



SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

EXPOSURE SPECIALTY SECTION

SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER

Get ready to dive into exciting updates from our Specialty Section! This newsletter includes an introduction to our new officers, a recap of ESS award winners and activities at the recent SOT Annual Meeting, a preview of upcoming events, and ways to get involved. Join us in celebrating our members' achievements and looking ahead to the next year!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| President's Message..... | 2-3 |
| Officers..... | 4-5 |
| Open Positions..... | 6 |
| SOT 2026 Annual Meeting Recap | 7-10 |
| SOT 2027 Annual Meeting Preview | 11 |
| Current Events & Recent News | 12 |
| Closing Details | 13 |

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Exposure Specialty Section (ESS) members,

From scientific program to various events, the 2026 SOT Annual Meeting in San Diego was an incredible success. What makes SOT so unique is impossible to fully enumerate, however, inclusion of scientists from various backgrounds, providing a platform to demonstrate the cutting-edge science and tools, freedom to discuss new ideas/approaches in various sessions, creating opportunities for career advancement regardless of experience/expertise, dedication of all members to the mission and vision of SOT, and many wonderful opportunities created by the members and the officers to advance the science are among what first come to my mind.

If you are interested in being part of this amazing society and start contributing towards future SOT activities, please consider serving as an ESS officer or nominating someone. You can reach out to us via exposuresot@gmail.com for nominations. We have new positions available for Vice Graduate Student Representative (2-year term), Vice Postdoctoral Representative (2-year term), Junior Councilor (2-year term), Secretary and Treasurer (2-year term), and Vice President-Elect (4-year term) for the upcoming term starting May 1, 2027. I was incredibly fortunate to work with the phenomenal ESS officers throughout the years and cannot emphasize enough how dedicated the officers are to supporting SOT and ESS.

I'd like to give our membership an update on the achievements in 2025-2026 and exciting things to come for 2026-2027 for the ESS. We have accomplished a lot during the past year due to the diligent work of ESS officers. Speaking of which, I would like to acknowledge outgoing officers (2025-2026) and introduce our new officers for 2026-2027, so please see page 5. Over the past year, the ESS officers have contributed to the field of toxicology in a variety of ways including reviewing 9, and endorsing 9 proposals, 6 of those proposals made it into the 2026 program (for more details, please see page 10). As we get ready for the SOT 2027 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, ESS would like to encourage you to contribute to the scientific program by submitting sessions and CE course proposals. The deadline for SOT [submission](#) is due on *May 15, 2026*. ESS, **as the primary endorser**, was allotted one session of guaranteed acceptance for the 2027 Annual Meeting for the top ranked ESS session of our choice. If you are seeking endorsement from ESS, please consider sending your session proposals to ESS, exposuresot@gmail.com for pre-proposal (informal) review by *May 1, 2026*, to help you to develop competitive scientific session proposals. Pre-proposal review by ESS doesn't guarantee acceptance by SOT. For any questions, please reach out to the Exposure Specialty Section Executive Team (exposuresot@gmail.com).

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

There were so many amazing sessions and events going on at SOT this year, including the Exposure Poster session that took place on Tuesday March 24, 2026, and the Annual Mentoring Event, NetworX Night on Monday, March 23, 2026, which ESS contributed towards. As is our tradition, we reviewed applications for the ESS Student and Postdoc Travel Awards, Best Exposure Publication Recognition, and Best Exposure Abstract Recognition. We received a total of 15 Student Travel Award, 8 Postdoc Travel Award, 20 Best Publication Award, and 27 Best Abstract Award Applications via SOT's award application system. This task was not easy in any way, considering the phenomenal work accomplished by all the applicants. My thanks go to ESS officers and volunteers for their thorough review of the applications. Our sincere thanks go to [American Chemistry Council](#) for agreeing to sponsor the student and postdoc travel awards 3 years in a row! This award would not have been possible without their support. ESS recognized all the winners during our Luncheon on Monday, March 23, 2026, in San Diego with an achievement certificate and \$500 cash award for each travel award winner. In addition, ESS recognized best publication and outstanding abstracts focused on exposure research (page 7). The top 5 abstracts were acknowledged (page 7-8) with blue ribbons at the SOT Annual Meeting. Best publication and the top overall abstract also received a certificate at the luncheon (page 7).

In addition, our sincere gratitude goes to Dr. Paul DeLeo and Dr. Alison Pecquet for their generous donations to ESS. Our Specialty Section thrives with our members' support. If you would like to support the ESS or sponsor the awards that are provided to the young scientists, please consider [donating](#) to our Specialty Section.

