President’s Message

Dear Fellow Members of the Risk Assessment Specialty Section:

As the SOT year winds down, I wanted to take a few minutes to reach out, to commend you all for your strength and resilience in staying productive and as focused as one possibly could over the past year. We see that reflected in the offerings at the 2021 Annual Meeting (which are still available on demand, through May 31, 2021), the top notch Award submissions by our graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, and in the 2022 Annual Meeting session proposals currently under pre-review. It does seem that we are making progress in the fight against COVID-19 and will indeed be able to meet in person in San Diego in 2022! I am looking forward to seeing you all in person.

In this newsletter we have recapped news and events shared during the 2021 RASS Virtual Reception and provided information on upcoming events. We were very pleased to host a keynote focused on science communication and vaccine education by Dr. Scott Ratzan, entitled “Communicating Risk During a Pandemic: Approaches and Multisector Engagement.” Dr. Ratzan has three decades of pioneering accomplishments in the United States and globally in health communication, health literacy, and strategic diplomacy and holds the position of Distinguished Lecturer at the City University of New York Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy. We had an engaged discussion after his talk, where he welcomed further interactions with our membership.

Over the past few years, the RASS Executive Committee has consistently prioritized professional development opportunities, co-hosting mentoring events and thinking strategically about providing a recurring, structured educational platform with a focus on risk assessment and related disciplines. Please see page 14 for more information on these efforts, led very effectively by Fabian Grimm, our Senior Councilor. Please stay tuned in the upcoming weeks when we will provide details about our inaugural RASS Syllabus event.

Wishing all of my colleagues in RASS continued success in 2021, until we meet again in San Diego in 2022.

Kind Regards,

Barbara A. Wetmore, PhD
President, Risk Assessment Specialty Section
2021 RASS OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to run for an officer position and for casting your ballot. Based on the results of the recent election for RASS officers, the incoming officers for 2020-2021 are:

**Vice President-Elect**

Cecilia Tan

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Jessica Wignall

**Councilor**

Miao Li

**Postdoc Representative**

Yizhong Liu

**Student Representative**

Alan Valdiviezo

**A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR OUTGOING RASS OFFICERS!**

**Past President**

Gary Minsavage

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Nathan Pechacek

**Councilor**

Fabian Grimm
RASS W\mbox{}EBINAR SERIES

RASS webinars are held from Fall through Spring, generally on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Wednesday of each month. If you cannot participate in any of the live RASS webinars, links to the past webinar slides and recordings are available on the RASS website: https://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/RASS/downloads.asp

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January 13, 2021

Joint Risk Assessment Specialty Section (RASS) Webinar with the Mixtures Specialty Section (MixSS)

Characterization of Developmental Toxicity and Adverse Outcome Pathways (AOPs) for Emerging PFAS — Individual Compounds and Mixtures (Presentation)

L. Earl Gray Jr., PhD
Justin M. Conley, PhD
Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment
Office of Research and Development
United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)

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February 10, 2021

Jointly Sponsored Webinar with the Exposure Specialty Section (ExpoSS) and International Society for Exposure Science (ISES)

Composite Scores, Social Embodiment and Risk of CVD: Evidence from the UK Biobank Cohort (Presentation)

Marc Chadeau-Hyam, PhD
Professor of Computational Epidemiology and Biostatistics
School of Public Health, Dept of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Imperial College, London

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April 14, 2021

Co-sponsored with the Computational Toxicology Specialty Section (CTSS)

Improving Read-Across for Toxicological Data Gap Filling by Characterizing, Assessing and Reducing Uncertainties

Terry W. Shultz, PhD
University of Tennessee
College of Veterinary Medicine,
Knoxville, TN USA
Mark T.D. Cronin, PhD  
Liverpool John Moores University  
School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences  
Liverpool, England  

May 12, 2021

Evaluating Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships as a Strategy for Rapid Development of Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Models of Inhaled Industrial Chemicals for Humans

Lisa M. Sweeney, PhD  
ProSource360 Consulting Services  
Assigned to the Air Force Research Laboratory  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio USA

2021 SOT ANNUAL MEETING

CONGRATULATIONS TO RASS MEMBERS RECONGIZED BY 2021 SOT AWARDS

Colgate-Palmolive Award for Student Training in Alternative Methods:  
SOT Enhancement of Animal Research Welfare Award:

