

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION Immunotoxicology

## ANNUAL REPORT: 2016-2017

May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017

### I. Officers/Committees:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
President:	Rafael A Ponce	L. Peyton Myers
Vice President:	L. Peyton Myers	Victor J Johnson
Vice President-Elect:	Victor J Johnson	Jamie DeWitt
Secretary/Treasurer:	Kristen A Mitchell	Kristen A Mitchell
Past President	Danuta J Herzyk	Rafael Ponce
Councilors:	Cheryl E Rockwell	Haley Neff-LaFord
	Haley Neff-LaFord	Rodney Prell
PDA Representative:	Ashwini S Phadnis-Moghe	Angela Groves
GSLC Representative:	Aimee E Hillegas	Jiajun (Brian) Zhou

### Committees:

#### Awards Committee

Chair: Haley Neff-LaFord

Rod Prell

Marpe Bam

Robert Li

Gautham Rao

Bethany Winans

Guest judge (for any conflict of interest): Vic Johnson

#### Communication and Membership Committee

Chair: Kristen Mitchell

Angela Groves

Jiajun (Brian) Zhou

#### Education Committee

Chair: Jamie DeWitt

Cheryl Rockwell

Yu Feng

Aimee Hillegas

Bassam Kashgari

Ashwini Phadnis

Susan McKarns

Alex Turley

Joe Zagorski

### **Program Committee**

Chair: Jamie DeWitt  
Marpe Bam  
William Becker  
Saurabh Chatterjee  
M. Firoze Khan  
Rochelle Mikkelsen  
Ashwini Phadnis-Moghe  
Berran Yucesoy  
Brian Zhou

### **Past-Executives Committee**

Chair: Rafael Ponce  
Danuta Herzyk  
Jeanine Bussiere  
Mitch Cohen  
Leigh Ann Burns-Naas  
Gary Burleson

## **II. Activities:**

**2017 SOT Annual Meeting Reception** was held in Baltimore, Maryland on March 13, 2017. Approximately 160 people were in attendance. Dr. Peyton Myers called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 for the formal session.

### Awards

#### *Best Presentation by a Student*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place
  - Jessica Meyers, “Aryl hydrocarbon receptor activation during development reduces dendritic cell function later in life,” University of Rochester
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place
  - Alastair Mak, “Distinguishing the potential of chemically similar drugs to cause IDILI in an impaired immune tolerance model,” University of Toronto
- 3<sup>rd</sup><sup>d</sup> place (tie)
  - Joseph Henriquez, “Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) suppresses interferon- $\alpha$  (IFN $\alpha$ ) mediated activation of healthy and HIV infected T cells,” Michigan State University
  - Jiajun (Brian) Zhou Suppression of IgM response by 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) involves impairment of immunoglobulin secretion by human primary B cells,” Michigan State University

#### *Best Presentation by a Postdoctoral Trainee*

Dr. Anthony Franchini, University of Rochester, “Identification of novel gene targets of the aryl hydrocarbon receptor in dendritic cells in the context of viral infection.”

#### *Best Paper of the Year*

Melissa Bates, Christina Brandenberger, Ingeborg I. Langohr, Kazuyoshi Kumagai, Adam L. Lock, Jack R. Harkema, Andrij Holian and James J. Pestka. “Silica-Triggered Autoimmunity in Lupus-Prone Mice Blocked by Docosahexaenoic Acid Consumption.” PLOS One: 0160622 published ahead of print August 11, 2016

*Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI) Immunotoxicology Young Investigator Travel Award*

Dr. Anthony Franchini, University of Rochester, “Identification of novel gene targets of the aryl hydrocarbon receptor in dendritic cells in the context of viral infection.”

*Outstanding Young Investigator Award*

Dr. Robert Li, Genentech

*Outstanding Senior Investigator Award*

Dr. Steve Pruett, Mississippi State University

*Vos Award for Lifetime Career Achievement in Immunotoxicology*

Dr. Dori Germolec, Immunology Discipline Leader, Group Leader, Systems Toxicology. National Toxicology Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

2017 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions in Immunotoxicology:

