

ANNUAL REPORT: 2009-2010

May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010

I. Officers/Committees:

Officers:	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
President:	Jeanine Bussiere	Jean F. Regal
President-elect:	Jean F. Regal	Leigh Ann Burns Naas
Vice President:	Leigh Ann Burns Naas	Rod Dietert
Secretary/Treasurer	Helen Ratajczak	Jacintha Shenton
Councilors:	Danuta Herzyk	Marc Pallardy
	Marc Pallardy	Wendy Komocsar
<i>Past-President</i>	Stephen B. Pruitt	Jeanine Bussiere
SAC Representative:	Haitian Lu	Haitian Lu
PDA Representative:	Stacey Anderson	Stacey Anderson

Committees and Chairs for 2009/2010:

Communications: Susan McKarns (website liaison)

Education (and Pool of Lecturers): Judy Zelikoff

Membership: George DeGeorge

Regulatory: Peter Thomas

International Exchange: Mitch Cohen

Program Committee: Rod Dietert

Awards Committee: Marc Pallardy

Other

Newsletter typesetter: Peyton Myers

Compilation of newsletter citations: Haley Neff-LaFord

Ad hoc committee on NIH Study Section: Steve Pruitt

II. Activities

2010 SOT Annual Meeting Reception was held in Salt Lake City, Utah on March 9, 2010 from 6-8 pm with approximately 200-250 people in attendance. Dr. Jean Regal called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM on March 9. Thanks to accommodations from SOT we were allowed to extend our reception an extra half hour to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section (ImTox SS). Extra specials for this SOT meeting thanks to the work of the 25th Anniversary Committee included:

- A commemorative slide show of Specialty Section members and events from the past 25 years
- Decorations on the podium and tables at the reception
- 25th Anniversary cupcakes
- Group photo of Past Presidents (16 in attendance) with presentation of an engraved business card holder

- Signage displayed at all ImTox-sponsored scientific sessions to commemorate 25 years of the Specialty Section
- Article in the SOT Communiqué and editorial to be published in Toxicological Sciences about 25 years of the ImTox SS.
- PreSOT bulletin announcing ImTox SS business that would normally be announced at the ImTox SS reception so that more time was devoted to the celebration

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes: Attached

2010 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions: Complete listing available at the Immunotox website, http://www.toxicology.org/ISOT/SS/imtox/am_programs.asp

Newsletters: Published 3 times per year by the Specialty Section Secretary/Treasurer with typesetting by Peyton Myers, ImTox citation compilation by Haley Neff-LaFord and electronic distribution. Past newsletters are posted on the ImTox SS website.

First HESI Endowment Fund Award: The first Health and Environmental Science Institute (HESI) Immunotoxicology Young Investigator Travel Award was presented in Salt Lake City. This endowment fund was established in 2008 thanks to the efforts of Past President Jeanine Bussiere and a substantial donation by HESI. The first award winner this year was Megumi Maeda, Ph.D., Kawasaki Medical School, Kurashiki, Okayama, Japan. She was awarded \$1000 to offset travel expenses related to attendance at the SOT meeting.

ImTox SS Reception Minutes 2010 SOT Annual Meeting

Time/Location: Tuesday March 9th 2010; 6-8 pm, SLC Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT

1. Dr. Jean Regal thanked the 25th Anniversary Committee

- a) Dr. Leigh Ann Burns Naas
- b) Dr. Rod Dietert
- c) Dr. Jeanine Bussiere
- d) Dr. Jacintha Shenton
- e) Dr. Peyton Myers
- f) Dr. Marc Pallardy
- g) Dr. Wendy Komocsar
- h) Dr. Stacey Anderson
- i) Haitian Lu
- j) Dr. Dori Germolec

2. Announcement of New Officers

- a) Vice-President Elect – Dr. Greg Ladics
- b) Junior Councilor – Dr. Kazuichi Nakamura
- c) Postdoc Rep – Dr. Jennifer Franko
- d) Student Rep – Xiaochu (Chu) Zhang