Dakota Robarts  
Barbara A. Wetmore

2021 STUDENT AND POSTDOC AWARD WINNERS

John Doull Award  
Long Yuan  
Kansas State University  
Development of a Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Model for Meloxicam in Broiler Chickens and Laying Hens  
2539: Poster Board P277 – Mar 22, 1:00 pm – 2:45 pm
**Perry J. Gehring Postdoc Award**
Katie O’Shaughnessy
US EPA
Bypassing the Brain Barriers: Identification of Serum microRNAs Reflective of Developmental Neurotoxicity
2452: Poster Board P190 – Mar 22, 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

**Perry J. Gehring Student Award**
Brianna Rivera
Oregon State University
A Novel Framework to Form Sufficiently Similar Mixtures from Environmental Exposure Data
2045: Poster Board P146 – Mar 16, 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

**Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award**
Itishree Kaushik
Texas Tech University
A novel anthelminthic drug suppresses the growth of medulloblastoma tumors by inhibiting PKA/Gli1 signaling axis
2009: Poster Board P110 – Mar 16, 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

Shengjie Xu
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Inhibition of Glycolysis Attenuates Excitation Contraction Coupling in Human Airway Smooth Muscle Cells
2826: Poster Board P292 – Mar 23, 1:00 pm – 2:45 pm

**Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award**
Md Mahbubul Huq Riad
Kansas State University
Development and application of a physiologically based pharmacokinetic model to predict Oxytetracycline tissue distribution and withdrawal intervals in market-age sheep
2364: Poster Board P102 – Mar 22, 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

**2021 BEST ABSTRACT AWARD**
Amber Goetz, Syngenta Crop Protection LLC
Assessing Human Carcinogenicity Risk without the Rodent Cancer Bioassay
2752: Poster Board P218 – Mar 23, 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

**TOP 10 ABSTRACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Author (Alphabetical Listing)</th>
<th>Abstract Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grace Chappell</td>
<td>Assessment of Mechanistic Data for Hexavalent Chromium-Induced Rodent Intestinal Cancer Using the Key Characteristics of Carcinogens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Cox</td>
<td>Derivation of an Oral Reference Dose for Drinking Water Treatment Polymers, Polyacrylic Acid, and AA-AMPS Co-polymer, Using a Class-Based Approach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kenny Crump
Accounting for Multiple Comparisons in Statistical Analysis of the Extensive Bioassay Data on Glyphosate

Elaine Freeman
Was It Really Necessary? Generation of Additional Toxicokinetic Data Designed to Identify a Point of Inflection

Amber Goetz
Assessing Human Carcinogenicity Risk without the Rodent Cancer Bioassay

Annie Jarabek
Poorly Soluble, Low Toxicity (PSLT) Polymer Category: An Integrated Approach to Testing and Assessment (IATA) Including New Approach Methods (NAMs) under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

Kuan Yu Kuo
Probabilistic Integrated Mixture Risk Assessment of Perfluorinated Substances for Adolescents Based on Global Serum Concentration Data

Katie Paul Friedman
Variability in Organ-Level Effects in Repeat-Dose Animal Studies

Kan Shao
Dose-Response Assessment for Cancer Risk Associated with Inorganic Arsenic Exposure through Drinking Water

Takashi Yamada
Constructing Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity Database of Chemicals, DART NIHS DB, for Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment (IATA)

2021 BEST PAPER AWARDS

Best Paper Advancing the Science of Risk Assessment Published in 2020 – Tied Winners


Best Paper Demonstrating the Application of Risk Assessment Published in 2020

Student & Postdoctoral Awards Committee 2021
Virunya Bhat
Elaine Freeman
Senthilkumar Kuppusamy
Laura Markley
Logeswari Ponnusamy
Alberto Tohme
Kim Zaccaria
Marie Bourgeois
Kiara Jasmine*
Anne Loccisano
Nathan Pechacek*
Bindu Prabakar
Daniele Wikoff (Chair)*

Best Abstract Awards Committee 2021
Brittany Baisch
Alea Goodmanson
Logeswari Ponnusamy
Matthew Wolter
Mary Francis
Norm Healey
David Szabo

