As we begin to close out 2007 we can reflect that, overall, this has been a good year for our specialty section. There continues to be significant dermal toxicology initiatives internationally that have concerns that require innovative solutions, thereby creating considerable opportunity for our specialty. The section currently has 132 members including some very talented students with a strong interest in the specialty. We now have student representation within SOT at both the graduate and post-doctoral levels and are hopeful that the outstanding efforts by our representatives this year will result in gaining some additional student participation in the section by the 2008 annual meeting. I encourage each of you to renew your dermal toxicology section memberships and to invite colleagues with an interest in dermal toxicology from both research and applied perspectives to join the section when they apply for or renew their Society of Toxicology membership. I also encourage you and hope that you will persuade any new member that you bring into the Section to participate actively with us.

I would like to thank the all officers for their hard work this year and making certain that the specialty section meets your needs. We would love to hear your new ideas or feedback about how we could better serve you! Please feel free to contact any of us using the contact information provided in this newsletter to communicate and share with us your interests and any constructive ideas you have to improve.
This year we initiated a “paper of the year” award and included a short informative invited talk at our business meeting/reception that made the gathering a little more interesting without inhibition of the social aspect of the meeting. You will notice that we have been successful in providing dermal toxicology workshops to the 2008 meeting agenda that should prove informative and thought provoking. Our newsletters are intended to keep you informed of section activities, opportunities and to make you aware of meetings and peer-reviewed publications produced during the year by the membership. This year, we also have increased the amount of our support for our student members and officers to attend SOT sponsored events.

Despite a small setback with one of our 2007 student award sponsors that resulted in specialty section funds being used to cover the sponsor’s promised award, it appears that sponsors for 2008 awards are forthcoming and ready to participate. If you are aware of anyone who would like to provide support for the section, please let me or any of the officers know and we will make contact. We are also beginning the process of electing new officers so please provide any nominations you have to me or any of our officers by the end of this year so we can make contact and prepare the ballot. We are all looking forward to the 2008 annual meeting in Seattle, Washington and hope that you will be attending and supporting your specialty section with your attendance. It is also time to begin thinking of new ideas for improving the SOT program content with respect to dermal toxicology informational needs (continuing education, workshops and symposia) that the section can propose for the 2009 SOT meeting. Please feel free to contact me or any of our officers for assistance in the preparation of a successful proposal as soon as possible as this is a competitive process that requires some preparation for success.

This year’s SOT Annual Meeting will be held, March 16-20, 2008, at the Seattle Convention Center. Please check the meeting registration website for important deadlines.


It has been a pleasure working with our officers and the SOT staff this year to support our section needs and to provide support for SOT programs. Several of our members have been actively participating in SOT planning and advisory activities, as well as making important presentations regarding their work at scientific meetings worldwide this year and have added to our knowledge of dermal toxicology. Membership in the section provides us with the opportunity to engage in collegial dialogue with each other to further the state of the science and to find solutions to practical problems, so please take advantage of this and make contact with other members to share your interests and ideas. Whether you are an established scientist desiring dialogue with someone of common interest or a student concerned with a dermal toxicology problem looking for assistance, the members of the section can provide you with a valuable resource.

Please renew your membership, encourage your friends and students to join (students are free) to help the growth of the specialty section, and join us in Seattle in 2008 with your ideas and thoughts on adding to the dermal toxicology content of the SOT annual meeting.

As always, please feel free to contact me, or any officer at any time via the contact information provided. I am very much looking forward to seeing you all in Seattle in 2008!

Dave Hobson
DTSS President

DTSS Paper of the Year Award

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section is requesting nominations for the Annual “DTSS Paper of the Year” Award in recognition of an exceptional recent publication in the field of skin toxicology and pharmacology. To be eligible, a paper must have been published or in press in a peer reviewed journal during the period from August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007 and first-authored by an SOT member. The award will consist of a plaque and a cash honorarium. The winner will be announced at the Business Meeting of the Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section at the 2008 Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington. Deadline for submission of nominations is January 4, 2008. Each nomination must be accompanied by an electronic copy of the publication. Please submit your nomination to Jeff Yourick at Jeffrey.yourick@fda.hhs.gov.

