

# Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section (IRSS) Newsletter

Summer  
2022

## Message from the Outgoing President

It is with great enthusiasm that I prepare this message, as we were finally able to spend much needed time together as a team at the Annual IRSS Reception. Thank you, SOT for creating a safe and well-planned venue. Even with that said, it is hard to forget the difficulties we all have faced over the last few years. My heart goes out to everyone who has lost loved ones and the mental anguish our children, students and colleagues still face.

A little history on the IRSS for all of our welcomed newcomers. Our Specialty Section was founded in 1982 as the Inhalation Specialty Section and in 2006 changed its name to the Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section for greater member inclusiveness. The mission then and now is to provide “a focus for SOT members studying the impact of airborne chemicals and particles on the body”. To accomplish this goal, our Section meets regularly to discuss ongoing activities and new ideas, as well as to recognize students and colleagues for notable contributions to inhalation and respiratory research.

We have been extremely active over the last year putting in place new initiatives, like our Specialty Section Survey to give a louder voice to our membership, and a mentorship program held recently at our Annual Meeting. One of our goals this past year has been to bring more member engagement in committees and decision-making, as well as focusing on mentorship and student involvement. We celebrate our very well-attended 2021-2022 Webinar Series that have included member-suggested topics on Environmental Justice and air pollution, inhaled pollutants and pathogenic infections, and extracellular vesicles and respiratory toxicology.

Please join us in the middle of July, 2022 for our next Webinar on the *chemistry and health effects of wildfires and the urban interface*. Be on the lookout for additional details. We also had an excellent turnout for our reception on March 28<sup>th</sup>: don't worry we will have more tables and chairs for next year!

In addition to welcoming our new Executive Officers, Laura Van Winkle, Katie Zychowski, Patricia Silveyra, and Emma Karey, we also noted our IRSS-sponsored Symposia, Workshops and Hot Topic Session. As usual, one of our highlights of the evening was presentations to our Award winners who presented a short commentary on their work. Great job to all winners!

We are still actively recruiting new members and already have a good start from our meeting sign-up sheets and post-meeting interest. We plan to reach out to all interested parties and hope more will join. Based on the results of our survey, it seems that members also would like to get more involved in the Exec body, as well as serving as mentors. We hear you and are planning to make that happen. We are also seeking active members to join our many IRSS sub-committees such as Program, Technical, and Mentoring and Networking. (please see details elsewhere in the Newsletter).

As your president, I hope I have helped to fulfill at least some of your desires from this past year. It was my pleasure to serve you in this capacity and going forward as past president for another year. I can't help but say that I worked with a fabulous and enthusiastic executive team and I look forward to the coming year.

Sincerely,

Judith T. Zelikoff, PhD

President, IRSS (2021-2022)



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## IRSS Executive Committee & Election Results

As we transition into the 2022-2023 year and are already preparing for the 2023 meeting in Nashville, as your incoming President of IRSS, I look forward to continuing Judy's leadership and supporting the initiatives she's started. The executive committee is excited to announce a new approach to IRSS awards that we will be piloting this summer. Please keep your eyes open for a "lunch and learn" style virtual meetings in which we will provide information on each of our awards, guidance for award submittals, changes to award timelines (*hint! hint!*), and special presentations with Q&A with previous award winners.

**Melanie Doyle-Eisele, PhD**

**IRSS President 2022-2023**

### Welcome to our new Executive Committee members!

<p><b>Vice President-Elect</b> Laura Van Winkle</p>		<p><b>Councilor</b> Patricia Silveyra</p>	
<p><b>Councilor</b> Katie Zychowski</p>		<p><b>Postdoctoral Representative</b> Emma Karey</p>	
<p><b>Thank you to our outgoing Executive Committee members!</b></p>		<p>Holger Behrsing Marusia Popovech Thivanka Muthumalage</p>	



## 2022 IRSS Reception Highlights







# Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology

## 2022 IRSS Awards

*Congratulations to our winners!*

### Paper of the Year Award Avinash Kumar, et. al. 2021



Kumar et al. *Particle and Fibre Toxicology* (2021) 18:43  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12940-021-00638-7>

Particle and Fibre Toxicology

RESEARCH

Open Access

Exposure to combustion derived particulate matter exacerbates influenza infection in neonatal mice by inhibiting IL22 production