Please follow our announcements to stay up to date with ESS events, the 2027 Annual Meeting deadlines, and upcoming award applications through our [Website](#) and [LinkedIn Page](#). We are looking forward to hearing your suggestions or ideas!

Sincerely,

Esra Mutlu, PhD, DABT
President
Exposure Specialty Section
2025-2026



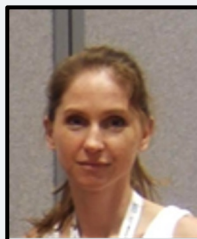
2025-2026 ESS OFFICERS



Neha Sunger
Past President



Esra Mutlu
President



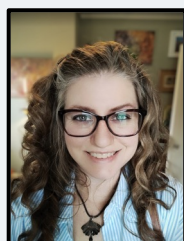
Marie Bourgeois
Vice President



Dan Conklin
Vice President-Elect



Paul DeLeo
Secretary/Treasurer



Alison Pecquet
Senior Councilor



Claire Hamaji
Junior Councilor



Elise Hickman
Postdoc Rep



Zakiyah Henry
Vice Postdoc Rep



Antonio Saporito
Grad Student Rep



Chloe Chou
Vice Grad Student Rep

Call to join an ESS Committee!

Not a member of the ESS Board?...That's okay! We will still have a number of opportunities for you to be involved in our Specialty Section! We are seeking members to volunteer for any ESS committee of your choosing:

1. Awards Committee
2. Communications Committee
3. Fundraising / Endowment Committee
4. Membership Committee
5. Nominations Committee
6. Program Committee
7. Webinar Committee

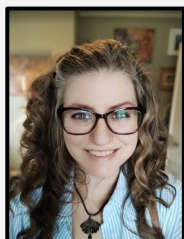
Click [here](#)
for more
information!

2026-2027 ESS OFFICERS

Thank you to our outgoing officers!



Neha Sunger
Past President



Alison Pecquet
Senior Councilor



Elise Hickman
Postdoc Rep

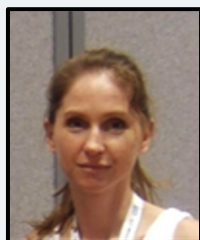


Antonio Saporito
Grad Student Rep

Say hello to our new officers for 2026 - 2027!



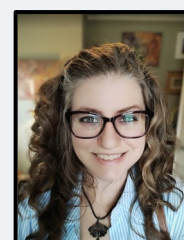
Esra Mutlu
Past President



Marie Bourgeois
President



Dan Conklin
Vice President



Alison Pecquet
Vice President-Elect



Paul DeLeo
Secretary/Treasurer



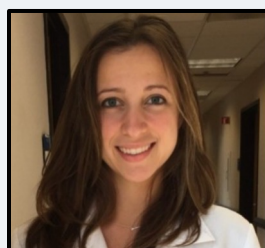
Claire Hamaji
Senior Councilor



Chelsea Weitekamp
Junior Councilor



Zakiyah Henry
Postdoc Rep



Eva Vitucci
Vice Postdoc Rep



Chloe Chou
Grad Student Rep



Sydnie Toler
Vice Grad Student Rep

OPEN POSITIONS FOR 2026-2027

Call for nominations!

The Exposure Specialty Section is seeking nominations for officers for 2027–2028. Please consider running for a position. It is a great way to impact exposure science at SOT and meet new colleagues! To self nominate, please send a note to ESS (exposuresot@gmail.com) by **November 14, 2026**.

The open positions include:

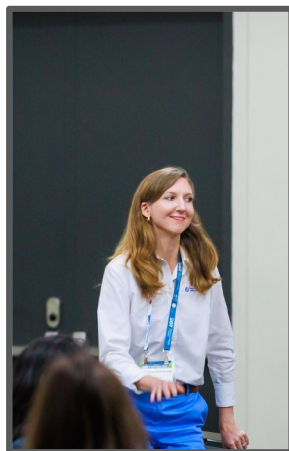
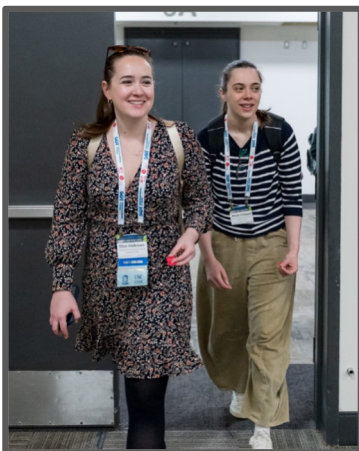
Vice President-Elect (4-year term)

