

2019

Dear Neurotoxicology Specialty Section (NTSS) Members:

The NTSS Executive Committee would like to update you on the activities of our Specialty Section from the past several months, and announce new deadlines and important award information. We hope you will be able to submit an abstract, and we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming 2020 SOT meeting in Anaheim, CA.

Summary of Important Deadlines for 2019-2020 NTSS Awards:

Abstract and Awards	Deadlines	Eligibility requirements
SOT Abstract	October 18, 2019	All members of SOT
Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology SS Trainee Conference Endowment Award	December 15, 2019	Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows must be members of NTSS or show evidence of application for membership. Undergraduates and Postbaccalaureates need not be members, but submitted abstract must be neurotoxicology focused. All applicants must be in attendance at the 2020 Annual Meeting.
Distinguished Neurotoxicologist Award	January 15, 2020	Full, Retired, or Emeritus members of NTSS nominated by two full members of SOT, one of whom must be a member of NTSS.
Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology SS Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Fellow/Associate Poster Endowment Award	February 13, 2020	Graduate students and postdoctoral research fellows/associates who are NTSS members or show evidence of application for membership, and must be in attendance at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Renew Your NTSS Membership When You Pay Your SOT Dues - Before Dec 31!

Your membership provides the financial support to keep our Specialty Section running. NTSS seeks to promote neurotoxicology as a vibrant specialty of toxicology. The NTSS Executive Committee actively seeks to enhance and promote neurotoxicology themed sessions at the Annual Meeting. It also offers its members a place to meet with colleagues at the NTSS annual SOT reception. In addition, NTSS supports the growth of the field with the endowed Toshio Narahashi Fellowship Award program. As this endowment grows it enables NTSS to provide even more opportunities to support the next generation of neurotoxicologists. Membership continues to be the largest financial foundation of the section, so please renew today, and encourage your colleagues who are not members to join!

Submit an Abstract for the 2020 SOT Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA!

Deadline for Abstract Submission is October 18, 2019

When putting together an abstract for SOT, keep in mind the following top reasons for rejection by the SOT Scientific Planning Committee. These include the following:

1. Test substance is not defined
2. The abstract is poorly written, including use of chemical abbreviations or uncommon jargon
3. Abstract promotes a commercial product and sounds like an advertisement for a company
4. The abstract is one of several emanating from a single study and cannot form a separate presentation
5. The abstract provides little data or is a literature review with no new interpretations or applications

Congratulations to the 2019 Toshio Narahashi Trainee Conference Award Winners!

Congratulations to the Winners and Thank You to Everyone Who Participated!

Morgan Thomas—Oberlin College; Mentor: Gunnar Kwakye

Abstract: Huntingtin and Cadmium Induce Striatal Neurotoxicity and Neurodegeneration via Altered Metal Transport and Protein Kinase C Dependent Oxidative Stress and Apoptosis Signaling Mechanisms



Hendrik Greve—Indiana University School of Medicine; Mentor: Michelle L. Block

Abstract: Diesel Exhaust Dysregulates Markers of Disease-Associated Microglia



Aseel Eid—Florida International University; Mentor: Jason Richardson

Abstract: DDT Increases Neuroinflammation and Microglial Activation: Role of Microglial Sodium Channels



Special Thanks to NTSS Vice President Nick Filipov for Chairing this Competition

Congratulations to the 2019 Toshio Narahashi Poster Competition Winners!

Graduate Student Winners: 1st Place Sponsored by Battelle

1st Place: Dharmin Rokad—Iowa State University; Mentor: Anu Kanthasamy

Abstract: Manganese Exposure: Misfolded α -Synuclein, Impaired Endosomal Trafficking and Protein Degradation Machinery

2nd Place: Eduardo González—University of California, Davis; Mentor: Pamela Lein

Abstract: Acute Intoxication of Juvenile Rats with the Organophosphate DFP Causes Sex-Specific Seizure Behavior and Neuropathology

3rd Place: Cherish Taylor—University of Texas, Austin; Mentor: Somshuvra Mukhopadhyay

Abstract: Regulation of brain manganese homeostasis by the transporter SLC30A10



From left to right: Anu Kanthasamy, Dharmin Rokad, Cherish Taylor, Eduardo Gonzalez, Pamela Lein

Postdoctoral Fellow Winners:

1st Place: Briana De Miranda—University of Pittsburgh; Mentor: Timothy Greenamyre

Abstract: Environmental mitochondrial toxicants elevate Parkinson's Disease risk by LRRK2 activation

