SAVE THE DATE! SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 6:30 PM
OTSS MEETING, SOT, Room 142, WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER

President’s Message 2011

The OTSS will be 3 years old this year. In that time it has expanded to a little over 80 members, which I think is a testament to a previously unmet need. There are many specialty ocular societies and meetings, but none that really address the needs of toxicologists in a significant manner. Even within toxicology, there are diverse specialties within the eye. It encompasses small and large molecule therapeutics, devices, consumer products, industrial environments, posterior and anterior regions of the eye, local and systemic exposure – the list is extensive. What we all have in common is a need to evaluate impact on ocular tissues and vision, as well as to communicate our experiences and enhance our understanding of a complex organ system. This requires member participation and to that end I urge you to cast your vote for the 2011-2012 OTSS executive committee candidates (online voting until February 9) and to encourage your colleagues to join the OTSS. A strong membership not only increases the sharing of ideas and experiences, it also allows us to successfully propose and support workshops, symposia and CE courses that are of direct benefit to our members.

Thank you for your participation and I look forward to seeing you in Washington DC this March.

Mark

Table of Contents

From the President-Elect ........................................ 2
Membership & Treasury Update .......................... 3
Donations .................................................. 3
2011 OTSS Annual Meeting .............................. 4
Looking Ahead ............................................. 4

2011-2012 Executive Board Election .................. 5
Ocular Toxicology ToXchange Forum ................. 5
Future content ........................................... 15
Publications of Interest .................................. 6

Officers 2010-2011

President
Mark Vezina

President-elect
JoAnn Schuh

Vice President
Brian Christian

Treasurer/Secretary
Marina T. Seme Nelson

Councilors
Tim MacLachlan
Vasilis Vasilou
Margaret Collins

Be sure to cast your ballot for incoming Vice President and Councilor
Click here for details

Newsletter Editors
Margaret Collins
Marina T. Seme Nelson
From the President-elect

Call for Member Participation

Thanks to the executive members who have preceded me, the OTSS has clearly established itself as a viable independent specialty section. The 2011-2012 executive committee can now focus on the future and pursuing the objectives set by the founding members:

- To serve as the focal point for interaction of members of the Society of Toxicology interested in “Ocular Toxicology”.
- To develop, propose, and conduct programs and educational activities that emphasize the latest developments in “Ocular Toxicology”.
- To relate those developments to the activities of the Society of Toxicology and to stimulate new growth in “Ocular Toxicology” as it relates to the science of toxicology.
- To share information with other professional organizations related to “Ocular Toxicology”
- To act as a resource to the Society in the area of the Section’s interest.

Action plans are being put into place to address these objectives. We have a Program Development Committee that will be the focal point for developing proposals for SOT scientific sessions. Later in this newsletter you will find a request to provide this committee with topics to propose for the 2012 SOT meeting and more importantly, for consideration in future years. We need your ideas and your technical expertise. The program committee will also be looking to establish an ocular poster session and investigate development of a webinar. Beginning this year, the OTSS will need to identify independent sources of funding for the SOT reception. Despite the difficult economy, we will also be looking for funding to establish an endowment for future awards. With this inaugural edition of the newsletter (brought to you by Margaret Collins, Past-President OTSS and Marina Seme Nelson, Secretary-Treasurer OTSS), we are also moving to improve communications with our membership. Take the time to submit your ideas for newsletter content, or better yet, send in a submission for a future newsletter. We will also be encouraging you to participate in ToXchange discussion forums and helping us to establish interactions with other ocular-based organizations.

As we progress through 2011, the executive committee of the OTSS will need help from all of the members to build and strengthen this specialty group. There are many ways that each of you can contribute. Make suggestions for topics for the SOT scientific program, volunteer to chair or participate in scientific programs or webinars, encourage your colleagues and students to join this specialty group, help us secure independent funding, contribute content to the newsletter and discussion forums, and volunteer for an executive committee position.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the reception in Washington, DC and discussing how your support, time and talents will benefit the OTSS. If you are not attending the SOT meeting, send you ideas, thoughts and concerns to me via toXchange or at schuhj@bainbridge.net.

JoAnn
**Membership & Treasury Update**

The OTSS starts 2011 with over 80 registered members. New members are encouraged to offer their time and ideas for symposia and workshops to be presented at the 51st meeting of the SOT in San Francisco, California in March 2012.