Best Paper Awards Committee 2021
Demonstrating the Application of Risk Assessment
Laura Plunkett*
Divinia Ries
Caroline Ring
Jon Urban
Advancing the Science of Risk Assessment
Allison Franzen
Penelope Fenner-Crisp
Elizabeth Vancza
Barbara Wetmore*

Volunteers at work!
**RASS ENDORSED SESSIONS**
(Primary RASS endorsed sessions are highlighted in bold)

**March 15:**
- Workshop: A Future Framework for Application of In Vitro Metabolism and QIVIVE Models to Inform Risk Assessment (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
- Workshop: Chemical-Induced Mouse Lung Tumors: Mode of Action, Relevance, and Risk Assessment (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
- **RASS Virtual Reception:** Dr. Scott Ratzan “Communicating Risk During a Pandemic: Approaches and Multisector Engagement” (4:30 pm – 5:30 pm)

**March 17:**
- Symposium: Mind the Gap: Finding Practical Ways to Fast-Track the Future of Animal-Free Toxicology Testing (11:30 am – 2:15 pm)
- Symposium: Opportunities and Challenges in Utilization of Toxicokinetic Data in Dose-Level Selection for Repeated-Dose Toxicity Studies (11:30 am – 2:15 pm)

**March 18:**
- Workshop: New Approach Methods for Cancer Risk Assessment (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
- Workshop: The Need for Protocol Harmonization in the Advancement of Zebrafish as a Model for Toxicological Screening: Global Perspectives and Recent Advancements (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
- **Roundtable Session:** The Future of Uncertainty Factors with In Vitro Studies Using Human Cells (2:45 pm – 4:05 pm)

**March 19:**
- CE06: Insider Secrets for Design and Analysis of Defined-Mixture Experiments (9:30 am – 10:30 am)
- **CE10:** Rapid Chemical Assessment Using Open Computational Methods (11:00 am – 2:45 pm)

**March 22:**
- Workshop: Tackling the Potential Human Health Impacts of Microplastics and Nanoplastics: Challenges for Toxicologists in the Assessment of Real-World Complex Mixtures (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
March 23:
  • Workshop: Molecular-Based Points of Departure as the New Basis for Chemical Risk Assessment: Are we Ready? (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
  • Workshop: Paving the Way for Greater Data Sharing to Advance Biomarker and Drug Development: Industry, Academia, and Regulatory Insights (11:15 am – 2:00 pm)
  • Symposium: SETAC-SOT Session: Environmental Risk Assessment of PFAS (2:45 pm – 4:15 pm)

March 24:
  • Workshop: The Scientific Challenges in Regulating Organohalogen Flame Retardants (OFRs) as a Class in Consumer Products (11:45 am – 2:30 pm)

March 25:
  • Workshop: Regulatory Learnings from the EU Flagship Nonanimal Toxicology Project, EU-ToxRisk (11:30 am – 2:15 pm)

**TRAINEE SPOTLIGHT**

We are spotlighting three trainee members of RASS as they describe the current state of their career and aspirations for next steps. If you would like to be the next trainee in the spotlight, please send Li Yang (y.lis18@gmail.com) an email.

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

**Long Yuan, Kansas State University**

*2021 John Doull Risk Assessment Award*

1. **Why did you choose to study/pursue research in the field of toxicology/RA?**
   I have been interested in the field of toxicology and risk assessment since my PhD studies. My background is in pharmacology, which is very similar to my current field. During my graduate education, I became very interested in the field of physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling and its application with toxicology and risk assessment in practical decision-making.

2. **How does your research support risk assessment?**
   Currently one of my projects is the “Development of a PBPK model for meloxicam in broiler chickens and laying hens”, which provides us some evidence in predicting withdrawal intervals for meloxicam in food animals. This work is funded by the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) program since the drug received the highest number of inquiries on withdrawal interval recommendations in the Call Center in assessment of the drug risk in food animals. Also, other nanoparticle projects that I have been working on are also based on drug risk assessment in PBPK based toxicology and pharmacology.