3. Location/Time of the ImTox SS Student/Postdoc Mixer was broadcast

4. Update on NIH Study Section

In the fall of 2009, SOT had discussions with the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) at NIH regarding review of toxicology grants. CSR appointed Dr. Seymour Garte the Director of CSRs Division of Physiological and Pathological Sciences. Input from the Toxicology community was solicited regarding the 1 year trial period for the SIEE (Systemic Injury by Environmental Exposure) Study Section. The IRG Subcommittee of the ImTox SS was re-activated – chaired by Steve Pruett – and a general letter of support for SIEE from the Immunotoxicology SS was submitted. In addition, more than a dozen individual letters of support were submitted by ImTox SS members.

a) IRG Subcommittee members:

Stephen Pruett
Norbert Kaminski
Deborah Keil
Paige Lawrence
Judy Zelikoff
Prakash Nagarkatti

Unfortunately, despite these efforts, SIEE is gone. Per Steve Pruett's discussions with Dr. Garte in February 2010, immunotoxicology grants will generally be assigned to the following Study Sections: LIRR – Lung Injury Repair and Remodeling, XNDA – Xenobiotic and Nutrient Disposition and Action, III – Innate Immunity and Inflammation. Contact information for these Study Sections was provided.

Although these study sections will add toxicology expertise, the number of permanent members who are toxicologists will depend on the number of grants submitted. Therefore, the general membership was advised to request one of the above study sections in the cover letter of the submission following careful examination of the areas of expertise represented on each panel. The Scientific Review Officer (SRO) can be consulted to help with this decision. If examples of inappropriate reviewer comments are found which seem to reflect lack of knowledge or appreciation for the toxicology components of the application then these should be pointed out to the SRO. The SRO knows that the handling of these applications will be carefully scrutinized and will be sensitive to these types of concerns.

5. Program Proposals 2011

Dr. Rod Dietert and the Program Committee were thanked for their efforts in reviewing the proposals for 2011.

Recommended symposia by initial ranking:

- a) Environmental ROS-Producing Pollutants-Induced Pulmonary Toxicity
Co-chairs – Lin Mantell and Judy Zelikoff
- b) Immune Dysfunction and Metabolic Syndrome

Co-chairs – Judy Zelikoff and Rod Dietert

c) Protein Adducts of Xenobiotics in Organ Toxicity and Autoimmunity
Co-chairs – Firoze Khan and TBA

d) Chemical and Particulate Matters: Adjuvant of the Immune Response
Co-chairs – Marc Pallardy and Raymond Pieters

e) T-Lymphocyte Recognition of Chemicals in Immune-Mediated Diseases
Co-chairs – Marc Pallardy and Norbert Kaminski

Recommended workshops:

a) Identification of Chemical Respiratory Allergens: Principles and Practice (Joint JSIT/ISS proposal).
Co-chairs – Takahiko Yoshida and Ian Kimber

b) Autoimmunity vs. Hypersensitivity
Co-chairs – Raymond Pieters and Dori Germolec

Recommended CE courses:

a) Drug Hypersensitivity Risk Assessment and Management
Chair – Thomas Kawabata

6. *ImTox SS Pool of Lecturers*

Dr. Judy Zelikoff is the Director of this program which was established to provide lecturers for teaching/training of future Immunotoxicologists. Funds are available on a first come, first served basis from the ImTox SS to assist with the travel costs of the lecturer. The amount of support is based on the ImTox SS annual budget. New lecturer's are welcome and should contact Judy Zelikoff to get involved.

7. *Website Updates*

a) Thanks to Susan McKarns and the Communications Committee many updates have been made to the ImTox SS website. See the SOT 2010 ImTox Executive Committee Meeting minutes.

b) The introduction of ToXchange as a professional networking site by SOT was highlighted.

