President's Message

The Dermal Speciality Section has been a tremendous success due to the past officers and to Ian Kimber, who stepped down as President in May. He continues to keep active in the DTSS by serving as a member of the Executive Council as Past President.

I am happy to report that our Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section is viable and strong and our membership now totals 95 paid members. The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section was created to integrate and promote the activities of its members involved in many phases of dermal risk assessment, drug absorption, dermatotoxicology, and dermatopharmaceutics. Our Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section serves as a focal point for interactive collaborations among its members. Therefore, I would like members to join committees, interact with one another more frequently and be active in our specialty section. Everyone has something to offer.

One of our primary tasks is to contribute to the annual meeting of the Society of Toxicology through sponsoring symposia, workshops, roundtables and continuing education courses. It is not too early to start thinking of about programs for the SOT annual meeting in 2006. Our goal is to have a successful program committee so that our reputation grows throughout SOT and hopefully will increase our membership.

At the SOT Annual meeting in Baltimore this past year, our Specialty Section Executive Council established a few target goals for this year. Our primary goals are: 1) to establish committees (mechanism for active participation of our membership), 2) to increase membership of the Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section, 3) to solicit proposals so we can provide a great program for 2006 annual meeting, 4) to send a newsletter out to all members and enhance the website (to add value to our participants).

To build a strong presence at SOT we have established 4 committees in order to develop the best programs and activities. However, we need your participation to be successful. Please feel free to join one of the following Committees chaired by our current officers. Our Membership Committee will be chaired by Debra Laskin (Junior Councilor); this committee will serve to increase membership. The Awards Committee will be chaired by Carol Auletta (Senior Councilor) and will be responsible for evaluating the graduate student and postdoctoral abstracts. The Communications Committee chaired by Jim McDougal (Vice-President Elect) and myself (Nancy Monteiro-Riviere, President) will provide a mechanism to interact with fellow colleagues by providing information for the Newsletter, updating the website and seek out “new information” that would...
benefit our members. The final committee is the Program Committee chaired by Bob Bronaugh (Vice-President) who will be responsible in developing outstanding programs for the 2006 annual meeting.

A priority of the Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section is to increase our membership. I encourage all our members to actively recruit new members. The last few years there has been an increase in the number of new specialty sections of SOT. This means there is more competition between Specialty Sections in retaining members. In addition, the increase in dues for each specialty section has members limiting themselves to the number of sections they would like to join, thereby choosing one section over another. We need your participation at our National Meetings.

The Dermal Specialty Section is always seeking generous donations from companies or individuals that will help defray the cost of one-year student memberships. These contributions definitely aid in recruiting new students. In addition, we will recruit new members by specifically sending out letters depicting the Dermal Specialty Section interests to students and encouraging them submit abstracts for the Dermal Specialty Section Awards and to join our specialty section.

The Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section is pleased to report that they have increased the monetary amount for the graduate student awards for the SOT 2005 meeting in New Orleans. Nominees are required to submit the abstract of the poster or platform session for consideration. This is a great mechanism for providing recognition to your trainees for all their laboratory efforts. First place graduate student winner will receive a check for $500; best Postdoctoral winner will receive a check for $500. In addition, winners will also receive a gift certificate from Taylor and Francis Publishers.

All our officers will be working on their initiatives and I’m looking forward to the Dermal Specialty Section in having a successful and productive year with an increase in membership and serving the Society in an influential role by providing outstanding programs for the 2006 meeting.

Nancy A. Monteiro-Riviere, DTSS President

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**Treasurer’s Report**

This report summarizes the financials for the year Jul’03-Jun’04 for the DTSS. Our net assets at the beginning of the year were $3,910. To this we added a total income of $3,454 ($1500 from dues, $1708 from meeting registrations and $246 interest). Our expenses for the year totaled $2200 (Awards $700, Executive committee meeting $108 and DTSS reception $1392). We received no transfers from the General Fund this year. So, the DTSS net assets as of 30 June 2004 are, according to SOT, $5163 (although according to my calculator they are $5164). Aside from dues, our largest source of revenue is the SOT meeting registrations. Therefore, having a strong program for the 2005 meeting is extremely important. As in previous years, the officers’ will be financially prudent (frugal) in evaluating options for each of our expenditure categories to ensure that the Section remains solvent.

Cindy Ryan, DTSS Treasurer ryan.ca@pg.com

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**Travel Awards**

Student Travel Awards Available…..

Are you, or do you know, a student who will be submitting a poster or making a presentation on dermal investigations at the 2005 SOT meeting? If so, you should know that the DTSS Specialty Section plans to continue our practice of providing travel awards to students with presentations applicable to dermal toxicology. And this year we have increased our awards to $500 each!! One award will be made for the best presentation by a graduate student and another will be made for the best presentation by post-doctoral fellow. Winners traditionally also receive a $100 gift certificate from Taylor and Francis. Applications should be made by submitting a copy (in WORD) of the abstract to be presented by December 1, 2004. The applicant must be the first (presenting) author. Applications should be submitted to:

Carol S. Auletta
Councilor, DTSS, Chair of Awards Committee
Auletta@princeton.huntingdon.com

Or

Nancy Monteiro-Riviere
President, DTSS
Nancy_Monteiro@ncsu.edu

If you, or a student who is interested, need additional information, please contact one of us.

