

IN VITRO SPECIALTY SECTION



In Vitro and Alternative Methods

Specialty Section Fall Newsletter 2012

Message from the President

By Sharon Meyer, IVAM President

2012-2013 IVAM OFFICERS

President:

Sharon Meyer

Vice President:

Suzanne Fitzpatrick

Vice President-Elect:

Hans Raabe

Secretary/Treasurer:

Diane Hardej

Councilor:

Jessica Ryman-Rasmussen

Councilor:

Teresa Liberati

Past President:

Vince Murphy

Student Rep:

Lisa M. Hoffman

Vice Student Rep:

Sanket Gadhia

Post Doc/Fellow Rep:

Katie Paul

As I move to the Presidential slot for the 2012-13 term, I first look back appreciatively to those who have led IVAM through a successful previous year. I thank Vince Murphy, past-president, and Kylee Eblin, councilor, for their enthusiastic service. Kylee, as chair of the nominating committee, put forth a strong slate of candidates for this year's executive council. Vince has had a busy year moving some of the provisions of our by-laws to a policy guide that allows more nimble management of IVAM. One major emphasis of the policy guide is a clearer definition of structure and responsibilities of our standing committees with a greater effort to recruit IVAM membership from outside of the Executive Committee. I encourage you to step forward to serve on these. Committee activities and contact persons are outlined in this newsletter. Our out-going student and post-doctoral representatives, Sridhar Jaligama and Prajakta Palkar, have been great advocates for IVAM through numerous activities, e.g. assembling a poster for display at the annual meeting. Another notable achievement occurred last year - congratulations goes out to Sue Ford, an IVAM past president. Sue received the 2012 Undergraduate Educator award.

Looking ahead, IVAM is in a strong financial position and membership has grown by about 10% annually over the last several years. Our members' expertise is increasingly relevant to the Society and profession as efforts to reduce test animal usage in hazard assessment gains momentum. A stream of events - the strengthening of TSCA, implementation of the EU cosmetic regulation, updating of the IRIS database, etc. - will be drivers for implementation of validated, efficient alternative and in vitro testing methods supporting product safety well into the future. New technological advances in microfluidics, stem cell research, etc., offer exciting innovations for potential applications to in vitro toxicology.

IVAM will soon be electing several new officers for the next year. This is a great opportunity to engage with the specialty section and make a contribution to its success. Details of open slots and the nomination procedure are inside. Finally, I wish to make one last appeal. I would like to see more proposals coming from IVAM membership with our sponsorship that are selected by SOT's Scientific Program Committee for inclusion in the annual meeting. To improve our presence and visibility, we must encourage preparation of highly competitive proposals, i.e., ones that meet the criteria of timeliness and relevance to toxicology. The first step is assembly of a well-developed, near complete proposal that markets itself favorably to SOT Program Committee. IVAM's Program Committee is a resource available to you and will offer guidance during the April pre-submission review phase of proposal development. I hope you will consider showcasing work of you and your colleagues in an IVAM-sponsored program at the 2014 annual SOT meeting.

The *In Vitro* and Alternative Methods Specialty Section

The *In Vitro* and Alternative Methods Specialty Section was founded in 1994 and consists of members who have expertise or special interest in the application of *in vitro* techniques to address problems of cellular toxicity, with a special emphasis on product safety evaluation.

Mission Statement and Objectives

“Promote the reduction and humane use of animals in toxicology research by encouragement of the development and validation of effective *in vitro* and alternative methods or models”

- Encourage widespread use of *in vitro* and alternative methods to reduce, refine and replace animal testing in toxicology
- Increase effectiveness of *in vitro* and alternative methods through emphasis on predictability and validation
- Inform and encourage growth of *in vitro* and alternative methods through programs and educational activities on current and new developments
- Serve as a resource to the Society of Toxicology and its members pertaining to all aspects of *in vitro* and alternative methods