Avinash Kumar<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Vivek S. Patel<sup>1†</sup>, Jeffrey N. Harding<sup>3</sup>, Dahui You<sup>2</sup> and Stephanie A. Cormier<sup>1,2\*</sup>

### Career Achievement M. Ian Gilmour, PhD, DABT



### Young Investigator Award Salik Hussain, DVM, PhD



### Mary Amdur Student Award Stephanie Brocke



### Donald Gardner Inhalation Toxicology Education Award Satya Achanata, DVM, PhD, DABT





**IRSS Postdoctoral Award**  
Cody Smith, PhD



**IRSS Graduate Student Award**  
Elise Hickman



## Upcoming Events of Interest to our Membership

### IRSS Webinar

#### Chemistry and health effects of wildfires and the urban interface

Olorunfemi "Femi" Adetona, PhD

Assistant Professor, Environmental Health Sciences, The Ohio State University, College of Public Health, 2) Amara Holder, Ph.D.

Mechanical Engineer, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, Environmental Protection Agency

Registration link: [https://aim-hq.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BVpZSdS6SX2QXKZqpaZsng](https://aim-hq.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BVpZSdS6SX2QXKZqpaZsng)

July 28, 2022 from 2-3 EDT

- **IRSS Logo Contest coming soon!** We are looking for IRSS members to help us develop a logo concept. Stay tuned for more information.
- **IRSS 2023 Award materials and due dates are changing.** Please check our website and look out for our upcoming webinar regarding these awards.



## Upcoming or Recent Conferences

<b>Thomas L Petty Aspen Lung Conference</b> June 8-11 <a href="https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/aspen">https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/aspen</a>  Look online for meeting summaries		<b>Interdisciplinary Nutrition Sciences Symposium</b> July 21-22 <a href="https://www.interdisciplinarynutrition.org/">https://www.interdisciplinarynutrition.org/</a>
<b>2022 International Particulate Toxicology Conference</b> August 28-31 <a href="https://hsc.unm.edu/pharmacy/research/areas/cmbm/iptc/">https://hsc.unm.edu/pharmacy/research/areas/cmbm/iptc/</a>		<b>Biology of Acute Respiratory Infection (Gordon Research Conference)</b> September 11-16 <a href="https://www.grc.org/biology-of-acute-respiratory-infection-conference/2022/">https://www.grc.org/biology-of-acute-respiratory-infection-conference/2022/</a>
<b>2nd Global Summit on Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology TOXI 2022</b> September 19-21 <a href="https://www.thescientistt.com/toxicology-summit/2022/">https://www.thescientistt.com/toxicology-summit/2022/</a>		<b>International Asthma Conference at Nemaclin</b> October 21-23 <a href="https://www.asthma-nemaclin.com/">https://www.asthma-nemaclin.com/</a>
<b>Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation and Related Diseases</b> Oct. 30-Nov. 2 <a href="https://bioactivelipids.org/">https://bioactivelipids.org/</a>		<b>American College of Toxicology Annual Meeting</b> Nov. 13-16 <a href="https://www.actox.org/am/am2022/index.asp">https://www.actox.org/am/am2022/index.asp</a>

As a number of our SOT colleagues have family and friends affected by the war in Ukraine, you may be interested in supporting humanitarian relief efforts.

For any questions, or if you would like to learn ways to help, please feel free to contact Marusia Popovch at [marusia.popovch@gmail.com](mailto:marusia.popovch@gmail.com)





## Many thanks to our IRSS Executive Committee 2021-2022



**Judith T. Zelikoff**  
President



**Melanie Doyle-Eisele**  
Vice President



**Kymberly Gowdy**  
Vice President-Elect



**Meghan Rebuli**  
Secretary/Treasurer



**Irfan Rahman**  
Past President and  
Councilor



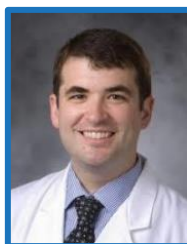
**Holger Behrsing**  
Sr. Councilor



**Marusia Popovech**  
Sr. Councilor



**Natalie Johnson**  
Jr. Councilor



**Robert Tighe**  
Jr. Councilor



**Thivanka Muthumalage**  
Postdoctoral  
Representative



**Michael Yaeger**  
Graduate  
Student  
Representative

### Newsletter Submissions

If there are items that you would like to have included in the next newsletter, please send them to Natalie Johnson at [nmjohnson@tamu.edu](mailto:nmjohnson@tamu.edu).