

NAME OF SPECIALTY SECTION Nanotoxicology

ANNUAL REPORT: 2011-2012

May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012

I. Officers/Committees:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>	<u>2012-2013</u>
President:	Justin Teeguarden	Joyce Tsuji
Vice President:	Joyce Tsuji	Alison Elder
Vice President-Elect:	Alison Elder	Saber Hussain
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mara Seeley	Mara Seeley
Past President	David Warheit	Justin Teeguarden
Councilors:	Diane Heck	Diane Heck
	David Hobson	David Hobson
PDA Representative:	Leshui Zhang	Tina Sager
GSCLC Representative:	Lisa Truong	Christin Grabinski
GS Councilor:		Lisa Truong

Committees: Webinar, Program, Awards, Newsletter, Nominations

II. Activities:

2012 SOT Annual Meeting Reception was held in San Francisco on Tuesday, March 13.

Approximately 100 people were in attendance.

Dr. Justin Teeguarden called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Business Meeting Speaker: No invited speaker

Meeting Minutes: (Attached)

Awards:

Graduate Student Award

1st: Lisa Truong, Oregon State University; mentor, Prof. Robert Tanguay

2nd: Anurag Mishra, West Virginia University; mentor, Prof. Liying Wang

3rd: Jeremy Kevin Larson, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; mentor, Prof. Reinhold Hutz

Postdoctoral Award

1st: Dr. Jason Blum, New York University; mentor, Prof. Judith Zelikoff

2nd: Dr. Vamsi Kodali, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; mentor, Dr. Brian Thrall

3rd: Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; mentor, Dr. Brian Thrall

Best Publication Award

Kagan et al. (2010). Carbon nanotubes degraded by neutrophil myeloperoxidase induce less pulmonary inflammation. *Nat Nanotechnol* 5(5): 354-359.

2012 SOT Annual Meeting Courses/Sessions:

Symposium

Nanoparticles for Drug Delivery: Interactions with the Immune System

Workshop

State of the Science and the Future for the Predictive Power of *In Vitro* and *In Vivo* Models for Nanomaterials Toxicity Testing

Roundtable

Testing of Nanomaterials for Genotoxicity—Necessity or Waste of Time

Informational

NIEHS Centers for Nanotechnology Health Implications Research: Building the Scientific Foundation for Evaluating Public Health Impacts of Engineered Nanomaterials

Endowment Fund Details: The specialty section is considering if an endowment should be pursued. Additional funding was obtained from NanoTox to fund student awards.

Newsletters: July 2011, March 2012, and July 2012 (available on NTSS website)

Teleseminars:

- "Workplace and Environmental Exposure Assessment for Engineered Nanomaterials"; presented July 25, 2011 by Dr. Thomas Peters, Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, The College of Public Health, University of Iowa
- "Studies with Diesel Exhaust Particulate: Implications for the Potential Human Health Hazards of Nanoparticles"; presented December, 2011 by Dr. Thomas Hesterberg (co-hosted with RASS and with the Emerging Nanoscale Materials Specialty Group of the Society of Risk Analysis)
- "Comprehensive Environmental Assessment of Nanomaterials: A Meta-assessment Approach", presented January, 2012, by Dr. J Make Davis (co-hosted with RASS)
- "Characterization of Nanoparticles: Critical Needs and Significant Challenges.", presented February 2012, by Dr. Donald Baer

White Papers: None.

Contributions to SOT website: None.

Other Specialty Section 2011-2012 Activities:

Contributing to the training and development of young scientists is one of a specialty section's most critical and most enjoyable activities. Our outstanding student and post-doc representatives, Lisa Truong and Leshuai Zhang, conducted a poll of the Nanotoxicology Specialty Section membership in 2011 on how best the specialty section can serve and support student members.

Student and post-doc members expressed a desire to interact more with full members, particularly in the areas of scientific collaboration and professional and job networking. Our whole membership, including students, post-docs and more established members, value this sometimes intentional, other times unintentional, service of the specialty section. While some of us have long friendships in the field, student and post-doc members need us to reach out to them, and there is more we could be doing to help them find collaborators, mentors, and to broaden their perspective on where the jobs and post-doctoral activities are.

Development of a student mentor-mentee program. Students were matched up and met with their mentors at the 2012 annual meeting. Board discussed revision of by-laws to increase the number of students on the executive board to 3 in order to promote greater continuity of student leadership and allow students more access to NTSS leadership.

In September 2011, the NTSS Executive Committee surveyed members to determine how they value the various NTSS functions and activities. We received responses from 70 of our members (~25% of the membership). There was a fairly even distribution of respondents working in academia (33%), government (27%), and industry (24%), with the remainder in consulting (13%) or other (3%). Overall, the survey respondents felt that influencing SOT's scientific program was the most valuable function of the NTSS. Respondents also saw value in mentoring students – 59% said they would be willing to participate in a lunch with an expert type program, 26% said they would be willing to reserve time at the NTSS reception, and 16% said they would be willing to serve as a career mentor.

Survey respondents considered the NTSS reception to be one of the most valuable activities of the NTSS. When asked specifically about activities at the reception, most (70%) respondents thought there should be more in the way of topical entertainment.

