

Biotechnology 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:	Amy Sharma	Robert Li
Vice President:	Robert Li	Nicola Stagg
Vice President-Elect:	Nicola Stagg	Tod A. Harper
Secretary:	Nardos Tassew	Nardos Tassew
Treasurer:	Nardos Tassew	Nardos Tassew
Past President:	Kelly Flagella	Amy Sharma
Councilors:	Jason Pinkstaff Eunice Musvasva	Jason Pinkstaff Saurabh Vispute
PDA Representative:	Frances Shaffo	TBD
Grad Student Representative:	Muthanna Sultan	Muthanna Sultan

Committees:

BTSS will put together a small working group for a particular matter occasionally (e.g., fundraising). In the future, we may set up one to help broaden engagement across biotech industry/sectors.

II. 2020 Membership total: 214

III. Key Outcomes

Due to the COVID-19, BTSS major outcome last year was the virtual SOT Annual Meeting Event.

IV. Activities:

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

Biotechnology Specialty Section Virtual Reception Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, 3/17/2021 5:00pm – 6:00pm ET

Summary: The reception meeting was open to all interested virtual Annual Meeting attendees which included award announcements.

B. 2021 Awards Information:

Biotechnology SS Outstanding Young Investigator Award – Vijay Kale

Biotechnology SS Student Achievement Award – Jaclynn Andres and Alkeiver Cannon

Biotechnology SS Battelle Postdoctoral Award – Katie O’Shaughnessy

Biotechnology SS Career Achievement Award – Rodney Prell

C. Other Educational Activities Conducted (e.g., webinars, in person meetings): None

D. Communication Activities:

1. Newsletter publication frequency: December 2020
2. New or Significant Announcements/blogs: None
3. Highlight of Website enhancements: The BTSS website has been maintained and updated as needed.

E. Mentoring activities: None

V. Feedback and Ideas:

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

- *Connecting dots across academia, industry, and regulatory bodies.*
- *Promote the involvement of more broad industries in BTSS community such as agriculture, cosmetics, and chemicals etc.*

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.

- *We are in need of funds and would like the SOT to help us with ways in which we can fundraise.*

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 identified*

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

- *Moving back to more in-person events in lieu of re-opening of society*