

**Immunotoxicology Specialty Section  
Annual report: 2007-2008**

## I. Introduction

<b>Officers</b>	2006-2007	2007-2008
President	Mitchell D. Cohen	Stephen B. Pruet
Vice President	Stephen B. Pruet	Jeanine L. Bussiere
Vice President-Elect	Jeanine L. Bussiere	Jean Regal
Secretary-Treasurer	Helen V. Ratajczak	Helen V. Ratajczak
Past President	Kenneth L. Hastings	Mitchell D. Cohen
Councilors	Gregory S. Ladics (Senior) Rodney R. Dietert	Rodney R. Dietert (Senior) Danuta Herzyk
Student Representative	Alice (Sheung) Ng	Alice (Sheung) Ng
Post-Doc Representative	Jamie DeWitt	Stacey Anderson

### Committee Rosters

#### Program

Jeanine Bussiere (Chair)	Jean Regal (Chair)
Tony Arulanandam	Tony Arulanandam
Robert Caldwell	Sarah Blossom
Girish Ramdas Chaudhari	Nikolay Filipov
Jamie DeWitt	Deborah Finco-Kent
Dori Germolec	Barb Kaplan
Andrij Holian	Ian Kimber
M. Firoze Khan	Raj Krishnaraj
Ian Kimber	David Lawrence
Gregory S. Ladics	Lynne LeSauteur
Lynne LeSauteur	Lin Mantell
Tina Satterwhite	Prakash Nagarkatti
Allen Silverstone	Keiko Nohara
Petia Simeonova	Marc Pallardy
Mike Woolhiser	Lisa Ryan
<b>De Facto Members</b>	Jennifer Schlezinger
Kathy Sarlo	MaryJane Selgrade
Steve Pruet	Lewis Shi
Mitch Cohen	Mike Woolhiser
	<b>De Facto Members</b>
	Courtney Sulentic (CE Committee)
	Steve Pruet
	Jeanine Bussiere

#### Membership

George DeGeorge (Chair)	George DeGeorge (Chair)
Steve Bloom	Venkatesh Hegde
Marsha Ward	Cherie Pucheu-Haston
Courtney Sulentic	Marsha Ward
Peyton Myers	

	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>
<b><u>Communications</u></b>	Susan McKarns (Chair) Cynthia Graham Mike Kleinman Courtney Sulentic Xing-Dong Zhang	Susan McKarns (Chair) Jamie DeWitt Kathleen Gilbert Cynthia Graham Nancy Kerkvliet Margie Peden-Adams Sabine Teske
<b><u>Education</u></b>	Judy Zelikoff (Chair) Steve Bloom Girish Ramdas Chaudhari Mike Kleinman Kristen Mitchell Jennifer Schlezinger MaryJane Selgrade Courtney Sulentic	Judy Zelikoff (Chair) David Lawrence Lin Mantell Yanli Ouyang MaryJane Selgrade Haizhou Zhang
<b><u>Awards</u></b>	Gregory S. Ladics (Chair) Rod Dietert Dan Arrieta Linda Carlock Nick Filipov Michelle Horner M. Firoze Khan Padma Kumar Narayanan Yanli Ouyang Tina Satterwhite MaryJane Selgrade Allen Silverstone Petia Simeonova	Rodney R. Dietert (Chair) Danuta Herzyk Yong Joo Chung George DeGeorge Jamie DeWitt Michelle Horner Vic Johnson Mitzi Nagarkatti Margie Peden-Adams Tina Satterwhite Lewis Shi Courtney Sulentic Sabine Teske
<b><u>Regulatory</u></b>	Peter T. Thomas (Chair) Tony Arulanandam Girish Ramdas Chaudhari Cynthia Graham Danute Herzyk Michelle Horner Susan Makris Peyton Myers Tina Satterwhite Allen Silverstone Michael Taylor	Peter T. Thomas (Chair) Chidozie Amuzie Tony Arulanandam Rod Dietert Robert Gogal, Jr. Ken Hastings Bob Lange Ji-Eun Lee Susan Makris Peyton Myers Courtney Sulentic Jeffrey Tepper Haizhou Zhang

**Immunotoxicology Pool of Lecturers (NEW)**

Judy Zelikoff (Organizer)  
Leigh Ann Burns-Naas  
Mitch Cohen  
Rod Dietert  
Ken Draper  
Deborah Finco-Kent  
Kathleen Gilbert  
Ken Hastings  
Robert House  
Norb Kaminski  
Ian Kimber  
Nancy Kerkvliet  
Raj Krishnaraj  
David Lawrence  
Mike McCabe  
Mitzi Nagarkatti  
Prakash Nagarkatti  
Margie Peden-Adams  
Joseph Piccotti  
Helen Ratajczak  
Jean Regal  
Maryjane Selgrade

**II. Activities**

**Immunotoxicology Specialty Section Executive Committee Meeting  
MINUTES, SOT 2007 National Meeting, Charlotte, NC  
March 27, 2007**