**Budget and financials**

**Starting balance** $1,838.00

**Income**

- Dues $1,050.00
- Registration $539.00
- Interest $225.00
- Total Income $1,814.00

**Expenses**

- SOT 2010 Reception <1429.00>
- SOT contribution $2500.00

**Final Balance** $4,723.00

November 2010

**Donations**

As seen above, the OTSS received revenue from membership dues and attendance at SOT. Another way that the OTSS can enhance its funding is to solicit donations. These donations can be without stipulation as to use (i.e. general contributions) or they can be targeted toward specific activities such as travel or other awards. If your company or a company that you work with is interested in making a contribution to the OTSS, please contact Marina Seme Nelson.
OTSS 2011 Annual Meeting

The OTSS 2011 Annual Members Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 6th from 6:30-8:30 PM in Room 142 at the Washington Convention Center. The location will be also published in the Program and on signboards at the convention center. This is your chance to catch up with fellow members, enjoy light snacks and beverages and get an early start on absorbing the science. The preliminary agenda is:

- President’s welcome
- Announcement of new officers
- Scientific presentation

2011 OTSS-endorsed Symposium

The OTSS Officers endorsed “Stem Cell Biology and Cell Therapy Approaches to Understandings Cellular Injury and Wound Healing in Dermal, Ocular, and Pulmonary Injury” *Symposia: Tuesday March 8, 9:00-11:45 AM*

The CE Sunrise course may also be of interest: “Safety and Application of Biodegradable Materials for Tissue Engineering” *Continuing Education: Sunday March 6, 7:00-7:45 AM*

Looking ahead

Proposals for 2012 SOT

Proposals for 2012 need to be reviewed and approved by the Program Committee no later than Mar 15th, 2011 so endorsements and sponsorship from other subspecialty groups can be sought prior to the April, 2011 SOT deadline. Even if you have never submitted a proposal, there are many OTSS members with previous experience who are willing to assist you in preparing your proposal. The proposal is 6000 characters long and includes a session title, description, and list of speakers with presentation titles. If your proposal is accepted, a more complete submission will be required in August 2011. As long as one session chair is a full SOT member, a co-chair can be a non-member. Please submit topics for 2012 or future meetings along with your contact information to any member of the Program Development Committee: JoAnn Schuh, Brian Christian, Marina T. Seme Nelson and Vasilis Vasiiliou.

For 2012, we are particularly interested in topics for a Workshops and/or Symposium, but topics formatted for Roundtables, Continuing Education and Informational Sessions are also encouraged. Check the SOT website for information on submitting proposals or contact a member of the Program Development Committee. Topics we are considering for 2012 proposals include:

- Symposium – Successful Ocular Drug Development
- Informational Session – Optical Coherence Tomography

Other meetings of interest

- ARVO, May 1-5, 2011, Fort Lauderdale, FL. [www.arvo.org](http://www.arvo.org)
2011-2012 Executive Board Election

In accordance with our bylaws, JoAnn Schuh will become President, Brian Christian will become President-elect. Mark Vezina will become Past President/Councilor, replacing Margaret Collins. Tim MacLachlan will step down as Councilor. This leaves open the positions of Vice President and Councilor. In mid-January, ballots were sent to all registered OTSS members. We want to thank those who were nominated and encourage all members to cast your ballot by February 9, 2011.

In 2012, the positions of Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and Councilor will be open for nominations.

Ocular Toxicology ToXchange Discussion Forum

http://toxchange.toxicology.org/p/us/in

In addition to the advantages that general access to ToXchange provides, specialty section members can also opt in to the Ocular Toxicology ToXchange Discussion forum. This forum provides a great resource for sharing information, asking questions, etc.

Future Content

Newsletters will be issued on a quarterly basis, with April as the next release date. What would you like to see in future issues? Do you have job openings that you would like to post here? Send your ideas and/or content to Margaret Collins or Marina Seme Nelson.

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<tr>
<th>Slit lamp biomicroscopy</th>
<th>Indirect ophthalmoscopy</th>
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<td>Examination of the anterior segment</td>
<td>Examination of the fundus, vitreous and optic nerve</td>
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Procedures and equipment commonly used to examine eyes during ocular toxicology studies
Recent Publications of Interest

Biodegradable intraocular therapies for retinal disorders: progress to date.
Kuno N, Fujii S.

Validating and troubleshooting ocular in vitro toxicology tests.
Barile FA.

Ocular microdialysis: a continuous sampling technique to study pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in the eye.
Boddu SH, Gunda S, Earla R, Mitra AK.

Ocular drug delivery.
Gaudana R, Ananthula HK, Parenky A, Mitra AK.

Optom Vis Sci. 2010 Sep;87(9):622-30.
The Charles F. Prentice award lecture 2009: Crystalline lens research and serendipity in science.
Sivak JG.

Biodegradable implants for sustained drug release in the eye.
Lee SS, Hughes P, Ross AD, Robinson MR.

Drug delivery to the posterior segment of the eye.
Kupffermann BD, Loewenstein A.

Retinitis pigmentosa and other dystrophies.
Sahel J, Bonnel S, Mrejen S, Paques M.

Molecular imaging in the eye.
Eter N.