Message from the Immediate Past President

By Vince Murphy, IVAM Immediate Past

It has been a pleasure to serve IVAM Specialty Section as President over the past term. The members of the Executive Committee (S. Meyer, D. Hardej, S. Fitzpatrick, S. Ford, K. Eblin, J. Ryman Rasmussen, P. Palkar, S. Jaligama and L. Hoffman) and our SOT office liaison (K. von Brook) were enthusiastic, dedicated and helpful as we all strived to promote and achieve the objectives of your IVAM Specialty Section. I look forward to working with the new members of the Executive Committee as I serve as Past President. I have enjoyed meeting so many wonderful members of the Specialty Section, particularly those students and post doctorates and their mentors who have participated in the IVAM Specialty Section awards program. The Specialty Section considers the awards to be the most important part of our function to encourage enthusiastic young toxicologists to contribute to *in vitro* and alternative methods. One of our objectives of the last term was to increase active participation of the membership by encouraging participation in committees. A few members outside of the Executive Committee volunteered for the membership and program committees and the increase in ideas and assistance in these areas was most appreciated. At present, a member of the Executive Committee is the chair of these committees, but it is hoped as more members participate that co-chairs can be selected from the general membership. I strongly encourage your participation in one of these committees which are awards, communications, membership, nominations and program to make our Specialty Section even better!

Student/Post Doc Awards

Every year IVAM SS recognizes outstanding student and postdoctoral scientists for their work in the field of *In Vitro* Toxicology with the **In Vitro and Alternative Methods SS Student Award**. Awards are based on the scientific merit of the submitted abstract.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Open to graduate students and postdoctoral scientists
2. Submitted abstract to the SOT Annual Meeting must be accompanied by letter of support from advisor.
3. Applicants must be present at IVAM Lunch reception at the SOT Annual Meeting to receive the award or the award will be forfeit
4. It is strongly suggested that applicants be current members of IVAM

The winners receive awards of up to \$500 that will be presented at the IVAM Lunch reception at the SOT 52nd Annual Meeting and Tox Expo in San Antonio.

The deadline for the upcoming 2013 awards is **January 23, 2013**.

For information, go to <http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ivss/awards.asp>

Please send abstracts and letters to IVAM President, Dr. Sharon Meyer (meyer@ulm.edu).



MB Research supports annually the **In Vitro and Alternative Methods SS MB Research Award for Distinction in Practical In Vitro and Alternative Toxicology Methods**. This award recognizes the outstanding abstract by a postdoctoral scholar in the field of *in vitro* or alternative methods toxicology. This award is meant to focus on the practical aspects of in vitro or alternative methods rather than basic research or mechanism-based research.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Open to postdoctoral scientists
2. Submitted abstract to the SOT Annual Meeting must be accompanied by letter of support from advisor.
3. Applicants must be present at IVAM Lunch reception at the SOT Annual Meeting to receive the award or the award will be forfeit

The winner receives \$500 that will be presented at the IVAM Lunch reception at the SOT 52nd Annual Meeting and ToxExpo in San Antonio.

The deadline for the upcoming 2013 award is **January 1, 2013**.

For information, go to <http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/ivss/awards.asp>

Please send abstracts and letters to Dr. George DeGeorge at [MB Research](#).

2012 Award Winners

The IVAM Specialty Section was pleased to recognize the achievements of our student award winners at the 2012 National Meeting in San Francisco. Four awards were given this year, 1st and 2nd place post-doctoral awards and 1st and 2nd place student awards. Each award winner received an award letter and a monetary award at the luncheon. Congratulations to all.

1st Place Student: Susanna Wegner, University of Washington - “Inhibition of cyclooxygenase 2 reduces dipentyl phthalate toxicity in a 3-dimensional in vitro rat testes co-culture model: evidence for an alternate mechanism of action” (\$400 award)