8. *International Exchange Activities*

Mitch Cohen is the chair of this committee.

a) The International Exchange Program with the Japanese Society of Immunotoxicology (JSIT) has been in effect since 2005. In 2006, the ImTox SS received \$900 in matching funds from SOT. This year a formal request was made for continuing matching funds from SOT Council to help support this ongoing initiative. The result of this request was a new initiative by SOT allowing the Specialty Sections (as well as Special Interest Groups and Regional Chapters) to apply and compete for funds via a dedicated Matching Funds to Foster Global Initiative.

b) In the fall of 2009, Dr. Judy Zelikoff and Dr. Dori Germolec attended the Japanese Society of Immunotoxicology (JSIT) meeting and presented lectures. The theme

of the meeting was 'Children and Immunity'. The Journal of Immunotoxicology donated funds to cover the airfare for Dr. Zelikoff.

- c) At the 2010 annual SOT meeting in Salt Lake City, Dr. Takemi Otsuki of Kawasaki Medical School in Kurashiki, Japan co-chaired a symposium - Silica and Asbestos Immunotoxicity: Mechanisms to Fibrosis, Autoimmunity, and Modified Tumor Resistance - with Dr. Andrij Holian and presented his research.
- d) In the fall of 2010, Dr. MaryJane Selgrade will be representing the ImTox SS at the JSIT meeting in Tsukuba, Japan. The theme of the meeting is 'Allergy, Autoimmunity and Infection in Concert with Interactions With Pharmaceuticals and Environmental Chemicals'.
- e) At the 2011 annual SOT meeting in Washington, DC, Dr. Takahiko Yoshida from the Asahikawa Medical College in Hokkaido, Japan, will co-chair a workshop with Dr. Ian Kimber.

9. *Kudos to the ImTox SS*

- a) Leigh Ann Burns Naas highlighted the ImTox SS program proposal process for other Specialty Sections at one of the series of SOT Leadership Connection Webinars.
- b) Leigh Ann Burns Naas elected to the Inaugural Board for the SS Governance Group.
- c) The first public article to launch on the SOT website 'Can All These Chemicals be Causing my Asthma?' was contributed by the ImTox SS (Drs. Jean Regal and Helen Ratajczak).

10. *Recognition of Past Presidents*

Past presidents received a business card holder engraved with 'Past President 25th Anniversary Immunotoxicology Specialty Section'. Past presidents were grouped together for a photograph; 16 of 24 were in attendance).

11. *Awards*

Award winners were announced (to be listed in the May 2010 newsletter) and the Vos Award Winner (Dr. Jacques Descotes) gave a short speech.

Student Awards: 3rd Haitian Lu, 2nd Kathryn Allen, 1st Jennifer Head

Postdoctoral Award: Guangbi Jin, PhD

Outstanding Young Investigator Award: Peyton Myers

Best Paper of the Year Award: Yucesoy B, Johnson VJ, Fluharty K, Kashon ML, Slaven JE, Wilson NW, Weissman DN, Biagini RE, Germolec DR, Luster MI., Influence of cytokine gene variations on immunization to childhood vaccines. Vaccine. 2009 Nov 23;27(50):6991-7.

HESI Immunotoxicology Young Investigator Award: Megumi Maeda, Ph.D

12. *Welcome of New President – Dr. Leigh Ann Burns Naas & Thank You to the Past-President – Dr. Jean Regal*

ImTox SS Executive Meeting Minutes 2010 SOT Annual Meeting

Time/Location: Tuesday March 9th 2010; 7 to 8:50 am/Elevations Restaurant, Marriott Downtown, Salt Lake City, UT
 Attendees:

Executive Committee		2009-2010	2010-2011^a	
President	Jean Regal	Present	Leigh Ann Burns Naas	✓
Past President	Jeanine Bussiere	Present	Jean Regal	✓
Vice President	Leigh Ann Burns Naas	Present	Rod Dietert	✓
Vice President-Elect & Program Committee Chair	Rod Dietert	Present	<i>Greg Ladics</i>	Present
Senior Councilor & Awards Committee Chair	Marc Pallardy	Present	Wendy Komocsar	✓
Junior Councilor	Wendy Komocsar	Present	<i>Kazuichi Nakamura</i>	Regrets
Secretary-Treasurer	Jacintha Shenton	Present	Jacintha Shenton	✓
Postdoc Rep	Stacey Anderson	Regrets	<i>Jennifer Franko</i>	Present
Student Rep	Haitian Lu	Regrets	<i>Xiaochu (Chu) Zhang</i>	Present
Committee Chairs				
Communications Committee Chair		Susan McKarns		Regrets
Education Committee Chair		Judith Zelikoff		Present
Membership Committee Chair* *cc Judy Moore		George DeGeorge		Absent
Regulatory Committee		Peter Thomas		Present
International Exchange Committee		Mitchell Cohen		Present
Other				
Newsletter Typesetter & Photographer		Peyton Myers		Present

^aNew members for 2010-2011

- 1) Minutes of the 2009 ImTox SS Executive Meeting were approved.**
- 2) Financial Report – Submitted by ImTox SS Secretary-Treasurer (Jacintha Shenton)**

The rising costs of the ImTox SS reception (dictated by SOT national) were discussed. To save money for 2010, food and beverage for the 2010 ImTox SS was projected based on attendance of 225 people at the ImTox SS reception as opposed to the 250 people recommended by SOT. In addition, the executive meeting was held off site (i.e., not within the SOT conference center). For future years, off site venues for the executive meeting will likely continue and will also be considered for the ImTox SS reception; however, this option for the reception may not be recommended due to the presumed escalating resource requirements from the ImTox SS Executive Committee members to stage an off-site reception. In addition, purchase of a projector was discussed due to the high costs of renting a projector (\$415). Peyton will research projectors and their costs and will purchase a projector at the Executive's request, depending on final 2010-2011 budget. Mitch Cohen volunteered to pay for the projector (tax free) and then be reimbursed by the ImTox SS. Logistical details, such as who will store the projector and ensure the projector is present at the Annual meeting, were tabled for future discussion. Leigh Ann will discuss with SOT governance the rising costs of receptions. In addition, Leigh Ann will query the rising number of SSs and the possibility that they will further divide existing SS memberships and therefore dues income.

Attempts to have SOT retroactively match funds contributed by the ImTox SS toward the International Exchange Program with the Japanese Society of Immunotoxicology (JSIT) have not been successful; a formal request to SOT Council for retroactive (from 2006 to present) matching funds to support the travel of Jean Regal, Rod Dietert, and Jim Pestka to JSIT was denied. Previously, SOT provided matching funds (1:1) to support Dr. Nakamura's travel to SOT in 2006. Current (2009-2010) and future requests for matching funds were also not directly supported. However, SOT National has created a funding mechanism (Global Initiatives Fund) to support these types of initiatives. Proposals are due by June 1st and will be competitively reviewed. Up to \$2000 of matching funds will be available. For 2010-2011 and beyond, the ImTox SS (specifically Mitch Cohen) will apply for this funding annually (as early as possible) to support i) ImTox SS member travel to JSIT and ii) JSIT member lodging and a per diem at SOT (JSIT member will co-chair a session or give a platform presentation) as part of the continued International Exchange Program.

Means to increase donations to the ImTox SS were discussed. Suggestions included requesting donations earlier in the year or asking specifically for funding toward student awards with the possibility of naming the award after the benefactor. The Journal of Immunotoxicology graciously supported the travel of Judy Zelikoff to JSIT in 2009 and thus SS funds were available for other initiatives.

Ten (10) percent of the 'net assets end of year (30-June balance)' are available to support the ImTox SS Pool of Lecturer's.

