

Fall 2024 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear SCCT Members,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and that the transition to fall has brought renewed energy to finish 2024 strong.

Our Specialty Section has been hard at work ensuring that the fall offers ample learning opportunities in the field. On **October 7th, we are co-hosting a webinar** with the Graduate Student Leadership Committee (GSLC) and Postdoctoral Assembly (PDA) for trainees. The webinar will feature panelists who will share their diverse career paths in this evolving field. Read more about it on page 2 and [register to attend!](#)

We've also **endorsed several sessions** for SOT 2025 in Orlando. You can [explore the tentatively accepted sessions](#) on SOT's website. We're excited about the cutting-edge science that will be presented in March. Additionally, we look forward to reviewing research from our graduate student and postdoctoral members, as we select awardees for the **Best Abstract Awards**, which will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Please submit accepted abstracts for consideration in January!

Outside of SOT, we're thrilled to share some big news from the field of alternatives assessment: the **Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4) has now merged with SETAC**, providing a new home for this growing field. SCCT members have provided a summary of this exciting merger on page 4.

As always, we rely on the support of our community. **I encourage you to volunteer** for ongoing initiatives or propose new ideas. Additionally, the election cycle for our next executive committee is fast approaching! **We need nominees** for Vice President-Elect, Junior Councilor, and Postdoctoral Representative. Your involvement is crucial in advancing safer, sustainable chemical practices, and we hope you will consider nominating yourself or a colleague.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the SCCT Specialty Section. I look forward to another productive year together.

Warm regards,



Lauren Brown, DABT, MS
President, SCCT Specialty Section

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JOIN OUR CAREER WEBINAR!

Monday, October 7th at 12 Noon – 1 PM ET

In partnership with the Graduate Student Leadership Committee (GSLC) and the Postdoctoral Assembly (PDA), we are thrilled to invite you to an upcoming webinar titled "[Careers at the Cross-Section of Toxicology and Sustainability: A Panel Discussion](#)" on Monday, October 7th at 12 Noon – 1 PM ET. This event is aimed at trainees interested in career options that merge toxicology and sustainability and features an esteemed panel of speakers who will share their unique career journeys, followed by an engaging panel discussion.

We encourage you to share this opportunity with any trainees you know who might benefit from this discussion; however, everyone is welcome. Please see below for details and a registration link. We hope you can join us!

Careers at the Cross-Section of Toxicology and Sustainability: A Panel Discussion.

Sponsor: Sustainable Chemicals through Contemporary Toxicology Specialty Section
Co-sponsors: Graduate Student Leadership Committee and the Postdoctoral Assembly

Want to make a difference in the world by utilizing your toxicology skills and knowledge? Join our upcoming webinar for graduate students and postdocs interested in learning more about non-academic toxicology career paths related to sustainable chemicals. A diverse panel of toxicologists will share their unique career paths including former and current roles, followed by a panel discussion—bring your questions! Distinguished panelists for this event from NGO, government, and industry backgrounds include Kaley Beins, MPH, Shoba Iyer, PhD, and Britt McAtee, PhD, DABT. The goal of this webinar is to provide insight into non-academic careers utilizing the toxicologist skillset while also supporting sustainability. Don't miss this enlightening session and discover where a career in sustainability can take you!

PANELISTS



Kaley Beins, MPH
Senior Scientist
Environmental Working Group



Shoba Iyer, PhD
Senior Municipal Toxics Reduction Coordinator
San Francisco Dept. of the Environment



Britt McAtee, PhD, DABT
Global Manager, Toxicology
PPG Industries

Click [HERE](#) to register!

Link also sent to SCCT membership via email.

US EPA GREEN CHEMISTRY CHALLENGE



The US EPA is now accepting nominations for the **2025 Green Chemistry Challenge Awards!** These annual awards recognize new green chemistry processes or products that help protect human health and the environment, prevent waste, and increase resource efficiency.

Click [here to learn more about the challenge and to register](#) for the US EPA-hosted webinar on **October 9th at 2 PM ET** to learn more about the awards and how to strengthen your nomination application.

