



Sustainable Chemicals through Contemporary Toxicology

Specialty Section

Spring 2021 Newsletter

President's Letter

The SOT Annual Meeting is upon us and it is hard to believe that the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown started a year ago. Just as we were finalizing our SOT Annual Meeting presentations, sending posters to the printers, and finishing our preparations for what would have been the first SCCT SS business meeting, the Anaheim meeting was cancelled and many of us started working and schooling virtually from home. A year later, we continue to live in a new normal. But despite the craziness of the past year, the SCCT continued to grow and become more established as a Specialty Section. The SCCT is now 72 members strong!



Jen Tanir hiking with daughter Ayla

Since our last newsletter, SCCT has co-hosted a webinar with the Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment on “EU’s Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a Toxic-free Environment,” held an election, solicited award nominations, prepared a poster for the SOT Annual Meeting, and continued collaborating with SETAC for a session on “Cross Species Extrapolation: opportunities in a 21st century regulatory non-animal testing world” at SETAC Europe 2021. Details of these activities are provided in this newsletter.

For the 2021 SOT Annual Meeting, SCCT is pleased to endorse a short course and informational session – see below for details. We also invite you to join the SCCT Executive Committee for the first business meeting on Monday, March 15 at 6:00–7:00 PM EST, which will include a chance to get to know other SCCT members and provide your input into the future directions of SCCT. Access to the meeting will be through the SOT Annual Meeting web-platform.

Lastly, I would love to [hear from you](#) if you are interested in volunteering or have ideas for activities that SCCT should pursue. As my days as President are coming to an end, I want to ensure that SCCT is set up for success for the coming year!

Best,

Jennifer Y. Tanir, PhD
SCCT President

2021 SOT Annual Meeting



Virtual Reception:

Date: Monday, March 15 at 6:00–7:00 PM ET

Join the Sustainable Chemicals Through Contemporary Toxicology Specialty Section (SCCT SS) for its first business meeting, which will include an overview of the year, a chance to meet the current and new Executive Committee members, recognize the 2021 award recipients, and a chance for attendees to get to know each other and provide input into the future of SCCT SS in breakout rooms. This event is open to all interested Virtual Annual Meeting attendees. Access the meeting through the SOT Annual Meeting web-platform.

SOT Annual Meeting Poster:

Sustainable Chemicals through Contemporary Toxicology Specialty Section

Our Mission

The SCCT will address the broader impact of toxicological research to inform decisions that advance safer chemistry throughout the product lifecycle. Additionally, the SCCT will support scientific activities designed to promote the execution and application of toxicological research to reduce the likelihood of regrettable substitution throughout the supply chain through interdisciplinary partnerships.

2020-2021 Executive Committee

 Jennifer Y. Tanir President	 Pamela J. Spencer Vice President	 Margaret H. Whittaker Vice President-Elect	 Mansi Krishan Secretary/Treasurer	 Lynne Haber Councilor	 Britt McAtee Councilor	 Zheng Zhou Student Representative	 Brittany Baisch Vice president-Elect (starting May 2021)	 Marie Bourgeois Councilor (starting May 2021)
---	--	--	---	---	--	---	--	---

SCCT Virtual Reception

Time: Monday, March 15, 2021, from 6:00-7:00 PM EST

Join the SCCT Specialty Section for its first business meeting, which will include an overview of the year, a chance to meet current and new Executive Committee members, recognize the 2021 award recipients, and a chance for attendees to get to know each other and provide input into the future of SCCT in breakout rooms during the later part of the meeting. This event is open to all interested Virtual Annual Meeting attendees and is an opportunity to learn about the SCCT.

SCCT Sponsored Events at the Annual Meeting

- Continuing Education Course (CE05) titled “Less Is More: Sustainable Product Development Requires More Toxicological Considerations”
Time: Friday, March 12, 2021 at 10:00 AM–1:45 PM EST.
- Informational Session titled “Toxicology for Chemists: Preparing Chemists to Design Safer Products through Smarter Molecular Design”
Time: March 22, 2021 at 2:45–4:05 PM EST.

Past and Upcoming Activities

- Past Webinar: “EU’s Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a Toxic-free Environment” on February 10, 2021, co-hosted with the Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4), recording available at <http://saferalternatives.org/resources/past-webinars>.
- Upcoming Collaboration with SETAC: “Cross Species Extrapolation: opportunities in a 21st century regulatory non-animal testing world” at the SETAC Europe virtual annual meeting, May 3-6, 2021.