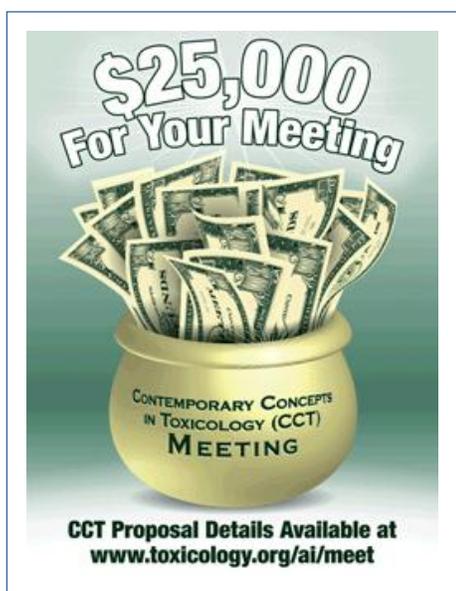
2nd Place Student: Samantha Snow, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill –“Soluble components of ultrafine particulate matter induce pro-coagulant responses in endothelial cells” (\$200 award)

1st Place Post Doc: Hyun Jung Kim, Harvard University –“Human peristalsing gut-on-a-chip model for drug safety and efficacy” (\$400 award)

2nd Place Post Doc: Daniel Leslie, Harvard University –“ Aerosol delivery to a microfluidic human breathing lung-on-a-chip for inhalation toxicity” (\$200 award)

We are also proud to announce **Daniel Leslie** as the winner of the MB Postdoctoral Research Award. The award was presented by George DeGeorge Ph.D., Director and Chief Scientific Officer at MB Research Labs.

SOT CCT Meetings Eligible for Seed Money and Profit Sharing



SOT Sponsors two types of meetings outside of the SOT Annual Meeting: Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) and Non-SOT meetings. CCT meetings are one- to two-day focused, open registration, scientific meetings in contemporary and rapidly progressing areas of toxicological sciences. Non-SOT meetings are sponsored by other not-for-profit organizations and SOT will either endorse or provide sponsorship money to toxicology-related meetings.

The Society will underwrite all the liabilities of the CCT meeting with the expectation that the meeting will at least break even financially. The goal of providing \$25,000 seed funds is to stimulate the creation of CCT meeting proposals.

For more information about CCT meetings, please visit the [SOT Web site](#)

Call for Nominations of Executive Committee Officers

Nominations for new Executive Committee Officers are now being accepted for 2013:

VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT - Elected annually and serves for four years (one year terms as Vice President Elect, Vice President, President and Past President),

COUNCILOR - One councilor is elected annually and will serve a term of two years,

VICE-STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - Elected annually and serves for two years (one year as Vice Student Representative and one year as Student Representative),

POSTDOC/FELLOW REPRESENTATIVE - Elected annually and serve for a one year term.

All candidates must be members of IVAM and candidates for the VP-Elect and Councilor positions must be full or associate members of SOT.

Support your IVAM by nominating a colleague whom you think may be able to serve our needs and goals as an officer of the IVAM SS or nominate yourself. Nominations will be collected and a ballot will be sent to IVAM members. New officers will be sworn in and take office on May 1, 2013.

Please send your nominations as a BioSketch to **Jessica Ryman-Rasmussen, Councilor** at ryman.jessica@epamail.epa.gov who will serve as Nomination Committee Chairperson.

SAMPLE BIOSKETCH (180 words or less - subject to editing if longer)

This is a guideline for your bio - revise at your discretion.

[Name, including degrees and affiliations]

Dr. [Name] is a [Current position] at [Place of employment]. S/He received her/his doctorate in [Field] from [University] in [Year] and was a postdoctoral fellow at [Institution] from [Years, i.e. 1983-1986]. S/He studied [Major area of study]. In [Year], Dr. [Name] joined the [Workplace/organization] where her/his research interests continued in [Area of research interests]. S/He has served on the [Study sections, Panels, etc.] at the [Organization, i.e. NIH, EPA, etc.]. Dr. [Name] is author/co-author of [Number] [Publications including peer-reviewed articles and/or book chapters, etc.] and is currently on the [Committee] of [Organization or other enterprise]. S/He has been a member of the SOT since [Year] and has served the SOT in the following capacities: [Offices/positions held].

Students just modify accordingly as to your experience and plans to receive a doctorate.

Calling All Students!

