President’s Message

The dermal toxicology specialty section (DTSS) continues to thrive. I want to acknowledge the hard work of its officers during the past year, and in particular our Past President, Nancy Monteiro-Riviere. Nancy's hard work and dedication resulted in an updating of our web site and an increase in new members to name just a few of her accomplishments. She will still continue to serve DTSS as its past president. We also thank (and say farewell) to Carol Auletta for her contributions as last year’s senior councilor.

Our current membership is listed now as 126 members. We are not a small specialty section anymore but there are some that are much larger than us. We need to continue efforts at recruiting new members and one important way is to be active in the annual meetings with sponsorship of high quality scientific sessions. One workshop and one symposium with DTSS as the primary sponsor were selected for development for presentation at next year's annual meeting in San Diego.

We need to get more involvement of DTSS members in the process of developing new proposals. Jim McDougal and I have talked about some ideas to try to move this along including developing lists of potential topics for meeting proposals and teleconferences between members interested in developing proposals.

I think it is important to mention the DTSS officers and the duties that they perform during the year to help make our specialty section a success. The Vice-President, Jim McDougal, is responsible for facilitating the development of proposals for scientific sessions at the 2007 annual meeting. The proposals (symposia, workshops, continuing education etc.) are due in the spring of 2006.

Communications: The Vice-President elect, Dave Hobson, is in charge of communication within DTSS with the primary duty consisting of the preparation of the DTSS Newsletter.

Secretary/ Treasurer: Cindy Ryan is our Secretary/ Treasurer with the joint responsibility of keeping track of the DTSS finances and also recording the minutes of the DTSS Executive Committee meeting.

Awards: The Senior Councilor, Debra Laskin, has the task of supervising the student and post doctoral awards given by DTSS for presentations made at the annual meeting.

Financial Support: The Junior Councilor, Bill Reifenrath, is responsible for encouraging additional financial support for DTSS so that we can continue and possibly increase the awards given by our specialty section.

We are entering the busy time of the year for DTSS as we now start to prepare for the annual meeting in San Diego. There will be student and post
I look forward to seeing all of you in San Diego next March.

With best regards,
Bob Bronaugh, DTSS President

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**Special Reports**

**Report from Specialty Section Officers Workshop.**
by Jim McDougal

In August, the SOT hosted a day and a half meeting of Specialty Section Officers in Chicago. Twenty-one Presidents or Vice Presidents of the 22 Specialty Sections attended. The meeting was also attended by the SOT president, Ken Wallace, Specialty Section Liaison, Michael Holsapple and Specialty Section Manager, Rita Rose. The goal of the workshop was to improve the success of the Specialty Sections in meeting the needs of their members and the SOT. It provided opportunities for the Specialty Sections to share ideas about how to be more effective, increase membership and encourage participation by members. Many ideas from the Specialty Section Officers were shared with SOT leadership. One very exciting one was to have approximately monthly rotating teleseminars open to the whole SOT membership that focus on the scientific areas of the 22 specialty sessions. The idea was to make PowerPoint slides available in advance and have a phone line to call in for the audio. Each Specialty Session would have an opportunity about every 2 years to provide an overview of the state-of-the-art of their area. In an attempt to increase student membership, it was suggested that student members be required to pick at least one but up to 3 Specialty Sections (free to students). There was a discussion of the potential for existing Specialty Section members to get their membership for free in a year that they recruited a new member to the Specialty Section. Stay tuned for changes in the way our Specialty Section can better meet the needs of our members and student members as ideas from this workshop are implemented by SOT.

**Treasurer’s Report**

This report summarizes the financials for the year Jul’04-July’05 for the DTSS. Our net assets at the beginning of the year were $5163. To this we added a total income of $3673 ($1815 from 2005 DTSS dues, $1550 from meeting registrations and $308 interest). Our expenses for the year totaled $2364 (Student Cash Awards $800, Plaques $197; Executive committee meeting $113 and DTSS reception $1254). We received no transfers from the General Fund this year. So, the DTSS net assets as of 20 September 2005 are, according to SOT, $6472.

