

# **Society of Toxicology**

## **Nanotoxicology Specialty Section Bylaws**

**Revised 2012**

### **Article I—Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Nanotoxicology Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology, hereinafter designated as the Specialty Section.

### **Article II—Definition and Objectives**

The objectives of the Specialty Section are to:

- a. Serve as the focal point for interaction for members of the Society of Toxicology interested in the science and toxicology of nanoscale materials, the responsible development of safe nanomaterials, and the application of nanotechnology to toxicological and environmental health problems.
- b. Facilitate discussion of the appropriate design of toxicological studies for evaluating the toxicity of nanoscale materials.
- c. Facilitate discussion (e.g., through symposia, workshops, etc.) of the most appropriate dosimetrics for evaluating nanoscale materials *in vitro* and *in vivo*.
- d. Facilitate discussion of the most appropriate and validated screening tests for evaluating the toxicity of nanoscale materials and for extrapolating the findings from *in vitro* studies to *in vivo* exposures.
- e. Facilitate discussion regarding the data required for conducting risk assessments of nanoscale materials in the future, addressing the research required to fill data-gaps.
- f. Facilitate the generation of position papers and review articles by nanotoxicology experts regarding relevant subjects such as dosimetrics, metrology, *in vitro* toxicity, *in vivo* toxicity, and risk assessment.
- g. Conduct scientific programs and educational activities that emphasize current developments and key issues in nanoscale science and toxicology.
- h. Bring awareness of nanotoxicology to the student community and help facilitate student access to professionals and mentoring in the field of nanotoxicology.
- i. Relate the developments in nanotoxicology to the activities of the Society of Toxicology and to the toxicology/environmental health sciences community-at-large, with the goal of stimulating interest and growth in nanotoxicology as it relates to the general science of toxicology.
- j. Provide a national/international resource on matters relating to nanotoxicology.

No part of the net earnings of the Specialty Section shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Specialty Section shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes herein-above set forth.

No substantial part of the activities of the Specialty Section shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence public legislation and the Specialty Section shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

### **Article III—Membership**

Members in good standing of the Society of Toxicology shall become members of the Specialty Section upon payment of Specialty Section dues.

## **Article IV—Officers, Councilors, and Representatives**

**Section 1.** The Specialty Section Officers shall be President, Vice President, Vice President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer. There shall be three Councilors. Only Full, Associate, Retired, or Emeritus members in good standing of the Society of Toxicology and the Specialty Section shall be eligible to serve as Officers in the Presidential chain or as Secretary/Treasurer.

**Section 2.** There shall be a Student Representative, a Vice Student Representative, and a Postdoctoral Representative, who shall act as liaisons between the students and the postdoctoral fellows, respectively, and the Executive Committee. Eligibility during the term requires current enrollment in a graduate program for Student/Vice Student Representatives and engagement in a formal mentored postdoctoral position for Postdoctoral Representatives.

**Section 3.** Officers, Councilors, and Representatives shall begin their terms of office on May 1 following the SOT Annual Meeting at which their election is announced, or one month after the Annual Meeting if it is held, any year, after April 1.

## **Article V—Election of Officers, Councilors, and Representatives**

**Section 1.** The President shall serve for a term of one year, becoming immediate Past President in the following year. The President shall preside at all meetings.

**Section 2.** The Vice President shall become the President of the Specialty Section after serving one year as Vice President. The Vice President shall serve in the absence of the President.

**Section 3.** The Vice President-Elect shall be elected annually by a vote of the membership and shall become Vice President of the Specialty Section after serving one year as Vice President-Elect. The Vice President-Elect shall serve in the absence of the President and the Vice President.

**Section 4.** The Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected bi-annually by a vote of the membership for a term of two years.

**Section 5.** There shall be three Councilors. Two of these Councilors shall be elected by a vote of the membership for a term of two years, with one Councilor being elected each year. The third Councilor shall be the immediate Past President, who will serve a term of one year.

**Section 6.** The Student Representative shall be elected annually by a vote of the membership for a term of one year.

**Section 7.** The Vice Student Representative shall be elected annually by a vote of the membership and shall become the Student Representative of the Specialty Section after serving one year as Vice Student Representative. The Vice Student Representative shall serve in the absence of the Student Representative.

