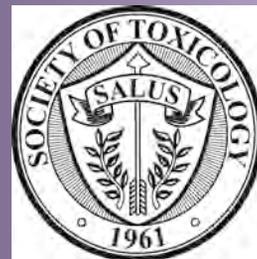


# IMMUNOTOXICOLOGY

## Specialty Section

### Summer Edition



**2022-2023**

#### **Executive Committee**

President

[Berran Yucesoy](#)

Vice President

[Marie-Soleil Piche](#)

Vice President-Elect

[Alessandro Venosa](#)

Secretary/Treasurer

[Andrew Gow](#)

Past President

[Florence Burluson](#)

Senior Councilor

[Amy Sharma](#)

Junior Councilor

[Thea Golden](#)

Postdoc Representative

[Melissa Wilkinson](#)

Student Representative

[Cassandra Houser](#)

#### **Incoming President's Message**

Dear Colleagues,

**IMMUNOTOXICOLOGY  
SPECIALTY SECTION**



Greetings! Hopefully this newsletter finds

everyone well and enjoying their summer. I am excited and honored to begin my role as President of the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section (ITSS). As we transition into the new term, I would like to express my thanks to Dr. Florence Burluson for her vision and leadership as ITSS President and for the Executive Committee (EC) officers. I will continue the course established by Florence and our previous Presidents. On the behalf of the EC, I graciously thank our outgoing Past President Dr. Mark Collinge and Postdoctoral Representative, Dr. Valentina Galbiati for their service on the EC. In addition, thanks to everyone who has contributed to the past and ongoing work of our Education, Awards, Communications & Membership, and Program committees; so much work goes into planning and facilitating these activities.

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I look forward to working with an excellent EC during the 2022-2023 term, including Marie-Soleil Piche (Vice President), Alessandro Venosa (Vice President-Elect), Florence Burleson (Past President), Andrew Gow (Secretary/Treasurer), Amy Sharma (Senior Councilor), Thea Golden (Junior Councilor), Melissa Wilkinson (Postdoctoral Representative), and Cassandra Houser (Graduate Student Representative). The Executive Committee will meet in monthly teleconferences to discuss issues of interest to the ITSS and respond to the needs of SOT and our members.

Although the past two years have brought many unique challenges, it is great to see how ITSS has successfully navigated these unprecedented times. I am inspired by our specialty section's successes over these years, particularly great representation at SOT meetings despite difficult circumstances. In the year ahead, the ITSS EC will continue to improve the visibility and impact of our Specialty Section, both inside and outside of SOT.

Specifically, we will focus on four main areas: mentoring, education, membership, and collaboration. We will actively look for mentoring and educational opportunities for a meaningful engagement and continuing education of our members. Another goal will be boosting membership inside and outside the US by increasing global connections and spreading the word. We will also explore collaboration opportunities with other specialty sections and society groups on our shared interests. In addition, the EC will work on updating our "best practices" documents for each committee to ensure that we are current in our practices.

I look forward to the next steps in achieving our goals and furthering our Specialty Section. If you're thinking of becoming more involved in ITSS and help move our initiatives forward, please consider serving the ITSS community on the executive board or one of the committees, participate in mentoring and outreach activities, and encourage other SOT members to join our great Specialty Section. We also encourage you to contribute to our endowment funds, as your contributions make a great impact for the next generation of immunotoxicologists. Lastly, please reach out to any EC member to share your ideas, questions, concerns, or suggestions; we sincerely welcome your input.

I'll close by thanking all our volunteers and sponsors for their continued support, participation, and enthusiasm in our Specialty Section. Have a wonderful summer!

With kindest regards,

*Berran Yucesoy, PhD  
President ITSS, 2022-2023*



# Outgoing President's Message:

## IMMUNOTOXICOLOGY SPECIALTY SECTION



Dear ITSS Colleagues and Friends,

It has been an honor to serve our Immunotoxicology Specialty Section (ITSS) as President during the 2021-2022 term. I entered the ITSS Presidential chain in May of 2019 and soon witnessed the cancellation of our 2020 Annual Meeting, the organization of a virtual Annual Meeting in 2021, and an in-person but hybrid meeting in 2022. While there were many unanticipated challenges, these times were also exciting and rewarding as challenges were addressed and overcome. We unfortunately also lost our esteemed colleagues and friends Jacques Descotes, Scott Burchiel, and Al Munson, during this time. While our hearts were heavy, their many contributions to our field were recognized and their lives celebrated. They will be missed.

As ITSS President, it was my privilege to work closely with a talented and dedicated ITSS executive committee. Our 2022 hybrid meeting was a success, and it was a pleasure to see familiar faces once again. The current executive committee is already working hard and endorsing robust proposals to ensure an excellent 2023 Immunotoxicology program in Nashville. We continue to foster our strong collaboration with our Japanese colleagues at JSIT, and to discuss future collaborations with the HESI-Immunotoxicology Technical Committee (ITC).