3. **What do you like to do outside of work?**
   Other than my work, I am also involved in a lot of activities to maintain a healthy work-life-balance. I like playing sports such as basketball and badminton, which is one of my biggest hobbies. Also, I enjoy socializing with friends and traveling.
4. **What challenges do you see the area of risk assessment facing in the near future?**

As the area of risk assessment is a multidisciplinary field which requires different skills and understandings for future breakthroughs, researchers should gain expertise in different disciplines such as pharmacology, computer science, and statistics. Consequently, accelerated learning and total understanding, as well as thorough communication among researchers, are critical. I would like to show my appreciation to RASS one more time for providing such a wonderful platform.

5. **How should SOT attract future graduate students and post-docs into the field of risk assessment?**

I think expanding influences and more publicity would be necessary. On one side, having more online courses, engaging more online interactions with various universities and organizations would greatly enhance visibility. On the other side, more career opportunities such as internships, volunteering, etc., could be provided to students to further attract future graduate students and post-docs into the field of risk assessment.

*Brianna Rivera, Oregon State University*

*2021 Perry J. Gehring Student Award*

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1. **Why did you choose to study/pursue research in the field of toxicology/RA?**

As an undergraduate, I volunteered in an environmental toxicology lab, but had plans to go to medical school. During my time as an undergraduate researcher, I discovered a passion for research and realized the impact toxicology research could have in regards to protecting human health. As a graduate student, I was very interested in exploring the intersection of toxicology and exposure science and recognized that risk assessment was the perfect fit.

2. **How does your research support risk assessment?**

I work with Drs. Kim Anderson and Susan Tilton at Oregon State University. My research focuses on identifying and characterizing the hazard of environmental chemical mixtures. Specifically, I’m developing a framework to form sufficiently similar mixtures for environmental sampling data and investigating mixture interactions of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). This research supports risk assessment by providing a whole mixture approach to safety assessments without the use of whole sample extracts. Additionally, understanding the types of interactions less well studied PAHs may have with each other will give regulators a better idea of what types of risk assessment approaches to use for this chemical class.

3. **What do you like to do outside of work?**

Outside of work, I can often be found spending my time outdoors. Being located in the Pacific Northwest, I have lots of places to explore. In particular, I love camping, backpacking, or hiking to waterfalls. I also really love to collect house plants and garden in the summer-time. During quarantine I started baking bread and reading more science fiction books.

4. **What challenges do you see the area of risk assessment facing in the near future?**

I see chemical mixtures continuing to be a challenge in risk assessment. It will continue to be difficult to truly understand potential health effects related to exposure to different types of chemicals, at varying exposure levels, and from different routes of exposure. This area of research needs to continue to
develop with more whole mixture safety assessment approaches, and ultimately ways in which we can extrapolate toxicity information between chemicals or between mixtures.

5. How should SOT attract future graduate students and post-docs into the field of risk assessment?
I’ve seen that it is less common for graduate students to have opportunities to gain experience in risk assessment. I think offering trainings and opportunities for internships would give students a better feel for what the field of risk assessment is all about and allow them to gain experience in this area of toxicology.

Alexa Murray, Rutgers - The State University of New Jersey
2020 Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award

1. Why did you choose to study/pursue research in the field of toxicology/RA?
While attending Drexel University for my BS in Biology, I secured an internship at GlaxoSmithKline. I worked in their Investigative and Mechanistic Toxicology department within Safety Assessment for two and a half years. I absolutely loved it! I am very passionate about toxicology research and advancing preclinical drug development. I was involved in numerous collaborations for a variety of potential therapeutics and found the value in continuing this path as my career. As toxicologists, we have a duty to ensure that research is conducted and interpreted responsibly.

2. What are some of the most exciting aspects of your work?
I work in the laboratory of Dr. Debra Laskin at Rutgers University. For my studies, I have focused on the cytotoxic chemical warfare agent, nitrogen mustard (NM). Exposure to NM causes acute lung injury which progresses to fibrosis. We refined non-invasive magnetic resonance and computed tomography imaging methodologies to track NM-induced lung injury, disease progression and monitor therapeutics. Additionally, we developed a computational forward model that predicts functional alterations (i.e., lung tissue resistance and elastance) using analyses derived from the imaging methodologies. In addition, the computational model reduces the number of animals needed per study. This research supports risk assessment as the forward modeling methodology can be used to evaluate pulmonary toxicants and test the efficacy of therapeutics.

3. What do you like to do outside of work?
I’m an avid runner. I’ve completed several marathons (NYC, Chicago and Berlin). One of my life-long goals is to complete a half marathon in every state! I also love to travel and enjoy cooking and baking (and eating)!