GRADUATE STUDENT & POSTDOC BEST ABSTRACT AWARDS

Deadline: January 8, 2025

CASH AWARD

The SCCT Best Abstract Awards are now open for applications for the SOT 2025 Annual Meeting! Relevant research topics for these awards are those related to the mission of SCCT, including **alternatives assessment, circular economy, eco certifications or endorsements, green toxicology, hazard reduction, informed substitution, regrettable substitution, safer design, sustainability, sustainable development, or sustainable packaging.** Application packages will be evaluated on the basis of scientific rigor, unique approach(es) to assessing the toxicity of a chemical or material, and direct relevance to the above sustainability-related topics. For additional details and to apply, visit the [Awards page](#) on the SCCT website!



NATIONAL POSTDOC APPRECIATION WEEK 2024 🎉



Janine Cubello, PhD
SCCT Postdoctoral Representative
University of Rochester Medical Center

To celebrate NPAW 2024, we'd like to give a shoutout to our amazing postdoctoral representative, [Janine Cubello, PhD!](#) Janine started serving in this role in May, and her initiative and advocacy for the SOT postdoc community has already tangibly affected SCCT's efforts. In fact, our upcoming career webinar on October 7th was originally Janine's idea! She saw the value in highlighting careers in sustainable chemistry and toxicology and giving postdocs and grad students a chance to explore these career paths. Janine's engagement and thoughtful contributions to SCCT are much appreciated. Thank you, Janine, for your hard work and leadership!

A4/SETAC MERGER

A New Chapter for Advancing Alternatives Assessment

Dear SCCT Friends,

We are excited to share that the Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4) has officially merged with the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC). As of September 3, 2024, A4 became the Advancement and Application of Alternatives Assessment Interest Group (SETAC A4 IG), a dedicated forum within SETAC. This transition enhances our support and offers our community expanded resources and networking opportunities.

ICYMI: Safer Beauty and ToxPi Webinars

In case you missed it, we've held 2 webinars recently.

"[ToxPi 101](#)" featured David Reif, one of the original developers of ToxPi and current Chief of the Predictive Toxicology Branch in the Division of Translational Toxicology at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). Dr. Reif gave an overview of ToxPi, explored its utility with a substitution case example, and described recent and forthcoming updates.

"[Safer Chemistry in Beauty & Personal Care](#)" featured Marty Mulvihill and Safer Made's report *The Need for Safer Chemistry in Beauty: Opportunities for Innovation*. Christina Ross from Credo Beauty and Yashi Shrestha joined the panel to provide key industry insights. The recording is available on our website for those who couldn't attend.

Special Session at SETAC North America

If you are attending SETAC North America meeting in Fort Worth, Texas please join us on October 24, where the SETAC A4 IG will host [a special session](#) on advancing alternatives assessment methods.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to safer, more sustainable chemistry!

Warm regards,



Dr. Colleen McLoughlin, PhD, DABT, ERT
SCCT Secretary-Treasurer, A4 IG Program Committee Co-Chair



Dr. Meg Whittaker, PhD, MPH, CBiol, FRSB, ERT, DABT
SCCT Presidential Chair 2021-2024, A4 IG Program Committee Co-Chair



The A4 IG Team

If you have any questions or feedback about this exciting merger, please contact [Lauren Heine](#) or [Jennifer Landry](#).

PREPARING FOR SOT 2025



The Annual Meeting is held in March, but we think about it year-round! A list of [tentatively accepted sessions](#) for the SOT 2025 in Orlando, FL is now available to view. Those sponsored or co-sponsored by SCCT include:

- Science and Practice of Characterizing Population Variability for Regulatory Decision-Making
- Integrating New Approach Methodologies to Inform Sustainable Chemical Decisions

Planning to attend the meeting? You will need housing! The [Connections Housing portal](#) for the Annual Meeting is open now. Book by February 7th, 2025.

Lastly, don't forget to [submit your abstracts](#) for the Annual Meeting by Wednesday, November 13th.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Deadline: October 15, 2024

We are now accepting nominations for Executive Committee (EC) positions for 2025! We are seeking nominations for:

- **Vice President-Elect** (presidential chain 2025-2028)
- **Councilor** (2025-2027)
- **Postdoctoral Representative** (2025-2026)

For information on officer roles and responsibilities, please click [here](#).