I look forward to serving as Immediate Past President for 2022-2023 and working with the current executive committee and Berran Yucesoy, as President. The ITSS is in very capable hands. I look forward to seeing many of you in Nashville next year.

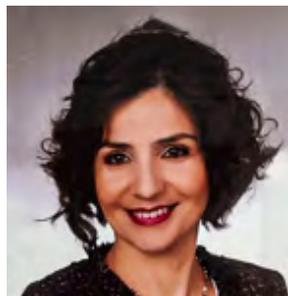
Sincerely,

*Florence G. Burleson*

PhD Executive VP, Burleson Research Technologies, Inc.  
ITSS President, 2021-2022



# Welcome 2022-2023 ITSS Executive Committee!



**Berran Yucesoy**  
President



**Marie-Soleil Piche**  
Vice President



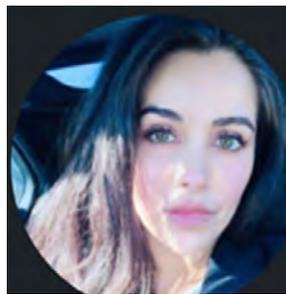
**ALESSANDRO VENOSA**  
Vice President-Elect



**ANDREW GOW**  
Secretary  
and Treasurer



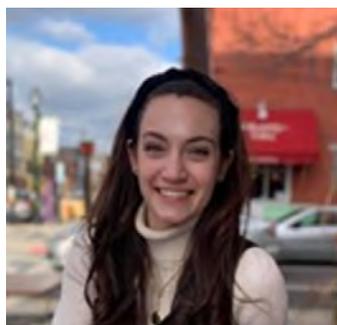
**FLORENCE BURLESON**  
Past President



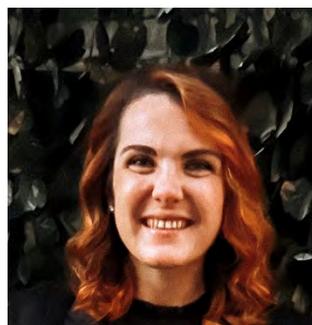
**AMY SHARMA**  
Sr. Councilor



**THEA GOLDEN**  
Jr. Councilor



**CASSANDRA HOUSER**  
Graduate Student  
Representative



**MELISSA WILKINSON**  
Postdoctoral  
Representative

# 2022-2023 ITSS Committee List:

## Volunteers Needed for Limited Number of Seats:

Please contact the committee chairs if you are interested.

### Education Committee

Chair: Alessandro Venosa

Email: [alessandro.venosa@pharm.utah.edu](mailto:alessandro.venosa@pharm.utah.edu)

### Awards Committee

Chair: Amy Sharma

Email: [amy.sharma@pfizer.com](mailto:amy.sharma@pfizer.com)

### Communication and Membership Committee

Chair: Thea Golden

Email: [theagolden@gmail.com](mailto:theagolden@gmail.com)

### Program Committee

Chair: Marie-Soleil Piche

Email: [Marie-Soleil.Piche@crl.com](mailto:Marie-Soleil.Piche@crl.com)



Note:  
SOT membership is required.  
Must be willing to become a member of the ITSS and to commit to service.





# 2022 ITSS Award Winners:

## Vos Award for Lifetime Career Achievement in Immunotoxicology

**Kenneth Hastings, DrPH,  
DABT, Fellow ATS**

Hastings Toxicology Consulting  
LLC

Nominated by Drs. Jack Dean and Gary  
Burleson



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

**Brandon W. Lewis, MS, PhD**  
Postdoctoral Scientist

Advisor: Dr. Rodney Britt  
Center for Perinatal Research  
Nationwide Children's Hospital



**Postnatal Ozone Exposure Disrupts Alveolar Development, Exaggerates Mucoinflammatory Responses, and Suppresses Bacterial Clearance in Developing *Scnn1b*-Tg<sup>+</sup> Mice Lungs**

Ishita Choudhary, Thao Vo, Kshitiz Paudel, Radha Yadav, Yun Mao, Sonika Patial and Yogesh Saini

J Immunol July 30, 2021, ji2001286;

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.2001286>



**Mitzi and Prakash Nagarkatti Research Excellence in Immunotoxicology Travel Awards**



**Martina Iulini**

University of Milan

**Connor McGuire**

University of Rochester

**Melissa Wilkinson, PhD**

Rutgers University

## Lauren Walker, PhD

Postdoctoral Scientist

Advisor: Dr. Lauren Aleksunes  
Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Rutgers University

“Human placental Macrophage  
Responses to Cadmium Exposure”



## Best Presentation by a Student Award

## Jacklyn Nguyen

University of Utah

Advisor: Dr. Alessandro Venosa  
Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology  
University of Utah