Attendees: Mitch Cohen, Steve Pruett, Jeanine Bussiere, Jean Regal, Helen Ratajczak, Ken Hastings, Greg Ladics, Rod Dietert, Danuta Herzyk, Judy Zelikoff, Alice Ng, Susan McKarns,

**I. Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM at Harry and Jean's Restaurant**

**II. Introductions**

New officer introductions

Jean Regal as Vice President-Elect

Danuta Herzyk as Junior Councilor

**III. Old Business**

A. Approval of 2006 Executive Committee meeting minutes (moved Cohen, seconded Hastings, approved).

B. Financial update – Overall: budget is in good shape, though – as always - several “defunct” IMTOX members are still being chased down. The official Financial Update was given by Helen Ratajczak, comparing the report of 2005 to that of 2006. There

were increases of total income of \$99, expenses, \$512, and net assets at the end of the year of \$2,076, with the total net assets, as of December 31, 2006 or \$15,824.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **A. Program Committee**

Recommendations to National:

Two roundtables

Six symposia

No workshops or CE; the latter situation was discussed and ideas floated to see if a CE proposal could be generated in the relatively short time left before National SOT deadline.

Endorsed Roundtable discussions were “Immunotoxicity Testing: Should elevated antibody responses be interpreted as an indicator of immunotoxicological hazard?” [R Luebke, M Holsapple], and “Application of the ICH S8 Immunotoxicology Testing Guideline in Drug Development” [P Singh and T Kawabata]. Endorsed symposia are “The Allergic March: The Role of Chemicals in the Increasing Prevalence of Allergy and Asthma” [I Kimber, B Nemery], “Natural Killer cells as targets of drugs, toxicants and biologicals” [Raj Krishnaraj, Stephen Pruett], and Ligation of Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptor alpha: Impacts on the Immune System” [J DeWitt, R Luebke]. Symposia for review are “Linking hormone-like xenobiotics in the environment to immune dysfunction [C Rice, F Kayama], and “Mechanisms of Pseudoallergic/Infusion Reactions and Predictive Testing Approaches” [T Kawabata, R Caldwell]. The Symposium on hold for 2009 is “Protein Adducts of Xenobiotics in Organ Toxicity and Autoimmunity” [M Firoze Khan, L Pohl, J Utrecht].

The JSIT has chosen Dr. Fujio Kayama to come to the USA, and we had to find a match (Dr. Charlie Rice). Ken Hastings and Rod Dietert were chosen to represent the USA in Kobe in 2007; for the meeting in Baltimore in 2009, the JSIT has already chosen a representative (Keiko Nohara).

##### **B. Awards**

There were many more nominees for awards this year: 13 for student awards (compared to none last year), 4 for post-doc awards, and 5 for paper of the year.

- i. Two post-doc awards will be given this year, along with three student awards.
- ii. A Young Investigator Award will be given this year. Rules governing the eligibility for this award were returned to the original wordings and approved by vote of the SS members during 2006.
- iii. Career Achievement Award (renamed Vos Award in 2006) will be given this year. Judy Zelikoff suggested we give winners of the Vos Award a guideline of what sort of program would be preferred, e.g., 10 or 15 min, etc. for acceptance speech.

##### **C. Education Committee**

Judy has further provided shape to a speaker's bureau to provide members of the SS who need speakers with particular expertise. Some issues related to establishing such a list - including funding for travel, being vetted by national, and getting people on the

list – have been resolved and others still remain to be tackled. The Education Committee will continue to work toward making this bureau a reality in the near term.

**D. Student/post-doctoral representation**

The SS will continue to try to have one student and one PD representative and will serve as a model SS for this route of student representation.

**E. Communications Committee**

Susan announced that the special tribute Newsletter to Dr. Jeff Vos was complete and ready to unveil at the evening's Business Meeting.

**F. Regulatory Committee – Chair Peter Thomas absent**

**G. Membership Committee – Chair George DeGeorge absent**

**H. WWW Committee – Chair Peyton Myers absent**

**General Specialty Section Issues** (Mitch Cohen): There are feelers out for establishing collaborations (along the lines of that with the JSIT) with more international groups, e.g. China, Singapore, Australia. There is expected to be external funding (i.e., SOT National, some from Informa/T&F) for such efforts. The subject of maintenance of membership levels (and the ongoing problems with same due to issues at SOT National level) was also raised anew. The possibility of establishing a mechanism to bring a European PD to the annual meetings was also discussed. This led to suggestions that our SS try to increase funding opportunities (and the mechanism for determining who would receive same) for students/PDs from North America.

PostDoc Rep. Jamie DeWitt announced that the Student Mixer is from 7:30-9:30 PM at RiRa Pub.

After the question of role of the Junior Councilor was raised by Danuta Herzyk, Greg Ladics and Rod Dietert both said that one major function of the junior councilors was to be responsible for getting all the award plaques.

Ken Hastings said that Elaine Knight will soon be a Councilor at SOT National. He reported that there had been suggestions that the name of SOT be changed to the Society of Toxicology and Environmental Health.

