

Immunotoxicology Specialty Section

ANNUAL REPORT: 2021–2022

May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022

I. Officers/Committees

<u>Officer</u>	<u>2021–2022</u>	<u>2022–2023</u>
President:	Florence G. Burleson	Berran Yucesoy
President-Elect/Vice President:	Berran Yucesoy Marie-Soleil Piche	Marie-Soleil Piche Alessandro Venosa
Secretary/ Treasurer:	Andrew Gow	Andrew Gow
Past President:	Mark Collinge	Florence G. Burleson
Councilors:	Alessandro Venosa Amy Sharma	Amy Sharma Thea Noreen Golden
Postdoctoral Representative:	Valentina Galbiati	Melissa Wilkinson
Graduate Student Representative:	Cassandra Houser	Cassandra Houser

Committees, if applicable:

II. 2021 Membership total: 368

III. Key Outcomes in 2021–2022:

- A. Significant immunotoxicology presence at hybrid 2022 annual meeting with respect to sponsored sessions and posters.
- B. Recognition of excellence in immunotoxicology through specialty section awards.

IV. Activities

- A. SOT Annual Meeting Activities (e.g., courses, scientific sessions, receptions):

CE Courses:

- (1) Conceptual models in immunotoxicology: leveraging biological knowledge, alternative approaches and computational strategies for the future of risk assessment. Chaired by Emanuela Corsini & Dori Germolec
- (2) Leading Edge Microbiome Methods for Toxicological Applications. Chaired by Anika Dzierlenga & David Gonzalez

Symposia:

- (1) The Microbiome in Toxicity and Disease: A Yin and Yang Duality for the Host Throughout the Lifespan. Chaired by Leigh Ann Burns Naas & Vicki Sutherland
- (2) Developmental origins of inflammatory and immune diseases: identifying the effects of in utero stress on immunological competency. Chaired by Alessandro Venosa & Thea Golden

Workshop:

Current Status and Future Outlook on Developmental Immunotoxicity Testing.
Chaired by Fenna Sillé & Victor Johnson

Immunotoxicology Specialty Section Reception and Business Meeting

Date and Time: Tuesday, 29 March 2022 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm PST

Summary: The ITSS annual business meeting was in-person and included a networking session/reception. In addition, updates on the past year's achievements were announced, and

the 2021 (from Virtual Meeting) and 2022 (current year) ITSS award recipients were honored, and the new officers introduced.

B. 2022 Awards Information:

1. Best Presentation by a Student – Jacklyn Nguyen, University of Utah. “Histopathological and Immunological Characterization of Repeated Ozone Exposure in the Healthy and Susceptible Lung”.
2. Best Presentation by a Postdoctoral Trainee – Lauren Walker, PhD, Rutgers University. “Human Placental Macrophage Responses to Cadmium Exposure”
3. Best Paper of the Year - Ishita Choudhary, Thao Vo, Kshitiz Paudel, Radha Yadav, Yun Mao, Sonika Patial and Yogesh Saini. “Postnatal Ozone Exposure Disrupts Alveolar Development, Exaggerates Mucoinflammatory Responses, and Suppresses Bacterial Clearance in Developing *Scnn1b*-Tg⁺ Mice Lungs”.
4. Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Travel Awards:
 - (a) Connor McGuire, University of Rochester
 - (b) Martina Iulini, University of Milan – poster # P833 (Tue 9am)
 - (c) Melissa Wilkinson, PhD, Rutgers University – platform sym (Wed 10am)
5. Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI) Immunotoxicology Young Investigator Travel Award – Brandon W. Lewis, MS, PhD
6. Vos Lifetime Career Achievement Award in Immunotoxicology - Kenneth Hastings, Dr. P.H., D.A.B.T., Fellow A.T.S.

C. Other Educational Activities Conducted (e.g., webinars, in-person meetings):

D. Communication Activities:

1. Newsletter publication frequency: September 2021, January 2022, and March 22.
2. New or significant announcements/blogs: Unfortunately, the immunotoxicology community lost several highly respected and esteemed colleagues in the 2021-2022 year. This loss and a reminder of our colleagues’ contributions and achievements were communicated to ITSS membership.
3. Highlights of website enhancements: The ITSS website has been maintained and updated as needed

E. Mentoring Activities: The 2022 Annual Meeting mentorship event was not conducted due to travel restriction still in force for most of the mentors. A mentorship/career development webinar is being planned for Fall 2022.

V. **Feedback and Ideas:**

- A. In what ways is your group fostering and maintaining an inclusive environment? Please give examples of any current practices used to support inclusion in processes such as 1) leadership selection and promotion, 2) award descriptions and selection, and 3) endorsement of proposals for the annual meetings.

Maximize as much as possible the number of candidates considered for executive committee positions and awards. Ensure every voice is heard in committee meetings, through solicitation of input from all members. Ensure announcements of educational opportunities, award information and other news of relevance is shared with the ITSS membership through specific communications and newsletters.

- B. How might SOT better support your group's activities (perhaps something the Society should be doing that we currently do not do, or do not do effectively, that would be of importance/benefit to the members of your component group?):

Note: If funding is listed, please provide detail on the membership need that the funding would support.

- C. What is one thing that the Society is currently doing that impacts your component group that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?
- D. What changes do your component group anticipate making in the way in which it operates in the coming year?

Increased efforts to reach out to maintain members and to increase student membership and involvement