing to identify endocrine active chemicals, Toxic Substances Control Act reform and impact on global harmonization. For more information on lecture topics and key points from the breakout groups, please visit the SOT website.

SOT/FDA Colloquia Series 2016

Society of Toxicology and the Food and Drug Administration are continuing (2016) the Colloquia series on Emerging Toxicological Science Challenges in Food and Ingredient Safety. The series is held at the FDA in College Park, MD and it is also webcasted. Participation is free to those who are interested. The latest colloquia was held January 25, 2016 and the topic was ‘Role of Mode of Action in Dose-Response Assessment for Carcinogens.’ Two more are currently planned, one to be held March 29, 2016, titled ‘State of the Art in the Creamer Classification Scheme and Threshold Toxicological of Concern’ and the next held in April or May, 2016, titled, ‘Safety Assessment Approaches to a Sensitive Subpopulation.’
Upcoming Events

- **CDC/NIOSH – Toxicology and Risk Assessment Conference**
  - April 4-7, 2016 in Cincinnati OH
- **Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods**
  - April 4-8, 2016 in Rotterdam, Netherlands
- **Food Safety Summit**
  - May 10-12, 2016, Rosemont, IL
- **World Mycotoxin Forum and 14th International Symposium on Mycotoxins**
  - June 6-9, 2016, Winnipeg, CA
- **International Association for Food Protection Annual Meeting**
  - July 31 - August 3, 2016, St. Louis, MO
- **Society of Risk Analysis Annual Meeting**
  - December 11-15, 2016 San Diego, CA

Interested in Food Safety and Toxicology?

Learn more at:

- **Food Safety Specialty Section Website**: [https://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/FSSS/index.asp](https://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/FSSS/index.asp)
- **Society of Toxicology**: [http://www.toxicology.org/](http://www.toxicology.org/)
- **SOT Calendar of events**: [http://www.toxicology.org/events/calendar/events.asp](http://www.toxicology.org/events/calendar/events.asp)
- **FDA What’s New**: [http://www.fda.gov/Food/default.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Food/default.htm)

Please submit articles or share your career achievements with us at sotfoodsafety@gmail.com. We would like to hear from you!