Cindy Ryan
DTSS Treasurer
ryan.ca@pg.com

**Travel Awards**

**Student Travel Awards Available…..**

DTSS Student Travel Awards are available for the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology.

Applications should be made by submitting a copy (in WORD) of the abstract to be presented by December 1, 2005. The applicant must be the first (presenting) author. Applications should be submitted to: Dr Debra Laskin.

If you, or a student who is interested in applying for a DTSS Student Travel Award, need additional information, please contact:
Debra Laskin, Ph.D., Councilor, DTSS, Chair of Awards Committee
Laskin@eohsi.rutgers.edu

**Program Committee**

One of the most important contributions of our Specialty Section is the active participation in the scientific program at the national meeting. Our task is to put together suggested sessions (including speakers) for symposia, workshops, roundtables and continuing education courses for the 2007 Annual Meeting. In the past our Specialty Section has made important contributions primarily by the initiative of our individual members coming forward with sessions and speakers. We would like that to continue, but we would also like to try a more “global” or “top down” approach. We want a committee of 4-5 volunteers from the membership to brainstorm important topics in the skin area and then try to identify individuals who could be session chairs and come up with speaker. The 2007 meeting seems like a long way away, but we need to submit our list of recommended sessions next spring shortly after the 2006 annual meeting. If you are interested in serving on this committee or already have a session in mind please contact,

Jim McDougal, Ph.D.
DTSS Vice President and Program Committee Chair
james.mcdougal@wright.edu

**Communications committee**

The communications committee puts together this newsletter and keeps the Dermal Specialty Section website up to date. Dave Hobson chairs 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.

If you have information for inclusion in the newsletter contact:

Dave Hobson, Ph.D.
DTSS Vice-President Elect
Communications committee Co-chair
Dave@IH-H LLP.net
Honors and Awards

Each year the SOT DTSS selects two abstracts submitted by students or postdoctoral fellows to receive an award for the best presentation at the annual meeting. We had a number of highly qualified applications for the 2005 SOT DTSS Student Awards Program. This years awards were given to two graduate students for their presentations at the SOT Annual meeting. First prize ($500) was awarded to Dae Joon Kim from Pennsylvania State University for a poster on regulation of keratinocyte differentiation and proliferation by peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor β. Second place ($300) went to Adrienne Black of the Joint Graduate Program in Toxicology at Rutgers University for a poster on differential induction of COX-2 and HO-1 by UVB light in growing and calcium-differentiated primary cultures of mouse keratinocytes. Each student also received a check for $500 from Taylor and Francis Publishers along with a subscription to the journal Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology. Please encourage students and postdoctoral fellows to apply for the 2006 SOT DTSS student awards. Winners will receive a $500 check from Taylor and Francis and a subscription to Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology. Applications should be made by submitting an electronic and hard copy of the abstract to be presented by December 1, 2005. The applicant must be the first (presenting) author. Applications should be submitted to:

Debra Laskin, Ph.D.
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Rutgers University, School of Pharmacy, Piscataway, NJ 08854; laskin@ehsi.rutgers.edu

New Book

"Dermal Absorption Models in Toxicology and Pharmacology," by J.E. Riviere is a concise overview covering experimental and mathematical modeling approaches used to assess dermal absorption. For more information go to the following website: http://www.crcpress.com/shopping-cart/products/product_detail.asp?sku=TF1776 The publisher, Taylor and Francis is offering a 20 percent discount on the price to SOT Dermal Specialty Section members (List $139.95; Member's cost $111.96) If you are interested contact marilyn.diprima@taylorandfrancis.com to obtain this discount.

You should have received your ballot for new officers for 2006-2007. 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 3rd deadline for abstract submissions for the 2006 annual meeting. Also, the deadline for awards nominations is October 9th. Please help us recognize the outstanding accomplishments of our members. The Awards Nomination On-line form is available on the SOT website under “Awards and Fellowships.” allows easy submission of your nomination.

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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Dermal Toxicology Specialty Section