**Annual Business (Evening) Meeting**

The Annual Business Meeting was held at the Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Approximately 200+ people from 40 states were in attendance. Dr. Mitch Cohen called the meeting to order at ≈6:00 on 3/27/06. The program is described in brief below:

**Major Events and News Covered During the Session:****Awards**

- Vos Award for Career Achievement in Immunotoxicology: Dr. Nancy Kerkvliet
- Outstanding Young Investigator Award: Dr. Jean Pfau
- Post Doctoral Presentation: Venkatesh Hedge (First Place), Lewis Shi (Second Place)
- Student Presentation: Lauren Tarantino (First Place), Alice Ng (Second Place), Ava Rhule (Third Place)
- Paper of the Year: Camacho IA, Singh N, Hegde VL, Nagarkatti M, Nagarkatti PS. Treatment of mice with 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin leads to aryl hydrocarbon receptor-dependent nuclear translocation of NF- $\kappa$ B and expression of Fas ligand in thymic stromal cells and consequent apoptosis in T-cells. *J. Immunol.* 2005 175:90-103.
- Special Recognition Award - to Brenda House – in recognition for all her services in helping to create and shape the SS Newsletter into the great form it has now.

**Financial Report**

	<u>July 2005 – June 2006</u>	<u>June 2006 – February 2007</u>
<b>Income</b>		
Contributions	\$ 500	---
Dues	4,005	---
Registration	4,305	---
Interest	<u>747</u>	<u>754</u>
Total Income	\$9,557	754
<b>Expense</b>		
Awards – Plaques	727	---
Executive Meetings	641	---
Newsletter	200	---
Miscellaneous	---	612
Reception	3,699	---
Symposia	<u>1,801</u>	<u>---</u>
Total Expense	\$7,068	612
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$13,193	15,683
Net Assets End of Year	\$15,683	\$15,824

**Special Tribute to Jeff Vos**

Dr. Mike Luster officially unveiled the Special SS Newsletter dedicated to Dr. Jeff Vos and also led a tribute and toast to him in which all attendees took part.

**Special Report on Status of NIH Grant Review Process**

Drs. Jerry Heindel and Steve Pruett spoke to the attendees about the situation currently in place for immunotoxicology grants being submitted to NIH-funding agencies.

**Report on IMTOX-JSIT Exchange Program**

Mitch reported to the attendees about the status of the growing collaborations between our two groups. He also announced the selection of this year's IMTOX members who will present at the 2007 JSIT meeting in Kobe, Japan - Drs. Ken Hastings and Rod Dietert on the subject area of Developmental Immunotoxicology. Mitch also announced that the JSIT has selected their designees for the upcoming Seattle and Baltimore National SOT meetings and that efforts are underway to pair each with an IMTOX member to help create a symposium for the JSIT member to co-chair.

**Report on Continuing Education Representation**

Leigh Ann Burns Naas reported she is rotating off the CE Committee and that Courtney Sulentic was coming in as a new member. For CE courses, Immunotoxicology is usually very good, with best-attended sessions on immunogenicity and allergy. The deadline for online forms for CE courses is April 30. There are stringent guidelines. Send proposals to Jeanine Bussiere. Leigh Ann also announced that the session by Yanli Ouyang and Lynn LeSauter had the highest attendance of this year's CE courses. Mitch asked Yanli and Lynn to stand up and be recognized by the attendees. He also said that this was a fine example to all the younger members of the SS of the great opportunities for them to organize and run sessions in future SOT meetings.

**Report on Communications Committee Pre-Meeting Info Packet**

The packet of information sent out to members before the SOT meeting was very helpful. Information about sessions and posters involving immunotoxicology were culled from the program and put into the packet. This saved members a great deal of time, and was very useful. Mitch asked the attendees to applaud the efforts of Susan McKarns and her committee on this greatly appreciated packet of info.

**Report on New Pool of Lecturers Program**

Speakers are being recruited for the Speakers' (Pool of Lecturers) Bureau. The speakers would give lectures to various groups or students in courses around the nation on an as-needed (subject matter) basis. Please respond to Judy Zelikoff if you want to be on the Speakers' Bureau's list, and indicate the topics you would like to cover, and the number of miles you would be willing to travel.

**Report on Increasing Opportunities for European PDs and North American students and/or PDs to Attend National Meeting**

Mitch announced that efforts were initiated to try to obtain international travel money for European students. He also noted the desire of an increased possibility of increasing the numbers of North American students (with matching funds from SOT) to receive travel monies to attend the SOT Annual Meetings.

### **III. Future Plans (Steve Pruett)**

- Enhancing collaborations with Immunotoxicology societies from around the world
- Recruitment of participants to give lectures in Immunotoxicology courses when needed
- Establishing a program to obtain financial contributions to help our Section cover costs
- Offering assistance to the SOT Task Force on NIH Study Section reorganization. An ad hoc committee has already been formed for this purpose.