This is a special edition of the Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section Newsletter to highlight the activities related to our specialty section coming up in Salt Lake City (reception and roundtable, student poster awards, scientific sessions supported by RSESS).

The results of the officer elections are in – we are pleased to announce the following new officers for RSESS - Congratulations to Ron and Kimber!

Ron Slesinski – Vice President Elect
Kimber White – Counselor

The RSESS Officers will be meeting over breakfast on Monday March 10th to continue the strategic work begun at our face-to-face meeting last fall and to discuss proposals for scientific sessions for SOT in 2004.

SPECIALTY SECTION RECEPTION
TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 11
6:00-7:30 P.M.
Salt Palace Convention Center
Rooms 151 D, E, F and G.

Join us for our annual reception on Tuesday evening! We will have some great food, even better company and a dynamic program! At 6:30 pm, we will start off with the RSESS Student Poster Awards and presentations of gift certificates. We have 5 winners this year to be announced at the reception.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:
“Will Transgenic Models “Knock out” the Traditional Mouse Bioassay?”

Panelists: Jay Goodman, Mike McClain and David Jacobson-Kram
Facilitated by Frank Sistare and Lin DePass

Panelists will address the following questions:
1) Is it appropriate to be routinely using genetically modified mice in place of the standard 2-yr mouse bioassay for assessing a pharmaceutical product's carcinogenic potential? Are the positive tumor findings, or negative tumor findings, in these models equivalent or more informative than a finding in a 2-yr mouse assay?

2) What are the most critical suspected strengths and suspected limitations for each model that have not yet been sufficiently characterized?

3) Are there protocol design modifications that should be explored to further optimize the value (or perceived value) of each of the 3 models?
The mission of the Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section (RSESS) of SOT is to promote the development of sound governmental policies and regulations based on contemporary scientific knowledge arising from the disciplines encompassed by toxicology. RSESS provides a forum for the interaction of SOT members to discuss the impact of regulations, guidelines, and guidance on the practice of toxicology and the safety evaluation of food additives, nutraceuticals, therapeutic drug products and environmental, industrial and household chemicals, and other products of concern.

 Sessions Sponsored by RSESS at the 2003 SOT Annual Meeting

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Co-Chairs</th>
<th>Title of Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>N. A. Monteiro-Riviere and C. Auletta</td>
<td>“Cutaneous Toxicity – Current Methods and Concepts in Safety Evaluation: Relevance to Human Exposure”</td>
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<td>W. Slikker and K. B. Wallace</td>
<td>“Dose-dependent Transitions in Toxic Mechanism”</td>
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<td>J. C. Lipscomb and R. Dixit</td>
<td>“Choice and Application of Classical or Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetics for Chemical Assessment and Pharmaceutical Development”</td>
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<td>S. Makris and M. Weiner</td>
<td>“Challenges of the Developmental Neurotoxicity Study”</td>
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<td>A. Fuciarelli and W. Allaben</td>
<td>“Medicinal Herbals and Dietary Supplements”</td>
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Planning for SOT 2004 - Your Proposals Please!

The deadline for submitting proposals for sessions for the 2004 SOT Annual Meeting is April 30. Despite the fact that the program committee generously extended the traditional April 15 deadline, don’t delay in sending us your ideas for future sessions. RSESS Officers will meet to review proposals for potential endorsement in late March. We would like to have a tally of potential sessions for consideration prior to Salt Lake City. Please send any proposals to Denise Robinson or any other officer by March 5th.

RSESS Newsletter - Contribute Your Ideas!

It has been my pleasure to serve as Newsletter Editor this past year. Lin DePass (lin-depass@roche.com) will be taking over as editor after the SOT meeting and would be interested to hear your ideas for future newsletter content. I encourage you to support your specialty section and the newsletter - please consider volunteering to write an article on a topic that may be of broad interest to our membership.

The RSESS Officers thank Denise’s assistant, Ms. Michelle Horan, for her creativity with the newsletter lay-out this past year.

See you in Salt Lake City,
Denise