



First, thank you to all of our active members for your continued support and engagement with MSBSS! I am honored to be able to serve MSBSS alongside a fantastic and supportive leadership team.

The MSBSS community continues to impress with outstanding scientists committed to technological advancements in our understanding of systems biology in toxicology applications. I would like to congratulate everyone who presented at 2024 SOT with sessions endorsed by MSBSS and thank everyone for submitting proposals to ensure a rewarding and engaging 2025 SOT. MSBSS continues to be dedicated to the mentorship and development of the next generation of toxicologists, and I was impressed with the attendance at the 2024 mentoring session. I encourage both mentors and mentees to sign up for our 2025 mentoring event when that comes around.

A challenge we are facing, alongside other Specialty Sections, is grappling with increased costs of receptions and balancing the budget. Our top priorities are to ensure awards to recognize our accomplished trainees, as well as to continue to support the mentoring session. We are controlling costs this year by partnering with other Specialty Sections to endorse the mentoring event and combining the room rental to occur back-to-back with our reception. To maintain our commitment to recognizing and supporting our incredible trainees, I would ask any members in a position to [contribute to MSBSS funds](#) this year to please do so. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated and will allow us to continue our trainee-focused efforts.

As always, we look forward to the exciting sessions endorsed by MSBSS at SOT! We particularly look forward to recognizing our award finalists and winners and encourage you to submit nominations! We look forward to seeing you all in Orlando at scientific sessions, our mentoring event, and reception!

Best Regards,

Jessica LaRocca
2024-2025 MSBSS President

Stay Connected!

In an effort to improve year-round communications, we have a MSBSS Twitter handle. Follow for award updates, features, and scientific content!



@msbss_sot



msbss.sot@gmail.com

2024 MSBSS Treasurer's Report

The MSBSS finances (as of the end of Fiscal Year 2024) are below. Our General Fund is used to support the annual reception, mentoring event, and overrun Endowment award costs, and the Endowment Fund supports trainee awards. Our Specialty Section is in good financial standing with sufficient funds to support our meeting and award activities in the upcoming year.

	General Fund	Endowment
starting balance	\$27,855	\$63,429
trainee awards, plaques, etc.	\$1,350	\$3,650
mentoring activities	\$192	-
reception	\$4,849	-
membership dues	\$3,360	-
earned interest	\$1,326	\$3,891
contributions	\$1,800	\$500

Help MSBSS Continue to Support Trainees!

Supporting trainees is a cornerstone of the MSBSS mission. We recognize outstanding research at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral stages; provide travel and Paper of the Year awards; and host the popular Mentorship Reception at the SOT Annual Meeting. Help MSBSS maintain this exceptional level of support for our trainees by making a tax-deductible donation to our Specialty Section. Some of your employers may have programs for matching employee contributions to charitable organizations like SOT, so check with your employers to maximize your giving. You can give directly to the [Molecular Biology Student Award Fund](#) or work through the MSBSS Treasurer (Leah Wehmas) to coordinate your donation.

Don't forget to vote in this year's MSBSS elections!
Online ballots will be distributed via email and ToXchange in early 2025.

2024-2025 MSBSS Officers

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Jessica LaRocca
Corteva Agriscience



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Rutgers University



2024 MSBSS Undergraduate Student Trainee Award



Keerthana Prayaga, Texas A&M University
Sulforaphane N-acetyl-cysteine (SFN-NAC)
Antioxidant Activity in Bronchial Epithelial Cells

2024 MSBSS Travel Award Winners



Mackenzie Allison, Oregon State University
Comparative Toxicity of Alkylated and Parent
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Primary
Human Bronchial Epithelial Cells

Gina Capece, Rutgers University
Peptidylarginine deiminase 4 (PAD4) contributes
to coagulation activation in chemical-induced
acute liver injury



2024 MSBSS Graduate Student Trainee Awards



First Place, Nadia Herold, UFZ Helmholtz

Multi-behavioral fingerprints in larval zebrafish can identify neuroactive environmental chemicals and underlying mechanisms



Second Place, Gina Capece, Rutgers University

Peptidylarginine deiminase 4 (PAD4) contributes to coagulation activation in chemical-induced acute liver injury



Third Place, Noah Mac, Rutgers University

Development of an in vitro system to measure thrombin-mediated protease-activated receptor-1 signaling in hepatic stellate cells

2024 MSBSS Postdoctoral Trainee Awards



First Place, David Leuthold, UFZ Helmholtz

Multi-behavioral phenotyping in zebrafish identifies a novel disruptor of non-associative learning with human and environmental relevance



Second Place, Yvonne Rericha, US EPA

*Developmental toxicity across a suite of structurally diverse per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in *inummichog* (Atlantic killifish)*



Third Place, Sunil Sharma, Clemson University

Developmental toxicity of Isopropylated phenyl phosphate (IPP), an organophosphate flame retardant, in zebrafish embryos

2024 MSBSS Paper of the Year Award



Manasi Kotulkar, KUMC

Role of HNF4 α -cMyc interaction in liver regeneration and recovery after acetaminophen-induced acute liver injury

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37021787/>

Upcoming MSBSS Award Deadlines

MSBSS award deadlines are rapidly approaching! We are currently asking for applications for the following awards:

- Graduate Student Research Award
- Paper of the Year Award
- Postdoctoral Scholar Research Award
- Undergraduate Research Award

For more MSBSS Award information, please go to our website:

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

Award applications are due December 3, 2024.

RECAP: 2024 MSBSS Mentoring Reception

We were thrilled to host this event in person in Salt Lake City in 2024. MSBSS partnered with Mechanisms, Biotechnology, and Risk Assessment Specialty Sections and Out Toxicologists and Allies Special Interest Group to host over 100 mentees and mentors representing various disciplines in toxicology including academia, industry, consulting, government, and science communication. In the “speed-mentoring” style event, mentors and mentees alike appreciated the opportunity to network with a diverse group of attendees in a fun, informal way, while making connections that we hope will be long-lasting and fruitful. In 2025, we look forward to continuing this networking event to enable mentees to meet scientists and leaders from different sectors and learn about the many career paths that are available in toxicology.



Mark your calendars!

MSBSS and the Association of Scientists of Indian Origin
SIG are co-sponsoring a webinar:

Monday, December 9, 2024, at 12:00 Noon ET

**“Multimodal AI/ML for Predictive and Precision
Medicine”**

Zeeshan Ahmed, PhD

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

https://aim-hq.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tjSI201ST3KyBWBFcKuuVQ

Save the Date!

7th Annual MSBSS Mentoring Event at the 2025 SOT meeting in Orlando

Tentative date: Monday, March 17, 2025

Location: Hyatt Regency Orlando

Stay tuned in January 2025 for registration and mentor information!

Save the Date!

MSBSS Members Reception at the 2025 SOT meeting in Orlando

Tentative date: Monday, March 17, 2025

Location: Hyatt Regency Orlando

Stay tuned in January 2025 for more information!

We want to celebrate YOU!

Send us updates on your accomplishments on Twitter (@MSBSS_sot), or to our email address:

MSBSS.sot@gmail.com

