

ANNUAL REPORT: 2021-2022

May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022

I. Officers/Committees:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
President:	Qihong Huang	Vladimir Bantseev
President-Elect:	Vladimir Bantseev	Andrea D. Rodrigues
Vice President:	Andrea D. Rodrigues	William Cook
Treasurer:	Neera Tewari-Singh	Hiromi Hosako
Past President	Hiromi Hosako	Qihong Huang
Councilors:	Christopher Schuetz	Ling Wang
	Ling Wang	Zhechu Peng
Communications Officers:	Christopher L. Steele	Christopher Schuetz
PDA Representative:	Vacant	Vacant
Grad Student Representative:	Vacant	Jonathan Lin

Committees:

Program Planning Committee Chair: Andrea D. Rodrigues

Membership Committee Chair: William Cook

Communications Committee Chair: Christopher Schuetz

Nominating and Award Committee: Ling Wang and Zhechu Peng

II. 2020 Membership total: 101

III. Key Outcomes in 2021-2022:

Activities:

A. 2021 SOT Annual Meeting Activities (e.g. courses, scientific sessions, or virtual receptions):

- **Courses/Sessions:** The OTSS organized a Symposium, entitled “In vitro considerations for predicting retinal toxicities” which was presented at the annual meeting. The Chairs of the workshop were Vladimir Bantseev (Genentech) and Andrea Rodrigues (PYC), and the symposium was endorsed by the OTSS and Biotechnology Specialty Section. Speakers were Nardos Tassew, PhD (Genentech), who discussed considerations for *in vitro* evaluation of retinal toxicities, shared challenges and reviewed strategies; Jeremy M. Sivak, PhD (Krembil Research Institute, University Health Network), who brought a concept of organotypic ocular perfusion system as an application, discussed advantages and limitations of the system; Stefan Kustermann, PhD (Roche), highlighted examples of recent developments in complex in vitro retinal models for the advancement of drug discovery and opportunities for the application as predictive in vitro models for retinal drug safety testing; Valeria Chichagova, PhD (NewCells Biotech), discussed the development of human-induced pluripotent stem cell- (hiPSC) derived retinal organoids and its potential application for in vitro evaluation of retinal toxicities; and Roxanne Andaya (Genentech), who shared a case study for the *in vitro* to *in vivo* correlation of two novel sustained delivery formulations for ITV administration. The symposium was well-attended and had a lively Q&A discussion in the end.

Receptions: OTSS reception was held at the annual meeting. The President welcome everyone and introduced the Executive Committee. Each of the committee chairs (2021-2022) gave a summary of the achievement this year. All the award winners from last and this year were invited to the reception to receive their awards, which was the highlight of the reception. There was also a networking opportunity for everyone.

In 2022 OTSS also sponsored/organized two scientific webinars: “Lighting in the vivarium: Spectrum and is Crucial. The Source is Not” presented by Doug Learn, Charles River-Horsham and “Regulatory Requirements for Ocular Biologics Development” presented by Maria Rivera, FDA. Recordings from those two webinars are available online at the OTSS website.

B. 2022 Awards Information:

Ocular Toxicology Best Poster Award

Awarded to: Rhamiya Mahendran

Poster Title: Investigation of In Vivo Unscheduled DNA Synthesis in Rabbit Corneas Following Instillation of Genotoxic Agents

Annual “Paper of the Year” Award by Taylor & Francis

Awarded to: Haruna Tahara (lead author); Volume 40(1): 26-36. 2021

Paper title: Investigation of In Vivo Unscheduled DNA Synthesis in Rabbit Corneas Following Instillation of Genotoxic Agents.

Ocular Toxicology I2 Award (Innovation and Impact) Sponsored by Biomere.

Awarded to: Marion Gordon

Paper Title: SM1997 Downregulates Mustard-Induced Enzymes That Disrupt Corneal Epithelial Attachment. Anat Rec. 2021;304 (9):1974-1983

OTSS Career Achievement Award

None for 2022

C. Communication Activities:

Newsletter publication frequency: OTSS 2022 Summer

Key Announcements/blogs: None

Website highlights: The OTSS website was updated

An OTSS LinkedIn group named [SOT OTSS Student/Post-Doc Outreach Group](#) was formed

D. Mentoring activities: None

E. Other Specialty Section Activities: A new OTSS logo was designed and replaced the old logo

V. Feedback and Ideas:

- A. How might SOT better support your group's activities (perhaps something the Society should be doing that we currently do not do, or do not do effectively, that would be of importance/benefit to the members of your component group?):

Note: If funding is listed, please provide detail on the membership need that the funding would support.

In order to attract new members and grow OTSS, OTSS will try the pilot program to provide funding for graduate student dues. According to SOT, *OTSS will need to seek new donations this year to be able to move forward with this program. I will need to track the donations and the free memberships. This data can be used in the future to measure the success of the program.* It would be nice if SOT would remove this requirement for us so we can fund it without needing new donations. Can SOT consider this?