4. What advice do you have for other grad students/post-docs who want to pursue work in risk assessment?
As research/science is shifting toward non-in vivo studies, there will be increased use and need for computer modeling and mathematics. One of the major challenges that risk assessment may face is certifying that computer simulated data (e.g., integrating in silico models and Adverse Outcome Pathways (AOPs) to predict toxicological endpoints) are relatable and translatable to human health and disease.

5. How should SOT attract future graduate students and postdocs into the field of risk assessment?
Exposure. Webinars and/or short boot camps are great strategies! Rutgers held a 2-day risk assessment boot camp that focused on the foundations of risk assessment (e.g., systematic review and data quality,
weight of evidence and hazard identification, exposure assessment and biomonitoring studies, susceptible populations, and identification of a point-of-departure) that I found highly valuable. The boot camp also incorporated several cases studies, which were helpful in reinforcing the material and providing real world scenarios.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

RASS has four endowment funds supporting awards to students and postdocs – the John Doull Student Award Endowment Fund, Perry J. Gehring Risk Assessment Student Award Fund, Robert J. Rubin Student Travel Award, Mechanisms and Risk Assessment, and the Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award Endowment Fund. We encourage our members to contribute to our endowment funds, as our endowment funds provide stipends to graduate student and postdoc members who display excellence in Risk Assessment.

The Risk Assessment Specialty Section (RASS) Endowment Funds have provided numerous awards for excellence and have supported outstanding students and postdoctoral members with critical roles in advancing the future practice and science of risk assessment. Thank you for all the support you have given thus far. We want to do more and with your help and generosity we can get there. Our goal in the next year is to increase each fund by at least $2,000 ($8,000 in total). With your help to reach this goal, the annual RASS merit-based Endowment Fund awards will continue to increase each year.

The RASS Endowment Funds encourage research and training, scientific progress, collaboration, and modernization of the fields of risk/safety evaluation and/or regulatory toxicology, primarily by providing outstanding graduate students and/or postdocs monetary awards based on scientific excellence of their work. Consider making a tax-deductible charitable donation to one or more of the funds above to help RASS provide trainee awards. As expert risk assessors, please weigh the risk vs. reward and consider donating any small amount (e.g., $25). Donate online or download a donation form.

2020 Financial Overview SOT/RASS Endowment Funds

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<th>Endowment Fund</th>
<th>Joint</th>
<th>Balance* March 2020</th>
<th>Balance* March 2021</th>
<th>Investment Gains/Losses*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andersen Clewell Trainee Award Fund</td>
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<td>54,835</td>
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<td>8,597</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Doull Student Award Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perry J. Gehring Risk Assessment Student Award Fund</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Total in RASS Endowment Funds</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>235,006</td>
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<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*all amounts in US $

Initiatives are being undertaken to increase awareness of our endowment funds and share stories about how their contributions help our Trainees:

- The endowment fund committee will be sending out quarterly updates to RASS membership to share status updates and reminding us to consider contributing to our endowment awards. As donations come in, the committee will use a "thermometer" graphic to illustrate the progress and target goal for
each fund.

- An incentive to those that contribute $50 or more will receive a congratulatory “Endowment Contributor Toast” at the annual RASS reception with a group photo posted on the website and following newsletter.

**RASS Endowment Fund Steward Committee**

Anne Loccisano  
Exponent

Tami McMullin  
CTEH

Chiedu Onwordi  
Lagos State University

David Szabo  
PPG

**VOLUNTEER POOL**

There are numerous opportunities for RASS members to get involved with RASS-related activities. The Fall and Winter are all busy times of the RASS year, as the reviewing and judging of best papers are moving into full force. Your help is greatly needed! Benefits of serving as a RASS volunteer include the following:

---Getting your name and your ability to help recognized. When you get involved, your willingness to serve and help out get recognized. This is especially important for graduate students and post-docs who are looking to get more involved in SOT.

---Working with colleagues. In volunteering, you have the opportunity to work on committees with people that you might not otherwise have the opportunity to work with, in a fun and collegial way.