“Histopathological and Immunological  
Characterization of Repeated Ozone Exposure  
in the Healthy and Susceptible Lung”



## In Memoriam – Albert E. Munson, PhD



Albert E. Munson, PhD, one of the founders of the field of immunotoxicology, passed away on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Dr. Munson was retired from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health where he led the Health Effects Laboratory Division in Morgantown, WV. Prior to his move to NIOSH, he was a professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University (MCV/VCU). At MCV, Dr. Munson led major research projects on pharmacology, toxicology/immunotoxicology, and microbiology and conducted pioneering studies of the effects of chemical exposures on the immune system. Results of these studies have contributed substantially to the scientific understanding of how exposures to a variety of chemical agents may affect the body's ability to respond to infections and other health risks.

Dr. Munson joined the Medical College of Virginia as a research scientist in the Cancer Center in 1956, and rose to become a professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology in 1983. He was the founding member and President of the Foundation for Immunotoxicology (FIT), a national non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the field of immunotoxicology. Many young investigators and students were able to expand their knowledge and professional network as a result of FIT travel grants to attend these annual meetings. Dr. Munson was also one of several individuals who were a key driving force behind the creation of the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology. In its inaugural year, he served as a Councilor and was the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the Specialty Section. He served the American College of Toxicology as a Councilor from 1991-1993, and was a member of the Toxicology Study Section of the NIH, and the Immunotoxicology Committee of the NAS/NRC. Dr. Munson also served on the editorial boards of *Toxicology and Pharmacology*, *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology* (now *Toxicological Sciences*), the *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, *Archives of Toxicology* and the *International Journal of Immunopharmacology*.

He has received numerous scientific honors including Outstanding Faculty Member for the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology (1976), Outstanding Faculty Member for the Medical College of Virginia Graduate Studies Program (1977), as well as being bestowed the Virginia Commonwealth University Distinguished Award of Excellence in 1991 as an outstanding faculty member in teaching, research, and service, and being named Outstanding Scientist of Virginia by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1993. He was the recipient of the Society of Toxicology's prestigious Education Award in 1997, an honor presented to an individual who is distinguished by the teaching and training of toxicologists, and who has made significant contributions to education in the broad field of toxicology. In 2013, he was honored by the American College of Toxicology with the Distinguished Scientist Award. In addition to his commitment to education and training of the next generation of scientists, he was also committed to service to his profession. He instilled these values in those whom he trained. His many students and postgraduate



# In Memoriam – Albert E. Munson, PhD

trainees have gone on to develop successful programs in their respective fields, have held influential positions in academia, government and in the corporate sector, and have continued to contribute to the discipline. As such, Dr. Munson's impact on the discipline of immunotoxicology has been profound.

Dr. Munson was a member of several scientific, honorary, and professional societies, including the Society of Toxicology, the American College of Toxicology, the International Society of Immunopharmacology, the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, the American Association for Cancer Research, and the Society of Risk Assessment. He obtained his PhD in pharmacology from the Medical College of Virginia and a Master of Science in biochemical pharmacology from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

## Save the Date!



SAVE THE DATES

### SOT Brings Toxicology to Nashville in 2023

Taking place in Nashville, Tennessee, the SOT 62nd Annual Meeting and ToxExpo will feature more than 70 Featured and Scientific Sessions, 2,000 presentations, 250 exhibitors, and 5,000 attendees.

#### Where

[Nashville Music City Center](#)  
in downtown Nashville, TN

#### When

Sunday, March 19, 2023, to  
Thursday, March 23, 2023





# The American Association of Immunologists 2022 Summer Immunology Courses **REGISTER NOW!**

## **AAI 2022 Introductory Course in Immunology**

July 12-17<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
UCLA Luskin Conference Center  
Los Angeles, CA

Course Director: Helen S. Goodridge,  
PhD  
*Cedars-Sinai Medical Center*

This intensive two-part course, taught by world-renowned immunologists, provides a comprehensive overview of the basics of immunology.

This course is for students new to the discipline or those seeking more information to complement general biology or science training.

Part I (July 12 – 14) is a detailed introduction to the basic principles of immunology and is suitable for students with a general biology background. Part II (July 15 – 17) is a clinically oriented lecture series.

**Registration Deadline: June 14<sup>th</sup>!**

## **AAI 2022 Advanced Course in Immunology**

July 24-29<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
The Westin Copley Place  
Boston, MA

Course Director: Wayne M. Yokoyama, MD  
*Washington University School of Medicine in  
St. Louis*

This intensive course is designed for serious students of immunology.

Leading experts will present recent research advances in understanding the biology of the immune system and its role in health and disease.

The course is intended for advanced trainees and scientists who wish to expand or update their understanding of the field.

This is not an introductory course; attendees will need to have a firm understanding of the principles of immunology.

**Registration Deadline: June 27<sup>th</sup>!**