Students are essential to the maintenance and growth of the IVAM SS. Many student members of SOT do not realize that their SOT membership entitles them to a free specialty section membership. The Executive Committee encourages students to join IVAM and participate as an officer and/or submission of an abstract for the Student/Postdoc Awards. The students of today will be tomorrow's leaders of toxicology organizations and laboratories. We hope that students by participating in IVAM will form a lasting bond with our organization as has been the case for many of the leaders of IVAM.



Be a Part of Your IVAM - Call for Committee Members

In the past, IVAM has primarily functioned through the efforts of the Executive Committee. The current Executive Committee would like to encourage greater participation from the membership at large. Members are being asked to serve IVAM SS by considering participation on one or more of the following committees:

Nominations Committee: Jessica Ryman-Rasmussen, Chair
Obtains Nominations for Executive Committee Officers and Submits Nominations to SOT for a ballot.

Program Committee: Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Chair
Solicits proposals for symposium, CE courses and workshops for the Annual Meeting, sets up mechanism to review proposals for sponsorship and endorsement of IVAM and considers new ideas for additional programs outside of the SOT Annual meeting.

Awards Committee: Hans Raabe, Chair
Solicits applications for the IVAM SS Student Award, set up mechanism to review the abstracts, assists MB in review of applicants for the MB Award, and considers new ideas and sources of funding for additional future awards.

Communications Committee: Teresa Liberati, Chair
Ensures that the website is current, assists the secretary-treasurer with communication to IVAM SS, SOT and other organizations, assists members with ToXchange and prepares and issues the IVAM SS Newsletter.

Membership Committee: Vince Murphy and George DeGeorge, Co-Chairs
Prepare membership statistics for the secretary/treasurer to include in the annual report and elsewhere, monitors membership levels and encourages all interested toxicologists, including student and postdoctoral scientists to join IVAM SS and to renew membership.

Colgate-Palmolive Awards and Grants

Colgate-Palmolive sponsors several awards and grants through SOT related to *in vitro* and alternative methods research.

Colgate-Palmolive Grants for Alternative Research
 Colgate-Palmolive Lectureship in Alternative Methods in Toxicology Award
 Colgate-Palmolive Awards for Student Research Training in Alternative Methods
 Colgate-Palmolive Fellowship Award in *In Vitro* Toxicology

Members of IVAM are encouraged to apply. Applications and nominations for these Sponsored Awards given at the SOT Annual Meeting are due by October 9 of the preceding year.

See <http://www.toxicology.org/ai/af/awards.aspx> for information

Membership Statistics (as of September 2012)

By Diane Hardej, IVAM Secretary / Treasurer

Year	Full	Associate	Student / Post Doc	Total
2012	247	40	35 / 18	340
2011	216	42	20 / 14	291
2010	196	43	37 / 2	247
2009	149	38	32 / 6	225
2008	125	30	21 / 2	180
2007	107	26	24	157
2006	90	22	16	128
2005	100	25	21	146
2004	74	20	14	108

As of September 2012, IVAM has a total of 340 members, which is up from 291 members at this time last year. More toxicologists are discovering the uses of *in vitro* methods to quickly and cost-effectively evaluate the potential benefits of the newly developed technologies. Each member can actively participate in the growth of the IVAM by increasing awareness of the mission and objectives of the IVAM SS to colleagues and students. In particular, jointly, we can concentrate our efforts toward recruiting student and post-doctoral representation, both of which represent the future of *in vitro* methods.

Important Dates to Remember

EVENT	DEADLINE
SOT Abstract Submission	Oct 3, 2012
SOT Awards and Sponsored Awards Applications	Oct 9, 2012
SOT Membership Renewal	Dec 15, 2012
IVAM SS Executive Officer Nominations	Jan 1, 2013
MB Research Award Applications	Jan 1, 2013
IVAM SS Student Awards Applications	Jan 23, 2013
SOT Annual Meeting Early Bird Registration	Jan 25, 2013
SOT Membership Suspended if not Renewed	Feb 15, 2013
SOT Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX	Mar 10-14, 2013
IVAM Lunch Reception & Business Meeting at SOT Annual Meeting	Mar 12, 2013
Symposium, CE Course and Workshop Proposal Submission to SOT	Apr 30, 2013