Student and Postdoctoral Awards

SCCT encourages and appreciates the research conducted by student and post-docs by offering awards for posters related to sustainable toxicology, green toxicology, and/or New Approach Methodologies (NAMs). The awardees will receive a cash award of \$250 and an award certificate. The award winner will be announced during the SCCT Specialty Section reception at the SOT Annual Meeting.

Our website: learn more about SCCT, read our newsletters, follow our events, join SCCT, and support SCCT at <https://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/SCCT/index.asp>.

SCCT SS also sponsored a CE course and an Informational Session at SOT:

- **Continuing Education Course CE05:** Less Is More: Sustainable Product Development Requires More Toxicological Considerations.

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 at 10:00 AM–1:45 PM ET

Chairs: Mansi Krishan, Becton, Dickinson and Company; and Brittany Baisch, Henkel Corporation

Primary Endorser: SCCT SS

Speakers:

- Introduction to Green Toxicology and Overview of CE course, *Mansi Krishan, Becton, Dickinson and Company*
 - Green Toxicology Approaches toward Sustainable Environmental Quality, *Bryan Brooks, Baylor University*
 - The Toxics Release Inventory and Considerations for the Design of Safer, Sustainable Commercial Chemicals, *Stephen DeVito, US EPA/OCSPP*
 - Integration of New Testing Methods and Strategies in Pharmaceutical Product Development towards Green Toxicology: Where Are We Today?, *Brinda Mahadevan, Brincor Associates LLC*
 - Sustainable Personal Care Ingredients and New Product Development—How to Optimize Safety Assessments That Meet Regional Requirements, *Pamela J. Spencer, ANGUS Chemical Company*
 - Sustainability Adds Complexity to Product Safety Assessments: A Laundry Detergent Case Study, *Brittany Baisch, Henkel Corporation*
 - Panel Discussion, Moderator -*Brittany Baisch, Henkel Corporation*
- **Informational Session:** Toxicology for Chemists: Preparing Chemists to Design Safer Products through Smarter Molecular Design

Date: Monday, March 22 at 2:45–4:05 PM ET

Chairs: Amy Cannon, Beyond Benign; and Pamela Spencer, Angus Chemical Co.

Primary Endorser: SCCT SS

Speakers:

- Introduction, Pamela Spencer, Angus Chemical Company
- Toxicology for Chemists: Curriculum and Resources, *Amy Cannon, Beyond Benign*
- Educating Tomorrow's Green Chemists in 21st Century Toxicology (New Approach Methodologies), *Margaret Whittaker, ToxServices LLC*
- Educational Tools for Designing Safer Chemicals and Predicting Toxicity, *Bryan Brooks, Baylor University*
- Understanding the Needs for Chemists to Gain Training in Toxicology and the Opportunity for Better Chemical Product Design, *John Warner, Zymergen Inc.*
- Panel Discussion and Q&A

2022 SOT Annual Meeting Proposals

While you are enjoying the 2021 Annual Meeting, keep in mind that proposals for 2022 are just around the corner! If you have a proposal in mind for SCCT SS endorsement, you can submit a pre-proposal to SCCT SS for prescreening and feedback. Please [contact us](#) for more information!

Election Results

SCCT SS has a newly elected VP-Elect and Councilor! The new officers will officially start their term on May 1st.

SCCT SS also wishes to extend our gratitude to **Lynne Haber**, an outgoing councilor, whose guidance and experience in helping to establish this new Specialty Section has been invaluable. Thank you Lynne!

See bios on our new officers below!



Vice President-Elect: Brittany Baisch, PhD, DABT

Dr. Brittany Baisch is a board-certified toxicologist in the Consumer Product Goods industry. She is currently the Research Fellow – Toxicology for Henkel's North American laundry and home care products, and was previously the Senior Toxicologist at The Kraft-Heinz Company. Brittany earned her PhD and MS in Toxicology from the University of Rochester and has BAs in Chemistry, Biochemistry and Spanish from Western Connecticut State University. Dr. Baisch is very active in the Society of Toxicology and has held several appointed and elected positions. She is currently the Vice President of Women in Toxicology (WIT), where she has co-lead the proposal review and SOT award nomination subcommittees. Dr. Baisch is currently the Secretary/Treasurer of the Exposure Specialty Section, where she is facilitating the establishment of awards, and assisting with recruiting a membership following and the augmentation of the bylaws. As an established toxicologist, Dr. Baisch has won several awards from her employer for leadership and delivering projects ahead of schedule, as well as within SOT for Paper of the Year and 1st place abstract from the Nanotoxicology SS, and the Leadership Award and student travel awards from GSLC. Dr. Baisch is co-chairing a CE course in 2021 that is the first to be endorsed by the Sustainable Chemicals Through Contemporary Toxicology (SCCT) SS. She aims to exercise her key learnings from serving on SOT committees and through her sustainability work at Henkel, to build and grow membership, funding, programs and outreach activities for the SCCT SS.



