

Newsletter, Neurotoxicology Specialty Section, Society of Toxicology

October 2008

Message from the President:

This message is to greet and thank the NTSS membership.

More information on officers, awards, news, etc. can be found on the newly-updated NTSS web site. Comments and suggestions can be provided to NTSS Senior Councilor Ron Tjalkens (Ron.Tjalkens@colostate.edu). Check it out at:

<http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/neurotox/index.asp>

NTSS Session Reviews for 2009 SOT Meeting:

NTSS members were very active in preparing possible session for the 2009 SOT meeting 2009 in Baltimore. Fourteen proposals were submitted in late April to the NTSS review committee (M Ehrich, C Newland, S Schantz) for pre-review and comments before official submission to the SOT Program Committee. After the official submission, SOT's Program Committee provided the NTSS with 10 sessions (symposia, workshops, C.E.) requesting NTSS primary sponsorship and 9 sessions requesting endorsement. The relevance and scientific quality of the submissions provided reason for the NTSS review committee to recommend that they be included on the program for the 2009 SOT meeting. Four NTSS-sponsored sessions were selected for the final program. These are entitled:

- 1) "Does Metal Toxicity Play a Role in the Etiology of Alzheimer's Disease?"
- 2) "Novel Signaling Mechanisms that Regulate Dopaminergic Neuronal Survival or Death—Implications in Parkinson's Disease"
- 3) "Pesticides and Parkinson's Disease—Implications of New Epidemiology and Exposure Data to Risk Assessment"
- 4) "Developing Brain—Safety Assessment for Pediatric Use of Pharmaceuticals."

NTSS will be listed as endorser of 6 additional sessions.

Call for NTSS Membership Participation:

NTSS looks forward to continuation of such active interest and participation in the program for SOT's annual meeting. NTSS's pre-review committee for the 2010 meeting will be headed by Sue Schantz (Schantz@uiuc.edu). As done for 2009, a pre-review committee will be willing to provide suggestions and comments before the date of final submission, which is usually around May 1.

The Nominating Committee 2008-2009 is headed by Bob MacPhail (Macphail.Robert@epamail.epa.gov). Contact him if you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or if you are interested in running for office for the coming year (term begins May 1, 2009). A Vice-President-elect and a Councilor will need to be nominated for 2009-2010.

The Nominating Committee 2009-2010 will be headed by Chris Newland (newlamc@auburn.edu). Contact him if you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or if you are interested in running for office. A Vice-President-elect and a Councilor will need to be nominated for 2010-2011.

SOT's Communication Committee Calls for Contributions from Specialty Sections:

NTSS has received a request from SOT's newly-formed Communications Committee (Joan Tarloff, Chair). The goal is to provide integrated and targeted messages to defined audiences on the value of toxicology as a science. The Communications Committee is especially looking for material of public interest that could be placed on a web site. As noted by NTSS's Executive Council, such topics could be those chosen for the 2009 SOT meeting: metal toxicity in Alzheimer's Disease, pesticides and Parkinson's Disease, lead and childhood exposures. Dr. Tarloff notes that writing should be at ~8th grade level and length should be under 2 pages. Guidelines include a 2 page limit. She is looking for the submission of materials to SOT staff before October 31st.

An example of an article that the Communications Committee is using as a sample is at: <http://www.mackinac.org/archives/2008/ms2008-02.pdf> (see page 8). If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact Dr. Tarloff at 215-596-8983 or email her at j.tarlof@usp.edu. Otherwise, contact Martha Lindauer, SOT's Communications/Media Manager, at 703-438-3115.

NTSS Awards for 2009:

NTSS provides research awards, which are also noted on its website. Abbreviated descriptions follow:

(1) Neurotoxicology SS Best Abstract Award. This award is open to all NTSS members presenting at the annual meeting in all areas of neurotoxicology. Self-nominations are required. Abstracts will be judged for originality, clarity and significance. The 5 best abstracts will be announced at the annual meeting. Presenters of the 5 best abstracts will receive ribbons for display at the annual meeting to acknowledge and commemorate their paramount achievements. Deadline: January 15, 2009. Contact: [Susan Schantz \(schantz@uiuc.edu\)](mailto:Susan.Schantz@uiuc.edu).

(2) Neurotoxicology SS Graduate Student Poster Award; Postdoctoral Poster Award. Current Graduate Students or Postdoctoral Research Associates in attendance at the 2009 Annual Meeting are eligible to compete for poster awards. Submission requirements include a copy of the SOT submitted abstract (1 page) and a letter of support from the Graduate Student's advisor

or Postdoctoral mentor outlining the independence and role of the submitter on the research. Submit abstract and letter of support to the Chris Newland, Chair of the NTSS Student/Postdoctoral Awards Committee. **Abstract submission deadline: January 15, 2009.** Also, those participating will be required to send an electronic copy (PDF) of their **poster** to NTSS by **February 28, 2009** to facilitate the judging (this presubmission of the poster need not be the final version presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting). Graduate Students and Postdocs should be members of NTSS, or show evidence of application for membership. Advisors or mentors who are not members are strongly encouraged to join NTSS. In addition to recognition plaques for each winner, monetary prizes will be awarded, such as \$500, \$300 and \$150 for first, second and third place. Winners will be announced at the annual NTSS Business Meeting. Contact: [Chris Newland \(newlamc@auburn.edu\)](mailto:Chris.Newland@auburn.edu)

Upcoming:

Please remember to pay SOT dues on time and be sure to select membership in NTSS.

NTSS will hold a reception and short business meeting at the SOT's 2009 annual meeting on Wednesday evening. We look forward to seeing you there.

Marion Ehrich
NTSS President