Junior Councilor (2-year term)

Secretary and Treasurer (2-year term)

Vice Postdoctoral Representative (2-year term)

Vice Graduate Student Representative (2-year term)





SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP: SAN DIEGO

AWARD WINNERS

TRAVEL AWARDS



Postdoc: **Yongcheng Li** et al. for “From Numbers to Mechanisms: A Unified Framework for Interpreting and Predicting Urinary Excretion Fractions”



Graduate Student: **Kaylyn Dinh** et al. for “Assessing PFAS Exposure in Donor Human Milk Across Lactation Stages”

BEST PUBLICATION RECOGNITION



Puneet Vij, Min-Soo Kim et al. for “A Physiologically Based Kinetic Model for Quantifying Human Exposure to DEET.” *International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health*. 2025 July; DOI: 10.1016/j.ijheh.2025.114616.

BEST ABSTRACT RECOGNITION



Tri Huynh et al. for “Coexisting with Toxic Legacies: Assessing Soil Metal Levels, Sources, and Health Risks Associated with Living Amid Contamination Within a Superfund Site.”



Isha Mhatre-Winters et al. for “Association of Prenatal Pesticide Exposure with Plasma A β -42/40 and Cognitive Function in Midlife is Modified by APOE Genotype: Evidence from the CHDS cohort”



Erin Huber et al. for “Modeling repeated ENDS exposure response trajectories in adolescents using a co-culture model of the bronchial epithelium”



Nathalie Pham et al. for “USEtox modeling of children's exposures to potential endocrine disruptors in personal care products”



Chloe Chou et al. for “Deriving a Mixture of Combustible Materials in American Homes and Fire-prone Biomes to Elucidate the Toxicity of Wildland-Urban Interface Fires”

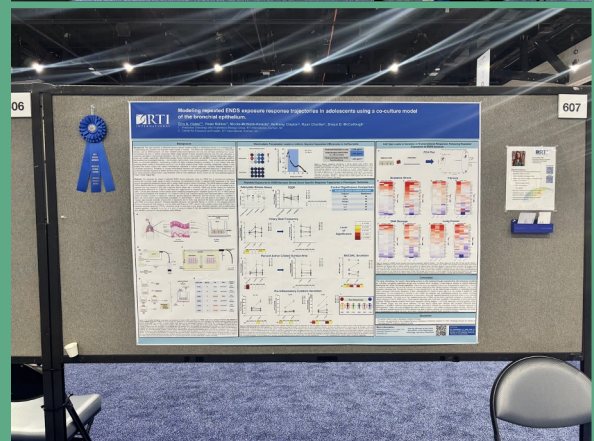
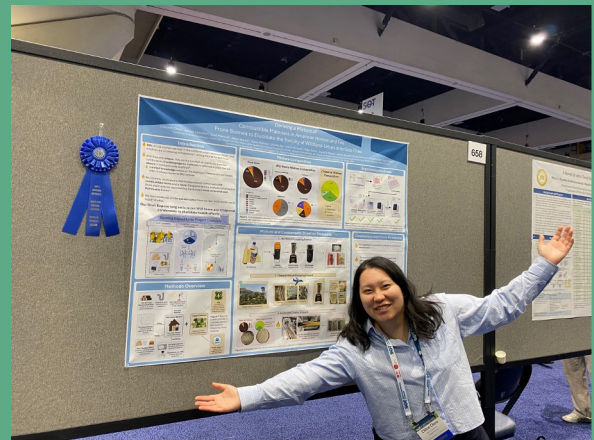
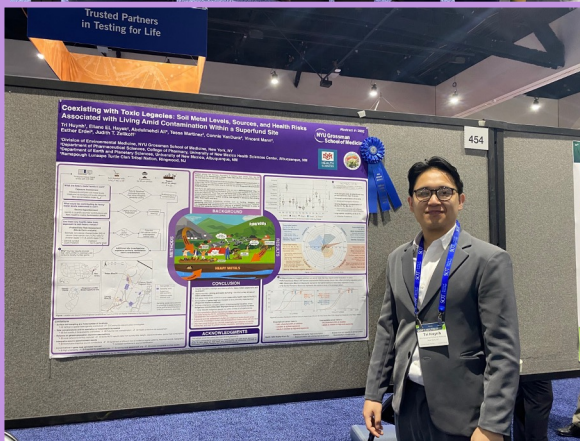




SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP: SAN DIEGO

BEST ABSTRACT HONOREES

We had a record-breaking number of 27 best abstract submissions this year!





SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP: SAN DIEGO

SESSIONS & EVENTS

There were 6 ESS-endorsed sessions, including 2 symposia, 1 workshop, 1 regional interest, and 2 informational sessions.



ESS co-sponsored the NetworX Night Mentoring Event with the CAMAN committee and numerous other Component Groups



Approx. 200 trainees and 70 mentors attended this rotation-style networking and mentoring event!



ESS hosted a luncheon, which was a great success!





SOT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP: SAN DIEGO

ENDORSED SESSIONS

| Session Title | Session Day | Session Type |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
| Wildland Urban Interface Fire: Beyond the Smoke: Exploring the Broader Environmental and Health Impacts | Monday | Informational |
| Chemical Exposures and At-Risk Populations in California | Monday | Regional Interest |
| Milk Matters: Assessing Breast Milk Through an Environmental Health Perspective | Tuesday | Symposium |
| New Frontiers in Reproductive Toxicology: Emerging Contaminants and Novel Mechanisms of Toxicity | Wednesday | Symposium |
| Optimizing Chemical Risk Assessment for Medical Device Biological Safety: Challenges, Progress, and Collaborative Opportunities | Wednesday | Workshop |
| Advancing Risk Communication: Strengthening Collaborations Between Toxicologists and Exposure Scientists in the Face of a Changing Regulatory Landscape | Wednesday | Informational |



SOT 2027 ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW

PROPOSAL REVIEW

As we get ready for the 2027 SOT Annual Meeting, ESS would like to encourage you to contribute to the scientific program by submitting session and CE course proposals. The deadline for proposal submission is **May 15, 2026**. ESS, as the primary endorser, is allotted one session of *guaranteed acceptance* for the 2027 Annual Meeting for the top ranked ESS session of our choice. If you are seeking endorsement from ESS, please consider sending your session proposals to ESS, **exposuresot@gmail.com** for pre-proposal (informal) review by **May 1st**. Pre-proposal review by ESS does not guarantee acceptance by SOT.

EVENTS

We plan to: continue having our virtual business meeting ahead of the Annual Meeting, host our annual luncheon where we are open to collaborating with other Specialty Sections, and collaborating with other Component Groups for a joint mentoring event next year!

AWARDS

We will continue to offer a number of awards to highlight important advancements in the field of exposure science and support trainee attendance at the meeting! These include Best Abstract Recognition, Best Publication Recognition, and Student and Postdoc Travel Awards. Award applications are typically due mid-January.



CURRENT EVENTS & RECENT NEWS

2025-2026 ESS WEBINARS

“A Harmonized Methodology for Deriving Occupational Biomonitoring Levels (OBL)” (October 21, 2025)

Speakers: Dr. Nancy Hopf (Universite de Lausanne) and Dr. Robert Pasanen-Kase (State Secretariat for Economic Affairs)

ESS and RASS Joint Webinar (February 11, 2026): “The Application of Non-Targeted Mobile Air Monitoring to Assess Volatile Organic Compounds in Non-Occupational Settings” presented by Dr. Eva Vitucci (Texas A&M University)

2026-2027 webinar planning has begun! Get excited to hear from our award winners and on new collaborative initiatives to enhance our membership and impact! Stay tuned!

- Links to slides and past webinar recordings can be found [here](#).

GET INVOLVED

- For more ESS news and updates, follow our [LinkedIn page](#).
- See SOT efforts in expressing support for science [here](#).

Support the Exposure Specialty Section: Calling our membership for contributions to directly support critical initiatives that strengthen our field and develop the next generation of professionals.

-  **Student & Postdoc Travel Award Program:** provides \$500 travel awards to one student and one postdoc annually
-  **Annual Meeting Enhancement Fund:** delivers high-impact programming: Professional Development Luncheons, Student Mentoring Programs, and Research Recognition Awards

Why We Need You: ESS operates without an endowment fund. Your donation directly supports our mission to advance exposure science and strengthen our professional community.

