



Neurotoxicology Specialty Section

2018

Dear Neurotoxicology Specialty Section (NTSS) Members:

The NTSS Executive Committee would like to update you on the activities of our specialty section from the past several months, and announce new deadlines and important award information. We hope you will be able to submit an abstract, and we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming 2019 SOT meeting in Baltimore, MD.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES FOR 2018-2019 NTSS AWARDS (detailed information for each can be found in the newsletter)

Abstract and Awards	Deadlines	Eligibility requirements
SOT Abstract	October 19, 2018	All members of SOT
Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology SS Trainee Conference Endowment Award	November 26, 2018	Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows must be members of NTSS or show evidence of application for membership. Undergraduates and Post-Baccalaureates need not be members, but submitted abstract must be neurotoxicology focused. All applicants must be in attendance at the 2019 annual meeting.
Distinguished Neurotoxicologist Award	December 7, 2018	Full, Retired, or Emeritus members of NTSS nominated by two full members of SOT, one of whom must be a member of NTSS
Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology SS Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Fellow/Associate Poster Endowment Award	Phase 1: February 11, 2019 Phase 2: March 1, 2019	Graduate students and postdoctoral research fellows/associates who are NTSS members or show evidence of application for membership, and must be in attendance at the 2019 annual meeting

[RENEW YOUR NTSS MEMBERSHIP WHEN YOU PAY YOUR SOT DUES - BEFORE DEC 31!](#)

Your membership provides the financial support to keep our specialty section running. NTSS seeks to promote neurotoxicology as a vibrant specialty of toxicology. The NTSS Executive Committee actively seeks to enhance and promote neurotoxicology themed sessions at the annual meeting. It also offers its members a place to meet with colleagues at the NTSS annual SOT reception. In addition, NTSS supports the growth of the field with the endowed Toshio Narahashi Fellowship Award program. As this endowment grows it enables NTSS to provide even more opportunities to support the next generation of neurotoxicologists. Membership continues to be the largest financial foundation of the section, so please renew today, and encourage your colleagues who are not members to join!

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT FOR THE 2019 SOT NATIONAL MEETING

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION IS OCTOBER 19TH, 2018

When putting together an abstract for SOT, keep in mind the following top reasons for rejection by the SOT Scientific Planning Committee. These include the following:

1. Test substance is not defined
2. The abstract is poorly written, including use of chemical abbreviations or uncommon jargon
3. Abstract promotes a commercial product and sounds like an advertisement for a company
4. The abstract is one of several emanating from a single study and cannot form a separate presentation
5. The abstract provides little data or is a literature review with no new interpretations or applications

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 TOSHIO NARAHASHI TRAINEE CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS!

From left to right:

Katharine Horzmann—Purdue University; Mentor: Jennifer Freeman

Abstract: Sex-Specific Behavioral, Transcriptomic, and Pathological Alterations in Adult Zebrafish Brain after Developmental Atrazine Exposure

Sireesha Manne—Iowa State University; Mentor: Anu Kanthasamy

Abstract: High-Throughput and Sensitive Quantification of α -Synuclein Protein Aggregation in Welder's Serum: Relevance to Development of Circulating Biomarkers for Manganese Neurotoxicity

Carolyn Klocke—University of Rochester; Mentor: Deborah Cory-Slechta

Abstract: Pre-Natal Exposure to Fine and Ultrafine Particulate Matter Dysregulates Cerebellar Myelin and Metal Homeostasis in a Sex-Specific Manner



SPECIAL THANKS TO NTSS VICE PRESIDENT LUCIO COSTA FOR CHAIRING THIS COMPETITION

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 TOSHIO NARAHASHI POSTER COMPETITION WINNERS!

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDEES:

1st Place Sponsored by Battelle.

1st Place: Kyle Saitta—Rutgers University; Mentor: Cheryl Dreyfus

Abstract: The Metabotropic Glutamate Receptor Agonist 2-Chloro-5-hydroxyphenylglycine (CHPG) Increases BDNF and Myelin Proteins after Cuprizone-Induced Demyelination

2nd Place: Sireesha Manne—Iowa State University; Mentor: Anu Kanthasamy

Abstract: High-Throughput and Sensitive Quantification of α -Synuclein Protein Aggregation in Welder's Serum: Relevance to Development of Circulating Biomarkers for Manganese Neurotoxicity

3rd Place: Sunjay Sethi—UC Davis; Mentor: Pam Lein

Abstract: Influence of Genetic Background on Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Developmental Neurotoxicity



From left to right: Sunjay Sethi, Pam Lein, Sireesha Manne, Anu Kanthasamy, Kyle Saitta

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW AWARDEES:

1st Place: Katie O'Shaughnessy—ORISE/US EPA;

