

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION ____Stem Cells_____

ANNUAL REPORT: 2012-2013

May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013

I. Officers/Committees:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>2012-2013</u>	<u>2013-2014</u>
President:	Michael Waalkes	Kyle Kolaja
Vice President:	Robert Chapin	Jingbo Pi
Vice President-Elect:	Tom Gasiewicz	Alex Merrick
Secretary/Treasurer:	Erik Tokar	Erik Tokar
Past President	N/A	Michael Waalkes
Councilors:	Don Delker	Lamia Benbrahim-Tallaa
	Rebecca Fry	Charles Lindamood
	R Clark Lantz	Michael Waalkes
PDA Representative:	Amy Skinner	Ntube O. Ngalame
GSLC Representative:	Justin Colacino	Justin Colacino

Committees: Awards committee, Endowment committee, and Program committees are being established and will be finalized in August/September 2013.

II. Activities:

2013 SOT Annual Meeting Reception was held in San Antonio at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Bonham C Room on Monday, March 11, from 6:00 to 7:30PM. There were approximately 30 – 40 people in attendance. Dr. Michael Waalkes (SCSS President) called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on Monday, March 11. Meeting Minutes: (see Attachment I)

2013 Stem Cells SS Officers Meeting was held in San Antonio at the Henry B. Gonzalez Conference Center, Room 213A on Tuesday, March 12, from 6:30AM to 8:00AM. Officers in attendance were: Michael Waalkes, Jingbo Pi, Alex Merrick, Erik Tokar, Lamia Benbrahim-Tallaa, Charles Lindamood, Aaron Bowman, and Justin Colacino.

Awards: The student and postdoctoral awards for research excellence were presented. The winners were:

Postdoctoral

1st Place—Ntube N. O. Ngalame, National Toxicology Program Laboratory, DNTP, NIEHS

“Aberrant microRNA Expression Correlates with RAS Activation in Malignant Transformation of Human Prostate Epithelial and Stem Cells by Arsenic “

Mentor—Michael Waalkes, PhD

2nd Place—Jayanta K. Das, Center for Molecular Toxicology and Carcinogenesis, Penn State University

“Vascular Endothelial Cells Exposed to PCB 153 Show Increased Expression of Stem Cell Markers”

Mentor—Quentin Felty, PhD

Student

1st Place—Eric Beier, Department of Environmental Medicine, University of Rochester

“Removal of the Sclerostin Gene Protects Against Lead-induced Reduction of Vertebral Bone Mass and Strength”

Mentor—J. Edward Puzas, PhD

2nd Place—Surendra Singh, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Colorado AMC

“Expression and Role of ALDH1B1 in Pancreatic Cancer”

Mentor—Vasilis Vasiliou, PhD

2013 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions: The SCSS endorsed two Continuing Education courses at the 2013 Annual Meeting: 1) “The Practice and Implementation of Neural Stem Cell-Based Approaches to Neurotoxicology” was chaired by Timothy Shafer and Aaron Bowman and took place on Sunday, March 10th; and 2) “Toxic Effects of Metals” was chaired by Michael Waalkes and Michael Hughes and took place on Sunday, March 10th. Both Continuing Education courses were very well attended.

Endowment Fund Details: SCSS Endowment Fund will be established this year. The Endowment Fund committee will be in charge of this.

Newsletters: The SCSS sent out a newsletter in November 2012 which can be accessed at this link: http://www.toxicology.org/isot/ss/scss/doc/SCSS_NLNov12.pdf. The next newsletter will be sent out in October/November of 2013.

Teleseminars: N/A

White Papers: N/A

Contributions to SOT website: SCSS website was updated with new content.

Other Specialty Section 201-2013 Activities:

Attachment I

Stem Cells Specialty Section Annual Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2011

Reception and meeting were held at the Marriott Marquis, Yerba Buena Salon 4, San Antonio, TX. Dr. Michael Waalkes (SCSS President) called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on March 11, 2013. Dr. Waalkes discussed the SCSS activities from the Section's first year. Dr. Waalkes then announced the newly elected officers and thanked the outgoing officers for their hard work. Dr. Waalkes discussed following topics during business meeting:

Newly elected officers were introduced:

- Vice President Elect: Alex Merrick
- Junior Councilor: Charles Lindamood

SCSS Goals and Plans were discussed.

1. Membership Drive: The importance of continuing to increase the membership was emphasized. SCSS membership increased by 36% from 2011 (72 members in 2012 to 98 members in 2013). Goal: increase membership by $\geq 25\%$ by 2014. Challenge: every member bring in 1-2 new members by 2014 meeting.
2. Fund Drive: Goal is to establish Endowment Fund for Student/Postdoc Awards.
3. Program Drive: Goal is to sponsor and endorse several scientific sessions for 2014. Program committee will be established. SCSS endorsed 2 approved CE Courses for the 2013 Annual Meeting.
4. Committees will be established for each Drive.

SCSS program contributions were reviewed by Dr. Waalkes:

- CE Course (Endorsed): The Practice and Implementation of Neural Stem Cell-Based Approaches to Neurotoxicology. Course chairs were Timothy Shafer and Aaron Bowman. This course was very well attended.
- CE Course (Endorsed): Toxic Effects of Metals. Course was chaired by Michael Waalkes and Michael Hughes. This course was very well attended.

Programmatic themes and submission guidelines for SOT 2014 were presented by Dr. Erik Tokar. Tips for successful proposals were discussed.

The treasurer's report was presented by Dr. Tokar

- SCSS estimated balance as of March 2013: approximately \$2,300. Estimated income after membership dues and meeting revenue: approximately \$4,500.

SCSS student and post-doctoral awards for research excellence were presented by Dr. Kyle Kolaja:

Graduate student Awards

1st place: Eric Beier, Department of Environmental Medicine, University of Rochester

2nd place: Surendra Singh, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Colorado AMC

Post-doctoral Awards

1st place: Ntube N. O. Ngalame, National Toxicology Program Laboratory, DNTP, NIEHS

2nd place: Jayanta K. Das, Center for Molecular Toxicology and Carcinogenesis, Penn State University

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30PM.