

Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section

ANNUAL REPORT: 2025–2026

May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026

I. Officers:

<u>2025–2026</u>	<u>2026–2027</u>
President: Christopher Reilly Vice President: Lisa Miller Vice President Elect: Patricia Silveyra Past President, Councilor: Laura Van Winkle Secretary: Elizabeth Corteselli Treasurer: Pooja Singh Councilor: Salik Hussain Councilor: Emma Karey Councilor: Colette Miller Councilor: Alexandra Noel Postdoctoral Representative: Eva Vitucci Graduate Student Representative: Rachel Sun	President: Lisa Miller Vice President: Patricia Silveyra Vice President-Elect: Katie Zychowski Treasurer: Pooja Singh Secretary: Elizabeth Corteselli Past President, Councilor: Christopher Reilly Councilor: Salik Hussain Councilor: Emma Karey Councilor: Cassandra Rice Councilor: Yogesh Saini Postdoctoral Representative: Samuel Cochran Graduate Student Representative: Rachel Sun

Committees:

No appointed committees

II. 2026 Membership total: 323

III. Key Outcomes and Accomplishments in 2025–2026:

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section accomplished the following activities throughout the year.

- In-person meeting/mixer
- Virtual meetings
- Endorsed session(s) at the Annual Meeting
- Mentoring/career development events
- Trainee awards conferred
- Scientist investigator awards conferred
- Paper of the year award
- Newsletter(s)
- Webinars
- Business meeting (communicated operations/finances to members)
- Utilized/expanded Endowment Fund(s) for Component Group

IV. Collaborative Partnerships with Other SOT Organizations:

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section collaborated with the following organizations within SOT.

V. Communication Methods:

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section stayed in contact with its members throughout the year through the following mechanisms.

- Emails through SOT Headquarters
- Specialty Section website
- Newsletter(s)
- Through Graduate Student/Postdoc Representatives
- LinkedIn

VI. Promotion of Inclusivity

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section maintained an inclusive organization through the following activities.

- Nominate a diverse slate of candidates for elections
- Solicit equitable input from all executive committee leaders
- Utilize virtual meetings for convening Specialty Section leadership
- Utilize standardized rubrics for judging awards/posters
- Include inclusive descriptions of Awards
- Prioritize diversity in selection of speakers/panelists
- Highlight trainee research
- Solicit member feedback for development of Specialty Section activities (such as webinar topics)
- Provide volunteer activities for the membership to be engaged
- Use multiple approaches to communicate with membership

VII. Mentoring and Career Development Activities:

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section hosted the following mentoring activities throughout the year for its membership.

- Mentor-mentee program within the Specialty Section
- Networking luncheon/reception

VIII. Awards Given:

Trainee	11
Early Career	2
Mid Career	0
Late Career	1

IX. Key Outcomes and Improvements:

- A. Hosting an in person mentoring event as well as an in-person business meeting for the 2026 SOT meeting.
- B. Through our membership fees and donations, we were able to support a total of 14 awards that were given out at our in-person 2026 in person business meeting.

X. Strategic Plan:

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section supported the following SOT Strategic Priorities.

- Proactively pursue impactful scientific content
- Support the development and application of tools that advance toxicology
- Effectively communicate scientific advances
- Foster connectivity across scientific disciplines
- Develop a talent pool of toxicologists for the future
- Provide training and education that reflects the needs of members
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities for all career levels
- Enhance member recognition and visibility at all levels

XI. Scientific Topics of Interest:

The Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section is interested in seeing the following topic areas developed into sessions at future SOT Annual Meetings.

- Bioengineering in toxicology research
- Extreme weather events
- NAMs vs animal models – session guiding use of each model, pro/con; could be a potential debate or CE session
- More sessions on mechanistic biology as opposed to descriptive sessions and extensive regulatory focus.
- Industry sessions on the role of toxicology (discovery and regulatory) in drug development and marketing.

XII. Feedback to the Society:

A. What is the one thing the Society should be doing that it currently does not do (or does not do effectively) that would be of importance/benefit to the members of the Specialty Section?

1. We'd like to see more fund raising to support a broader awards platform across specialty section and speaker remuneration. 2. Programming of our endorsed sessions continues has been frustrating; our sessions of interest are often overlapping. Could there be more involvement from Sections during scheduling? We suggest including a member from at least each Specialty Section on the programming committee.

B. What is the one thing the Society is currently doing that impacts the Specialty Section that should be changed (e.g., stopped, modified, etc.)?

1. The online platform for award application submission and review is extremely unwieldy. A more flexible and user-friendly interface would save the committees a tremendous amount of time. 2. The costs of the in-person business meeting/reception are extraordinarily high. We would like to see greater flexibility and support from SOT. Many SIGs and RCs have been doing offsite events at a much lower cost. While this may be hard for a large group like a Specialty Section, it highlights the issue of being forced to host events at the convention center and use their vendors. \$20 for a glass of wine, \$15 for a beer or soft drink, and \$30+ per person for chips and salsa is absurd. These events are essential and need to happen in person, so how can SOT perhaps facilitate change to address the issues above?