Greetings,

As your Neurotoxicology Specialty Section Postdoctoral Representative, I thought it was time to give you an update on SOT resources, opportunities and, for those attending the 2013 Annual Meeting, events targeted for postdocs. I encourage you to look through this information to find something that fits your interests and helps you to grow professionally through your SOT experience.

Resources

1) Postdoctoral Scholar section of SOT website
   This is the home page for SOT postdocs. It includes information about upcoming events and links to various resources available to postdocs.
   https://www.toxicology.org/ai/spd/PD.asp

2) Career Resource and Development (CRAD) Services
   Includes Job Bank and Mentor Match services. Registration is valid for 6 months for the Job Bank. If you register for the Annual Meeting Job Bank Center then it is possible to interview for positions at the annual meeting.
   http://www.toxicology.org/ai/crad/crad.asp

3) Research Funding Blog
   Recent initiative that allows members to share traditional and nontraditional funding opportunities and tips related to grantsmanship.
   http://toxchange.toxicology.org/p/bl/bl/blogid=13

4) Post-y Newsletter
   The postdoc newsletter is published twice a year. It covers topics relevant to postdocs. For example, the summer 2012 issue included an article on employment benefits for postdocs. The current issue of Post-y is found on the Postdoctoral Scholar webpage (https://www.toxicology.org/ai/spd/PD.asp) while prior issues are on the postdoc community page of ToXchange Forum (see below).

5) ToXchange Forum
   This is intended to be the main mechanism through which SOT members can communicate with each other. An advantage is that posted information is up-to-date as opposed to information in newsletters (such as this one ☺), which is sometimes out of date by the time it is published. You are encouraged to create a personal profile so that other members who may be interested in your research can find and contact you. There is also an option for posting your CV on ToXchange. http://toxchange.toxicology.org/p/us/in
   Additionally, there is a ToXchange community for postdoctoral scholars with discussion threads of interest: http://toxchange.toxicology.org/p/co/ly/gid=194

6) Communiqué Blog
   The Communiqué is the main newsletter for SOT. It is published four times annually. The main sections of the newsletter are SOT News, Annual Meeting & ToxExpo, Science News, and Legislative & Regulatory Update. Current and prior issues are found here:
   http://www.toxicology.org/ms/communique.asp
   The blog allows items intended for the newsletter to be available before publication, allowing for access to information that is up-to-date.

7) Non-SOT Links
   This page contains numerous links about mentoring, funding, and various other resources. I daresay there is something for everyone on this page.
Opportunities

1) Vacancies in the Postdoctoral Assembly (PDA) for Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Councilor (2 positions) https://www.toxicology.org/ai/spd/PDA_2013ElectionFlyer.pdf

2) Vacancies for Neurotoxicology Specialty Section Representatives
   We are also seeking nominations for the Postdoc and Grad Student Representatives for the Neurotoxicology Specialty Section. Contact Steve Lasley (sml@uic.edu) if interested. Self-nominations are allowed. THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS DECEMBER 7.

3) On-Line Continuing Education (CE)
   CE courses covering a diverse array of 30+ topics are available. This is a good way to learn more about a topic of interest. Follow the directions under “Registration Information” for free postdoc and grad student registration.
   http://www.toxicology.org/AI/ce/index.asp

4) YouTox Video Challenge

5) Gordon Research Seminar on Cellular & Molecular Mechanisms of Toxicity
   This Gordon Conference is targeted for postdocs and grad students. This presents an excellent opportunity to present your work. See the web page for deadlines.

Activities at the 2013 Annual Meeting in San Antonio: A preliminary page of events is found at http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2013/studevent.asp Specific events are listed below.

1) PDA Luncheon
   Network with other postdocs during this 1 hour event filled with activities including raffle prizes and postdoc awards announcements. Registration required: $10 fee.

2) Student/Postdoctoral Scholar Mixer
   Enjoy refreshments and activities while socializing with postdocs and grad students. More information on Specialty Sections (SSS) and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will be available. Registration required.

3) Education-Career Development Sessions
   This involves a formal lecture and a panel discussion involving speakers from academia, industry, and government. Four sessions in 2013 topic:
   i) From new submissions to competitive renewals: different phases of grant writing
   ii) The symbiosis of mentoring: getting the most out of the mentor-mentee relationship
   iii) Regulatory science and risk assessment: lessons for early-career scientists on what to expect and how to pursue this career path
   iv) Toxicological writing for industry and regulatory audiences
      http://www.toxicology.org/ai/meet/am2013/careersess.asp

4) Joint PDA & Graduate Student Leadership Committee Symposium
   The research of SOT grad students and postdoctoral scholars is highlighted. 2013 session: “The Role of Systems Biology in Characterizing Risk of Developmental Origins of Disease.”

5) Meet the Plenary Speaker
   An opportunity to informally participate in a discussion with Bruce Beutler, professor and director of the Center for the Genetics of Host Defense at UT-SWMC. Registration required.
   http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2013/studevent.asp
6) Chat with an Expert
Small groups of students and scholars are matched with a senior toxicologist for an opportunity for networking and finding out about future career paths. The opportunity also exists for postdocs to host a group of graduate students for “Chat with a Postdoc.” Register through the following link:
https://www.toxicology.org/ai/spd/chatexpert.asp

7) In Vitro Toxicology Lecture and Luncheon for Students/Postdocs
This includes a lunch and opportunities to network and participate in group discussions. The 2013 guest lecturer is Hirsham Hamadeh from Amgen, Inc. “From Hazard Identification to Risk Assessment: Linking It Together with In Vitro Models.” Registration required.
http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2013/studevent.asp

8) Poster Tours
One hour group tours by a senior toxicologist of posters the expert finds to be of particular significance. Options to sign up are not posted on the website yet.

9) Volunteer…
   i) …at the Continuing Education registration desk on Sunday, March 10, 2013
   http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2013/ce.asp
      A call for volunteers typically goes out as the time to the meeting approaches. Free registration for one CE course is usually offered in compensation for your time.
   ii) …as a peer mentor at the Undergraduate Program from Saturday, March 9 through Monday, March 11 http://www.toxicology.org/AI/MEET/AM2013/edout.asp I am not sure if a call for volunteers goes out. If you are interested, I encourage you to contact Susan D. Simmons (susan@toxicology.org), who is the liaison for the group which organizes the event.
   iii) …as a host for “Chat with a Postdoc”. See #6 above.

I hope you found something of interest in these listings. If I can be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Paul A. Eubig
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