---It is an AWESOME learning opportunity. When you review award applications and candidates for best paper, you have the opportunity to learn about recent developments in risk assessment. Helping out and learning about risk assessment—what more can one ask for? Opportunities available:

- Session Proposals Review Committee
- Student Awards Selection Committee (Jan-Feb)
- Best Abstracts Selection Committee (Jan-Feb)
- Best Papers Selection Committee (Jan-Feb)
- Newsletter Committee (Sept-Oct, Jan-Feb)
- Nominating Committee (Nov-Dec)

If you would like to enter your name into the RASS Volunteer Pool, please email Alea Goodmanson (aleagoodmanson@chevron.com).
**RISK ASSESSMENT SYLLABUS**

The Society of Toxicology Risk Assessment Specialty Section (RASS) executive committee proposes the development of a dedicated “Risk Assessment Syllabus,” a semi-regular opportunity for members to enhance their understanding of essential concepts and contemporary topics in the scientific practice of risk assessment.

RASS envisions a training series that will complement the existing RASS webinar series and other RASS-related mentoring initiatives. The objective of this course is to provide participants with an introduction to the fundamental concepts and terminology associated with chemical risk assessment, as well as a practical perspective on the application of risk assessment principles to inform decision making. Trainees will be provided with valuable insights that will enhance their awareness of the potential importance and sector-specific aspects of risk assessment in their professional careers as well as required skills for the respective job profiles. For current professionals, the syllabus will provide an opportunity to refresh and advance understanding of risk assessment principles and an opportunity to develop sector-specific perspectives on contemporary topics in human and environmental health sciences.

RASS currently envisions a web-based format to maximize attendance; combining webcasts with local in-person events may be considered for future training events. Individual events may be structured to contain a formal presentation focusing on a specific aspect relevant to risk assessment, followed by an open panel discussion with invited experts in the field. The initial event is planned to be organized in early 2021. RASS is currently seeking experts in any of the disciplines associated with chemical risk assessment to consider volunteering to participate as panelists and share their experiences and perspectives in one of the open discussions. In addition, we would like to use this opportunity to collect feedback on additional input and suggestions from the RASS.

**RASS Syllabus Planning Committee**

Fabian Grimm, RASS Councilor 2019-2021  
Miao Li, RASS Councilor 2021-2023  
Anne Loccisano, RASS Councilor 2018-2020  
Gary Minsavage, RASS Past President 2020-2021  
Barbara Wetmore, RASS President 2020-2021  
George Woodall, RASS Past President 2019-2020  
Li Yang, RASS Councilor 2020-2022

**2022 SOT ANNUAL MEETING PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS**

**Key Dates:**

- **May 1**  
  Deadline for submission to RASS for informal comments  
- **May 17**  
  SOT Proposal Submission Deadline  
- **Late June**  
  SOT Announces Session Acceptance

- Proposals submitted to RASS for informal comment should allow at least 2 weeks for review
Submissions with less than 2 weeks lead time (i.e., after May 1) may not be provided with substantive comments
Positive comments from the informal review does not indicate endorsement

**RASS AWARDS**

Nominate yourself or a well-deserving Toxicologist for the awards:
Please Contact: RASS (sotrassawards@gmail.com) to apply for one of the following awards:

- **Best Overall Abstract Award**
- **Best Published Paper Advancing the Science of Risk Assessment Award**
- **Best Published Paper Demonstrating an Application of Risk Assessment Award**
- Perry J. Gehring Best Graduate Student Abstract Risk Assessment Endowment Award
- Perry J. Gehring Best Postdoctoral Fellow Abstract Risk Assessment Endowment Award
- Robert J. Rubin Student Risk Assessment SS Travel Award (Joint with MSS)
- John Doull Risk Assessment Endowment Award
- Andersen-Clewell Trainee Award (Joint with BMSS)

The deadline for application is December 31st!
*Application details can be found here*

**RASS OFFICERS 2020-2021**

**Past President**
Gary Minsavage
ExxonMobil

**President**
Barbara Wetmore
US EPA

**Vice President**
Laura Plunkett
Integrative Biostrategies

**Vice President Elect**
Daniele Wikoff
ToxStrategies Inc.

**Secretary/Treasurer**
Nathan Pechacek
Ecolab

**Councilor**
Fabian Grimm
ExxonMobil

**Councilor**
Li Yang
Cal EPA/DTSC

**Postdoc Representative**
Kiara Fairman
US FDA/NCTR