

## Sustainable Chemicals through Contemporary Toxicology Specialty Section

### ANNUAL REPORT: 2020-2021

May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021

#### I. Officers/Committees:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>
President:	Jennifer Y. Tanir	Pamela J. Spencer
Vice President:	Pamela J. Spencer	Margaret H. Whittaker
Vice President-Elect:	Margaret H. Whittaker	Brittany Baisch
Secretary:	Mansi Krishan	Mansi Krishan
Treasurer:	Mansi Krishan	Mansi Krishan
Past President:	N/A	Jennifer Y. Tanir
Councilors:	Lynne Haber Britt L. McAtee	Jennifer Y. Tanir Britt L. McAtee Marie Bourgeois
PDA Representative:	Vacant	Vacant
Grad Student Representative:	Zheng Zhou	Zheng Zhou

#### Committees:

Established committees with committee chairs: **Nominating Committee** (Chair: Past President); **Program Committee** (Chair: Vice President); **Awards Committee** (Chair: Vice President-Elect); **Communications Committee** (Councilor I); **Membership Committee** (Chair: Councilor II)

#### II. 2020 Membership total: 49

#### III. Key Outcomes in 2020-2021:

A. In the first year as an active Specialty Section with members, SCCTSS established: an Executive Committee with defined roles & responsibilities and monthly meetings following the first election of officers in June 2020, a newsletter and distributed the first 2 publications (winter 2020 and spring 2021), a process for Annual Meeting proposal reviews with endorsement of 2 proposals that were selected for sessions at SOT 2021, a webinar series which was first held in February 2021, 2 awards for best abstract (by graduate student and postdoctoral scholar), keywords for research topics within scope of SCCTSS for the SOT abstract submission system and other places that topical keywords are used within SOT, an annual Specialty Section meeting at SOT 2021 and poster presentation, and collaborations with external organizations resulting in a webinar with the Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4) and a special session at SETAC Europe 2021 in collaboration with SETAC North America (activities are described in more detail below).

B. Growth of membership to 76 members by the April 30, 2021, since becoming established in late 2019 and accepting members in 2020.

#### IV. Activities:

- A. 2021 SOT Virtual Annual Meeting Activities (e.g., courses, scientific sessions, or virtual receptions):

**Sustainable Chemicals through Contemporary Toxicology Specialty Section Virtual Meeting**

**Date and Time:** Monday, March 15, 2021 from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM ET

**Summary:** the virtual event included an overview of the year, introduction of the current and new Executive Committee officers, recognition of the 2021 award recipients, and networking breakout rooms.

**Continuing Education Course CE05: Less Is More: Sustainable Product Development**

Requires More Toxicological Considerations

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

Primary Endorser: SCCTSS

**Informational Session: Toxicology for Chemists: Preparing Chemists to Design Safer Products through Smarter Molecular Design**

Date and Time: Monday, March 22, 2021 at 2:45–4:05 PM ET

Primary Endorser: SCCTSS

- B. **2021 Awards Information:**

While calls for nominations for the Best Abstract Graduate Student Award and Best Abstract Postdoctoral Scholar Award were distributed to SOT members, no awards were presented in 2021.

- C. Other Educational Activities Conducted (e.g., webinars, in person meetings):

**Webinar: EU's Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a Toxic-Free Environment**

Co-hosted with Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4)

**Date:** February 10, 2021

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Description:** Ms. Elena Montani from the European Commission DG ENV provided an overview of the origins and key elements of the EU's 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 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.

**Special Session: Cross Species Extrapolation: Opportunities in a 21st Century Regulatory Non-Animal Testing World**

Organized in collaboration with SETAC North America and held at SETAC Europe

**Date and Time:** May 4, 2021 at 16:20 – 17:20 CEST

**Description:** The special session was 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.

**D. Communication Activities:**

1. **Newsletter publication frequency:** Winter 2020 and Spring 2021
2. **New or Significant Announcements/blogs:** ToXchange blog posted 4/29/21 by SCCTSS member Lauren Brown: Perspectives from a New Sustainable Chemicals through Contemporary Toxicology Specialty Section Member
3. **Highlight of Website enhancements:** The SCCTSS website was maintained and updated as needed, including links to webinars and presentations.

E. **Mentoring activities:** No mentoring activities were held in 2020-2021.

**V. Feedback and Ideas:**

A. **In what ways is your group fostering and maintaining an inclusive environment?**

*The 43 participants to the first SCCTSS Annual Meeting (held virtually), many of whom were not already members of SCCTSS, came from a diverse background of academic and research experience and interests spanning topics and expertise outside the “usual” toxicology-centered disciplines (including sustainability, climate change, chemicals and products, business, and finance, etc.). The Specialty Section has 76 members as of April 30.*

B. **How might SOT better support your group’s activities (perhaps something the Society should be doing that we currently do not do, or do not do effectively, that would be of importance/benefit to the members of your component group?):**

**Note: If funding is listed, please provide detail on the membership need that the funding would support.**

*As issues of sustainability grow in importance, it would be advantageous for SOT to consider developing or hosting a multi-disciplinary session type, designed to bring together different areas of expertise to discuss/share ideas around specific sustainability issues. This will facilitate greater understanding of the role toxicology plays in helping to address various sustainability challenges and highlight to other experts the value SOT can contribute to this area.*

C. **What is one thing that the Society is currently doing that impacts your component group that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?**

*None*

D. **What changes do your component group anticipate making in the way in which it operates in the coming year?**

*With our initial year of activities now established, we hope to expand and offer additional webinars, mentoring activities, opportunities for members through collaborations with other Specialty Sections and external organizations, as well as expansion of membership.*