To nominate yourself or a colleague, please email Past President Brittany Baisch at brittany.baisch@enko.ag by **October 15th**. No biosketch is needed at this time.

Why should I join SCCT leadership? Let's hear from the EC!

“What have you enjoyed the most about serving on the SCCT Executive Committee so far?”



“Beyond working with the great group of folks on the EC and getting to know them, what I have enjoyed most is teaching others about the Specialty Section and working with the committee in trying to expand the scientific concepts that are considered to be within the field of toxicology.”

Lauren Brown, DABT, MS | SCCT President (2024-2025)
Supervising Scientist and Associate Director, ToxStrategies



“What I like most about being able to serve on the SCCT EC is having the opportunity to see first-hand cutting-edge science focused on sustainability, alternative approaches to risk assessments that address complex issues, and green chemistry.”

Damani Parran, PhD, MBA, DABT | SCCT Vice President (2024-2025)
Senior Manager, Royal Canin

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“Our mission and our Team! Getting to know and working closely with the amazing and brilliant scientists focused on promoting awareness about safer and more sustainable chemistries to protect public and environmental health.”
Sara Farahmand, PhD, DABT | SCCT Vice President-Elect (2024-2025)
Director, Toxicology, Regulatory, Claims and Clinical, The Honest Company



“I enjoy our meetings! 🤔 We take some time to get to know each other better and the team always has great new ideas.”
Colleen McLoughlin, PhD, DABT, ERT | Secretary/Treasurer (2024-2026)
Director, Toxicology, Enhesa



“We are growing our programming hand-in-hand with our members. The members have a voice in what sessions and webinar topics would be interesting, and then we bring them to life.”
Brittany Baisch, PhD, DABT | SCCT Past President (2024-2025)
Regulatory Toxicology Lead, Enko Chem, Inc.



“I enjoy helping to shape this relatively new Specialty Section within SOT and bringing sustainable chemistry, alternatives assessment, and other related areas to the SOT community!”
Monika Roy, PhD, MSPH | SCCT Councilor (2023-2025)
AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow, U.S. Department of Energy



“How engaged the EC is. Although Councilor responsibilities are a significant time commitment, it’s made so much more manageable thanks to the supportive environment – folks are always willing to lend a hand.”
Kel DeShong, PhD, DABT | SCCT Councilor (2024-2026)
Toxicologist, SRC, Inc.

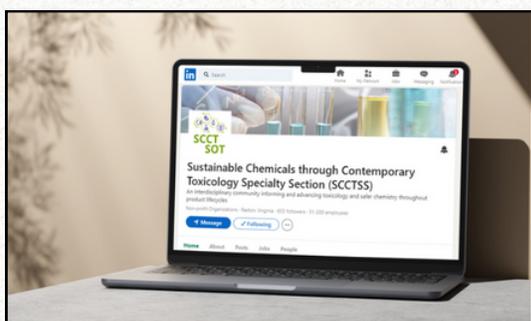


“As a new member of the SCCT Executive Committee this year, I have really enjoyed working with such an amazing, proactive group of people that all foster a welcoming and organized environment to efficiently communicate ideas and bring them to fruition.”
Janine Cubello, PhD | SCCT Postdoctoral Representative (2024-2025)
Postdoctoral Associate, University of Rochester Medical Center



“I have enjoyed working with the amazing team to build up a new and exciting SOT Specialty Section! It has been great to see the innovations and new attention that green and sustainable research has been getting!”
Kelly Rivenbark | SCCT Graduate Student Representative (2024-2026)
PhD Candidate, Texas A&M University

Excited to join the EC and contribute to SCCT efforts?
Email [Brittany Baisch](mailto:Brittany.Baisch@scct.org) with your nomination by **October 15th!**



Follow us on LinkedIn!

Did you know that SCCT has an active LinkedIn page? SCCT leadership posts timely updates relevant to sustainable chemistry and toxicology, as well as community updates such as reminders for abstracts, awards, and webinars or updates on Executive Committee initiatives. Click [here](#) to follow us!