Student Awards

DTSS is again sponsoring two student awards in recognition of outstanding papers (poster or platform) in the field of dermal toxicology that will be presented at the 2008 Annual SOT Meeting in Seattle, Washington. The Awards will be announced and presented at the Business Meeting of the Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section in Seattle. The winners will receive a certificate and cash award. Each candidate must submit an electronic copy of an accepted abstract and a letter of support from their major advisor. Deadline for submission is January 4, 2008. Please submit your nomination to Jeff Yourick at Jeffrey.yourick@fda.hhs.gov.
Program Committee

March 2008 is approaching rapidly and we are looking forward to meeting with our colleagues and learning something new about dermal toxicology at the annual meeting in Seattle. To aid in this effort, our Specialty Section was the primary endorser for 3 workshops and secondary endorser for a continuing education sunrise course in 2007. All have been selected for presentation at the 2008 meeting! These are:

- Dermal Toxicological Assessment of Nanomaterials and Nanodevices
- LLNA: False Positives, False Negatives and Alternative Endpoints
- Safe Approaches to Topical Product Development
- Minipigs as an Alternative Non-Rodent Species in Toxicology and Safety Studies (Sunrise Continuing Education Course, Primary Endorser: SOT Animals in Research Committee)

These programs were recruited/organized and encouraged by Dave Hobson, our current President, during his tenure as President-Elect and Chair of the Program Committee. I have now moved into this position and am learning that Dave is a tough act to follow! In fact, his predecessors have also set high standards. DTSS has consistently had 2 or 3 endorsed programs selected for the meeting for the last 5 years. See below.

So….. I NEED YOUR HELP. LET’S PLAN NOW FOR 2009.

Please review the previous programs (below) and think about new issues in dermal toxicology or updates that would be appropriate for the 2009 meeting.

Is there a burning issue you would like to present? Do you know of some research it is important to publicize? Is there an area about which you would like to learn more? All thoughts, comments and suggestions are welcome. Also, volunteers to work on the Program Committee and develop proposals for 2009 are extremely welcome (in fact, they are critical!) Please let me know if you would like to help as a member of the committee, as a chair or presenter for a program or all of the above.

Carol Auletta
DTSS President-Elect and Program Committee Chair

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<th>History of DTSS Programs at Annual Meetings</th>
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Communications Committee

The communications committee has the duties of assembling this newsletter and keeping the Dermal Specialty Section website up to date. Check out our website and newsletters at: http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/dtss/index.html

We are always looking for information to share with members, such as meetings, announcements, job openings, postdoctoral positions, etc. that can be posted on the website or included in the newsletter. We are striving to include updates on hot topics in dermal toxicology and other updates and information of interest to our members.

If you have information or new ideas/suggestions for inclusion in the newsletter contact:

George DeGeorge
DTSS Vice President
Communications Committee Chair
degeorge@mbresearch.com

DTSS Membership by Organization Type

Announcements

New Book

Nancy Monteiro-Riviere, a former President and active member of DTSS, is co-editor of a new book on nanotoxicology:


The publisher, Informa Healthcare, formerly Taylor and Francis, has previously offered discounts to DTSS members.

Meetings, Near . . .

February 1-5, 2008 – 66th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology, San Antonio, TX
http://www.aad.org/professionals/MeetingsEvents/66AM.htm

. . . and Far

March 26-28, 2008 – Eleventh Perspectives in Percutaneous Penetration Conference in the Palais de Congres, La Grande Motte, France
www.ppconference.org

May 14-17, 2008 – IID2008
Joint meeting of the Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID), the European Society for Dermatological Research (ESDR) and the Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID) hosted by the JSID at the Kyoto International Conference Center in Kyoto, Japan.

Treasurer’s Report

The latest Treasurer’s Report will be included in future communications and pending collection of yearly dues.
DTSS Members - Would you like to become more active in your Specialty Section? Do you know of others who would?

We are looking for:

- Nominations for officers for next year:
  - Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Councilor
  - Nominations must be received no later than Sunday Dec. 15
  - Include a bio (150 words) and a photograph

- Volunteers for the Program Committee

Please let us know NOW!

Send nominee suggestions to:

James N. McDougal, Ph.D., ATS
Past President
Wright State University
james.mcdougal@wright.edu

And

Dave Hobson, Ph.D., DABT
DTSS President
H&H Scientific Services, LLP
Dave@HH-LLP.net

Send Program Committee volunteers to:

Carol S. Auletta, MBA, DABT, RAC
DTSS President-Elect
Huntingdon Life Sciences
aulettac@princeton.huntingdon.com