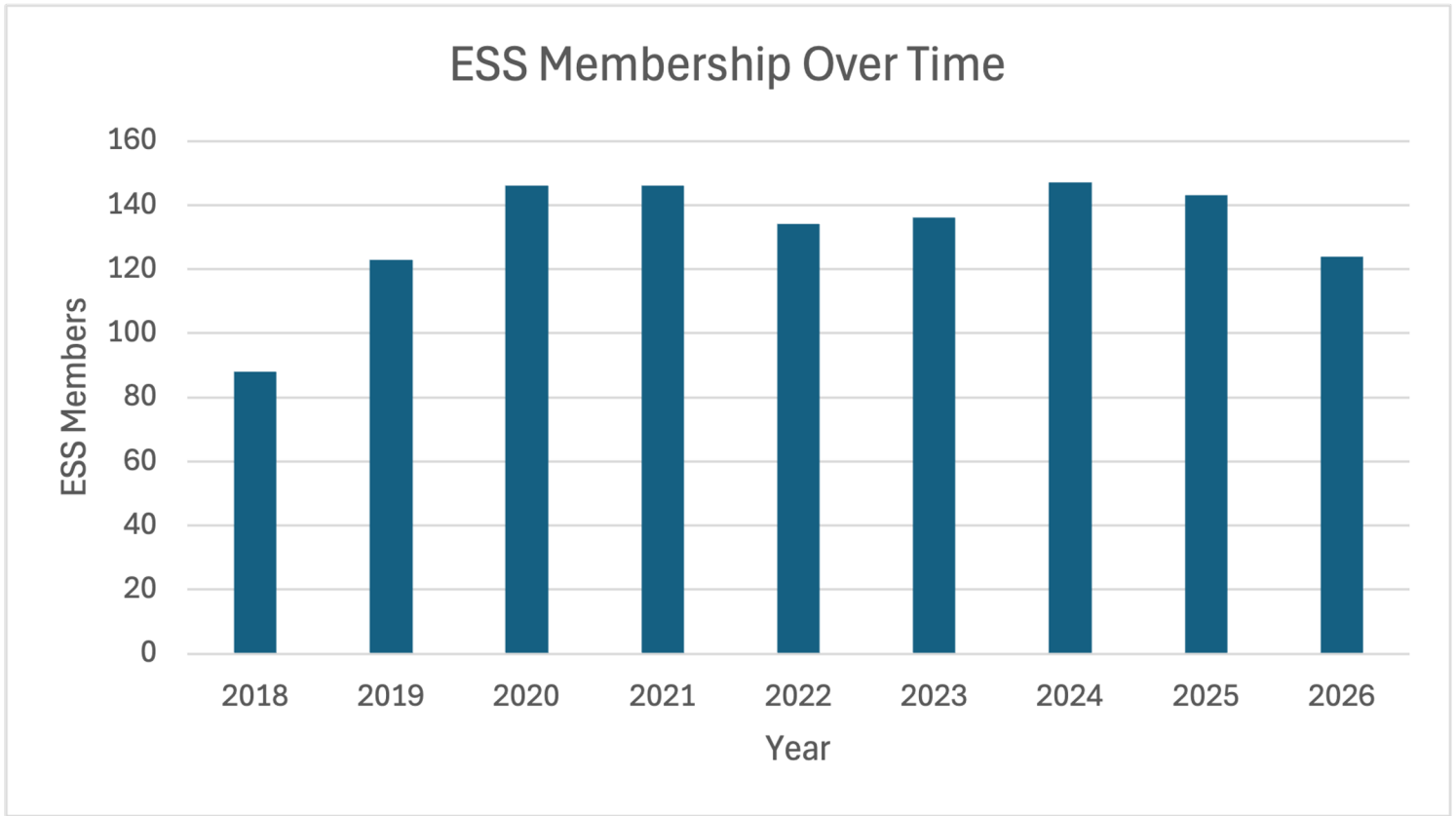


Please consider donating using this [link](#) or scan the QR code

CLOSING DETAILS

Membership Update

Membership in the SOT Exposure Specialty Section has been relatively stable over the past six years though there was a small dip during COVID and we may be seeing another dip now. Help spread the word about ESS so we can increase our membership!



Financial Update

The Exposure Specialty Section had net assets of \$5,951 at the start of calendar year 2026. We managed to limit our expenses for the 2026 Annual Meeting to approximately \$3,820, compared to \$4,291 for the 2025 Annual Meeting. Taking into account the \$1,000 dispersed covering two travel awards to the 2026 Annual Meeting, we anticipate having approximately \$1,131 coming out of the Annual Meeting.