Of the three [awards](#) given by the NTSS, the Outstanding Grad Student and Post-Doc Awards were considered the most valuable, with 60% and 57% of respondents, respectively, considering them to be very valuable. 36% of respondents considered the Best Publication Award to be very valuable.

Minutes: NTSS Executive Committee Meeting, March 13, 2012

Present: Alison Elder, Christin Grabinski, Saber Hussain, Justin Teeguarden, Lisa Truong, Joyce Tsuji, Leshuai Zhang

1. We briefly reviewed the **roles of the officers** for the upcoming year:

- a. **Vice president** (Alison Elder): program committee, elections committee
 - i. Program committee – reviews proposals for the 2013 SOT meeting and is composed of the executive committee members plus a couple of at-large members of NTSS.
 1. The submission deadline is April 30, but we will send out a reminder to the membership by the end of this month saying that we would be happy to provide feedback on any ideas if people send us the material by April 13. The reminder will include a list of next year's themes and guidelines for successful proposals. It will also be made clear that our internal review does not guarantee the success of a proposal and that we cannot make any decisions on sponsorship/endorsement until after all proposals have been received and reviewed together.
 2. There was a report from one of our members that a session proposal was rejected last year because too many non-members were included, even though none were requesting reimbursement from SOT. Thus, we need to get some clarification from SOT HQ about how this enters into the proposal decisions and also if there are clear guidelines for the different program categories.
 3. Kimberly von Brook will send us the proposals requesting sponsorship and endorsement after the submission deadline of April 30.
 4. We will need to send a message to the membership reminding them of the proposal deadline and soliciting interest in proposals and asking for any member volunteers for the NTSS program committee.
 - ii. Elections committee – Joyce Tsuji (President) will send her notes about this to Alison. Roughly, we seek nominations in the late October-mid November time frame, send the ballot out in December, and close balloting in early January.
- b. **Vice president-elect** (Saber Hussain): awards committee, webinar committee
 - i. Awards committee – Alison will send her notes about this to Saber.
 1. From this year's experience, it is clear that we need to consider moving the awards deadline forward. It was January 31st this year, but because of some miscommunication and missing information, there were some late submissions. The middle of the month should work well.

2. The NTSS web page on the SOT web site needs to be updated with awards committee chair and submission guidelines, as these have changed.
 - ii. Webinar committee – Alison will send her notes about this to Saber. We have two hold-overs from last program year that could be considered for the coming year, namely Harvey Clewell (had already agreed prior to medical leave) and someone from FDA. We certainly do not have to go with either of these, though.
- c. **Secretary-treasurer** (Mara Seeley): newsletter and web site
 - i. As mentioned above, the NTSS web page needs to be updated as to the officers and also with the awards information. The latter was sent to SOT HQ in January, but has not yet been amended (as far as I know); although this is not particularly urgent, we need to try again. Alison will send this information to Mara.
- d. **Graduate student and postdoctoral fellow representatives** (Christin Grabinski, Tina Sager): membership poll, NTSS poster, student polling
 - i. We decided that another membership poll is not necessary this coming year. This applies to the general membership. The student representatives may still want to poll student members to get more student input.
 - ii. The primary role of the student/PD reps is to foster communication between the trainees and more senior members of the NTSS. This can be done via:
 1. Finding out how many of the trainees are coming to the annual meeting and gathering photos for a spotlight to go in the newsletter. Leshuai and Lisa, the outgoing reps, can provide some guidance about this.
 2. Another idea from the exec committee meeting: a couple of times a year, the trainee members could be asked about topical interests so that they can be matched for a conference call with experts to get information about science itself and about careers, etc.
 2. It has been requested that we take a look at our **bylaws** to make sure that we have clearly outlined the roles on the student and postdoctoral representatives. Since our SS is relatively new, this will probably be okay, but it should be checked. A suggestion was made to have two graduate student positions on the board. One would be a student councilor and the other would be the representative. The student rep would be elected every year but after serving for one year would become the councilor and coach the new student rep. One difficulty is that the student rep would have to remain a student and not finish before the two years. On the other hand, if they became a post-doc, we could allow the councilor to be a post-doc. Joyce will look into this with SOT.

3. The **script for next year's NTSS reception** should be updated while things are fresh in our minds. Justin (past President) will give his materials and any additional comments to Joyce. Board members should share any valuable feedback they receive with the rest of the board.
4. It was recommended after the reception ended that it would be nice to include a bit more about the student awardees, specifically their institution, mentor(s), and a brief abstract overview during the **awards presentation**. This was done last year and really should have been done this year (sorry, everyone!).
5. It was suggested that a **calendar** be created for the exec committee members that shows the upcoming deadlines and our various activities. Joyce agreed to ask Kim at SOT for assistance on this
6. We discussed the high cost of this year's reception and the idea of having it off-site next year. This is something we will consider seriously and discuss with SOT HQ. Also, it was felt that it worked fairly well to have the exec committee meeting right after the reception. Some could not attend, but perhaps this will be offset for next year with earlier planning.