

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION Immunotoxicology

**ANNUAL REPORT: 2015-2016**  
May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016

**I. Officers/Committees:**

<u>Officers</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>
President:	Danuta Herzyk	Rafael A Ponce
Vice President:	Rafael Ponce	Peyton L Myers
Vice President-Elect:	(Laine) Peyton Myers	Victor J Johnson
Secretary/Treasurer:	Haley Neff-LaFord	Kristen A Mitchell
Past President	Gary R Burleson	Danuta J Herzyk
Councilors:	Jamie DeWitt	Cheryl E Rockwell
	Cheryl E. Rockwell	Haley Neff-LaFord
PDA Representative:	Ashwini Phadnis-Moghe	Ashwini S Phadnis-Moghe
GSLC Representative:	Aimee Hillegas	Aimee E Hillegas

**Committees:**

**Awards Committee**

Chair: Cheryl Rockwell

**Communication and Membership Committee**

Chairs: Ashwini Phadnis-Moghe and Kristen Mitchell

**Education Committee**

Chair: Cheryl Rockwell

Rafael Ponce

Ashwini Phadnis-Moghe

**Program Committee**

Chair: Vic Johnson

**Past-Executives Committee**

Chair: Danuta Herzyk

Jeanine Bussiere

Mitch Cohen

Rafael Ponce

**II. Activities:**

**2016 SOT Annual Meeting Reception** was held in New Orleans, Louisiana on March 16, 2016.

Approximately 160 people were in attendance. Dr. Rafael Ponce called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 for the formal session.

#### 2016 Annual Meeting: ITSS Reception Invited Speaker

Dawn Wesson, director of the Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases Initiative in Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Dr. Wesson spoke on Zika virus infection and spread, and the risks posed to public health. She has served as Chair of the Entomological Society of America and as a member of the Gulf War and Health: Infectious Disease Committee at the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Wesson has served as an expert on multiple public health panels and advisory boards focused on mosquito-borne pathogens. Lastly, Dr. Wesson was named one of City Business New Orleans 2003 Women of the Year.

#### Awards

##### *Best Presentation by a Student*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place (tie)
  - Joanna Kreitinger, "Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Activation in CD11c+ Cells Mediates Effects of TCDD on T Lymphocyte Development in the Thymus", Depts. of Biomedical Sciences and Biological Sciences, Univ. Montana
  - Alexandra E. Turley, "Nrf2 Promotes Th2 Differentiation in Murine and Human CD4 T Cells", Dept. of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Institute for Integrative Toxicology, Michigan State University
- 3rd<sup>d</sup> place (tie)
  - Jinpeng Li, "TCDD-Mediated Alterations of EBF1 in Impaired Early Human B Cell Development", Genetics Program, Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Institute for Integrative Toxicology, Michigan State University
  - Natalia Kovalova, "Role of Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor (AhR) Polymorphisms in TCDD-Mediated Biological Activity in the Human B Cell", Pharmacology and Toxicology, Institute for Integrative Toxicology, Michigan State University

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

Dr. Fenna Sillé, "Long-term Effects of Early-life Arsenic Exposure on Innate Immunity", Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, Department of Nutritional Science & Toxicology, University of California Berkley

##### *Best Paper of the Year*

Bethany Winans, Anusha Nagari, Minho Chae, Christina M. Post, Chia-I Ko, Alvaro Puga, W. Lee Kraus and B. Paige Lawrence, "Linking the aryl hydrocarbon receptor with altered DNA methylation patterns and developmentally induced aberrant antiviral CD8+ T cell responses", J Immunol 1402044; published ahead of print March 25, 2015

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

Dr. Angela Groves, Univ. of Rochester Medical Center, "Differing Pulmonary Immune Responses Following Exposure to Thoracic Radiation in Fibrosis Sensitive and Resistant Mice"

##### *Outstanding Young Investigator Award*

Dr. Kymberly Gowdy

*Outstanding Senior Investigator Award*

Dr. Marc Pallardy

*Vos Award for Lifetime Career Achievement in Immunotoxicology*

Dr. Prakash Nagarkatti, Vice President for Research, Carolina Distinguished Professor, University of South Carolina

**2016 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions:**

- CE Course: “Advancing the Detection, Imaging, and Pitfalls in Monitoring Oxidative Stress in Health and Disease”, Chairperson(s): Maria B. Kadiiska, NIEHS/NIH, Research Triangle Park, NC and Ronald P. Mason, NIEHS/NIH, Research Triangle Park, NC.
- Historical Perspectives Session: “Toxicologic Legacies of Major 21st Century Man-Made/Natural Disasters” Chairperson(s): Mitchell D. Cohen, NYU School of Medicine/Dept. of Environmental Medicine, Tuxedo, NY; and Mitsuaki Yoshida, Institute of Radiation Emergency Medicine, Hirosaki University (IREM/HU), Hirosaki, Japan.
- Symposium: “New, Mechanistic Insights into How the Immune System Drives Adverse Drug Reactions” Robert Roth, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI and Bob van de Water, University of Leiden, Leiden, Netherlands.
- Roundtable: “Combination Toxicology: Are We Testing the Right Things?” Chairperson(s): Leigh Ann Burns Naas, Gilead Sciences, Inc., Foster City, CA; and Helen Haggerty, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, New Brunswick, NJ.
- Symposium: “Developmental Immunotoxicology — Are We Adequately Evaluating Safety?” Chairperson(s): Laine Peyton Myers, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD; and Gary R. Burleson, BRT, Burleson Research Technologies, Inc, Morrisville, NC.

**2016 Annual Meeting Mentorship event**

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

Susan McKarns, University of Missouri  
Saurabh Chatterjee, University of South Carolina  
Jeannine Bussiere, Amgen  
Vic Johnson, Burleson Research Technologies  
John Dubinion, Food and Drug Administration  
Shawn Heidel, Covance

Endowment Fund Details: As of March 31, 2016, the endowment had \$53,056.

Newsletters: Summer, Fall and Pre-SOT bulletins issues in Sept 2015, December 2015, and March 2016, respectively.

Teleseminars: None

White Papers: None

Contributions to SOT website: Updates on ITSS membership and awards

**Other Specialty Section 2015-2016 Activities:**

1. Conducted monthly teleconferences of the Executive Committee members
2. Refined best practices for committees, with an emphasis on increasing efficiency and becoming more pro-active in terms of program concept development, engagement with membership, and scientific focus.
3. Established “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. Established an agreement with ILSI/HESI to jointly develop an immunology/immunotoxicology 2-3 day workshop with the goal of providing attendees with basic immunology education and case studies for education/discussion.
5. Maintained ITSS membership in the 2015-16 period
6. Held face-to-face breakfast meeting of the Executive Committee, March 14, 2016.