

ANNUAL REPORT: 2023–2024

May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024

I. Officers:

<u>2023–2024</u>	<u>2024–2025</u>
President: Tod Harper Vice President: Jason Pinkstaff Vice President-Elect: Edward Dere Secretary-Treasurer: René Viñas Past President, Councilor: Nicola Stagg Senior Councilor: Jessica Sims Junior Councilor: Adhithiya Charli Postdoctoral Representative: Yunjia Lai Student Representative: Rajat Gupta	President: Jason Pinkstaff Vice President: Edward Dere Vice President-Elect: Hervé Lebrech Secretary-Treasurer: Ashwini Phadnis Moghe Past President, Councilor: Tod Harper Senior Councilor: Adhithiya Charli Junior Councilor: Lauren Lewis Postdoctoral Representative: Yunjia Lai Graduate Student Representative: Rajat Gupta

II. 2024 Membership total: 188

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2023–2024:

The Biotechnology Specialty Section accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

- In-person meeting/mixer
- Virtual meetings
- Endorsed session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Mentoring/career development events
- Trainee awards conferred
- Scientist investigator awards conferred
- Paper of the year award
- Member highlights
- Newsletter(s)
- Webinars
- Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Biotechnology Specialty Section collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

- Ethical, Legal, Forensics, and Societal Issues
- Food Safety
- Immunotoxicology
- Mechanisms
- Molecular and Systems Biology
- Risk Assessment

V. Communication Methods:

The Biotechnology Specialty Section stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

- Emails through SOT Headquarters
- Newsletter(s)

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Biotechnology Specialty Section maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

- Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
- Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
- Utilize virtual meetings for convening Specialty Section leadership
- Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
- Highlight trainee research

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Biotechnology Specialty Section hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Career panel(s)
- Speed mentoring

VIII. Awards Given:

Trainee	3
Early Career	3
Mid Career	
Late Career	

IX. Key Outcomes and Improvements:

Participated in 2 mentoring events at Annual Meeting in an attempt to increase trainee membership and participation in BTSS. Hosted joint ITSS/BTSS webinar with over 500 registrants and over 300 attendees.

X. Strategic Plan:

The Biotechnology Specialty Section supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
- Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
- Develop a talent pool of toxicologists for the future
- Provide training and education that reflects the needs of members
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities for all career levels
- Enhance member recognition and visibility at all levels

XI. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Biotechnology Specialty Section is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

- Cell cultivated food, use of biotechnology in society outside of biopharmaceuticals

XII. Feedback to the Society:

- A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Specialty Section?

Providing matching funds for mentoring events at Annual Meeting.

- B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Specialty Section that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

Nothing comes to mind.