ImTox SS Budget			
	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008
Income			
Contributions	900	900	-
Dues	4,725	4,725	4,575
Registration	4,009	4,009	4,516
Interest	456	456	789
Total Income	10,090	10,090	9,881
Expense			
Awards	550	900	900
best postdoc	200		
best student 1st	200		
best student 2nd	100		
best student 3rd	50		
Plaques (Accent Engraving)	760	727	741
Executive Meetings	0	1,622	2,700
Miscellaneous	1,120		2,351
ImTox Pool of Lecturer's	0	1,643	
Student Travel support	0		
Student/Postdoc Mixer	200	203	
Japan Exch-expense	860		
Japan Exch-flight costs	0		
Signage at SOT	60		
Newsletter	300	350	400
August-09	150		
November-09	150		
May-10	0		
Reception	9,456	10,156	4,581
Food and Beverage	8,025		
Audio Visual	500		
Wired Podium Microphone	25		
Data Projector Package (Does not include computer or laptop)	415		
Screen (7-1/2' X 10')	60		
Cupcakes	430		
Balloons	80		
Past President gifts	421		
Total Expense	12,186	15,602	11,674
Excess (Deficiency) of			
Revenue over Expenses	(2,096)	(5,512)	(1,793)
Net Assets Beginning of year	11,064	16,576	18,369
Net Assets End of Year	8,968	11,064	16,576

Projected expenses or income

3) Introduction of New Officers and Student-Postdoc Representatives

New members for 2010-2011 are listed in the attendance list above.

4) 2010 ImTox SS Reception

The agenda and program logistics for the 2010 ImTox SS reception were discussed. This year's reception will be weighted toward celebrating the ImTox SS 25th Anniversary. A preSOT bulletin was used to disseminate some information that is usually presented at the reception to support the celebrations and this mechanism may continue in future years to decrease the length of the business meeting at the reception. Special activities planned for the 25th Anniversary include a slide show of member photographs, a photo of Past President's (18 of 25 expected to attend), and a small thank you gift to Past President's. In addition, decorations and cupcakes will add to the festivities.

5) Report on 2010 SS Officer's Meeting

Jean Regal, Leigh Ann Burns Naas, Rod Dietert and Greg Ladics attended the SS Officers meeting on Monday March 8 in Salt Lake City. Topics discussed and provided for information included 1) Providing articles for the public for the SOT website, 2) Use of ToXchange, 3) Support available for nonSOT meetings, 4) Global Initiatives program and the work of the Global Strategy Task Force, 5) Report from SAC and PDA regarding the needs of student and postdoctoral trainees, and 6) the establishment of the new SS Governance Board

6) Past Year SS Accomplishments

- a) 25th Anniversary celebration for 2010 ImTox SS reception
- b) Ad hoc IRG subcommittee of the ImTox SS composed a letter to Sy Garte of the NIH recommending continuation of the SIEE study section. In addition, a least 1 dozen letters of support submitted by the ImTox SS membership.
- c) The ImTox SS Executive participated in the SOT Leadership Connection webinars.
 - i. Leigh Ann Burns Naas presented on the success of our ImTox SS in developing programs for the Annual Meeting. Leigh Ann has been elected to the new SS Governance Board.
- d) Formal request to SOT Council regarding the possible recoup of costs for the International Exchange program (see 2. Financial Report).
- e) Website improvements (see Communications Committee Report).
- f) Contribution of public articles for the SOT website.
 - i. "Are all those chemicals causing my asthma" by Jean Regal and Helen Ratajczak

7) Committee Reports

- a) Program Committee (submitted by Rod Dietert)
 - i. Limited to 13 non-executive members (this is the only committee with a membership cap)
 - ii. 5 symposia, 2 workshops, and 1 CE course will be recommended to SOT
 - iii. 30th April is deadline for submission to SOT. Thus current proposals need to be of high quality by that time (usually ~ 120 proposals for 70 slots)