Mentor: Mary Gilbert

Abstract: Thyroid Hormone Disruption in Fetal and Neonatal Brain: Bioindicators of Hormone Action

2nd Place: Annalise vonderEmbse—UC Davis;

Mentors: Michele La Merrill & Pam Lein

Abstract: Altered Sympathetic Connectivity is Correlated with Thermogenic Impairment Following Perinatal DDT Exposure

3rd Place: Damaris Albores-Garcia—Florida

International University; Mentor: Tom Guilarte

Abstract: Developmental Pb Exposure Sensitizes Adolescent Rats to Cocaine: Role of the Dopaminergic System



From left to right: Jason Richardson, Damaris Albores-Garcia, Pam Lein, Annalise vonderEmbse, Katie O'Shaughnessy, Mary Gilbert

NTSS EXTENDS SINCERE THANKS TO THE 40 VOLUNTEER JUDGES WHO HAD THE ARDUOUS TASK OF EVALUATING AND SCORING ALL THE GRADUATE STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL PARTICIPANTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO PAST-PAST NTSS PRESIDENT ABBY LI AND COUNCILOR VANESSA FITSANAKIS FOR CONDUCTING THIS COMPETITION

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - ELECTION OF NEW NTSS OFFICERS – NOVEMBER 1, 2018

Call for Nominations: NTSS will elect a new Vice President-Elect, a Councilor, a Graduate Student Representative and a Postdoctoral Representative. It is time to gather nominations for those offices. Abby Li will chair the Nominating Committee this year as the Past-Past President, and requests your suggestions. Please carefully consider your nominations – no particular expertise is required, but candidates should be dedicated to service for NTSS. Remember that the future success of the specialty section will be dependent on these people. It is best if the nominator knows the candidate is willing to serve, but the Chair and other Nominating Committee members will make those contacts. **Please forward the names and contact information of all nominees to Abby Li (abbyli@exponent.com) by November 1, 2018.**

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Are you interested in becoming more involved in NTSS? Consider volunteering for the Newsletter Committee. Annually, NTSS sends a newsletter with informative updates about the specialty section to the entire membership. As a volunteer, you have access to the most up-to-date info about NTSS! This is also an excellent opportunity to network with fellow NTSS members, as well as gain valuable scientific communication skills. If you have any questions, or are interested in volunteering, please email **Kyle Saitta (kyle.saitta@rutgers.edu)**, the current NTSS Graduate Student Representative.

TOSHIO NARAHASHI NEUROTOXICOLOGY FELLOWSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

NTSS has been highly successful in establishing the Toshio Narahashi Neurotoxicology Fellowship Award Endowment Fund. This endowment fund helps to cover our graduate student and postdoctoral fellow poster competition awards, and will provide support for the trainee conference award.

KINDLY CONTINUE TO DONATE

Please consider renewing or making a new tax-deductible donation to the Toshio Narahashi Endowment Fund this year. Increasing the endowment fund will enhance the size and number of trainee poster and conference awards that NTSS can grant. Few things that we do, will have such a positive impact on so many young scientists early in their careers, and will continue to do so in perpetuity. To make a donation online, please click on <https://www.toxicology.org/endowment/contribute/EndowmentOnline.asp>

ATTENTION GRADUATE STUDENTS (OR THEIR MENTORS)!!!

Supplemental Training for Education Program (STEP) – NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 9th/ MAY 1st

Doctoral students are encouraged to apply for SOT funding to support **participation in a workshop, training course or event** that facilitates the professional or scientific education needed to achieve future career goals. The activity should be outside the scope of their graduate program and graduate research.

For more info:

<http://www.toxicology.org/education/st/step.asp>



2019 TOSHIO NARAHASHI TRAINEE CONFERENCE AWARD – NOVEMBER 26, 2018

Process: Trainee applicants must submit their SOT abstract, CV, and completed conference award form (<http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>) by November 26, 2018. The NTSS Awards Committee will review these materials, and select recipients based on the scientific merit of their abstract, and commitment from their mentor to cover any additional travel costs. Awardees will receive funds in advance of the 2019 SOT Annual Meeting.

Eligibility requirements: (1) Undergraduates, Post-Baccalaureates, Graduate Students, and Postdoctoral Fellows are eligible to apply. (2) Trainees must attend the 2019 SOT Annual Meeting in order to accept the award. (3) Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows must be members of NTSS or show evidence of application for membership. (4) Undergraduates and Post-Baccalaureates need not be NTSS members, but their submitted abstract must be neurotoxicology focused. Advisors or mentors who are not NTSS members are strongly encouraged to join.