We are looking forward to your applications !!!

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**Program Committee**

At the last SOT meeting, the following people volunteered to serve on the Program Committee: Frank Gerberick, Paul Howard, Anne Marie Api, Guilin Qiao, David Tonnucci, Dave Hobson, and Mandip Sachdeva. Our task is to put together suggested sessions (including speakers) for symposia, workshops, roundtables and continuing education courses for the 2006 Annual Meeting. A final list of sessions will be submitted by DTSS to SOT next spring shortly after the 2005 Annual Meeting. The Program Committee welcomes ideas for sessions from all DTSS members.

For more information contact: Bob Bronaugh, DTSS Vice President and Program Committee Chair Robert.Bronaugh@cfsan.fda.gov

**Communications Committee**

The task of the communications committee is primarily to put together this newsletter and keep the Dermal Specialty Section website up to date. Jim McDougald and...
Nancy Monteiro-Riviere are co-chairs of this committee. Check out the DTSS website: http://www.toxicology.org/memberservices/specsection/dermal/annual.htm

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. In the past, we have included in the newsletter recent papers published by DTSS members. That is a nice way to keep each other up to date, but it is time consuming to do the search for ~100 members on PubMed. Any volunteers so we can add member publications to the website or future newsletter issues?

For more information contact: Jim McDougal, DTSS Vice-President Elect Communications committee Co-chair. James.mcdougal@wright.edu

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**Honors and Awards**

We had a great response for the 2004 SOT DTSS Student Awards Program. We received 5 submissions for the Student Award and 4 submissions for the Post-Doc Award. All of the presentations were well done. The recipient of the student award was Ms. Ashley Murray from the Physiology and Pharmacology Department of West Virginia University. Ashley was in the 3rd year of her PhD program and Dr. Anna Shvedova was her advisor. The Post-Doc award recipient was Dr. Lucy Gildea. She was in the second year of a Post Doctoral position at the Procter & Gamble Company in the laboratory of Dr. Frank Gerberick. Dr. Gildea received her PhD in 2000 from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in the Cellular and Molecular Biology Graduate Program. Both recipients received a check for $250, a plaque and a Taylor & Francis gift certificate.

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**Announcements**

"Contact Dermatitis 2004--Blending Science with Best Practice" will be held in Bethesda, Maryland on October 28-30, 2004. This will be the fourth meeting of the Experimental Contact Dermatitis Research Group to discuss basic and applied science of contact dermatitis. The meeting is combined with the American Contact Dermatitis Society meeting. The deadline has been extended to September 30, 2004 for registration and title submission. Please visit the website and register for one or both meetings: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/skin/CD2004/index.html

“Occupational And Environmental Exposures of Skin To Chemicals – 2005” will be held in Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, 12 – 15 June 2005. This is the second meeting in a series to foster multidisciplinary discussions on the prevention of harmful effects caused by exposure of skin to chemicals. See the website for details: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/skin/OEESC2/index.html

A student from our specialty section is needed to volunteer for the Student Advisory Committee (SAC). The SAC was created to assist the Society of Toxicology with its long-term goals, which include increasing student membership and participation in the Society. For this reason, a current goal for the SAC is to actively promote student participation in the SOT Specialty Sections. In order to achieve this goal efficiently, we need to identify a student member within our specialty section to serve as an ad hoc Student Advisor to the SAC. Any volunteers?

You should have received your ballot for new officers for 2005-2006. Please make your voices heard and keep the specialty section strong and active by voting before 1 October.

SOT would like to remind you of the October 9 deadline for awards nominations. Please help us recognize the outstanding accomplishments of our members. The Awards Nomination On-line form allows easy submission of your nomination. http://www.toxicology.org/Information/AwardsFellowships/awards.htm

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The annual meeting of the Society of Toxicology again was highly successful with good science throughout but particularly in the case of papers dealing with the skin and the effects of agents on the skin. As you prepare manuscripts for submission to various journals, as the editor of Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology, I would like to invite you to submit your work to me. Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology is the best place for such papers. Check our editorial board and you will notice that it is well supported by members of the Dermal Specialty Section. Taylor and Francis has just purchased Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology. As a result of the journal's new home, Taylor and Francis has agreed to sponsor the best dermatological paper in the journal each year. The winner of the best paper will be honored at the dermal specialty section annual meeting with a certificate and a one-year subscription to the journal. As the editor of the journal, I look forward to next year's annual meeting when the winner will be announced.

We look forward to receiving your manuscripts. Please submit your manuscripts to the address below electronically.

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