

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION: **Biotechnology Specialty Section (BTSS)**

ANNUAL REPORT: 2009-2010

May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010

I. Officers/Committees:

Officers:	<u>2009-2010</u>
President:	Barbara Mounho, Amgen, Inc.
Vice President:	Janet Clarke, Biogen Idec
VP-Elect	Hanan Ghantous, FDA
Secretary/Treasurer:	Theresa Reynolds, Genentech/Roche
Councilors:	Leigh Ann Burn-Naas, Pfizer Tim MacLachlan, Genzyme (2009-2011) Andrea Weir, Navigators, Charles River Labs (2009-2011)

II. Committees:

Program Committee

For the first year of the BTSS, there was a high level of interest and engagement from the section (28 people signed up). Due to the large response in members wanting to participate (and since this was the first year for the BTSS, we did not want to discourage participation), the Program Committee managed this by employing brainstorm ideas groups and proposal leaders with a core program committee to review and rank.

Core Program committee

Janet Clark (Chair)
Hanan Ghantous
Barbara Mounho
Scott Burchiel (UNM)
Daland Juberg (Dow)
Kashik Datta "KD" (Roche)

Awards Committee (Hanan Ghantous)

While no awards were applicable for 2010 for the BTSS, the committee is working on establishing awards for the near future (e.g., student travel award, best paper award, etc.). Funding to support the various awards for the BTSS is ongoing (an include companies such as Aclairo PDG -\$1000 for the student travel award – annually; and Burleson Research).

Nominating Committee

The BTSS council will serve the role of the Nominating Committee until the need for a formal committee is warranted.

III. Activities

Establishing the BTSS/BTSS Awareness for the SOT General Membership

2009 – 2010 was an extremely busy year for the officers in overseeing: i) submission of the BTSS to the SOT council; ii) generation of BTSS by-laws; iii) generation of 3 year plan; iv) planning for 2010 Annual Meeting reception (this was the inaugural reception for the BTSS; v) establishing various committee (Program, Awards, etc.); vi) proposals for SOT 2011 meeting (2 of which were approved; see Program Committee).

2010 SOT Annual Meeting Reception

The BTSS reception was held in at the convention center in Salt Lake City, Utah on March 10, 2010. Despite this was our “kick off” reception, there was a great turn out for the reception (approximately 100 people were in attendance!). The primary objective and goal of the BTSS was reviewed with the attendees, and the BTSS officers and committee were introduced. The enthusiasm for the starting the BTSS that was expressed by the reception attendees was overwhelming, and the officers feel that it was a very successful reception in getting awareness of the BTSS out to the SOT membership.

BTSS Activities

BTSS Website (Tim MacLachlan)

Contributions to SOT Web site: The Biotechnology Specialty Section website was launched in May of 2010, and includes information on the officers, by-laws, awards, newsletters and pictures from our inaugural reception at the 2010 SOT Annual Meeting. The website committee is also working to implement activities on the SOT ToxChange into our 2010 and 2011 plans, including raising discussion topics and connecting members of the BTSS in this online community.

Student/Post-doctoral representatives (Andrea Weir)

Applications have been received for student and post-doctoral representatives, and are currently under review (1 student and 1 post-doc representative will be selected for a 1 year term).

Newsletters (Theresa Reynolds)

The inaugural newsletter was sent to members June 1. Publishing schedule is expected to be June/September/December.

Awards: N/A for this time period (ongoing, see previous page).

2010 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions: N/A for (see Program Committee for sessions for SOT 2011 meeting)

Endowment Fund Details: N/A for this period

Teleseminars: N/A

White Papers: N/A

Business Meeting Speaker: N/A

Upcoming Activities for the BTSS

The National Biotech Committee has invited the BTSS to collaborate with them in having a roundtable/mini-symposium for the NBC Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA (May 2011). The BTSS officers have agreed to move forward with this collaboration, and will update SOT council as more information is available (topic for this roundtable/mini-symposium will encompass biotechnology, but exact details are to be worked out).

The BTSS is currently identifying a speaker for the reception, with promise to have someone from the EPA to give a 20 minute talk on biofuels (more information will be made available as details are mapped out).

The BTSS will be submitting a proposal for a Current Concepts in Toxicology meeting in early 2011 (with target of having the meeting in 2012). Details will be updated to SOT council as they become available.