- Symposium: Lifespan Neuroimmunotoxicology: Age-Dependent Neuroimmune Dyshomeostasis Caused by Pollutants, Pathogens and Psychoactive Substances. Chairs: Nick Filipov, University of Georgia; Vic Johnson, Bureson Research Technologies
- Workshop: Bispecific Molecules: Nonclinical and Clinical Development Challenges. Chairs: Pedro Del Valle, US FDA; Patricia Ryan, MedImmune, LLC
- Symposium: Chemically Induced Neuroinflammation and “Sickness Behavior” Disorders. Chairs: G. Jean Harry, NIEHS/NIH; James O’Callaghan, CDC-NIOSH
- Symposium: Emerging Concepts in Nonclinical Development of Immuno-Oncology Agents: Enabling Translation of Nonclinical Pharmacology and Safety Information to First-in-Human Clinical Trials. Chairs: Vijayapal Reddy, Eli Lilly and Company; Jacqueline Kinyamu-Akunda, Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research
- Symposium: The Skin As A Metabolic And Immune-Competent Organ: Implications for Pharmaceutical Development and Safety Assessment. Chairs: Yoshiro Saito, MHLW Japan; Jeanine Bussiere, Amgen, Inc.
- Symposium: Enhancing the Clinical Benefit of Cancer Drugs: Toxicity As a Therapeutic Target. Chairs: Cyril Pettit, HESI; Brian Berridge, GlaxoSmithKline
- Workshop: Biological Advances to Help Navigate the Nonclinical Safety Assessment Strategy in Cancer Immunotherapy: Utility, Limitations, and Future Direction. Chairs: Robert Li, Genentech; Jacintha Shenton, Janssen
- Platform Session: Ozone and Inflammation. Chairperson(s): Samir Kelada, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC and Sidhartha Ray, Manchester University College of Pharmacy, Fort Wayne, IN

- Poster Session: Immunotoxicology. Chairperson(s): Peer Karmaus, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN; and Jessica Meyers, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
- Poster Session: Autoimmunity/Hypersensitivity. Chairperson(s): Carsten Goebel, The Procter & Gamble Company, Schwalbach am Taunus, Germany; and Gangduo Wang, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX
- Poster Session: Inflammation in Disease. Chairperson(s): Joshua D. Chandler, Emory University, Atlanta, GA; and Mao Wang, St. John's University, Fresh Meadows, NY
- Poster Session: Inflammation: Methods and Mechanisms. Chairperson(s): Shanice V. Hudson, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY; and Souvarish Sarkar, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

#### 2017 Annual Meeting Mentorship event

This year's membership was attended by about 25 students. Mentors volunteering for the event included:

Sarah Blossom, University of Arkansas  
 Paige Lawrence, University of Rochester  
 Stacey Anderson, NIOSH  
 Kristina Howard, FDA  
 Danuta Herzyk, Merck  
 Helen Haggerty, BMS  
 Marie-Soleil Piche, CRL  
 Vic Johnson, BRT

Endowment funds (as of March 31, 2017):

- HESI Endowment Fund: \$58,449
- Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Award Fund: \$31,620 (note: new fund as of 2017)

Newsletters: Summer, Fall and Pre-SOT bulletins issued in October 2016, January 2017, and March 2017, respectively.

Teleseminars: None

White Papers: None

Contributions to SOT website: Newsletters, Updates on ITSS membership and awards

#### **Other Specialty Section 2016-2017 Activities:**

1. Conducted monthly teleconferences of the Executive Committee members

2. Refined best practices documents for awards and program committees, with an emphasis on increasing efficiency and becoming more pro-active
3. Continued the “Past-Executives Committee” to assist Executive Committee in broad initiatives of general interest to the goals ITSS, including identification of nominees for key awards, development of a long-term vision for ITSS, and ITSS membership engagement.
4. Co-hosted an ILSI/HESI immunology/immunotoxicology 2-3 day workshop with the goal of providing attendees with basic immunology education and case studies for education/discussion. The ILSI meeting was in Gaithersburg, MD in April 2017. ITSS awarded one student and one post-doc travel awards for the meeting.
5. Received a generous donation to help establish a new ITSS Endowment Fund: “Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Award Fund.” ITSS will work to increase the fund value to the minimum (\$50,000) over the next 3 years to establish the fund as permanent. The goal of the fund is to encourage and recognize graduate students and postdoctoral scholars for their excellence in research involving mechanisms of immunomodulation in health and disease.
6. Maintained ITSS membership in the 2016-17 period
7. Continued to participate in the ITSS International Committee. Dr. Vic Johnson presented a talk as the ITSS representative at the Japanese Society of Immunotoxicology annual meeting in 2016 in part with SOT travel support through the Global Initiatives funding mechanism.
8. Held face-to-face breakfast meeting of the Executive Committee, March 13, 2017.