

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION Immunotoxicology

## **ANNUAL REPORT: 2018-2019**

May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019

### **I. Officers/Committees:**

Officers	2017-2018	2018-2019
President:	Victor J Johnson	Jamie C DeWitt
Vice President:	Jamie C DeWitt	Emanuela Corsini
Vice President-Elect:	Emanuela Corsini	Mark Collinge
Secretary/Treasurer:	Stacey E Anderson	Stacey E Anderson
Past President	Laine Peyton Myers	Victor J Johnson
Councilors:	Rodney Prell	Jessica L Lynch
	Jessica L Lynch	Jennifer Wheeler
PDA Representative:	Angela Groves	Alessandro Venosa
GSLC Representative:	Jiajun Zhou	Alexa Murray

Committees:

#### **Awards Committee**

Chair: Jessica Lynch

Jeanine Bussiere

Emanuela Corsini

Nikolay Filipov

Todd Jusko

M. Firoze Khan

Lisa Miller

Haley Neff-Laford

James Pestka

Rod Prell

Holly Skaggs

Jennifer Wheeler

Berran Yucesoy

Jia Zhenquan

#### **Communication and Membership Committee**

Chair: Jennifer Wheeler

Alexa Murray

Alessandro Venosa

#### **Education Committee**

Chair: Mark Collinge

Stefanie Burleson

Amy Sharma

Alessandro Venosa

Alexa Murray  
Jessica Lynch

**Program Committee**

Chair: Emanuela Corsini  
Nada Alakhras  
Sarah Blossom  
Weimin Chen  
Peer Karmaus  
Tracey Papenfuss  
Ashwini Phadnis-Moghe  
Cheryl Rockwell

**Scientific Advisory Committee**

Chair: Victor Johnson  
Mark Collinge  
Emanuela Corsini  
Jamie DeWitt

**II. Activities:**

**2019 SOT Annual Meeting Reception** was held in Baltimore, Maryland on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 from 6-7:30 pm.

Approximately 175 people were in attendance.

Dr. Jamie DeWitt called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30pm on March 13, 2019.

Business Meeting Speaker: N/A

Meeting Minutes: Please follow the link to the presentation on ToXchange.

**Awards:**

*Best Presentation by a Student*

Robert A. Freeborn, “The synthetic food additive tBHQ impairs host-defense to influenza infection, Michigan State University.

*Best Presentation by a Postdoctoral Trainee*

Dr. Lance K. Blevins, “Identification and characterization of a sensitive immunologic target of TCDD: CD5+ innate-like B cells,” Michigan State University.

*Best Paper of the Year Award*

Heedoo Lee, Duo Zhang, Debra L. Laskin, and Yang Jin, “Functional evidence of pulmonary extracellular vesicles in infectious and noninfectious lung inflammation,” Boston University and Rutgers University.

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

Dr. Yining Jing, Michigan State University.

*Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Travel Award  
(distributed through Operating Funds)*

**Student Award Recipient:** Brian Zhou, Michigan State University.

**Postdoctoral Award Recipient:** Dr. Hui Wang, University of Texas Medical Branch.

*Outstanding Young Investigator Award*

Dr. Jonathan H. Shannahan, Purdue University.

*Outstanding Senior Investigator Award*

Dr. Raymond H. H. Pieters, Universiteit Utrecht.

*Vos Lifetime Career Achievement Award in Immunotoxicology*

Dr. G. Frank Gerberick.

### **2019 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions:**

#### *Continuing Education Courses:*

“Microbiome and Environmental Toxicants: From Study Design and Analysis to Regulatory Guidance;” Chaired by Sarah J. Blossom and Cheryl Rockwell.

“Mechanistic Understanding and Quantitative Risk Assessment in Immunotoxicology;” Chaired by Emanuela Corsini and Jamie DeWitt.

#### *Symposia:*

“The Current Application, Limitations, and Recent Advances in Humanized Mouse Models for Evaluations of Immune Function and Pre-Clinical Immunotoxicology Studies” Chaired by Mark Collinge and Michael Brehm.

“Immune-Epithelial Cell Crosstalk in Lung Toxicology and Disease;” Chaired by Alessandro Venosa and Andrew Gow.

#### *Workshops:*

“Understanding the Impact on the Immune System of Occupationally-Relevant Exposures to Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes;” Chaired by Nigel Walker and Vic Johnson.

*Posters* Autoimmunity and Hypersensitivity chaired by Gangduo Wang (University of Texas Medical Branch).

- Immunotoxicity chaired by Hasan Alghetaa (University of South Carolina School of Medicine), Emanuela Corsini (University of Milan), Colleen McLoughlin (Scivera LLC), Rachel Frawley (NIEHS/NTP).
- Inflammation chaired by Deepa Ashwarya Kuttappan (University of Connecticut) and Lynette Rogers (Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital).

#### *Late-Breaking Sessions:*

- Carcinogenesis; Cardiovascular, Immunotoxicity, Inflammation, Late-Breaking Session #2.

*2019 Annual Meeting Mentorship event:*

This year's mentoring event was attended by about 15 young immunotoxicologists who were able to deeply engage with a variety of mentors across sectors. Mentors volunteering for the event included:

**Academia:**

Judith Zelikoff, NYU

Jamie DeWitt, ECU

**Industry:**

Jessica Lynch (Janssen/J&J)

Gregory Ladics (DuPont)

Ellen Evans (Pfizer)

**CRO:**

Christina Satterwhite (CRL)

Florence Burleson (Burleson Research Technologies, Inc.)

**Regulatory:**

Peyton Myers (US-FDA)

David McMillan (US-FDA)

**Endowment Fund Details (as of December, 2018):**

Health and Environmental Science Institute (HESI) Immunotoxicology Award Endowment Fund: \$64,058, which is a gain of \$2,123 from 2017-2018. Travel award funds of \$500 were disbursed.

Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Award Fund: \$47,850, which is a gain of \$4,699.

**Newsletters:**

Summer Newsletter – Published in July 2019.

Pre-SOT Newsletter – Published in February 2019.

**Teleseminars:** N/A

**White Papers:** N/A

**Contributions to SOT website:** N/A

**Other Specialty Section 2018-2019 Activities:**

1. Continued to hold monthly teleconferences of Executive Committee members and maintained meeting minutes for teleconferences.
2. Maintained a DropBox account for ITSS document sharing and storage for Executive Committee business. Allows for continuity from outgoing to incoming Executive Committee.
3. Refined best practices documents for all committees and published 2019 versions.
4. Continued to promote and campaign for the “Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Award Fund” endowment fund. Very close to bringing the funds to the minimum (\$50,000) by 2020 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.
5. Maintained ITSS membership in the 2018-2019 term.

6. Strengthened and expanded the ITSS International Committee. The ITSS-JSIT collaboration resulted in submission of a symposium for the 2018 SOT meeting that was accepted. As part of the collaboration, Dr. B. Paige Lawrence presented a Special Lecture as the ITSS delegate at the Japanese Society of Immunotoxicology annual meeting in 2018 in Tsukuba, Japan. ITSS was successful in helping Dr. Lawrence obtain travel support through the SOT Global Initiatives funding mechanism.
7. A face-to-face Immunotoxicology Specialty Section Executive Committee meeting was held on Monday March 11, 2019, at the annual SOT meeting.