Submission requirements: (1) The original abstract submitted to SOT, (2) a CV, and (3) the completed conference award form (<http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>) must be submitted to **Nikolay Filipov** (filipov@uga.edu), NTSS Vice President-Elect by **November 26, 2018**. Please note that the conference award form has separate sections that need to be filled out by the trainee or mentor.

CALL FOR DISTINGUISHED NEUROTOXICOLOGIST AWARD NOMINATIONS - DECEMBER 7, 2018

The Distinguished Neurotoxicologist Award recognizes NTSS members who have made important and long-standing, high-impact contributions to our field. This award has been previously designated as “Distinguished Investigator” and “Distinguished Service” awards from NTSS. Please consider nominating a deserving colleague by submitting a **nomination application**. Nominations must be submitted by **December 7, 2018** to NTSS Past President **Mary Gilbert** (gilbert.mary@epa.gov). Detailed information on eligibility and submission requirements is available on the NTSS website: <http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>

2019 TOSHIO NARAHASHI POSTER COMPETITION - FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows are invited to participate in the 2019 poster competition! Applicants will need to submit an extended abstract and a letter of support from the mentor by February 13, 2019. Extended abstract will be reviewed by judges prior to the meeting, and will comprise 50% of the score. The remaining portion will be based on the face-to-face presentations of posters at the annual meeting. More detailed information on eligibility and submission requirements is available on the NTSS website: <http://www.toxicology.org/groups/ss/NTSS/awards.asp>

Submission should be directed to **Mary Gilbert** (gilbert.mary@epa.gov), Chair of the NTSS Student and Postdoctoral Awards Committee by **February 13, 2019**. Participants will also be required to send a **PDF of their complete poster to**

Dr. Gilbert by March 3, 2019 to facilitate the judging (this pre-submission of the poster need not be the final version presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting).

In addition to recognition certificates for each winner, monetary prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place. Winners will be announced at the annual NTSS Business Meeting in Baltimore.

JUDGES NEEDED!! NTSS members are encouraged to support the Poster Competition Process by volunteering to judge either extended abstracts and/or posters!! Please contact **Mary Gilbert** (gilbert.mary@epa.gov) to offer your services.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHAIRS OF THESE SUCCESSFUL NTSS SPONSORED PROPOSALS

Symposia

Nerve Agent and Pesticide Poisoning: Best Practice Methodologies for Assessing Long-Term Health Effects. Chair: Laurie Roszell.
Alpha-Synuclein: A Good Protein Turned Bad in Chronic Brain Diseases with Toxicological Implications. Chair: Wei Zheng.
Microbiota and Contributions to Neurodevelopment: Implications in Neurological Function, Behavior, and Toxicity. Chair: Troy Hubbard.
Using Zebrafish as a Model to Understand and Ultimately Prevent Neurotoxicity. Chair: Jessica Plavicki.
Scaling Barriers: Cellular Dynamics and Models of Blood-Brain Barrier Developmental Toxicity. Chair: Katerine Saili.

Workshops

Microphysiological Systems: A New Era in Neurotoxicology? Chair: Helena Hogberg.
This is Your Teen Brain on Drugs: In Search of Biomarkers Unique to Dependence Toxicity in Adolescents. Chair: Abby Li.
Can We Panelize Seizure? Chair: Jennifer Pierson.
Nerve Agent Poisoning: Mechanisms of Toxicity, Recent Releases, Verification, and Innovative Treatment Approaches. Chair: Allister Vale.

All of the proposals accepted for SOT 2019 can be found at the following website:

<https://www.toxicology.org/events/am/AM2019/overview.asp>

OBITUARY: Philip J. Bushnell, Ph.D. (1947-2018)

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of a long-standing member of the NTSS family, a world-renowned expert in neurotoxicology, Phil Bushnell. More information is available in his obituary on the *Neurotoxicology and Teratology* website: <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/neurotoxicology-and-teratology/news/philip-j-bushnell-phd-1947-2018>.

[FOLLOW NTSS ON TOXCHANGE](#)

All the most up-to-date information for NTSS can be found at <http://toxchange.toxicology.org/p/co/ly/gid=86>.

Regards from the 2018-2019 NTSS Officers! We hope to see everyone in Baltimore!



From top left to bottom right: Michelle Block (President), Lucio Costa (Vice President), Nikolay Filipov (Vice President-Elect), Mamta Behl (Secretary/Treasurer), Jason Cannon (Councilor), Vanessa Fitsanakis (Councilor), Megan Culbreth (Postdoctoral Representative), Kyle Saitta (Graduate Student Representative), Mary Gilbert (Past President), Abby Li (Past-Past President), Pamela Lein (Steward of the Toshio Narahashi Endowment Fund).

Michelle L. Block, Ph.D.

President, NTSS