2nd Place: Carolyn Klocke—University of California, Davis; Mentor: Pamela Lein

Abstract: Sex-specific alteration of dendritic growth following developmental PCB exposure

3rd Place: Shreesh Sammi—Purdue University; Mentor: Jason Cannon

Abstract: Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid is selectively toxic to dopaminergic neurons in *C. elegans*



From left to right: Carolyn Klocke, Pamela Lein, Briana De Miranda

NTSS Extends Sincere Thanks to the 50+ Volunteer Judges that had the Arduous Task of Evaluating and Scoring All of the Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Participants

Special Thanks to Past-Past NTSS President Mary Gilbert and Councilors Jason Cannon & Vanessa Fitsanakis for Conducting this Competition

Important Dates and Deadlines

Call for Nominations - Election of New NTSS Officers – November 1, 2019

Call for Nominations: NTSS will elect a new **Vice President-Elect**, a **Treasurer**, a **Councilor**, a **Postdoctoral Representative**, and a **Graduate Student Representative**. It is time to gather nominations for those offices. Mary Gilbert will chair the Nominating Committee this year as the Past-Past President, and requests your suggestions. Please carefully consider your nominations – no particular expertise is required, but candidates should be dedicated to service for NTSS. Remember that the future success of the Specialty Section will be dependent on these people. It is best if the nominator knows the candidate is willing to serve, but the Chair and other Nominating Committee members will make those contacts. **Please forward the names and contact information of all nominees to Mary Gilbert (gilbert.mary@epa.gov) by November 1, 2019.**

Call for Newsletter Committee Volunteers

Are you interested in becoming more involved in NTSS? Consider volunteering for the Newsletter Committee. Annually, NTSS sends a newsletter with informative updates about the Specialty Section to the entire membership. As a volunteer, you have access to the most up-to-date info about NTSS! This is also an excellent opportunity to network with fellow NTSS members, as well as gain valuable scientific communication skills. If you have any questions, or are interested in volunteering, please email **Eduardo González (azgonzalez@ucdavis.edu)**, the current NTSS Graduate Student Representative.

Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology Fellowship Endowment Fund

NTSS has been highly successful in establishing the Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology Fellowship Award Endowment Fund. This endowment fund helps to cover our graduate student and postdoctoral fellow poster competition awards, and will provide support for the trainee conference award.

Kindly Continue to Donate

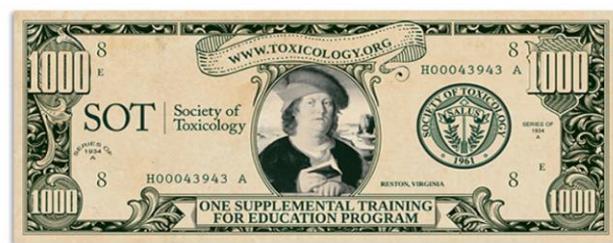
Please consider renewing or making a new tax-deductible donation to the Toshio Narahashi Endowment Fund this year. For every dollar donated, the Society will match the contribution dollar-for-dollar up to \$400,000, meaning your contribution will go even further. Increasing the endowment fund will enhance the size and number of trainee poster and conference awards that NTSS can grant. Few things that we do, will have such a positive impact on so many young scientists early in their careers, and will continue to do so in perpetuity. To make a donation, please click on <http://www.toxicology.org/ai/csot/contribute.asp>.

Supplemental Training for Education Program (STEP) – Next Deadlines: October 9th/ May 1st

Doctoral students are encouraged to apply for SOT funding to support **participation in a workshop, training course or event** that facilitates the professional or scientific education needed to achieve future career goals. The activity should be outside the scope of their graduate program and graduate research.

For more info:

<http://www.toxicology.org/education/st/step.asp>



Important Dates and Deadlines (Continued)

2020 Toshio Narahashi Trainee Conference Award – December 15, 2019

Process: Trainee applicants must submit their SOT abstract, CV, and completed conference award form (<http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>) by **December 15, 2019**. The NTSS Awards Committee will review these materials, and select recipients based on the scientific merit of their abstract, and commitment from their mentor to cover any additional travel costs. Awardees will receive funds in advance of the 2020 SOT Annual Meeting.

Eligibility requirements: (1) Undergraduates, Postbaccalaureates, Graduate Students, and Postdoctoral Fellows are eligible to apply. (2) Trainees must attend the 2020 SOT Annual meeting in order to accept the award. (3) Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows must be members of NTSS or show evidence of application for membership. (4) Undergraduates and Post-Baccalaureates need not be NTSS members, but their submitted abstract must be neurotoxicology focused. Advisors or mentors who are not NTSS members are strongly encouraged to join.