**Section 8.** The Postdoctoral Representative shall be elected annually by a vote of the membership for a term of one year.

**Section 9.** Elections shall be held annually by electronic ballot in the format deemed appropriate by the Society of Toxicology prior to the SOT Annual Meeting.

**Section 10.** In the event of a vacancy in an elective office other than the Presidency or Vice Presidency, the Specialty Section's Executive Committee may make an appointment or provide for a special election to fill the vacancy until the unexpired term is completed. In the event of a vacancy in the Presidency, the Vice President accedes to that office until the unexpired term of the Presidency is completed and shall serve as President the following year; similarly, the Vice President-Elect accedes to the office of Vice President, should that office become vacant, until the unexpired term of the Vice Presidency is completed and shall serve as Vice President the following year.

A special election must be held to fill the office of Vice President-Elect should this office become vacant; however, the Executive Committee may make an appointment to fill the vacancy until such time that an election can be conducted.

## **Article VI—Administration**

**Section 1.** The Specialty Section shall be governed by the Executive Committee except as otherwise herein expressly provided.

**Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers, Councilors, and Representatives. The President of the Specialty Section shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Committee. Five members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Section 3.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Specialty Section and of the Executive Committee and shall perform such duties as may be directed by the Executive Committee. In the President's absence, the succeeding order of Officers shall preside.

**Section 4.** The Specialty Section shall comply with the following provisions in order to retain its status as an authorized body within the Society of Toxicology.

- a. The Specialty Section shall provide annual reports of its activities for the current year as well as plans of programs, activities and finances for the following year. Annual reports shall be submitted to the Society of Toxicology by the required date of each year.
- b. Annual reports shall be reviewed by the SOT Council, which shall consult with the Specialty Section as necessary.
- c. Specialty Section policy statements must be reviewed and approved by the Society of Toxicology Council prior to release.

**Section 5.** The Secretary/Treasurer shall have fiduciary responsibilities for all monies of the Specialty Section and shall authorize all disbursements as appropriate. The Secretary/Treasurer shall transmit to the successor in office all property of the Specialty Section in his/her possession. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all transactions of all meetings.

No funds shall be expended by or in the name of the Specialty Section to the extent that the expenditure, if made by the Society of Toxicology, would represent use of funds for a purpose or purposes not within the Society's exempt purposes under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Section 6.** Any Specialty Section funds or other property remaining at the time of termination or abandonment or dissolution of the Specialty Section shall be turned over to the Society of Toxicology and shall become part of the Society's general funds.

## **Article VII—Meetings**

**Section 1.** Specialty Section meetings shall be held at least annually and as dictated by the scientific and educational programs of the Specialty Section. The time and place of each meeting shall be established by the Executive Committee and be communicated to the membership at least two weeks before each meeting.

**Section 2.** Special meetings may be called by the President at any time with the approval of the Executive Committee or by the presentation to the President of a petition signed by at least 20% of the membership in good standing of the Specialty Section.

**Section 3.** A quorum shall consist of 20% of the Specialty Section members in good standing.

**Section 4.** Executive Committee meetings shall be held at the discretion of the President at any time during the year provided that each of the members of the Committee is notified at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

## **Article VIII—Dues**

The dues are established by SOT Council and are the same for all Specialty Sections. A request for variance from the established rate shall be directed to SOT Council. Special fees outside of the dues structure can also be collected if pre-arranged through the Specialty Section Council Contact.

## **Article IX—Committees**

The President shall appoint Committees as required and shall automatically become an *ex officio* member of such committees. Members of such committees serve at the discretion of the President.

## **Article X—Amendments**

**Section 1.** Amendments to these Bylaws may be presented by any member in good standing of the Specialty Section at any regular meeting of the Specialty Section or at any special meeting called for that specific purpose. They shall be presented in writing and shall be offered to the membership present at the meeting on motion for consideration and circulation to the membership. A simple majority shall be necessary to pass the motion.

**Section 2.** Amendments accepted for future consideration shall be forwarded to the Specialty Section Staff Liaison to be circulated with a ballot to all members in good standing of the Specialty Section. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the ballots returned within the specified time frame shall be necessary for adoption of any amendment.

**Section 3.** Amendments to these Bylaws must be approved by the Council of the Society of Toxicology before they become effective. This is done to ensure that future changes in these Bylaws will have the same force as the original, which was so approved.