- iv. Rod will insure that the final proposals are submitted and then will provide SS rankings and comments on the importance of our proposal submissions
- v. Recommendations: more cosponsors are better, combine similar proposals
- b) Awards Committee (submitted by Marc Pallardy)
 - i. Discussion of the low number of nominations. Soliciting for nominations in newsletter is not enough. Consider sending separate messages to membership. Publicize \$\$ amount of award in newsletter and on website.
 - ii. Nominees: 5 for student, 2 for postdoc, 2 for HESI, 5 for best paper
 - iii. Naming the Young Investigator Award after Petia Simeonova was discussed
- c) Ad Hoc NIH Study Section Committee
 - i. Immunotoxicology funding through NIH is becoming more difficult. The ImTox SS will consider setting up an Immunotoxicology focused meeting (Foundation type meeting) to increase the visibility of the discipline of Immunotoxicology.
 - 1. Suggestions included talking with Al Munson, requesting funding from industry, and partial funding by the ImTox SS
 - 2. John Barnett and Judy Zelikoff are willing to participate
 - 3. Similar to the SS membership, the meeting should involve a mix of academia, industry, and government.
 - ii. The ad hoc NIH Study Section Committee will be asked to serve again for 2010-2011.
- d) Membership Committee
 - i. The necessity of a Membership Committee was discussed given the increasing role that electronic dues submission and tallying has played in accurately tracking SS membership. Given the goals of this committee, it was decided that a Chair of the Membership Committee could accomplish the task and members for this committee would not be solicited at the reception or through other means.
 - ii. New members are still joining the ImTox SS and we remain the 3rd largest SS. 230 registered for Annual Meeting as last tally.
- e) Regulatory Committee (submitted by Peter Thomas)
 - i. Some discussion was undertaken on the utility of the committee membership. For instance, the ImTox SS does not provide comments on draft guidance. However, the ImTox SS should keep abreast of the prominence or lack thereof of Immunotoxicology within safety testing.
 - 1. The key for the ImTox SS regulatory committee is to provide an update on how revisions of guidance impact Immunotoxicology.
 - 2. The Executive Committee may consider an appointed committee in the future but at this time will solicit volunteers from the membership for the upcoming year
 - ii. An update on the addendum to ICH S6 was provided. In addition, attention was drawn to the FDA draft guidance on assay development for immunogenicity testing of therapeutic proteins and the FDA draft guidance

on clinical considerations for therapeutic cancer vaccines. This information will be provided to the membership in the May newsletter

- f) Communications Committee (submitted as a written report by the Communications Committee Chair - Susan McKarns)
 - i. ToXchange was discussed as a potential repository for ImTox SS materials. The use of this site will depend on its versatility and final configuration. Peyton Myers will keep us updated on its usefulness for SS business.
 - ii. 2009-2010 Accomplishments
 - 1. The ImTox SS website now serves as a communication portal for our current activities and an archive of our historical activities.
 - 2. New for 2009-2010
 - a. Executive Committee photos
 - b. Award winner archive (Thanks Jacintha Shenton)
 - c. Detailed description of 2008 award winners provided
 - d. Newsletter archive
 - e. International Exchange Program highlighted
 - f. Past President's archive
 - iii. 2010-2011 Goals – It is important that Executive Committee members forward the appropriate materials to Susan McKarns for posting in a timely fashion.
 - 1. Routinely update and maintain all website materials including those added in 2009-2010
 - 2. Add links to all best manuscripts of the year (presently only partially completed)
 - 3. ImTox SS Pool of Lecturer's – list lecturer's and their topics
 - 4. Compile ImTox related sessions at 2011 SOT Annual Meeting

8) New Business

- a) By-laws need to be updated (last updated 2002)
- b) Discussion of a yearly ImTox meeting (See 7c above)