

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION Molecular Biology

ANNUAL REPORT: 2009-2010

May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010

I. Officers/Committees:

Officers:

	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
President:	Michael J. Carvan	Christopher A. Reilly
Vice President:	Christopher A. Reilly	Russell S. Thomas
Vice President Elect:	Russell S. Thomas	Christopher J. Corton
Secretary/Treasurer:	Kristie Willett	Kristie Willett
Councilors:	Mark Hahn	Nancy Denslow
	Nancy Denslow	Craig Rowlands
<i>Past-President</i>	Thomas N. Sutter	Micheal J. Carvan
SAC Representative:	Karma Fussell	Jill A. Franzosa
PDA Representative:	Joanna Klapacz	Cassandra E. Deering

Committees: Not Applicable.

II. Activities

The Annual Face-to-Face Business Meeting was held in Salt Lake City, Utah on March 8, 2010 from 7-8 am. All MBSS officers were in attendance.

Summary Meeting Minutes March 2010 Meeting:

Present: Michael Carvan, Mark Hahn, Rusty Thomas, Kristie Willett, Nancy Denslow, Thomas Sutter, Karma Fussell, Joanna Klapacz, Chris Reilly, Chris Corton

Absent: Sara Wilson

1. Welcome (Carvan) and introduction of new officers) Student rep = Jill Franzosa, Jr. Councilor = Craig Rowlands, VP Elect = Chris Corton
2. Budget update (Willett) There are 152 members (down from 159 -09 and 163 -08). Balance before meeting is \$2528. Income last year \$4507. Expected expenses \$2908 for reception, \$865 awards and plaques/ribbons and \$250 for travel of student rep for a total of \$4023. Therefore, expect to carry about same amount forward. Discussion followed about potential reasons and remedies for declining membership.
3. Endowment update (Carvan) We used \$800 from endowment to support 50 - 100% of each of the student awards. Need to make call for continued solicitation of donors and Sutter suggesting we add that as one of the "jobs" in the duties of officers
4. 2011 Program (Thomas) Themes are a little tricky next year to match with MBSS. However a couple of CE courses are in the works but would also like a workshop or symposium so we need to help find topics and let Rusty know. Deadline is April 15th.
5. Student Report (Fussell) The MBSS poster was located right next to the bar at the student mixer and was attended by Karma who spoke with many students encouraging them to join. We currently have 30 student members.

6. Posdoc Report (Kapacz) – nothing to report
7. Bylaws updates (Carvan) – Brought five paper copies highlighting changes and plans to describe changes at business meeting.
8. Other business (Carvan) Mixer will be in room 255B and the bar will be shared with other specialty sections hosting mixers at the same time. The president and VP will attend the presidents meeting later the same day.
9. Other business (Denslow) recommended we come up with a way so that the same students were not getting multiple awards from different specialty sections. There were some logistical issues about this but suggested that students should select a single award to accept if awarded multiple ones.

Other business – Should we conduct a membership survey to see how best to serve our membership...should we host webinar? What sort of topics are of interest to our members?

2010 SOT Annual Meeting Reception was held in Salt Lake City, Utah on March 8, 2010 from 6-7:30 pm. An estimated 50-75 members were in attendance. Dr. Willett gave treasurers report (as above), Dr. Carvan gave an endowment update (as above), Dr. Reilly reported on MBSS sponsored activities at current meeting, Dr. Thomas presented 2011 themes and solicited program sessions, Ms Fussell updated the students on activities, Dr. Carvan introduced bylaws changes, Drs Hahn and Denslow presented students with awards. Students gave 4 minute, 2 powerpoint slide presentations of their work.

Awards:

Graduate Student Awards:

1st place presentation – Jill A. Franzosa, Oregon State University “Developmental Regulation of Retinoic Acid Signaling: Teratogenic Role of microRNAs”

2nd place presentation – Raymond Lo, University of Toronto “Genomic Analysis of Dioxin-Dependent Recruitment of AHR to Promotor Regions in Mouse Liver”

3rd place presentation - Lauren Mordasky Markell, Pennsylvania State University “Pharmacological Inhibition of TGF β signaling Enhances Malignant Progression of Chemically-Induced Skin Cancers through Changes in Inflammatory Responses”

Post-Doctoral Awards:

1st place presentation – Melissa A. Barhoover PhD., Hamner Institute for Health Sciences “The AHR Regulates Cell Cycle Progression in Human Breast Cancer Cells via a Functional Interaction with CDK4”

2nd place presentation – Tamara L. Tal, PhD., Oregon State University “The Developmental Neurotoxicity of microRNAs: Nicotine-Induced Defects in Motor Neuron Axon Guidance and Behaviour”

3rd place presentation - Pei-Li Yao, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin “MEHP-Induced Disruption of Junctional Complexes in Seminiferous Epithelium of the Rodent Testis is Mediated by MMP-2”

Summary of Awards/Financial:**Student Award winners:**

Jill Franzosa -- \$250 from endowment \$250 from general fund = \$500

Raymond Lo -- \$150 from endowment \$150 from general fund = \$300

Lauren Markell -- \$100 from endowment = \$100

Postdoctoral Award winners:

Melissa Barhoover -- \$100 from endowment \$100 from general fund = \$200

Tamara Tal -- \$100 from endowment \$100 from general fund = \$200

Pei-Li Yao -- \$100 from endowment \$100 from general fund = \$200

In total \$800 came from the endowment and \$700 from general fund.

2010 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions:**CE Courses:**

“Biological Pathway Analysis: An Introduction to The Pathway Knowledgebases For Toxicological Research” Chair: Dr. Marc Gillespie (St. John’s University)

“Predictive Power of Novel Technologies (Cells to 'Omics'): Promises, Pitfalls and Potential Applications” Chairs: Drs. Srikanth Nadadur (NIEHS) and Mary-Jane Cunningham (Nanomics Biosciences, Inc.), .

“Nuclear receptors: role in chemical mode of action and targets for toxicity testing” Chairs: Drs. Chris Corton (EPA) and Jack Vanden Heuvel (Pennsylvania State University)

Platform and Workshop Sponsorships:

“Faster Science For Better Decisions: Characterizing Environmental Contaminant Risk From High Throughput Data” Chairs: Drs. David Dix (EPA) and Russell Thomas (Hamner Institutes for Health Sciences)

“It's not Your Father's Aryl-Hydrocarbon Receptor: New Biological Roles for a Misunderstood Receptor” Chairs: Drs. Russell Thomas and J. Craig Rowlands (The Dow Chemical Company)

“OMICs Profiling of Cell and Tissue Interactions of Nanomaterials: Insight into Mechanisms of Action” Chairs: Drs. Mary-Jane Cunningham (Nanomics Biosciences, Inc.) and Frank Witzmann (Indiana University School of Medicine)

“Blood-based Genomic Profiles as Biomarkers of Exposure and Effect” Chairs: Drs. Russell Thomas (Hamner Institutes for Health Sciences) and Richard S. Paules (NIEHS)

Endowment Fund Details: We used \$800 from endowment to support 50 -100% of each of the student awards. Need to make call for continued solicitation of donors and Sutter suggesting we add that as one of the “jobs” in the duties of officers.

Newsletters: Summer 2010 in preparation

Teleseminars: None

White Papers: None

Contributions to SOT Web site: None

Other Specialty Section 2009-2010 Activities:

By-Laws updates accepted by MBSS.

Cassandra Rice-Deering has been appointed (July 2010) as the interim Post-Doctoral Representative for Joanna Klapacz, who has recently completed her Post-Doctoral Training.
