

Risk Assessment Specialty Section

ANNUAL REPORT: 2023–2024

May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024

I. Officers:

<u>2023–2024</u>	<u>2024–2025</u>
President: Cecilia Tan Vice President: Bernard Gadagbui Vice President Elect: Anne Loccisano Secretary-Treasurer: Katy Goyak Past President, Councilor: Daniele Wikoff Councilor: Sarah Burnett Councilor: Kimberly Zaccaria Postdoctoral Representative: Anna Kreutz Graduate Student Representative: Alyssa Bellomo	President: Bernard Gadagbui Vice President: Anne Loccisano Vice President-Elect: Kan Shao Secretary-Treasurer: Katy Goyak Past President, Councilor: Cecilia Tan Councilor: Sarah Burnett Councilor: Melissa Heintz Postdoctoral Representative: Chi-Yun Chen Graduate Student Representative: Alyssa Bellomo

Committees:

Endowment Committee: Laura Plunkett, Anne Loccisano, David Szabo, Tami McMullin, Bernard Gadagbui (ad hoc member)

Risk Assessment Syllabus Committee: George Woodall, Nathan Pechacek, Jon Urban, Laura Plunkett, Li Yang, Sarah Burnett (ad hoc member), Cecilia Tan (ad hoc member), Chi-Yun Chen (ad hoc member)

II. 2024 Membership total: 746

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2023–2024:

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

- In-person meeting/mixer
- Virtual meetings
- Sponsored session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Endorsed session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Mentoring/career development events
- Poster session for trainees
- Trainee awards conferred
- Paper of the year award
- Member highlights
- Newsletter(s)
- Webinars
- Bylaws changes
- Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)
- Updated standard operating procedures

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

- Biological Modeling
- Exposure
- In Vitro and Alternative Methods
- Mechanisms
- Mixtures
- Molecular and Systems Biology
- Occupational and Public Health
- American Association of Chinese in Toxicology

V. Communication Methods:

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

- ToXchange
- Emails through SOT Headquarters
- Specialty Section website
- Newsletter(s)
- Through Graduate Student/Postdoc Representatives
- LinkedIn

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

- Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
- Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
- Utilize virtual meetings for convening Specialty Section leadership
- Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
- Prioritize diversity in selection of speakers/panelists
- Highlight trainee research
- Solicit member feedback for development of Specialty Section activities (such as webinar topics)
- Provide volunteer activities for the membership to be engaged
- Provide volunteer activities for the membership to be engaged
- Use multiple approaches to communicate with membership

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Career panel(s)

VIII. Awards Given:

Trainee	6
Early Career	6

Mid Career	1
Late Career	1

IX. Key Outcomes and Improvements:

1. Update the by-laws to change the postdoc representative term from 1 year to 2 years
2. Update the RASS website

X. Strategic Plan:

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
- Support the development and application of tools that advance toxicology
- Effectively communicate scientific advances
- Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
- Develop a talent pool of toxicologists for the future
- Provide training and education that reflects the needs of members
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities for all career levels
- Enhance member recognition and visibility at all levels

XI. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

- Using AI to make sense of existing animal data

XII. Feedback to the Society:

- A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Specialty Section?

Consider waiving the Annual Meeting registration fee and SS fee for students from developing countries, expanding the impact of the SOT to more countries.

- B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Specialty Section that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

Encourage SS to get involved in activities that are important to the SOT by email communication, e.g., provide ideas for promoting inclusivity by email rather than listing the ideas in the Annual Report.