



From the IRSS President

Dear IRSS members,

Time flies and we are already in the preparation phase of the 2017 SOT Annual Meeting. We will have some IRSS endorsed sessions. However, not all proposals were accepted by the Program Committee. The IRSS EC decided that we should offer the people who put together very good proposals an alternative. Irfan Rahman will take the initiative to organize webinars based on the proposal and I hope that this will be a good way to assure that important information will be shared among our IRSS colleagues. We also thought that it would be good to conserve our history better and we therefore encourage you to send pictures with a subscript to Patti Erdely paz9@cdc.gov such that we can for example show these during the reception at the next Annual Meeting. Based upon the suggestion of Terry Gordon to advocate the concept for only one membership category in SOT. I have been in contact with the Jeffrey Moffit, Chair of the Specialty Section Collaboration and Communication Group for feedback and support and the proposal with support from SS-CCG has been forwarded to the SOT Council. I recently received the following comment from John Morris "As you are aware, the membership structure of the Society is so fundamental that it is described in our Constitution. Council is considering your suggestion very seriously. Since it represents such a fundamental change we have decided to reach out to key leaders of our society to gain an understanding of their views on this issue. Once we have gained a sense of their perspectives Council will further deliberate on the issue prior to making a decision on how to proceed."

Dan Costa proposed during the IRSS business meeting rejuvenating the Technical Committee and to prepare a good position paper every couple years. The proposed topics are:

- A state of the art *in vitro* to *in vivo* indices of pulmonary toxicity
- Contemporary alternative models for cardiopulmonary toxicity testing: from *in vivo* (rodents to zebra fish), organ culture, tissue culture, to lung on a chip and AOPs
- These might take several people coming together with varied experience of 2-3 years. Jon Hotchkiss has offered to start with an *in vitro/in vivo* position paper together with Laura Van Winkle.

The EC will also consider to start an E-journal club webinar which is an idea that also was launched by Irfan. I hope that a lot of you are already aiming for attending the next SOT Annual Meeting and we'll see you there.

Flemming Cassee

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section provides a focus for members of the Society of Toxicology interested in the impact of airborne chemicals and particles on the body. Issues of interest include indoor and outdoor air pollution, occupational exposure to airborne contaminants, therapeutic drug delivery by inhalation, deposition and pharmacokinetics of agents delivered by the inhalation route, and interactions between inhaled materials and infectious allergic stimuli.

Invitation from CCT Committee for the IRSS

The Contemporary Concepts in Toxicology (CCT) Committee invites the Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section to participate in developing future CCT meetings, which provide a forum for the dissemination and discussion of cutting-edge and contemporary issues that will advance the science of toxicology. Specific to the IRSS is that a search of the abstracts from the last 5 SOT Annual Meetings showed that 'metals', 'inhalation toxicology', 'risk assessment,' and 'neurotoxicology' have repeatedly been amongst the most frequently-used keywords. Perhaps the IRSS membership could consider how some of these topics could be combined into a unifying theme for an independent meeting or webinar series. Please also consider that it may be worthwhile to partner with (an)other Specialty Section(s) to develop a proposal. A key element that distinguishes the CCTs from others is the focus on emerging toxicological themes: if a program could be presented as a continuing education course, it will probably not be a good fit as a CCT program.

The format for CCT meetings is entirely flexible and can range from a one hour webinar up to a 3 day face-to-face meeting in the US, Europe, or elsewhere. CCT meetings can be held independently or virtually or as satellite events with respect to the SOT Annual Meeting, specialty section, or regional chapter meetings. Examples of CCT meetings and additional information including how to create and submit a proposal can all be found on the [CCT webpage](#).

The SOT provides seed money and organizational support for CCT meetings. It also assumes liability for the meeting if things don't go to plan. Your role would be to assist with the fun stuff: coming up with ideas for topics and taking the lead in developing the scientific program. In addition, your Specialty Section will share in any proceeds above the initial investment, thus providing more resources for the Specialty Section to support new activities.

If interested in developing a CCT meeting and need more details please contact Alison Elder (Alison_Elder@urmc.rochester.edu).



The Section meets regularly at the SOT Annual Meeting to promote a better understanding of inhalation and respiratory tract toxicology, to recognize students and colleagues for notable contributions to research, and to address issues of importance to this field.

Committees within the Section meet regularly to write issue papers and discuss topics for Symposia, Workshops and Continuing Education Courses.



IRSS Members Projects and in the News

IRSS Members Do Vaping Research on E-cigarettes and Other Paraphernalia:

Ilona Jaspers, UNC Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science (TCORS)

Dan Conklin, American Heart Association TCORS at University of Louisville

Lung-Chi Chen, (NYU) has subcontract from AHA TCORS for e-cig exposures at NYU

Judith Zelikoff, (NYU) has Pilot Project from AHA TCORS

Jake McDonald, LRRI has subcontract from AHA TCORS for e-cig flavor heating/burning

Ilona, Judith and Dan participated in a symposium about health effects of e-cigarettes at the AAAS 2016 meeting on Feb. 11, 2016, Washington, D.C. This session was picked up nationally and internationally. A comparable symposium also will be presented at the Society of Risk Assessment (SRA) 2016 meeting in San Diego, Dec. 12, 2016. Also, Dan Conklin attended and gave a short talk on e-cig health effects at the 35th American Association for Aerosol Research (AAAR) in Portland, OR on Oct. 20, 2016.

The US FDA released an RFA for e-cig and cardiopulmonary effects research: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-17-021.html>

HIGHLY CITED RESEARCHERS (HRCs) in Pharmacology & Toxicology:

A list recently released by Thomson Reuters includes some of our IRSS members! Congratulations goes out to them! View the full list through the link below.

<http://hcr.stateofinnovation.thomsonreuters.com/>

AWARDS

The application deadline for the IRSS awards is January 15, 2017. Please see the IRSS website for further details of the awards listed below and send your nominations and supporting documentation to VP-elect Debra Laskin.

<https://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/IRSS/awards.asp>

Paper of the Year Award

Career Achievement Award

Young Investigator Award

Student Awards:

Graduate Student Award

Mary Amdur Student Award

Postdoctoral Award

Donald E. Gardner Award

From John Whalan at the US EPA regarding the nano project:

Under the joint leadership of the Netherlands and the United States, an Inhalation Expert Group continues to make significant progress on revisions to two OECD inhalation test guidelines: TG 412 (28-day) and TG 413 (90-day). The OECD WNT consider both of these test guidelines in April 2016 and offered recommended revisions. The Expert Group then met in a face-to-face meeting in Washington, D.C. in early November 2016 to consider the recommendations of the WNT and to agree on further revisions to the test guidelines.

The current plan is to have final versions of TG 412 and TG 413 as well as a revised GD 39 (Guidance Document on Inhalation Toxicity Testing) ready for WNT approval in April 2017.

New Business and Announcements:

IRSS members are reminded of important upcoming meetings:

Belgian Society of Toxicology and Ecotoxicology (BelTox) organizes 2018 EUROTOX in Brussels, September 2-5. See website for details <http://eurotox-congress.com/2018/>