Councilor: Marie Bourgeois, PhD, MPH

Dr. Marie Bourgeois is a Research Assistant Professor at University of South Florida, College of Public Health where she teaches at both the undergraduate and graduate level, advises graduate student research, and conducts primary research in the fields of *in-vitro* toxicology, exposure assessment, epidemiology, and risk assessment. Her research interests include lactational transfer of environmental chemicals, toxicity of novel chemotherapeutics, attenuation of drug induced organotoxicity, and the toxicology of climate change. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Clinical Chemistry from USF and an MPH and PhD in Toxicology/Risk Assessment from the USF COPH. Dr. Bourgeois has been an active member of SOT since 2006, a member and officer of SESOT and OPHSS since 2007 and of

Mixtures since 2017. She is an active member of RASS and ASCCT. She is a member of the Education and Career Development Committee and an active promoter of K12 science education outreach.

SCCT 2021 Webinars

SCCT SS cohosted a very successful [webinar](#) with the Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4) entitled [“EU’s Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a Toxic-free Environment”](#). On October 14, 2020, the European Commission published its



Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability. The EU is the world’s second-largest chemicals producer, accounting for more than 17% of all chemical sales worldwide. The Strategy represents the EU’s first step towards achieving a toxic-free environment described in the European Green Deal, including: ensuring better protection of human health and the environment from hazardous chemicals, boosting innovation for safe and sustainable chemicals, and enabling the transition to chemicals that are safe and sustainable by design. Ms. Elena Montani from the European Commission DG ENV provided an overview of the origins and key elements of this holistic chemicals management strategy and discuss the European Union’s near-term plans for implementation, including insights on anticipated challenges and opportunities.

Dr. Joel Tickner from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell and Dr. Pam Spencer from Angus Chemical co-facilitated the webinar. The webinar also included group dialog with Ms. Montani regarding how green chemists, toxicologists, and alternatives assessors can contribute to critical elements of a more global chemicals sustainability strategy. The webinar slides and recording are available here: <https://www.saferalternatives.org/resources/past-webinars>

Additional webinars are being planned for 2021. Please reach out if you have ideas for webinars that would be of interest to our membership. Stay tuned!

SCCT SS Collaboration with SETAC

SCCT SS collaborated with SETAC members to propose a session for the SETAC Europe annual meeting, to be held virtually May 3-6, 2021. The session, which has been approved by SETAC, is titled “Cross Species Extrapolation: opportunities in a 21st century regulatory non-animal testing world”. The focus of the session is the advancement of cross species extrapolation to inform a 21st century regulatory non-animal testing agenda for assessing human and environmental health. We will seek participation from the tripartite groups who are currently engaged in setting the regulatory compass, supporting decision making in both regulatory and industry contexts, researching, analyzing large datasets and AOP and tool development. We

hope to engage participants from government (researchers, regulators, policy-makers), academia, industry, non-government organizations (NGOs), communicators and social scientists. The special session is aimed at stimulating valuable discussion on the understanding of shared approaches across human health and environmental safety areas in support of the paradigm shift in regulatory safety assessment in a future non-animal testing world. We particularly welcome participation from those involved in the development or application of bioinformatics approaches which provide exciting opportunities to rapidly bridge the gap between human health and environmental safety decision making. Further information on registration and the full agenda for the SETAC Europe meeting can be found on the [SETAC Europe 2021 webpage](#).

2020-2021 Executive Committee



Jennifer Y. Tanir President	Pamela J. Spencer Vice President	Margaret H. Whittaker Vice President- Elect	Mansi Krishan Secretary/ Treasurer	Lynne Haber Councilor	Britt McAtee Councilor	Zheng Zhou Student Repre- sentative
-----------------------------------	---	---	---	-----------------------------	------------------------------	--