Submission requirements: (1) The original abstract submitted to SOT, (2) a CV, and (3) the completed conference award form (<http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>) must be submitted to **Jason Richardson** (jarichar@fiu.edu), NTSS Vice President-Elect by **December 15, 2019**. Please note that the conference award form has separate sections that need to be filled out by the trainee or mentor.

Call for Distinguished Neurotoxicologist Award Nominations – January 15, 2020

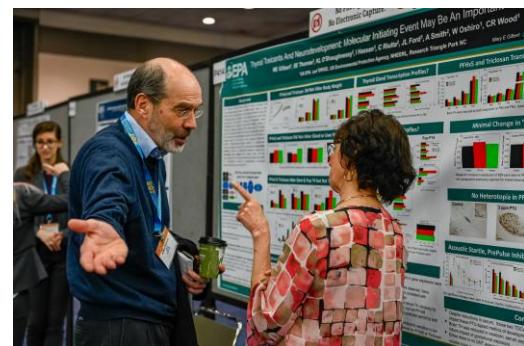
The Distinguished Neurotoxicologist Award recognizes NTSS members who have made important and long-standing, high-impact contributions to our field. This award has been previously designated as “Distinguished Investigator” and “Distinguished Service” awards from NTSS. Please consider nominating a deserving colleague by submitting a **nomination application**. Nominations must be submitted by **January 15, 2020** to NTSS Past-President **Michelle Block** (mlblock@iupui.edu). Detailed information on eligibility and submission requirements is available on the NTSS website: <http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>

2020 Toshio Narahashi Poster Competition - February 13, 2020

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows are invited to participate in the 2020 poster competition! Applicants will need to submit an extended abstract and a letter of support from the mentor by **February 13, 2020**. Extended abstract will be reviewed by judges prior to the meeting, and will comprise 50% of the score. The remaining portion will be based on the face-to-face presentations of posters at the annual meeting. More detailed information on eligibility and submission requirements is available on the NTSS website:

<http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>

Submission should be directed to **Michelle Block** (mlblock@iupui.edu), Chair of the NTSS Student and Postdoctoral Awards Committee by **February 13, 2020**. Participants will **no longer** be required to send a PDF of their poster prior to the annual meeting.



In addition to recognition certificates for each winner, monetary prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place. Winners will be announced at the annual NTSS Business Meeting in Anaheim.

JUDGES NEEDED!! NTSS members are encouraged to support the Poster Competition Process by volunteering to judge either extended abstracts and/or posters!! Please contact **Michelle Block** (mlblock@iupui.edu) to offer your services.

Congratulations to the NTSS-Sponsored Sessions for SOT 2020!

Symposium Sessions

- Human Stem Cell-Derived Test Systems as Alternative Approaches for Developmental Neurotoxicity (DNT) Evaluation: Research and Regulatory Perspectives
- Identifying and Modeling Gene-Environment Interactions in Neurological Diseases Associated with Metal Exposure: Challenges and Recent Advances
- Cyanide as a Chemical Threat: Finding Better Antidotes
- Developmental Neurotoxicity of PFAS: Current in vivo Approaches and Application to Human Health Risk Assessment

Workshop Sessions

- Genetic Mutations of Manganese Transporters: Clinical Presentation and Neurotoxicity
- Oligodendrocytes/Schwann Cells: Major Targets in Neurotoxicity and Neurological Diseases
- Parental Cannabis Exposure and Long-Term Neurobehavioral Deficits in Offspring
- Aircraft Cabin Fume Events: Is There a Toxicological Explanation?
- Variety is the Spice of Life: The Clinical Toxicology of Synthetic Cannabinoids

All of the proposals accepted for SOT 2020 can be found at the following website:

<https://www.toxicology.org/events/am/AM2020/overview.asp>

Regards from the 2019-2020 NTSS Officers! We hope to see everyone in Anaheim!

2019–2020 NTSS Officers



Lucio Costa
President



Nick Filipov
Vice President



Jason Richardson
VP-Elect



Mamta Behl
Secretary/Treasurer



Jason Cannon
Councilor



Marissa Sobolewski
Councilor



Megan Culbreth
Postdoctoral Representative



Eduardo Gonzalez
Graduate Student Representative



Michelle Block
Past-President



Mary Gilbert
Past-Past-President

Lucio G. Costa, PhD
President, NTSS